



WECONNECT
COMMUNITY SERVICES

Newsletter

A Registered Community Service Provider with the City VAUGHAN TORONTO MISSISSAUGA

January 2017

Women in North York take the lead with WEConnect in Parkway Community

Community Partnerships

In true sense of the word



December 23, 2016, It was 8:30 am, the volunteers gathered at the Parkway Forest Community Centre in North York to make delicious sandwiches and pack warm samosas. The work was fast pace as the brunch was to be served at Meeting Place for homeless in Toronto by 11:30 am.

For some women it was their first experience of working in a group for a community cause. And it did prove to be a rewarding experience as the group of women who came together to share, listen, create and

do good for their community began to understand their own strengths & weaknesses, work on them with the help of one another.

The initiative of food drive was taken in one of such weekly meetings. The women shared the vision about their community needs and the helping role they would like to play to meet those needs.

This initiative is what started the **Season of Giving 2016- WE Share and Care Food Drive**. Throughout the month of Decem-

ber 2016, the Maple Community along with North York Community raised money for this 'Season of Giving Project' lead by WEConnect Director Sejal G.



Will activism and awareness within the communities lead to low budget local organizations ta



The project was coordinated by WEConnect Social Worker with a team of twenty women including two student volunteers from McMaster and York University. Everyone had their part to play, whether it was making food or making decisions on how to execute the process, it has been this way since WEConnect Community Services started creating programs to reach out to people in need.

is whatever we do is in consultation with the community we serve and our committee members.

Beneficiaries have a role to play in our decision making, there is absolute transparency with no hidden program costs” explains Sejal G, one of the directors. Now is the time to think out loud ‘Each one of us have a role to play, it is our community, it is our responsibility to strengthen it, to better it’

was founded in Toronto by a group of women volunteers who felt that clients receiving services also had untapped potential which needed to be realized. The people who face challenges in the initial years, had overcome their settlement issues, were empowered enough to give back to the community.

There are newcomers who need experience and need a platform to showcase their skills. *WEConnect* creates opportunities for these en-

“What is great about WEConnect

WEConnect Community Services

Leading up the lead in Community Development Programming for the benefits of area residents



thusiastic volunteers to have experience the field of community services/ Social Work in case they have the aptitude for the profession & would like to make it their educational/employment goal.

“It is challenging,” admits Jaya. ***“It runs parallel to fulfilling your own needs and fragilities as well.*** But as a service provider it’s also quite reassuring to hear about other people’s needs within the community and connecting them together for their success and

growth.” “I think what makes us different is that without any government funding for the project, WEwomen from North York and Maple managed to stand up for our ‘community’s cause’ in a very successful and transparent way. WE welcome every one from the community to join us to deliver good. If your heart lies in doing good for the community then WE-Connect Community Services is the place for you.

EACH REACH 1

FOOD DRIVE

WEConnect Community Services is accepting donations for the less fortunate this holiday season
Drop off your boxed or canned goods to the ParkwayForest Community Center Arts and Crafts room
Wednesday Dec 21, 10am-12pm

For more info visit
weconnectcs.com
647-519-2530



We would like to give a very special thanks to Mr. McKay from the Parkway Forest Community Center for providing WEConnect with the space to begin our project, Mrs.&Mr. Bhatnagar for arranging tea and breakfast for Volunteers, Belamita for Creative input, Zumo, Amat, Chandra with countless volunteers and donors from North York and Maple, RBC Employees, Media Support Hindi Abroad, Documenting Support AIMS, Staff from Shelters and Meeting Place for their guidance and input to carry out our project

successfully.

With great year round programs and services our stability results from the loyal dedication and hard work of our volunteers and from individuals, businesses who financially support what we do year after year for our community

WE operates on a tiny budget for each Project. Our current aim is to encourage individual sponsors from within the community to support such projects.

WEConnect relies heavily on an army of volunteers. "We all offer

what we can offer, which is kindness and a listening ear, genuine and caring human contacts with people." says Jaya. There are many in the community who would like to get involved in the activities of common good to meet those needs. Please stay tuned as another project is in the pipeline and outreach and invites will start soon along with already running social activities. If you would like to be a part of our programs register at www.weconnectcs.com to donate, volunteer or become a member.