SPRINGTIME

Spring is a time of rejuvenation and renewal, so it is at The Lending Cupboard.

While I managed to escape the cold for a bit, I took time to reflect over the past few years and especially this last year that was crowned with the relocation to our new facility and all the celebrations that marked this milestone in our journey. We now have reached the end of our 2016 – 2019 Strategic Plan and it is rewarding to see our accomplishments and areas where we got started but have more to do.

Like any strong organization or business you need to take the time to review and look forward, consider the future and set some goals. Through a collaborative process that involves our Staff, Volunteers and Board, that is how we reached our present status and spring is the perfect time for us to do it once again. Staff, Volunteers & Board have all participated in surveys, and along with other information the Staff and Board of Directors will have spent Saturday, March 30th participating in a review and discussion process setting goals for the next three years.

Heading into my fifth year as the Executive Director I am proud of the accomplishments we've made and excited to see what the future holds. The Lending Cupboard will continue to blossom this spring as well.

Dawna Morey,
Executive Director

Spreading Love & Friendship

10TH ANNUAL LADIES LUNCHEON

The impact of women coming together for a common good is powerful, history has proven it many times. The Lending Cupboard's Ladies Luncheon is no exception.

The original goal was to invite ladies to come together, spend time catching up, expand their network of friends and help out a good cause! Fast forward 10 years and that is still the goal of *The Lending Cupboard's Ladies Luncheon*.

This year's theme "Spreading Love & Friendship" for 10 Years! TLC invites you to join us on Thursday, May 9th as we continue the journey of sharing Love & Friendship in our community through enhancing mobility, independence and dignity!

We sat down with the original organizers of the Ladies Luncheon, Eileen Cole & Marlis McPherson. You can still feel the passion and enthusiasm that they both have for this event. When asked why? Simply stated, women love to

get together to help others and the luncheon was a great way to do that. Their connection with TLC was through the original Founder, Jacqui Joys and their volunteer roles of loaning out medical equipment.



Eileen Cole & Marlis McPherson

In keeping with tradition of that first luncheon, ladies arrive at the Black Knight Inn to a lovely lunch filled with good food and fellowship. An addition this year is a fashion show with clothing being provided by Side Street Fashions.

This year the date is close to Mother's Day, intentionally as we want to celebrate the special women in our lives. The love, support and friendship that we gather and provide to each other!

Tickets available at the Black Knight Inn Ticket Office and NEW this year is table assignment through the ticket office. Visit their website at tickets.blackknightinn.ca or by calling 403.755.6626.

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Spreading Love &

Friendship

Doors Open at 11:00am



MAY IS NATIONAL MOBILITY AWARENESS MONTH!



Spring is in the air – what a great time of year to venture out. You did it – you survived another Winter!

Getting out and being actively engaged in one's community is vital for our bodies, both mentally and physically.

Just some of the roughly 17,500 pieces of medical equipment that we lend here at The Lending Cupboard are mobility related equipment. We have everything from crutches and wheelchairs that we lend out along with the sale of power wheelchairs and scooters. Did you know that all of the power chairs and scooters are donated to us? We inspect and repair as needed before going to the front of our store to be sold. The funds of each sale helps to ensure that we keep Paying It Forward – Enhancing Mobility, Independence & Dignity!

In the City of Red Deer, we are fortunate to have the use of the City's beautiful parks and trail systems. Check out the following link: www.reddeer.ca/city-government/city-departments/recreation-parks--culture. Don't forget to stop by and check all the equipment we have that would make your adventure more enjoyable!

So in honor of Mobility Awareness Month, plan an outing. It could be outside or to your local mall. Don't forget to check out a local trade/vendor show. With spring comes lots of blossoming ideas to get out and get engaged in your community!

What an amazing day!

WINTER LUNCHEON HIGHLIGHTS

On Monday, January 28th, we held our first annual winter luncheon with our guest speaker, Jann Arden. Over 450 people gathered together in the special events centre at the Sheraton Hotel Red Deer where they were greeted by staff, volunteers and Board members of The Lending Cupboard.

