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CHRISTMAS CHEER: The Acton Corps of the Salvation Army and the United Way of Halton Hills were grateful recipients of donations from Acton's Beardmore Leathers last week. Beardmore employee Leslie Mann hands cheques to Brenda Smith (second from left) of the United Way and Major Lyndon Hale while fellow employees Colleen Williamson (far left) and Janis Fread and Lynda Martin (far right) look on. — Frances Niblock photo

Cradle to grave services...

Continued from Page 1.

Barham noted those groups have deep roots in the community.

Working and networking with other groups and agencies in Halton, Barham said they provide support and information, and programs for parents and their children, teens and seniors in Halton Hills, where there are fewer services than in Oakville and Burlington.

In order to increase services, Barham said they offer groups cheap rents in HHCSI offices in Acton and Georgetown to bring their service to the north.

In Acton, HHCSI runs two parent-child drop-ins, operates the Off The Wall youth centre and the Acton Seniors'

Centre. It provides several meal programs as well as transportation, income tax, foot care and other health-related services.

HHCSI is also a member of the Region-wide Halton Information Providers that maintains a database on social services for Halton and produces a directory every two years.

Noting that the HHCSI Board of Directors usually includes a member of Town Council, Barham said they're waiting to hear if the Town will appoint someone, or "leave us free to just ask a councillor ourselves."

Barham said HHCSI is also working on transportation issues with a Halton

transportation advisory committee trying to make it easier to get around in North Halton.

Barham said HHCSI has a Healthy Communities grant and support from the federal government to study transportation issues to pay for an Acton staff member to assemble a transportation database, with one phone number, so someone could call and ask how to get from A to B in Halton.

"Now, it may well be that there isn't any transportation, but certainly we expect to be able to tell them the very best that they can do and we will list all the gaps as they arrive," Barham said, adding the trip information requests will help them work on developing better transportation.

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