

Inside THE CUPBOARD

**THE LENDING
CUPBOARD**TM
We lend Medical Equipment.

Issue 35 | Winter 2024



Produced by
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ANOTHER SUCCESSFUL GIVINGTUESDAY



We are thrilled to announce that we have achieved our GivingTuesday fundraising goal for the second year running! If you are unfamiliar with

GivingTuesday, it's the world's most extensive generosity movement, dedicated to acts of kindness and giving back in any way possible.

Last year, we made our debut in the GivingTuesday effort, and the outpouring of generosity from our community left us in awe. The willingness of individuals to rally behind and contribute to our mission of providing medical equipment and daily living aids was nothing short of inspiring. This year, we witnessed that same heartwarming support, reinforcing our belief that we can make a significant difference together.

Participating in GivingTuesday aligns perfectly with our mission at The Lending Cupboard™. It is not just about meeting our fundraising targets — it's an essential reminder of the compassion and empathy that thrives within our community. Every donation we received, every volunteer hour pledged, and every word of encouragement shared, represented a commitment to the welfare of our neighbors and the health of our community.

The success over these two consecutive years has affirmed the trust that is placed in us, and we want to extend our deepest gratitude to every donor, volunteer, and advocate who has believed in our mission. As we celebrate this milestone, we are reminded that our collective efforts have a ripple effect, extending far beyond the immediate reach. Together, we embody the spirit of GivingTuesday every day, making the world a better place one act of generosity at a time. Here's to more shared achievements and continued unity in the service of our noble cause.



A GRATEFUL FAREWELL TO THE CFR

Ever since the Canadian Finals Rodeo (CFR) made its way to Red Deer five years ago, the incredible team at The Lending Cupboard™ has been right there, bringing joy to Central Albertans. From selling day sheets and programs to selling raffle tickets for a daily meat draw, we had a blast while supporting our mission and raising funds for a great cause. And you know what's even better? We've been able to spread the word about our services far and wide, increasing community awareness along the way.

While it's tough to see the CFR leave Red Deer, we're grateful for the opportunity to be a part of this fantastic event.

GIVING THE POWERFUL GIFT OF TIME

We organized a special volunteer open house at The Lending Cupboard™ to commemorate GivingTuesday. Our main objective was to get together and raise awareness about the various volunteer opportunities available at TLC.

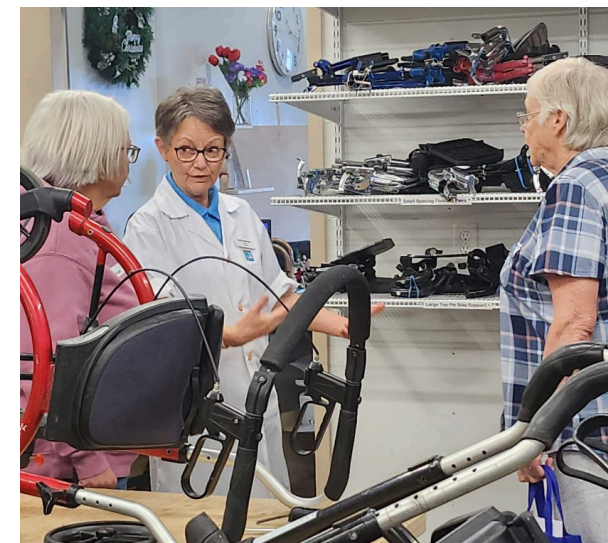
We value the gift of time as much as any monetary donation. Our remarkable volunteers serve as the foundation of our organization, enabling us to support over 1,000 clients every month.

When clients step into our facility, they are greeted by these dedicated individuals who have committed their time, often devoting themselves to at least one shift per week. Our volunteers provide a welcoming and supportive environment, lending an empathetic ear to each of our clients, many of whom are currently facing difficult circumstances.

During the open house, attendees had the chance to converse with some of our volunteers while touring our facility, where they learned about the unique and important support we provide to the Central Alberta community.

We would like to extend our heartfelt gratitude to the Alberta Blue Cross Community Wellbeing Grant program for their support in making this event possible. We would also like to express appreciation to Nossack Meats for generously supplying sausages that were enjoyed by both guests and volunteers.

If you're interested in learning more about our volunteer opportunities, visit lendingcupboard.ca/volunteer-opportunities.



