



45TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION



JOIN US FOR

.....

THE STREET HAVEN 45TH ANNIVERSARY PARTY

.....

LET'S CELEBRATE TOGETHER

Thursday, October 28th

FROM 6:00 PM TO 9:00 PM

AT THE CITY OF TORONTO ARCHIVES
255 SPADINA ROAD, TORONTO

Enjoy light refreshments, guest speakers & live music.

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Please RSVP to lventurino@streethaven.com by October 20th.



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Message from the

PRESIDENT OF THE BOARD

– GRAYSANNE BEDELL

1965 – what a year! Canada folds the Union Jack away and officially adopts the maple leaf flag. A Soviet astronaut makes the first space walk. Civil rights activists demand, and get, changes to US voting laws. Young American men start migrating north to avoid military service as the war in Vietnam continues. Toronto's modernist City Hall, with its brave new towers, is unveiled. The first major power outage hits the northeastern States and Toronto, but strangers help each other through the confusion of "Black Tuesday". A magical movie about a nanny who inspires love and leads by example wins numerous awards, and "Mary Poppins" becomes fixed in the hearts of successive generations.

Change and upheaval; brave ventures and monuments; darkness, magic and the enduring power of kindness. Did the events of that era inspire Peggy Ann Walpole to establish Street Haven in order to help the women she saw experiencing a very different kind of life than that enjoyed by most Torontonians?

Forty-five years later what we can surely say is that starting Street Haven was a brave venture by a visionary activist. And a first for Toronto with its mandate to accept women in need, and treat them with kindness, whatever their starting point. Change was certainly a constant: the drop-in centre grew a hostel; new treatment programs and a range of supported housing alternatives were developed; a learning centre blossomed. Any "monuments" we have are the success of these programs and the increase in our good name (certainly not the bricks and mortar that have needed so many facelifts over the years!). The darkness and the magic? Think of the women who have made incredibly difficult changes through their relationships with our amazing staff and with each other.

Our thanks to all of those who have gone before, and those here now, for your part in the history of this very special community. You have been, and will continue to be, part of the "enduring power of kindness".

Here's to the next 45!!

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

– GITA SCHWARTZ

Street Haven has had a good life. Any organization that can proudly proclaim 45 years of operation has indeed had a good life – weathered many challenges and come out a winner.

So, now what? What about the next 45 years?

We are at a crossroads as an organization. Many systemic changes demand our attention and compliance and other systemic changes demand our compassion, commitment and our ability to reinvent ourselves.

We look into the future with an opportunity to evaluate what we've accomplished and what we have yet to do.

We look into the future with an eye to supporting our clients in the best way possible which includes quality service, cutting edge vision and innovation as well as an eye to where the system needs to change to support our work.

We look into the future with the passion and drive of our founder and see that we are now a community that is steeped in the knowledge that we all are better for being a part of the whole and none of us stands alone.

We look into the future with trepidation for the plight of homeless and marginalized women everywhere and with great determination and integrity to effect positive change.

We look into the future and see the reflection of the past even as we step forward with our mission, our values and our philosophy intact and yet malleable and fluid to meet the new day.

It is a new day at Street Haven. A day to celebrate the past and take that joy and pride into the future to build, fortify and create; to work with determination, compassion and integrity; to continue the sense of home and community at the highest level – to transform lives. Congratulations to all of us on this tremendous milestone!

What's Up

AT THE HAVEN

Welcome to our 45th anniversary edition of the newsletter. This issue celebrates many of the staff, women and volunteers who have made Street Haven what it is today. We hope to see you at our celebration in October.

I have spent some time sorting through pictures, memorabilia and newspaper articles to put this edition together. The newspaper articles left me with the feeling that although we speak about the social issues surrounding us in a different voice, the issues remain the same forty-five years later. Fortunately, Street Haven continues to provide women with a safe place to go to get back on their feet and try to move on from lives of trauma and violence. Street Haven has helped hundreds of women defeat addiction issues. The supportive housing program recognizes the impact that mental health has on women's lives and the managers are working hard to provide a system of support and housing so that they continue to live independently. Judging from the Learning Centre's classes, women continue to look for a safe, comfortable environment to learn information technology and improve their literacy skills.

Our Annual General meeting in September showcased our second Annual Report. Please download a copy of the report from the website. If you do not have access to the internet, please do call me and I will mail you a copy.

We are pleased to welcome **Diana Moretti** as our Executive Assistant and **Deanna Derksen** as our new property manager. We are sad to see **Bill Wood** go, but wish him all the best in establishing his new business. The Hostel to Homes program wrapped up its program too, so we say goodbye to **Marcie Pekar**. We continue to have a housing worker on-site.

It has been a really good winter but little of this would have happened without the outstanding contributions of our volunteers and the dedication of our staff.

A big thank you too, to all of our supporters, as we look forward to a busy spring and summer!

AN EVENING WITH

Stuart McLean
and the Vinyl Cafe

On the darkest, dampest day of the winter, Stuart McLean and the Vinyl Cafe performers, Melissa McClelland and Luke Doucet provided 300 guests with the best recipe for chasing away the winter blues: sweet music and heart-warming humour. It was a fabulous evening with great food, a balloon burst and a silent auction. Stuart also gave a lovely tribute to the work of Street Haven.

We raised an incredible \$22,000! Thank you for all your contributions and support. We look forward to seeing you at next year's event.

