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## Thank You from Daybreak

By Rob Dekker, President of the Board of Directors

Over the past two years, as President of the Board of Directors, I have had the opportunity to work with a dedicated staff and Board of Directors and with a group of volunteers that is second to none. Daybreak has a network of people who ensure that the men and women who call Daybreak home have a safe and well-cared-for house.

In our "Thank You" issue we share with you the names of our supporters and their contribution to making Daybreak an important part of the support we provide for those who call one of our five houses home. I hope that you will take the time to see what your donations and the donations and time of others have brought to the lives to our residents.

I would like you to note on your calendar Monday, May 27, 2013, the date of our Annual General Meeting. The meeting once again will take place at the Cube Gallery, on Wellington Street, in the Wellington West community. It will be my opportunity to thank you in person for your support of Daybreak Housing. 

## Residents Show their Appreciation

Thank you, staff, board and volunteers, for all your effort in providing an evening of celebration and recognition for the 30 years Daybreak has offered care and protection for residents living at the Daybreak houses. I appreciate your efforts and interest in providing a safe and secure living environment for us. This Christmas is made special because of your efforts. You bring a smile to those needing to smile!

-- Robert, Daybreak resident

To the staff, board members and volunteers of Daybreak: I am so appreciative for Daybreak's providing me with the quality of "home" that has promoted my healing so immeasurably! May blessings continue for Daybreak, not just this Christmas season, but forever.

-- Richard, Daybreak resident



*Thank you cards from Daybreak residents to St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church. A generous donation from St. Andrew's allowed residents to enjoy a community event of their choice.*

# Gratefully Yours

by Jill Jeffrey, Director of Development

**A** you know, most successful ventures are a team effort. This is certainly true here. Daybreak is a grass roots organization. From writing funding proposals, to increasing our social media presence, to being available 'on call,' our volunteers are active in all areas of Daybreak. They help with fundraising, office work and resident events, and Daybreak could not accomplish what it does without them.

Our donors also play a vital role in Daybreak's success. Donations in 2012 were up to roughly \$96,000, helping us bridge the gap between rent allowances, government funding and actual costs. This past year, foundation funding came from the Ontario Trillium Foundation, the Harold Crabtree Foundation and through the Community Foundation of Ottawa. Home Depot provided funding for capital repairs. We also received generous corporate donations from Barry J. Hobin and Associates Architects Incorporated, Luxcom Technologies Inc., Alterna Savings and Export Development Canada. Other groups who supported us this year include the Ottawa Bytown Rotary Club, Knox Presbyterian Church and its guild, St. Peter's Evangelical Lutheran Church, Centretown United Church Women,



Residents, volunteers, staff and Board members enjoy the annual Christmas party.

Southminster United Church, Dominion-Chalmers United Church, Immaculate Heart of Mary Church, St. Basil's Catholic Church and St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, including its Women's Guild. Daybreak neighbours came by with donations of gently used clothing, Christmas decorations, bags of groceries and small gifts for our residents. Churchills Restaurant and The Table provided gift certificates, and the Glebe Meat Market donated turkeys for the residents' Christmas party. A local hairstylist has offered any of our residents a free haircut and style before a job or school interview. A special thank you also goes to Ian Murphy and Tony Tapp as well as to Tony Snippe of Creative Unity and to Paul Battersby of Green Thunder Web Page Programming and Design for their help with our Give Hope for the Holidays campaign. Finally, the combined generosity of Hockey Helps the Homeless and Sofa World led to the much-needed purchase of new sofas for the common areas of all Daybreak homes. 

# Celebrating Success

by Jill Jeffrey, Director of Development

**C**ongratulations to Tara, Jill and Donna, who completed Daybreak's newly adopted life skills program, Skills of Success (SOS), this past November. The program covers topics such as assertiveness, self-care, money management and employment opportunities.

Other Daybreak residents are also taking solid steps to move forward with their lives. Jorin continues on his positive path. He says that living in a Daybreak home (since 2010) has helped him to maintain nine years of full-time employment. Carrie is volunteering in the fields of administration and children while building up her resume. Sarah is taking classes to earn her PSW diploma. Susan's confidence has grown living at Daybreak, enabling her to land a stable job and move on to independent living. Steve also just 'graduated' and is heading off to school in another city. He popped into the office recently to say goodbye. "Thanks," he said. "This has been awesome. (Daybreak) was what I needed." 



Thank you to Richard Monk who facilitated the Board's Strategic Planning sessions in 2012. Richard is President & CEO of insight global, an Ottawa-based consultancy working in the areas of governance, strategy and performance.

Save the Date!  
Daybreak's Annual General Meeting will be held on May 27, 2013 at the Cube Gallery (1285 Wellington W.)



Our mission is to provide minimum-support homes emphasizing community living for single people with limited income. Daybreak Housing believes that residents can better achieve their goals and potential when provided with support for their well-being in a safe, caring environment, designed to foster personal growth.



Donate through Canada Helps by following the link on our web site  
[www.daybreakhousing.com](http://www.daybreakhousing.com)