

**A Season of Thoughtful Caring –
Weathering the Winter’s Challenges**

‘Tis the season – and here we are again in 2021, with public health challenges along with a whirlwind of obstacles and complex problems to disassemble in our own corner of the world. It is amazing to many of us here at the Huron County Food Bank Distribution Centre that since Covid’s arrival, we have managed to keep our focus on our mission – filling shelves with wholesome foods and products to support our friends and neighbours in need.

We have so **many people and partners to thank** for our ability to stick to our jobs and we are so sincerely grateful that our friends and families are generous in the face of these challenges. Our volunteers bring their energy, their passion and their brains to this work we share at HCFBDC: together we are ready to adapt to challenges and recognize new opportunities when we work with all our community partners.

Together with your help we have been able to raise funds directed at transporting foods, finding products and increasing our spending to welcome new products for food banks in our area.

Together with your help and support we continue the work, fully recognizing the economic downturns that profoundly affect people in need, in crisis, in our rural Ontario setting. Your help – ongoing and long-term financial support, volunteer hours, board and committee work and event creation – all these activities combine to keep our organization responsive to needs in the communities we serve.

Here at HCFBDC we know we have accomplished so much this year, sourcing and delivering fresh foods and produce through large-scale donations from our wonderful league of local and regional farmers, retailers and producers of all kinds.

Our numbers tell the story – increased numbers of visitors to community-based food and service agencies by people of all ages and stages, attesting to the difficulties that the Covid pandemic has created along with the state of rural Ontario’s economic health.

‘Tis the season to find our way to safely and carefully gather together and re-energize the traditions and rituals that we may have set aside in response to public health concerns in so many months. It’s also the season when **we remember the people who face daily problems** – rent for a roof over head, finding employment, good food on the table for themselves and their families – the challenges haven’t abated as we know.

So, we hope you’ll relish special gatherings, seeing the people who are so important in your life as well as sharing the bounty of good foods and traditions, making memories to cherish.

Thank you for your generous caring support for our work.

We send you our very best wishes for a wonderful season of celebration and sharing.

All the best from all of us here, to you and yours...

Mary Ellen Zielman,
Executive Director

