

JULY 2025

NEWSLETTER

COMMUNITY SERVICE HUB

Community Service Hub Update

This month, we welcomed 60 individuals through our doors, providing a safe and welcoming space where people can connect and access comprehensive support. Our dedicated team offers daily assistance with Ontario Works applications, important phone calls to family members, healthcare providers, probation officers, and lawyers, EFRY check-ins, and court support. We serve nutritious meals daily and host special community events.

Monthly Health & Wellness: Our community paramedic visits monthly to provide essential health services including foot care, diabetes screening, blood pressure monitoring, and treatment for common ailments—removing healthcare barriers for our most vulnerable community members. Our psychotherapist also provides monthly visits and remains on-call for urgent support needs.

The Community Service Hub operates as a judgment-free zone where dignity, respect, and compassion guide every interaction. Together, we're building a stronger, more supportive West Nipissing community.



OUTREACH SERVICES

Our outreach team responded to an emergency call this month, securing motel accommodation for someone in crisis and providing transportation to shelter services in North Bay.

We accompanied clients to medical appointments, offering advocacy during healthcare visits, and made multiple trips to Filles d'Isabelle for clothing and essentials. Legal support included transportation to lawyer appointments and court appearances in North Bay and Sudbury.

We welcomed a client back from rehab and remained available to the OPP for referrals of community members who could benefit from our services. Every outreach effort reflects our commitment to ensuring no one faces their challenges alone—we're here when and where support is needed most.

COMMUNITY SOUP KITCHEN

There's something magical about sharing a meal—it builds connections, offers nourishment for both body and spirit, and reminds us that everyone deserves a seat at the table. Our community soup kitchen embodies this spirit of welcome, ensuring no one has to eat alone.

July 9th Service: We served 32 community members delicious hamburgers paired with creamy potato salad and refreshing watermelon. Our full selection of beverages—water, juice, coffee, and tea—accompanied the meal in our warm, welcoming environment.

July 23rd Service: 38 people joined us for flavorful chicken pita pockets served with pickles and potato chips, followed by fresh oranges for dessert. As always, guests enjoyed their choice of water, juice, coffee, or tea.



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SPECIAL VISIT

This month, we were delighted to welcome a wonderful hairdresser who generously donated their time and talent to provide free haircuts for our clients. There's something truly transformative about a fresh haircut—the way it lifts spirits, restores confidence, and reminds someone they're worthy of care and attention. Everyone walked away looking fantastic and feeling refreshed, carrying themselves a little taller and smiling a little brighter. These acts of kindness remind us that dignity comes in many forms, and sometimes it's as simple as helping someone feel their best.

RECOVERY SUCCESS

We welcomed home one of our wonderful clients who made the brave decision to seek help and choose sobriety. After 131 challenging days, they've returned stronger and transformed. From that difficult first day entering detox, through our advocacy to secure their place at Monarch Recovery, to countless check-ins and moments when hope met doubt—this journey tested everyone involved. But their focus, trust in the process, and determination to fight for a better life inspired us all. They didn't just survive—they transformed. Today, we had the honor of bringing them home, ready to continue this incredible journey. They are living proof that healing is possible, that love works, and that no one is ever too far gone to come back.

FINDING HOME AND HOPE

Last year, our team encountered an elderly gentleman living in unsafe conditions in a tent. Through patient conversation and persistent advocacy, we secured shelter placement in North Bay where he could access the support he desperately needed. We maintained contact throughout his stay and learned he had secured his own apartment. This month, one of our volunteers spotted him at a local shopping center, thriving, grateful, and eager to visit us again.

These chance meetings remind us that the seeds we plant continue to grow long after our direct involvement ends.

We extend our sincere appreciation to our donors, volunteers, community alliances, and the broader community for their unwavering support. Your generosity, dedication, and collaboration are the cornerstones of our success.

NO MORE TEARS WEST NIPISSING

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VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT

DIANE DUHAMEL

We are delighted to recognize Diane as our July Volunteer of the Month! Diane embodies the spirit of community service, generously sharing her time and talents both here at our organization and throughout the community.

Diane's commitment extends far beyond her regular volunteer duties. She consistently brightens our days by bringing in delicious homemade baked goods for everyone at the hub to enjoy. Her thoughtfulness truly shines through her actions, during the challenging winter months, she stepped up to help provide meals for those staying at the motel, demonstrating her keen awareness of others' needs and her willingness to act with compassion.

What makes Diane especially remarkable is her dedication to multiple causes. Not only does she contribute her valuable time to our soup kitchen, but she also actively supports our hub operations, making her impact felt across all areas of our mission.

Diane's charitable heart and generous spirit make her an invaluable member of our volunteer family. Her kindness ripples outward, touching the lives of everyone she serves and inspiring others to follow her example of selfless service.

Thank you, Diane, for all that you do. Your dedication makes our community stronger and warmer for everyone.

