

A Place Called Home Fall Newsletter

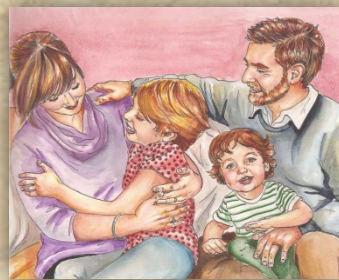
64 Lindsay Street South, Lindsay, Ontario, K9V 2M2 - Thanksgiving Edition 2012



Homegrown Roots

In the early to mid 80's a group of local people got together with a goal of simply providing shelter for those who had none.

Some 30 years later, A Place Called Home is doing just that. Since 1995 APCH has been providing shelter and support to single adults, couples, families with children and youth who otherwise would be on the streets, sleeping parks, under bridges, in cars or worse.



Although our services have grown to include outreach and prevention programs, our guiding principles (and mission) beliefs and values have remained the same. We still believe that dignified, affordable and safe housing is a right for all of our citizens throughout the Kawartha Lakes and Haliburton County.

We are fortunate to have attracted staff, volunteers and board members who embrace these same values and believe in the grass roots methods in which we provide service despite our growth. The response is still the same when someone phones or arrives on our doorstep in crisis. "How can we help?" And the response you still won't hear when seeking our support is "that's not our job"

Our offices may not have a lot of flash or the newest equipment, but we utilize the resources we have in the most effective way possible. Our emphasis is always on those we serve and the donations we receive primarily go directly to client care and not towards paying for overhead costs. We pride ourselves in our ability to stretch a dollar and utilize the generosity of the community

Thank you for your support!

2012 Board of Directors

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Helping the Community - ID Program Lead Tina Jackson

1st in a multi-part series showing how our programs can change a life

Identification...it is one of those things that most people don't give a great deal of thought to. That is, until they find themselves without. Without ID, one cannot get a job, open a bank account, enroll in school or receive social benefits they are eligible for, including Canada Pension in some cases. Replacing ID can be a complicated thing; just completing the paperwork for some can be mind boggling. For those living on fixed incomes, the underemployed and clients of APCH, the cost of replacing ID is beyond their means. To replace a birth certificate at a cost of \$35.00 can take a big bite out of someone's budget when they are barely managing to make ends meet as it is. Spending \$35 can mean having to give up food, medicine for a child or being short on a utility bill.

"How many times have you been asked... What is your mother's maiden name?"

Our ID specialist Tina Jackson can assist you in replacing or applying for many different types of ID. For assistance with Identification please call Tina at extension 229

Case in point: Ella became a Crown Ward at an early age and grew up in foster care. She desperately needed to obtain her birth certificate access her SIN Card but didn't know her biological parents' information. Although laws changed many years ago allowing adopted children to reach out to biological parents, this did not apply to Crown Wards who were not adopted. Not only had Ella never been able to obtain her birth certificate or other pertinent ID, she had spent her whole life, never knowing any identifying information about her biological parents. **How many times have you been asked what your mother's maiden name is as a security question to prove your identity?**

Although Children's Aid was unable to release the information directly to Ella due to privacy legislation; with a little perseverance and creativity we were able to coordinate the release of her information directly to the Vital Statistics Dept. bypassing Ella altogether. Not only were Ella's ID problems solved, but the missing pieces of her life were there in black and white! Sitting with Ella and being able to hand over the missing links to her heritage along with the ID she needed to move forward with her life was more than any of us ever thought this clinic would be doing and it was extremely rewarding. Ella's is just one of many special stories coming via our little Identification Clinic...stories of getting a sick mom a health card, stories of tracking down ID for a widower whose memory is impacted by multiple strokes, confirming his identity so he will receive OAS Assistance. These moments are spine tingling and life changing moments and helps us to always remember why we are here



Thank you to our many sponsors & business supporters

A Place Called Home Welcomes New Board Members

In May A Place Called Home said farewell to outgoing board member Roger Worsley and welcome to three new additions. Ryan Boutin and Dave Murtha are local members of the Kawartha Lakes Police Service and Cheryl Bryant is an employee of Service Canada. All three are wonderful additions and we are glad to have them on the board.



Shelter News - A Guiding Light



Tim came to APCH after the building he was renting in was sold. Although he looked for housing he couldn't find anything in his price range. Tim had no family or friends in the community and was very nervous and guarded about coming to the shelter.

Tim suffered from an anxiety disorder and being in a strange place and meeting new people was too much for his anxiety and he ended up in the hospital. Staff from the Ross Memorial Mental Health unit called APCH to explain Tim's situation and see if a tour could be arranged where he could see and become familiar with the surroundings and staff. APCH agreed and Big Tim came in for the tour. He immediately felt at ease after viewing his accommodations

and meeting with the staff. Big Tim moved in the next day. During his four weeks at A Place Called Home Tim looked hard for and found housing. He was set up with the appropriate services to assist him during his stay and after. Tim enjoyed his time at A Place Called Home so much that he returned after to volunteer. He quickly became part of our team and was able to showcase his skills and knowledge in the maintenance and construction areas of the shelter.

Tim stayed on as a dedicated volunteer for over a year before moving onto a paid position in Peterborough. Tim was able to use the work that he had done volunteering at APCH on his resume to help obtain his new job. Today Tim is happily and gainfully employed and touches base with the staff on a regular basis to share in his successes. We were sad to lose such a hard working and dedicated volunteer but elated with his achievements in his new found job!

Our busy summer of Fundraising Events would not have been possible without our many willing volunteers. Thank you all for helping to make our events a success

9th Annual Kawartha Lakes Classic Cycle Event



9th Annual Mark-a-thon



42nd Annual Antique Show

Visit our website
www.aplacecalledhome.org

64 Lindsay St. South
Lindsay, ON
K9V 2M2

Phone:
705-328-0905

Fax:
705-328-3547

E-mail:
Front.desk@aplacecalledhome.org

Give the Gift of Shelter

YES, there are less than 100 days till CHRISTMAS!

Our Gift of Shelter Christmas Cards will be on sale starting November 1st. Purchase yours by dropping by our office at 64 Lindsay Street South.

This Christmas when you are looking for a unique gift to give friends, work colleagues, a teacher and others on your list who are difficult to buy for.... Please consider "A Gift of Shelter"



We are taking the plunge in 2013!

On Feb 3, 2013 we are freezin' for a reason. Join the staff and supporters of A Place Called Home as we take the plunge in the 33rd Annual Rotary Polar Plunge in Ennismore.

In 2012 our Flintstone group won awards for the best dressed and most money raised. Contact our office and let's take the plunge to end homelessness!



COMING SOON!

- ◆ New Website
- ◆ New Logo
- ◆ New Exciting Calendar Launch
- ◆ Gala Event

Mailing Address: **A PLACE CALLED HOME, 64 Lindsay St. South Lindsay, Ontario, K9V 2M2 (705) 328-0905 ext. 222**

lorrie.polito@aplacecalledhome.org www.aplacecalledhome.org

Name: _____ Address: _____

City: _____ Postal Code: _____ Phone: _____

E-mail: _____ I would like to make a donation in the amount of: \$ _____

YES, please email me my tax receipt
or

NO, please send a hard copy to the address above

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