



Operation Sharing

"HELPING PEOPLE FIND NEW HOPE"

2024 Annual General Meeting

OPERATION SHARING OF WOODSTOCK

Statement of Financial Position As at December 31, 2024

(Note 1)

| | <u>2024</u> \$ | <u>2023</u> \$ |
|--|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| <u>ASSETS</u> | | |
| CURRENT ASSETS | | |
| Cash | 225,495 | 478,459 |
| Short-term investments (Note 3) | - | 15,935 |
| Government remittances recoverable | <u>20,645</u> | <u>13,592</u> |
| | 246,140 | 507,986 |
| RESTRICTED ASSETS (NOTE 3) | | |
| Cash | 162,013 | - |
| Short-term investments | <u>77,987</u> | <u>240,000</u> |
| | 240,000 | 240,000 |
| TOTAL ASSETS | <u>486,140</u> | <u>747,986</u> |
| <u>LIABILITIES</u> | | |
| CURRENT LIABILITIES | | |
| Accounts payable and accrued liabilities | 111,969 | 90,686 |
| Deferred revenue (Note 6) | <u>63,000</u> | - |
| | 174,969 | 90,686 |
| TOTAL LIABILITIES | <u>174,969</u> | <u>90,686</u> |
| COMMITMENTS (NOTE 7) | | |
| <u>NET ASSETS</u> | | |
| UNRESTRICTED NET ASSETS | 71,171 | 417,300 |
| INTERNAL RESTRICTED NET ASSETS (NOTE 3) | <u>240,000</u> | <u>240,000</u> |
| | <u>311,171</u> | <u>657,300</u> |
| TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS | <u>486,140</u> | <u>747,986</u> |

Approved by the Board:

Director

Director

See accompanying notes to the financial statements

OPERATION SHARING OF WOODSTOCK

Statement of Changes in Net Assets For The Year Ended December 31, 2024

| | Internally Restricted \$ | Unrestricted \$ | 2024 \$ | 2023 \$ | (Note 1) |
|---|--------------------------------|--------------------|------------------|----------------|----------|
| BALANCE PREVIOUSLY STATED, BEGINNING OF YEAR | 240,000 | 417,300 | 657,300 | 558,529 | |
| Adjustments for ASNPO adoption (Note 1) | — | — | — | (20,919) | |
| RESTATED BALANCE, BEGINNING OF YEAR | 240,000 | 417,300 | 657,300 | 537,610 | |
| (Deficiency) excess of revenues over expenditures for the year | — | <u>(346,129)</u> | <u>(346,129)</u> | 119,690 | |
| BALANCE, END OF YEAR | <u>240,000</u> | <u>71,171</u> | <u>311,171</u> | <u>657,300</u> | |

DRAFT

OPERATION SHARING OF WOODSTOCK

Statement of Operations For The Year Ended December 31, 2024

(Note 1)

| | 2024 | 2023 |
|--|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| | \$ | \$ |
| REVENUE | | |
| County of Oxford funding | 993,658 | 790,935 |
| Donations and other fundraising | 415,107 | 593,890 |
| Coldest Night of the Year fundraising | 128,614 | 151,231 |
| Other Municipal grants | 35,000 | 90,000 |
| | <u>1,572,379</u> | <u>1,626,056</u> |
| EXPENSES | | |
| Wages and benefits | 1,081,584 | 920,224 |
| Program expenses | 304,242 | 286,339 |
| Security | 276,565 | 64,565 |
| Professional fees | 96,248 | 75,689 |
| Rent | 91,475 | 75,092 |
| Office expenses | 42,018 | 68,609 |
| Repairs and maintenance | 17,785 | 9,014 |
| Insurance | 14,083 | 9,246 |
| Donations | 5,023 | 10,000 |
| | <u>1,929,023</u> | <u>1,518,778</u> |
| (DEFICIENCY) EXCESS OF REVENUES OVER EXPENDITURES BEFORE OTHER INCOME | (356,644) | 107,278 |
| OTHER INCOME | | |
| Realized gain on disposal of investments | - | 186 |
| Interest earned | 10,365 | 9,799 |
| Unrealized gain on short-term investments | 150 | 2,427 |
| | <u>10,515</u> | <u>12,412</u> |
| (DEFICIENCY) EXCESS OF REVENUES OVER EXPENDITURES FOR THE YEAR | <u>(346,129)</u> | <u>119,690</u> |

See accompanying notes to the financial statements

Operation Sharing of Oxford

President's Report 2024

2024 was a year of significant change for Operation Sharing. In February, we welcomed Sheri Vindasius as our new Executive Director. Due to health reasons, Sheri stepped away from the role, and in July, Tim Dukes stepped in as the new Executive Director.

