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# NL NEWSLETTER

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## Newfoundland and Labrador Mission Community Service Funding Projects 2020

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SUBMITTED BY: LOCAL CHURCHES OF NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR | PHOTOS BY: LOCAL CHURCHES IN NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR

Adventists Development and Relief Agency Canada (ADRA Canada) was created by the Seventh-day Adventist Church with the mission to work with people in need to create sustainable positive change. ADRA operates according to its Well-being triangle, which includes education, health, and sustainable livelihoods. ADRA Canada responds not only internationally, but it also runs a small Canadian program that responds to disasters and emergencies. Adventist Community Services (ACS) is the official community outreach ministry of the Seventh-day Adventist church in the North American Division territories, comprising the U.S., Canada, Guam and Micronesia, and Bermuda. ACS serves the whole person, a holistic ministry concept whose mission is to "serve communities in Christ's name".

Both organizations made donations to fund different projects in the Newfoundland and Labrador Mission in order to respond to the effects of COVID 19 on our communities and help our local community members in need.

# Lethbridge, Bonavista, and Cape Freels

## Seventh-day Adventist Churches

SUBMITTED BY: PASTOR DAVID BOUTCHER | PHOTOS BY: PASTOR DAVID BOUTCHER

The Seventh-day Adventist Churches located at Lethbridge, Bonavista, and Cape Freels received a generous gift from the ACS. With it, they were able to help several families that they have made a connection with. The church families responded by saying, "It has been a blessing to those that have received and for those of us who could share with those people. God Bless."

The first family is a husband who is a severe diabetic and had his leg amputated a few months ago, and the wife was diagnosed with breast cancer. Both have lost their jobs in a short period due to their health conditions. They then received notification from their insurance that the oil tank was unusable and would lose their home insurance if they did not replace it by October. After visiting the family and receiving the funding, the church prayerfully decided to fund a new fiberglass tank.



The second is a young family with a two-year-old daughter born with Batten Disease. Batten disease is a rare group of nervous system disorders called NCLs (neuronal ceroid lipofuscinosis) that progressively worsen. They had a five-year-old daughter with the same disease who passed away approximately four years ago. This family must travel twice a month to St. John's (590 miles one way) for treatments. The church presented this family with \$500.00 in gas and food gift cards to help cover expenses.

The third individual had his wife and father-in-law taken to St. John's in emergency medical condition on the same day. Sadly, both passed away. To help cover immediate expenses, the church presented him with a \$250.00 cheque.

The fourth individual is a 80 year old senior diagnosed with lung cancer. Immediate plans include eight radiation treatments. A cheque of \$250.00 was given to help cover the cost of accommodations as they will have to stay in a Bed and Breakfast for over a week.

The fifth family has a daughter with a heart defect known as Atrial Septal Defect (ASD). Most patients with ASD overcome it; however, some increase in size and require treatment. The ASD with this little girl has grown in size and involves surgery that is not available in NL. Upon further testing, it will have to be repaired or require a heart transplant. On behalf of ACS, NL Mission office, and the Lethbridge church, the family was presented with a cheque of \$2000.00. It will cover the daughter's flight cost and the mother's travel, and two weeks of lodging.

A tearful thank you was given by the families for the unforgettable gifts that would not have been possible without ACS overwhelming generosity.

# Corner Brook Seventh-day Adventist Church

SUBMITTED BY: DIANE BURNS | PHOTOS BY: DIANE BURNS

The Corner Brook Seventh-day Adventist Church was delighted to receive \$5,000 from the ACS COVID-19 Funding initiative. It was an opportunity to become aware of and meet needs in the local community, acquaint organizations with the Seventh-day Adventist Church, and positively impact for Jesus. This was also an opportunity for the church family to deliver the items to the various organizations. This gave them such delight as they saw the responses of gratitude from the recipients.

The first project was for The Corner Brook Foodbank Network, which was presented a cheque for \$2,400. The Foodbank serves the greater Corner Brook area. The focus was to provide fresh fruits and vegetables, along with other grocery staples. Fresh fruit was provided for the "After the Bell" school program, which provides a healthy snack and fruit for school children.



