ESHEPHERD

Summer/Fall 2014

The Jeanne Scott Parent & Child Resource Centre

Easing the burden of young moms

he young mothers at Good Shepherd's Angela's Place deal with enormous responsibilities as they bravely raise their babies while finding solid ground in their own lives. Thanks to the kindness of a generous donor to Good Shepherd, their burden has been eased.

More than 100 friends and supporters celebrated the life of Jeanne Scott and marked the official opening of the Jeanne Scott Parent & Child Resource Centre in June. They joined Angela's Place residents, Bishop Douglas Crosby, Good Shepherd staff and City of Hamilton dignitaries for a strawberry social.

The Resource Centre is adjacent to Angela's Place. Residents receive on-site support, including life skills, goal setting and child development training.

Jeanne Scott's significant donation in 2013 allowed Good Shepherd to buy the



Cutting the ribbon to open the Jeanne Scott Parent & Child Resource Centre are donor John White, Bishop Douglas Crosby, Brothers of the Good Shepherd General Superior Brother Justin Howson, donor Rennie Arsenault, Hamilton Ward 1 Councillor Brian McHattie, Good Shepherd Executive Director Brother Richard MacPhee and Director of Youth Services Loretta Hill-Finamore.

former church where the Resource Centre is now located. The Centre is both an alternative education classroom, operated by the Hamilton-Wentworth Catholic District School Board, and a child-minding centre. While in the Centre, the moms can earn their high

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Good Shepherd

Longer food bank hours address Hamilton's growing needs

Good Shepherd is participating in a Hamilton-wide initiative that will keep the doors of food banks open longer to meet the growing needs of our community.

The Emergency Food Strategic Planning Committee, a collaboration of local food banks and hot meal programs, will implement a one-year pilot program in September to ensure that one food bank in the city is open for longer hours on Thursdays and Saturdays. Good Shepherd's food bank will be open to clients on the first Thursday of each month from 9 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. and the third Saturday of the month from 9 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. The extended openings won't affect the food banks' regular operating hours.

"Our extended hours will offer additional choice for groups of people, such as families, students and low-income wage earners, who find it more convenient to access emergency food services during evenings and weekends," says Carmen Salciccioli, director of The Good Shepherd Centre. "Good Shepherd has seen increased demand for emergency food services so this program is badly needed."

More than 50,000 individuals visited Good Shepherd's food bank from April 2013 to March 2014. More than 618,000 food items were distributed.

Good Shepherd's food bank is moving from its current location to its more modern and accessible facility at the Venture Centre, 155 Cannon Street East. It is expected to open in the fall. For information on volunteering opportunities, call 905.528.6565 x3321 or x3333.



A MESSAGE FROM BROTHER RICHARD

Commitment to the well being of society often overrides our own security

The Brothers of the Good Shepherd were greatly saddened to hear of the recent passings of Brother Patrick Nshamdze, Brother George Combey and Brother Miguel Pajares of the Hospitaller Order of St. John of God – the religious order from which our founder, Brother Matthias Barrett, originally came. Brothers Patrick, George and Miguel were victims of the Ebola virus, which they contracted while performing their ministry in Liberia.

The deaths of the Brothers are tragedies and they remind us of the selfless and, at times, heroic work undertaken by religious communities throughout the world. Beyond their spiritual calling, our Brothers and Sisters, whose vocational duties take them outside the comforts of mainstream society, have extraordinary human compassion and empathy. Their commitment to the well being of humanity supersedes their personal sense of security.

Regardless of where we live in our world, there are people who don't have the supports to live a hopeful and dignified existence. Here at home, the Brothers of the Good Shepherd effect change by working at the grassroots of our society. Although we are not threatened by political instability or virulent diseases, we live for the service of people whose circumstances have left them vulnerable to the long-term consequences of poverty and homelessness. It is far from glamorous. We are often subjected to hazards that accompany the environment in which we work, yet we are most effective "in the trenches", where our presence is needed. We strive to address the needs of our community at ground level while promoting awareness of social issues and injustices.

