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Looking Back at Another Successful Year

By Alice Kubicek, President of the Board of Directors

Welcome to our first edition of the newsletter for 2014. So far this has been an awesome year for Daybreak. The Board of Directors has been dedicating itself to creating a best practices organization, which will only result in benefits for our residents in the future. Our Human Resources and Compensation Committee has identified and rewritten human resources policies that are not only compliant with legislation but also facilitate the work of staff in providing excellence of service to clients. The Finance Committee has diligently reviewed, reworked and rejuvenated the budget that both supports Daybreak programming and strengthens Daybreak's credibility with new and ongoing funding partners. The Governance Committee has focused on updating our bylaws to bring them in line with Ontario's new Not-for-Profit Corporations Act, which provides a modern, legal framework for charitable organizations in this province. As a Board, we have also come together to revitalize our mission, create an exciting vision and identify strategic priorities that plot a direction to a stronger future.

In addition, our volunteers and Board members support Daybreak staff in their important work by providing assistance with on-call services to residents on weekends and overnights. Our volunteers also assist with everything from social media to office administration to events. Without them, Daybreak could not be a community in the true sense of the word. Daybreak's vision, to rebuild lives and inspire hope, is only possible because of the dedicated team of staff, volunteers and Board members who are committed to making a difference.

We invite you to join us as a supporter, donor or member at our upcoming Annual General Meeting on May 26. This is our opportunity to share with you Daybreak's good news stories for 2013 and to celebrate Daybreak residents who have made successful transitions through difficult times. We hope to see you there! 🏠

Holiday Cheer

On December 8, 2013, Daybreak residents, staff and volunteers gathered to celebrate the holidays. After a festive meal, Santa Clause arrived to distribute gifts to the residents, which were generously donated in part by community members.



Daybreak residents enjoyed a holiday meal and a visit from Santa Claus, who distributed gifts.

Daybreak staff member, Lissa accepts Christmas donations from a local business.



Volunteers Make the Difference

By **Monica Siegenthaler, Executive Director**

Thanks in no small part to our wonderful volunteers; Daybreak had another successful year in 2013. In particular, we would like to recognize the following volunteers who have given countless hours of their time to Daybreak and our residents.

Our loyal and wonderful volunteer, Gerard M., assists us on a weekly basis with the maintenance of our donor and resident databases. This includes everything from sending out thank you letters to inputting data into the resident database and creating the resident list. He is a joy to have in the office, always with a smile, a good joke and sometimes with tasty treats from a local bakery. Will D., another long-time volunteer, has graciously been donating his time to Daybreak as the go-to handyman for repairs and maintenance since August 2012. Will also helps out with the on-call service on a regular basis. Will has proven himself to be extremely reliable and helpful and is a great asset to Daybreak! Finally, we

offer our thanks and say good-bye to Mary E. Her kind approach and most generous contributions to volunteer and special event coordination, database work and administration will not soon be forgotten.

We would also like to both welcome and thank some of our most recently recruited volunteers. Paige W. volunteers her time by helping with repair and maintenance items in our homes as well as helping out with the on-call. Katrina K. and Peter T. heard about Daybreak through our Volunteer Ottawa ad, and they recently joined



Paige W., one of Daybreak's newest volunteers.

Daybreak's volunteer property maintenance team. Following their orientation, they began cleaning, repairing and painting an entire apartment at Murphy House. They did not stop until they were done. Great job, both!

Thank you VERY much to every one of our volunteers for supporting Daybreak Housing with your time, energy and commitment. The Board, staff and residents sincerely appreciate it! 

Gifts Improve Resident Well-Being

Daybreak would like to say thank you to Justin Vandenberg at Coghlan's Ltd. for donating emergency whistles for our residents. We contacted Coghlan's after one of our residents was placed in an unsafe situation, and Justin sent Daybreak dozens of emergency whistles in response (all the way from Winnipeg).

Daybreak would also like to thank Canadian Tire on Innes Road in Orleans. Housing Support Workers, Mike and Corrine, were using a donation from St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church to purchase household items for use in the Daybreak homes, and the cashier generously provided a discount on some much needed linens. 

Join us Monday,
May 26, 2014 for
Daybreak's Annual
General Meeting.

The AGM will take
place at St. George's
Parish located at 415
Piccadilly Avenue.



Donate through Canada Helps by following the link on our web site
www.daybreakhousing.com

Our mission is to offer supportive housing to those in need in a caring, community based environment that fosters personal growth and independence.