



# KINDRED SPIRIT NEWS

Your source of impact, community in action, and uplifting stories to brighten your day.

## A Year to Remember at JoeAnna's House



It's been a big year at JoeAnna's House! We have welcomed several new team members who will work closely with our volunteers, and we hosted the inaugural Winter Wonderland! This event is the lead fundraiser for JoeAnna's House, raising over \$61,000 in its first year! Winter Wonderland was a true testament to the fact that we are all better together.

In 2023 our volunteers donated 2,282 hours at JoeAnna's House!

## The Donation of Time: How It All Adds Up

In the 2022/23 fiscal year the team of over 300 volunteers across the KGH Foundation's social enterprise venues donated the gift of 48,000 hours. With that time, they generated **\$2.8 million** through sales at the Perking Lot, KGH Gift Shop, Royal Bistro, and Rutland Thrift Store. Our volunteers extend beyond these social enterprise venues from the KGH Foundation Board of Directors, various committees, JoeAnna's House, and special event volunteers. Every volunteer's gift of time and talent has an immeasurable impact on our community.

## Familiar Faces



Melani (Mel) McBratney (pictured left) has taken on a new role as our Business Enterprise Operations Manager. You'll find Mel bouncing around between the Perking Lot, Royal Bistro, and Gift Shop! Mel's passion for our volunteers and valuable financial expertise makes her a perfect choice for this new position. As you can see she fits right in with Max and the rest of the Business Enterprise crew already!



Pictured above are JoeAnna's House Share a Meal Volunteers; Chef Brent Durec, Chef Chris Sperduti, Chef Patrick Butrey and Chef Terry Port.

## Share a Meal Program

The Share a Meal program is an opportunity for Service Groups, Organizations, Individuals and Companies to volunteer to prepare and serve a meal to our Guests from within the JoeAnna's House kitchen. In 2023 we saw 23 Share a Meal events hosted by amazing volunteers from all around our community! This program not only provides a home-cooked meal for our Guests, but it also creates a team-building opportunity for groups of all kinds. Learn more about how you can get involved with the Share a Meal Program by contacting Heather Moison, [heather.moison@interiorhealth.ca](mailto:heather.moison@interiorhealth.ca)

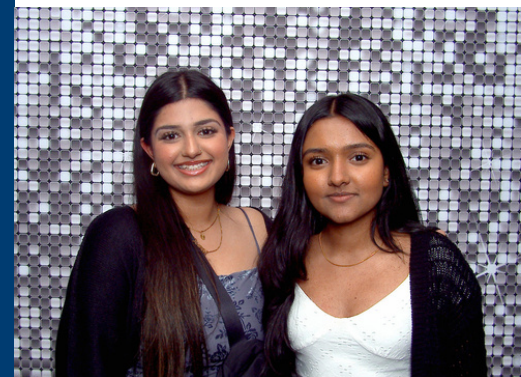
## 50% off all regularly priced items at Rutland Thrift from March 26-28th!

Rutland Thrift holiday hours: Closed March 29th-31st, open again April 1st

## Stride & Glide 2024

The Kelowna Nordic Ski & Snowshoe Club held their fourth annual Stride & Glide for KGH this February. In their time organizing this event they have raised just shy of **\$180,000**. This year the club raised money for an Intra-Aortic Balloon Pump that is used to support Cardiac patients who have depressed or failing heart function, or during higher risk cardiac procedures. Volunteer-led events like Stride & Glide continue to amaze us by showcasing what our community is able to make happen! Thank you to everyone who participated this year.

Below is a picture from our 2023 Volunteer Gala, Night of a Thousand Stars, featuring volunteers; Anureet Dhindsa and Eknoor Deol



Know someone who you think would make a great volunteer? We want to meet them! With positions at KGH in the Perking Lot, Royal Bistro, Gift Shop, JoeAnna's House and community events we're confident we can find the right opportunity for everyone. Don't think they'd be able to commit to 5 hours a week? That's okay! We accept casual volunteers! They can help us out when we need it most by covering a shift and keeping our venues open to serve those who rely on them!





# Volunteer-iversaries

The commitment of our volunteers is the heartbeat of our mission, and we are deeply grateful for the invaluable contributions they continue to make everyday. Because of this we are always looking for a way to celebrate our volunteers and the impact they've made in enhancing health care in our community. Today we recognize the following volunteers for the time they've spent on our team, from 1 year to 35 years we continue to be amazed by the dedication of these outstanding individuals.

