

Gleaners Information Addendum to Mayor and Council Presentation

15 August 2022

North Okanagan Valley Gleaners is a non-profit founded in 2007 and our mission statement is “VOLUNTEERS SERVING GOD BY SERVING THE POOR”.

Gleaners produces a nutritious dehydrated soup mix that is shipped to trusted partners around the world to feed the hungry.

- In 2021 Gleaners produced 5.1 million servings of food.
- In 2022 Gleaners is on track to produce 12 million servings of food.
- Since 2009 Gleaners has produced 66,311,720 servings of food to feed the worlds hungry.

Gleaners has also partnered with ENACTUS a student run organization at Okanagan College to assist them in producing a nutritious dehydrated apple snack that they provide to local schools.

Another partnership is with the BCIT Nutritional Program within the School of Health Sciences to scientifically determine the nutrition and nutrient values of our dehydrated fruits and vegetables. This information will allow us to develop formulas for the highest possible nutritional value for our soup mix. We will share this information with all other Gleaners operations worldwide.

Gleaners has hundreds of dedicated local volunteers that make all this happen. We are all proud to support our local community to help those in need through the donation of free furnishings and appliances along with other assistance via these agencies:

INTERIOR HEALTH, ARCHWAY WOMENS TRANSITION HOUSE, TURNING POINTS, CANADIAN MENTAL HEALTH ASSOCIATION, PUBLIC HEALTH NURSING, NOYFSS, SLAVIC UNITED NETWORK, NATIVE HOUSING, KINDALE, STREET MINISTRY, MINISTRY OF FAMILY DEVELOPMENT, EAGLE BAY CAMP, OKANAGAN INDIAN BAND, VERNON JUBILEE HOSPITAL, URGENT CARE, JUNIPER PLACE, KELOWNA COMMUNITY RESOURCES, WHITE VALLEY COMMUNITY AND MANY LOCAL CHURCHES WITH IN HOUSE PROGRAMS.

In the last year Gleaners has donated \$40,000 dollars worth of furniture and appliances through these agencies to local people in need.

The Gleaners have discovered that the more people that hear our message and learn about what we do the more successful we can be. We are developing marketing and outreach plans to get the word out and that is one of the reasons why we are before you today.

Two huge successes from sharing our story has been that we now receive a tremendous amount of surplus medical equipment and thousands of pounds of unsold vegetable seeds that we distribute to those in need globally. All of these donations that we send around the world were destined for our landfill.

To continue and grow this extremely valuable work we recognize we need to start to replenish our aging force of volunteers and ask that you share our story and encourage people to reach out. We accomplish all of this with just six paid staff members at the Gleaners Used Furniture and Appliance Store here in Vernon and our processing plant in Lavington. Ours is a story worth telling and locals are always surprised and shocked to learn that all this is accomplished right here in Vernon.

Please join us on our exclusive City of Vernon VIP tour on August 16th.

We are engaging other community leaders in the hopes that our story can be widely distributed and our entire community can share the goodness and the love that we all feel when we help those less fortunate.

A huge thank you from all of us at Gleaners and Blessings to you.