



For Immediate Release – April 26, 2010

ECONOMIC RECOVERY IS NOT AFFECTING FOOD BANK USE Over 3,200 people each month are supported by the Food Bank.

The economic recovery has not affected the number of people who need the help of our local Food Bank. Community Resource Service – Food Bank & Distribution has continued to see an extremely high number of households using its service.

“There’s been an alarming increase in the average number of households using the food bank”, says Heather Vanner, Executive Director. “The trend began to climb in September 2008 when the economy turned negative, and over the past year and a half, the numbers continue to rise. In March 2010 we provided food to 1,358 households. In March 2008 that number was 898. That’s a 51% increase.”

To put that number into even more perspective, consider this: on average, 3,251 people are being provided food by the Food Bank each month. In March 2008 it was 2,259 – That means almost 1,000 more people per month are using the Food Bank over this 2 year period.

“There are an extremely high number of people who are using our service. We have not seen the recovery take affect here,” says Vanner. “It’s heartbreaking to see so many individuals and families coming in to use the service. I find it particularly hard to see young children. As a parent myself, the thought of not being able to feed my children would be extremely challenging. I give people using the service so much credit – I am humbled by those that have the courage to come to our organization and ask for help.”

People utilize the Food Bank for a 2-3 day supply of food, one time per month. “I am still amazed at the number of people we help”, says Vanner. “But I’m even more amazed at the ability of our community to help us. We continue to need the support of our community to help us ensure we have the food and funds available to operate.”

CRS - Food Bank and Distribution Service provided 769,413 pounds of non-perishable food, bread, milk and grocery products to individuals, children, and families this past year. The program also provided 121,431 pounds of food to support other local food programs.

CRS- Food Bank and Distribution launched its Spring Fundraising Appeal this past weekend. “We were so relieved at the support we received over the Holiday Season – it has helped us keep up with the increased demand on our service. But we need the continued support of monetary donations to assist with the operation of the Emergency Food Service, warehousing, support to other community food programs, as well as the purchase of food.”

Donations can be mailed to:

Community Resource Service

102-1100 Clarence St. S.

Brantford, ON

N3S 7N8

Or online at

www.canadahelps.org

For More Information

Please Call:

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519-751-4357 (ext. 28)

I believe in my community

