



GREAT SANDWICH MAKE

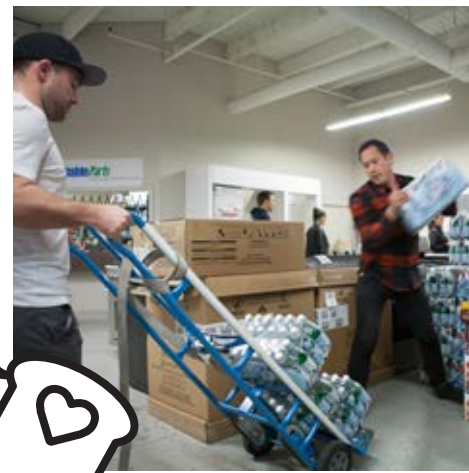
A rogue community effort to support those experiencing homelessness, addiction, and mental illness in Vancouver by providing healthy food and a little love, too.

**THANK YOU
THANK YOU
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THANK YOU**

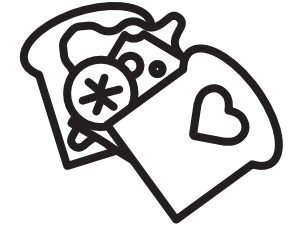
Every year, we are overwhelmed–flabbergasted, really– by the incredible generosity of our community.

Although the Great Sandwich Make comes and goes in a weekend, it takes months of preparation, pickups, and organization. It requires folks to offer time, cash, and food donations without anything in return (save for hugs and thank yous x infinity).

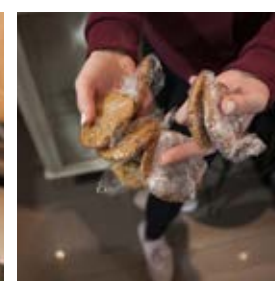
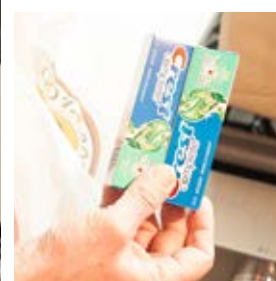
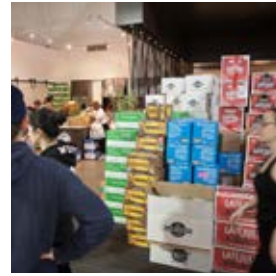
On Saturday March 24, 50 volunteers made 1064 delicious sandwiches and packed 1000 bags full of incredible foods, beverages, and life essentials at Trail Appliances on Rupert Street. On Sunday, March 25, another 15 volunteers packed 17 cars and SUVs full and hand-delivered the kits to some very grateful souls on Vancouver streets and in emergency shelter and transitional housing units across the city. When we say THANK YOU, we mean it from our core.



All of this was donated or purchased with donated dollars. ALL of it.



- 1 space to make our kits
- 1,000-ish pieces of candy & chocolate
- 1440 500mL San Pellegrino
- 1017 oranges
- 190 loaves of multigrain bread
- 250 cucumbers
- 400 tomatoes
- 168 heads of lettuce
- 3 tubs of mayo
- 8 jars of Dijon mustard (the good stuff!)
- 1000 homemade banana bread loaves
- 3000ish homemade cookies
- 1000 pairs of socks
- 1000 "You Matter" notes
- 350 reusable bags
- 650 plastic bags
- 3 rolls of aluminum foil
- 1050 tubes of toothpaste
- 1 box of sanitary gloves
- 1000 packets of oatmeal
- 1020 juice boxes
- 75 kilos of sandwich meat
- 3000ish organic non-GMO rice snacks
- 2000ish bags of organic popcorn
- 2000ish bags of pea snacks
- 1500ish bags of tortilla chips
- 500ish banana chips
- \$2915 in donations



I emailed each of these companies and asked for a donation. They said “yes”, without question.
Humanity for the win!



Fratelli Bakery

Marco Cornale donated 190 loaves of multigrain bread and 1000 cookies this year. This is the 9th year in a row Fratelli Bakery has been our bread sponsor. Love them!



Pep Soap

When Natalie at Pep Soap heard about the Great Sandwich Make, she sent an email “Do you need soap?!” Then made 500 bars for us. Wow.



Nature's Fare

For the second year in a row, Nature's Fare donated a couple of boxes of delicious oranges to round out our kits.



MFRC

Mainland BC MFRC is a non-profit that supports our military families in Canada. They collected over 1000 candies to sweeten up this year's kits. Woo!



Fresh Start Foods

For the 4th year, Fresh Start provided incredible produce for our kits and sandwiches— oranges, tomatoes, cukes, and lettuce. So fresh!



Left Coast Naturals

Left Coast donated 11 skids— over 5000 non-GMO snacks. We needed a 3-tonne truck & two trips to pick it all up. The magnitude of this gift is impossible to define.



Mills Basics

Mills is a local B Corp that's ALL heart! They donated 1440 San Pellegrinos, 300 reusable bags, 30 bags of nuts, and a box of gloves. Amazing!



