

BLESSED ARE THE MERCIFUL,  
FOR THEY SHALL OBTAIN MERCY.”

(MATTHEW 5:7)



## OUR FAITH IN ACTION

A Project Funded by TIA in 2016

### *Interfaith Food Bank Society of Lethbridge Volunteer Program, Volunteer Appreciation Recognition*

TIA provided funding for our Volunteer Program (costs associated with screening, training and recognition of volunteers who do the bulk of the work. We have 8 staff members, 60+ weekly volunteers, and over 200 yearly volunteers. We could not provide the programs and services we do without the help of our dedicated volunteers. By securing this funding for our volunteer program, we can ensure a consistent, quality volunteer experience to those who choose to donate their time to helping us achieve our mission: “to recognize the human dignity of those in need and to provide food and access to services and resources generated from within our community”.

In 2016, volunteers contributed 11,564 hours of service. We upgraded a few volunteer policies, as we are constantly trying to improve the volunteer experience. We recruited 22 new volunteers in 2016 to fill in for some retired volunteers and added a few new positions. These improvements allowed us to provide the following services to families in need in our community:

- 8701 Hampers were distributed to assist 12,331 adults and 8,980 children
- 865 Christmas Hampers were distributed, helping 1,235 adults and 973 children to enjoy Christmas, complete with regular monthly hamper allotments and a ham or turkey dinner
- 1,239 diabetics were assisted with their special dietary needs through our Diabetic Bundle Program
- 787 infants were assisted by our Baby Bundle Program
- 51 homes were equipped with a Smart Start for Safety pack to ensure a safe home for babies
- 284 pregnant mothers received additional food during this crucial developmental stage
- 492 birthday bundles allowed parents to offer something special for their children on this special day
- 596 new clients were added to our database

Thank you TIA!



Players from the Lethbridge Hurricanes helping load hampers into clients vehicles at Christmas.

Elementary students helping unload food