People need our support, regardless their personal circumstances – and Good Shepherd is always there for them, without question.

Please pray for our Brothers and Sisters around the world whose dedication to the sick and marginalized keep them perpetually in harm's way, particularly for the souls of Brothers Patrick, George and Miguel.

The residents of Hamilton – and especially the Good Shepherd family – bade farewell to a great friend in July. Brother Sean McIsaac, who has been with Good Shepherd in Hamilton for six years, is now in Ireland furthering his studies in order to become a Formation Director to teach and lead new Brothers. Brother Sean's compassion for the homeless men who seek shelter at The Good Shepherd Centre will be missed by all he served.

Personally, I will miss his companionship, his great sense of humour and his musical presence at our Christmas celebrations. Please join me in wishing Brother Sean well in his next assignment.

Bro. Fihand by

Brother Richard MacPhee BGS Executive Director



Serving Good Shepherd

More than 80 youth and their adult leaders from SERVE Canada descended on Good Shepherd for their annual summer volunteering experience. The organization helped get the work done at a number of our sites, including the Venture Centre (pictured), The Good Shepherd Centre and Youth Services.

Save us money and save some trees

Help Good Shepherd save postage and printing costs! Send us your email address and we'll deliver our newsletter to your computer – as soon as it's ready.

And watch for news about our user-friendly and interactive website, coming soon. It will be updated regularly with news on what's happening at Good Shepherd.

To receive your newsletter in a PDF file instead of printed format, email kristac@goodshepherdcentres.ca.



Happy Retirement to our amazing teachers

Good Shepherd Youth Services celebrated the commitment of Kathi Lukasik (far right) and Tom Montgomery (centre), teachers from Notre Dame School who are retiring this year. Pictured with Kathi and Tom are Bob Goodwin, Principal (far left); Pat Amos, Director of Education at the Hamilton-Wentworth Catholic District School Board; and Loretta Hill-Finamore, Director of Good Shepherd Youth Services.

Young mom delivers valedictory speech for five graduates of Good Shepherd's schools

In June, Good Shepherd celebrated the achievements of five remarkable youth, who received their secondary school graduation diplomas. Victoria Blackburn, a student at the newly opened Jeanne Scott Parent & Child Resource Centre, is the first graduate of the altenative education school. She delivered the valedictory speech on behalf of her fellow graduates. Here is an excerpt:

My journey to this day was a difficult one: I started high school at St. Thomas Moore before life took me down a different path. I left home and moved into a group home. I also stopped attending school at that point. I then moved into Notre Dame House ... and my connection with Good Shepherd was created. The Dame would become a place I would leave then return to several times over the next four years, their doors always open for me. During those years, I attended schools at James Street Alternative Education, Notre Dame School for a very brief period of time and Wilma's Place. These years were crazy at best – school was not a priority.

When my son was five months old, I moved into Angela's Place, while still attending school at (St. Martin's) Manor. While living at Angela's Place, Jeanne Scott's generosity helped open a day care and a school, so I could finish school. I completed my last four credits and community hours while attending the school program. The opening of the school has provided an opportunity for many other young mothers, who live at Angela's Place or in the community to obtain the credits we need to graduate, while providing day care for our children. For that we are grateful!

Now I have my high school Diploma, I am six months pregnant with my daughter; a new chapter begins for me. I hope to attend college in the near future.

I would like to thank the community organizations and every person who has supported me on my long journey up to this point.



Angela's Place program manager Christine Maleta (left) helps celebrate the high school graduation of five students from Good Shepherd's Youth Services program. Victoria Blackburn, who successfully completed her studies at the Jeanne Scott Parent & Child Resource Centre, was the valedictorian at the ceremony, which took place at Notre Dame House in June.

'A legacy of hope and dignity for many years to come'

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school diploma without giving up bonding time or worrying about finding child minding for their children. The goal is to support them as they prepare for their dual roles as nurturing parents and productive members of our community.

Jeanne Scott's gift to the young moms is an example of the overwhelming kindness of members of our community, who empathize with the challenges of at-risk youth. Unfortunately, she did not see the completion of this beautiful centre.

