
Niagara



**Safe Families
Canada**



THANK YOU

FOR YOUR DONATION

We wish to thank both our generous matching donor and all who gave to not only meet our \$25,000 goal, but surpass it. The total funds raised was just over \$58,000. (\$25,000 match, plus \$33,000 in donations) These funds play a big part in serving the roughly 50 families we are actively involved in serving right now. We thank you and pray for God's continued provision for the ever growing needs in Niagara.



Safe Families Canada
Niagara ON

Surrounding families in crisis with caring compassionate community

FAMILY FRIEND TRAINING

THURSDAY
NOVEMBER 27
7 P M

WANT TO LEARN
MORE ABOUT BEING
A FAMILY FRIEND?
JOIN US!



CONTACT TIM TO REGISTER
NIAGARA@SAFEFAMILIES.CA
289-690-7233

This Christmas

JOIN SAFE
FAMILIES IN
NIAGARA



3

ways

to

help...



Gift Cards

We'd love your help to bless families in need in the Niagara Region!

Join us this Christmas season by donating gift cards, of any size and denomination! (we find Walmart is the most flexible for our families)

To donate, contact us at
289-690-7233
niagara@safefamilies.ca



Safe Families
Canada
Niagara ON



This Christmas we are looking to
bless the 50 families we serve here in
Niagara with a warm Christmas
dinner. To make that happen, we
need your help!

Looking for donations for the following:

- 10 lb bags of potatoes
- Costco sized frozen mixed vegetables
- funds to purchase the meat
- And last but not least"
- willing hands to help us prepare
and deliver these meals mid December



If you are able to help,
please contact:

Rose - 289-440-5872

Amie - 905-658-6053



Are you connected with a family here in Niagara?

Consider having them join you for
your Christmas meal! Or head there
over the holidays to create some
speical memories with them!



We had a young boy ask his mom over the thanksgiving break if they were going to do anything special for the weekend. When his mom asked why, he wondered about going back to school after the break, and what he would say when his teacher asked him how he had celebrated over the holiday, if they didn't have any special plans. Let's make sure that each family has something special to share!

For more information
contact:
Theresa 905-328-5924
or Danica 289-257-4846

1 Corinthians 1:4–5

I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that was given you in Christ Jesus, that in every way you were enriched in him in all speech and all knowledge— (ESV)

Should it be this complicated?

This past month we have had situations that raised a lot of deep contemplation and a searching of my own heart. Most of us are familiar with the phrase “What

would Jesus do?" It became popular in the 1990's when the wristband craze took off. Personally, I strive to grow in Christ likeness, yet I don't know if this statement is always the correct question to ask. Why? I am not Jesus. I'm not even close. I may have grown in Christ likeness over the years, but I am still a very distorted image bearer. I have no ability to know the heart of those I connect with. I fall far short of fully understanding how to truly speak the truth in love. My decisions are distorted by my own desires for comfort and safety. Can you imagine a need where our involvement, would be considered counter cultural? I am sure you can. I however am talking about situations that are not just counter cultural to our secular culture, but even church culture and beyond the normal scope of the Safe Families mission and vision, but not outside the scope of the mission of the Kingdom of Heaven. I'm guessing that many people reading this would be wondering what type of situation would fit such a category. I would say it's more common than you might expect. Imagine being connected to a young single mom of three children. She lacks the resources to provide for her children on multiple levels; financially, emotionally, spiritually, and relationally. After supporting her for months, she announces she is pregnant again. Our culture would likely recommend abortion. Our church culture would likely say that our choices have consequences, and she should live with them. Our ministry would likely say that we support short term crisis, this is a 2-5 yr commitment. So what would Jesus do? What would you do? It is complicated isn't it. Imagine you are approached by a young lady in this space and she shares with you that she has decided to have an abortion. She can't imagine herself being able to handle having another child. You try to talk her out of it. She begins to change her mind. She then asks you if you and your church will help. You know that given the circumstances, "help" will likely mean financial help, help on and off for at least a couple years with childcare, maybe help finding work when the time is right. She doesn't have a car, so it will also involve numerous appointments before and after the baby is born. The temptation is to begin thinking.... This is not my problem. Its too much, what if you say yes and she begins to abuse your kindness? What if your involvement creates dependency? You begin to think it might be a good idea to "pass by on the other side." Hopefully someone else will come by and help.

Is the church a place of refuge for her, for her children, for her unborn child? Or are we strictly a place that does worship on Sunday and have our programs she can attend if she can get there?

[Romans 6:23](#) - For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Lets go back to the idea of living with the consequences of our actions. While it is true that actions have consequences, we of all people should be able to frame

this situation in a different light. The verse above should totally reframe how we approach anyone who finds themselves in a place of deep need. Dead in our sin, Jesus drew near, entered our suffering, and rescued us. Daily I sin again and daily I am forgiven and my place as a child of God is secure.

The way of life in the kingdom of God is contrary to our secular culture, even our church culture. It's cross shaped, and its King is the suffering servant. It's King serves and washes feet and bids us to come and die to self just like he did.

I'm no different than you. I wage war everyday against my own desires. We by nature move toward comfort and away from suffering. Our Lord and Saviour did the opposite. He went after the one, his heart was drawn to the undeserving, the hurting, the outcast, to me, and to you.

It is complicated, because it is the way of the cross. Remember the way of the cross was even agonizing for our Lord. Give yourself grace as you follow him.

Let's encourage one another in following him in the call to serve. Join me in praying that God would raise up his church to not only have great programs but that we would become a people that are willing to go and meet people in their need and suffering.

Ways you can serve:

- Praying**
- Host Family**
- Friend/ Mentor to a parent**
- Mentor to a child**
- Coach a family**
- Driver**
- Babysitting**
- Making Meals**
- Connecting your church to this ministry**
- Advocating for Safe Families in your circle of influence**
- Home repair/Car repair, budgeting, legal or other services.**
- Physical needs when they arise.**
- Financial Support**

Feel like you might like to serve, but not sure how, lets talk!

289 690 7233 (born post 1990 and hate talking on the phone, you can text this number too)



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