



April 2020

THE COMPASSION CARE CLASSIC

A project by the Hospice of Windsor & Essex County

MAKING CONNECTIONS FOR COMMUNITY – Windsor-Essex

Compassion Care Community has over 30 volunteers who have connected with over 400 members and are providing ongoing support to over 200 members. WECCC also has a new Facebook group called COVID19 Connections. This is a place where members of the community can share connections or resources, how they are coping during this time and offer support for each other.



ONLINE CROWD FUNDING – HOME INSTEAD SENIOR CARE

FOUNDATION's online Give65 crowd funding is July 15 – 17. Anyone interested in participating to gain match funding can contact Christie Nelson at cnelson2@thehospice.ca.

SUNSHINE IN A BOX BY SNAPD -if you missed the Sunshine in a

Box event held in February, SnapD Windsor was there! A special thank you to Assumption Cares for hosting and Kindness Café for providing delicious food! We look forward to brighter days when we can gather. Until then please visit SNAPD for pics!

<https://windsor.snapd.com/events/view/1310481>

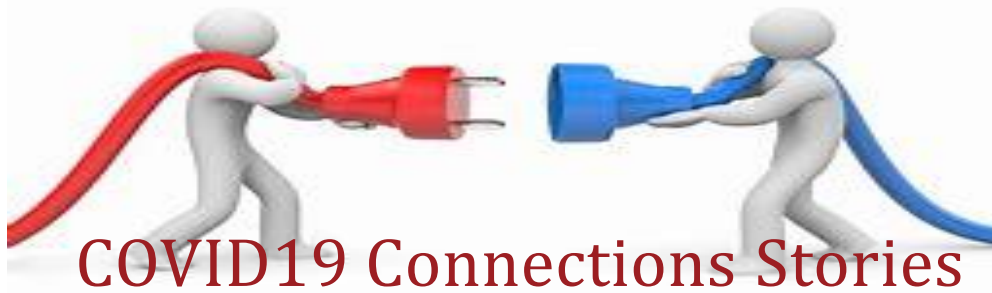


Sunshine In A Box - Photo by Simon Edwards



EXTRA RESOURCES FOR MEMBERS AND SENIORS – WECCC is reaching out to 176

members by phone with 14 volunteers. Members receive calls either daily or weekly and are assisted with any resources they might need. It is important that our members know they are thought of and cared about at this difficult time. As a separate service the [Windsor-Essex COVID Care Coalition](#) has launched the Windsor-Essex Seniors Call Assurance Program. The dangers of social isolation to older adults combined with mandated self-isolation during the COVID-19 pandemic creates a significant risk to the long-term well-being of seniors in our community. The Windsor Essex Seniors Call Assurance program is intended to help alleviate isolation by providing a meaningful social connection and support through regular telephone check-in calls and referrals to other community supports, if necessary. In times of unprecedented crisis, it is critical that all sectors work together and respond quickly to support the most vulnerable people in our community. Seniors who call the phone number will be referred to an organization in their neighborhood to receive a security check within three days of the initial request. Supporting agencies include: Alzheimer Society of Windsor-Essex County, Amherstburg Community Services, Community Support Centre of Essex County, Life After Fifty, South Essex Community Council, The Hospice of Windsor and Essex County/WECCC and VON Windsor. Other resources for seniors include [Windsor Essex Seniors Needing Necessities](#) on Facebook.



COVID19 Connections Stories

Finding the right community connections at this time may be challenging but with the right tools and people, great things are happening during this COVID19 crisis. It's the little things like volunteers and WECCC staff delivering 9 free food baskets from RAPHA Christian Centre that makes a big impact. It's combined efforts like this that show how we care for our community by sharing resources our time and talents! Here are some other great stories! Enjoy!

1. Since this pandemic began many people in the community have stepped forward to offer help to others. WECCC has the ability to reach highly isolated and vulnerable people but it is the partner groups that are keys to helping people get what they need. One notable time was when a WECCC member was in need of a new twin mattress. A local company took care of the bill which was over \$1000 for a reclining bed and mattress. It's not just big items, support is pouring in for the little things too!
2. One of our WECCC members is unable to work due to medical concerns and COVID19. The member mentioned how bad of timing this is and that this individual along with their immediate family would be in need of some support. Without hesitation WECCC and its partner agencies stepped into high gear to provide this members family of 6 with food and activities for the children. The partnership included Unemployed help center, Hospice, The forgotten Fight, other members and staff. Together this team of agencies and people were able to secure a few large and small boxes of food, toiletries, a bag of toys, other miscellaneous items to get by as well as information regarding services in the city that can help in obtaining grocery, other necessities and information to apply for EI benefits.
3. Special thanks to the Facebook group CareMongering Windsor/Essex for helping volunteers find a refrigerator. WECCC volunteers were able to locate a mini fridge for a member who is bedbound so that they can have some drinks and things to eat in between their PSW visits. This made the individual so happy and created a few more opportunities for them to be more independent which will make a difference during this time of social distancing.
4. We have been calling people all day every day to check in, make sure that they have access to safer options for obtaining their groceries and medications. Almost everyone enjoys having WECCC volunteers and staff to check in on them during this time, they welcome future check in's and are thankful for the knowledge of community services that are here to help.
5. A woman who WECCC had previously assisted called in need of a bath chair for her mother. Unfortunately WECCC did not have access to any bath chairs. WECCC staff put a post on the Care-mongering website and requesting a bath chair. Within 5 min someone was offering a bath chair. The woman was connected with the person offering the chair and it was then delivered.

Thank you citizens, agencies, and organizations of Windsor and Essex County for pulling through to support others! You really know how to make people feel good!