

CONNECTIONS



A New Year's Reflection

As we head into a new year, the challenges and uncertainties we all faced in 2021 remain. Yet, the prevailing feeling among the North York Harvest team is one of gratitude.

At a time when we saw unprecedented growth in the need for emergency food in our community, with close to 3,500 households visiting our network for the first time during the last fiscal year, the generosity of our donors

and supporters made it possible for us to sustain our services.

Our donors vary greatly in age and background, but they share the same immeasurable kindness and impressive creativity. Whether it is selling hot chocolate in a neighbourhood drive-through, organizing a virtual food and fund drive or making a donation, their ongoing support and encouragement is truly inspiring.

Our dedicated team, facing constant changing restrictions and limitations, continued to adapt and made sure we could maintain our services for those in need. We are thankful for their commitment and compassion during these trying times.

The next couple of months will be an eventful time for the North York Harvest community. On February 26,

we will be organizing a 5km virtual walk as part of the **Coldest Night of the Year** to combat poverty – the root cause of homelessness and food insecurity. You can find more details below. We will also be launching an initiative to support the social, physical and emotional well-being of seniors. We will be able to share more information shortly.

Please follow us on social media or check our website where we will post opportunities that will have the greatest impact on our North York Harvest community.

We are grateful for all that you do and thank you for sharing our vision – a community where all members are able to meet their food needs.



By the Numbers

2021

13% more food distributed throughout the network

67% more top priority foods (cooking oil, canned fish, rice/pasta, beans/lentils, canned tomatoes) distributed

11% of distributed food was perishable items recipients



You are invited !

Please consider joining us in a safe and meaningful event on Saturday, February 26 – Coldest Night of the Year (CNOY). Normally the community would gather at a central location for this 5KM walk. Given the current situation, we'll be walking virtually but at the same time.

North York Harvest decided to take part in this year's CNOY because the event raises awareness and funds to combat poverty – the root cause of homelessness and food insecurity. It is also an opportunity for the North York Harvest community to come together, albeit virtually this year.

There are many ways for you to participate:

- Form a team to walk a route that's convenient for you
- Encourage a team/walker by making a donation
- Help us secure a sponsor or prizes

For details, please visit: <https://northyorkharvest.com/CNOY/>

coldest
*night
OF THE YEAR



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