

Smithers Community Services Association

"A place where hope, opportunities and possibilities are realized"



Newsletter



2015 Christmas Hampers—Another Successful Year

Now in its fourth decade, Christmas Hampers concluded another successful program this year. The 2015 Christmas Hampers provided 326 hampers to 1042 people in the region of Smithers, Telkwa and Moricetown. Just under one third of the recipients were children aged 16 years and younger.

Each hamper contained an assortment of non-perishable food items as well as a box of Mandarin oranges, a loaf of bread and vouchers for a roasted chicken, milk and eggs. The egg and milk vouchers were added to the hampers this year to increase the nutritional value of the food given. A new gift and gently used book were included for every child.

Christmas Hampers depends on the contributions of volunteers, sponsors, donors and special events organizers. The generosity of our local communities is truly inspiring. We thank all those who helped out.



Mike Wylie, Smithers Transit Manager, at our annual Stuff the Bus food drive.



SCSA Programs

- Alpine Court Family Housing
- Broadway House Apartments
- Broadway Place Emergency Shelter
- Christmas Hampers
- Community Learning & Literacy Outreach
- CORR Homes
- Cottonwood Manor
- English Language and Multicultural Services
- Family Support
- FASD Services
- Ground 2 Griddle Neighborhood Kitchen
- Helping Hands
- Housing Outreach
- Lifeline
- The Meadows Assisted Living
- Second Avenue Housing Community
- Smithers & District Transit
- Summer Step Up Tutoring
- Youth Support



Christmas Light Tour for Seniors

On three evenings in December Mike Wylie took various seniors groups on Christmas light viewing tours. Each tour was approximately one hour long.

News from The Meadows....

On December 18th the Meadows had their Open House Christmas Party. Friends, family and community members were invited to this event. The Highlighters (a musical group from the community) entertained the crowd. This event was well attended with no standing/sitting room. Refreshments were enjoyed by everyone. Meadows Chefs out did themselves in making hors d'oeuvres, cakes and cookies.

A draw was held with Bev Lubbers from the community being the lucky winner of a dozen decorated cupcakes.

Certificates were handed out to five dedicated seniors who have throughout the year faithfully attended exercise classes at The Meadows. Many of these seniors joined a walking group keeping track of their laps throughout the year. It has been a real accomplishment for the seniors to see their hard work paying off with less pain and more mobility.

Pictures were prominently displayed for guests to see what their loved ones have done over the year. A few good laughs were shared with the residents seeing their dress up pictures at the October Viva Las Vegas party.

Feedback from the community and family members was that this was an enjoyable event appreciated by everyone who attended.

Your feedback is welcome and appreciated. In order for us to continually improve our services for you, we encourage your input and feedback. Please send any questions or comments to general@scsa.ca or colmstead@scsa.ca



Helping Hands now has a Handy Man

Are you or someone you know an elderly or disabled person who does not have family around?

We can help with odd jobs like:

- replacing weather-stripping around doors and windows,
- changing light bulbs,
- repair handrails and stairs,
- adjust cabinet doors,
- replace smoke detectors and batteries

And more....

Please contact Sarah Overstall to learn more.
soverstall@scsa.ca or 250-847-9515



Reaccreditation In Progress....

Smithers Community Services originally achieved accreditation in 2004. The Council on Accreditation (COA) reassesses after every few years.

COA accreditation is a process where an organization's practices and policies are reviewed to ensure they meet the highest national standards and establishes credibility that the organization is effective and professionally sound.

These standards emphasize services that are accessible, culturally responsive, evidence based and outcome oriented. In addition, they confirm that the services are provided by a skilled and supported workforce and that all individuals are treated with respect and dignity.



2nd Avenue Property Comes First



Smithers Community Services is pleased to announce their housing project on 2nd Avenue won the 2015 Smithers Chamber of Commerce award for Building Excellence.

Family Support Parenting Group: Alpha Children

The family support program offered a 4 week parenting group over the fall. The course was based on Dr. Neufeld's DVD series "Alpha Children". The Alpha Children course discusses how a growing number of children are presenting as alpha- bossy, demanding, and controlling. Over the duration of the course we watched Dr Gordon Neufeld's DVD "Alpha Children: Reclaiming Our Rightful Place in Their Lives" and discussed the hierarchal nature of the caregiver/dependent relationship.

Parents learned the reasons that children present as "Alpha" and ways to soften their children's hearts and build upon their attachments in order to create safety for their children to depend on them as caregivers. The participants provided positive feedback at the end of the group. It was a good experience for participants as who gathered together and discussed specific parenting challenges and participants were able to discuss what works and doesn't work for them while exploring new ways to support their children.



Smithers Community Services Association

"A place where hope, opportunities and possibilities are realized"

SCSA Workshops & Events

Literacy Outreach - 2016 Family Literacy Week January 24-30th

Free Events



Thinking about a Home Medical Service? Smithers Community Services offers Philips Lifeline

You will receive personalized service from our *local* program coordinator who will take the time to meet with you to discuss your options, complete the equipment installation, do any maintenance required and be available to answer any questions you have.

Lifeline at a Glance PHILIPS Lifeline

more than 500,000 Canadian Subscribers
have benefitted from the Lifeline service since 1974



1974

Lifeline Systems was created

1,524,704
BUTTON PRESSES
in 2014

Hours of training
Response Centre
staff undergo

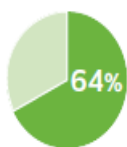
120

164,829

Alarms that required some level
of assistance in 2014



30 seconds
Average time to get a
response after pressing
button



64% Alarms requiring
some level
of assistance
resolved without EMS

2

Canadian
Response
Centres



AutoAlert detects
more than
95%
of true falls

Lifeline reduces



hospitalization
by 26%



hospital stay
by 23%



emergency room
visits by 7%

Over 77,000
Subscribers

have benefitted from
AutoAlert since 2010

We help
subscribers
in over

170 languages



Back up battery life (in case of a power failure)

up to 30 hours



69,142
Alarms considered
EMERGENCIES
in 2014

Response Centre
is open

24/7

11,865
AutoAlert
detected falls in 2014

Lifeline Internal data. LifelineSystems, Personal Emergency Response Systems Achieve Positive Outcomes, 1993.



HomeSafe
Standard



HomeSafe
with
AutoAlert

Features: Both the Standard and AutoAlert pendants get you help at the press of a button in and around your home.

How it works: Help buttons sends highly reliable radio signals to the Communicator which calls the response center via your phone service.

NOW AVAILABLE:

HomeSafe with AutoAlert – Wireless

Philips Lifeline wireless communicator connects to the Philips Lifeline Response Centre using the third party wireless network. No additional wireless equipment is needed. Philips Lifeline Wireless communicator is available at participating programs and is not currently available in the Province of Quebec.



Contact Sarah Overstall, your local Philips Lifeline Program Coordinator, for more information.

250-847-9515 or soverstall@scsa.ca