



# **BOARD REPORT**

Friday August 20, 2010

# PROGRAM REPORT

## AUGUST 2010



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**We work with the Grey Bruce community to protect and promote health.**

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### HEALTHY COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

#### ***PLAY in Bruce Grey* Receives Ontario Trillium Foundation Grant**

*PLAY in Bruce Grey*, a community development physical activity initiative, received a two year grant from the Ontario Trillium Foundation (OTF). The Municipality of Arran-Elderslie is the host agency for the administration of the \$115,000 grant. Under the leadership of Jayne Jagelewski, Municipality of Saugeen Shores, the *PLAY in Bruce Grey* steering committee will ensure the objectives of the grant are met. Catherine Smart, the newly hired *PLAY* coordinator, will work with all 17 partnering municipalities to tailor action plans specific to each community.

Over the next two years, the OTF grant will assist the development of physical activity initiatives in each community and to engage local leaders and volunteers in the process. The *PLAY* collaborative model has been recognized provincially as a best practice by PARC (Physical Activity Resource Centre).

The summer edition of *PLAY Notes* (see Appendix) illustrates the variety of activities currently underway within Grey Bruce to engage families to become more physically active.

## 2009/10 Immunization Coverage Report

The Grey Bruce Health Unit had a 94% immunization coverage rate for school-aged children in the 2009/10 school year. This includes protection against diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis (whooping cough), polio, measles, mumps and rubella.

At the end of June each year, all health units submit an immunization coverage report for the past school year on school-aged children (7-17 years of age) to the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care. Coverage compares with the 2007/08 school year when the immunization rate was the same, at 94%. Grey Bruce had the third highest immunization coverage rate in the province.

### Summary of 2009/10 Immunization Coverage Reports for School-Aged Children

#### Ages 7-17 (birth year start 1992 to birth year end 2002)

Antigens	Complete for Age	Exemptions	Incomplete/ No Information
DPT Polio & MMR complete for age	94.01%	3.03%	2.95%
DPT complete for age	95.01%	3.05%	1.94%
MMR complete for age	95.70%	3.12%	1.18%
Polio IPV/OPV	95.85%	2.92%	1.23%
Haemophilus B complete for age	99.60%	0.05%	0.35%
Antigen specific - Measles	96.12%	n/a	0.34%
Antigen specific - Mumps	97.62%	n/a	0.34%
Antigen specific – Rubella	97.62%	n/a	0.34%
Diphtheria complete for age	95.30%	2.76%	1.95%
Pertussis complete for age	90.48%	2.73%	6.78%
Tetanus complete for age	95.31%	2.76%	1.93%

The 94% immunization coverage rate does not include recommended vaccines such as Hepatitis B, meningococcal, and Human Papillomavirus (HPV). See rates below.

#### Ages 7-17 (birth year start 1992 to birth year end 2002)

Antigens	Complete for Age	Exemptions	Incomplete/ No Information
Hepatitis B complete for age	89.47%	1.12%	9.40%

#### Ages 11-13 (birth year start 1996 to birth year end 1998)

Antigens	Complete for Age	Exemptions	Incomplete/ No Information
Meningococcal	90.24%	1.10%	8.65%

#### Ages 12-14 (birth year start 1995 to birth year end 1997)

Antigens	Complete for Age	Exemptions	Incomplete/ No Information
HPV	40.67%	Ø	59.33%

## **Municipal Response to Clandestine Lab/Grow Ops**

On April 26, 2010, the Town of Hanover enacted *The Grow House and Clandestine Laboratory Abatement By-Law*. Hanover Police Service were dealing with small marijuana grow operations in both residential and commercial properties within the municipality. The town council recognized the public nuisance and dangers associated with the “proliferation of marijuana grow operations and clandestine laboratories for the production of illicit substance”. The by-law allows the municipality to recover the costs associated with emergency personnel and other public sector staff attending these illegal operations, as well as for remediation of buildings to ensure the health and safety of future occupants and neighbouring properties.

This by-law was shared with the Grey Bruce Crystal Methamphetamine Task Force. The task force consists of senior representatives from various sectors and organizations that are impacted by and/or address substance use issues within Grey Bruce, including Public Health. Both the mayor and police chief of Hanover are members of the task force. The enactment and enforcement of this type of by-law supports task force efforts to reduce crystal methamphetamine production, sale and use in Grey Bruce.

The by-law supports healthy communities. It addresses threats to neighbourhood safety including building structural integrity, fire risks and power outages. It also deals with the risk to human health resulting from the by-products of lab/grow ops including toxic chemical and mould contamination.