"Sadly, Jeanne passed away in April at Good Shepherd's Emmanuel House hospice," said Brother Richard MacPhee, Good Shepherd's executive director. "She never got to see the joy on the young mothers' faces when we opened the doors to their future. I'm sure she's smiling down on us, knowing that her boundless kindness and generosity has created a legacy of hope and dignity for many years to come."



Bishop Douglas Crosby blesses the Jeanne Scott Parent & Child Resource Centre at its official opening.

olunteer

Diane draws on life experiences in her volunteer roles

iane McInnes's dedication to helping others in need evolved from her personal experiences. Her compassion comes from a time when she faced hardships of her own. When she temporarily left her job as a kindergarten teacher to raise her children, Diane's husband, a social worker, was forced to go on strike.

"We experienced a struggle during those years but what I remember the most were all of the people who were so generous and supported us when we really needed the help," says Diane. "I decided that when I retired I would volunteer so I could help the community the same way that people had helped me."

Diane has volunteered at Good Shepherd since 2005. She started in the food bank, where she volunteers every Thursday and has taken on an additional role as a child-minder at Martha House women's shelter once a week.

"I love people and I absolutely love children. I'm so happy to volunteer in roles that give me the chance to get to know so many different people and families," says Diane. As a food bank volunteer, Diane stocks shelves at the beginning of her shift, then spends the remainder of the morning greeting clients and recording their information. She especially loves volunteering for Good Shepherd's Christmas Hamper program and hearing feedback from people who use the services.

"The clients are so appreciative of what we are doing; it's a great feeling to know you are making a difference," says Diane.

Diane's passion is in helping children and that is exactly what she does at Martha House. In the morning, Diane watches over their children, playing games and reading to them. She feels most comfortable in this role as it utilizes her years of teaching experience.

"There are so many different programs within Good Shepherd, so there is something for everyone," she explains. "If you want to volunteer, consider your skill set and pick the right fit for you. If



DIANE McINNES: "It's a great feeling to know you are making a difference."

it isn't what you are looking for, there are plenty of options to try."

Diane has made many friends through her volunteering experiences at Good Shepherd. She considers her bond with volunteers and staff as one of the main highlights of her experience.

"There is great camaraderie amongst the staff and volunteers at Good Shepherd," she says. "It's wonderful to be a part of that enthusiasm. It is very uplifting."



September is here! We need volunteers!

Volunteering for Good Shepherd is a rewarding experience for you and the people who benefit from your support and generosity. Just ask Dani Devine:

"I am truly a different person for having volunteered with Good Shepherd, and having been witness to the work that you do, and learning to look at the world through different eyes so that I may help those in crisis and need. Volunteering has opened my eyes to a world in which I now understand my life's work and look forward to it with so much more passion. To do something with heart is to expect nothing in return and still be humbled by the experience."

Did you know that last year:

- 5,433 individuals volunteered at Good Shepherd
- 2,905 individuals volunteered in the Day of Caring program
- 2,340 individuals volunteered in our Christmas programs
- In any given month there are more than 600 individuals volunteering at Good Shepherd

You can help Good Shepherd by:

- Volunteering on your own
- Volunteering with a family member or friend
- Gathering a group of friends to volunteer in the Day of Caring program
- Encouraging your co-workers or school to volunteer for a Day of Caring
- Posting recruitment posters in your school, at work, at your legion or service club, at church, or on Facebook
- Volunteering weekly, monthly or at special events

Contact us today for a Good Shepherd Volunteer Information Package

Call the Volunteer Department at 905.528.6565 x3333 or x3321

Email volunteer@goodshepherdcentres.ca

Visit our Volunteer page at goodshepherdcentres.ca and download the Volunteer Application and Reference Forms







Orange Door Project helps our youth

The Home Depot Canada Foundation's Orange Door Project has concluded its in-store fundraising drive and Good Shepherd received \$14,062 from two local stores. Thank you to the staff at the Home Depots in Ancaster and Hamilton Mountain and all the customers who supported the Orange Door Project fundraising campaign. Proceeds from the fundraising drive will be used for upgrades in Good Shepherd's Youth Services facilities.



