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HUMANITY *matters*

RESTORING COMMUNITIES • BUILDING A FUTURE



FALL ISSUE | 2012

PREPARING IN THE EVENT OF A DISASTER | MDR Course

DISASTER RESPONSE TRAINING COURSE

Humanity First volunteers from across Canada, USA and the UK gathered in Toronto at the Humanity First Training centre for the International Medical Disaster Response Training Course, which took place on September 28-30th, 2012.

The MDR course was attended by participants of various professions, including doctors, firefighters, paramedics and community members, along with faculty and staff members, and community volunteers who participated in role play scenarios. The course provided participants with experiential learning through simulated situations, preparing them to provide proper medical care for patients in a disaster situation. The experienced staff and faculty covered topics such as: disaster response management and preparedness, public health and safety, team building and logistics training.

"It is extremely important for our organization to have a team of well trained people whom we can call in the event of a disaster," said the Chairman of Humanity First Canada. Over the course of the three day period, participants engaged in formal lectures and presentations at the new Humanity First Training Centre in Vaughan, and also partook in practical hands on experience through a series of challenging mock disaster scenarios at the Fire Training and Mechanical Divisions station in Maple and at the temporary training ground in Bradford. A special thanks to our community volunteers who volunteered their time and skills through role play, to help with the training of the participants. (Continued on Page 3...)



MAYOR BEVILACQUA'S VISIT TO HUMANITY FIRST FOOD BANK



Maurizio Bevilacqua, Mayor of City of Vaughan.

His Worship, Maurizio Bevilacqua toured the new Humanity First Food Bank and Training Center facility, and reviewed the organizations operational procedures. He was extremely inspired by the organizations commitment to serving humanity, especially at the volunteer efforts conducted locally by Humanity First in York Region.

"The City fully supports such great initiatives, and it is amazing to see the wonderful work that Humanity First has done over the years!" commented His Worship, Mayor Bevilacqua.



On September 7, 2012, Humanity First had the honour of a visit by his worship,

HUMANITY FIRST TRAINING CENTRE

“The spacious warehouse and offices will allow us to accommodate more volunteers, which is essential for the successful operation of a volunteer based organization, enhancing their humanitarian efforts in a more efficient and productive manner.”

Humanity First has been growing in various aspects with respect to many of their programs, both nationally and internationally. This summer, Humanity First opened the doors to their new food bank and training facility in York Region. The new center was inaugurated by His Holiness, Mirza Masroor Ahmad, the Supreme Head of the worldwide Ahmadiyya Muslim Community on July 15, 2012.

With the current state of the economy, many residents of Ontario are turning to food banks for food support. The new Humanity First Food Bank has expanded its warehouse with more shelving and space for volunteers to better serve the growing clientele. The facility is also equipped with disaster relief and medical supplies to provide immediate support to Humanity First Disaster Response teams on relief missions, in the event of a natural disaster.

With a continued focus on skill development and community empowerment, Humanity First will be offering educational and recreational programs from the new facility.

Humanity First continues to be the charity of choice for businesses and educational institutions to send their employees and students to engage in the act of volunteering; making Humanity First a key component in the organizations initiative to give back to their community. “The spacious warehouse and offices will allow us to accommodate more volunteers, which is essential for the successful operation of a volunteer based organization, enhancing their humanitarian efforts in a more efficient and productive manner,” said Dr. Aslam Daud, Chairman of Humanity First Canada. Please contact our office to book your next volunteer activity.



SENIORS FIRST | A Walk On the Beach



Cool water, beautiful breeze, savoury barbeque and great friends were the key ingredients at the Senior First field trip to the beach. A bus full of seniors and Humanity First volunteers pulled up alongside the calm waters and warm sand of Innisfil Beach on August 28th, 2012. The plan for the day was to get the senior participants to enjoy a peaceful day at the beach and be exposed to nature, enjoy great food and engage in discussion and activities with other participants and volunteers.

“The significance of this trip was that we wanted to encourage our seniors to be able to partake and enjoy such a simple pleasure as a day on the beach,” said Mrs. Khan, the Program Coordinator, “what we may consider as something mundane and non-extravagant, was actually embraced with immense enthusiasm and sense of enjoyment by the senior participants, as many of them rarely get to participate in such recreational opportunities.”

The success of the trip was evident by the blissful moods of the senior participants, as they repeatedly stressed that, “the trip was a great form of rejuvenation and socializing, due to the serene beach, pleasant conversation, and comforting service of the young volunteers...it was simply one of the best picnics we’ve ever had!”

Humanity First continues to arrange various activities under the Seniors First program to bring positive change to the mental, physical and social well-being of the senior members of our community; providing them with opportunities to stay active and engaged, and foster a healthy lifestyle.



CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE

Dr. Aslam Daud | Humanity First Chairman

One of the foremost natural qualities inculcated in human race is the quest to improve and become better. This single intrinsic worth has brought us where we are today. Likewise, organizations that have the passion to improve show growth. Interestingly, while Humanity First has tremendously grown in a very short time and while it has continuously improved, the real passion behind this growth is the passion to serve humanity.