NUMBER NUGGETS

July - December 2023

7,062 Clients Served

8,391 Equipment on Loan

7,827 Equipment Returns

1,139 Equipment Donated

665 Recycled

FROM RETIREMENT TO GIVING BACK

We're thrilled to welcome Jim to our volunteer team. We're incredibly grateful to have him join our organization, and it's all thanks to his wife Teresa's recommendation. Teresa herself has personally and professionally benefited from TLC services, and she thought it would be a great idea for Jim to share his handyman skills with us. We couldn't agree more, and we're excited to see the positive impact Jim will have on our team.

Although Jim is relatively new to our team, he is already enjoying his experience. "I find that everyone here is very friendly, and we're all working towards the same goal - of supporting our community."

Jim continues to be surprised by the amount and size of the equipment that passes through our organization.

"I'm certainly learning a lot. I'm a handyman, but I've never worked on medical equipment - and they are a little more complicated than I initially thought."

Jim's dedication to community service and his openness to learning make him a valuable addition to our team of volunteers.



THE RIPPLE EFFECT OF COMEDY

Over the past few years, we have been honoured to be chosen as beneficiaries of the Cow Patti Theatre's Charity Benefit Program. This heartwarming initiative helps to boost both funding and awareness for locally focused projects right here in Alberta.

In November, the community came together to enjoy the hilarious performance of Norm Foster's 'Danny & Delilah.' It was an afternoon filled with chuckles and good spirits, but we also came together in the generous spirit of giving.

The sense of community and the waves of laughter that filled the room are a testament to the wonderful synergy between The Lending Cupboard and Cow Patti Theatre. We're genuinely thankful for this partnership that turns great entertainment into impactful support.

TLC & TIM HORTONS TEAM UP

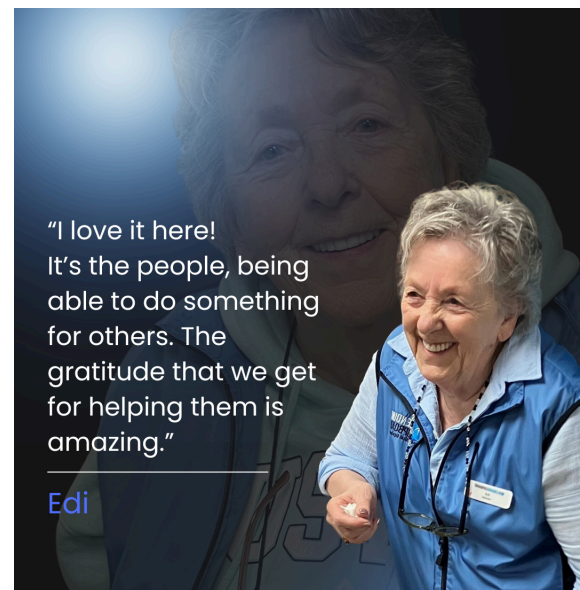
We were super thrilled when we found out that The Lending Cupboard was chosen as one of the charities for Tim Horton's first-ever Holiday Smile Cookie Campaign.

We were excited to support The Lending Cupboard™ and their mission to provide medical equipment to those in need," said Abe and Suzanne Robalo, a Tim Hortons Franchise owner in Red Deer.

From November 13 to 19, our volunteers and staff got the chance to work behind the scenes at different Tim Hortons locations in Red Deer, decorating those famous smile cookies.

This campaign was all about spreading holiday cheer and making a difference in our community. Every single smile cookie sold helped raise funds for local charities, community groups, and youth all across Canada. We're overwhelmed with gratitude because the funds raised from smile cookies sold in Red Deer will be used to support our mission of providing medical equipment and daily living aids to improve the lives of people in Central Alberta.

We wanted to express a huge thank you to the amazing staff at Tim Hortons, as well as each and every one of you who bought Smile Cookies during the campaign. Your incredible generosity and support mean the world to us. Together, we're making a real impact in our community, and we can't thank you enough for standing by our side.



"I love it here! It's the people, being able to do something for others. The gratitude that we get for helping them is amazing."

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FINDING FREEDOM AND INDEPENDENCE

Greyson went on a special journey from Whitecourt to The Lending Cupboard™ in search of a brand-new set of wheels. Greyson's mom, Amanda, shared with us that he entered the world two months earlier than expected, facing a challenging start. However, despite having Cerebral Palsy, Greyson has defied all odds and exceeded everyone's expectations.

When Greyson tried out a wheelchair at school, Amanda immediately recognized the potential it held in enabling his independence. The moment Greyson received his new wheelchair, his excitement couldn't be contained. He gleefully propelled himself around the office, embracing his newfound freedom and sharing his joy with TLC's staff and volunteers, expressing his happiness through enthusiastic thumbs-up gestures.

