

Inn of the Good Shepherd  
 115 John St.  
 Sarnia, ON N7T 2Z1  
 (519) 344-1746  
[www.theinn.sarnia.net](http://www.theinn.sarnia.net)

**Our Mission ...**  
 To provide service with dignity to those  
 in need of food & shelter.

**What's New – July 2009**

**Our Programs ...**  
 Food Bank  
 Soup Kitchen  
 Emergency Shelter  
 The Haven Youth  
 Shelter  
 Genesis (free clothing)  
 Rent/Utility Bank

**The Inn of the Good Shepherd serves . . .**  
*the working poor, the unemployed and the homeless.*  
*Thousands come to us each year for a helping hand.*

It is only through the generosity of the community that we are able to give that helping hand!  
*Help us help those in need!*

**Economic Impact ....**

Due to the economy, we are seeing many first time users at The Inn and a minimum 25% increase in need for all our programs:

**Food Bank** – an extra 500 people and 10,000 lbs of food each month for a total of 45,000 lbs of food to feed 2200 people (900 of them children)

**Soup Kitchen** – we are now serving an average of over 100 meals a day (up from 80)

**Housing Assistance** – last month we helped 65 households stay housed and avoid eviction or utility shut-off. That's up from 45 households 6 months ago! Individuals and families are having to stay in shelter longer to find affordable housing.

**Help fill the shelves ...**


With the increase in food bank usage – an extra 10,000 lbs of food is needed each month.



Please keep the Food Bank in mind when you are grocery shopping!


**Back to School Basics ....**

We anticipate the need for over 200 back-to-school kits this year. Kits are filled with essential school supplies such as paper, pens, binders and more!



Manley's Basics have partnered with The Inn to help make sure children are ready for school. There are pre-packaged kits for various grades. Purchase one at either Manley's locations and they will deliver it to The Inn to be given to a family in need.

Purchased kits or any school supplies can also be dropped off at The Inn or our drop-off barrels at most grocery stores.



**Help a child be ready to learn!**

- While we have lots of beans and soups, currently the food bank is in need of:
- canned pasta
  - kraft dinner
  - hygiene items
  - juice boxes
  - school lunch items
  - baby food
  - peanut butter
  - coffee/tea
  - powdered/canned milk
  - sugar
  - cereal
  - canned vegetables
  - dry pasta
  - pasta sauce

## Community in Action ...



Many thanks to all who participated in the 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Stuff the Bus food drive. Over 12,000 lbs of food was collected for the food banks at The Inn, Salvation Army and St. Vincent de Paul.

Special thanks to Sarnia Transit, The Fox FM radio, Innivity Marketing Group and the participating grocery stores!

*The After Hour's Rotary Club – walked the Canada Day parade route collecting food & donations for the programs at The Inn.*

*Thanks so much Rotary!*



**Join the green teams ...** It's exciting to see local groups putting in gardens devoted to growing fresh produce for the food bank. Thanks to **Bluewater Power, The UWO Research Park, Sarnia Evangelical Missionary Church** and **Thompson Gardens Apartments** in Corunna. Along with produce from many individuals and businesses participating in the **One Tomato Project**, supported by the **Sarnia Community Foundation**, we will be able provide fresh nutritious garden produce!  
Fresh produce = better health!

*Please Mum Children's Clothing Store is holding a Family & Friends Event – July 30-August 2. In addition to some great sales they are holding a canned food drive for the Food Bank.*



**Grower Direct's** annual Friendship Day is taking place August 20. For a food or cash donation, receive a dozen roses to share with a dozen friends!

## Strong Foundations Campaign Update ...

The tenders are out!!!

Seven pre-qualified local contractors have received the tender and are preparing their bids now. Bids will be opened August 6<sup>th</sup> and a contractor will be selected so that construction can begin as soon as possible.

The Good Shepherd's Lodge will provide both a short and long term solution to Sarnia's growing homelessness problem. In the last year alone, The Inn provided temporary shelter to almost 300 people for almost 3,900 nights. The housing portion of The Lodge will provide the teaching of life skills to enable people to maintain their housing and avoid becoming homeless, thereby ending the cycle of homelessness for many.

So far, \$1.2 million of the \$2 million cost has been raised. Enough funds have been raised to build Phase I – the shelter area and one housing unit. It is our hope to raise the remaining funds to complete Phase II – the remaining housing units, at the same time. If we have to build The Lodge in 2 separate phases, it will **add \$200,000** to the construction costs and the amount needed to be raised!

**Many thanks to our most recent donors:** Smith Funeral Home, GSR Developments/Tim Horton's, Trinity Anglican Church, Laurel Lea-St Matthews Presbyterian Church, Central United Church, St. Francois Xavier School, Lambton County Law Association, St. John in the Wilderness Anglican Church, Lambton Insurance Brokers, Christ Anglican Church, and Temple Baptist Church.

**Donations can be made in person, by phone, or by mail at**

**115 John St, Sarnia, ON, N7T 2Z1 or 519-344-1746.**

**To donate online, visit our website at [www.theinn.sarnia.net](http://www.theinn.sarnia.net) and click on Canadahelps.org under the Donating tab.**