I would like to extend my heartfelt thanks to our dedicated staff, volunteers, Board Members, and the many others who stood by the organization during this period of transition. Your perseverance and support helped us move forward through the challenges we faced.

A special thank you goes out to the churches, businesses, organizations, and individuals who continue to support Operation Sharing. The people of Oxford County have been an incredible source of strength, and this year we've seen that support grow even further.

We're also grateful for the continued support of the Wine Rack in Foodland, who help us through their in-store donation box.

Our programs and services are wide-ranging, offering everything from spiritual care and prayer to helping individuals experiencing homelessness find shelter, to supporting those in need with the essentials they might otherwise go without. None of this would be possible without your ongoing generosity.

As we look to the future of Operation Sharing, I feel hopeful and optimistic. With the continued support of people like you, we will carry on in our mission to help others find new hope.

Sincerely,
Marilyn Schiedl
Chair

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2024

2023 marked a remarkable year of expansion, new partnerships, and program development for Operation Sharing. We continued our commitment to providing guest-centered services to individuals facing housing insecurity and families facing food insecurity. In 2023, we expanded our services to Tillsonburg, and in March 2024, we increased our Woodstock shelter capacity from 30 to 55 beds.

It has been both inspiring and humbling to witness the progress of this organization and the increasing number of people we are able to help. However, this also highlights the reality and challenges that our community is facing and its continued growth, the need for support is greater than ever.

In July 2024, I, Tim Dukes, was appointed Executive Director of Operation Sharing. I bring to this role extensive experience in the fields of homelessness, psychology, and sociology. My vision is to build a well-structured, collaborative process, centered around strong community partnerships, to effectively support individuals in need or crisis.

In 2024, our partnerships have grown significantly. We welcomed numerous on-site partners who now assist with daily operations. We also enhanced our intake process, implemented a comprehensive housing strategy, and benefited from the support of Oxford County through the provision of case workers and navigators. This collaboration has brought forward a true team environment and strengthened our ability to serve our guests.

Operation Sharing has also expanded its on-site support services to include ODSP workers, employment services, transitional housing interviews, medical care, basic life skills programs, peer support, and enhanced meal and food programs.

I want to extend my deepest gratitude to the dedicated staff and volunteers of Operation Sharing; you are the heart and soul of this organization. Your passion and commitment make everything we do possible.

I also want to thank Oxford County, the City of Woodstock, the Town of Ingersoll, and Tillsonburg. The support from these communities and their partners has been instrumental in driving positive change and expanding our impact. The generosity shown in 2024 was truly overwhelming, from financial donations to contributions of food and clothing. The people of Oxford County continue to show compassion, and their ongoing support ensures that Operation Sharing can deliver meaningful services and encouragement to those who need it most.

Tim Dukes – Executive Director

The Inn Emergency Shelter Annual Report

AGM Report for 2024

Presented by Karen Boatswain, Shelter Team Lead

The Inn continues its mission to provide emergency shelter, supportive services, and pathway to stable housing for individuals experiencing homelessness in Oxford County. Over the past year, the shelter has served more than 30-40 guest averaging per night. Despite growing community needs and resource constraints, our staff and partners have remained committed to fostering dignity, hope and long-term stability.

Some major changes this year, Tim Dukes appointed Executive Director of Operation Sharing and he in turned promoted myself, Karen Boatswain as Team Lead of the Inn. We have continued our partnership with CHMA, to provide weekly assistance to our guest dealing with mental health and addiction issues, also grief counselling. Our meal partners program is still going great.

The Inn continues to follow all workplace health and safety regulations focusing on identifying and preventing hazards. We aim to create a safer, healthier, and more productive work environment. Our goal is to continue learning and improving as we grow as a community. Staff training in Psychosis and ASSIST training was provided to all staff. Knowing our guests' behaviours and triggers are key to running a safe facility, and knowing when a guest need extended care. We are pleased to report that we have not had any overdoses since April. This is a big milestone for the facility as it shows our staff diligence and guest respecting the facility. Under our new ED, we housed over 30 of our guests to their forever homes in 2024 thanks to coordinated services and wraparound supports. We strive to continue finding stability for our guest and housing for the years to come.