## January

Rebecca Ashley	Deb Nicholson
Dianne Beavington	Audrey Palfrey
Lyn Beavington	Olivia Poplawski
Hennie Combot	Tatae Ranwes
Rane Couture	Mary Sampson
Linda Flynn	Mandy Suwan
Suzanne Henderson	Kylee Tadifa
Annette Jones	Jocelyne Williams
Cathy Laprise	

## February

Norma Frick	Jade Nyrose
Avery Gamet	Parker Pidwirny
Fern Hind	Heather Pizzey
Rhonda Lee	Aleen Rai
Mei Lin	Patricia Reiner
Mia Makela	Francisco Rubio
Gail Martell	Amrit Sandhar
Julie Mathieson	Rachel Sun
Jill Melling	Farya Tanha
Kerry Niska	Diana Tarasoff
Susanne Hirschmiller	Dawn Twerdoff

## March

Shana Azeem	Ronald Kaiser
Gordon Barber	Tara Lorimer
Nicole Begrand-Fast	Sneha Nair
Parneet Kaur Billing	Kayla Nitsui
Gail Brosseau	Jyleece Panchy
Theresa Chang	Judy Riddell
Jean Fraser	
Jasmine De Bosch Kemper	
Tianna Heinzelmann	
Michelle Muhlbach	

## Rutland Thrift



Exciting things are happening at the Rutland Thrift Store. Nancy Wells, our former Senior Director of Business Enterprises has recently transitioned into her new position as our Project & Development Manager. This role sees Nancy spending the majority of her time working from Rutland Thrift. As we begin to re-imagine the future of the Rutland Thrift Store Nancy will remain on-site working closely with our volunteers as we take the exciting first steps in expanding our impact in the community.

"Our Volunteers are invaluable, without them, our margins would be dramatically affected. The profits from our venues are a valuable source of revenue and are vital to advancing projects that bring world-class health care to our community."

- Gabriela (Gabi) Rubio Bocangel, Business Venue Supervisor

## A Special Thank You

Christian Public Services is a group of young Mennonites who leave their own communities from as far as Brazil, to give 6 months of their lives to helping others. Our partnership began in 2011 and to date we have had over 100 young people join the KGH Foundation Volunteer Program. They give countless hours in the Perking Lot and the Royal Bistro and have assisted in raising thousands of dollars to help the Foundation with our numerous campaigns over these past **13 years**. We are so grateful to have them and are very thankful to the CPS elders who manage the program and make it possible for these remarkable young people to join us.



Pictured above are CPS members; Josh Koehn, Phillip Friesen, Andrew Isaac and Drew Koehn. Thank you for your time volunteering with the KGH Foundation you will be greatly missed in our venues as you return home.

# Giving Changes Everything.

CONTACT US [info@kghfoundation.com](mailto:info@kghfoundation.com)

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Pictured above is Royal Bistro Volunteer Jean Scheidl.

## Fully Stocked

Following the 2023 holiday season our inventory of toys at KGH is set to last us well into the year! Thanks to several successful community member organized toy drives, like those pictured below, we were able to stock multiple KGH departments with toys and comfort items including pediatrics, medical imaging, and the emergency department. Thanks to the incredible generosity of the community your gifts were also able to reach our community sites, including our long-term care homes and urgent & primary care centres. Thank you!



Pictured below; Logan Burd, MPH, CLARITY Project Coordinator, Joshua Raphael ROYC Project Coordinator, Maven Grey Maraj Regional Okanagan Youth Ambassador, Mia Ngo Regional Okanagan Youth Ambassador.

## Word Search

W	H	F	P	F	Z	S	P	D	E	O	D	B	R	T
N	K	W	A	G	O	V	D	O	N	K	V	F	Y	O
S	A	G	W	P	I	F	F	I	P	C	T	S	J	T
D	S	R	X	S	B	V	R	K	T	O	G	R	C	K
D	K	A	Q	E	R	O	I	G	Y	M	V	S	R	Y
C	P	T	M	Y	W	Q	E	N	Z	M	O	T	R	Q
F	F	I	K	L	J	R	N	P	G	U	L	K	T	X
O	F	T	F	U	W	N	D	A	P	N	U	H	O	H
L	E	U	U	O	V	B	S	S	R	I	N	F	G	E
J	N	D	H	D	S	K	H	S	H	T	T	I	E	L
A	F	E	T	U	J	X	I	I	L	Y	E	V	T	A
Z	E	O	I	P	X	Y	P	O	G	G	E	Y	H	T
D	O	N	A	T	E	K	U	N	W	V	R	M	E	I
M	L	Y	D	F	Z	W	Y	D	M	R	D	T	R	L
M	J	J	W	F	G	V	D	J	H	K	N	A	Y	R

## Word Bank:

friendship giving  
donate volunteer  
passion together  
gratitude community



Are you a youth interested in sharing your opinions and ideas related to youth mental health? Or do you know someone who is? Reach out to [clarity@ubc.ca](mailto:clarity@ubc.ca) to learn more about the Regional Okanagan Youth Council, and how you can get involved.