Joy Conners, the Foodbank Network Coordinator, says, *"Thank you so much for the \$2,400.00 monetary donation! Your support will certainly help us respond to the needs of the community during this time. Your monetary donation will now give us the flexibility to purchase the food supplies needed to help us, help people who are facing challenging times. We thank you again for your donation and feel very blessed to have your caring support!"*



The second project was for the Grenfell Student Foodbank, which was presented a cheque for \$1,000. The Student Foodbank at Memorial University of Newfoundland, Grenfell Campus, helps students in need. Many of the students currently on campus under COVID-19 restrictions are international students with specific needs. Again the focus was to provide fresh fruits and vegetables, along with other grocery staples.

Bill & Judy Caravan (left) assists with the delivery. Grenfell student volunteer and Jana Walsh (right) were the delighted recipients. One comment from a student was, *"Thank you very much for the hamper. It was great to be able to have a Thanksgiving Dinner."*



The third project was for an International Student in Need, presented with a cheque for \$600. An international Community College student who attends the local Adventist Church was caught in limbo with immigration during the COVID-19 crisis. Unable to attend school and unable to work, there was no income source for groceries or rent. She also received some personal assistance from family, friends, and the local Adventist church. She responded, *"I want to take this opportunity to give you my heartfelt thankfulness for the assistance given to me; it has greatly improved my living situation. The kindness and generosity extended to me by this congregation is immeasurable. God's love was made evident by the actions of the members and the leadership team. I want to reiterate how thankful I am and how this experience forever changes my life."*

The fourth project was for the Western Memorial Regional Hospital Palliative Care Unit, which was presented with a cheque of \$500. The Palliative Care Unit expressed a need for items to make the patients' last days more comfortable. Quality shampoo, conditioner, body wash, body cream, razors, shaving cream, combs, and hair spray. Also needed are items for the kitchen, which helps the families during these difficult times: snacks, milk, herbal teas, crackers, cookies, and individually wrapped candy. A fruit basket was included, and another will be delivered in early November.



The fifth project was for the Willow House, presented with a cheque of \$500. The Willow House is a local shelter for women. The home indicated their need for women and children, such as hats, gloves, hosiery, journals, notepads, sketchbooks, crayons & markers, and games. Also, there was a need for items to help them set up in a new place when they could leave the shelter: mops, brooms, buckets, bottles of cleaner, dishcloths, dish towels, and potholders.

*"Thank you for the generous donation. There were so many great things! These items will be so helpful to the women and the children when they need it most."*

# Conception Bay South and Bay Roberts

## Seventh-day Adventist Churches

SUBMITTED BY: PASTOR FRED NAHIRNY | PHOTOS BY: PASTOR FRED NAHIRNY

Thanks to the ACS funds' blessings, the Bay Roberts and Conception Bay South churches could help both Helping Hands and Conception Bay South Foodbank. It was a blessing to be able to fulfill our commitment to the words of Christ, "I was hungry and you fed me, thirsty and you gave me a drink; I was a stranger and you received me in your homes, naked and you clothed me; I was sick and you took care of me, in prison and you visited me. Matt 25:35-36" From the donations, each community service program received \$500.00. But more than just giving money, over the years, our churches have been able to build a relationship with these services based on trust, love, and giving. This donation furthers our ministry. Since COVID 19, these services have seen an influx of new clients. Clients with a wide range of needs include food hampers, clothing, toiletries, and much more. They will continue filling meal packages and serving the struggling people during these unprecedented times by giving to this cause.