Tim has implemented a new Program Coordinator program, here at the Inn. We engage with guests with group programs or one on one. Movie night, game night, teaching life skills baking, budgeting, resume help and just being an ear to them when needed. Some of our guests do chores around the facility from collecting garbage, sweeping mopping, and cleaning up the property. Teaching them life skills and allowing them to give back around the Inn. Also we have a hairdresser providing free haircuts for the guests at the Inn on average 1x every 2 months.

We are thankful for our community partners for their donations. We have been blessed with Clothing, socks, shoes, beddings, personal hygiene products and meals. We provided guest with Christmas bags, showing them that they are indeed added to our family here at Operation Sharing.

We thank the County for your past and ongoing support. We here at Operation Sharing inspires to provide hope, dignity, and belonging. We are looking forward to all the great changes this year will bring and next.

2025 Annual Report for Woodstock and Ingersoll Food for Friends
submitted by Bonnie Cannell,
Food for Friends Coordinator

We partner with 7 grocery stores that support our program: In Woodstock is Foodland, Food Basics, Giant Tiger and Sobeys; in Ingersoll is Foodland, Giant Tiger and Tremblett's Independent. As well we want to recognize our host churches Woodstock's College Avenue United Church and Ingersoll's Trinity United Church.

Last year in Woodstock we helped 1940 households, 2638 adults and 1186 children, with food cards, clothing and hygiene products. We saw 141 families using Food for Friends for first time in 2024. Our budget for Woodstock in 2024 was \$700 a day for 158 days.

In Ingersoll Food for Friends assisted 746 households which included 994 adults and 558 children. We saw 54 families using Food for Friends for first time in 2024. Our budget for Ingersoll in 2024 was \$400 a day for 105 days.

Overall, the need for this program is increasing beyond what we can help with.

This program would not be possible without the time given by so many volunteers both in Woodstock and Ingersoll. I want to extend a huge appreciation to all of you. You all have made a positive impact in all we do for our communities.

"To bring about change, you must not be afraid to take the first step."
Rosa Parks

Food for Friends--Woodstock

| Date | # Hshlds | Amount | Special Diet | Adults | Children | OW | CTC | ODSP | No Income | El | Wages | CPP | OAS | Other income |
|---------------|-------------|------------------|--------------|-------------|-------------|------------|------------|------------|-----------|-----------|------------|-----------|-----------|--------------|
| 2024 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| January | 154 | \$11,370 | 69 | 225 | 160 | 94 | 32 | 76 | 5 | 4 | 19 | 3 | 4 | 33 |
| February | 160 | \$10,060 | 85 | 227 | 107 | 52 | 26 | 60 | 9 | 4 | 24 | 5 | 6 | 29 |
| March | 167 | \$10,420 | 62 | 196 | 103 | 67 | 23 | 59 | 5 | 6 | 14 | 2 | 4 | 28 |
| April | 176 | \$11,275 | 99 | 241 | 103 | 52 | 25 | 79 | 6 | 4 | 26 | 6 | 12 | 36 |
| May | 186 | \$11,575 | 86 | 260 | 104 | 61 | 32 | 75 | 7 | 3 | 23 | 6 | 6 | 43 |
| June | 170 | \$10,815 | 86 | 263 | 100 | 34 | 51 | 62 | 13 | 8 | 15 | 6 | 3 | 46 |
| July | 166 | \$10,580 | 94 | 231 | 87 | 53 | 24 | 64 | 5 | 2 | 26 | 8 | 14 | 41 |
| August | 146 | \$9,170 | 81 | 205 | 73 | 47 | 27 | 65 | 3 | 3 | 12 | 4 | 7 | 32 |
| Septemb | 136 | \$8,855 | 74 | 192 | 94 | 43 | 25 | 56 | 6 | 3 | 19 | 4 | 7 | 34 |
| October | 209 | \$9,250 | 71 | 218 | 87 | 39 | 25 | 61 | 8 | 6 | 18 | 6 | 7 | 43 |
| Novemb | 150 | \$9,730 | 84 | 210 | 90 | 43 | 23 | 70 | 5 | 4 | 19 | 5 | 9 | 38 |
| Decemb | 120 | \$7,600 | 55 | 170 | 78 | 43 | 28 | 45 | 5 | 3 | 13 | 3 | 5 | 30 |
| Totals | 1940 | \$120,700 | 946 | 2638 | 1186 | 628 | 341 | 772 | 77 | 50 | 228 | 58 | 84 | 433 |

