



A Place Called Home

Spring 2009 - Newsletter



As April comes to an end we at A Place Called Home, like most, are looking forward to the growth of spring and the warm days of summer..



The first three months of 2009 have seen our Hostel reach a 97% occupancy rate which made for a busy household. As always our staff continued to provide the support that our residents need in order to move on to permanent housing. A total of 106 individuals have come to our Hostel from January to March of this year ranging in age from 12 years-old to 75 years of age.

With each group of 19 people comes a variety of different group dynamics. This quarter saw more single males than average. Some had jobs and others were waiting for the season to open up and get 'the call back to work'.

While each resident is expected to contribute to the day to day household tasks some come with great skills and a willingness to help with repairs and maintenance. Recently residents have taken the initiative of getting the house ready for spring.; raking, preparing the gardens for planting, sweeping the parking lot and washing down tables and lawn chairs that will be enjoyed by all the residents.

Living the single life doesn't always provide the opportunity to build community/family bonds; however while staying at A Place Called Home many bond and stay in contact after they move on to permanent housing. Last month one resident was leaving our Hostel to move out of the area to live with an extended family member; the day he left six former residents showed up to say good-bye and wish him good luck. Our staff was greatly touched by this outpouring of support and the testimony of the human bonding & caring.

This month our residents celebrated Easter with a large Ham dinner and on Sunday morning a traditional Easter Egg Hunt. Although there were no children at the Hostel during this time the adults were more than thrilled to participate and enjoy some yummy chocolates that had been donated.

Also this quarter we had the pleasure of providing a field placement to three Fleming College 'Social Services Worker' Students. We trust it was a positive experience for them and are now pleased to offer them employment filling the gap on our On-Call list.

*You are cordially invited to
A Place Called Home's Annual
General Meeting*



*Wednesday June 24th 2009
Cambridge Street United Church (parlour).
7:00 p.m.*

We Could Not Do What We Do..... Without You

Since we first opened our doors our community has reached out to support our efforts both through financial support and volunteering their time. A Place Called Home averages approximately 555 volunteer hours each month which is equivalent to 3.6 full-time people. Our volunteers truly are the cornerstone of what we do and we will be acknowledging them at our annual Volunteer Appreciation reception this June.

If you are interested in knowing more about volunteer openings please call Christine at 328-0905 ext 21. All positions are flexible to coordinate with your available time.



*We invite all our
volunteers to our Annual
Volunteer Appreciation
Reception
June 10th 2009
Rivermill Clubhouse
4 to 6 p.m.*



Grocery Shoppers



Clerical Office Tasks



Drivers



Maintenance & Repairs



Event Planners

Just for a Moment Imagine...

What it would be like without your financial support

While a home is not made out of dollar bills it does take hundreds of dollars to keep the doors open. As reported in our January Newsletter; the Ontario Hostel Association is lobbying the government for changes in how the per diem (bednight rate) is funded - but until then *A Place Called Home* is left with the challenge of raising... in addition to our government funding, approximately \$113,000.00 per year in order to provide our essential services. We do this through the generosity of our community, help from private Foundations and through our Fundraising events that you support.



Over \$48,000 of this amount must come from individuals who have made *A Place Called Home* one of their charities of choice or included us in Memorial and Gift Card donations. What does these amounts mean to us.

We do approximately six loads of laundry each day. This includes house laundry and resident's personal laundry totaling 2,190 loads per year.



How We Use Your Donations	
Food	\$9,700.00
Utilities	\$21,044.75
House Supp. & Maint.	\$9,190.53
Snow Removal	\$1,247.00
Newsletter Expenses	\$1,776.00
Hostel Office Supplies	\$5,041.72
Total	\$48,000.00



Our residents account for approximately 15 showers each day. This equals 5,475 showers each year at an estimated 10 minutes per shower

Our two stoves are used approximately three times each day to cook healthy and nutritious meals for our residents. Annually, our stoves are turned on 2,190 times.



With 19 people eating three meals a day our dishwasher runs approximately 4 to 5 times per day



Although we receive some funding for food costs to feed 19 people three meals a day following Canada Food Guide it takes an additional \$9,700. a year. Or \$26.58 per day to meet this need.



