



Giving This Holiday Season - 2015

The following list of 2015 holiday volunteer opportunities, donating in kind (items and food) and donating funds to non-profits across Waterloo Region were compiled through online scanning. This list is not comprehensive, and will be updated if new opportunities for volunteering or donations are found. The information has not been formally verified, so please use the links/contact information provided for the most up-to-date information. If you have any questions, concerns or would like to include your organization in this guide, please contact the HelpLine at 519-579-3800 or by email at info@waterlooregion.org



[For easy access to the locations of the organizations listed in the document below, click here](#)



Table of Contents

| | |
|--|----|
| Volunteering Your Time | 3 |
| Special Events..... | 3 |
| Serving Meals | 3 |
| Sorting, Wrapping, and Delivering Food and Gifts | 4 |
| Office Help and Support..... | 6 |
| Host an Event | 6 |
| Donations In Kind..... | 8 |
| Agencies with Wish Lists | 8 |
| Toy Drives..... | 10 |
| Support a Family | 13 |
| Donate Used Items | 14 |
| Giving Food | 16 |
| Food Donations..... | 16 |
| Monetary Donations..... | 21 |
| Donations | 21 |
| Support Special Events..... | 24 |
| After the Holiday Season | 26 |
| Volunteering | 26 |



Volunteering Your Time

The holiday season brings out the desire to give back to our community and help those less fortunate than us. There are many inspiring and helpful ways to volunteer your time to local organizations by supporting events such as holiday events, meals and fundraisers. These organizations are all doing excellent work to make the holiday season a merry and bright one for everyone and could really use your help to realize that dream! Make sure to contact the organization you want to volunteer with early, rather than waiting until the last few days before Christmas. Below you will find some holiday volunteer opportunities to get you started.

Special Events

| | |
|---------------------|---|
| Organization | Various Organizations |
| Position | Various Positions – Special Events |
| Location | Various locations throughout Kitchener and Waterloo |
| Description | The Volunteer Action Centre compiles a list of volunteer opportunities at special events throughout the holiday season, including helping out at municipal holiday events. |
| Dates | Hours and positions vary |
| Source | http://www.volunteerkw.ca/Listings.php?ListType=Volunteer Positions Special&MenuItemID=77 |

Serving Meals

| | |
|---------------------|---|
| Organization | Ray of Hope Community Centre |
| Position | Meal Team |
| Location | 659 King Street East, Kitchener |
| Description | Volunteer meal teams are needed to assist with Ray of Hope's daily meal service. |
| Dates/Hours | Various dates and times – see calendar for available dates |
| Source | http://www.rayofhope.net/content/community-centre |
| Contact | 519-578-8018 ext. 221 |



| | |
|---------------------|---|
| Organization | Rise & Shine Breakfast and Deli |
| Position | Christmas Meal Volunteer |
| Location | 373 Bridge St. W., Waterloo |
| Description | Volunteers are needed to assist with a Christmas meal service for the less fortunate. |
| Dates/Hours | December 25 th , 2015 |
| Contact | Debra, 226-989-6660 |

| | |
|---------------------|---|
| Organization | St John's Kitchen |
| Position | Kitchen Volunteer |
| Location | 97 Victoria Street North, Kitchener |
| Description | Volunteers are needed this holiday season and beyond at St. John's Kitchen to help with its meal service for those in need. Opportunities include set-up, food preparation, serving, dishwashing, and more. |
| Dates/Hours | Volunteers are required between the hours of 8:00am and 2:30pm, Monday to Friday |
| Source | http://www.theworkingcentre.org/volunteering/144 |
| Contact | Gretchen, 519-745-8928 or by email at gretchenj@theworkingcentre.org |

Sorting, Wrapping, and Delivering Food and Gifts

| | |
|---------------------|---|
| Organization | Cambridge Self Help Food Bank |
| Position | Volunteer |
| Location | 54 Ainslie Street South, Cambridge |
| Description | Volunteer at the Cambridge Self Help Food Bank sorting food, packing hampers, and more. |
| Dates/Hours | Various dates and times |
| Source | http://www.cambridgefoodbank.on.ca/how-to-volunteer/ |
| Contact | Tara, 519-622-6550 |

| | |
|---------------------|--|
| Organization | Epilepsy Waterloo-Wellington |
| Position | Holiday Gift Wrappers |
| Locations | Conestoga Mall, 550 King Street North, Waterloo |
| Description | Volunteers are needed for the annual Gift Wrap event this December to raise funds and awareness for epilepsy. The event runs from and requires many amazing volunteers to wrap presents, make bows and spread holiday cheer! |
| Dates/Hours | November 30 th to December 25 th , 2015, hours vary |
| Source | http://www.volunteerkw.ca/report.php?ListType=Volunteer Positions Special&ID |



| | |
|----------------|--|
| | =17386&MenuItemID=20 |
| Contact | Hanna or Jennifer, 519-745-2112 |

| | |
|---------------------|---|
| Organization | Grand River Hospital |
| Position | Gift Wrappers |
| Location | Fairview Park Mall, 2960 Kingsway Drive, Kitchener |
| Description | Gift wrappers (individuals or small groups) are needed from November 27th to December 24 th 2015 at Fairview Park Mall in support of Grand River Hospital. |
| Dates/Hours | November 27th to December 24 th . 2015, hours vary |
| Source | http://www.volunteerkw.ca/report.php?ListType=Volunteer_Positions_Special&ID=18098&MenuItemID=20 |
| Contact | Sandra, 519-749-4300 ext. 7276 |