| Cards REDEEMED | | | | | | |
|----------------|------------------|------------------|-----------------|-----------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Date | Foodland | Food Basics | Giant Tiger | Sobeys | Total | |
| January | 2,881.80 | 7094.51 | 689.55 | 570.02 | 11,235.88 | |
| February | 2,498.37 | 6772.57 | 909.84 | 786.83 | 10,967.61 | |
| March | 2,630.26 | 7362.99 | 473.58 | 915.08 | 11,381.91 | |
| April | 1,718.24 | 3298.86 | 555.34 | 235.85 | 5,808.29 | |
| May | 2,539.26 | 8573.87 | 705.10 | 715.81 | 12,534.04 | |
| June | 7,636.45 | 2969.35 | 454.07 | 689.79 | 11,749.66 | |
| July | 2,498.25 | 7662.65 | 489.14 | 441.90 | 11,091.94 | |
| August | 2,157.86 | 6062.39 | 673.81 | 359.49 | 9,253.55 | |
| Septemb | 1,041.51 | 3142.84 | 506.21 | 384.96 | 5,075.52 | |
| October | 2,605.75 | 6380.65 | 646.42 | 258.75 | 9,891.57 | |
| Novemb | 2,146.55 | 7012.42 | 540.39 | 341.90 | 10,041.26 | |
| Decemb | 1,504.87 | 6235.81 | 397.19 | 576.24 | 8,714.11 | |
| Totals | 31,859.17 | 72,568.91 | 7,040.64 | 6,276.62 | 117,745.34 | 117,745.34 |
| # days | | Budget | GIVEN | | plus/ minus | \$7,145.34 |
| 13 | January | \$9,800 | \$11,370 | | -\$1,570 | -\$1,570 |
| 12 | February | \$8,400 | \$10,060 | | -\$1,660 | -\$3,230 |
| 13 | March | \$9,100 | \$10,420 | | -\$1,320 | -\$4,550 |
| 13 | April | \$9,100 | \$11,275 | | -\$2,175 | -\$6,725 |
| 12 | May | \$9,800 | \$11,575 | | -\$1,775 | -\$8,500 |
| 13 | June | \$8,400 | \$10,815 | | -\$2,415 | -\$10,915 |
| 13 | July | \$9,800 | \$10,580 | | -\$780 | -\$11,695 |
| 14 | August | \$9,800 | \$9,170 | | \$630 | -\$11,065 |
| 13 | Septembe | \$9,100 | \$8,855 | | \$245 | -\$10,820 |
| 13 | October | \$9,100 | \$9,250 | | -\$150 | -\$10,970 |
| 13 | November | \$9,100 | \$9,730 | | -\$630 | -\$11,600 |
| 13 | December | \$9,100 | \$7,600 | | \$1,500 | -\$10,100 |

\$110,600 \$120,700

Food for Friends--Ingersoll

| Date 2024 | # Hshlds | Amount | Special Diet | Adults | Children | OW | CTC | ODSP | No Income | El | Wages | CPP | OAS | Other income |
|---------------|------------|-----------------|--------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|-----------|----------|------------|-----------|-----------|--------------|
| January | 66 | \$4,340 | 42 | 85 | 46 | 22 | 16 | 25 | 3 | 0 | 14 | 0 | 3 | 11 |
| February | 63 | \$4,195 | 38 | 85 | 71 | 18 | 23 | 26 | 4 | 1 | 13 | 1 | 2 | 13 |
| March | 60 | \$3,875 | 34 | 76 | 32 | 14 | 12 | 28 | 4 | 0 | 11 | 2 | 4 | 13 |
| April | 65 | \$4,370 | 36 | 77 | 45 | 22 | 14 | 22 | 3 | 0 | 11 | 2 | 5 | 11 |
| May | 67 | \$4,320 | 37 | 79 | 48 | 25 | 13 | 30 | 7 | 0 | 6 | 2 | 3 | 17 |
| June | 67 | \$4,745 | 41 | 97 | 53 | 18 | 18 | 29 | 3 | 0 | 14 | 3 | 5 | 10 |
| July | 55 | \$3,765 | 37 | 76 | 29 | 20 | 9 | 28 | 0 | 0 | 7 | 4 | 6 | 16 |
| August | 69 | \$4,640 | 38 | 96 | 48 | 25 | 18 | 22 | 5 | 0 | 12 | 5 | 7 | 23 |
| September | 61 | \$4,280 | 42 | 83 | 48 | 20 | 15 | 28 | 2 | 0 | 9 | 1 | 3 | 18 |
| October | 71 | \$5,000 | 41 | 95 | 51 | 19 | 17 | 33 | 5 | 0 | 8 | 3 | 7 | 19 |
| November | 55 | \$3,900 | 34 | 78 | 42 | 17 | 14 | 22 | 1 | 0 | 10 | 4 | 8 | 11 |
| December | 47 | \$3,470 | 30 | 67 | 45 | 16 | 15 | 21 | 3 | 0 | 8 | 2 | 4 | 13 |
| Totals | 746 | \$50,900 | 450 | 994 | 558 | 236 | 184 | 314 | 40 | 1 | 123 | 29 | 57 | 175 |

