

For Immediate Release
June 25, 2018

2018 funding allocated to help reduce the depth of child poverty

The Kenora District Services Board (KDSB) has awarded its 2018 “Child Poverty Reduction Reinvestment Funding” to community-led initiatives within the District of Kenora.

The “Child Poverty Reduction Reinvestment Program”, is distributed locally within the District of Kenora and designed to support child poverty reduction initiatives. In 2017, funding provided through this program assisted over 1,000 children across the district, which equates to approximately 20% of children meeting eligibility for assistance. A total of \$130,145.00 will be provided by the Kenora District Services Board as committed in the 2018 budget.

“Our Board’s annual funding contribution ensures children are supported and connected to their communities. It reflects a commitment to support children’s ability to learn grow through supporting basic needs as well as participation in sports and recreation,” says Sarah Stevenson, Director of Integrated Social Services at the KDSB.

In total, the KDSB will be providing funding to ten programs throughout the district:

KDSB Back to School Program	\$42,000
Northwestern Health Unit Nutrition On Weekends Program	\$5,900
Ignace Pubic School Loonie Lunch Program	\$6,500
Ignace Nursery School Parent Cooperative	\$2,700
Mary Berglund Community Health Centre Hub	\$7,245
Kenora Triple Play	\$20,000
Beaver Brae PASS Program	\$6,000
Minto Parent and Child Resource Centre	\$15,000
Red Lake KARE Kids Are Recreationally Equal	\$10,000
Sioux Lookout P.R.O Kids	\$14,800
Total	\$130,145

Due to its scalability, the Nutrition on Weekends Program will be providing its service to 5 communities in 2018.

“The Northwestern Health Unit is pleased to continue and expand our partnership with the Kenora District Services Board and communities in our area in support of the Nutrition on Weekends Program. The program complements school-based meal and snack programs by providing healthy food for children and youth who might not have enough food at home on the weekends - lessening the impact of hunger and helping kids return to school on Monday ready to learn,” says Shannon Robinson, Manager of Chronic Disease Prevention at the Northwestern Health Unit.

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Through the “Child Poverty Reduction Reinvestment Funding Program”, the KDSB is able to create stronger partnerships that allow communities to serve vulnerable children and families better. A call for proposals takes place on an annual basis. Objectives of the funding are to help prevent and reduce the depth of child poverty and; to promote attachment to the workforce, resulting in fewer families relying on social assistance. Funding acquired by communities, groups or organizations must be used to create new programs or build on existing funding rather than replacing current program spending.

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