



# THE BEACON

Stories of how YOU helped neighbours experiencing homelessness find safety, shelter, and new beginnings



Every story you're about to read exists because you chose to care. Thank you!

## Marc & Joanne's Reunion

*You helped provide safety and shelter, and reunited Marc and Joanne after 30 years apart*

When Marc moved into Shepherds of Good Hope's supportive housing, Hope Living, he didn't expect to see anyone he knew.

*"I was sitting where the Coke machine was, and she kept looking at me," remembers Marc. "Then one day, she came in and asked, 'Are you Marc from Highland Park?'"*

*"Yes, it's me," he said. "And then Joanne started crying."*

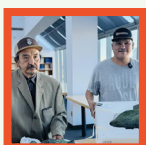
In an instant, these two former high school sweethearts were transported back to Highland Park High School in the mid-1970s, where they were each other's first love.

Marc worried he'd never find that kind of connection again.

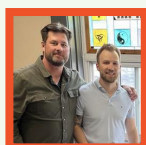
Life had taken them in different directions. Joanne married her husband James, who passed away young. Marc pursued his career at the

*Continued on page 3*

### Inside



Noah & Ty's Journey  
Page 2



You Inspired Craig  
to Give Back  
Page 3



You Can Provide a  
Neighbour in Need a  
Fresh, Nutritious Meal  
Page 4

# You have helped neighbours in our community

## A Message From Meighan

As spring brings new growth and possibilities, I'm filled with gratitude for your unwavering support.

Your generosity has transformed the lives of our neighbours facing homelessness, giving them exactly what they needed... a warm meal, safe shelter, and a new beginning.

In this issue of *The Beacon*, you'll read how your support reunited two high school sweethearts after 30 years apart, helped two brothers honour their mother's legacy, and inspired a volunteer to discover the power of showing up.

Know that YOU are behind every warm meal, every moment of dignity and connection, and every new beginning. Thank you for choosing to make a difference.

Your gift changed lives and built a more compassionate community.

With gratitude,



**Meighan Hartley**  
Interim CEO  
Shepherds of Good  
Hope Foundation

## Noah & Ty's Journey

*You helped two brothers honour their mother's legacy*



Noah and Ty's mother, Oviloo Tunnillie, was a renowned Inuit sculptor whose hands transformed stone and marble into beautiful works of art now in the permanent collection of the National Gallery of Canada.

Noah remembers sitting beside his mother as she magically transformed stone into mythological creatures, hunters, and animals from their daily life.

Life took the brothers far from their northern home, and eventually they faced challenges that left them without stable housing.

Noah and Ty worried they'd never see their mother's work again or feel that connection to their family and culture.

**Thanks to your support, Noah and Ty found a safe home at Shepherds of Good Hope and a**

**community where Inuit culture is honoured and celebrated.**

When the National Gallery learned they were the sons of Oviloo Tunnillie, they arranged something extraordinary... an opportunity for the brothers to reconnect with pieces they hadn't seen in decades.

In a brightly lit room overlooking the Ottawa River, Gallery staff laid out several of Oviloo's art pieces.

The room was silent as Noah and Ty circled the table, picking up the intricate carvings and travelling back in time.

When asked how he felt, Noah replied with one word: "**Gratitude**".

**Your support provides safety, stability, and helps our neighbours celebrate their culture. Thank you for making moments like this possible.**

## You Inspired Craig to Give Back

*You helped open one volunteer's eyes and heart*

Craig has lived in Ottawa for nearly 30 years, always aware of Shepherds of Good Hope. But it wasn't until recently that he felt called to give back.

*"I've had a wonderful life, a successful career, and a loving family," Craig shares. "The more I recognized my good fortune, the more I felt the need to give back."*

Craig wondered if showing up would really make a difference.

**Because of you, there was a place for Craig to serve.**

Volunteering at Shepherds was a humbling experience for him.

*"I saw people I might pass on the street... loud and vocal when inebriated. But here, I saw them coming for food, humble and broken, with no home and nothing to eat. It really got me,"* Craig said, his voice catching with emotion.

*"I saw people who obviously had a successful*



*Because of you, volunteers like Craig (pictured left) can show up for neighbours in need.*

*life at one point, sitting down with a knife and fork, putting a napkin on their lap. And now they're at a shelter asking for food. It affected me more than I thought it was going to."*

Craig went home that night to his wonderful house and heard his kids complaining about trivial things. The contrast was stark.

*"I could have easily been one of those people in need of shelter,"* Craig reflected. *"I really do need to continue to give back."*

**Your generosity inspires service and creates a community where everyone belongs. Thank you for making that possible.**

## Marc & Joanne's Reunion *Continued from page 1*

Ottawa International Airport until bad knees brought an early end to his working life.

**But thanks to your support, Marc found safety, shelter, stability, and the love of his life.**

Marc and Joanne see each other every day now. Their life at Hope Living allows them to spend time together, making up for the years they spent apart.

*"We hope to be married one day,"* said Marc, before leaning over to kiss Joanne, and whispering, *"I love you."*

**Your support provides a safe place where our neighbours reclaim the life they once had and build new beginnings. Thank you.**

*Find out how you can help even more*





## You Can Provide a Neighbour in Need a Fresh, Nutritious Meal

*Your gift will help make sure that everyone who needs it is welcomed with warmth, respect, and a meal made with care*

Fresh vegetables and herbs grown by residents, volunteers, and staff from our community garden make their way into hearty soups, crisp salads, and nutritious meals that nourish both body and spirit.

But the need is great, and we can't do it without you.

Just \$5 provides a nutritious meal made with garden-fresh ingredients.

**Will you help provide a fresh, healthy meal for a neighbour in need today?**

*Here's how you can help!* ↘

**SHEPHERDS  
OF GOOD HOPE  
FOUNDATION**

At Shepherds of Good Hope Foundation, we believe everyone deserves a place to call home, a supportive community, and the gift of hope.

For over 40 years, Shepherds of Good Hope has been at the forefront of housing and homelessness services in Ottawa, helping people find stability, dignity, and belonging through emergency shelter, nutritious meals, specialized care, and permanent supportive housing.

Together, we're building homes, fostering community, and inspiring hope for our most vulnerable neighbours.

**Shepherds of Good Hope  
Foundation**

233 Murray Street  
Ottawa, ON K1N 5M9  
www.sghottawa.com  
613-789-8210

*The Beacon* is a publication of Shepherds of Good Hope Foundation.

**I WANT TO HELP PROVIDE A MEAL FOR A NEIGHBOUR IN NEED!**

**YES, Meighan!** I want to provide fresh, nutritious meals to neighbours in need. My gift will support the community garden and all the life-saving work of Shepherds of Good Hope.

Enclosed is my gift of:

- \$25 to provide 5 fresh meals for neighbours in need
- \$50 to provide 10 fresh meals for neighbours in need
- \$125 to provide 25 fresh meals for neighbours in need
- \$ \_\_\_\_\_ to help as much as possible!

*This spring, you can give a neighbour in need a fresh, nutritious meal!*