| Cards REDEEMED | | | | | | | |
|----------------|------------------|------------------|-----------------|--|------------------|--|--|
| Date 2024 | Foodland | Giant Tiger | YIG | | Total | | |
| January | 1,168.26 | 1,534.34 | 710.01 | | 3,412.61 | | |
| February | 1,064.03 | 1,956.02 | 634.72 | | 3,654.77 | | |
| March | 794.62 | 2,041.26 | 363.39 | | 3,199.27 | | |
| April | 1,448.50 | 555.34 | 235.85 | | 2,239.69 | | |
| May | 1,480.92 | 1,760.82 | 624.08 | | 3,865.82 | | |
| June | 1,082.72 | 2,279.30 | 717.39 | | 4,079.41 | | |
| July | 916.76 | 2,057.75 | 433.07 | | 3,407.58 | | |
| August | 1,048.26 | 2,053.87 | 1,154.49 | | 4,256.62 | | |
| September | 1,127.43 | 2,425.37 | 728.88 | | 4,281.68 | | |
| October | 939.18 | 1,836.70 | 1,579.16 | | 4,355.04 | | |
| November | 1,068.34 | 2,449.18 | 233.68 | | 3,751.20 | | |
| December | 755.83 | 1,498.81 | 900.54 | | 3,161.10 | | |
| Totals | 12,894.85 | 22,448.76 | 8,324.26 | | 43,667.87 | | |

| # days | Budget | GIVEN | plus/ minus | \$1,667.87 |
|-------------|---------|---------|-------------|------------|
| 9 January | \$3,600 | \$4,340 | -\$740 | -\$740 |
| 9 February | \$3,600 | \$4,195 | -\$595 | -\$1,335 |
| 8 March | \$3,200 | \$3,875 | -\$675 | -\$2,010 |
| 9 April | \$3,600 | \$4,370 | -\$770 | -\$2,780 |
| 9 May | \$3,600 | \$4,320 | -\$720 | -\$3,500 |
| 8 June | \$3,600 | \$4,745 | -\$1,145 | -\$4,645 |
| 9 July | \$3,600 | \$3,765 | -\$165 | -\$4,810 |
| 9 August | \$3,600 | \$4,640 | -\$1,040 | -\$5,850 |
| 8 September | \$3,200 | \$4,280 | -\$1,080 | -\$6,930 |
| 10 October | \$3,600 | \$5,000 | -\$1,400 | -\$8,330 |
| 8 November | \$3,200 | \$3,900 | -\$700 | -\$9,030 |
| 9 December | \$3,600 | \$3,470 | \$130 | -\$8,900 |

\$42,000 \$50,900

| | NEW | Repeats | Single Male | Single Female | Single Parent | Family | Couples |
|-----------|-----|---------|-------------|---------------|---------------|--------|---------|
| January | 3 | 63 | 27 | 15 | 10 | 12 | 2 |
| February | 7 | 56 | 19 | 12 | 16 | 13 | 3 |
| March | 6 | 54 | 22 | 15 | 15 | 5 | 3 |
| April | 6 | 59 | 20 | 15 | 11 | 8 | 5 |
| May | 5 | 62 | 30 | 10 | 18 | 3 | 6 |
| June | 4 | 63 | 15 | 16 | 19 | 13 | 4 |
| July | 5 | 50 | 17 | 11 | 15 | 4 | 8 |
| August | 5 | 64 | 20 | 16 | 18 | 8 | 5 |
| September | 3 | 58 | 15 | 13 | 20 | 8 | 4 |
| October | 5 | 66 | 20 | 14 | 24 | 5 | 7 |
| November | 3 | 52 | 16 | 11 | 19 | 5 | 4 |
| December | 2 | 45 | 15 | 7 | 11 | 8 | 5 |
| | 54 | 692 | 236 | 155 | 196 | 92 | 56 |