Trail

For the 5th year in a row, Trail donated its test kitchen and showroom to our team after hours. This donation makes the Great Sandwich Make possible.



Clear Dental

Before we even reached out for donations, Clear Dental had 4 boxes of toothpastes set aside for us. In fact, they contacted us! We didn't even have to ask!

Each kit was chock full of some seriously good stuff.





M

you



MATTER!

be wonderful

Smile till it hurts!



Delivery day. Hearts full.

We don't take pictures when we hand out our kits out of respect for the people who receive them.

With our bags the fullest they've ever been, we needed 15 cars, SUVs, and trucks to cart the kits downtown. Most volunteers came back for a second trip! Fifteen volunteers either handed out or dropped off kits in several locations across Vancouver's downtown east side. Our intent is to get good food into the hands and mouths of as many folks who can benefit from it as possible.

On Sunday, March 25, we handed out approximately 500 kits on the street at four different locations:

- Main and Hastings
- Pigeon Park
- Oppenheimer Park
- Main and Cordova

We delivered the other 500 kits to emergency and short-term housing programs operated by RainCity Housing including:

The Vivian // 24 units

The first minimal barrier housing program in Vancouver for women living with concurrent mental illness, addiction and other challenges.

The Budzey // 147 units

Homes for marginalized women-led families. All extra sandwiches and snacks went into bags for the Budzey families.

Princess Rooms // 28 units

Safe, supported housing for high-risk, high-needs individuals with a history of chronic homelessness.

The Lux // 67 units

Long-term housing for those struggling with mental illness and addiction who are ready to merge back into society.

Shaldon Hotel // 54 units

Supported housing for people coping with the realities of homelessness, substance use, and complex physical and mental health concerns.

Triage // 24 beds

24-hour emergency shelter for men and women.

Windchimes // 27 units

Long-term housing for people living with mental illness.

Marguerite Ford Apartments // 156 units

Long-term housing for highly marginalized singles and partners.

What the people said.

All of the Thank Yous were the most deeply meant. Here are just a few of the things we heard from recipients:

"Where did you come from? The sky?! You opened my eyes. There are good people here."

"It's like Christmas!"

"You guys are charging people up down here in a positive way!"

"I've got 5 kids. This will help."

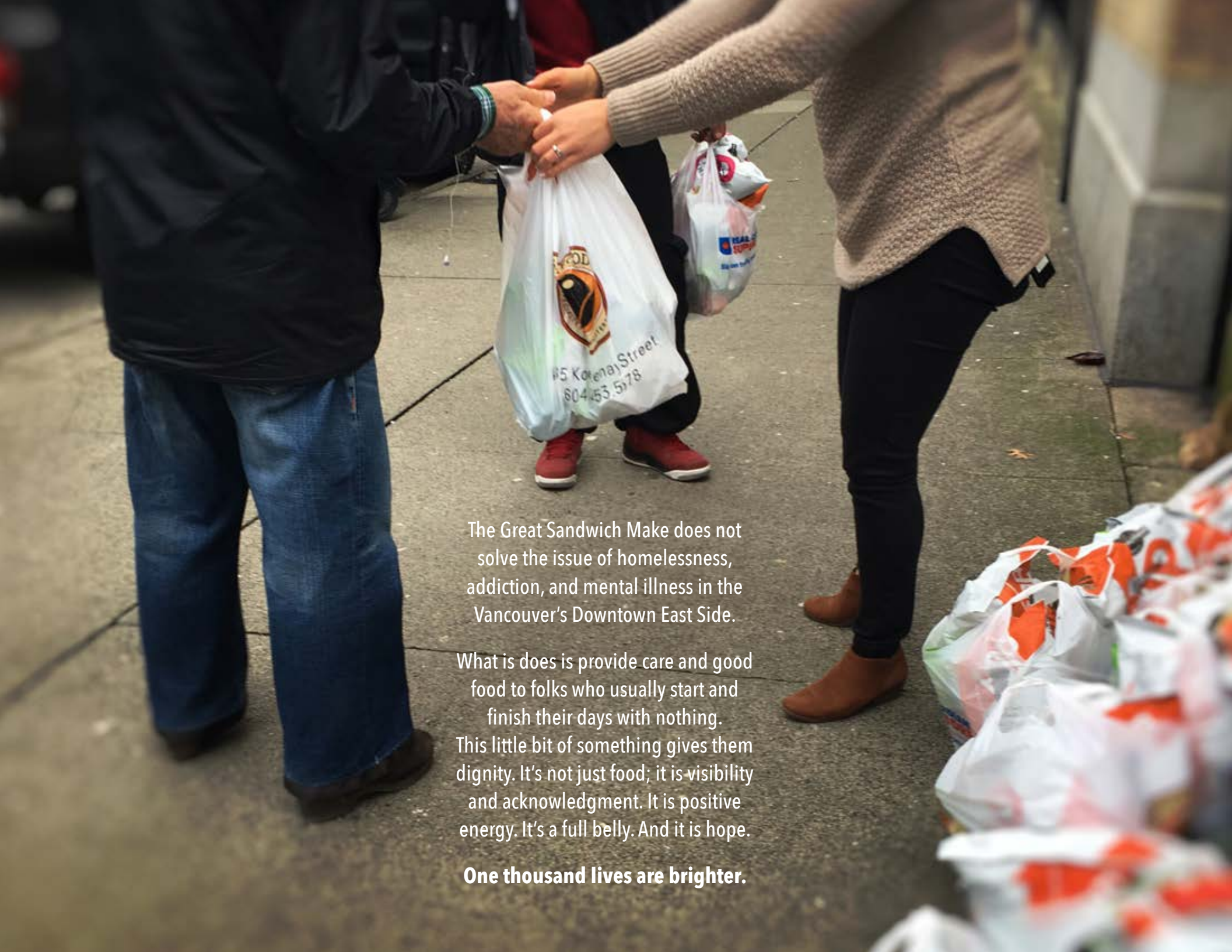
"Is this all for me?! All if it! W-O-W! It's my lucky day!"

