

A YEAR'S OVERVIEW

Our mandate is simple - to provide a festive meal and coordination of Christmas giving to Edmontonians in need through a spirit of compassion, generosity, and support. The Christmas Bureau of Edmonton provides Edmontonians with a single application process to receive a festive food hamper or food gift cards; a gift card for teens aged 13 to 17 years of age; and through 630 CHED Santas Anonymous Inc., toys for children under the age of 13 years.

For many of our clients, the stresses of being able to provide a festive meal for their families are lessened by the gift they receive from our donors. They are grateful for the opportunity to share the simplest of traditions - sharing a meal together - that is made possible through the incredible effort and dedication of our wonderful team of donors, volunteers, community and corporate partners and staff. Your energy, talent and passion continue to drive the Christmas Bureau forward.

The Christmas Bureau provides support to Edmonton's working poor, families or individuals on income support and seniors living independently. We are non-denominational in our service providing assistance on a need basis.

In 2019, through the effort of our community, we were able to provide a festive meal to 38,428 individuals of which 14,637 were children 12 years of age and under, 4,545 were teens aged 13 to 17 years.

Many people in our community face hunger each day and at Christmas time that difficult circumstance, and the feelings associated with it, becomes even more acute. For a family with limited resources, it may be a choice between providing a festive meal for their family or paying some bills.

Thankfully, the spirit of Christmas sharing and caring is strong in our City and there are many people in our community who have made, and continue to make a commitment to help.

2020 will be 80 years of providing a festive meal to Edmontonians in need. We look forward to celebrating another festive season with the Edmonton community.

Peter Ratciff, Chair
Board of Directors
Christmas Bureau of Edmonton



NUMBERS & STATISTICS

In 2019, the Christmas Bureau provided 38,428 people with a festive meal. 50% of those we served were under the age of 18.

Families make up 70% of those we served ranging in size from 2 to 15; 9% were independent seniors; and 21% were individuals.

4,545

Teens served through Adopt-A-Teen program

38,428

People provided a festive meal

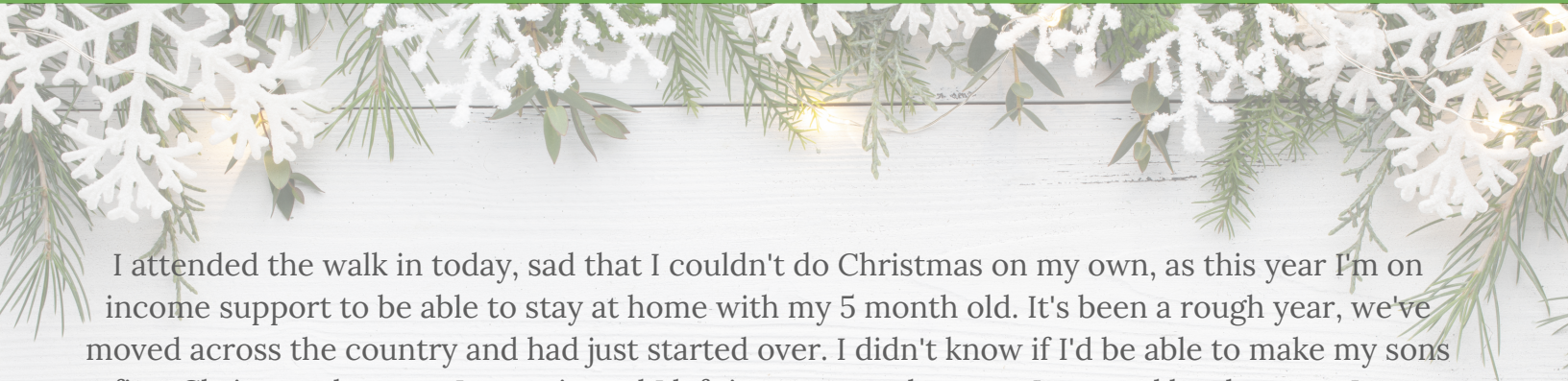


8,039 families received food gift cards and 4,585 families received hampers that were delivered by Christmas Bureau volunteers, Private Sponsors and partner agencies.

Through our Adopt-A-Teen program, 4,545 teens, aged 13 to 17, received a \$50 gift card.

In partnership with 630 CHED Santas Anonymous Inc., 14,637 children registered with our families received gifts.

