## **UAC's Hampers of Hope:**

## **Community Sponsorship Invitation**



Dear Valued Community Partner,

As we approach the festive season, we're thrilled to celebrate the 32nd Anniversary of the Hampers of Hope initiative. This program thrives on the generous support of individuals, businesses, and community groups. There's been unprecedented demand at our Master's Pantry Community Food Bank, reflecting a regional and national surge in food bank usage, especially among younger adults and single-parent families.

Since 1993, the collective efforts of volunteers and donations have helped us share the warmth of Christmas with families each year. Last year, we served 236 families in Markham, Stouffville, and Richmond Hill, providing hampers with food for 2-3 days, gift cards, and a special Christmas meal containing a frozen chicken or turkey.

This year, the need is greater than ever. We invite you to become community sponsors and partner with us in the following ways:

- Food Donations: Organize a bulk food drive, place a bulk order at a grocery store (to minimize sorting), or donate non-perishable items directly.
- Gift Cards: Purchase gift cards for families to buy toys and gifts.
- Monetary Donations: Donate online or in-person, marking "Hampers of Hope" on the memo.

Tax receipts are provided for monetary donations of \$25 or more. Please note that food and gift cards are not tax receiptable. Donations can be dropped off at 4898 Sixteenth Avenue, from Dec 14th – 17th, 9 AM – 4:30 PM. For alternate arrangements or deliveries, contact <a href="mailto:info@uachome.org">info@uachome.org</a>.

If you're considering in-kind donations, including food, gifts, or other items, please contact us to ensure your contribution aligns with the needs of families we serve and provides immediate relief.

Learn more about becoming a sponsor: <a href="https://www.uachome.org/hampersofhope">https://www.uachome.org/hampersofhope</a>



We appreciate your consideration and look forward to partnering with you this Christmas season.

Blessings,

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## THANKFUL TO MANY OF OUR PAST COMMUNITY SPONSORS!



Last year, we were blessed to have Markham-Unionville MPP Bill Pang visit us during our Hamper packing and handout. His recognition highlighted the ongoing impact of this initiative on families in our community.

## APPRECIATION FROM 2024 HAMPER RECIPIENTS:

A woman came to pick up her hamper, expecting a small box of food. She was shocked by how much food there was, saying "I am in total disbelief. I cannot believe this; there is so much food!"

One hamper recipient jumped up and down when we delivered her hamper, saying "You are here. You never, ever forget me, and there are potatoes! I need potatoes! And you gave me a turkey!"

A single mom with four children told us her children had not had a Christmas the year before due to financial restraints. Through the generosity of companies and individuals, we were able to provide her family with gifts and food for their Christmas.

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