

WESTON AREA EMERGENCY SUPPORT W.A.E.S

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

Dec. 16, 2024

Veritas Corporation Anthony Scilipoti and team c/o email

Dear Anthony, Marco, Liam and Scott and team,

Thank you so much for your ongoing support for WAES and our community members. Your very generous donation of \$4,000 worth of newly purchased food will help us to continue to serve those in York South Weston over the next month. It is so wonderful for us to receive food that was purchased specifically for WAES. It saves us so much time in date checking, and it is all food we really need every day. 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 www.waes.ca Charitable Organization #119295202RR0001