

# Giving with the spirit of the season

By Jennifer Lang

"It's a time of year when... communities make extra efforts to care for one another." – Stephanie Cadieux, MLA

With that sentiment in mind, we present a sample of the many worthwhile initiatives that assist the less fortunate in Cloverdale and area.

## New clothes needed

**Hyland House Cloverdale**, a 10-bed facility for men and women, can always use donations of personal care items for clients.

Socks are in really high demand, along with new underwear (for men and women), toiletries, soap, lotion, toothpaste and toothbrushes, Chapstick, shampoo and conditioner, and even shaving razors.

Bus tickets are a current special request – staff don't have any at this time to give out.

Donations of clothing are also gratefully accepted: T-shirts, sweat pants and sweatshirts (unisex, if possible).

Even getting coffee as a donation would be nice, added Peter Fedos, senior program manager of Options Community Resource Society.

Donations can be dropped off at the shelter, 17910 Colebrook Road, Surrey. Call 604-574-4341 for more information.

## A community appeal

If you're in need, the **Cloverdale Christmas Hamper Program** is there to help.

The local volunteer initiative distributes hampers and gifts to Cloverdale's less fortunate residents.

Churches, schools, plus many businesses and organizations all work together to ensure Christmas comes to everyone in our community.

The 2014 food and cash donation drive runs to Dec. 14.



Sandy Doyle and Marie Kovacks were part of the army of volunteers who helped sort and assemble donations for the Cloverdale Christmas Hamper program last year.

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apply, please call 604-574-4001, ext. 107, or email [cloverdalechristmashampers@gmail.com](mailto:cloverdalechristmashampers@gmail.com).

Hamper pickup day is Dec. 20 at Pacific Community Church at 5337 180 Street, which acts as the nerve centre for the many volunteers who assemble hundreds of hampers in the ample warehouse. A toy room is set up so recipients can pick out presents for kids and teens.

Volunteers are needed to work from 1:30-8:30 p.m. from Monday, Dec. 15 to Saturday, Dec. 20.

In 2012, more than \$50,000 in donations of cash and food helped 325 adults and 200 children, or about 300 families.

The program serves Cloverdale between 40 Avenue to 80 Avenue (north-south) and from 164 Street to 196 Street (west-east).

This year's application deadline is Tuesday, Dec. 9. Application forms are at <http://pacific-community.ca/ministries/cloverdale-hamper-program/pages/how-to-get-a-hamper>.

Cash donations receive a tax deductible receipt. Please make cheques payable to Pacific Community Church.

## Giving, a year-round thing

In Cloverdale, the **Surrey Food Bank** assists 80 to 100 families every two weeks from the food distribution centre at Zion Lutheran Church, 5950 179 Street.

Across the city, the Surrey Food Bank helps feed 15,000 people a month, and 41 per cent of clients are children and babies.

Food and fundraising drives are year-round, not just at Christmastime. Drop off food donations at Surrey Fire Halls,

More than 200 donation boxes have been deployed across Cloverdale, inside businesses and schools.

**There also two upcoming food drive days:** the first is Friday, Nov. 28 at Cloverdale Crossing Shopping Centre from 1-7 p.m., and the second is Friday, Dec. 5 at Hillcrest Village Shopping Centre, from 1-7 p.m.

Non-perishable food items, new, unwrapped toys for children and mall or store gift cards for teens are urgently needed – along with cash donations.

For more information on donating, volunteering or to