

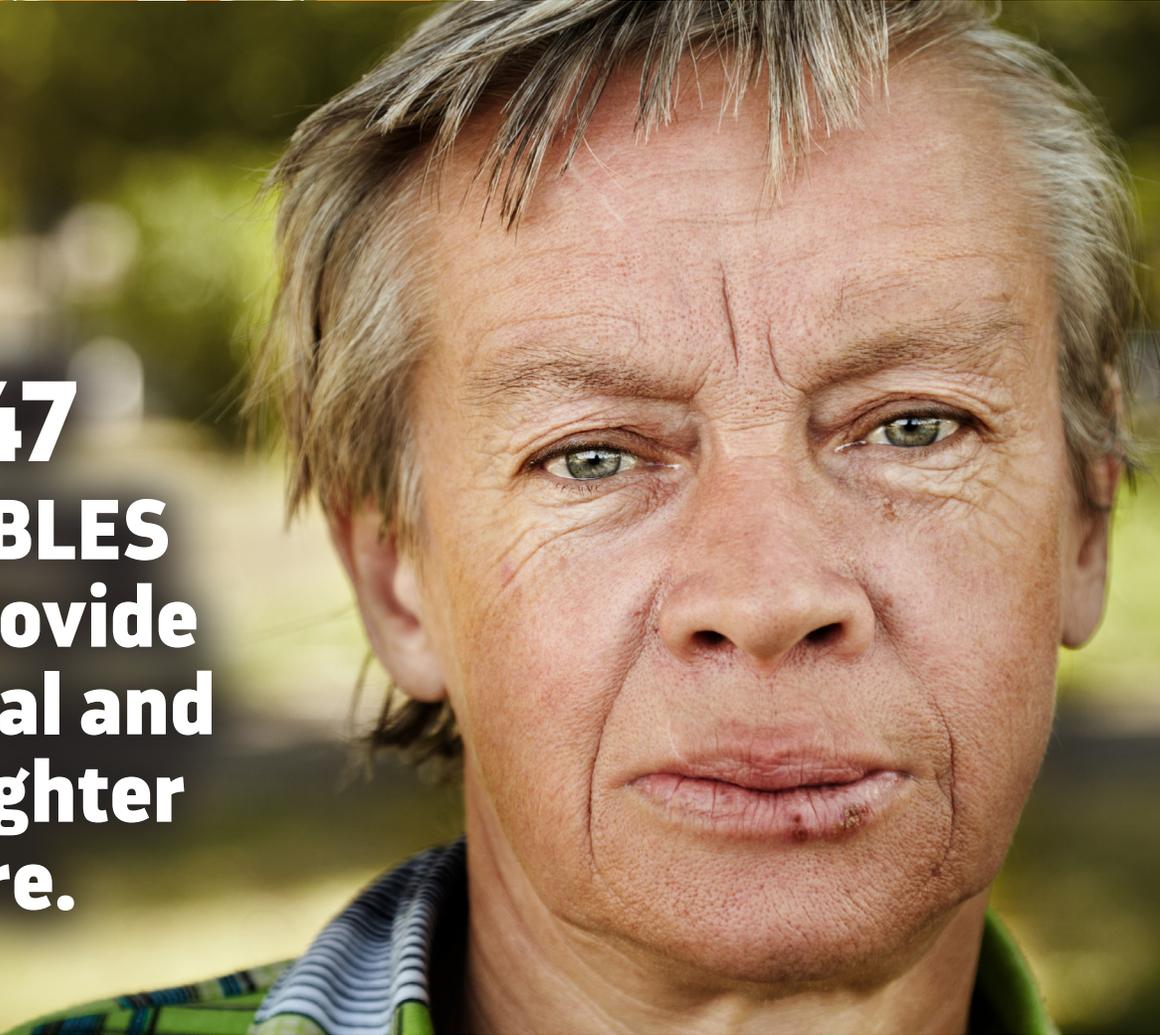


2
0
2
1

Matching Gift CAMPAIGN

This summer, hope begins with you!

**\$3.47
DOUBLES
to provide
a meal and
a brighter
future.**



We need your support more than ever — and there's good news! A group of generous supporters of The Ottawa Mission have offered to match all gifts, dollar for dollar, up to the first \$85,000 received.



46 Daly Avenue
Ottawa, ON K1N 6E4
613-234-1155
OttawaMission.com

*Please give today and
double the impact of your gift.*
**Your gift today will go
twice as far to make
this a summer of hope.**

“My people will abide in a peaceful habitation, in secure dwellings, and in quiet resting places.”

Isaiah 32:18

CHAMPIONS OF
HOPE

LEARN ABOUT
BECOMING A
MONTHLY DONOR.

To find out about becoming
a monthly donor
— a *Champion of Hope* —

please call
613.234.1155

or email
donations@ottawamission.com

THE MEANING OF HOME THIS SUMMER

For over one year, we've been encouraged to stay at home to stop COVID-19. This can't happen if you don't have a home.



As the pandemic wears on, we take hope from the rollout of vaccines, including those right here at our shelter. But we also remain vigilant regarding the risk of infection while delivering essential services, now needed more than ever before.

Ottawa was already in a state of homelessness emergency when COVID-19 came upon us. Given the reported overwhelming impact on our mental health, addictions, finances, employment, housing and food insecurity, we anticipate remaining the first place of refuge for increasing numbers of vulnerable people for years after COVID-19 has passed.

