

Together, we are Shepherds of Change!



David Gourlay CEO, Shepherds of Good Hope Foundation

As CEO of the Shepherds of Good Hope Foundation, I really enjoy opportunities to bring us closer together on our shared journey of compassion and change. I have always believed that we are in this together as we support those in our community who experience chronic homelessness and foster dignity.

Allow me to introduce “The Beacon,” our brand-new quarterly newsletter that will serve as a radiant source of insight into the profound impact your support is making in the lives of those experiencing homelessness. Named for its guiding purpose, “The Beacon” will be sent to you twice a year via traditional mail and twice digitally through email, ensuring that our connection remains steadfast and accessible.

In each issue, we aim to shine a light on the stories, successes, and transformative moments that define our collective efforts. “The Beacon” will not merely be a newsletter but a chronicle of hope, resilience, and the positive change we are cultivating together. With its pages, you can expect stories of success, program highlights, behind-the-scenes insights, impact stats, and community stories – all made possible through your kindness.

“The Beacon” is more than a newsletter; it is a celebration of our shared commitment to combating homelessness and fostering a brighter, more compassionate future. We believe that by keeping you informed, inspired, and engaged, we can magnify the impact of our efforts to create a more welcoming and caring community for all.



The Foundation team visited RespectRX and Pathways to Recovery, two very important partners on the path to ending chronic homelessness in Ottawa.

Your ongoing support is the guiding light that propels us forward, and your generosity continues to illuminate the lives of those in need.

Thank you for being a beacon of hope in the lives of those we serve.

Shepherds of Hope and Resilience

Paul's Story



MEET PAUL – LIVING AT SHEPHERDS SINCE 1991

Paul would be one of the best people to give you a Shepherds of Good Hope history lesson – he's been living here since the early nineties.

Originally from New Brunswick, Paul first came to Ottawa for a concert. He liked the city so much; he came back to stay. He's lived in housing residences with Shepherds of Good Hope for 32 years, most of that time in the Lowertown neighbourhood.

"It's been the best 32 years of my life," he says. "Staff and workers are almost like family. They're good friends. They take care of me."

The supportive housing provided by Shepherds of Good Hope includes 24-hour wrap around supports to help people, like Paul, remain successfully housed. Each resident has supports specifically tailored to their needs and wants.

Paul lives quite independently in his own apartment. He takes pride in his home, cooks his own meals, and likes to spend some of his time volunteering to tidy up the outdoor areas of the residence. Paul often walks around the neighbourhood to browse shops, picking up groceries and other necessities. He enjoys the sense of community both at the residence but also in the neighbourhood.

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 "Hey you, don't tell me there's no hope at all. Together we stand, divided we fall."

— "Hey You" song by Pink Floyd - The Wall (1979)

A huge fan of classic rock music, Paul spends time every day listening to the local rock station. Sometimes he even puts on headphones, listening to music during his walks. When asked to name his favourite band, Paul doesn't hesitate. "Pink Floyd," he says. "I know all the words to more than thirty of their songs!"



DID YOU KNOW?

For the first time in Shepherds of Good Hope's history, we officially have more people living in permanent supportive housing than we do using our emergency shelters each night.

And 48 new supportive housing units are currently under construction, with plans for more in predevelopment!

Shepherds of Giving Back

Our Community in Action

At Shepherds of Good Hope, we are touched by the boundless generosity of our community. Among the many ways you support us, community events stand out as shining examples of unity and care. These gatherings are not just a fun occasion; they are the heartbeats of our community connection.

From bake sales and concerts to hockey tournaments and dinners – there is a way for everyone to get involved!

Check out some fun that past groups have had while giving back! 🍪

We LOVE working with individuals and groups to create their own fundraising events. Worried about the details? Fear not, we are ready to assist you every step of the way!

Explore the many ways you can get involved and give back on our community events page at sghottawa.com/events. Help spread the warmth and kindness of our community!

Together, let's create a community full of fun, vibrant events to show everyone in our community how meaningful it can be to help people using our services in our goal of ending chronic homelessness in Ottawa.



This young team from Orleans, self-named "The Best Bakers," held a bake sale raising \$323 dollars for our community.



Throughout 2023, Harmony Concerts has showcased innovative, diverse, and emerging artists in Ottawa while supporting the community through onsite donations, education, and a portion of ticket sales.



SAVE THE DATE FOR SOME EXCITING EVENTS!

- February 1, 2024 – Valentine's Day Gift Catalogue
 - March 28, 2024 – Hockey Helps the Homeless Hockey Tournament
 - May 15, 2024 – Taste for Hope
 - TBA – Harmony Concerts
- Watch our social media for upcoming show dates*



During National Volunteer Week, PWC Ottawa volunteered at our supportive housing residences and community kitchen! Plus, their employees donated more than \$10,000!



Want to help someone right now? Scan the QR code with your phone!

Shepherds of Community

Meet Dan and Sarah Community Kitchen Volunteers



Dan and Sarah began volunteering at Shepherds of Good Hope in October 2022.

“When we moved from Toronto a few years ago we felt lucky to have found a place to call home in Lowertown. We quickly grew attached to the neighbourhood and the community made us feel incredibly welcome.”

“Volunteering at Shepherds of Good Hope felt like a great way to continue to meet fellow members of our community as well as take part in some of the work which makes Lowertown a caring and great place to live.”

One of their favourite aspects of volunteering is speaking with and getting to know their neighbours.

“Spending time with one another feels like we are connected as part of a larger shared community. At Shepherds of Good Hope everyone including staff and community members have been very kind and welcoming during our first year of volunteering.”

We have shared some laughs and we have also listened to challenges folks are facing; being able to give some

of our time in the evenings – although seemingly – we know makes up a larger effort to provide supports as well as safe spaces for everyone in our neighbourhood and we are thankful to be part of this work!

Want to find out more about volunteering?

Visit sghottawa.com/volunteer to learn more and sign-up today.



DID YOU KNOW?

Last year 129,482 meals were prepared, cooked, and served by volunteers in our Community Kitchen.

Could this be your 2nd calling?

Volunteering at Shepherds of Good Hope can change your life and the lives of others—for the better.

[SGHOTTAWA.COM](https://sghottawa.com)

Wilma
- Volunteer
since 2022

Canada
Funded by the Government of Canada's
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