



Media Release

Horizon Utilities donates tips and tools to help local food bank clients save energy and money

(HAMILTON/ST. CATHARINES, ON) April 8, 2009 - Horizon Utilities enlisted the support of powerWISE the 'Easter Owl' to deliver basketfuls of conservation kits to help clients of food banks in Hamilton and St. Catharines lower their energy bills.

In a timely gesture, Horizon Utilities donated 1,000 energy saving packages to representatives of Good Shepherd Centres in Hamilton and Community Care of St. Catharines and Thorold. The kits, each including a compact fluorescent light bulb (CFL), an LED nightlight, an energy conservation booklet full of energy saving tips, and other goodies will be distributed to food bank clients.

"We know these are tough times with more people than ever struggling to pay the bills and put food on the table," says Max Cananzi, President and CEO of Horizon Utilities Corporation. "We want to make it easier for our customers to make ends meet by showing them ways they can save electricity and reduce their hydro expenses."

Simple changes can make a big difference when it comes to energy consumption. Just by replacing incandescent light bulbs with more efficient compact fluorescent light bulbs in up to four fixtures that are used most often, residents can shave as much as \$50 off their annual hydro bill. Following additional tips included in Horizon's energy conservation handbook will allow customers to reduce their electricity costs further.

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"We're committed to creating a culture of conservation in our service territory while at the same time helping our most vulnerable customers. That's why we're thrilled to donate these kits. We hope the 'tools' and information we're providing today will inspire energy and money saving action that will continue to assist a part of our community while putting our environment on solid footing for the future," adds Cananzi.

Today's donation augments hundreds more conservation kits that Horizon Utilities has already distributed to low income families through Good Shepherd Centres, Community Care, and other local events. Horizon has also sponsored energy audits and installed CFLs in social housing units within its service territory. In 2008, Horizon Utilities' conservation and demand programs implemented with both residential and business customers achieved savings of more than 30 million kWh of electricity - enough energy to power more than 3,328 homes!

Horizon Utilities Corporation is one of the largest municipally owned electricity distribution companies in Ontario, providing electricity and related utility services to more than 230,000 residential, commercial and industrial customers in Hamilton and St. Catharines. Horizon Utilities' employees are committed to delivering a safe and reliable supply of electricity, providing unparalleled customer value, and helping to create a culture of energy conservation in Ontario.

Good Shepherd Centres is a charity located in Hamilton, Ontario whose mission is to serve the poor, vulnerable and less fortunate among us. The Good Shepherd Centres strive to provide a continuum of supports to all in need ranging from emergency food and shelter through referral and counseling services to palliative care. Good Shepherd Centres is administered by the Congregation of the Little Brothers of the Good Shepherd, which was founded in 1951 in Albuquerque, New Mexico by Brother Mathias Barrett.

Community Care of St. Catharines and Thorold is a non-denominational organization with a mandate to meet needs, provide bridges and create opportunity, with an established client base that is composed of people from every walk of life. Community Care provides a bridge between dependency and self-sufficiency through programs that create a positive environment for people to support themselves and their families with dignity and purpose.

For more information, visit www.horizonutilities.com or contact:
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