

# SERVICES COMMUNAUTAIRES OECUMÉNIQUES (SCO) ECUMENICAL COMMUNITY SERVICES (ECS)

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## ECS NEWSLETTER - November 2024

Welcome to the first ECS Newsletter reaching out to our community – including the five founding churches (St. Andrew's Presbyterian, St. Lambert United, St. Barnabas Anglican, St. Francis of Assisi Roman Catholic and Good Shepherd Lutheran), our donors and 65 volunteers. This newsletter is dedicated to the supporters of the Ecumenical Community Services and is meant to provide information about our past and current activities, as well as future aspirations.

#### **ECS FOODBANK**

Our foodbank operates throughout the year, and a total of 272 deliveries of non-perishable food items were made between October 2023 and September 2024, serving a total of 70 adults and 26 children in Saint-Lambert and Lemoyne. We have seen an increase in demand, due to high food prices and inflation. There has been a notable increase in requests from single people.

#### LA GRANDE GUIGNOLÉE DES MEDIAS

On December 7, 2023, six ECS volunteers participated in the  $22^{nd}$  Grande Guignolée des Médias de la Rive Sud (GGMRS). That day alone, \$171,000 was collected at intersections around the South Shore. In addition to online donations, food items were collected at supermarkets and pharmacies. A total of 21 foodbanks shared in the collections received by the GGMRS.

#### **COMMUNITY OUTREACH**

During the past year, financial assistance was given to several people who were unable to make ends meet in terms of either a rent payment or an unexpected expense.

## **CHRISTMAS CAMPAIGN 2023**

- 174 Christmas Basket Vouchers delivered
- 247 adults and 65 children recipients (among these, 103 singles people, up by 41%)
- 60 monetary donations received from individuals (church members and others), totaling \$16,000. These monetary donations covered 32% of the cost of the Christmas Basket Vouchers and the running of our foodbank year-round.

The four Riverside School Board schools all contributed with donations and non-perishables, along with food-item collections from the Saint-Lambert Library, Recreation Centre, and Maison Desaulniers.

# **CHRISTMAS CAMPAIGN 2024**

Our traditional Christmas Basket Voucher requests for people in need in Saint-Lambert and Lemoyne at **514-497-2737** will finish on November 29. Voucher delivery will be on December 13.

For 2025, we count on raising sufficient funds to continue our Foodbank, and to-help organizations in our community working with the homeless. Therefore, we sincerely hope you will consider contributing to this essential community cause and say "Yes" to ECS!"

**To donate** you can send a check payable to *Ecumenical Community Services* (see address above) or by E-transfer through our Website Donate page, **scosaintlambertecs.ca/donate** or by scanning the QR code. Your donation will be received and used with gratitude! An income tax receipt will be issued by mail or email, if you have supplied your email address.

On behalf of all ECS Volunteers,

We wish you a **Peaceful Christmas and a Healthy New Year**.