"We send over 300 hampers to the community each month. It would be impossible to run without your support." - Fay Dawe, Manager of the Conception Bay South Food Bank



"The Helping Hands has been serving the community since 1993. For Christmas dinner we serve between 250 to 300 people in the communities around Bay Roberts." - Darlene, Manager of the Helping Hands Food Bank



"This Money will really help these people a lot!"  
- Tom Daniels, Board member of the Conception Bay

## The Gathering Place and Lighthouse FM-VOAR

SUBMITTED BY: SHERRY GRIFFIN

Lighthouse FM- VOAR took the opportunity to donate a cheque to The Gathering Place in St. John's. This was a portion of the letter sent by Joanne Thompson " On behalf of The Gathering Place, allow me to express my gratitude for your generous support of \$500.00. We are making a meaningful impact in people's lives and our progress is due in large part to the ongoing support of dedicated benefactors like you. You can take great pride and satisfaction in knowing that your donation makes a powerful and transformative impact on the lives of people in need, as well as our overall community."

# St. John's Seventh-day Adventist Church

SUBMITTED BY: TRUDY MORGAN-COLE | PHOTOS BY: TRUDY MORGAN COLE

In March 2020, with COVID-19 spreading quickly through St. John's, Newfoundland, and a public health state of emergency declared, our church was forced to close the hot-meal program we had been operating for those in need in the community for the past five years. In consultation with other organizations serving the community, we determined that food insecurity was one of the major issues accompanying the pandemic. For several weeks the largest food bank in the centre of the city had to close, and other programs had drastically reduced their services. At the same time, COVID-19 public health regulations made it more difficult for people to get to supermarkets, with restricted hours and fewer people allowed in stores. More people were in need than ever, with the closing of businesses having result in job losses for many. After some thought we felt that the most useful thing we could do was to provide a home-delivery grocery service to those in need.

After receiving a start-up grant of \$5000 from ADRA, we looked for other sources of funding to continue the program, and were grateful to be given \$5,950 of the grant given by ACS to the Seventh-day Adventist Church in Newfoundland and Labrador. Along with funding from Community Food Centres Canada and Second Harvest, and in-kind donations of food from the Community Food Sharing Association, we have been blessed to be able to use this money to continue the program throughout the spring and summer. Although the money granted to us by ACS (and the other organizations) has now been spent, we are actively seeking sources of funding to extend this program into the fall and winter, as the need continues to be great. Beginning in July we started offering larger hampers every second week instead of every week.



Though some of the demand had reduced due to many public health restrictions being lifted, there were still many people in need and throughout the summer we were delivering between 35-45 hampers, each with an average value of about \$80, every two weeks.

We recognized that as summer ended we had to cut back our services due to having fewer volunteer hours available and less space as our church was once again opening for services. We recognized that one of the things people most valued about our program was the

opportunity to choose the food items they needed rather than receiving a standardized hamper, yet we could not continue to provide this at the scale required. We began offering people the option of either a grocery store gift card – easier to use now that most of the restrictions on shopping had been lifted – or a home-delivered hamper. A small number of people, including some who are elderly, disabled, or have small children, continued to request the hamper, while most were happier with the gift card option.



In spring 2020, at the same time as we were beginning the transition to our food hamper program, our church was approached by a small group of neighbours who were interested in starting a community garden. The St. John's church is located in a mostly lower-income, centre-city part of St. John's, and has a large vacant lot behind the church parking lot that is unused.



Church members had often discussed the possibility of developing it as a community garden. Still, we had no-one within our congregation who had the experience and expertise to start such a program.

When the community group approached us, the church board, after some discussion about details of how the program would work, was glad to support the program, placing it under the umbrella of our Community Services Department. We asked for and received \$1000 from Adventist Community Services through the SDA Church in Newfoundland and Labrador as a start-up grant for this project. Together with other donations totaling about \$1000 from private businesses, the Aldershot Community Garden (named for the church's street) officially broke ground on July 12, 2020. Together, church and community members showed up to clear the land, build the beds, and begin planting. Some of the 11 beds that were built were allotted to church members, others to neighbours, and one bed was set aside to grow potatoes that will be used to feed people as part of our food hamper program.



Throughout the summer it has been encouraging to see the plants growing and to see gardeners from the neighbourhood working at their vegetable plots out behind the church. At the time of this report, many of the beds still have plants growing in them, but the potato bed was harvested on September 25 and the potatoes were distributed to the recipients of food hampers on Sunday, September 27. We were so grateful to see our two ACS projects come together in this way and hope for an even bigger harvest to share with those in need next year.