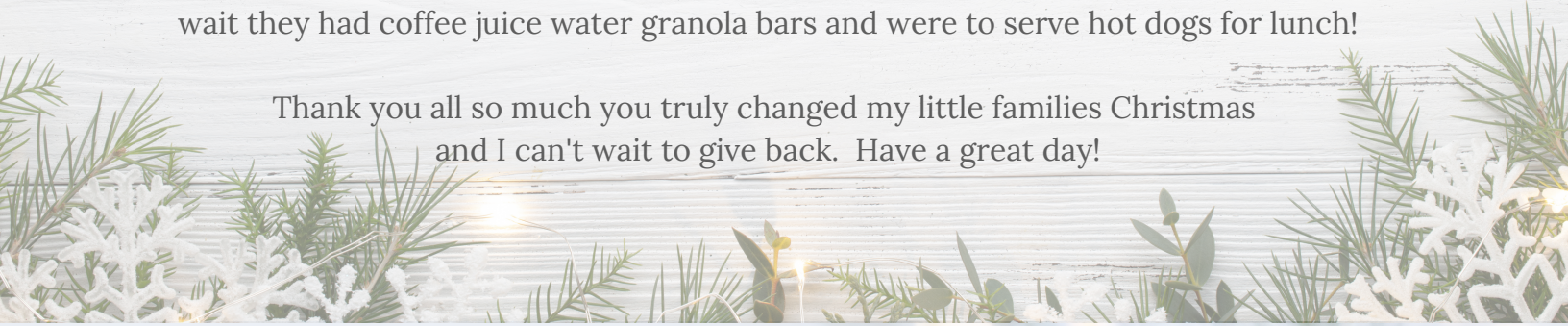
In 2019, 841 volunteers provided 7,24 volunteers hours ranging from Donation Desk Volunteers to Hamper Packing and Delivery to Office and Board and Committee Volunteers.



I attended the walk in today, sad that I couldn't do Christmas on my own, as this year I'm on income support to be able to stay at home with my 5 month old. It's been a rough year, we've moved across the country and had just started over. I didn't know if I'd be able to make my sons first Christmas happen. I came in and I left in tears, not because I was sad but because I was treated with love dignity and respect in coming to the Christmas Bureau for help.

I'm so beyond thankful for what they've done, as a young mother this was so important to me, they've made it so I have a Christmas dinner some treats for my son 3 good gifts and were a listening ear. The volunteers were kind and they worked so quickly, but even if you did have to wait they had coffee juice water granola bars and were to serve hot dogs for lunch!

Thank you all so much you truly changed my little families Christmas and I can't wait to give back. Have a great day!

