

# BACKPACK PROGRAM RETURNS TO HELP STUDENTS IN NEED

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While school may have just let out for the summer, Links2Care is already working hard to make sure local students in need go back in September with all the essentials.

The organization recently kicked off its ninth annual backpack program and is turning to the community for donations of new backpacks and school supplies for Halton Hills children.

According to Links2Care, the program not only helps lower-income students start off the school year on the right foot, but parents' financial and emotional stress is also alleviated as they avoid dipping into rent or food budgets to ensure their children have the tools they need to succeed.

Last year, 185 local students benefitted from new backpacks filled with essential learning tools, thanks to the contributions from local residents, groups and businesses.



Melanie Hennessey/Torstar  
Links2Care's Cathy Gerrow (left) and Deirdre Hogan are ready to take backpack and school supply donations at the big yellow buses located in the Georgetown Market Place centre court.

In addition, 25 high school students volunteered 170 hours through the backpack program.

Donations and applications for the program will be accepted until Aug. 9 in the centre court at the Georgetown Market Place, and also at both Links2Care locations at 47 Mill St., Acton and 360 Guelph St., Georgetown.

Applications are also available online at links2care.ca. For more information call 905-873-6502.

# LOCAL FASHION STUDENT HONOURED WITH SEWING MACHINE

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A Christ the King Secondary School graduate is ready to take the fashion world by storm, thanks to a gift from Halton Hills Sewing and Vacuum.

Kaden Tetarenko is the recipient of a \$900 Baby Lock Jubilant sewing machine, which was donated by the manufacturer.

The 17-year-old plans to attend university for fashion design and has already created his own line of T-shirts.

For more than 15 years, Halton Hills Sewing and Vacuum has given a graduating Christ the King fashion student a sewing machine to assist in their schooling and future career.



Melanie Hennessey/Torstar  
(From left) Halton Hills Sewing and Vacuum owners Tony and Heike Ciufo present Christ the King graduate Kaden Tetarenko with a Baby Lock Jubilant sewing machine that he'll use at university for fashion design. CTK fashion course teacher Marianne Ples was also on hand for the presentation.

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