| | |
|---------------------|--|
| Organization | House of Friendship |
| Position | Christmas Hamper Volunteer |
| Location | 51 Charles Street East, Kitchener |
| Description | The House of Friendship is looking for volunteers to assist with their Christmas Hamper program, including collecting and packaging food, handing out turkeys, and delivering hampers. |
| Dates/Hours | Volunteers are required between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m, Monday to Friday |
| Source | http://www.houseoffriendship.org/event_christmashampers_help.php |
| Contact | Tony Bender, 519-742-8327 ext. 335 |

| | |
|---------------------|---|
| Organization | Salvation Army Community & Family Services |
| Position | Christmas Toy Centre Volunteer |
| Location | 1-300 Gage Avenue, Kitchener |
| Description | The Salvation Army Community and Family Services is looking for individuals or groups to help receive, sort, pack and distribute toys for local children this Christmas. |
| Dates/Hours | November 25 th to December 24 th , 2015 (hours vary) |
| Source | http://www.volunteerkw.ca/report.php?ListType=Volunteer_Positions_Special&ID=18864&MenuItemID=20 |
| Contact | Major Miriam Stevens, 519-745-4215 |

| | |
|---------------------|---|
| Organization | Woolwich Community Services |
| Position | Christmas Goodwill Volunteers |
| Location | 5 Memorial Avenue, Elmira |
| Description | Woolwich Community Services is in need of volunteers to help put together |



| | |
|--------------------|---|
| | Christmas Hampers as part of their Christmas Goodwill program. Activities include shopping for and wrapping gifts, sorting food, and packing the hampers. |
| Dates/Hours | Monday to Thursday, a week before Christmas, 2-3 hours |
| Source | http://www.woolwichcommunityservices.com/Volunteer.html |
| Contact | (519) 669-5139 or submit interest via online volunteering form |

Office Help and Support

| | |
|---------------------|---|
| Organization | Family and Children's Services Waterloo Region |
| Position | Holiday Support Program Volunteer |
| Location | 65 Hansen Avenue, Kitchener |
| Description | Assist with running the Holiday Gift Program for needy families! This will include greeting donors and recording donation information, organizing gifts for pick up and distribution and assisting family workers to find sponsored gifts for families on their caseload. The volunteer is responsible for the intake and distribution of gifts, organizing donor receipts, and helping to organize the Holiday Workshop. |
| Dates/Hours | 2-3 weekdays per week (morning or afternoon) from December 1 st to 18 th , 2015 |
| Source | http://www.volunteerkw.ca/report.php?ListType=Volunteer Positions Special&ID=17046&MenuItemID=20 |
| Contact | Volunteer Services, 519-576-0540 ext. 3411 |

| | |
|---------------------|---|
| Organization | KW Christmas Bureau |
| Position | Office Helper |
| Location | 1-300 Gage Avenue, Kitchener |
| Description | Volunteers are needed at the Christmas Bureau throughout December to assist with opening mail and answering the phone. |
| Dates/Hours | Various hours |
| Source | http://www.houseoffriendship.org/event_christmashampers_help.php#bureau |
| Contact | Tony Bender, 519-742-8327 ext. 335 |

Host an Event

| | |
|---------------------|--|
| Organization | The Food Bank of Waterloo Region |
| Description | The Food Bank of Waterloo Region allows individuals and organizations to run food and fund drives on their behalf. Visit the link below for registration information as well as a handbook, posters and donation tracking sheets to get you started. |



| | |
|----------------|---|
| Contact | 519-743-5576 |
| Source | http://www.thefoodbank.ca/en/getinvolved/coordinate a food drive.asp |

| | |
|---------------------|--|
| Organization | YWCA Kitchener-Waterloo |
| Description | The YWCA of Kitchener-Waterloo encourages community members to host events in support of the organization. Individuals are asked to submit a Special Event Proposal form before hosting the event. |
| Contact | Emily Baetz, Events Coordinator at emily.baetz@ywcakw.on.ca |
| Source | http://www.ywcakw.on.ca/host-an-event |



Donations in Kind

Many agencies keep yearly or seasonal wish lists of products and items that will help their clients in their daily lives or help the agency to run more smoothly during the holiday season. Donations of new and used items such as toys, toiletries and other products can really brighten the day of women, children and families who have limited budgets or who will be spending their holiday season in a shelter or away from home. Not to mention that glorious feeling of cleaning out some space in the house before the New Year!

Agencies with Wish Lists

| | |
|---------------------|---|
| Organization | Cambridge Shelter |
| Description | Cambridge Shelter Corporation provides safe shelter, programs and services for people dealing with challenging life issues. |
| Location | 26 Simcoe Street, Cambridge |
| Agency Focus | Men, women, and families experiencing homelessness |
| Wish List | http://www.cambridgesheltercorp.ca/wordpress/wp-content/uploads/2012/11/Itemsrequired6.pdf |
| Contact | 519-624-9305 or info@cambridgesheltercorp.ca |

| | |
|---------------------|---|
| Organization | Family and Children's Services |
| Description | You can help us help children, youth, and families in our community. Twice annually we highlight the priority needs of the Agency in the Foundations newsletter. |
| Location | 65 Hanson Avenue, Kitchener |
| Agency Focus | Children, youth, families |
| Wish List | https://www.facswaterloo.org/tree-of-hope/holiday-support/holiday-wish-list |
| Contact | 519-748-8733 |

| | |
|---------------------|---|
| Organization | The House of Friendship |
| Description | Donated groceries, food prepared in government-inspected facilities and men's clothing (no women's or children's clothing or household items), along with monetary donations are welcome. |



| | |
|---------------------|---|
| Location | Charles Street Men's Hostel: 63 Charles St. E., Kitchener (Drop-off 24/7) |
| Agency Focus | Women, men, youth, and children living on low income |
| Wish List | http://www.houseoffriendship.org/help_giftsinkind.php |
| Contact | 519-742-8327 ext. 335 or tonyb@houseoffriendship.org |