We're grateful for the support of our community. Good Shepherd's clients always benefit from your generosity.

Friends of Good Shepherd, including individuals, groups, schools, sports teams and businesses, organize events to support our people who use our services.

Events staff in the Good Shepherd Development Office can guide you in the planning of your special event.

To find out how we can help, please contact us:

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Good Shepherd Development Office Events Department 905.528.6565 x3309 events@goodshepherdcentres.ca

Good Shepherd & Friends Community Events



Sept 11 Good Shepherd Golf Classic Heron Point Golf Links, Ancaster www.goodshepherdgolf.ca

- Sept 20 Cram-a-Truck Food Drive Help us re-stock our food bank shelves at our final Cram-a-Truck of the summer. Fortinos, Dundurn Street South, Hamilton
- Sept 20 Miles for Smiles Ride Charity Auction & Party, September 18 www.milesforsmilesride.ca
- Oct 16 16th-Annual Good Shepherd Harvest Dinner Carmen's Banquet Centre, Hamilton www.harvestdinner.ca
- Dec 14 Christmas Wonderland Hamilton Convention Centre
- Feb 6 Glamour in the Hammer Liuna Station, Hamilton
- March 2 Jazz Up the Winter Blues Ancaster Mill

Leave a Legacy

'I have been truly blessed'

Many people give generously of their money, time and energy to ensure that Good Shepherd programs and services exist in this community. By leaving a gift in their will or estate plan, our donors can continue to help people in need, long after they're gone.



Anyone can make a planned gift, regardless of the size or description of the assets. Planned gifts ensure that Good Shepherd will have the resources needed to continue caring for the most vulnerable members in our community well into the future.

Sandra Mactaggart has been a loyal supporter of Good Shepherd since 1988. Early in her life, Sandra learned from her parents the importance of charitable giving and the work of Good Shepherd.

SANDRA MACTAGGART

"My mother and father were donors. They taught me that Good Shepherd is a worthwhile cause," says Sandra. "I truly believed in the charity when I witnessed the services expanding."

Sandra supports a number of local charities that help all walks of life, and she wants to know how her gifts are being used.

"I like to support charities that show visible results. I love getting newsletters that tell me about specific success stories so I know that my contributions make a difference," says Sandra.

Sandra and William Mactaggart were both widowed at a young age and married each other in 1991. Sandra became a stepmother to four children. When she started to prepare her will, Sandra decided to leave a legacy gift with Good Shepherd. Knowing that her husband's children would be taken care of, and without children of her own, she felt motivated to help those in the community who need the support.

"I have been truly blessed to have wonderful parents as role models and a supporting community throughout my life, and would like others to share in those blessings also," says Sandra. "Making a planned gift is a tremendous way to leave a lasting legacy and hopefully bring something good to the world.

"I'd like to think that part of my legacy would be to follow Isaiah 6:8: 'You know what God asks of you man: to act justly, to love tenderly and to walk humbly with your God.""

To learn more about Good Shepherd's Planned Giving program, please contact Keith Rutherford at 905.572.6435.



Brother Sean McIsaac (left) has left his position as Manager of Shelter Services at The Good Shepherd Centre. In his place, we welcome Brother Nick Foran, who joins us from Albuquerque, New Mexico.

A changing of the guard at The Good Shepherd Centre

There's a new Brother in town.

Brother Nick Foran has taken over from Brother Sean McIsaac as Manager of Shelter Services at The Good Shepherd Centre on Mary Street in Hamilton.

Brother Nick has been stationed in Miami, Florida and Albuquerque, New Mexico. His assignments have all dealt with issues surrounding homelessness. He joined the Brothers of the Good Shepherd in 2005 after working for 24 years in various management positions at TV Guide magazine.

"I look forward to my new assignment and am gratified by the welcoming nature of the Good Shepherd staff and the many dedicated volunteers who assist us daily," he says. "I believe that Matthew, Chapter 25, best exemplifies our ministry: 'For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, a stranger and you welcomed me, naked and you clothed me, ill and you cared for me, in prison and you visited me.'"