This first year of partnership between the Aldershot Community Garden and the St. John's Seventh-day Adventist Church has been very successful and we look forward to continuing and expanding the program to better serve our community in 2021.

## Happy Valley Goose Bay, Labrador

SUBMITTED BY: SHAWNA | PHOTOS BY: SHAWNA

Shawna is a Registered Nurse and a Seventh-day Adventist who is currently living in Labrador. Shawna was contacted when these funds became available and jumped at the opportunity to connect with the following organizations; Labrador Friendship Centre and Libra House. Shawna says, "I am pleased to inform you that both donations have been received with sincere gratitude! Regarding the Labrador Friendship Centre, the average number of food bank clients is 175-260 people per month, while the Back to School program fills 115-140 backpacks each year.



The Food Bank director has expressed a real need for grocery bags and will be happy to accept our printed bags to use in the food bank. The Libra House serves about 90 women and children per year."

Thank you to Shawna as she serves in her field as a frontline worker in the hospital. She is continuing to also work with the Newfoundland and Labrador Mission office to help make Adventism a known presence in the surrounding communities. Please keep Shawna and the other Adventists in Labrador in our prayers.

## Marystown Seventh-day Adventist Church

SUBMITTED BY: PASTOR ETIENNE HARUSHIMANA | PHOTOS BY: PASTOR ETIENNE HARUSHIMANA



The Marystown Seventh-day Adventist Church took advantage of the funds to begin building a community garden on the church property. The purpose of this community garden firstly is to do outreach in the community. This area has many low-income families, such as single-parents and the elderly, and many mental health difficulties, such as loneliness, depression, and anxiety.

We plan to run this community garden on donations from the community and support from our local church. We hope this community garden will build friendships in our church and community, give our youth group a project, promote health messages, and encourage our community to get outside throughout the week. We have successfully purchased all the materials necessary to build these beds and will commence building in the spring. Each registered group or person will be designated a portion or whole box; they will receive a little welcome package with some necessary seeds and will be allowed to plant their own as well- within reason. We are excited about this project and pray that it will unite and be a blessing to our community. Many thanks to ACS for their generous donation to make this project possible.



# Botwood Seventh-day Adventist Church

SUBMITTED BY: ANA GASCOYNE | PHOTOS BY: ANA GASCOYNE

When the leaders met in July about how to avail of the Adventist Community Service fund that we would be receiving, one of the ways that we decided was to distribute food hampers throughout the region. It has been a challenging time for some families, especially with COVID affecting every aspect of life, including being able to put food on the table. We had also decided that some of the funds would go towards making a donation to the Interfaith Goodwill Centre in Botwood (which our church is a partial owner of) and a donation to the GFW food-bank.



The week that we had decided to do all the grocery shopping was the week that Dominion went on strike and we were worried if we would be able to get all the food that we needed. But praise God after 3 full grocery carts, we had everything we needed!

On Sunday August 30th, the members of the central Newfoundland SDA district met together to assemble food hampers at the Botwood church with smiles on our faces (of course behind masks!). It was a different experience to be standing 6 feet apart and sanitizing everything, before and after doing anything, but in our new normal, we were still praising God in our service for Him. We were able to distribute 16 large food hampers and we look forward to doing even more next month!

## Conclusion

The funding provided by ACS and ADRA Canada to the Seventh-day Adventist Churches in Newfoundland and Labrador has been one of the most impacting projects I have been involved with for some 50 years! Every district in our field took the initiative and became involved and reached out to meet people's needs. Many people were touched and blessed to know that even though they were not affiliated with our Church, we still cared to reach out and help. It was a blessing to do the calling of Jesus by being His hands and feet, supporting people no matter what their background.



Such was the response from pastors and members, we have overwhelming gratitude to ACS and ADRA for their insight and discernment in seeing how this appropriation could be so timely and helpful in relieving people's needs during COVID 19.

