

Angels Make Christmas Special for Residents in Need

January 2022

Christmas morning was made special for residents of CapitalCare centres who do not have family or friends involved in their care when a gift arrived for them marked “from someone who cares.”

Over 180 residents received gifts from over 120 anonymous donors, thanks to CapitalCare Foundation’s Christmas Angels program. Donors included businesses, individuals, families, and staff who answered the call to adopt a resident in need.

Social workers at each centre created personalized lists of items to match each resident’s needs or wishes. On Christmas morning, staff handed out the gifts, and shared in the joy these residents expressed, realizing someone cares about them.

“Many of us were taught that it’s better to give than to receive,” says Sherry Schaefer, Director of Fundraising and Donor Relations for CapitalCare Foundation.

“Giving an anonymous gift at Christmas time shows that the gift giver cares about the well-being of others, and that everyone is worthwhile.”

“Some of the Norwood residents have cognitive impairment so it is hard to know if they were even aware that they received a gift - no gestures or words spoken,” says Sandra Howes, Social Worker at Norwood.

“One such resident likes to look out their window, but all they see is the concrete buildings that surround our downtown centre. So, we asked their ‘Christmas Angel’ for some decals to decorate the window. We can tell by the smile on their face that this gift has made a difference to their outlook on life, as well as to their well-being.”



From right to left: Social workers Sandra Howes and Kim Pollard and unit clerk Kristin Hawkins accept gifts for Norwood resident from donors to CapitalCare Foundation’s 2022 Christmas Angels program.