

REDUCING POVERTY

Report to the Community



Defining an End to Poverty

Moving from defining poverty to aligning local poverty reduction initiatives, Stony Plain FCSS, Spruce Grove FCSS, and the United Way of the Alberta Capital Region are offering a Cultivating Communities of Abundance Workshop on October 17.



Contact Spruce Grove FCSS to register for this Tri-Region event (780-962-7618).



Lived-Experience Perspectives

Community partners are gathering information about housing and service needs through a Tri-Region survey from October 9 to November 9. Data collected from this survey will establish a baseline measure of how our community is doing in addressing the needs of our residents at risk of poverty.



Lifelong Learning



Those affected by domestic abuse are more likely to be at risk of poverty. Cut it Out bystander training brings help and support to this at-risk group.



16 stylists across our region became trained in recognizing, responding to, and referring those suffering from domestic abuse.



Tri-Region Approach

Parkland County released their Social Development Plan which will provide direction for social programming and service implementation to ensure healthy communities across the County.

Transportation was identified as one of the key barriers especially for seniors and youth. Local community halls, libraries and schools were identified as community hubs and good places to offer key services. Some issues identified include: criminal activity, alcohol and drug use, isolation and loneliness and lack of housing for all stages of life.

We look forward to working with Parkland County to address these key areas in our tri-region approach to reducing poverty.



Access to Recreation, Social, and Community Opportunities for All

Stony Plain FCSS offered two Creating Connections Exploring Painting programs targeting youth-at-risk and long-term care residents suffering from isolation. The programs aim to connect individuals and build quality social relationships to support. The painting is fun too!



Awareness, Education and Advocacy

The second annual **Compete to Contribute** inspired and empowered youth to engage in creating a healthier community through creative acts of service in our community.



Compete To Contribute awarded over \$27K to seven non-profit community groups for positively impacting our community.



Housing



Become an advocate for inclusive housing and mixed income communities.



Consider joining a community discussion about alternative housing solutions in our community.



Address Issues of Those Most At Risk

Neighbourlink Parkland now operates part-time out of Stony Plain FCSS. The mutual benefit and increased client support provided by this partnership has been felt by all parties and their clients this summer.



NeighbourLink Parkland supported 57 homeless clients (including 3 homeless families) with almost \$9000 in financial assistance and 1900 Km in assisted transportation in a two month period.

Neighbourlink Parkland is committed to working with community partners to put their clients' needs first whether through support of temporary shelter-hotel, securing accommodations, offering food vouchers or start-up furniture. However, this work is only possible with the help of their dedicated volunteers who Director Marlene Dalgleish calls "Neighbourlink's Silent Heroes".



Support Neighbourlink's good work by donating winter gear or food vouchers for the winter season. Contact them to become a volunteer (780-960-9669).



For the third year counting, Lobay Dental Group opened their doors this September for a



free day of dental care – from cleaning and hygiene for children to fillings and emergency dental care to adults – the day was full of giving back to our community.



18 staff from Lobay Dental Group volunteered to host a free dental day providing 60 people at need with ~\$15,000 in free dental work.



Transportation

Drive Happiness, a non-profit organization active in our community, provides valuable transportation support to keep our seniors independent and mobile.



Become a volunteer driver with DRIVE HAPPINESS Seniors Assisted Transportation (Contact Stony Plain FCSS: 780-963-8583)



Hand Claps = awesome actions.



Hand Ups = calls to action.



Contact us for more details. Let us know of new initiatives. Share with us your ideas.

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