The luncheon provided an opportunity for attendees to take a break from the Alberta winter for just an hour or two and be inspired and rejuvenated by the heart warming and hilarious stories from our guest speaker, Jann Arden. Jann was engaging and honest as she talked about her journey with her Mom's battle with Alzheimer's and other aspects of her family life.

Attendees also enjoyed a wonderful meal provided by the Sheraton Hotel staff which consisted of comfort foods - to remind each of us of the warmth that can be gathered from spending time together, supporting each other.

Thank you to those that attended and to our community partners who continue to support us. Thank you Jann for reminding us that "good things do come out of bad things".

Paying It Forward – Enhancing Mobility, Independence & Dignity!











Winter Luncheon

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Spotlight

EVERYDAY HEROS

Meet Charlotte Maffenbeier – Charlotte is just one of TLC's 70 volunteers who gives her time so graciously each week. She has been volunteering with TLC for 10 years in many areas of the organization.

Charlotte has helped in the store front, assisting clients in the office with thank you notes, helping out at trade shows and other fundraising events. All very important contributions to The Lending Cupboard in Paying It Forward – Enhancing Mobility, Independence & Dignity!



Her journey with TLC began in March 2009 when an injury brought her into our storefront looking for medical equipment. So impressed with the concept and the services, upon returning her equipment she offered to volunteer. The notion of having so much equipment available to clients at no cost, just a donation was beautiful!

When asked "the best thing that has happened since joining TLC?", Charlotte refers to all the beautiful friendships she has made. This is quite evident anytime you walk into the storefront at 7803 50 Avenue. Our volunteers are ready, willing to share their experiences and support, to assist any way they can to ensure our clients have what they need. They become good listeners who offer understanding and compassion during an often vulnerable time. Volunteering can be so rewarding and self-fulfilling as Charlotte says it was for her.

Consider volunteering. TLC is a great place! We have many shifts, from storefront, repairs & maintenance to cleaning and follow-up calls. We are also asking people to consider our standing committees and board positions. Contact our Volunteer Coordinator at volunteer@lendingcupboard.ca to find out more!

April 7 – 13th, 2019 is National Volunteer Appreciation Week. At TLC we are so grateful for the 11,000 hours of care and listening that all our volunteers gave in 2017/18.

We truly could not provide the services that we provide each week without our volunteers. On behalf of our TLC's Board of Directors and Staff – THANK YOU!

Volunteers do not necessarily have the time; they just have the heart!

- Elizabeth Andrew

Thank you
Volunteers for
sharing your
hearts with us!

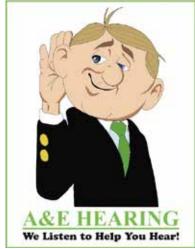
THANK YOU

The Lending Cupboard is grateful for the following community business partners that have decided to support us by highlighting TLC in local print media.

Thank you for raising our profile and the support that we have available for central Albertans!

PHARMASAVE' Fisher's Home Health Care

Highlighted in Wellness News. View their most recent edition here www.wellnessnews.ca



Highlighted in Your Source which can be viewed at www.yoursource.online

THANK YOU 100 MEN

100 Men Red Deer chose The Lending Cupboard as their charity of choice in December 2018 and we are so thankful!

\$6,100 was raised in one night that enables TLC to keep Paying It Forward – Enhancing Mobility, Independence & Dignity!



NUMBER NUGGETS July 2018 to February 2019 6,830 Clients Served **5,638** Equipment on Loan



Our Executive Director, Dawna Morey with members of 100 Men Red Deer!

INVOLVED?

If you have a special interest in Special Events, Fundraising or wish to volunteer in client services, cleaning/sanitizing, or repairs contact our Volunteer Coordinator at volunteer@lendingcupboard.ca or call us at 403.356.1678

STAY TUNED

Want to learn more about The Lending Cupboard? Visit our website at www.lendingcupboard.ca. Want to receive our newsletter electronically? Send us an email to contact@lendin