These are indeed difficult and challenging times for all. Our number one priority is to meet the needs of those who find themselves homeless; especially as the demand for our services increases. We are so grateful to those who have made *A Place Called Home* one of their charities of choice and welcome questions from those who may be interested in adding their name to our list of supporters.

We Get By With a Little Help From Our Friends

Over the years; individuals, groups & businesses step forward to help raise money on behalf of the Homeless. These random acts of generosity are always welcome & they encourage us to continue working on behalf of those who need our services.



Madison Kozak held a benefit Concert at the Academy Theatre this past February raising \$1,000.00 for A Place Called Home.

Madison took the time to make a visit to our Hostel to learn how we help those that we serve. We found Madison to be a delightful young woman and wish her good luck on her road to stardom.



Randy & Cathy Burke of Evergreen Home and Cottages generously came to our aid to build and donate our lovely new reception workstation. It is a wonderful addition to our newly renovated office space.

We thank them for their ongoing support



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Chair-Norm Price • 1st Vice Chair Lois Hunter • 2nd Vice Chair-Brian Walsh • Treasurer- Zita Devan
Anna Friend • John Hassan • Carol Williamson • Helen Yazdani

Coming Events

We ask for your support both through volunteering and/or participation in the following events.

Help us Put a Little "FUN" in our Fundraising



17th Annual Geranium Fundraiser Saturday May 9th

The First Annual Geranium Sale Fundraiser took place in 1992 and 17 years and thousands of brightly coloured geraniums later, the event is still going strong.

In 1993 The Town of Lindsay held a contest to choose an official flower...they chose the geranium!

The Geranium was chosen for its bright, colourful, long-lasting blooms and particularly its diversity & resistance to harsh conditions. It was felt that it spoke to the diversity of the homeless & the hardiness and resistance that those in crisis showed despite their devastating circumstances. Geraniums can be purchased

Saturday May 9th 2009

from our parking lot at **64 Lindsay Street South**
9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Cost \$3.00 per plant.

To reserve your order call 328-0905 ext 21
or purchase the day of the sale

'Purchase Lindsay's Official Flower, and help to ensure that everyone has...a place called home'



39th Annual Antique Show & Sale Saturday July 11th & Sunday July 12th Sat. 10am – 5pm & Sun. 10am – 4pm

For the past 38 years The Annual Antique Show and Sale at the Victoria Park Armoury has provided a wonderful venue for antique lovers.

Don't miss this unique weekend show where 28 Registered Antique Dealers from all over Ontario come to display and sell their precious items.

Admission \$3.00

Luncheon Counter available



6th Annual Mark-a-Thon Saturday Aug. 15th

Mark Fevang will once again be walking 10ks through the streets of the four Wards of Lindsay, to help raise money for the Homeless of our community.

Mark will begin his Walk from **Northlin Park at** (Albert Street North) at approximately 10:00 a.m., will be walking south and will end his 10K walk at the Farmer's market for a BBQ hosted by East Side Mario's

Since 2004 the Mark-a-Thons have raised \$16,849.50. We thank Mark for his effort and commitment to A Place Called Home. To make a pledge and for information call 328-0905 ext 21 or make a pledge online at www.canadahelps.org - be sure to check "Mark-a-Thon Pledge" on the designation sections.

Charitable Receipts will be issued for all pledges of \$10 and over



6th Annual Kawartha Lakes Classic Cycle Tour Saturday September 5th

Calling all cyclists – come join the experience and choose from routes of 25km, 50km, 100km or 160km starting and finishing at Cambray Community Centre.

The cycling routes chosen for this event will take participants on a tour of the City. Cyclists will ride through the communities of Lindsay, Valentia, Oakwood, and Kirkfield as well as a number of the smaller villages in the outlying areas. A portion of the 50, 100 and 160km ride will take riders along the shoreline of Balsam Lake Provincial Park.

Cyclists will enjoy refreshments at checkpoints and learn about some of the local attractions. The routes are along hard top roads and are well suited for either road or mountain bikes. Considerations have been given in attempt to keep cyclists on lower traffic roads to maximize rider safety. All routes will be well marked.

