



Volunteer Newsletter

Vol III – October 2022

HAPPY FALL TO ALL OF OUR WONDERFUL VOLUNTEERS!

Can you believe we're almost at the end of October?! I hope everyone had an enjoyable, healthy summer and has appreciated this amazing fall weather as much as I have.

There is so much to say in this newsletter that I feel like my heart is bursting at the seams. I'll start with the most exciting news. Our **Volunteer Appreciation Party!**



- WHO:** ALL volunteers
- WHAT:** Appetizers, drinks & fun!!!!
- WHERE:** The George Traditional House
31 Southridge Dr. Okotoks
- WHEN:** Mon, December 12, 4 – 6pm
- WHY:** To celebrate and acknowledge the efforts of our volunteers.

RSVP to Char by Nov 28 please!!!!

ANNUAL FOOD DRIVE

Our Annual Food Drive on Sept 17th was another success with 30,580 lbs. of food and \$700 in cash donations. Our biggest success was having over 80 volunteers involved that day. A very big thank you to the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints for distributing and collecting the bags, then sending over 20 volunteers to sort the donations. A huge thanks to some of our experienced volunteers who worked as “supervisors” for these new volunteers. Thank you to each person who directed traffic, sorted donations, took apart cardboard boxes, checked plastic bags for holes and so much more. What an amazing day.



BETTER IMPACT VOLUNTEER MANAGEMENT

Our system is up and running. If you haven't already logged in and updated your profile, please do that as soon as possible so we can start taking full advantage of the reports and other features the program offers. If you need any assistance, I'm more than happy to help. Go to MyImpactPage.com and use your email address as your username and FoodBank2022 as the password.

GARDENING SEASON

We had an absolutely amazing gardening season. The warm weather provided a bountiful crop, but the 13 hardworking volunteers is again what I am most proud of. Thank you for every seed planted, weed pulled, evening spent watering, and every vegetable picked. It's amazing to be able to provide our families with healthy vegetables grown with love right in our community! I appreciate each of you.



RANCHO VIGNOLA

The Annual Rancho Vignola Harvest Sale is taking place at the Foothills Centennial Centre on November 18th & 19th. This company sells the highest quality nuts, seeds, dried fruits and some yummy confections.

I am in need of 3 volunteers from 10am – 2:30pm on Friday and 3 volunteers to help tear down/clean up from 4 – 8pm on Saturday. Rancho Vignola makes a donation to the Food Bank for the volunteer hours in lieu of paying wages to hired staff. They also donate products to the Food Bank that we give to our clients. Check out ranchovignola.com for more details on their amazing products.

REMINDER ABOUT POLICE CHECKS

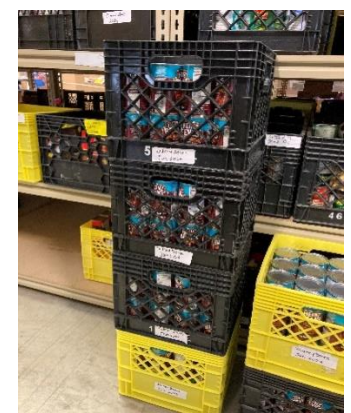
Our Board of Directors has implemented a new policy that each volunteer needs to provide a Vulnerable Sector Check that has been completed in the last 12 months. I will provide you with a letter to take to the RCMP in town to obtain the check. There will be a \$5 fee. Once complete, you will be able to upload the form to the Better Impact website or you can email it and I'll upload it for you. The goal is to have these completed by December.

SAFETY REMINDERS

With so many new volunteers starting, I wanted to make sure everyone is more aware than ever about safety. Here's my **top 3** reminders: **1) don't lift any items above your head 2) only use ladders to reach higher places 3) no earphones in the warehouse.** THANK YOU!

SORTING REMINDERS – QUALITY OVER QUANTITY

Another friendly reminder to please focus on **QUALITY** over **QUANTITY** when sorting. We don't want to make any clients sick by missing items past their "still tasty" dates or especially an **EXPIRY DATE** – in the case of baby food or protein drinks like Ensure. Slow down and have a fellow volunteer double check something you're not sure of. Also, it's so helpful if items are placed neatly in the crates as we often have to stack the crates on top of each other to move them to a different shelf or area in the warehouse. Please do not stack **ANY** items above the lip of the crate. The first photo is what **NOT** to do and the second photo is a **GOOD** example. 😊



VOLUNTEER HOURS FOR QUARTER III

Check out these amazing statistics for how many volunteer hours were logged for July – Sept. Thank you for sharing your summer with us! We are also at 113 volunteers now!

Core Volunteers	1233
Cobb's Bread	70
Food Bank Shopper	36
Store Pickups	225
Garden	178
Hamper Delivery	30
Corporate Groups	53
Board Activities	84
Students	49
Events	609.5
TOTAL	2568