

COMPASSION SOCIETY

Programs Run Throughout the Year

Valentine's Day:

A lot of jewelry gets donated to the Society by community members and businesses like Winners or Marshalls etc. Volunteers collect them, sort them and put them up for presentations on boards and in manageable ways for clients to select from. The whole week before Valentine's Day (February 14th); we set up a booth and run the stall on a Monday, Wednesday and Friday to make sure that the jewelry items are spread out to all community members who would be interested and they get to pick 3-5 items of their choice depending upon the quantity and availability.

Spring:

We have a booth set up of new donations for clients to pick from sometime in April or May. Everyone is allowed to receive a few items (3-4) per family. There are items for spring, toys for kids and brand new clothing to choose from.

Mother's Day:

We set aside items for female clients, jewelry, clothes and other household items to give out to all women in celebration of Mother's Day. The entire week before Mother's day clients can come pick up items, Monday, Wednesday and Friday.

Father's Day:

We set aside items for male clients that include clothes, men's products and Tim Horton's gift cards that are donated, to give out to all male clients in celebration of Father's Day. The entire week before Father's day clients can come pick up to 3 items, Monday, Wednesday and Friday.

Canada Day:

New clothing items that come in from stores get set aside and put out the week before Canada Day to celebrate. Clients are allowed to pick out 3-5 items per family. Depending on availability, brand new toys that are overflow from our Christmas program are then also added to the stall for clients to pick from.

Back to School:

This is our annual backpack drive. We collect backpacks and supplies for school to give to children going back to school in September so they are ready. We also collect in-kind donation to give out to high school students who may have different needs than younger kids. This program runs the end of August and start of September and we have them sponsored through different corporate donors and groups in the community.

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Thanksgiving:

If we are lucky enough to receive turkeys we hand them out to our clients, with other extra supplies to make a thanksgiving dinner. Usually the Turkey drive from Food for Life or other corporate donors would be partnered with to get these donations organized.

Ramadan:

We get food donated that is especially for clients celebrating Ramadan, but that can't afford to buy it on their own. This is mainly supported with the Halton Islamic Association on Fairview; who also provide the free storage unit on Fairview. They run a food drive throughout the month of Ramadan and collect the list of most needed items that we provide them with in a bin placed at the mosque and we do regular weekly collections. Also a number of Muslim donors step up to provide support to all the new comers to Canada during this month through fresh supply of poultry and meet.

Christmas Sponsorship and Christmas market:

The Christmas sponsorship is by far our biggest and most successful program. Clients fill out a wish list provided to them in October, for themselves and children, and we match them up with people from the communities that want to sponsor a family and they buy gifts and toys for the family. We do not get to see what and how much is the value donated or sponsored but donors are most of the time very generous and as the gifts are dropped in, the families are called and asked to come collect their gifts. For all those who cannot be matched with a sponsor, we run a Christmas market where there are toys, clothing, gifts of various kinds and types and gift cards to help them through the festive season. All items for the market are donated and we reach out to the community to get all these items well in advance. Sometimes we get turkeys, but only a limited number from donors or Food for Life, so we host a draw to see who would receive them.

Family Day:

We have a booth set up of new donations for clients to pick from. Everyone is allowed to receive a few items per family. For family day we usually try to give out the first batch of toys that are overflow from the Christmas program.

*** All programs are run the week before the special occasion, Monday, Wednesday and Friday.***