| | |
|---------------------|---|
| Organization | Kitchener-Waterloo Humane Society |
| Description | The Kitchener-Waterloo Humane Society can always use donations of animal care items for the dogs, cats and animals in their care. |
| Location | 250 Riverbend Drive, Kitchener |
| Agency Focus | Animals |
| Wish List | http://www.kwhumane.com/news/animal-care-wishlist/ |
| Contact | 519-745-5615 or info@kwhumane.com |

| | |
|---------------------|---|
| Organization | Monica Place |
| Description | Monica Place has an established tradition of celebrating the Holiday Season with the sharing of gifts. This tradition relies on your kindness and generosity since the gifts that you give will be the only gifts that many of our women receive. |
| Location | 231 Herbert Street, Waterloo |
| Agency Focus | Women, children |
| Wish list | http://www.monicaplace.ca/holiday-wish-list/ |
| Contact | 519-743-0291 or info@monicaplace.ca |

| | |
|---------------------|--|
| Organization | oneROOF |
| Description | oneROOF (formerly ROOF) maintains a wish list of items that they can use for the homeless youth that use their services. |
| Location | 242 Queen St S, Kitchener (call before bringing items) |
| Agency focus | Youth |
| Wish list | http://www.roof-agency.net/wishlist/ |
| Contact | 519-742-2788 or info@oneroof.org |

| | |
|---------------------|---|
| Organization | Ray of Hope Community Centre |
| Description | Ray of Hope's Community Centre offers a place of safety and support to those struggling through poverty and homelessness in the core of downtown Kitchener. Check out the monthly needs list to get an idea as to what is needed this holiday season. |



| | |
|---------------------|---|
| Location | 659 King St. E., Kitchener |
| Agency focus | People experiencing homelessness |
| Wish list | https://www.facebook.com/notes/ray-of-hope-inc/rohcc-needs-list-november/1079940332039383 |
| Contact | 519-578-8018 ext. 221 |

| | |
|---------------------|--|
| Organization | YWCA Kitchener-Waterloo |
| Description | YWCA Kitchener-Waterloo accepts donations of new, non-monetary items throughout the year from individuals and community groups to support all of our programs across the organization. |
| Location | 153 Frederick Street, Kitchener (Drop off Monday to Friday, 8:30 am – 4:00 pm) |
| Agency Focus | Women, children, families |
| Wish list | http://www.ywcakw.on.ca/wishlist (regularly updated by program staff) |
| Contact | 519-576-8856 or general@ywcakw.on.ca |

| | |
|---------------------|---|
| Organization | Women's Crisis Services of Waterloo Region |
| Description | Because of the generosity of our community the shelves at Women's Crisis Services are filled with clothing, toiletries, supplies, gifts and more for the women and children we serve. This agency does not have the resources or storage space to manage additional donated items, therefore will accept ONLY items on their wish list. |
| Locations | Anselma House: 700 Heritage Drive, Kitchener (see wish list for drop-off times) Haven House: 562 Concession Road, Cambridge (see wish list for drop-off times) |
| Agency Focus | Women, children |
| Wish List | http://www.wcswr.org/support-us/wish-list/ |
| Contact | 519- 741-9184 (call ahead of donation) or email kourtney.beckman@wcswr.org for more information |

Toy Drives

| | |
|---------------------|--|
| Organization | 570 News and Country 106.7 Secret Santa Toy Drive |
| Description | Help brighten Christmas morning for a child in Waterloo Region by supporting the 570 NEWS and Country 106.7 Secret Santa Toy Drive. Purchase a toy for a less fortunate boy or girl and drop it off at a Secret Santa |



| | |
|---------------------------|--|
| | donation box. With the help of the Salvation Army, we will make sure your gift makes it into the hands of a child who otherwise would not have a present to open Christmas morning. |
| Dates | Ongoing until Christmas |
| Drop off Locations | |
| Kitchener: | Fairview Park Mall Rogers Plus – 1020 River Road Rogers Plus - 875 Highland Road West Rogers Plus – Fairview Park Mall |
| Waterloo: | Rogers Plus - 75 Weber Street North Rogers Plus – Conestoga Mall |
| Cambridge: | Rogers Plus - 415 Hespeler Road Rogers Plus - 200 Franklin Blvd South Rogers Plus – Cambridge Centre Nappa Auto Parts – 525a Boxwood Drive Challenger Motor Freight – 300 Maple Grove Road |
| Guelph: | Rogers Plus - 130 Silvercreek Parkway Rogers Plus - 492 Edinburgh Road South |
| Source | http://rogerstv.com/page.aspx?sid=4986&rid=22&lid=237&gid=241349 For more info, visit http://www.570news.com/2015/11/16/570-news-secret-santa/ or http://www.country1067.com/secret-santa/ |

| | |
|---------------------------|---|
| Organization | The Waterloo Region Record- Books for Kids Book Drive |
| Description | Give the gift of reading during the holiday season by donating to the Guelph Mercury and Waterloo Region Record's Books for Kids program, which accepts book donations and distributes them to underprivileged children in the community through the Salvation Army. Drop off new and unwrapped books for ages 0-18 years at the below locations. |
| Dates | November 14 th to December 14 th , 2015 |
| Drop off Locations | |
| Kitchener: | Kitchener Public Library (Main and all branches) Kitchener Market 300 King St. E. |



Fairview Park Mall Calendar Club Store
Project READ Literacy Network 124 Sydney St. S.
Waterloo Region Museum 10 Huron Rd.
Salvation Army 1-300 Gage St.
The Literacy Group of Waterloo Region 151 Frederick St. Suite 200
Waterloo Region Record 160 King St. E.
Volumes Publishing 5-907 Frederick St.
FM 98.5 CKWR 1446 King St. E.

