



CANADIAN MENTAL HEALTH ASSOCIATION
WINDSOR-ESSEX COUNTY BRANCH

L'ASSOCIATION CANADIENNE POUR LA SANTE MENTALE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
May 20, 2009

Community agency issues call to help those in need

WINDSOR – Everyone has read the headlines.

“Windsor: highest unemployment rate in the country.”

“Economic recession hits Windsor-Essex community hard.”

“Families in Windsor-Essex face hard times.”

Now, the city’s mental health agency is issuing a call to the Windsor-Essex community to help the many families in need in the area.

“The Faces of Unemployment” food drive is a project of the Canadian Mental Health Association Windsor-Essex County Branch (CMHA-WECEB) to help collect much-needed food items to be given to the Unemployed Help Centre for distribution in their food bank.

“We really want to help,” says CMHA-WECEB Chief Executive Officer Pam Hines. “We recognize the great work done at the Unemployed Help Centre and how vital their services are right now particularly the distribution of food for those in need.”

CMHA-WECEB is collecting food at both its 1400 Windsor Ave. main office and its satellite office located at 1275 Walker Road. The most needed items are canned fruit and vegetables, breakfast cereal, children’s lunch snacks (peanut free), dried pasta, rice, canned tuna or meat and peanut butter.

In January of this year, over 1,300 people were fed by the food bank at the Unemployed Help Centre and of those, 583 were children.

“This food drive is something we believe we need to do to help families who are struggling in our community,” explains Hines. “These are our friends, family members and neighbors and we realize that everyone needs help at one time or another.”

Hines says the goal of the food drive is to fill the trailer of a transport truck with donated items. The truck will then be unloaded at the Unemployed Help Centre.

The community is asked to bring their donated food items to the CMHA-WECEB office during regular business hours, Monday to Friday, during the months of May and June.

The CMHA-WECEB has a vision of “mentally healthy people in a healthy society”. For more information please visit www.cmha-weceb.on.ca.

-30-

For more information about the food drive, please contact:
Patti Lauzon, Director of Advancement, at 519.255.9940 ext. 224.

www.cmha-weceb.on.ca