



CANADIAN MENTAL HEALTH ASSOCIATION  
ASSOCIATION CANADIENNE POUR LA SANTE MENTALE  
WINDSOR-ESSEX COUNTY BRANCH

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**Four-year-old local boy helps families affected by unemployment**

WINDSOR- It comes as no surprise that the prevalence of unemployment in Windsor-Essex County has left many unsuspecting individuals without necessary provisions once taken for granted, especially food.

Due to the impact unemployment is having on many local families, the Canadian Mental Health Association- Windsor Essex County Branch (CMHA-WECB) has created the "Faces of Unemployment Food Drive", a project aimed at collecting a transport truck trailer full of non-perishable food items for local families in need.

When the parents of four-year-old Patrick Taylor caught wind of the efforts being made by CMHA-WECB to assist families in Windsor and Essex County, Patrick's parents willingly took it upon themselves to ask friends and family for cans rather than gifts at their son's recent birthday party.

"I wanted to be able to teach Patrick the value of giving to the community and not always focusing on himself," says Patrick's father Dr. Andrew Taylor, a Clinical Psychologist at the Teen Health Center here in Windsor. "It is important for Patrick to understand that not everyone has the equal opportunity to food."

Unlike some children Patrick's age, the four-year-old boy was more than okay with trading in gifts for cans in an effort to help those in need.

"It is so important for us to encourage young people to give back to their community," says Patti Lauzon, Director of Advancement at CMHA-WECB. "This is what Patrick has done and what his parents have encouraged him to do. It is a wonderful thing to see."

Members of the community can follow in Patrick's generous foot steps by dropping food off at one of CMHA-WECB's locations located either at 1400 Windsor Ave, their main office, or at the satellite office located at 1275 Walker Road. All collected food items will be donated to the Unemployed Help Center. The most needed items are canned fruits and vegetables, breakfast cereal, dried pasta, rice, canned tuna or meat, peanut butter and children's lunch snacks (peanut free).

**A recognition event was held on July 16<sup>th</sup>, 12:30 am, in the Serendipity café located in CMHA-WECB's main office to commend Patrick for his outstanding generosity.**

The CMHA-WECB has a vision of "mentally healthy people in a healthy society". For more information please visit [www.cmha-wecb.on.ca](http://www.cmha-wecb.on.ca).

-30-

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