While the change into warmer weather is welcome, the continuing need is overwhelming — and growing. For example, last summer we launched our Food Truck Program to feed those who couldn't travel to our shelter due to disability, lack of money for transportation, or other reasons. As a result, **our average daily meal count has exploded from 1,422 before the pandemic to 2,470, an astounding 74% increase.**

As more people are forced to make impossible choices, such as buying food or paying their rent, we ask ourselves what does “Home” mean in such uncertain times? With more people sleeping outside in soaring temperatures with no access to shade or water, we ask ourselves how can we provide the safety, warmth and belonging that comes within one's own home?

In this newsletter you'll find a heartening story about the meaning of “Home” from Shaun, a former shelter guest who now has his own home in one of our mixed-market apartment buildings that offers supportive housing options. For Shaun, the comfort that comes from being “Home” is something he needs and deserves.

As the CEO of The Ottawa Mission, I can assure you that your support is fundamental to our ability to ensure that our current and former clients have a place to call home. From the bottom of my heart: thank you.

Peter Tilley CEO, THE OTTAWA MISSION

A PERMANENT HOME MAKES ALL THE DIFFERENCE

Shayne has been with The Mission for four years. Hired as a Frontline staffperson (the first point of contact at the shelter), Shayne then moved to supporting shelter guests and community members to find housing.

Initially, Shayne worked from 8 am to 4 pm. But some shelter guests are employed, and can't meet with housing workers during normal working hours (one indicator of how unaffordable housing has become). Other community supports are not available outside these hours either. So when our Housing department was created (2019), Shayne's 2 – 10 pm shift expanded our support to clients.



Other improvements were made to the housing intake process: interviews grew from 20 minutes to 1 hour for a greater focus on individual needs and whether support for other issues (e.g., addictions and trauma, educational or employment goals, etc.) is required.

Another example is how diversion is approached. Diversion means trying to divert clients away from the shelter by exploring options for immediate housing and connecting them with services and financial assistance. At The Mission, a fundamental principle of diversion is that clients have somewhere to stay that's safe and appropriate for their needs.

“Diversion involves repairing relationships so clients see that people want to help them. I reconnect clients with people who can offer support. Often people don't want to bother people they've known by asking for help. In fact, many of these people want to help because they care about these clients.”

Shayne finds this work meaningful. “There's a tangible difference from when I first meet clients up to when they're housed. It's rewarding when clients talk about the positive difference in their lives from having a permanent home.”

“I'M REALLY GRATEFUL TO BE HERE”

Shaun is a friendly 45 year-old man who, after living in and out of shelters, in 2020 moved into our new building in Overbrook that combines rent-geared-to-income for former Mission clients and market-rent apartments.

“My apartment is really nice. I'm really grateful to be here. The building is very clean and there's a good mix of people.” Donations to The Mission were critical to purchasing this building.

Shaun's addiction contributed to him being homeless, and he stayed with us several times. “I was always around The Mission, and have great respect for the people there — Chaplain Timothy, Frontline staff, people with Housing and Client Services, Chef Ric and his team — everyone. All staff go above and beyond to help people like myself.”

Shaun had been in and out of recovery for years, but, as he acknowledges, “never really wanted to get clean.” He was admitted to our Stabilization program, the middle tier of our Addiction and Trauma Services program. After that, he moved to our Second Stage After Care program within ATS, which provides individual counselling and group treatment.

Shaun has also returned to school. “I'm finishing up my grade 12 through the ACElinks program offered by the John Howard Society.” It supports students to pursue postsecondary studies, apprenticeship, or employment “I have a few exams left, but I'm really close and will finish soon.” The excitement and pride in his voice is noticeable.

Shaun notes how important The Mission's supportive housing program is for people who have faced challenges in their lives. “It's too bad that there's not more places like this. Programs like ODSP aren't enough for people to afford their own place. I feel very fortunate to be here.”

Your gift has given Shaun a new home and a new life. Thank you so much for your generous support.



A HOME OF ONE'S OWN

Working with Our Partners to Realize Our Clients' Dreams



The Ottawa Mission was founded in 1906 to provide emergency shelter for those who have nowhere else to turn. Since then, we've evolved to provide additional supports to enable our clients to rebuild their lives.

One of these services includes permanent housing: in 2019, we launched our new housing department. Our team finds homes for vulnerable men and women and supports them to be independent after being housed.

Our commitment to providing clients safe and affordable permanent housing directly began with our not-for-profit housing arm Holland Properties Association (HPA). In 2007, HPA purchased an apartment building that provides a mixed-use model of housing combining rent-geared-to-income for former Mission clients and market-rent apartments. In 2019, we purchased another apartment building and, thanks to your generosity, expanded our housing and case management support for our former clients.

In 2020, we were fortunate to be the charity of choice for a campaign launched by local construction company D-Squared. Founded by CEO Dom Madonna, D-Squared launched the **#SPREADTHELOVE** campaign in March, a \$25,000 fund for individuals, families and businesses struggling due to Covid-19.

Dom, who grew up near The Mission, walked past our shelter regularly and saw the need for our services first-hand. This stayed with him as he expanded his business from a single backhoe and dump truck to a \$25 million company.

"When COVID-19 hit, the construction industry was deemed essential. At D-Squared, we knew that we had to give back, so we created **#SPREADTHELOVE**. We really wanted to help and were happy to do so," notes Dom.

In October, D-Squared launched phase 2 of this campaign and built a coalition of more than 135 partners that raised over \$300,000. These funds will go to renovating a large house HPA has purchased to further expand our ability to provide permanent homes for our former clients. Support of \$500,000 to help purchase this home was provided by Councillor Catherine McKenney's office to preserve affordable housing downtown.

We believe that everyone deserves their own home. We extend our deepest gratitude to D-Squared Construction, Councillor McKenney, and to you, for your support to help our clients have a home of their own.



Matching Gift CAMPAIGN

Please give today
and double the
impact of your gift.

Help make this a
summer of hope for
our community's
men and women
in need.