Message from Our Director of Client Services

Hello Parker Street Friends!

After a busy Christmas season, we are continuing to tirelessly serve our community with bills, food, furniture and more! This year we have welcomed new staff members to our team and wished a happy retirement and bon voyage to others. This is an exciting time for our team and we are continually making improvements to how we work and serve our community.

While some of the faces around Parker Street are changing, one thing stays constant: ***the need for help in our community***. Rising prices of water, groceries, gas and rent have caused many of our clients to reach out for help for the first time and caused others to need more help than ever before. So far in 2022, we have had **316 NEW** families reach out for help. Since the beginning of January, we have given out **more than 2,425** boxes of food, supplied **54** families with furniture and assisted with **100** essential bill payments. The practical implications of these numbers means our food bank has been consistently fully booked over the last few months, our furniture department is booking weeks in advance and our Emergency Assistance Fund is depleted.

We cannot continue to support the growing needs of our clients without the support of our volunteers, donors and community members. Donations of furniture, food and personal hygiene products are essential to helping us with inventory to give to our clients. Donations of monetary value are also essential and can be designated to a specific program, such as the Emergency Fund (for bill payments) and our New Truck Fund, or sent to 'Where Needed Most.'

I want to send a heartfelt thank you to everyone for your continued interest and support in our operations! If you ever want to learn more about our programs, how you can become involved or receive updates on our current needs, please feel free to contact me!

Sonah Leahey
Director of Client Services
sonah.leahey@parkerstreet.org

Parker Street
food & furniture bank

2415 Maynard Street, PO Box 9227, Halifax, NS B3K 3V2 (902) 425-2125 **www.parkerstreet.org**

New Truck Fund: Progress Update

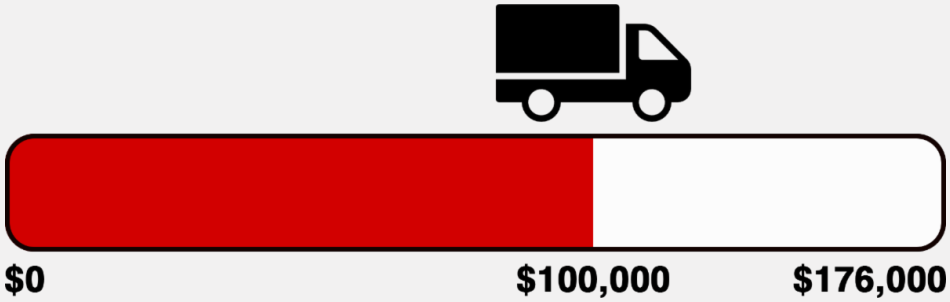
Parker Street Food & Furniture Bank is in desperate need of a new refrigerated delivery truck. Unfortunately, our 3-tonne delivery truck has officially retired due to failed brakes and old age. Without a vehicle suited for picking up and delivering mass amounts of fresh and packaged food items, Parker Street will not be able to operate efficiently.

The New Truck Fund was established in 2021 to help Parker Street purchase a new refrigerated truck. Our goal for 2021 was to raise **$100,000** out of the total confirmed cost of **$176,000** and we are very pleased to let you know that our 2021 goal was successfully achieved! However, we are still in need of **$70,000** in order to make the final purchase.

We are asking **YOU**, our donors, and the community at large to help raise another **$70,000** in order to purchase a new truck for food pick-up and deliveries. The latest information about our New Truck Fund can be found under '**Read More**.'

READ MORE **DONATE**

Campaign Progress Bar:



Get in touch
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Parker Street at ECIDS 2022

Parker Street Food & Furniture Bank was honoured to be part of the **2022 East Coast International Development Summit** with a focus on food security and sustainability.

In his keynote speech, **Amgad Zaky** spoke about the work of Parker Street in the Halifax Regional Municipality and the need to confront food insecurity at the local level.

SEE MORE

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Employee Highlight

Mikaela O'Regan started working in Parker Street Food & Furniture Bank's furniture department in October 2021. Her greatest asset, she says, is her innate ability to listen to our clients' stories and empathize with them. This helps her to form better connections with those that she provides furniture assistance to.

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Welcome to Our New Staff Members

Tracy Gray
Food Program Coordinator

Mikaela O'Regan
Furniture Bank Coordinator

Megan Paquette
Food Manager

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Parker Street in the News

CBC

CBC Nova Scotia

Halifax Water applies for monthly rate increase: *Anti-poverty advocates worry that another rate increase will add to already record inflation.*

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CBC Nova Scotia

More Nova Scotians turn to food banks as cost of living continues to rise: *With food prices going up faster than*

they have in more than a decade, local charities are seeing increasing demand for their services.

READ MORE

canada-info.ca

Une banque alimentaire d'Halifax constate une augmentation de la misère: *Amgad Zaky speaks with French Canadian journalist Sebastien Beltran about Parker Street's growing needs.*

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Thank You for Your Support

Jack Hart and the Turkey Club

Thank you to Jack Hart and his Turkey Club crew members for raising **$39,100** last year in support of Parker Street Food & Furniture Bank! Because of your continued support, we are able to provide hundreds of families with Christmas dinner every year.

Jennifer Power

Thank you to Jennifer Power for donating her time to helping low-
and fixed-income taxpayers in our community prepare for their tax returns at Parker Street Food & Furniture Bank's free pop-up tax clinic!

Skyline Living

Thank you to Skyline Living for their recent donation in support of Parker Street Food & Furniture Bank! Initiatives like Skyline's Volunteer Day allow us to continue helping low- and fixed-income families and individuals across the Halifax Regional Municipality every day.

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Office Hours

Monday to **Friday**

8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. (**Closed** between 12:00 p.m. and 1:00 p.m.)

Tel: (902) 425-2125

Food Bank Hours

Monday, **Wednesday**, **Thursday** and **Friday**

8:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m.

Tuesdays are our home delivery days

Follow Us on Social Media

For more information please contact

Amgad Zaky, Director of Donor Relations and Communications
Email: communications@parkerstreet.org • **Tel:** (902) 377-4767

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