News and Views From "The Haven"

MY EXPERIENCE AT STREET HAVEN HOSTEL

Street Haven has provided me with an opportunity to have a hands-on experience of the field of Social Work outside of the classroom. There are many different situations I've read about in my textbooks, but to experience them in real life is a very different story! All of these real life experiences during my placement at Street Haven have helped me understand where I fit best in this field.

During my first placement I did not gain half the knowledge that I have received while being at Street Haven. At Street Haven I got to do such things as referrals, intakes, fundraising, discharges, case management etc. I have experienced first-hand what case workers, supervisors and volunteer directors do to help homeless women in Toronto.

My experiences at Street Haven have consisted of many different interactions, barriers and challenges that have definitely brought me to a whole new perspective on the Social Service field. During my first intake I was practically shaking because I was so nervous, I kept thinking that I was going to do something wrong. However whenever I got the change later on, I would take the opportunity to do more and more intakes. This came into practice in other situations, such as helping women with housing, getting a drug card, referrals etc. These experiences at Street Haven made me realize that no matter what happens in life, things can happen that you can't control.

These women have such strength and faith in themselves that I have never had. The beautiful transformations that I have witnessed, makes me want to be a better more powerful woman each and every day.

These experiences have made me a stronger, more confident woman today. I was very honored to be a student at Street Haven and I know this experience will help me become the best Social Service Worker I can be.

– BY LINDSAY

WATERFRONT MARATHON

Street Haven at the Crossroads is entering a team in the Scotiabank Waterfront Marathon on September 26th, 2010. Please support our team.

Contact: Leslie at 416-967-6060 x 225 for more details.

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Thursday, October 28th, 2010 from 6:00 pm to 9:00 pm

Location: City of Toronto Archives – 255 Spadina Road, Toronto
Enjoy light refreshments, guest speakers & live music.

Please contact Leslie for more information. Look forward to seeing you at next year's event

Mark your
calendars!

CORPORATE CAMPAIGN "NURTURE YOUR SOUL, FEED OUR COMMUNITY"

We aim to raise our food budget of \$100,000. We are encouraging corporations to help feed the hundreds of women who come to Street Haven. If you would like to contribute to the campaign in any way – make phone calls, suggest corporations to contact, or increase your donation, please contact Gita Schwartz for more information.



IN MEMORIAM

Dorcas Adams, Edith Alföldi
Barbara Blackbird, Eileen Brown
Carol Boutin, Claudette Carrier
Susan Chan, Erica Clayton
Kathleen (Casey) Collins
Noreen Dykestra, Vicky Galati,
Elsa Gomez, Linda Gullage,
Laura Harker, Barbara Elliot,
Lori Freeman, Loretta Harris
Helen Hughes, Shirley La'Ford
Linda Lowe, Patricia Maissoneuve
Janet Mitchell, Mary Miles
Kathleen Mooney, Betty Moses,
Shawna O'Brien,
Patrice O'Donnell, Eyrin Panamick
Gwen Pilgrim, Agatha Robertson
Thora Sams, Christine Skinner
Casey Smith, Sarah Stuart Smith
Paula Collash Vincent
Marjorie Wilkenson
Dorothy Williams,
Chanel Wilson, Ruth Wolfe,
Ann Young

AND
Ina, Katrina, Linda, St. Anne

STAFF
Lisa Baker
Scamp (Lee) MacLeod
Theresa Smith
Peggy Ann Walpole

HONORARY PATRON

The Honourable David C. Onley,
Lieutenant Governor of Ontario

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Agnes Meinhard

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Gita Schwartz – Interim
Margaret Jeffrey (on leave)

FOUNDER

The Late Peggy Ann Walpole, C.M.

In The Spotlight

HISTORY OF STREET HAVEN



- 1965** Street Haven was founded by Peggy Ann Walpole
- 1966** Drop-In for homeless women opened above a store in downtown Toronto
- 1968** "The Haven" an emergency 12 bed shelter for women opened its doors.
- 1976** Grant House an abstinence-based 6-month residential addiction treatment program was started – still running – but now located in central Toronto
- 1986** The Supportive Housing program began and now has 33 units of independent housing for women with mental health and/or addiction issues in 3 different locations.
- 1987** The Learning Centre started in the attic of 87 Pembroke where women could go to gain experience in Information Technology and improve their literacy skills.
- 1993** The Addiction Case Management program started to help women live an addiction-free lifestyle in their own community
- 2006** Peggy Ann Walpole passes away in February.



2008 Grant House and Addiction Case Management merge to form Addiction Services

2009 – Drop-In closed. The emergency shelter at Street Haven expands to 33 beds



WISH LIST

Plants, seeds, bulbs for the garden
Shoes/sandals, bathing suits and exercise clothes
Seasonal, good condition, clean women's clothing – New socks, sleepwear & underwear. New or gently used towels, twin linens, twin pillow cases, pillows, blankets and duvets. Small household items
Do you have items to donate but are not sure if we need them? Give us a call to find out.

CONTACT INFORMATION

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www.streethaven.com

CHARITABLE REGISTRATION

#12953-5175-RR0001

Thank you!

A big thanks to all our donors and supporters for all your efforts and commitment over the past forty-five years.

I would personally like to acknowledge all the hard work, help and enthusiasm of everyone involved with Street Haven. I look forward to our 50th anniversary!

Please consider giving to Street Haven to help us to continue all of the various programs and services that are so needed in this community. We look forward to keeping in touch with you.

If you have any comments or suggestions, please call Leslie at 416-967-6060 x 225, or contact at lventurino@streethaven.com

Thank you to Re:GENERATE Design Inc. for all their work.