



SUPPORTIVE HOUSING OF WATERLOO

NOVEMBER 2019 NEWSLETTER

Dear Friend of SHOW,

Are you a winter person? This November brought the earliest winter weather we've had in decades! For some of us, this is a welcome start to building snowmen and getting ready for ski season. For me, it is also a reminder of our responsibility to support those who are experiencing homelessness in our community. While housing stability is a year round challenge, in the extremes of cold winter weather those living on the streets need our help more than ever.

Supportive Housing of Waterloo was created to help these most vulnerable members of our community. Since getting involved with SHOW, I've had the privilege of meeting some of the people who are now living a healthy life at SHOW, after years of suffering from homelessness, mental health challenges, and drug addictions on the streets. The transformation in their lives that SHOW has enabled is remarkable.

In listening to the stories of the residents at SHOW, I was struck by the challenges that these individuals have overcome in their journey. Many have suffered from a combination of physical disabilities, sexual and emotional abuse, and mental health issues. With the support of the services and secure housing provided at SHOW, they are able to work through all of these challenges, building hope, dignity, and independence.

We know winter is hard, cold, and long and for those without stable housing this is even more true. **Today, I'm asking you to join me as a monthly donor to SHOW. Knowing that we can regularly count on your gift of \$25/month allows us to help our tenants every month.** Whether it's ensuring our tenants have access to reliable food or helping us grow our health outreach program that provides medical care to those who have the most trouble accessing it. **You should know that for less than \$7/week you can change the course of someone's life. You can provide hope.**

Sincerely,



Mike Peasgood
SHOW Board Member

www.showwaterloo.org

Our Furry Friends



SHOW not only houses 39 + individuals, it is also home to three little dogs, a number of cats and some birds. Many of our tenants are quite alone, with no family connections, and very few social ties. Some deal with PTSD or other health challenges which can further a sense of isolation and loneliness. Pets can encourage a sense of purpose, something to care for and love, and staff at SHOW work closely with our pet owners to ensure they are all well looked after. One tenant has a degenerative neurological disease and caring for her pet forces

to her manage her illness so that she can be a responsible pet parent and maintain a schedule of sleep, exercise and socialization which is vital for both of them. Another tenant with very deeply rooted emotional trauma relies on her pet for comfort and is her constant companion. Pets and their care can provide our tenants with an increased level of security and stability, and help make SHOW a very homey space.



SHOW has been the recipient of your generosity,
your belief in our work, your support and
encouragement has made an enormous difference in
our community and we thank you.

*Christine DenBok, Della and Rick Stroosbescher,
Al and Liz Hayes and the estate of Veronika
Embee have gifted SHOW with their wonderful
generosity and we thank you all!*



How you have helped SHOW

Have you ever wondered what we do with the donations we receive? Life Skills supported by your donations have enabled SHOW to provide our tenants with cooking classes, group meals, assistance with basic living skills like cleaning, cooking and personal hygiene as well as social programs. Gifts of funds allow SHOW to cover Health Care supplies for tenants who have physical challenges and need assistive devices not covered by basic income supports, like walkers, grab bars,



or pharmaceutical items. Your donations also allow us to purchase much needed items for new tenants, such as beds, winter boots, or new glasses. Your generosity has helped SHOW build Mike's Place, 402 Erb St. West, our wonderful new affordable home for 9 people. You have made the difference between housing and homelessness for our tenants, you have provided us with the ability to keep people housed, and we couldn't do it without your generosity.

You can count on my support for SHOW!

Name: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____ Telephone: _____

I wish to donate: \$100 \$50 \$30 Other _____

I wish to pay by: cheque VISA Mastercard

Name on Card: _____ CSH# _____

Credit Card #: _____ Expiry date: _____

Cheques are payable to Supportive Housing of Waterloo. Gifts of \$10.00 or more will be receipted for income tax purposes and are also accepted online at www.showwaterloo.org or at CanadaHelps.org

Contact Supportive Housing about being a Legacy Donor

www.showwaterloo.org

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