Waterloo: Conestoga Mall Centre Court
KidsAbility Centre 500 Hallmark Place
Waterloo Public Library (Main and all branches)
Words Worth Books 100 King St. S.
Westvale Public School 265 Westvale Dr.
Keats Way Public School 323 Keats Way

Elmira: Woolwich Community Services 73 Arthur St. S.

**New
Hamburg:** New Hamburg Branch Library
Wilmot Family Resource Centre 175 Waterloo St., Unit 1

**Rural
libraries:** Ayr, Baden, Bloomingdale, Elmira, Linwood, New Dundee, St. Clements, St. Jacobs
and Wellesley

Cambridge: IDEA|EXCHANGE (Main and all branches)
Cambridge Centre Mall, near Guest Services
Salvation Army 12 Shade St.
The Cambridge Family Early Years Centre 149 Ainslie St. N.

Guelph: Guelph Mercury 8-14 Macdonell St.



Salvation Army 1320 Gordon St.

The Book Shelf 41 Quebec St.

Conestoga College 460 Speedvale Ave.

Stone Road Mall – Salvation Army Book Bin in toy drive area

Source <http://www.therecord.com/community-static/2877753-therecord-charities>

Organization **Stuff a Cruiser Campaign**

Description The *Stuff a Cruiser* campaign is a highly successful partnership initiative with the Knights of Columbus' *New Toys for Needy Kids* campaign. Representatives from the Waterloo Regional Police Service visit several retail locations throughout November and December and invite shoppers to donate a new toy by placing it inside a police cruiser. Donated toys should be new and unwrapped. Once collected, they will be distributed through community agencies to children throughout the Region.

Dates December 12th and 13th, 10 am to 4 pm

Drop off Any Waterloo Regional Police Service divisions

Locations Ira Needles Walmart
St. Jacobs Walmart
Sunrise Centre Walmart and Canadian Tire
Cambridge Pinebush Walmart and Canadian Tire

Source <http://www.waterloocrimestoppers.com/xmlblog.php>

Support a Family

Organization **StuffIn Stockings**

Description StuffIn Stockings distributes stockings through 21 charities to people in need in the Waterloo Region, from infants to seniors. Stuff a stocking for someone in need this holiday season, or donate items to be used as stocking stuffers.

Contact <http://www.stuffinstockings.ca/contact.html>

Source <http://www.stuffinstockings.ca/>

Organization **Tree of Angels**

Location Conestoga Mall, 550 King St N, Waterloo



| | |
|--------------------|---|
| Description | Tree of Angels provides gifts for children and youth up to 16 years of age through the Salvation Army of Kitchener-Waterloo. From November 27 th to December 14 th 2015, drop off a new, unwrapped toy; gift card or cash donation at the Tree at Shoppers Courtyard during regular mall hours. |
| Contact | 519-886-5500 (mall office) |
| Source | http://www.koolfm.com/Charity/Tree-of-Angels-Campaign |

| | |
|---------------------|---|
| Organization | Family and Children's Services Waterloo – Holiday Support Program |
| Description | The Holiday Support Program works to provide families and youth in need in Waterloo Region with gifts during the holiday season. The program matches generous community donors with families and youth involved with the agency who, too often, go without. |
| Contact | Holiday Support Coordinator at holidaysupport@facswaterloo.org |
| Source | Register online at: https://www.facswaterloo.org/tree-of-hope/holiday-support |

Donate Used Items

Need somewhere to donate used items? Many thrift shops in the Waterloo Region donate items back to non-profits who do not have the space to process and store donations of clothes and other housewares. Here's a list of some local thrift stores to get you started.

| Organization | Location | Contact |
|---|------------------------------|--------------|
| Bibles for Missions Thrift Store | 27 Scott St, Kitchener | 519-578-3860 |
| Goodwill Industries Retail Store | 1348 Weber St E, Kitchener | 519-894-0628 |
| The Green Door | 37 Market Lane, Kitchener | 519-804-2466 |
| New Hamburg Thrift Centre | 41 Heritage Dr., New Hamburg | 519-662-2867 |
| Thrift on Kent | 50 Kent Ave, Kitchener | 519-886-6226 |
| Thrift and Gifts | 59 Church St W, Elmira | 519-669-8475 |



| | | |
|---|---------------------------------------|--------------|
| Quality Discounts | 26 Arthur St S, Elmira | 519-669-4032 |
| The Salvation Army Thrift Stores | 563 Highland Rd W, Kitchener | 519-584-0818 |
| Talize | 1144 Courtland Ave E, Kitchener | 519-744-4300 |
| Uptown Thrift | 742 King St E, Cambridge | 519-650-1241 |
| St. Vincent de Paul Value Centre | 75 Dundas St N, Unit 6B, Cambridge | 519-629-0103 |
| Value Village | 480 Hespeler Rd, Cambridge | 519-624-1812 |
| Value Village | 120 Ottawa St N, Kitchener | 519-576-4403 |
| Value Village | 50 Gateway Park Dr., Kitchener | 519-653-3900 |
| Woolwich Community Services Thrift Shop | 48 Arthur St S, Elmira | 519-669-1129 |
| Worth a Second Look Furniture & Housewares | 97 Victoria St N, Kitchener | 519-569-7566 |

Source: <http://waterlooregion.cioc.ca/bresults.asp?SubjID=2124>



Giving Food

Good food to eat and a nice holiday meal with family or friends is an important part of any celebration during the holiday season. There are many organizations that collect funds and give out hampers around the holidays to those in need.

