

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 Luneburg 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**. Since 2013 over 525 free refurbished bikes have been distributed to local kids, youth, families and adults who would struggle financially to purchase one.
- **USED SPORTS EQUIPMENT EXCHANGE**. We make available used hockey and soccer equipment to anyone who needs it. Free hockey equipment giveaways happen every August at the LCLC. Free soccer equipment is available at the HB Studios Sports Centre.
- **PLOW IT FORWARD, RAKE IT FORWARD, MOW IT FORWARD AND STACK IT FORWARD** Working with other community groups we help to encourage abled bodied citizens 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. This can be done as a family, business, school or individual.
- **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. We believe that 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. These people could be women fleeing family violence, people with mental health issues, at risk youth, people looking for jobs or people that don't have access to the internet because of their current home location or because they don't have a permanent home. We always encourage people to take advantage of the growing number of FREE wi-fi hotspots in the area. Since May 2017, 225 iPhones and 25 laptop computers have been distributed.
- **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 RECREATIOANL PASSES** for 100 low income individuals with mental health issues. Passes include access to the YMCA, The LCLC for swimming, skating and yoga.
- FREE BRIDGEWATER TRANSIT PASSES for low income residents in the Town of Bridgewater.

It is worth noting that the 10 programs above operate on less than \$1,500 year. That's great value for your charity investment dollar.