WESTON AREA EMERGENCY SUPPORT
W.A.E.S

1 King St. (Central United Church), M9N 1K8
416-247-37

Dec. 16, 2024

Weston Park Baptist Church
c/o email

Dear Cheryl, Darlene and congregants.

Thank you so much for your ongoing support for WAES and our community members. Your incredible door to door food drive will help us to continue to serve those in York South Weston. You collected over 8,000 pounds of food, which will keep our shelves full for over one month. It is so wonderful for us to receive all this food at one time. We love this event each year as you are all so energized and helpful. Honestly, it brings up our spirits to know that people really do care about helping others.

This year we have served more people each month and every month. In October and November, we had over 3,400 visits, up 20% versus last year. That equates to over 4,000 more visits this year to date. We continue to struggle to meet this demand. It gets harder each month to find the space to store food, the money to purchase food, and the time to distribute the food. Our spending has increased from $75K in 2019 to $300K in 2024. We do our best, but we are really feeling overwhelmed by the need. If we are overwhelmed, imagine the parents trying to feed their families. Children under 18 represent 32% of those receiving groceries from WAES, and 13% are seniors.

One recipient wrote us a letter that said, "*I also want to say thank you to the frontline staff that are handing out the food and keeping everything organized and running smoothly. Your smiles and asking, "How are you doing?" goes a long way (and does more than you will ever know)*."

This donation gave us a real boost. WAES could not fulfill our mission without the support of people like you. Thank you for walking with us on this journey. Enjoy the holidays with your families.

D. Stapleton
Diana Stapleton,
Chair and Correspondence Secretary,
W.A.E.S. Steering Committee
https://sites.google.com/view/waesfoodbank/home/more-fabulous-supportCharitable Organization #119295202RR0001