



Milton Public Library's Food for Fines Campaign Supports Local Community Partner

To celebrate Ontario Public Library Week (October 18-24), Milton Public Library hosted its third annual fine forgiveness program in partnership with the Milton Community Resource Centre, in support of the Infant Food Bank. The campaign ran from October 16 to November 8.

The Food for Fines initiative invited patrons to bring in nonperishable food items to any of MPL's three locations, to help local families in need. In exchange, fines on overdue library materials were waived. Patrons were especially encouraged to bring in high-demand items such as baby food, diapers, and formula. "Through our partnership with the Milton Public Library, and the generosity of the community, we were able to collect dozens of physical donations including diapers, baby food and baby cereal over the past month, which went directly towards supporting our Infant Food Bank families," shares Madelyn Boelhouwer, Fundraising Events Lead, Milton Community Resource Centre.

"Speaking on behalf of the team at Milton Community Resource Centre, we extend our gratitude to the Milton Public Library and its staff, for their devotion to making an impact within our community," continues Boelhouwer. "Currently, Milton's children have the highest poverty rate within the Halton Region. Our Infant Food Bank is the only of its kind within Halton, and we support, on average, over 100 babies per month. As a result of the difficult year COVID-19 has created for many, we have seen an increase of families needing our support each month."

MPL looks forward to continuing to support the community through campaigns such as these and is so grateful to all of the Miltonians who helped MPL help local children in need.

If you would like to help the MCRC Infant Food Bank directly, please email madelynb@mcrc.on.ca to learn more about how you may get involved.

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