

Spring/Summer 2016



Jennifer (left), Jocelyn and John LeCluse outside Good Shepherd's Notre Dame House and Community Resource Centre on Cannon Street West. The LeCluse family have become ambassadors for the programs and services that are offered at the Centre. They made a substantial donation to ensure its survival when funding was cut this year. "My hope was that this donation would have an impact on the City," said John.

## *Good Shepherd's 'Christmas Angels'*

# LeCluse family lead the drive to save youth programs

Near the end of 2015, the City of Hamilton announced that it would no longer provide Good Shepherd with the annual \$230,000 bridge funding (in addition to the \$200,000 it provides on an annual basis) to ensure that the Notre Dame Community Resource Centre (CRC) would remain open. As a result, the community was in grave danger of losing a service that is vital to the reduction of youth homelessness in Hamilton.

Closing the CRC is not just a short-term problem; youth who are not diverted from the streets now stand a far greater risk of not only remaining homeless longer, but of becoming tomorrow's next generation of homeless adults.

When Jennifer LeCluse, a former Good Shepherd Youth Services

volunteer, heard this news she immediately called her father to see if there was a way their family could help.

"Through volunteering there, I gained an understanding of how important the services are for the lives of so many youth. I was really upset when I heard that the program might close," said Jennifer.

The LeCluse family – Jennifer, her father John and her mother Jocelyn – are long-time supporters of Good Shepherd. John has financial interests in a number of auto dealerships, including Sterling Honda and Plaza Nissan. At Jennifer's suggestion, John toured Notre Dame House and the Community Resource Centre.

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A MESSAGE FROM

## BROTHER RICHARD

### Keeping the doors open at Notre Dame CRC through the community's kindness

Homeless and street-involved youth are often the least visible of Hamilton's marginalized population. If they're not on the streets, they're often "couch surfing" at friends or staying temporarily in other unstable living situations. They're the "invisible homeless". And that puts them in greater need of our help – a need that can be elusive. A lack of awareness by the general public and the financial constraints of funding agencies can put increased pressure on efforts by human services organizations such as Good Shepherd.

Yet we can often find a silver lining through the kindness of others. In this issue of *The Shepherd*, we tell a story of an act of generosity by one very special family that has helped to keep services available for our community's at-risk youth. When the Notre Dame Community Resource Centre was at risk of closing late last year, John and Jocelyn LeCluse and their daughter Jennifer were determined to show leadership and to keep its doors open. Jennifer is a former volunteer at Good Shepherd's Youth Services and when she heard that municipal funding was being cut, she convinced her parents that our program was vital to the city's social health. John and Jocelyn jumped on board and became the largest private donors to the Resource Centre. I believe that their collective positive energy and generosity spurred a greater effort. Others, including the Ron Joyce Foundation, a former client who organized a crowd funding drive, and many individuals rallied to keep the program running. It's people like John, Jocelyn and Jennifer who typify this city's reputation for compassion. A very deep and heartfelt thanks for your kindness and leadership. The

youth of Hamilton are fortunate to have you on their side.

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I would like to welcome into the Good Shepherd Family our new co-workers, volunteers and participants from the SAM program. The Seniors Activation and Maintenance program, which has operated since 1981, came under our umbrella on April 1. SAM is a day program for seniors and adults with diminished abilities who live in the community. It offers a variety of physical, social, creative and mentally stimulating activities designed to maintain and enhance the wellness of its participants. There are three locations, in east Hamilton, central Hamilton and Waterdown. Visit [samprogram.ca](http://samprogram.ca) to learn more about what is available.

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Finally, this month we are proud to welcome Brother Rudolf Knopp, OH, First General Councillor of the Hospitaller Order of St. John of God. Brother Rudolf, who is based in Rome, is visiting all the ministries and houses in the Hospitaller Order's Province of the Good Shepherd in North America.