Food Donations

| | |
|---------------------|---|
| Organization | Cambridge Self –Help Food Bank |
| Description | The Cambridge Food Bank always accepts food items in support of their food hamper programs and food cooperative |
| Donation | 54 Ainslie St S, Cambridge |
| Drop off | Mon-Tue 12-4:30pm; Wed, Fri 9am-4:30pm; Thu 9am-6:30pm (ongoing) |
| Contact | 519-622-6550 ext. 112 |
| Source | http://www.cambridgefoodbank.on.ca/donate-food/ |
| Wish List | http://www.cambridgefoodbank.on.ca/wishlist-2/ |

| | |
|--------------------|---|
| Event | Fill an Army Truck (Food Bank of Waterloo Region) |
| Description | Fill An Army Truck returns for the 5th Annual! Help The Royal Highland Fusiliers of Canada - Canadian Army fill an army truck with food & funds so no one goes hungry. Visit your local Sobey's stores to make your donation. |
| Donation | Various Sobey's stores across Kitchener and Waterloo |
| Drop off | December 19-20, 2015 (9:00am – 3:00pm) |
| Source | http://www.thefoodbank.ca/en/events/upcoming_events.asp |

| | |
|---------------------|--|
| Organization | The Food Bank of Waterloo Region |
| Description | The Food Bank of Waterloo Region accepts both perishable and non-perishable donations in support of their many food programs and services. |
| Donation | 50 Alpine Crt, Kitchener |
| Drop off | Monday to Friday 8:30am-4:30pm (ongoing) |
| Contact | 519-743-5576 |
| Source | http://www.thefoodbank.ca/en/aboutus/food_programs.asp |
| Wish List | Peanut butter, beans in sauce, canned fish, canned fruit, cold cereal |

| | |
|---------------------|--|
| Organization | Glencairn Church – Bridges Centre |
| Description | The Bridges Centre is a member of the Food Bank of Waterloo Region, and accepts non-perishable food items in support of their food hamper program. |



| | |
|--------------------------|--|
| Donation Drop off | 725 Erinbrook Dr., Kitchener (call before bringing in donations) |
| Contact | 519-579-8741 or by email at office@glencairn.ca |
| Source | http://glencairn.ca/bridges/ |

| | |
|--------------------------|---|
| Organization | Historic St. Paul's Community Cupboard |
| Description | The Community Cupboard is a free service provided by Historic St. Paul's, and is a recognized partner of the Waterloo Region Food Bank. Please contact the church for more information if you wish to donate food, clothing, money, or your time. |
| Donation Drop off | 137 Queen St. S, Kitchener |
| Contact | Tony, 519-745-4891 or via the online form http://www.historicstpauls.ca/contact/#Tony |
| Source | http://www.historicstpauls.ca/programs/community-cupboard |

| | |
|--------------------------|--|
| Organization | The House of Friendship |
| Description | The House of Friendship is always looking for donations to their food hamper programs such as grocery store items, fresh garden produce and frozen items and food prepared in a government inspected facility. |
| Donation Drop off | 63 Charles St. E in Kitchener: 24 hours a day, 7 days a week (ongoing) 807 Guelph St. in Kitchener: Monday to Friday, between 8:30 am and 4:00 pm (ongoing) |
| Source | https://hofemergencyfoodassistance.wordpress.com/get-involved/ and http://www.houseoffriendship.org/help_giftsinkind.php |
| Contact | Food Services Coordinator at 519-742-8327 |
| Wish List | https://hofemergencyfoodassistance.wordpress.com/get-involved/ |

| | |
|--------------------------|---|
| Organization | Kitchener Church of God |
| Description | The Kitchener Church of God accepts non-perishable food donations in support of their food bank, an extension of the Food Bank of Waterloo Region. |
| Donation Drop off | 533 Weber St. E., Kitchener |
| Source | http://www.kitchenercog.org/home/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=87&Itemid=568 |
| Contact | 519-745-8561 |
| Wish List | http://www.kitchenercog.org/home/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=87&Itemid=568 |



| | |
|--------------------------|--|
| Organization | Loblaw Companies National Food Drive |
| Description | Zehrs, Real Canadian Superstore, valu-mart, and no frills stores across Waterloo Region will be collecting food & funds for The Food Bank. |
| Donation Drop off | Your local Zehrs, Real Canadian Superstore, valu-mart and no frills December 4 th – 24 th , 2015 |
| Source | http://www.thefoodbank.ca/en/events/upcoming_events.asp |

| | |
|--------------------------|--|
| Organization | oneROOF |
| Description | oneROOF accepts food donations in support of their essential services, including food hampers, for youth age 12-25 |
| Donation Drop off | 242 Queen St. S., Kitchener (call before bringing in donations) |
| Contact | 519-742-2788 |
| Source | http://oneroof.org/donate/ |
| Wish List | http://oneroof.org/wishlist/ |

| | |
|--------------------------|--|
| Organization | St John's Kitchen c/o The Working Centre |
| Description | St John's Kitchen gratefully accepts donations in support of their meal programs. |
| Donation Drop off | 58 Queen Street S. Kitchener Monday to Friday, 8:00 am – 3:00 pm |
| Contact | Gretchen at 519-745-8928 or gretchenj@theworkingcentre.org |
| Source | http://www.theworkingcentre.org/donations/145 |
| Wish List | Food and Drinks: Coffee and Tea, Sugar, Spices and Herbs, Soup Base Mix, Peanut Butter, Jam, Cheese, Ground Pepper Kitchen Equipment: Cutlery, Peelers, Paring Knives, Dish Cloths Other Items: Socks, Books, Razors |

