

Fighting Holiday Hunger:**Daily Bread Opens Latest Toronto Food Bank in Scarborough**

Expansion Will Support Increased Need in Northwest Scarborough Neighbourhoods

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In an effort to alleviate growing food insecurity in the inner suburbs, Daily Bread has opened Toronto's newest food bank in Scarborough, an area of Toronto that has seen an 86% increase in food bank use over the past decade.

The new VP and Sheppard Food Bank was made possible thanks to a strong partnership with Toronto Community Housing Corporation (TCHC) and will be hosted in TCHC's 2743 Victoria Park Avenue building. Over 3,000 lbs of food will be provided each week to the thousands of Scarborough residents in need.

"Just over two years ago, Daily Bread Food Bank approached TCHC with concerns of rising food insecurity, particularly in the inner suburbs," said Neil Hetherington, CEO of the Daily Bread Food Bank. "Since then, we've opened five food banks in TCHC buildings in a shared effort to alleviate hunger."

This latest food bank launch is in line with Daily Bread's 20-20 Vision <<https://www.dailybread.ca/about/20-20-vision/>> to increase emergency food services by 20% to Toronto's 20 priority neighborhoods. As poverty increasingly moves towards the outer boundaries of Toronto, Daily Bread's expansion aims to keep up with the staggering demand.

The food bank will be run by volunteers from the TCHC building and other community organizations.

"More than half of the volunteers who have committed to operating this food bank are tenants," said Hugh Lawson, Acting Vice President, Tenant and Community Services for Toronto Community Housing. "The new Daily Bread food bank in our Victoria Park–Sheppard community is providing an important service to the community and helping to build community engagement."

VP and Sheppard will operate every Friday from 4 to 6 p.m. While this will be the last food bank to open in the 2018 year, preparations are underway to meet next year's demands.

About Daily Bread Food Bank

Daily Bread Food Bank works towards long-term solutions to hunger and runs innovative programs to support people on low incomes. Daily Bread distributes shelf-stable food, as well as fresh-cooked meals and provides support to over 120 member agencies and 170 food programs across Toronto, including food banks and meal programs for shelters and drop-ins. Daily Bread also publishes the influential Who's Hungry Report, an annual survey that provides qualitative and quantitative data and analysis about food and income insecurity in Toronto to all levels of government and sector stakeholders. To learn more, please visit www.dailybread.ca <<http://www.dailybread.ca>>.

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Media Contact:

Ruth Gebremedhin | P: 647-920-6044 | E: rgebremedhin@dailybread.ca <<mailto:rgebremedhin@dailybread.ca>>