

Kiwanis Club of Sardis

Serving Children of the World



Community Update

February 2023

Support for Kiwanis Key Clubs

As we have mentioned in previous newsletters, Kiwanis is a global community of clubs, members and partners dedicated to improving the lives of children, one community at a time. One of our Club's priorities is the sponsorship of Kiwanis student leadership programs in the two high schools in Sardis—GW Graham and Sardis Secondary. This leadership program is run through Kiwanis Key Clubs. Our role is to support these clubs, provide guidance where needed and to help foster a desire to be of service to their school and the community at large. The clubs in the two Sardis schools each have about 80 students anxious to provide service when they can. A very notable project of the Sardis Secondary Key Club in recent months was the organization of a bike ride to raise funds for the fight against kids cancer. They raised over \$15,000 for this wonderful cause!! A few of our members participated in the ride, our Club made a donation and a few of our members collected pledges. What a great event!! Here is a photo of some of the Kiwanis participants.



Combatting Food Insecurity



Food insecurity is a significant problem in many communities including our own. We have tried to help out in the last few months by participating in the Thanksgiving Food Drive and supporting the Chilliwack Community Cupboard Society with a financial donation and with supplies donated by our members. We also did over 20 shifts on the Salvation Army Kettles in the run up to Christmas and donated to the Food Bank. Chilliwack is a caring community; it is great to see the response when times are tough.

Red Nose Back in Chilliwack

Over the years there have been several projects and programs which have resonated with our members. The list would include the Super Reader Program, our bursaries, our student of the month program and, for the old-timers in our club, our hands-on support of Special Olympics in Chilliwack. There is another that many of us would include on that list; one that we ran very successfully for eight years, largely as a result of the leadership of Ken and Anne Smith, and that is Operation Red Nose (ORN). About twenty of our members were involved in the program every year. Together, over the eight year period, we raised about \$200,000 for the benefit of our community.

Many of us were very pleased it was restarted in Chilliwack in 2022 by an organization we have supported over the years – Chilliwack Restorative Justice and Youth Advocacy Association. Restorative Justice brought the program to Chilliwack in 2004 and ran it for eight years, so it is fitting they now have it back again.

Ken and Anne Smith helped Restorative Justice get their program underway. Together with three other Kiwanians, they volunteered for several of the late night shifts in December to assist families get home safely. This is a great program; one that we will continue to assist as best we can.

Other Organizations We Have Supported Recently

In addition to participating in the Meals on Wheels Program run by Chilliwack Community Services and in the Soup Kitchen at the Cheam View United Church, our club donates to a number of local charities and non-profit organizations throughout the year. Organizations we have supported recently, over and above those already mentioned in this newsletter, include Chilliwack Search and Rescue, Sardis Doorway for Mothers and Children Society, Chilliwack Bowls of Hope Society and the Chilliwack Hospice Society.

New Members

We are delighted to see that we continue to attract new members. New members means new ideas and increased enthusiasm to help our community. Why not check us out??

Find us! Follow us! Grow With us!