



York Catholic District School Board

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Media Release

March 23, 2022

For Immediate Release

York Catholic District School Board

Launches 3rd Annual “Nurturing Hope” Spring Food Drive

Donations Gratefully Accepted March 29 - April 8, 2022
On Designated Days at York Catholic Elementary Schools

“When we meet a person truly in need, do we see the face of God?” - Pope Francis

The York Catholic District School Board (YCDSB) will be hosting its third annual “Nurturing Hope” Spring Food Drive in support of vulnerable children and families across York Region.

In the spirit of the Lenten season, with giving and reflection as cornerstones of the Catholic faith, elementary school communities across the YCDSB will once again join together to provide vital nutrition and personal care essentials to nine different York Region food banks and food pantries.

From March 29 - April 8, 2022 between the hours of 8:30 am - 6 pm bins will be located at the front doors of participating YCDSB elementary schools on designated days, ready to receive non-perishable food and/or personal care items from parents, students, family members and the community at-large.

[Visit the Collection Day Calendar here.](#) Reminders and event updates will also be promoted through the schools’ social networks and via [@YCDSB](#).

“As a Catholic faith community, we find grace in serving where there is need,” **said YCDSB Chair, Elizabeth Crowe.** “Now more than ever, our neighbours across York Region are facing uncertainty about the future on so many levels. Our board is proud to be reaching out once again with the Nurturing Hope initiative, and commends staff, students and families for their remarkable work and generosity.”

In 2020, Food Banks of York Region distributed \$8.5 million worth of food and supplies to 83 community organization partners who provided food services to York Region residents facing food insecurity*

“It’s been a challenging year for so many, but the resolve of our York Catholic community continues to demonstrate that we are a true force for good,” **said Angela Lomuto-Corriero, Nurturing Hope Spring Food Drive Lead / Principal at St. Padre Pio CES.** “We are thrilled to be back, and look forward to welcoming new and returning donors to this great cause.”

NURTURING HOPE – BY THE NUMBERS:

1/ Items needed to make a difference when donating.

7/ Percentage of York Region households that experienced food insecurity between 2009 and 2014, representing approximately 24,700 households: As new data emerges, and the long-term economic impact of COVID-19 is felt across the province, household food insecurity and childhood hunger in York Region continue to increase. Between April 2020 and March 2021, close to 600,000 people accessed a local food bank in York Region, representing a 10 to 12 per cent increase over the previous year.



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9/ York Region food banks and pantries benefitting from the YCDSB “Nurturing Hope” Spring Food Drive: *Newmarket Food Pantry; Richmond Hill Food Bank; Keswick Food Bank; Aurora Food Pantry; King Township Food Bank; Georgina Food Pantry; Whitchurch-Stouffville Food Bank; Markham Food Bank; Vaughan Food Bank.*

18000/ Pounds, or nine tons (approx.) of food and supplies collected by the YCDSB Nurturing Hope initiative to date.

* Food Banks York Region Report On Hunger 2020 fbyr.ca/2020ReportOnHunger

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The York Catholic District School Board is one of the top-performing school boards in Ontario. It delivers educational programming to approximately 51,000 students in 101 schools throughout York Region. York Catholic is committed to creating and maintaining an equitable learning environment reflected through inclusive programs, curriculum, and practices. For more information visit www.ycdsb.ca or follow us on Twitter at [@YCDSB](https://twitter.com/YCDSB).

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