



The Caring and Sharing Exchange Backgrounder

People Helping People since 1915

The Caring and Sharing Exchange is a local charity in Ottawa Ontario that has been assisting low-income families and individuals since 1915.

Our Mission

To co-ordinate services for organizations such as social agencies, schools, health services and faith communities in the Greater Ottawa Area.

To provide assistance to families and individuals in the Greater Ottawa Area who face economic hardship.

Our Values

The Caring and Sharing Exchange is a local charity dedicated to:

- Delivering our services equitably and fairly, with dignity and respect
- Providing our services as efficiently as possible
- Being accountable to our clients, donors and the public

Our Programs

The Caring and Sharing Exchange runs three programs that provide much-needed assistance to the community members that make use of our services.

- Sharing in Student Success
- Christmas Exchange Program
- Coordination Services

How do we know who needs help?

Over 300 community organizations, such as, schools, daycares, faith communities, food banks, and social service agencies that know of the need first hand, refer families and individuals to the Exchange. Our goal is to never turn anyone away.

How do we avoid duplication?

The Exchange operates a Coordination Service to cross-reference the names of those referred. The other organizations that also provide help make use of this registry to avoid duplication, ensuring that every dollar goes where it is truly needed.

Where does the money come from?

The money comes from the generosity and compassion of thousands of individuals and businesses in our community and from special events.

Three Year Comparative Results

How many people has the Exchange helped?

The chart below shows three years of the Christmas Exchange Program. As 2011 was the first year assistance was also provided under the Sharing in Student Success Program, there are no comparison figures available.

<u>Christmas Exchange Program</u>	2010	2009	2008
Total number of people helped directly by the Exchange	25,000	24,393	25,180
Number of Households	10,271	9,485	9,278
Number of Seniors	2,901	2,357	2,198
Total number of Children (under 18 year of age ¹)	11,573	10,414	11,287
Number of duplicates found for Christmas assistance	2,350	2,406	2,357
Community savings from processing duplicates ²	\$235,000	\$240,600	\$235,700
<u>Toy Centre</u>			
Number of Children assisted by the Toy Centre	12,035	11,031	11,702
Number of duplicate children found for toy assistance	2,411	3,316	3,116
Community savings from processing duplicates ³	\$361,650	\$497,400	\$467,400
Total Community savings processing duplicates for food and toys	\$596,650	\$738,000	\$703,100

1. This does not include parents under 18 years of age.

2. Based on the average gift to families of \$100 from a 2009 survey of agencies

3. Base on the average gift of \$150 per child