Brother Nick is a native of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. He comes from a family of seven children and is a die-hard fan of the Philadelphia Eagles, the Phillies and the Flyers.

Brother Sean, who has left for Ireland recently to further his studies, was an influential presence in the Hamilton community for six years. As Manager of Shelter Services, his compassion brought hope and dignity to thousands of men who sought relief from poverty and homelessness through a comfortable bed, a hot meal and a caring voice.

Brother Sean's sense of humour and beautiful singing voice will be missed by the many people who were lucky enough to call him a friend and mentor.

The cost of fundraising for Good Shepherd's programs

ood Shepherd could not offer many of its programs and services without the generosity of individuals and businesses who support our work and want to help make sure it continues. We place a high priority on fundraising because the needs of our clients are placed above all else.

Financial gifts from our donors account for 30 percent of Good Shepherd's annual revenues. That represents a sizable portion of the organization's operating budget. Our donors are crucial to the health of Good Shepherd and, ultimately, the people who look to us for support.

With this in mind, we are always careful to make sure that we are fiscally responsible when raising money. We take our commitment to our donors very seriously.

The Canada Revenue Agency sets out a strict formula to calculate a universal fundraising ratio for charities. Simply put, the cost of fundraising is the "total expenditures on fundraising" divided by receipted and unreceipted gifts. Based on our audited financial statements, **more than 80 cents of every dollar** go directly to running Good Shepherd's programs. I'm proud to say that falls well within the accepted ratio for Canadian charities.

Good Shepherd's fundraising program is measured, creative and relevant. Our regular interactions with donors and prospective donors have a two-fold purpose – to let you know how your generosity helps Good Shepherd support people in our community, and to develop donor-centred partnerships that are beneficial for all our stakeholders. We want to make sure that you are well-informed at all times.

A MESSAGE FROM

We're always mindful of the costs of fundraising, including our newsletters, direct mail pieces and our signature events.



The materials we send to our donors and prospective donors are written and designed here at Good Shepherd to keep our costs down.

Good Shepherd's high-profile fundraising events are recognized as good investments for our supporters. That's because we strive to ensure that our fundraising events are exceptionally fun and educational experiences.

All our wonderful suppliers go out of their way to make sure that we are given the best possible products and services at a cost that is reasonable and very generous.

As you can see, we want to ensure that our donors have confidence in Good Shepherd. We enjoy talking to you, so if you have any questions about our fundraising program, please call. We'd love to hear from you.

I would like to thank all the people who contacted me in the past two months to talk about my Message in our Spring newsletter. More than 20 people have spent their final days at Emmanuel House since my friend Jeanne passed away and I am confident that their journey was made comfortable due to the care and compassion of our staff.

Thank you again and God bless.

Wellwood Chief Development Officer

The Shepherd Newsletter is published three times a year. It is our way of sharing Good Shepherd news and events. You will also receive greetings from the Brothers and Staff of Good Shepherd at Easter, Thanksgiving and Christmas. Each Good Shepherd mailing is accompanied by a reply card and a return envelope for your convenience. Although your support is vital, we understand that not everyone can make a donation in response to each mailing.

If you prefer fewer mailings, or none at all, let us know. We also invite you to use the reply envelope enclosed to communicate with us. Please tell us how we're doing and inform us of changes in your mailing information. Good Shepherd subscribes to the Association of Fundraising Professionals Donor Bill of Rights. We value our donors and take your privacy seriously. We do not share, trade, or sell any donor information that we have collected.



OUR COMMITMENT TO YOU

HOW TO REACH US

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- woutube.com/goodshepherdhamilton

General Inquiries:

10 Delaware Avenue, PO Box 1003 Hamilton ON L8N 3R1 info@goodshepherdcentres.ca Tel: 905.528.9109

Donation Inquiries:

Tel: 905.572.6435 Fax: 905.528.6967 donations@goodshepherdcentres.ca goodshepherdcentres.ca/donate.htm