

student *Success*

A MAGAZINE FOR STUDENTS, BUSINESSES AND PARENTS IN LANGLEY
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HUNGRY CHILDREN

**The Community
Rallies to help**

A TRIP TO BELIZE

A life-changer for 30 students

BROOKSWOOD MEMORIES

FOUNDATION INITIATIVES



Community Partners

Hungry Children

Community partners making a huge impact on the lives of Langley students

WHEN YOU HEAR ABOUT THE PLIGHT OF HUNGRY CHILDREN, IMAGES OF starving babies in third world countries immediately spring to mind. “Awful,” you think, as you search for the DONATE button on a charity website. But what if those children were from Langley. What if they lived just down the street. Would you be surprised? Probably. Most people are.

In fact there really are hundreds of Langley children arriving every day at schools throughout the district with empty stomachs. They have not had breakfast. They watch while others enjoy their snacks at recess. They feel the pangs as their friends enthusiastically chomp down delicious lunches. Imagine the emptiness, the sadness, the loneliness. And aside from the physical trauma which is bad enough, think about the mental trauma. Children who are hungry cannot learn. It doesn't matter how good the teacher is or how smart the child is. If they are hungry they might as well be asleep.

But there is help. Gradually people and businesses are starting to realize that hunger is an issue in Langley. Already Re/Max Treeland, Otter Co-op, Nature's Fare, Langley Rotary and Peninsula Runners have stepped up to the plate. In the last month Starline Windows and Vitrum Industries have made significant donations to the program and the Langley Township Firefighters Union has pledged to take on two schools this year with plans to expand the program as far as they can.

It has become a community effort and with that comes awareness, hope and solutions. With your help we will ensure that EVERY child can enjoy a healthy and nutritious breakfast and lunch. Students will be happier and healthier. Marks and attendance will improve. The results will amaze you. ♦

1500 Langley students were encouraged to “Be the Change” at World Food Day 2012.





Students at World Food Day, 2012

WORLD FOOD DAY

On October 16th, 2014 Food For Famine Society (FFF) will be hosting their 6th Annual World Food Day Event at the Langley Events Centre to raise awareness of hunger and poverty issues around the world. This year the event will also address the growing issue of hunger amongst students within the Langley School District.

From left to right: Michael Messenger, World Vision Canada, Mark Moore, MANA Nutrition, Maria Martini, Food For Famine Society, David McKenzie, HOPE International Development Agency, Daniel Germain, Breakfast Clubs of Canada

Grass Roots Granting

MARIA MARTINI, THE FOUNDER OF Food for Famine Society (FFF) is passionate about food – food for hungry children that is. So when she learned of the 100s of students within her own community who arrive at school having had no breakfast and without a lunch, she sprung into action.

“I was shocked when I heard of the number of kids coming to school hungry,” said Maria. “I don’t think the community is aware of the extent of the problem. This is a serious issue that deserves our attention!”

So Maria and the Food For Famine Society is setting out to make a difference. With the help of two Kwantlen Polytechnic University nursing students Gurkeerat Bring and Francesca

Marino, the society will begin promoting awareness of the need throughout the community. As well, the students will be researching meal programs in other districts, not only in Canada, but throughout the world.

“We want to solve this problem with long-term funding and effective strategies,” said Maria.

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Food For Famine

FOOD FOR FAMINE SOCIETY (FFF) is a Langley based humanitarian organization helping to save the lives of children under the age of five suffering from Severe Acute Malnutrition (SAM). After learning how a fortified peanut paste known as Ready-to-Use Therapeutic Food (RUTF) was being used to treat SAM, Maria Martini became inspired to make a difference. She partnered with Mother Administered Nutritive Aid (MANA), a non-profit organization based in Georgia, USA to be the official supplier of RUTF packages. This therapeutic treatment contains the necessary vitamins and nutrients a malnourished child would need to become healthy. World Vision Canada

(WVC) assists FFF with the distribution of RUTF through their Community Based Management of Acute Malnutrition (CMAM) programs. Following its inception, FFF partnered with WVC to help support their international relief projects. To date, FFF has provided a total of 14 container loads of RUTF to: Burundi, Chad, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Ethiopia, Malawi, Mali, South Sudan and Uganda. 100% of donations received by FFF go towards the purchase of RUTF. This provides donors with the confidence that their donations are being used to achieve the greatest possible impact. Since 2009, Food For Famine Society has affected the lives of over 10,000 children. www.foodforfamine.org.

Firing up for Food

FIREFIIGHTERS DO MORE THAN JUST RISK THEIR LIVES. They do more than merely run into burning buildings, saving people, babies and pets. They also help feed children. At least the Township of Langley firefighters do. They have made it their mission to help the Langley School District Foundation feed all the hungry students in the district.

Starting with breakfast programs at two elementary schools, they hope to expand their program every year. In so doing they have struck up a partnership with the Foundation and the leadership teachers and their students throughout the district.

Beginning in September the groups will meet to develop fundraising strategies and to plan events.

“The idea is to promote the concept of “Kids helping Kids,” says firefighter, Doug Simpson. Doug has suggested a bottle drive throughout the month of November where teachers and students

from all Langley schools compete to collect the most bottles. The winning school would be honoured by the choice of a full breakfast or BBQ lunch, supplied and served by the firefighters. That is just one idea. There are several more in the planning stages.

The kick-off of the fundraising will occur on October 16, 2014 during World Food Day. Featuring speakers, videos, presentations and activities focusing on world hunger and student philanthropy, World Food Day is a huge district-wide event. This year there will be an increased focus on local issues and the tragedy of hungry students in our own neighbourhoods.

If you would like to join with firefighters and others in the community, including Starline Windows, Vitrum Industries, Re/Max Treeland, Nature's Fare, the Rotary Clubs, Otter Co-op who have contributed to the cause, please contact the Langley School District Foundation at scairns@sd35.bc.ca, 604-532-1464 or make a donation on our website www.langleyschooldistrictfoundation.com.