

Gloucester Emergency Food Cupboard

September Newsletter

Dates

- **October 13, closed, Thanksgiving**
- **October 14—27, Drop Campaign, Direct Appeal**

Notices

- If anyone has recent photos from the Food Cupboard, please let Gwen know.
- Do you have ideas about how we can raise funds? Share them with us!
- We have an urgent need for a driver(s) to pick up produce at Macartney Farms on Mondays and Fridays. **If you know anyone who may be interested please let Gwen know!**

No one is more cherished in this world than someone who lightens the burden of another.
Thank you.
~ Author Unknown

Annual Volunteer Potluck Party

When: Sat., Oct. 4.
Where: At Marjorie's BYOD (Bring your own drinks)
Significant others welcome!
Don't miss this evening!

Volunteer Yard Sale

When: Saturday, Sept. 20, 2008
8:00—12:00 am
Where: 2040 Arrowsmith Dr.
Rain or Shine

- ◇ *Save your stuff*
- ◇ *Come and help*

Fill-A-Bus

We are holding a Fill-A-Bus event on **Saturday, September 13 from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm** at Loeb Convent Glen, 6509 Jeanne d'Arc Blvd.

We need your help to:

- ◇ hand out brochures
- ◇ Pack the bus
- ◇ Sort the food
- ◇ Unpack and put away the food at the Food Cupboard

If you have an hour to spare, sign up is on the



GEFC History

2009 will mark 20 years that the GEFC has been in existence. During the next few months this newsletter will chronicle our history.

Chapter 1 The Planning Stages

A working committee was formed in January 1988 and met regularly for several months before holding the first public meeting. Our present chair, Don Collar, was on that committee.

This committee was formed by Diane Constantineau, the crisis intake worker for the Gloucester Centre for Community Resources – now called the Eastern Ottawa Resource Centre – and it included representatives from several area churches, service groups and Gloucester City Council in addition to the Resource Centre.

Its mandate was to determine the feasibility of a food program in Gloucester. By the time of the public meeting in May, much of the ground work had already been done and there was a proposed plan for the Food Cupboard in place. The details of this process, however, have been lost to time as we

have no records from those meetings.

After the May meeting, a board of directors was formed and met in June and July and then twice monthly from September-December and weekly in January of 1989. They set up the location, furnishings, initial insurance, hours of operation, initial funding, and policies. An affordable location was critical, and to our great advantage, the Resource Centre moved to the Beacon Hill Shopping Centre, vacating this building just a few months before the Food Cupboard was scheduled to open. The city-owned building was secured, rent-free, and we've been here ever since.

It's no accident that the Food Cupboard has been successful. It is because of the foresight of the people at those early planning meetings who assured that such an important program got off to a good start. We had no money, but we found people to donate everything that was needed at the beginning. We had chairs from the former Gloucester City Hall in Leitrim, other furnishings from city surplus stores and we had old refrigerators and freezers from a number of sources. The City assisted by up grading the electrical services and built shelves and the large table for our use. By October we had begun incorporation proceedings, though they were not completed until March 1989.

Volunteers are love in motion!
~Author Unknown