



THE STRATHMORE & WHEATLAND COUNTY CHRISTMAS HAMPER SOCIETY

c/o Strathmore FCSS 680 Westchester Road Strathmore, AB T1P 1J1

Phone: 403-934-9090

Charity No. 890699549RR0001

To: Wheatland County Members of Council

Re: 2019 Christmas Hamper Review

The Strathmore and Wheatland County Christmas Hamper Society would like to give a warm heartfelt thank you to our community. With support from Strathmore and Wheatland council, residents of the County and Town, Groups, Clubs, Teams, Schools and Businesses have provided incredible donations of food, toys, clothing, money and volunteer time. The outpouring of support to the Christmas Hamper Society program has enabled us to provide a substantial package to all individuals, families and children.

This year we were able to provide 252 hampers (a record amount) and 314 child gift bags to deserving families within our community. Of the 252 families; 130 were single (1-2), 103 double (3-5), 19 triple (6+). 191 were from Strathmore, 30 from Gleichen, 8 from the County of Wheatland, 7 from Rockyford, 6 from Carseland, 5 from Hussar, 3 from Standard, 1 from Redlands, and 1 from Cheadle. Each family received a variety of canned and boxed items, as well as fresh fruit, vegetables, eggs, cheese, milk, hamburger, and either a turkey or ham. We feel that our hampers provided a generous amount of groceries that helped feed families during the holidays. The value was approximately \$250, \$350 and \$450 depending on the size of family. This year the society introduced a \$10 coupon program. Each family size was given a certain amount of coupons that were available to redeem through the month of January. This allowed families to pick up fresh produce and milk through the month. In addition to the food, there was also a gift bag given to every child, with a value of \$140. The content and value of the hampers and gift bags will change year to year depending on the volume of donations that are received.

Our campaign began November 12th, and ran until the last of the tables were packed away just 3 days before Christmas. We had many volunteers offer over 2500 hours of their time; picking up, sorting and organizing food and toys. Our executive consists of 7 volunteers that gave approximately 800 hours of their time, throughout the year. There is also staff at the WFCSS and SFCSS offices that offer numerous "gift in kind" hours that are not included in our volunteer time totals. Without the dedication of all of these community members, the Christmas Hamper Society could not function.

Currently, we are planning for the 2020 campaign and once our campaign dates are set we will update our website at christmashampersociety.com

We wish to thank everyone who donated food, toys, money, gift cards and their precious time during the holiday season. The generosity of this community is outstanding and truly valued.

Yours Respectively
Craig Stone -Chairperson