



Sam's Story

Sam was inspired to raise money after a short visit to the Shelldale Centre in the Spring of 2018. We were leaving the centre and he asked about the collection tin for the breakfast program that was at the main reception desk.

I explained what the breakfast program does and why it is important to kids who don't always have enough to eat before school. He is a big-hearted kid and he asked if I had any change that he could donate. I found some in the bottom of my bag and he ran back inside to add it to the collection tin. I thought that was the end of it.

The following week he started going door-to-door in our neighbourhood selling "good ideas" – it was an idea he got from a Calvin and Hobbes book. I wasn't sure I was comfortable with what he was doing so we talked more about it and it was only then that he explained that he was trying to raise money for the breakfast program. We set some rules about going door-to-door (only people we know!) and I told him that if he raised \$100 by the end of the year that his dad and I would contribute another \$100.

Throughout the year Sam sold his ideas, sold his books/toys at a yard sale, and did extra chores around the house and for his grandma. By Christmas, Sam had surpassed his original goal and, after our contribution, he was able to donate \$265 to Shelldale Family Gateway.

My husband and I both grew up in families that struggled financially at times and needed the support of our communities, so it has always been important to us to give back to our community now that we are in a position to do so. We are very open with the kids about what our families went through and why we think it is important to help others. We could not have been prouder of Sam that he decided to contribute as well.

Kelly

SHELLDALE
FAMILY GATEWAY