| | |
|--------------------------|---|
| Event | Stuff-A-Bus – Kitchener (Food Bank of Waterloo Region) |
| Description | Stuff-A-Bus returns! Help 99.5 FM KFUN, 105.3 KOOL FM, and CTV Kitchener fill a GRT bus with food & funds so no one goes hungry. Join us for the kick off at 6 pm on December 11 th or look for Stuff-A-Bus donation bins at your local Zehrs, no frills, Real Canadian Superstore and valu-mart stores. |
| Donation Drop off | Zehrs, 750 Ottawa St S, Kitchener (Laurentian Power Centre) 12:00 pm (Dec 11) - 6:00 pm (Dec 13) – Kick off 6:00 pm (Dec 11) |
| Source | http://www.thefoodbank.ca/en/events/upcoming_events.asp |

| | |
|--------------------|--|
| Event | Stuff-A-Bus – Cambridge (Cambridge Self-Help Food Bank) |
| Description | Please come out and help us stuff a Bus full of food and/or cash donations in support of the Cambridge Self-Help Food Bank. Together we can help feed those in |



| | |
|-----------------|---|
| | need this Holiday Season. Thanks again to Kool Fm and the Zehrs staff for hosting this event and to Grand River Transit for lending us a bus! There will be a Kick-Off Party at noon on December 11 th . |
| Donation | Cambridge Zehrs (400 Conestoga Blvd, Cambridge) |
| Drop off | December 11-13, 2015 |
| Source | http://www.cambridgefoodbank.on.ca/upcomingevents/ |

| | |
|--------------------|---|
| Event | Stuff a Truck (Cambridge Self-Help Food Bank) |
| Description | Help us stuff our truck full of food donations to help feed those in need in the Ayr Community this Holiday Season! |
| Donation | Ayr Foodland |
| Drop off | December 12, 2015 (10:00am – 3:00pm) |
| Source | http://www.cambridgefoodbank.on.ca/upcomingevents/ |

| | |
|--------------------|---|
| Event | Stuff a Van (Cambridge Self-Help Food Bank) |
| Description | Help us stuff a van full of food donations to help feed those in need in Cambridge and North Dumfries this Holiday Season |
| Donation | Hespeler Zehrs |
| Drop off | December 6, 2015 (9:00am – 3:00pm) |
| Source | http://www.cambridgefoodbank.on.ca/upcomingevents/ |

| | |
|--------------------|---|
| Event | Trinity Community Table |
| Description | Trinity Community Table gratefully accepts donations of canned and fresh food, condiments and spices, and coffee, tea and juice in support of their meal program. |
| Donation | 12 Blair Rd, Cambridge (phone before dropping off donations, office open Monday, Wednesday, and Friday mornings, or by appointment) |
| Drop off | |
| Contact | 519-621-8860 |
| Source | http://www.trinityanglican.on.ca/TCT.html |

| | |
|---------------------|---|
| Organization | Wilmot Family Resource Centre – Food Bank |
| Description | The Wilmot Family Resource Centre accepts food items in support of its emergency food hamper program |
| Donation | Unit 1-175 Waterloo St., New Hamburg, Monday 12:30pm – 4:00pm, Tuesday and Thursday 11:00am to 4:00pm |
| Drop off | |
| Contact | (519) 662-2731 |
| Source | http://www.wilmotfamilyresourcecentre.ca/index_files/foodbank.htm |
| Wish List | Pasta Sauce, Crackers, Juice, Rice, Oatmeal, Canned fruit and vegetables, canned tomatoes, canned meats, powdered milk, school lunch items |



| | |
|--------------------------|---|
| Organization | Woolwich Community Services – Food Bank |
| Description | Woolwich Community Services accepts food items in support of its food hamper program. |
| Donation Drop off | 5 Memorial Ave, Elmira (Open Monday to Friday, 9:00 am to 5:00 pm) |
| Contact | (519) 669-5139 |
| Source | http://www.woolwichcommunityservices.com/Donations.html |



Monetary Donations

Donations of cash or other financial donations are the backbone of any charity or program offered by an agency, and any little bit helps. But don't get carried away just because it's the holidays –make sure to exercise caution when donating money by ensuring that the charity who is asking you for donations is a registered charity. The Canadian Revenue Agency keeps a searchable database of all registered charities in Canada (<http://www.cra-arc.gc.ca/chrts-gvng/lstngs/menu-eng.html>) that will help you to verify charitable status of any organization. Remember that donations made before December 31st can be claimed as charitable donations on this year's taxes.

Not sure which organization you'd like to donate to this year? Canada Helps (<https://www.canadahelps.org/en/>) is a trusted website for donating to charities in Canada, which enables you to find organizations by keyword, category of giving or by current campaigns (<https://www.canadahelps.org/en/campaigns/>).

Donations

Organization Argus Residence for Young People

Description Argus Residence for Young People is committed to supporting youth experiencing or at risk of homelessness in Waterloo Region. Argus provides a wide range of support services in an effort to increase housing stability and community inclusion among youth. Argus provides emergency shelter, a life-skill acquisition program, supportive housing, mentorship and employability skills through work experience.

Source <http://argusresidence.com/donation-form/>

Organization Cambridge Self-Help Food Bank

Description Not enough time for shopping? You can make cash donations to the Cambridge Self-Help Food Bank. With your donation we will ensure that our families can receive support when they need it. Donating online is quick, secure and easy.

Not sure what to buy someone that has everything? Make a donation in honour / memory of someone you love and we will send a card to that person to let them know a donation was made on their behalf.

