

# A taste of Hamilton kindness

The goal seemed daunting, said Hamilton Food Share's Rachel O'Reilly, but the 2010 Holiday Food Drive gathered 204,545 kilograms of food to help close to 20,000 people.

"It's testimony to how caring the people of Hamilton are," she said as the total was announced at Hamilton Police Services Central Station Christmas Eve.

The total is 13,600 kilograms higher than last year following a hard year for many due to layoffs, downsizing and plant closures, O'Reilly noted. She said since 2008 there have been 20 per cent more adults and 31 per cent more children drawing on local food banks.

She was presented with a \$1,000 donation from Hamilton police and \$500 from the Hamilton Police Services Retirees Association.

The drive began Dec. 2.

"I was a bit worried at first but then the pendulum began to swing and we've been working around the clock the past few days to get everything distributed."

*The Hamilton Spectator*

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