



## WESTON AREA EMERGENCY SUPPORT

W.A.E.S

1 King St. (Central United Church), M9N 1K8  
416-247-3737

Dec. 18, 2023

Weston Park Baptist Church  
Attn: Darlene, Shawn, Cheryl, Dave  
Via email

Dear Food Drive Team and Volunteers

WAES is so very grateful to WPBC for all your support over the years, and for continuing to run an amazing door to door food drive. This food drive is critical to WAES and our ability to support our community. We know how much work is involved in this food drive, and it is always such a great success.

WAES continues to see, and feel, the need in our community growing. The numbers, representing real people, are just staggering. WAES has had to increase our spending on food from \$10K in Jan to \$20K this fall. This increase is driven by the price of food, the increase in the number of people requiring assistance and the decrease in food donations. This year the numbers of seniors coming to WAES has increased to 13%, as their OAS is not enough to pay their bills. Many of these seniors are women, with no family to help them out. Maria is one of these women. She is 88 years old, and she cries when she comes for food. Never in her life did she think this would happen to her. Every day we meet people who feel the same way. We are signing up 5 to 10 new families every week. These are people who have jobs, and until recently did not need the help of a food bank. The situation is dire, and we don't see an end in sight. A young man told us "Thank you for being here. You are making it possible for me to feed my family. That is everything to me."

WAES could not fulfill our mission without your support. Thank you for walking with us on this journey. Merry Christmas and with hope for a better new year.

Diana Stapleton,  
Chair and Correspondence Secretary,  
W.A.E.S. Steering Committee  
[www.waes.ca](http://www.waes.ca)  
Charitable Organization #119295202RR0001