



Centre
of
Hope



Joint Press Release

Local Philanthropist and Lawyer Barbara Legate, founder of Legate Injury Lawyers Donates \$150,000 to Londoners in Need

London, ON, December 2021 - Salvation Army Centre of Hope, London Food Bank, and Anova: A Future without Violence are the recipients of a \$150,000 holiday donation from local philanthropist and lawyer, Barbara Legate, founder of Legate Injury Lawyers www.legatelaw.ca.

Barbara Legate is leading by example as she encourages others to “give until it hurts” this holiday season. London’s Salvation Army Centre of Hope, London Food Bank, and Anova: A Future without Violence will each receive \$50,000 to support the vulnerable populations they serve.

“Barbara’s gift comes at a time when we need it most,” said Jessie Rodger, Executive Director, Anova. “COVID-19 makes a lot of things more dangerous. Women are reporting an increase in the severity of violence. This year alone, 58 women and girls died violently at the hands of men in Ontario. A gift of this magnitude fuels a future without violence through shelter, advocacy, support programs and services and education.”

“When the pandemic began its relentless grip on our community, the London Food Bank faced an uncertain future concerning the extent of the pandemic and its effects on our operations,” said Jane Roy, Co-Executive Director, London Food Bank. “What wasn’t in doubt, however, was our faith that Londoners would come through in a timely fashion, just as they have always done for the past 35 years. That instinct turned out to be exactly right. This gift from Barbara Legate is a testament to that humanity; it helps us to reach out and make a difference to so many others. Thank you from the 3600 families a month that this donation will impact.”

“The Centre of Hope initiated a demonstration project called the Recovery Community Centre (RCC) which launched in December 2019. Despite the pandemic, which started

shortly after the launch, we continued to offer services throughout the period and gained invaluable insight into some unforeseen dynamics/factors,” said Jon DeActis, Executive Director, The Centre of Hope. “We will apply the Barbara Legate donation to continue developing the program by maintaining staffing components and developing the next phase of the RCC. We will build further into the model to address the support needs and the barriers and key transitions for clients in their journey from substance use to recovery.”

Barbara Legate challenges other business leaders and affluent Londoners to join her in giving generously, recognizing that there's a lot of people hurting in this pandemic. Thank you, Barbara, for providing nourishment, hope and safety this holiday season. Join Barbara in giving this holiday season by visiting:

Salvation Army Centre of Hope: <https://donate.salvationarmy.ca/page/62200/donate/1>

London Food Bank: <https://www.canadahelps.org/en/dn/930>

Anova: A Future without Violence: <https://www.anovafuture.org/ways-to-help/donate/>

About Salvation Army Centre of Hope:

The work of The Salvation Army in London, Ontario, spans over 125 years. The Centre of Hope is committed to breaking the cycle of poverty, homelessness, and addiction. We address social problems by delivering programs that provide solutions which reinvest a person’s potential back into the fabric of our community.

About London Food Bank:

The London Food Bank’s mission is to help a generous community share its food resources. London Food Bank’s mandate is to act as a front-line agency assisting those struggling to make ends meet and to act as a food warehouse and work with other agencies that assist people in need.

About Anova: A Future without Violence:

Anova is the largest shelter and sexual assault centre in Ontario serving and supporting thousands of survivors every year. With expert staff opening the door and answering the call through shelter, support, advocacy and education, Anova helps ensure abused women, their children, and all oppressed individuals today and tomorrow can find a new start by delivering much-needed services and advocating for systems change.

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