

Georgetown business hosts backpack drive for local youth

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A local business has captured the spirit of giving with a special Christmas drive.

For four years, Generations Physiotherapy Centre in Georgetown has held a number of drives to benefit certain age groups in the community. This year, they are focusing on filling backpacks for an age group who might not be thought of this holiday season.

Ola Jiskra, clinic director at the centre, explained there is an age group who won't necessarily look for the local youth centres for help, and they are the team's focus this year.

The centre is asking for basic need donations to fill backpacks, which were donated by Georgetown Friends of Refugees Committee member Shari



Ola Jiskra/submitted

Throughout the month of November, Generations Physiotherapy Centre in Georgetown South will be filling backpacks to be donated to youth in the community. Here, Jessica Smith, Nicole Connolly, Tanya Ryan and Laura Scholtz stand with the backpacks.

White. The team will be collecting items until the end of November.

"We want to fill the backpacks with basic need items," Jiskra said. "No one should have a need for gloves on a cold night in Canada."

The items the team is looking for are as follows:

travel-size shampoo, toothbrushes, toothpaste, deodorant, brush/comb, lip balm, small first aid kits and hand lotion. They are also looking for winter apparel, such as hats, gloves and scarves, and cereal bars, throat lozenges, gum, feminine hygiene products, flashlights, a rain

poncho, and \$5 gift cards to Walmart and Tim Hortons.

To keep with the holiday spirit, Jiskra also asks for each donation to include a Christmas card.

"Everyone deserves a note of encouragement around Christmas time," she said.

Jiskra and her team have been donating to local groups since 2013 and have been blown away by the generosity in the community.

"I truly believe the majority of people want to give back in some way, they are just in need of an outlet," she said. "We forget at times that people struggle."

Donations can be delivered to the clinic at 371 Mountainview Road South, and will be collected until the end of the month.

"If we can help in any way, we should."



Eamonn Maher/photo

Mark Kremer was presented with a plaque last week to mark his 20th anniversary as an employee of the McDonald's Restaurant in Georgetown. Congratulating Mark (from left) are his mother Inge, McDonald's franchisee Tim O'Connor, Mark's father Peter, breakfast manager Sandra Denis, and franchisee Casey O'Connor.

'McDonald's Guy' marks two decades at restaurant

Known as the 'McDonald's Guy' to many who pay a visit to the restaurant under the Golden Arches in Georgetown, Mark Kremer was recognized for his two decades of work in the dining room recently.

Local McDonald's Restaurant franchisees Tim and Casey O'Connor presented Kremer with a plaque to mark the anniversary and his parents Inge and Peter were on hand for the presentation. Mark, an avid swimmer who trains nearly every day during the summer months, works a six-hour shift three days a week and has made many great friends with both customers and staff over the years.

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