For Public Health Nurses who support high need families, the by-law will ensure children living in homes of former labs/grow ops are not exposed to the hazards of residual contamination. For Public Health Inspectors who investigate health hazards, this would identify potential threats to health, safety and well-being.

Several municipalities across the province are considering or have enacted similar by-laws.

## **CLIENT SERVICES**

### **Family Health**

Healthy babies are more likely to develop into healthy children, and healthy children are more likely to grow up to be healthy teenagers and then adults. The purpose of the Healthy Babies Healthy Children program is to help children (ages 0 – 6 years) get a positive start in life.

Through screening, assessments and linking families to other community supports and services, these children will have the best chance at reaching their full potential. In the second quarter *ISCIS Monitoring Report (Integrated Services for Children Information System)*, there were 620 family visits by Public Health Nurses and Parent Support Workers. Public Health Nurses screened 135 families with an in-depth assessment; 58 referrals were made to community programs. The opportunity to assess families and deliver service in the home allows for timely intervention and provides effective and efficient use of resources.

## **ENFORCEMENT/RESEARCH/SURVEILLANCE**

### **Flavoured Cigarillos Banned**

In an effort to make them less accessible, less affordable and less attractive to young people, Ontario has banned the sale of flavoured cigarillos. Amendments to the *Smoke-Free Ontario Act* prohibiting the sale and distribution of flavoured cigarillos came into force July 1, 2010. Amendments also require minimum packages

*(Continued on page 4)*

of at least 20 (the same as cigarettes) for the sale of menthol and unflavoured cigarillos. Prior to the change, cigarillos in flavours like piña colada, grape and chocolate were sold by convenience stores in brightly coloured “kiddie packs”, sometimes for less than \$2 a pack. The use of candy flavours, vivid coloured packaging and selling in inexpensive smaller quantities, identifies these products were clearly targeting youth.

Unfortunately, the tobacco industry responded to the amendments by introducing a number of new flavoured tobacco products that fall outside the current legislation, as they are not technically cigarillos. Advocates for health have countered with a proposal to ban the sale of all flavoured tobacco products, as well as a ban on the introduction of any new tobacco products.

The Ministry of Health Promotion has directed public health units to provide education to all tobacco retailers by the end of September. Maximum fines for the sale of improperly packaged cigarillos and flavoured cigarillos range from \$2,000 to \$50,000. Maximum corporate fines range from \$100,000 to \$300,000.

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### **Health Space and Food Premise Inspections**

Summer means Public Health Inspectors are busy calling on the many seasonal food premises open this time of year throughout Grey Bruce. As of July 1, Public Health Inspectors moved to an electronic system called Health Space for all food premise inspections. Data is entered at the time of inspection and a report generated onsite. This report is then signed and printed for the owner of the food premise. The Grey Bruce Health Unit is one of three health units that developed and are now piloting Health Space.

It's that time of year again for sunny days at the beach and family get-togethers. Historically, summer shows a rise in the number of food borne illnesses Public Health Inspectors investigate. This is related, in part, to improper food handling practices with picnic lunches and home barbequing. There is also a concern when groups of people come together for meals at family reunions and weddings where the spread of infectious agents can occur very quickly to a large number of people.

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### **Small Drinking Water Systems RCat Tool**

The Grey Bruce Health Unit employs two staff to work with the new Small Drinking Water Systems (SDWS) program. The Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care requires the use of an electronic risk categorization tool called RCat. Our staff assisted with the development of the RCat through regular teleconferences where they were able to offer practical assessments on its application. As the electronic risk categorization software developed, the process of risk assessments has become the main focus. This is a complex process where each operator is educated about their system, provided guidance on operational best practice and finally the system is rated based on risk. At the end of the risk assessment, the SDWS will be assigned one of the following risk categories: **High**-Significant level of risk; **Moderate**-Medium level of risk; **Low**-Negligible level of risk. Directives may be written that may require a return visit to ensure the appropriate work has been carried out.

To date, risk assessments are complete and directives have been issued at 183 premises. The resulting improvements in operator knowledge, training, system safety and testing regimes enhance the health and safety of the public dependant on these water systems.

Although significant progress is being made, it may be difficult to achieve the 2011 yearend deadline. As a result, five additional Public Health Inspectors are training on the system enabling them to carry out risk assessments as part of their normal work. This will add the equivalent of one FTE to the process. On-going monitoring will determine if additional resources are necessary.



