

STREET FRENZ

Giving Meals and Hope to Those in Need

PROJECT INFORMATION – 2019 STREET FRENZ MINISTRY

The Street Frenz ministry of Gregory Drive Alliance Church will continue to provide meals to those in need due to poverty, homelessness, addictions or mental health issue in 2019. This is done through three initiatives: the monthly Street Frenz BBQ, the weekly Street Frenz Sandwich Run and a monthly Grocery Boost for needy families with children. While providing meals is the primary focus, we show love and offer friendship and spiritual help to those we serve.

Street Frenz BBQ:

- Held on the second last Friday of each month
- Meals are prepared and served by volunteers
- Currently being held in the basement hall of First Presbyterian Church so as to provide a central location that is within walking distance for many attendees
- Transportation is provided for some of those living in motels on the outskirts of Chatham, however not all wish to avail themselves of this
- The hot meals typically consist of hamburgers, hot dogs, a variety of salads, chili and/or pasta casseroles, fresh fruit, puddings, desserts along with coffee, tea, soft drinks and water
- The quality of these meals, compared to a more basic subsistence meal for the Sandwich Run, is intended to demonstrate that we value the recipients. Many have expressed their appreciation for the quality of the BBQ meals. Live background guitar and vocal music adds to the atmosphere.
- In addition to meals, the volunteers strive to provide friendship to those who attend, which occasionally leads to providing assistance in other ways, including getting treatment for addiction issues.
- The number of meals provided monthly averages 75 meals per month and is expected to remain at that amount for 2019
- The cost of providing each meal is approximately \$10.40.
- For 2019 the annual cost for the 900 Street Frenz BBQ meals will be approximately \$9,360.00

Street Frenz Sandwich Run (Chatham):

- Done every Thursday evening
- Meals are delivered by volunteers, including the “Sandwich Guys”, to those in need who are living in motels and rooming houses throughout Chatham area
- Meals are prepared on Thursday afternoon by volunteers and consist of egg salad or meat sandwiches, chili, fruit, cookies and bottled water
- Nutritional supplements (Boost) are provided to those with exceptional nutritional needs
- Periodically hygiene packages (soap, toothbrush, toothpaste, shampoo, feminine products) are handed out on an as needed basis
- Currently an average of 80 meals are served each week
- The number of meals is expected to remain at 80 meals per
- The cost of providing each meal is approximately \$2.60.
- For 2019 the annual cost of weekly Chatham Street Frenz Sandwich Run meals will be approximately \$10,816

Monthly Family Grocery Boost

- In 2019, the Street Frenz ministry is assisting three families with children who were regularly running out of food by providing a grocery purchase of \$100 each month. These families were identified through the staff at schools that the children attend. The single mothers of these families are assisted with making the grocery purchases to ensure that nutritious food is provided. We are considering taking on a fourth family in June 2019, although this has not been finalized.
- We believe that the groceries purchased each month provide approximately 30 individual meals for the members of each of the three families.
- This ministry has proven to be very beneficial for the families to help stabilize their financial situation and be able to provide food for their family and be able to pay their rent. In some of the cases, the volunteers have developed friendships to the mothers and have assisted them other areas of their lives. In one case, the mother has stabilized from being virtually incapacitated by anxiety to being enrolled in an ECD program at St Clair College.
- The cost of the Family Grocery Boost will be \$3600.00 for 2019 and will provide approximately 1,080 meals.

Summary:

- The meals that will be provided by the Street Frenz ministry meet a basic requirement for nutrition for residents of Chatham-Kent who are homeless or experience shelter insecurity. Over 30,000 meals have been provided in the last six years.
- From our projections, we expect to provide a total of approximately 6140 meals in 2019.
- The total cost of the 6140 meals will be approximately \$23,776.00.
- Donations will continue to cover a substantial amount of that total cost.
- In addition to the direct cost of the meals, we have expenses related to equipment, our venue, etc that are dependent on donations.
- All labour and oversight is done by volunteers.
- For 2019, the Street Frenz ministry has received \$14,500.00 in funding from the Chatham-Kent Community Homelessness Prevention Initiative. However, we have been advised that this funding will not be available after this year.

For further information regarding Street Frenz, please call Clare Wiersma at 519-350-4408.