| Homeless Count | | | # Households |
|----------------|----|--------|--------------|
| January | 1 | 1.52% | 66 |
| February | 4 | 6.35% | 63 |
| March | 3 | 5.45% | 55 |
| April | 3 | 4.62% | 65 |
| May | 4 | 5.97% | 67 |
| June | 3 | 4.48% | 67 |
| July | 0 | 0.00% | 55 |
| August | 8 | 11.59% | 69 |
| September | 3 | 4.92% | 61 |
| October | 10 | 14.08% | 71 |
| November | 3 | 5.45% | 55 |
| December | 2 | 4.26% | 47 |

THE SHARING TABLE ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2024

The Sharing Table is entering its 6th year at College Avenue United Church as the need for it in the community continues to increase.

We do our best to provide a healthy, well-rounded meal (entree [for example, Marilyn's famous meatloaf, various casseroles, or quiche], a variety of home-made soups, salads and desserts). Thus far this service takes place Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays, with plans underway for extended service.

Average daily attendance is between 45 and 50 for lunch, including takeout. In addition, we provide meals for the Inn and occasionally for Huron House, the transitional housing facility. Demand is often unpredictable but our volunteer team does its best to ensure that attendees are well fed.

For the second time since 2019, The Sharing Table prepared a festive Christmas dinner, open to the community in general. Roughly 100 people attended and the success was in large measure due to the many volunteers who gave generously of their time prior to Dec. 25 and on the day of.

We continue to rely heavily on generous donations from many quarters, including community partners. Such donations include fresh, canned and frozen foods. They help us greatly in lowering the cost of providing meals to those in need.

The core group of faithful volunteers at The Sharing Table make my job easier and much more fun. I thank them all most sincerely. We really couldn't manage without them.

John R. Smith, Coordinator, The Sharing Table

Coats for Kids (and Adults) Report 2024

This past winter, the Coats for Kids (and Adults) program was held at College Avenue United Church and ran from November through January. The program was made possible thanks to the incredible support of our volunteers and the generous donations from churches, individuals, and local businesses.

We were able to assist over 400 families with winter jackets, snow pants, hats, mitts and boots during the cold months. A heartfelt thank you goes out to the Columbus Club, Kids Coats, and Giant Tiger for their generous contributions of hats and mittens. For the last 3 year Stormtec has provided us with winter and spring jackets for both children and adults, to date they have donated over 3000 jackets.

We were also grateful for the collaboration with Chamber of Commerce and Canadian Tire where they provided men's winter boots in sizes 9-13. A special thank you to Terry Jenkins for supplying winter boots for small children.

Thanks to the support of our community, many individuals and families were able to stay warm and safe this winter.

Sincerely,
Marilyn Schiedl
Co-ordinator

CHRISTMAS PLACE 2024

The sad reality in Oxford County saw more families requesting assistance at Christmas than we've ever seen in our 41 year history. The encouraging news is that our community stepped up in a big way to meet and surpass the needs. We saw some challenges switching to strictly online registrations but thanks to great support from our IT guru and computer assistance from Operation sharing our clients were connected.

A welcome collaboration this year (along with partners, Power of Hope and CAS) was The Salvation Army. Clients were directed online to the Christmas Place link for gifts and Salvation Army link for food assistance. Salvation Army handed out food gift cards at the Christmas Place for those who registered.

455 families registered and shopped for 1098 children

53 families picked gifts from what we left at Operation Sharing (after Christmas Place was done)

309 kids shopped for their parents and siblings on Kids Day

Once again, these are the highest numbers we've seen. Thankfully, donations came in from churches, social agencies, schools, service groups, individual families, including Heart FM's Stuff the Bus campaign, and The Power Garage toy drive that collected from many of our local businesses and corporations.

All of this would not have been possible without the generous support and space offered to us from Huron Park Baptist church. Their staff are helpful and exceedingly patient as we bring pandemonium for 3 busy weeks!

Many thanks to our committee for their constant input and dedication that makes each year function a little smoother (and add some laughter amidst the chaos!)

Kathy Gardiner

Director-The Christmas Place