Medical Officer of Health

## REPORT TO THE BOARD

Friday, August 20, 2010

### **What is Integrated Preschool Speech and Language Service (ISPL)**

The Integrated Preschool Speech and Language Service provides assessment and intervention to preschool children throughout Grey and Bruce counties. It also provides clinical and educational support to parents and other care-providers in the community around issues related to speech and language development. The population served is defined as age 0-5 or not enrolled in a Kindergarten program.

### **Organization:**

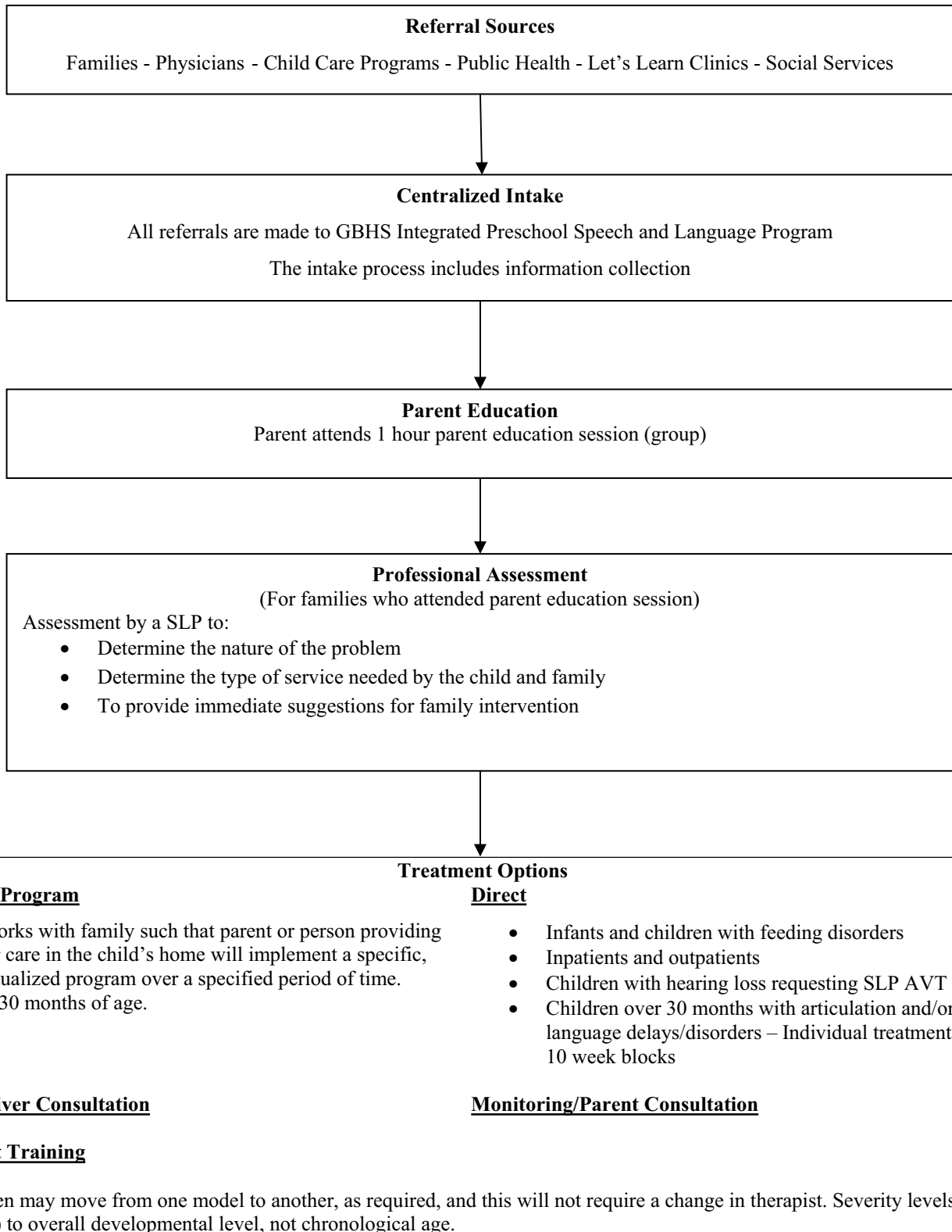
The Integrated Preschool Speech and Language Service is jointly funded by the Ministry of Community and Social Services and the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care.

The Speech and Language Pathologists (SLP) are assigned to a geographic area within the region and are responsible for all of the cases referred from that area.