Source <https://www.canadahelps.org/en/charities/cambridge-self-help-food-bank-inc/>



| | |
|---------------------|--|
| Organization | Food Bank of Waterloo Region |
| Description | \$100 provides 300 meals, \$250 provides 750 meals & \$500 provides 1500 meals |
| Source | https://www.thefoodbank.ca/en/donate/donateonline.aspx |
| Organization | House of Friendship |
| Description | House of Friendship is supported by churches, community groups, businesses, individuals and all levels of government. We depend on over \$1,100,000 in direct monetary donations annually to assist less fortunate members of our community. We are a member agency of United Way of Kitchener-Waterloo & the Townships of Wellesley, Wilmot & Woolwich and receive an annual grant. |
| Source | http://www.houseoffriendship.org/help_donations.php |
| Organization | Langs |
| Description | Langs is a community development organization dedicated to promoting free to low cost accessible health and social services in the Waterloo-Wellington area. Donations to Langs help ensure every person in our neighbourhoods has a place to call home for health, wellness & community support. |
| Source | http://www.langs.org/fundraising/ |
| Organization | Monica Place for Pregnant and Parenting Youth |
| Description | Monica Place is a community that provides supportive housing, counseling and on-site education creating opportunities for growth, learning and skill development. We empower young women who are pregnant, parenting or choosing adoption to make informed and healthy choices for themselves and their children. If you would like to make a monetary donation but do not wish to do so online, you can also mail a cheque to: 231 Herbert Street, Waterloo, ON N2J 1V1. Alternatively, feel free to come into our office to drop off your cheque or cash. |
| Source | http://www.monicalplace.ca/help-volunteer/donate/ |
| Organization | Planned Parenthood Waterloo Region |
| Description | Planned Parenthood Waterloo Region relies on the generosity of many individuals, corporations, foundations, and community groups to maintain local sexual health education and client support services. |
| Source | http://ppwr.on.ca/support-ppwr/ |



| | |
|---------------------|---|
| Organization | Ray of Hope |
| Description | Donations to Ray of Hope help support programs such as the community centre and other youth programs in the areas of justice services, employment, addictions and other community supports. |
| Source | http://www.rayofhope.net/content/donations |
| Organization | oneROOF |
| Description | oneROOF (formerly ROOF) relies on donations from the community to help make a positive difference in the lives of the youth that they assist. |
| Source | http://www.roof-agency.net/donate/ |
| Organization | The Salvation Army |
| Description | Your donation will help restore hope and dignity to vulnerable and marginalized people. |
| Source | https://secure.salvationarmy.ca/registant/donate.aspx?eventid=154206 |
| Organization | The Sexual Assault Support Centre of Waterloo Region |
| Description | Your donation will help support survivors of sexual assault in our community. |
| Source | http://www.sascwr.org/donate |
| Organization | Women's Crisis Services of Waterloo Region |
| Description | Your financial support of women and children in our community who are fleeing abuse and violence is key to the success of the work that we do at Women's Crisis Services of Waterloo Region. |
| Source | http://www.wcswr.org/support-us/donate/ |
| Organization | The Working Centre |
| Description | A donation to the Working Centre is a thoughtful and practical way to honour our community, celebrate a milestone, or memorialize someone. |
| Source | https://donate.theworkingcentre.org/ |
| Organization | YWCA Kitchener-Waterloo |
| Description | Since 1905, YWCA Kitchener-Waterloo has provided essential programs for women and children. Today, we provide programs in the areas of childcare, youth recreation, emergency and supportive housing for women, and prison-based counseling, speaking out on issues that affect women and families. |
| | You can make a gift to YWCA Kitchener-Waterloo or designate it to any of our |



programs or services. Your gift will make a difference in the lives of women and families in need in our community.

Source <http://www.ywcakw.on.ca/personal-gifts>

Support Special Events

| | |
|---------------------|--|
| Organization | Epilepsy Waterloo-Wellington – Gift Wrapping at Conestoga Mall |
| Location | Conestoga Mall |
| Description | Please come out to Conestoga Mall to support EWW with your donations and have your presents beautifully wrapped by our volunteers. Need volunteer hours? Go to http://eww.ivolunteer.com/ to volunteer to help us wrap! |
| Dates | November 30 th to December 24 th , 2015 |
| Source | http://www.epilww.com/?q=content/christmas-gift-wrap-0 |

| | |
|---------------------|---|
| Organization | Grand River Hospital – Gift Wrapping at Fairview Park Mall |
| Location | Fairview Park Mall - 2960 Kingsway Drive, Kitchener |
| Description | Take the stress away from the holidays with Gift Wrap Services provided by Grand River Hospital Volunteers from November 27 th to Dec 24. You can leave Fairview Park with your shopping done AND wrapped. (A suggested donation will be posted at the booth.) |
| Dates | November 27 th to December 24 th , 2015 |
| Source | http://www.volunteerkw.ca/report.php?ListType=Volunteer Positions Special&ID=18098&MenuItemID=20 |

| | |
|---------------------|--|
| Organization | Family and Children's Services |
| Event | Deck the Walls |
| Description | Deck The Walls is an easy way to show your support for the Tree of Hope as a business or as a customer! From November 23 to December 6 , participating restaurants, retailers, and businesses across Waterloo Region will have paper trees by local artist, Sue Wicks, ready for you to add your name. Your customers simply donate a toonie, write their name, and post it for all to see. It's a great way to show your support for the Tree of Hope! |
| Dates | November 23 rd to December 6 th , 2015 |
| Locations | Sobey's - 94 Bridgeport Road, Waterloo Sobey's - 1187 Fischer Hallman Road, Kitchener Sobey's - 450 Columbia Street, Waterloo |



Sobey's - 585 Weber Street North, Waterloo
Sobey's - 274 Highland Road West, Kitchener
Sobey's - 130 Cedar Street, Cambridge
Sobey's - 235 Ira Needles Blvd, Kitchener
Home Hardware - 235 Ira Needles Blvd, Kitchener
Boston Pizza, 190 Gateway Park Dr, Kitchener
Kitchener Farmer's Market, 300 King Street East, Kitchener
Firkin at the Tannery, 121 Charles Street West, Kitchener

Source <https://www.facswaterloo.org/tree-of-hope/deck-the-walls>



After the Holiday Season

While volunteers are appreciated around the holiday season, all organizations that help people in need are in need of volunteers year-round. Some organizations even require volunteers to attend training sessions and make a specific time commitment to their organization (often 8- 12 months) in order to help support their clients with familiar faces. See below for some possible places to get started volunteering.

