

# The Food Sharing Project

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### About the Food Sharing Project

The Food Sharing Project is a non-profit, charitable organization that provides nutritious food to school children in need throughout Kingston, Frontenac, Lennox & Addington (KFL&A).

The Food Sharing project's mandate is to ensure that children do not go through their school day hungry. Children are invited to eat and interact with others at school in a clean, relaxed, friendly, low-key program.

Should children be fed at school? Schools are involved in encouraging the social, emotional, academic and physical growth of children. This food sharing effort addresses an area of physical need that exists for many families for a variety of reasons. The program does not pretend to solve the problems that lead to hungry and malnourished children. Rather, it attempts to provide support for children who are victims of circumstances beyond their control. Efforts are made to avoid stigma and to keep participation voluntary and non-threatening.

#### Our Mission...

"To provide nourishment for students in need to improve their readiness to learn."

#### <u>Purpose</u>

- To ensure that children in need in KFL&A schools receive high quality nutrition through breakfast, lunch, and snack programs.
- In 1982 our first Board of Directors, comprised of thirteen volunteers, began working to meet the needs of school-aged children who came to school hungry.
- We work in concert with the Limestone District School Board and the Algonquin and Lakeshore Catholic District School Board's schools within KFL&A.

## <u>Statistics</u>

- In 2014/2015 we provided nutritious food for 14,509 students in over 95 schools.
- In total 955,000 snacks and meals were served during the 2014/15 school year.
  381,700 Breakfasts, 155,100 Lunches and 418,200 snacks
- We rely on over 250 volunteers in schools, plus three bus companies and ten volunteer drivers / helpers to get the food to the schools
- Food is shipped to any schools who request it, based on a standard order form. Every month we spend as much as \$50,000 and ship approximately 26 tons of food to area schools.
- Our closest school is less than 2 km's from our warehouse, the furthest is 120 km's (Plevna)

## <u>Testimonial</u>

After implementing a Student Nutrition Program at their school, 81% of teachers surveyed reported that their once hungry students were now staying on task and 90% were less irritable!

-SNP Program Coordinator Survey