Pastor Ken Corkum

# Newfoundland and Labrador Youth Ministries 2021

SUBMITTED BY: PASTOR JONATHAN GASCOYNE | PHOTOS BY: PASTOR JONATHAN GASCOYNE

After much planning, Pastor Jonathan has come up with two items for 2021 NL Youth Ministries:

- 1) A Training Schedule for Youth Ministries Certifications & NL Youth Leadership Development
- 2) The NL Youth Zoom Ministry: CONNECTED

## Youth Ministries Certifications & NL Youth Leadership Development

Attached is the outlined schedule for training sessions that extend through all of 2021. The following track options are Adventurers, Pathfinders, Youth Ministry, Master Guide, and Staff Leadership. These are excellent training sessions for anyone looking to grow their skillsets and spiritual gifts. Some prerequisites and resources needed for these tracks include; Adventurers Club Director Guide, Pathfinder Club Director Guide, Youth/Children's Ministry Volunteer Code of Conduct, Screening Verification, Baptism, Be invested as a Master Guide (Staff Training Certificate), Books: Ellen White on Leadership OR an approved book on team leadership (Staff Training Certificate), \*\* Please note Master Guide requirements usually take about 2-3 years to complete.

Note:

1. The first workshop is **Sunday, January 10, 2021**
2. You can select one or more tracks
3. **Email Pastor Jonathan which track(s) you would like to take, your name, email address, and phone number.**

If you have any questions or concerns, please send Pastor Jonathan an email at [jgascoyne@nladventist.ca](mailto:jgascoyne@nladventist.ca).

### 2021 NL Youth Leader Training Workshops: One Team Playbook

Tracks & Dates	Jan. 10	Jan. 24	Mar. 21	Apr. 4	Apr. 18	May 2	May 9	May 30	Jun. 13
Adventurers*	Leadership	Recruiting		Church Board			Conflict Resolution		Diversity
Pathfinders*	Leadership	Recruiting		Church Board	Discipline		Conflict Resolution	Outdoor Events	
Youth Ministry*	Leadership		Evangelism			Youth Ministry			Diversity
Staff Leadership	Leadership	Recruiting			Discipline		Conflict Resolution		Diversity
Master Guide	Leadership		Evangelism		Discipline			Outdoor Events	

  

	Jun. 27	Jul. 4	Aug. 29	Sept. 12	Sept. 26	Oct. 3	Oct. 17	Nov. 14	Nov. 28	Dec. 12
Adventurers*				Team Building		Parents Involved			Club Finances	
Pathfinders*	Vision & Mission					Parents Involved			Club Finances	
Youth Ministry*		Stages for Youth			Digital Ministry					
Staff Leadership				Team Building				Staff Training		Mental Health
Master Guide	Vision & Mission		Communication & Learning				Work w/ Special Needs			



CONNECTED is a youth ZOOM program developed in the early 2020 year. They will be held Thursdays at 6:45 pm, and are open to any youth and young adults between the ages of 13-30 years. If you are outside that age bracket, please check with Pastor Jonathan. This CONNECTED youth program is designed to connect and support young believers together and with Jesus. The program format is as follows.

Quiz Countdown, Prayer, What the GIF, Icebreaker, Looking In Study Time, Pass It On: Prayer Time, and a Weekly Challenge. Each evening will also give a hang out time for socialization. Please see the PDF document attached to the email version for more details.

**ZOOM Info:**

Meeting ID: 235 712 7914

Password: 135710

<https://zoom.us/j/2357127914>

Time: Thursday Nights @ 6:45-8 pm

Activities: Thursday's CONNECTED program | Theme Day Tuesday | Movie/Games Session

## LiNC Footsteps

Wednesday, December 2, 2020, is our LiNC Footsteps mid-week program. It will be our last monthly mid-week province-wide gathering for the 2020 year. As you know, "LiNC" stands for Linking Newfoundland and Labrador Churches, and "Footsteps" references our journey as disciples walking together with Jesus. One blessing God brought out of COVID was having us be more interconnected as one big church family across our province. Our desire for this last program is to continue encouraging one another and point us back to our loving Savior. Zoom login information  
ID: 276 968 721  
Password: 144000

