



ST. CLAIR CATHOLIC
DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
Lighting the Way – Rejoicing in Our Journey

MEDIA RELEASE: FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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ST. CLAIR CATHOLIC EMPLOYEES DONATE \$10,000 FROM GOOD SAMARITAN FUND TO UNITED WAY IN CK AND LAMBTON

School closures during the COVID-19 pandemic has also meant the cancellation of student nutrition programs at schools in both Chatham-Kent and Sarnia-Lambton.

“We know that for some families, access to our school nutrition programs is an important and reliable supplement for healthy and nutritious foods and any disruption to that access can be very stressful,” says Deb Crawford, Director of Education.

“That is why our staff is making a \$10,000 donation to be divided evenly between United Way Chatham-Kent and the United Way of Sarnia-Lambton. Through these organizations, we know our families will be able to access emergency funds for food,” says Mrs. Crawford.

The money is being donated from the Board’s *Good Samaritan Fund*, which is an account created by employee donations to be used for student needs not covered by *Noelle’s Gift*. It is most often used to support students and families to participate in educational excursions and school trips.

In Chatham-Kent, a partnership has been developed between United Way Chatham-Kent and the Ontario Student Nutrition Program. Families in need of food can apply to obtain grocery gift cards by registering at www.ckgives.ca or calling 519-354-0430 ext. 202.

In Sarnia-Lambton, the Board’s donation will be ear-marked for community partners, who can access United Way funds for food programs to support families and children.

“We are so grateful to the St. Clair Catholic District School Board for this very generous contribution to the United Way of Sarnia Lambton Compassion Fund,” says Dave Brown, Executive Director of United Way Sarnia-Lambton. “Educators and board staff have been consistent and reliable partners of the United Way for many years.”

“We appreciate the support of St. Clair Catholic as we work shoulder to shoulder (nine feet apart) with community partners, government and donors to respond to our local needs and develop solutions – like we have in our partnership with the CK Student Nutrition Program, to bring emergency funding to offset the cost of food for kids,” says Karyn O’Neil, Director, Community Engagement and Operations for United Way Chatham-Kent.