



The Family Enhancement Society is a community-based organization that offers services that facilitate the advancement of families, individuals, children and youth

Lakes District Family Enhancement Society

Winter 2023 Program and Service Update

Season Of Giving

Despite sky rocketing cost of living pressures, the community has stepped up – once again!!

This year hundreds of businesses, organizations and people donated to The Link and we met our fundraising goal during our **Season Of Giving** campaign. These donations help sustain our programs throughout the year. Thank You So Much!

Seniors' Programs

The seniors' programs at The Link have had a huge growth rate over the last year and we are still growing!

The program has expanded to the Southside and we are starting an Emergency Preparedness and hot meal program for seniors who are also Food Center clients.



Emergency preparedness kit



Toys donated to Santa's Secret Workshop



Craft Time

Our daycare program visiting residents of Tweedsmuir House

Community Development – one employee at a time

At the Link we believe in investing in our staff. We were able to access provincial funding and support our daycare staff to complete the training they are interested in. Over the last 5 years:

- Kim completed her ECE Certification, Infant Toddler and Special needs designations
- Paula completed her Infant Toddler and Special Needs designations
- Zoe has completed her entire ECE Certification

There are now 3 more certified ECEs in our community who have the skills, training and ability to provide quality early years care.



Pizza and Valentines cards/gifts were on order at the **Community Connections and Healthy Start Program** on February 10th



What is Food Recovery?

The Food Centre helped community members and businesses recover over 60,000 Kilograms of food in 2022. This is food that is “fit to eat” but not “fit to sell” and destined for the landfill. Staff and volunteers sort through the food, and ready it for distribution to Food Centre clients and community partners. Food that isn’t fit for humans is distributed to local farmers and ranchers for animal feed, or composted.

SaveOn Foods and the Real Canadian Wholesale Club donate food every week.



The Real Canadian Wholesale Club donated 18 boxes of frozen meat, bread and dairy products on Feb 2nd.



For the last 5 years (even through COVID and calving season), Derek has volunteered at the Food Centre every week!

“Volunteering at the Food Centre is a good opportunity to serve the community and I enjoy seeing everyone – the clients and the staff”

- Derek Feldman

We are grateful for all the contributions from Derek and our other volunteers!!



Volunteering at The Link

Every year 40 -50 people volunteer in one of our programs. These volunteers are a huge part of we do. There are many options for people to volunteer:

- Helping at the Food Centre (repack, distribution, gardening)
- Delivering meals to seniors
- Helping at Secret Santa Workshop
- Transporting seniors to appointments

With limited resources, so much of what we do simply wouldn’t happen with out our volunteers.