

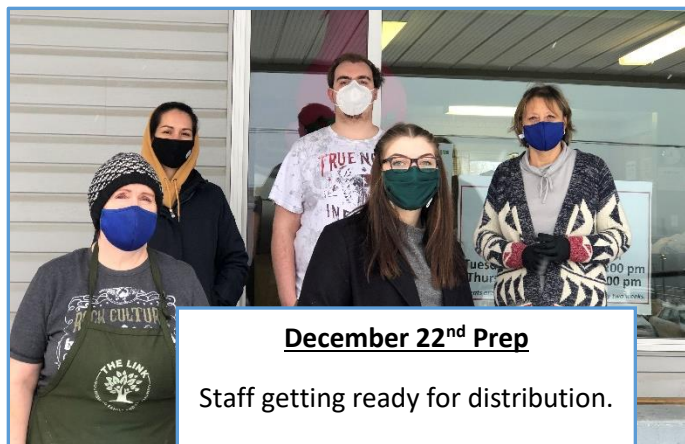


Winter 2021 – Program and Service Update

Season of Giving – We are humbled and overwhelmed by the community support we received this year. We were able to eclipse our seasonal fund-raising goal of \$40,000. We raised over \$55,000 and there are still cheques being sent in! These donations help to sustain and grow our programs throughout the entire year. Thank you to all the individuals, organizations and small businesses in the community that contributed this year. These donations are critical for us to continue our work in the community – Thank You So Much!

The Link Food Centre

Over 146 families (450 people!!!) were supported with special food hampers this Christmas. These hampers help people to make ends meet and ensure that families have a warm meal and children have enough to eat throughout the break. Thank you to all our volunteers and donors who helped make this happen!!



December 22nd Prep

Staff getting ready for distribution.

These amazing folks prepared thousands of hampers this year. It was not easy, but all this amazing work happened while following all public health guidelines!





"This has been a really hard year and I would have nothing to give my daughter this year if it weren't for you. Thank you so much".

-Father attending Santa's Secret Workshop



Santa's Secret Workshop

During the weeks leading up to Christmas, Santa's Secret Workshop was set up in the mall.

During the workshop caregivers were able to choose up to 4 toys, 2 stocking stuffers and a book for each child.

Altogether, 170 children's holiday season were a little brighter because of the wonderful donations and volunteer support from the community. Thank you for all the generous donations of gifts and money (to purchase gifts) from community members and businesses.



Ashurst Children's Centre

Despite limitations on field trips and guests coming into the Daycare, the staff have continued to provide a quality early learning environment. Staff and children alike are looking forward to things getting back to "normal!"





Community Connections & Healthier Start Program

Thanks to generous donations from the Southside community, we have expanded our programming on the Southside. Willow is doing outreach to young moms, seniors and others who may be isolated because of COVID 19. Thank you to the SEDA Centre, Cheslatta Carrier Nation and other anonymous donors that have helped make this happen.

In Burns Lake, the programs have been able to maintain contact with 15 families through technology and physically distanced “parking lot” visits.

A big shoutout to our staff who have worked very hard to find unique and creative ways to stay open and continue to provide service throughout these challenging times.



“Thank you for the wellness box. I am going to do some self care before I open the other bag of goodies. My kids are so excited, they look forward to the crafts and food every week!”

- Healthy Start participant



Strategic Planning

We are looking forward to releasing our strategic plan in the Spring. Some highlights include:

- Maintaining a strong and sustainable administrative structure to support all existing Link programs
- Increasing early learning and childcare, food security, family and pregnancy outreach supports and programming
- Working on a playground resurfacing project for the daycare, and expanding and renovating the Food Centre building