Humanity First volunteers and supporters have only one objective – to reduce or alleviate the human suffering. While the corporate world takes measures on how to have a better bottom line, Humanity First strives to find ways to better serve humanity and how to improve humanitarian services.

Recently, volunteers of Humanity First received the medical disaster response training that will tremendously help in improving the efficiency of our disaster response effort and at the same time ensure safety and security of the Disaster Response Team. Doctors, Nurses, Paramedics, Firefighters and other logistic personnel received this very valuable exercise at the Humanity First Training Center in Concord, Ontario.

Humanity First is currently assisting the victims of recent floods in Africa and once again looking towards its donors and supporters to come forward and help in this relief work. Let's once again put "humanity" first!



DISASTER RESPONSE TRAINING COURSE



The course concluded with an awards ceremony, recognizing participants and faculty for the successful completion of the medical disaster response training course; increasing the extensive network of Humanity First volunteers across the globe.

Humanity First provides humanitarian aid to those affected by natural or man-made disasters. Since its inception, Humanity First has undertaken many relief operations all round the world and

(Continued from cover page...)

The objective of the course was to understand how to handle and provide medical and humanitarian services in various disaster situations through successful coordination and team work; providing participants with detailed knowledge on the requirements of a disaster response plan, how to carry out emergency response assignments quickly and effectively, and to be qualified as a volunteer with the Humanity First Disaster Response Team, should the need arise.



**VOLUNTEERS
NEEDED. JOIN US TODAY!**

FOOD BANK | Giving Back to the Community

Humanity First Food Bank helps thousands of less fortunate members of our community by providing monthly food support and supplementary services to walk-in clients and free home delivery service.

All year long Humanity First is requested by various educational and business organizations to allow

their students and employees to volunteer their skills at the local Food Bank or organize a food drive, in support of the Feed a Family program.

Recently, a large group of volunteers from Astellas Pharmaceutical Company visited the Humanity First Food Bank to provide their volunteer services in assisting with daily operations, from sorting and shelving food donations, to packing food hampers for clients. Astellas volunteers left with a great sense of satisfaction, knowing they

were able to contribute and give back to their communities. Thank you to the staff at Astellas, your volunteer work was greatly appreciated.

Humanity First would also like to thank all the organizations who conducted food drives throughout the past few months. Your generous food and monetary donations are vital to the success of the Feed a Family program, and it is due to your support that Humanity First is able to put food on the table for many families across the GTA.

If you or your organization, are interested in coordinating a food drive, please contact the Humanity First Food Bank for further information and details on how we can get you started. We thank you



FOOD BANK *wish* LIST: Canned Meat, Canned Fruits, Canned Vegetables, Soups, Oil, Peanut Butter, Juices, Mr. Noodles & Kraft Dinner, Rice, Flour, Pasta and Sugar.

Pledge Form

☐ **Yes! I/we would like to donate to Humanity First. Proceeds will go to** _____ write name of project or program _____.

NAME _____

ORGANIZATION _____

ADDRESS _____

APT# _____ CITY _____

PROVINCE _____ POSTAL CODE _____

TELEPHONE () _____

FAX () _____

EMAIL _____

PAYMENT METHOD *Please make cheques payable to Humanity First

☐ Cash ☐ Cheque ☐ Credit Card

☐ I would prefer to pay by credit card (I have provided my information)

CREDIT CARD TYPE:

☐ Visa ☐ MasterCard ☐ American Express

Please accept my gift of:

☐ \$10 ☐ \$25 ☐ \$50 ☐ \$100 ☐ Other \$ _____

This is a: ☐ Monthly Donation ☐ One-time Donation

CREDIT CARD ACCOUNT # _____

CREDIT CARD EXPIRY DATE (MM/YYYY) _____ **CVD#** _____

NAME (as it appears on Credit Card) _____

DONATION AMOUNT \$ _____

CARD HOLDER SIGNATURE _____ **DATE** _____

Please fax, email or mail the completed form to: **416.440.0346** or **info@humanityfirst.ca** or **245 Bowes Road, Unit 1 Concord, Ontario L4K 1H8**



To donate: CALL , **CLICK**  **or COME**  **!**

To comment on these articles or to make suggestions, please contact us at: info@humanityfirst.ca



Humanity First
Restoring Communities, Building a Future
Charity Registration No: 87254 1040 RR0001

245 Bowes Rd., Unit 1, Concord, ON L4K 1H8
Tel/Fax: 416.440.0346
Email: info@humanityfirst.ca
Web: www.humanityfirst.ca

Humanity First is a registered international non-profit charitable and humanitarian relief organization that aims to mitigate hunger, poverty and disease among the less privileged human beings around the world and strives to reduce peoples sufferings caused by natural disasters or human conflicts. Humanity First provides support to communities at a national and international level. Our organization invests in issues that matter the most, in order to strengthen communities and give humanity a chance to exceed their potential and help build for a brighter future.

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