Complimentary lunch will be served upon rider's timely completion of their chosen route.

\$25 pre-registration - \$30 same day

Sixteen and under \$20 pre-registration - \$25 same day

Registration Forms available at A Place Called Home

64 Lindsay St. S. Lindsay, ON



If you would like to be included on our e-mail list please send us an e-mail at lorrie.polito@aplacecalledhome.org and let us know if you would like to receive future newsletters and other news items by e-mail.

Ways You Can Give

Including a Place Called Home in Your Estate Plans

You can make a gift of lasting significance by remembering A Place Called Home in your Will. It offers a way to make a charitable gift that might not be possible to make during a lifetime

A gift in your will can easily be tailored to your personal financial situation and there are several options on the type of charitable gifts you can leave as a bequest. The most appropriate gift vehicles are best determined by talking with your lawyer or financial advisor. They can advise you on how planned gifts through your Will may ease the burden of probate fees on your estate and can provide a tax benefit while not affecting your current income.

We suggest that you discuss your 'Planned Giving' intentions with family members. This can help assure your heirs that you have considered their well-being when planning your estate, and help them to clearly understand your wishes and appreciate your reasons for leaving a gift to charity.

When you include A Place Called Home in your Will, please let us know so that we can honor your commitment to helping make sure that everyone has a safe place to end their day and to thank you for your generosity and community leadership.

The Benefits of Donating Securities

GIVING & SAVING WHETHER THE MARKET IS UP OR DOWN

As always there are countless benefits to making a charitable donation of Securities.

TAX SAVINGS and the procedures for giving & receipting are the same for appreciated or depreciated securities.

Depreciated Securities: Donors can gift depreciated securities to their favourite charity organization, realize the capital loss and apply the loss against past and future capital gains. In addition, the charity will provide the donor with a charitable tax receipt for the value of the donated securities. The donor can use this receipt to offset taxes they would otherwise pay.

Donors can then turn around and go to the market to repurchase some or all of the same securities (after waiting a minimum period of at least 30 days). Depending on what happens in the markets in the 30 day wait period, donors could lower the Adjusted Cost Base of their stock holding, allowing for greater growth potential when the markets recover.

Remember, *capital losses in Canada can be carried back 3 years and forward indefinitely to offset capital gains.*

Appreciated Securities: Giving shares directly to your Charity of Choice, rather than selling your securities and then making a cash donation... provides many benefits to both the Donor and the Charity. CAPITAL GAINS TAX on a donation made directly to the Charity is fully eliminated and you will also receive an Official Charitable Receipt to be used when filing your Income Tax Return. A winning situation for everyone!

A Place Called Home is set up to receive and properly receipt donations of Securities. The information above is meant to provide marketing ideas only. It is not meant to be seen as tax or investment advice. Please consult your broker or tax specialist for more information.

A Place Called Home can be reached at (705) 328-0905 OR Toll Free 1-866-520-2689 Ext. 22



Make an on-line donation. Just log onto www.canadahelps.org

Make a Tax Deductible Donation Today!

Thank you on behalf of the Homeless in our Community!

A PLACE CALLED HOME IS A REGISTERED, NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION
Charitable Receipts will be issued for All Donations of \$10 and over

Your ongoing Support will ensure that everyone has a safe place to return to at the end of the day



Mailing Address: **A PLACE CALLED HOME**
64 Lindsay St. South Lindsay, Ontario K9V 2M2 (705) 328-0905
lorrie.polito@aplacecalledhome.org www.aplacecalledhome.org

Name: _____ Phone: _____ e-mail: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ Postal Code: _____

I would like to make a donation in the amount of: \$ _____ Enclosed are monthly cheques in the amount of: \$ _____

A Place Called Home **does not** sell trade or share mailing lists. We will only use your personal information to send you newsletters, information about volunteer opportunities or other special events/promotions pertaining to A Place Called Home and our operations and to include your name in our list of donors. Please check if you do not want your name published on our list of donors. Please check here if you would like us to remove you from our mailing list.