Volunteering

| | |
|---------------------|---|
| Organization | Community Support Connections |
| Position | Volunteer |
| Location | Breslau: 61 Woolwich St. N. Cambridge: 887 Langs Dr., Unit 4A |
| Description | Community Support Connections – <i>Meals on Wheels and More</i> simply could not exist without the small acts of kindness from our truly incredible volunteers. They are the very heart and soul of the organization, and their words and acts of kindness help to bring smiles to the faces of all of our clients! |
| Contact | 519-772-8787 or apply using the online form |
| Source | http://communitysupportconnections.org/volunteer/#filter_mini_tabs_tabset_0 |

| | |
|---------------------|--|
| Organization | House of Friendship |
| Position | Volunteer |
| Location | 51 Charles St. E., Kitchener |
| Description | Volunteers are valued at House of Friendship and are essential to help staff provide quality service to program participants. A variety of opportunities exist (see website for more information). |
| Contact | 519-742-8327 or e-mail volunteering@houseoffriendship.org |
| Source | http://www.houseoffriendship.org/help_volunteeropportunities.php |

| | |
|---------------------|--|
| Organization | Lutherwood Safe Haven Shelter |
| Position | Volunteer |
| Location | 41 Weber St W, Kitchener |
| Description | Located at Lutherwood's Betty Thompson Youth Centre , Safe Haven Shelter offers Waterloo Region youth a safe alternative to living on the street. Serving vulnerable |



youth 12 years of age and up to their 18th birthday who are at risk of being homeless, this program offers immediate admission and services for up to 10 youth on a 24 hour/7 day a week basis. In a safe, caring environment, staff coach youth to address needs and help them return home (if appropriate) or find another safe living arrangement

Contact Volunteer Resources Coordinator , 519-707-11958 ext. 1238 or by [email](#)

Source <http://www.lutherwood.ca/agency/volunteer/volunteers>

Organization Ray of Hope

Position Various

Location 230-659 King St E, Kitchener

Description Ray of Hope has many opportunities for volunteering such as helping with food hampers, serving meals, administration, driving, shopping, dishwashing or teaching art. They also accept both adult and youth volunteers.

Contact Volunteer Services Manager, 519-578-8018 ext. 225

Source <http://www.rayofhope.net/content/volunteering>

Organization oneROOF

Position Supportive Housing Volunteer

Location 242 Queen St. S., Kitchener

Description As a Supportive Housing Volunteer, you will be involved in assisting youth to make positive changes in their lives. Through your consistent support, you will positively impact youth who, in the past, have experienced negative impact. Your support, compassion, and understanding will help youth trust enough to re-engage in their community.

Your time will be utilized in concrete ways to include:

- Transporting youth to appointments or to community events
- Teaching cooking skills
- Programming
- On-site support

Contact Manager of Supportive Housing at msh@oneroof.org

Source <http://oneroof.org/how-to-help/>

Organization The Working Centre

Position Volunteer

Location 58 Queen St. S.

Description Opportunities around the centre include bicycle recycling, computer recycling, the sharing and preparation of food, the support of others and the exchange between people from all walks of life – the combination of skill building, helping others, and



| | |
|----------------|---|
| | enjoying those around us. |
| Contact | genmail@theworkingcentre.org or 519-743-1151 |
| Source | http://www.theworkingcentre.org/volunteer/83 |

| | |
|---------------------|---|
| Organization | Wilmot Family Resource Centre |
| Position | Various positions |
| Location | 1-175 Waterloo St., New Hamburg |
| Description | Consider making a difference in your community by volunteering to support the programs at the Wilmot Family Resource Centre. See below for examples of opportunities. |
| Contact | (519) 662-2731 |
| Source | http://www.wilmotfamilyresourcecentre.ca/index_files/volunteer.htm |

| | |
|---------------------|---|
| Organization | Woolwich Community Services |
| Position | Volunteer |
| Location | 5 Memorial Ave, Elmira |
| Description | Looking for somewhere to volunteer a few hours a week in your community? Woolwich Community Services has a variety of volunteer positions to suit your interests. |
| Contact | (519) 669-5139 or submit interest via online volunteering form |
| Source | http://www.woolwichcommunityservices.com/Volunteer.html |

| | |
|---------------------|--|
| Organization | YWCA - KW |
| Position | Volunteer |
| Location | 153 Frederick St., Kitchener |
| Description | Volunteers support our programs and services in a number of ways: by cooking meals, doing routine maintenance, gardening, helping with office work, organizing events, and serving on YWCA committees and the Board. |
| Contact | general@ywcakw.on.ca or 519-576-8856 |
| Source | http://www.ywcakw.on.ca/volunteer |

Don't see a volunteer position for you?

Visit the Volunteer Action Centre's website at <http://www.volunteerkw.ca/> to see current volunteer opportunities. Need more assistance? You can also make an appointment with volunteer matcher extraordinaire Dianne Boston-Nyp by phone at 519-742-8610 ext. 3206 or by email at dianne@volunteerkw.ca