### **Service is provided through:**

- Regular weekly appointments in our office closest to the child's home.
- The SLP will work on specific skill development, such as particular sound production, during these sessions.
- Home visits or at their day care on an intermittent basis.
- The SLP will design a program with short-term goals and strategies for the family or care-provider to use on with the child on a daily basis during routine activities.
- The SLP then provides follow consultation and revises the plan as the child progresses.
- Education to parents and care-givers through individual and group formats.
- The aim of these services is to assist others in furthering their knowledge of issues and abilities related to speech and language development and improving their skill in facilitating them in preschool children.

## Referral Procedure:



# PLAY Notes

Volume 1 Issue 11

Summer 2010

Saugeen Shores

# PLAY

SUMMER 2010

**Keep fit  
and stay safe  
while swimming!**

**Bruce County:  
a great place for  
kids to be active!**

**Peak your  
interest at  
MacGregor Point!**

**Fill out  
your passport  
to PLAY and win!**

*Produced in partnership by Shoreline Beacon and the Town of Saugeen Shores*



*Waterway, every day*

## Saugeen Shores CAN

The Saugeen Shores CAN has been working in partnership with the Shoreline Beacon over the past couple months to produce a 12 page PLAY insert (see front cover) that will accompany the paper in the near future. CAN members provided the content while Beacon staff sold the advertising space. Included in the insert is information on PLAY, walking and running, safe swimming tips, library lending program, financial assistance information and the Saugeen Shores PLAY Passport.

Saugeen Shores has also been working on developing a new logo (as seen to the right) to better help residents who struggle with the overlapping nature of CAN/PLAY terminology. It seems many people are beginning to identify with PLAY but struggle with the acronym for Community Action Network.



On June 28th, Saugeen Shores is pleased to host the grand opening of their new Accessible Playground and Sensory Garden in Southampton. This will be the first park of its kind in Bruce County

## **Meaford CAN**

The Meaford CAN has continued to offer free drop-in activities throughout the school year, including basketball, hip hop, floor hockey and soccer. For the first time, activities will also be offered during the summer months, including drop-in basketball on the outdoor courts for children of all ages. Another new activity the CAN has introduced this year has been Family PLAY Saturdays throughout the month of June, offering an opportunity for Meaford families to explore the parks and amenities in the community, including bubbles and music, a scavenger hunt, kite flying and mini golf.



**Children enjoy Bubbles and Music at Raper’s Park in Meaford as part of Family PLAY Saturdays.**

## Arran-Elderslie CAN

Free Family Fun nights will continue throughout the summer, and will incorporate a new twist...Roller and inline skating!! (skates not provided) Come on out and enjoy skating to some of the classic tunes, and some new ones too. Lots of fun with ball games, skipping games, catch, fooseball, air hockey, balloons, bubbles and so much more. This is some good old fashioned back to basics free play!!! And we have a great time at it! Join us on July 14<sup>th</sup>, 28<sup>th</sup>, August 11<sup>th</sup>, and August 25<sup>th</sup> at the Chesley Arena from 6:30-8:00 p.m.



### PLAY Trillium Grant Launch July 6th in Tara.

Hiring for the PLAY Coordinator is in the final stages of completion and just in time for the successful candidate to join the launch event on July 6th. PLAY will receive \$115,000 over the next 2 years to hire a PLAY Coordinator.

The focus of this position will be CAN Development, Event Planning, Social Marketing and Sustainability. Please accept this as your official invitation to attend the launch event on July 6th at 3PM at the Tara swimming pool just off the main street at the bridge.