This is the first Canonical Visit since the Brothers of the Good Shepherd merged with the Hospitaller Brothers of St. John of God in 2015. The visit will evaluate the ministry of the Brothers and the life of the Brothers and our co-workers in the community. Brother Rudolf, along with Superior General Jesus Etoya – the international leader of our Order – will then join the Brothers in the Province of the Good Shepherd for a two-week retreat in Orangeville.

This is a new and exciting experience for all of us at Good Shepherd and we look forward to showcasing our programs.

*Bro. Richard OH*

Brother Richard MacPhee, OH  
Executive Director

## Former Cannon Street East warehouse being converted to affordable housing units

Renovations are well underway to re-purpose the former Good Shepherd Warehouse/Foodbank for 39 one-bedroom apartment units. The site is located at the corner of Mary and Cannon Streets and is adjacent to The Good Shepherd Centre, home to our emergency men's shelter and our hot meal program for the hungry in our community.

The development will provide permanent affordable housing for men and women, including eight wheelchair accessible units.

Additional support services will be provided through the Good Shepherd HOMES team.

Both the warehouse and emergency food services have been relocated one block east to the Good Shepherd Venture Centre at 155 Cannon Street East.



An architectural rendering of the refurbished building at the corner of Mary and Cannon Streets in Hamilton. The former Good Shepherd food bank will become affordable housing when the project is complete.

Design for the re-development is being led by local architectural firm dpai Architects with construction services provided by Maple Reinders Contractors. The project is being developed in part through a capital investment of \$5.75 million from the federal, provincial and municipal governments.

# 40 Years!

*Bill Ysselmuiden's humility and compassion have helped homeless people for four decades*

Bill Ysselmuiden has been a popular and respected presence at The Good Shepherd Centre for 40 years. After speaking to Bill's beloved wife Agnes, who can "give you the real story" when it comes to her husband, we know that it is most likely more than 40 years. Bill is a very humble man who doesn't really like to talk about himself. He'd rather offer a sympathetic ear to listen, his hands always ready to help.

Bill's first introduction to Good Shepherd was through a friend who invited him to visit The Good Shepherd Centre emergency men's shelter on Mary Street in Hamilton.

"(The visit) showed me the effects of poverty and taught me not to judge and not to think that these types of things could never happen to me," said Bill.

Bill was sold on the caring of staff and volunteers at the men's shelter and began a record-breaking commitment to the organization. He has seen the shelter system change from overnight to program-centered care, focused on building long-term results.

The Good Shepherd Centre has transformed over the past 55 years from an emergency men's shelter to a place of hope and healing for many men, women and children. The Centre offers overnight accommodation for men, including meals and laundry services. It also provides case management and referrals to community resources as well as life skills programs. The hot meal program is run Monday to Saturday for anyone in need.

"It's been interesting to see the changes over those years from the Brothers and male-only staff to the introduction of female staff and it's all been very healthy and positive," said Bill. "The atmosphere is always friendly and warm – and very efficient at the same time."

Bill volunteers in the laundry room at the Men's Centre, helping homeless men clean and fold their clothes and chatting to them about their day. The laundry room is close to the lounge area and the social part of his job is what he enjoys most. Bill hands out snacks in the lounge and helps sort through the donations of personal care items that come to the Centre.

"Bill was the best trainer for new volunteers at the Men's Centre.



Bill Ysselmuiden (centre) with Good Shepherd Executive Director Brother Richard MacPhee (left) and Brother Justin Howson, Provincial of the Hospitaller Order of St. John of God Province of the Good Shepherd in North America. Good Shepherd recognized Bill for 40 years of dedicated service to the people of Hamilton through his volunteer work.

The new recruits always emailed me after their first shift to let me know how much they enjoyed working with him," said Nicole Currell, the former volunteer coordinator for the Centre who now works at the Good Shepherd Family Centre. "Bill has a way about him that inspires others to be helpful, thoughtful and non-judgmental. He is one of the most humble and kind-hearted people that I have ever met."

On May 2, 2016, Bill was honoured at the Good Shepherd Volunteer Appreciation Evening for his 40 years of service. It is the first time that Good Shepherd has ever given anyone that award and the crowd of over 500 fellow volunteers gave Bill a standing ovation. Bill was also recognized at the Ontario Volunteer Service Awards for his commitment to Good Shepherd.

