



Cost effective programs that work because of partnerships with the local businesses community and the ongoing support of our volunteers.

**Partnering with local businesses and organizations for the greater good of the community.**

- The United Way of Lunenburg County also provides financial support to the **Bridgewater Outdoor Pool** in partnership with O'Regan's Subaru and the Barracuda Swimming Club. This is a 5 year commitment. We are currently in year 4. This money is used to ensure the continued operation of the outdoor pool and to provide many opportunities for free swims.
- **211 NS.** The United Way is a founding partner of this organization and we contribute to its operation. The Provincial Government is also heavily invested in this organization. 211 helps to connect you to the information that matters to you and your family.

**Low cost/ no cost programs operated by the United Way of Lunenburg County**

- **FREE SINGLE USE SWIMMING/SKATING PASSES** to the LCLC. 1,000 + free passes are distributed through the SSRSB each year and are given to the school Principals and Guidance Counselors as well as local community groups who are encouraged to give them to lower income students and their families. (Children and parents). Multiple usage is encouraged. "The family that plays together, stays together."
- **FREE SKATES TO BORROW** at the LCLC. We built a storage unit and filled it with a wide variety of skates to borrow. These skates are available to anyone. Just borrow, skate, clean and return. This program compliments the program above.
- **BIKES FOR KIDS.** – This year 71 refurbished bikes were given to Lunenburg County kids and parents who may not be in a financial position to purchase one themselves. This brings our 7 -year total to 514 bikes distributed.
- **USED SPORTS EQUIPMENT EXCHANGE.** We make available used hockey and soccer equipment to anyone who needs it. We recently ran our 72 feet of free quality used hockey equipment and have an exchange table at the HB Studios Sports Centre.
- **PLOW IT FORWARD, RAKE IT FORWARD, MOW IT FORWARD AND STACK IT FORWARD** – We help to encourage abled bodied neighbours to help our less abled bodied seniors and the disabled with some outdoor chores like snow shoveling, raking, mowing and wood stacking. This program is directed towards lower income individuals.
- **FREE SMARTPHONES AND LAPTOPS** – We collect used smartphones and laptops and provide them to marginalized people in our community. There are many marginalized and vulnerable people that due to poverty or unique circumstances are unable to participate in a world connected via the internet and therefore benefit from all the opportunities, information and support that this world could provide. A smartphone can be a valuable tool that could enable people to reach out for the help, support and the resources they need to succeed. Since May of 2017 we have distributed 136 phones and 18 laptops.
- **FREE REFURBISHED IPHONES** used for personalized music programs (music streaming services) for elders living in nursing homes and who are suffering from Dementia, Alzheimer's and other affects of ageism. 30 iPhones distributed to 3 TOB Nursing homes + Mahone Bay, New Germany and Chester.
- **FREE RECREATION PASSES** for low income individuals with mental health issues. Passes include access to the YMCA, The LCLC for swimming, skating and yoga and the HB Studios Field House. We also included \$500 in gift cards from SportChek.
- **COATS FOR KIDS** is a partnership with the Salvation Army that helps lower income individuals and families acquire warm winter coats. Because everyone deserves to be warm in winter. Last year we gave away 850 coats.
- **FREE BRIDGEWATER TRANSIT BUS PASSES** provide opportunities for very low income residents to access the services and supports that they need. This program reduces social isolation and increases social inclusion.

It is worth noting that the 9 programs above operate on less than \$1,500 year. That's great value for your charity investment dollar.

**Local giving. Local results.**