



Because of YOU, Georgetown Ranks #1 in fight against hunger

The Real Canadian Superstore Georgetown location would like to express their sincere gratitude to all who supported the 2014 Spring Extra Helping™ Food Drive Campaign. From April 4th to 24th, 2014 Loblaws stores across Canada encouraged customers to donate \$2 to their local food bank. The response from the Georgetown community was overwhelming. Out of the 366 stores across Canada, Georgetown Superstore was #1 in the company with a total of \$13,621.40 raised for the Georgetown Bread Basket. This was a 1.25% increase from our total donations raised last year. Overall, this semi-annual food drive raised over \$600,000 nationwide. Since 2009, Loblaws banner stores have raised over \$7.5 million and 7.8 million pounds of food through their semi-annual Extra Helping™ Food Drive. Thank you for your participation and joining us in our commitment to help fight hunger in our community.



Mom helped son through cancer ordeal and realize baseball dream

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A spiritual woman, Candace asked where the hospital chapel was.

"I just wanted to go down and pray. I felt so small, like everything was out of my hands."

On Nov. 27, after enduring multiple surgeries and swelling from 120 to 200 pounds, Zack was transferred to Sick Kids in Toronto, where his long recovery began.

It didn't take long for nurses to notice the pictures on the walls; they were of Zach playing baseball, hung with care by his mother. Together with his mom, they took turns rubbing Zach's feet night and day in order to promote the circulation that would prove critical in staving off amputation and keeping his big league dreams alive.

"I never left his side," says Candace.

Ironically, and quite literally, the power to preserve her son's hopes and dreams was in her hands all along.

Although it took nine months for Zach to learn how to walk again, and two more years to get back into playing shape, it took no time at all for the community of Georgetown to come to his aid.

On Christmas Eve, 2005, Zach's mom was called to the Mold-Masters SportsPlex, where she was overwhelmed by signs proclaiming, "We Back Zach" and presented

with a cheque for \$5,000. A little while later, Candace Pearson would receive an even bigger surprise from Maple Avenue Baptist Church, who had raised \$22,000 to help with the cost of treatments.

"We were so blessed. Some of Zach's prescriptions were \$700," says Candace.

In the end, Zach used his Make-A-Wish to do the thing he loves more than anything else in the world. He used it to pay his Team Ontario baseball fees; a team he tried out for and made in 2011 and 2012.

Looking back on the ordeal with a clean bill of health, a teary-eyed Zach says, "there isn't anything I don't like about baseball. I enjoy chasing balls in batting practice, the sounds of the game, and the smell of the summer grass."

It was at that moment that his mom put her arms around her son, squeezed for what seemed to be an eternity, and said, "seeing him back on the diamond means the world to me because I know it means the world to him. I feel like everything has come full circle and is back to normal."

Then, she paused, and added, "I appreciate every day. I love him and will always be his biggest supporter."

To read the article on Pearson published in the IFP from December 2005, go to <http://news.halinet.on.ca/108654/page/2>

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