"This is the best food I've had all year! Thank you so much!"

"You are so kind. Let me shake your hand"

"oh ho YES! It's my anniversary on the 28th and now we have something to celebrate!"

There were so many smiles. Shock and awe. Handshakes. Quiet gratitude. Tears. It as magnificent as it was sad. As beautiful as it was awful.



The Great Sandwich Make does not solve the issue of homelessness, addiction, and mental illness in the Vancouver's Downtown East Side.

What it does provide care and good food to folks who usually start and finish their days with nothing. This little bit of something gives them dignity. It's not just food; it is visibility and acknowledgment. It is positive energy. It's a full belly. And it is hope.

One thousand lives are brighter.

donors: you're incredible!

We call the Great Sandwich Make a "rogue" charitable initiative because there is no board, no steering committee, no tax receipts, no website, no marketing; it's just a whole bunch of nice people who are in a good spot in their lives doing something nice for some people who are struggling. It's the purest form of humanity; no bureaucracy! To bring it to life every year, it takes the hearts, money, time, and donations of strangers who just want to be a part of something that matters. (And, boy, this matters.)

These folks made magic happen for 1000 homeless, mentally ill, and/or addicted folks downtown this year. THANK YOU for that. It's a gift beyond value.

- Abbe Nielsen
- ABC Recycling
- Ahn Wilson
- Al Lui
- Alex Moore
- Allen Wong
- Amy Rae
- Ashley James
- Ashley Lewis
- Averil Loong
- Barbara Lai
- Barry Fung
- Bosa Foods
- Brenda Gallagher
- Brendan James
- Bruce Gallagher
- Caryn Murphy
- Cass Baker
- Catherine Yoon
- Cathy Diamond
- Chad Sloane
- Clear Dental
- Danielle Muzzatti
- Duriell Bernard
- Emma Miller-Tansley
- Erick Grigorovski
- Erin Huxley
- Estelle Matheson
- Eyal Lebel
- Fix That Bike
- Francis Mercier
- Fratelli Bakery
- Fresh Start Foods
- Gary & LoRrie Sloane
- Greg Doudican
- Greg Jonson
- Henry Chow
- Ian Walker
- Iona Barnes
- Jackleyn Thompson
- Jacquie Johnston
- Jas Sahl
- Jason Lexa
- Jeannie Law
- Jeff Chu
- Jen Segger + Family
- Jennifer Cudlipp
- Jennifer Lago
- Jesse Berman
- Jessica Riquetti
- Jody Armstrong
- Johanna Duprey
- John Lewis
- Joni Johnson
- Jordan Steele
- Karen Bichin
- Katie Lillis
- Katie Woolison
- Keith Potratz
- Kelly Hinks
- Kelly Sekhon
- Keri Rowe-Took
- Kiley Redhead
- Kim MacFarlane
- Kurtis Stewart
- Kyla Ray
- Kylee Gill
- Larissa Vishniakoff
- Lauren Senft
- Layla Egan
- Left Coast Naturals
- Leo Lillis
- Lina Ma
- Lisa Wong
- Lisa-Marie + Casey Martin
- Lucy Gregory
- Lynn Carter
- Mainland BC Family Resource Centre
- Marco Cornale
- Marie-Noelle Legere
- Marla Pickering
- Maria + Jacques Gagne
- Mei Ng
- Melissa Ledford
- Michelle Reid
- Mike Gillman
- Mills Basics
- Miranda Grigor
- Natalie Wong
- Nathan Skillen
- Nature's Fare
- Nikola Racevova
- Patricia Shafe
- Pep Soap
- Peter McMullen
- Peter Vetter
- Quirine Schuyff
- Rachel Quin
- Ramona Ianchici
- Rich Vetter
- Sam Crawford
- Shannon Seeley
- Snow Cap
- Stacey Buchanan
- Sue Sanders
- Susan Washington
- Susanne Gade
- Sydney Lillis
- Tamara Vishniakoff
- Thad Matilda
- Toby Yang
- Tracy Cromwell
- Trail Appliances
- Wannee Sawaengdee
- Wendy Speakerman
- William Ly
- Xavier Collott
- Zarah Hofer
- Zinha Vetter