



*Because of you,*  
**Gerald found  
a job and has  
enough to eat.**  
*Thank you!*

## Gratitude Report

2017-2018

WINNIPEG   
**HARVEST** INC.  
*Fighting Hunger and Feeding Hope*

# Your Generosity Has Changed Thousands of Lives



Message from the Board of Directors and CEO

**Thank you. Thank you for standing with us and sharing your food, time and money so that thousands of people don't have to go hungry.**

Generous Manitobans like you have supported the work of Winnipeg Harvest for 33 years. A lot has changed in that time. Because of you, we have expanded our capability to share food with tens of thousands of Manitobans each month who rely on your generosity.

Your contributions, large or small, matter a great deal to the clients we serve. Just one tin for the bin, one hour of time and one dollar can change somebody's day. And one good day can be the start of a better life. Thank you, generous community!

Winnipeg Harvest is in good hands. After a nation-wide search we welcomed Keren Taylor-Hughes as our new CEO earlier this year. She brings more than 30 years of experience across North America, and a passion for ensuring that the most vulnerable in our community are respected and supported.

Standing together with caring Manitobans like you and thousands of volunteers, Winnipeg Harvest is well positioned in the tireless fight against hunger and to advocate for hope on behalf of the people we serve. Thank you.

Gail Loewen  
Board of Directors

**Since coming to Harvest in January 2018, I have had the privilege to work alongside so many committed and passionate Manitobans.**

The work we do is only possible with the support of our board members, volunteers, donors and partners like you.

I hope this report shows you how much you have helped to fight hunger. Your support is crucial to feeding hope across Manitoba.

As we move forward, we are constantly improving our services to better serve our clients, including enhancing our warehouse space to move food more efficiently.

We're proud of the work we've done with the Public Interest Law Centre to help advocate on behalf of low income Manitobans to lower the impending Manitoba Hydro rate increase from a projected 7.9% to only 3.6%. And because of you, we were able to support northern sites like Churchill several times over the winter.

Thank you for the role you play in creating change in your community. Thank you for your efforts to ensure every Manitoban can provide food for themselves and their family.

Together we will work to fight hunger and feed hope in Manitoba.

Keren Taylor-Hughes  
CEO

# The Impact You've Made In The Last Year

## Because of you...



**11,403,822**

pounds of food were received



**156,500**

hours were volunteered from 7,985 volunteers



**7,097**

people were reached via community activities, 4,212 of them students



**589**

community events were held, collecting 285,857 pounds of food



**65**

participants graduated from employment training programs

## Thanks to your help, we've shared food with...



**451,464**

adults



**313,716**

children

# How Air Canada Makes A Difference On The Ground



One of the longest-serving volunteer groups

For more than 20 years, volunteers from Air Canada have been coming to Winnipeg Harvest every month to lend a helping hand.

In fact, they've been doing it for so long, our records don't go back far enough to find out when they actually started.

"When I send out the reminder email, the response are always of excitement," says Karen Gladu from Air Canada who coordinates the volunteer groups.

"It doesn't matter if we're stamping envelopes of sorting produce, all of us know that we're making an impact as part of what Winnipeg Harvest does."

In addition to their monthly visits, the Air Canada volunteers have also worked as game-day volunteers at Winnipeg Jets, Manitoba Moose and Winnipeg Blue Bombers games.

**Thank you for all that you do for hungry Manitobans!**

## Church Food Bank Builds Legacy Of Caring For Poor

The Adventist Food Bank is only a small building in Elmwood — but its volunteer are working hard to fee their hungry neighbours.

Every two weeks when the Winnipeg Harvest truck pulls in, dozens of volunteers rush out to stack and sort the hundreds of pounds of donated food. Not long after, more than 150 families registered at the food bank line up to receive their emergency hamper.

But that's not all these volunteers do.

In addition to being a food distribution agency, the Adventist Food Bank also hosts a bi-weekly community meal and collects clothing donations for members of their community who are in need of new clothes.



**"I do this because there are families who aren't getting enough to eat. That's why all of us are here."**

-Margaret Dobryden, manager of the Adventist Food Bank for the last 20 years.

# Thanks To You, Gerald Rebuilt His Life And Found Hope Again

How your support provided training, a job and a new life



When Gerald Kehler came to Winnipeg Harvest he didn't want a handout. He wanted to help out.

After a long career of working in and around warehouses, 61-year-old Gerald found himself out of a job.

Someone recommended he should check out Winnipeg Harvest. When he arrived at our front doors, he insisted on volunteering without accepting any food.

"I didn't want the food," said Gerald. "Give it to someone else who needs it more than me. I'll figure something out."

Gerald was invited to join the eight-week Warehouse Training Program to earn certification in a number of areas, including

safe food handling, lift truck safety, order filling and WHMIS training.

After completing the program, he successfully applied for an opening as a warehouse associate.

Since he joined the team, he has been a valued full-time member of Winnipeg Harvest, helping us fulfill our mission to fight hunger in Manitoba.

**"This place is great and the people are great. I can't think of any reason someone wouldn't want to be a part of what's going on here."**

# Winnipeg Business Bakes More Than 500 Loaves Each Day For Less Fortunate

"It's a way we can help out people who really need it."



Since they began donating fresh bread and pastries to Winnipeg Harvest in 2003, Natural Bakery has donated an astonishing 6.5 million pounds of bread to help feed Manitoba's hungry.

Rennie Balciumas is the fourth generation of Natural Bakery leaders after his great-grandfather opened the bakery in 1957.

"We didn't have to look very far in our own neighbourhood to see people looking for food in places they probably shouldn't be," he says.

"We saw Winnipeg Harvest was managing the donations fairly and efficiently, so we felt that if we gave it to them we'd know it was going where it needed to go."

Each day Natural Bakery bakes around 500 loaves of bread specifically for Winnipeg Harvest, in addition to donating any surplus.

"Anyone's life can change in a heartbeat," says Rennie. "One second and you're the one needing a hand, so it's a way we can help out. We're glad to do it."