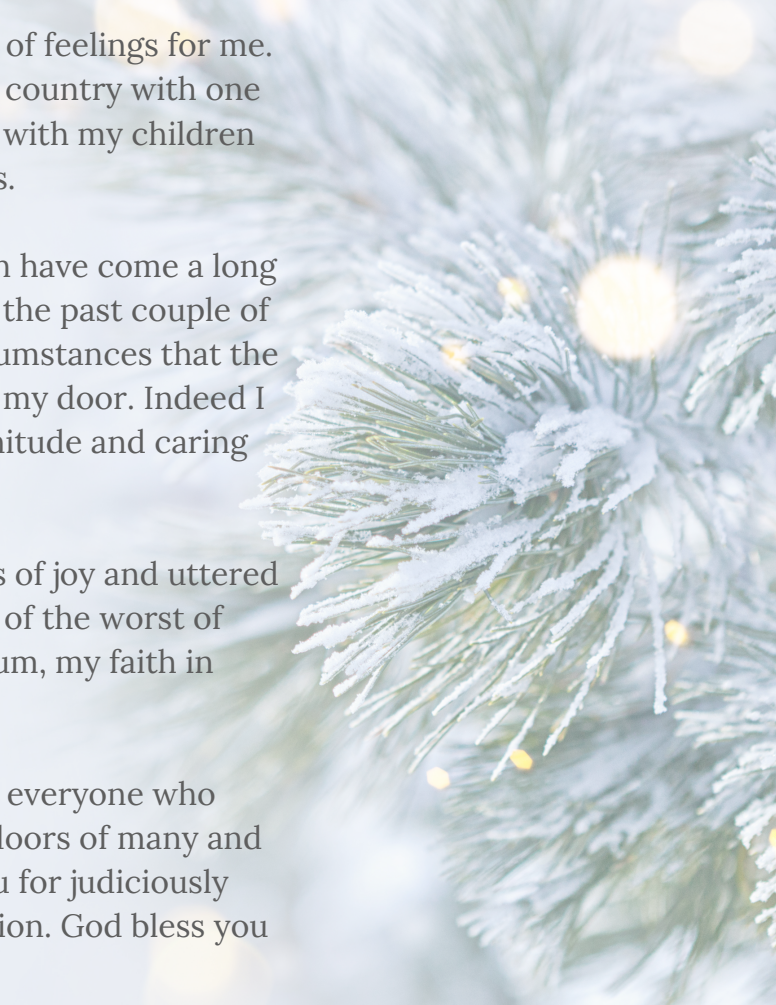


As 2019 Christmas approached, it came with a mixture of feelings for me. This was one Christmas very faraway from home; in a country with one of the harshest weathers I've come to know, all alone with my children and in the most complex of situations.

I wouldn't want to go into details, but I and my children have come a long way and it has taken all the resolve I have to stay sane the past couple of months. It was in the midst of all these conflicting circumstances that the Volunteers from Christmas Bureau came knocking on my door. Indeed I was expecting them; but I wasn't expecting the magnitude and caring they brought out family.

I was simply stunned and speechless. I shed some tears of joy and uttered a silent prayer; good things can certainly come out of the worst of situations. I won't forget the words of my son: "Mum, my faith in humanity is restored".

Ps: I'm seizing this opportunity to say thank you to everyone who contributed in every possible way to bring joy to the doors of many and smiles to countless children. I also thank the Bureau for judiciously utilizing all contributions without favor or discrimination. God bless you all and Merry Christmas.



WHO WE ARE

Our Mission:

Promotion of the spirit of Christmas caring and sharing in the City of Edmonton.

Our Mandate:

To provide a festive meal and coordination of Christmas giving to Edmontonians in need.

Our Core Values:

- Share the spirit of giving and collective caring
- A spirit of compassion, generosity and support
- A spirit which offers hope
- Culturally inclusive
- Non-judgemental

Our Principles:

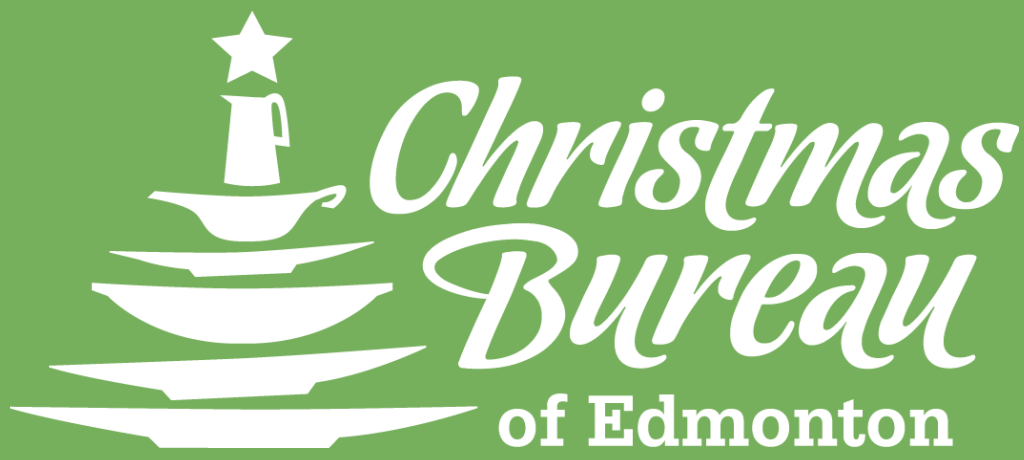
- All persons in need are treated with utmost dignity, respect, courtesy and confidentiality.
- Provide assistance to a person in need to be charitable—not disparaging, disconsolate or punitive.
- Provide assistance in accordance with good stewardship principles.
- Pursue and develop partnerships in the community



Founded in 1940, the Christmas Bureau provides a festive meal and coordination of holiday giving to Edmontonians in need. Clients receive either a festive food hamper or a gift card to purchase their traditional meal. We provide so much more than one meal on one day. We offer those in need hope and dignity and provide them with the feeling of being recognized and valued by their fellow neighbours.



Founded in 1999, Adopt-A-Teen, is a program of the Christmas Bureau of Edmonton that provides a gift card to Edmonton teens aged 13 to 17 years. Teens must be registered with the Christmas Bureau of Edmonton, can be independent living or living with a family.



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