THE ONTARIO  
TRILLIUM  
FOUNDATION



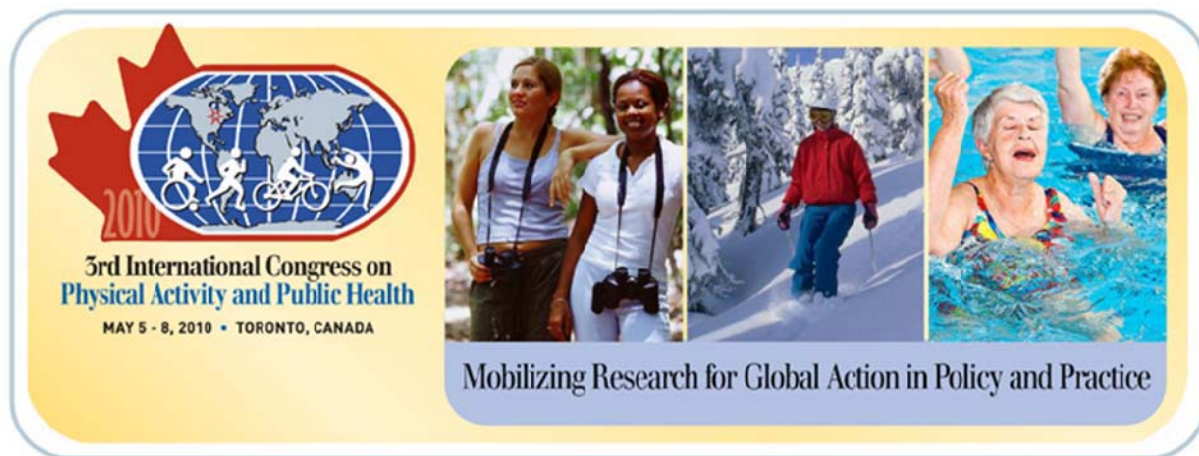
LA FONDATION  
TRILLIUM  
DE L'ONTARIO



## Hanover CAN

In conjunction with Hanover Parks and Recreation Department, the Hanover CAN sponsored an event called “Play in the Park” for the month of June. Every Tuesday, a recreation staff member met with up to 20 children of all ages to play in the Hanover Park for an hour. The event created a great deal of interest, as some parents participated in play activities such as an impromptu soccer game for the older children, kite flying and Frisbee catching. The younger children enjoyed sand games, shadow tag, activities and games using the existing play ground equipment. Each week more children came as the word travelled to other friends and families. It was a very successful event.

On Canada Day, the committee is planning a scavenger hunt at Heritage Park , in conjunction with many other Canada Day festivities. The scavenger hunt will entice young children and their families to find out more about the heritage of Hanover while playing, running, and learning.



## Toronto Charter for Physical Activity: A Global Call for Action

The Toronto Charter for Physical Activity is a call to all countries to help make physical activity a priority for all. The Charter provides a framework for action and partnerships across multiple sectors to build healthier, more active, environmentally sustainable communities, and is the result of two years of international drafting and large scale global consultation. The purpose of the Charter is to elevate the importance of health-enhancing physical activity throughout the world.

For more information or to pledge your support visit <http://www.globalpa.org.uk/>

# NEW PHYSICAL ACTIVITY RECOMMENDATIONS FROM CSEP AND PARTICIPACTION

On May 11, new research from the Canadian Society for Exercise Physiology (CSEP) was published in the International Journal of Behavioral Nutrition and Physical Activity. CSEP and ParticipACTION teamed up to use the new research, conducted over three years and funded by the Public Health Agency of Canada, to educate all Canadians about the amount and type of physical activity they require. Clarity on physical activity recommendations is needed, because according to the 2010 Active Healthy Kids Canada Report Card, only 27 per cent of parents know how much physical activity their children should be getting each day.



The research shows that measurable health benefits can be achieved at lower activity thresholds than previously thought. However, Canadians should aim to exceed the minimum activity thresholds as the more variety, the more intensity and the longer the duration of the physical activity, the greater the health benefit. Even small increases in activity can bring benefits.

See <http://www.csep.ca/english/view.asp?x=587> for more details.

## WEBSITE CHANGES UNDERWAY

The PLAY in Bruce Grey website will soon be suited with a facelift. Evolve Creative Media has been assigned the task of providing a fresh look to the site. The general layout as well as the type of information on the site will be altered over the next few months. Changes were due in part to the fact that site administrators found it difficult to keep the ever-changing information on the site up to date. Any suggestions or feedback regarding what you would like to see on the site are always welcome. Please email Jason Wepler at [j.wepler@publichealthgreybruce.on.ca](mailto:j.wepler@publichealthgreybruce.on.ca) with your comments.



## YELLOW BIKES COMING TO SOUTH BRUCE PENINSULA

The streets of Wiarton will soon be full of bright yellow bikes. A Community Bike Program, also known as a “Yellow Bike Program,” was launched in June. This is a program where bicycles, painted bright yellow and identified by a sign as community bikes, are placed at different locations in and around the community where people may use them. Current partners in the program include the Town of South Bruce Peninsula, PLAY, the Grey Bruce Health Unit, Peninsula Shores District School, Bruce County Tourism, Jolley’s Alternative Wheels and Grey Bruce Partners in Health. The staff and students at Peninsula Shores District School have made this program a core piece of the Design and Technology curriculum and have spent many months honing their skills in bike repair.

All bikes in the program will be professionally inspected before hitting the roads. A number of bicycle racks that will accommodate both the shared yellow bikes and personal bicycles throughout the municipality. The local police services have agreed to donate a number of unclaimed bikes in their possession to the program. The organizing committee is requesting assistance in the donation of pre-used bikes and bicycle parts including baskets, pedals, hand grips and seats.