Greyson's visit to The Lending Cupboard

provided him with a brand-new set of wheels and served as a reminder of the power of resilience and the impact of support. His journey from facing a challenging start to embracing his independence is an inspiring testament to his determination and the unwavering support of his mother, Amanda. As Greyson continues to navigate life with Cerebral Palsy, we can all learn from his contagious enthusiasm and steadfast spirit. The staff and volunteers at TLC are honored to have played a part in Greyson's journey and remain committed to empowering individuals like Greyson to live life to the fullest.



Are you passionate about improving community health and wellbeing? Do you have skills in business, or finance? If so, we need your expertise at The Lending Cupboard™!

We're an Alberta-based organization committed to enhancing the lives of Central Albertans by providing medical equipment and everyday living aids. Our mission is to promote

mobility, independence, and dignity for all in our community.

We're currently recruiting dedicated individuals to serve on our Board of Directors. Your commitment will involve making invaluable decisions that directly impact our community members. Meet with fellow Directors monthly and contribute to one of our standing committees.

Ideal candidates will have experience in the corporate/business field and possess proficiency in financial matters.

Interested? You can make a real difference. If you're ready to donate some of your time to a meaningful cause, please complete our online form at lendingcupboard.ca.

Our Board Development Committee will review all applications and schedule interviews. Join us and become a part of this compassionate endeavour. Help shape a community where everyone has the resources to live with dignity.

If you have any questions, don't hesitate to get in touch with us by emailing Lori Shatto, Executive Director, at ed@lendingcupboard.ca or by calling us at 403-356-1678.

EMPOWERING CENTRAL ALBERTA WITH ESSENTIAL SUPPORT

As a proud Alberta-based organization, The Lending Cupboard™ is deeply committed to the well-being and dignity of our Central Albertan community. We understand the challenges faced by individuals who require medical equipment and daily living aids, and we are here to provide the support they need.

When you walk into our facility, you'll find a large range of medical equipment ready for pickup. From wheelchairs and crutches to bed rails and essential daily living aids, we have a diverse selection to meet various needs. Our goal is to ensure everyone in our community has access to the equipment necessary for mobility, independence, dignity and overall well-being.

We also understand that not everyone can easily visit our facility. That's why we offer a delivery service to bridge that gap. Whether you cannot travel or face other barriers, our team is dedicated to bringing the equipment directly to you. With The Lending Cupboard™, you can rest assured that we are here to lend a helping hand whenever you need it.



If you find yourself in need of medical equipment and can't make it to our location, all it takes is a phone call. Our compassionate team is ready to assist you in any way we can. We pride ourselves on listening to your unique situation, offering guidance, and providing the support you require. Your well-being and comfort are our top priorities.



SUPPORTING STUDENT SAFETY



First Student is widely recognized for its iconic yellow school buses, symbolizing education. One of their top priorities is ensuring the safety of their students, which is why they provide comprehensive training to all their drivers. This training includes proper transportation of children with special needs.

In November, The Lending Cupboard™ was given the opportunity to contribute to First Student's training program by donating two wheelchairs. Jim, a dedicated driver and trainer at First Student, expressed his gratitude: "The donation of wheelchairs will help in the training and evaluation of our staff, ensuring that students remain safe while in our care."

We are thrilled that we could support First Student in their training efforts, ensuring that all children remain as safe as possible when travelling on Alberta roads.

REFLECTING ON A SUCCESSFUL 2023

As we welcome in the new year of 2024, we want to express our gratitude for a wonderful 2023. Thanks to the support and generosity of our donors, we were able to exceed our Giving Tuesday goal once again. We are overwhelmed by the continued support we receive from our community, and we are proud to continue serving central Alberta through our medical lending program, either in person or our delivery service.

In 2023, we were able to ensure that those needing our services were able to access them, thanks to the help of our volunteers and staff. Being able to support over 13,000 clients with medical equipment and daily living aids is so important. It allows one to remain engaged in their community and with their families. Whether that is recovering comfortably from surgery or an accident or choosing to stay close to family and loved ones in their final days. We are thankful to be able to share in their journey and elevate some of the pressures that could come from accessing medical equipment. Our website notes that

"every piece of equipment has a story." To our clients, we are grateful that we could be here to share in your journey when you needed us. We are also thankful for a community that supports our mission and trusts us to ensure the work continues.

We are excited to see what 2024 holds for us and are committed to continuing our work to support our community. We look forward to working with each of you in 2024.

Thank you again for your continued support, and on behalf of The Lending Cupboard™ we wish you all a happy and healthy new year.



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