When asked what he has learned from his time at Good Shepherd, Bill has an almost poetic response.

"I've learned to have respect for all humanity. A real, yet imperfect love for our fellow women and men, especially those in unfortunate circumstances. Most of all, a realization of my own vulnerability and weakness," said Bill.

Bill is a great example of the incredible devotion and compassion of our volunteers who, without judgment, serve people living in the shadow of poverty in our community. We could not offer food and clothing services, shelter, hospice care and mental health programs without them. Volunteers, like Bill, truly represent the mission of Good Shepherd.

"I find the Good Shepherd mission *Never Stop Loving*, to be very appropriate," said Bill. "But I think as a side motto, they should add *Never Forget to Laugh* as their secret weapon."

# THE VOLUNTEER Outreach

## Volunteers: The Roots of a Strong Community

On May 2, Good Shepherd hosted a special evening to honour the compassion and dedication of our outstanding team of volunteers. The event recognized the support of more than 5,600 volunteers who donate their time, knowledge and talents to help Good Shepherd serve people living in poverty in our community. Without the help of these volunteers, Good Shepherd would not be able to offer the many programs that help to reduce the risk of poverty and homelessness. We are grateful for the valuable partnerships that we have developed and we are proud to present these awards to recognize their commitment.



Eight volunteers from Good Shepherd have received an Ontario Volunteer Service Award to recognize their outstanding service. The honourees are, from left, William Ysselmuiden (40 years), Jake Poirier (Youth Award), Albert Galletti (15 years), Ingrid Cipolla (15 years), Angelo Restivo (20 years) and Daniel Costantini (Youth Award). Absent: Valerie Grisdale (10 years), Nina Maljar (20 years)

*The recipients of Good Shepherd's 2016 Special Recognition Awards are:*

### **Patti Leonard, Volunteer Ambassador**

Patti has been an important member of the Good Shepherd Centres Board of Directors and is now Vice President. Patti is very creative and energetic and over the past two years she has been the chair and the creative force behind Good Shepherd's Glamour in the Hammer fashion show. This year's show attracted more than 600 people and raised over \$45,000 for the Good Shepherd Venture Centre.

### **Nicholas D'Amico, Fundraising**

Nicholas became a supporter of Good Shepherd Youth Services as a donor in 2011 and joined the Golf Classic organizing committee the following year. He is now the Chair of the committee tasked to run a successful tournament for Good Shepherd Women's Services and Youth Services. Nicholas's family business, RIMS Transport, has supported Good Shepherd since 1999 as active partners and generous sponsors of Good Shepherd events.

### **EMC Canada, Community Service**

EMC Canada is a Burlington-based computer and computer software company. Since November 2012, EMC staff have volunteered on a monthly basis at Good Shepherd's Venture Centre, sorting donations and helping clients with their shopping experience in The Market Place. Each November, EMC Canada staff volunteer to help prepare for the Christmas Hamper program.

## **VOLUNTEERS URGENTLY NEEDED**

**Child Minding** – Volunteers required 9am-noon, 1-3pm, or after 4pm. High school students are welcome.

**Emmanuel House** – Volunteers needed for reception or to prepare lunch or dinner during the week or on weekends.

**Mathias Place** – Volunteers needed to help serve dinner.

**Seniors Activation Maintenance Program (SAM)** – Program activity volunteers required to assist staff from 9am-noon. Kitchen volunteers required daily from 9am-noon.

**Venture Centre Market Place** – Volunteers required to assist with sorting food donations, bagging groceries, stocking shelves and greeting guests.

**Women's Services** – Female volunteers required to assist with food preparation.

**Youth Services** – Office volunteers needed to answer the phone and help with office duties, also to serve lunch or dinner and visit with youth.

**Special Skilled Volunteers:** Hairstylists, tai chi and yoga instructors.

**To volunteer:**

Call Marilyn or Maggie  
905.528.6565 x3333 or x3321

# Our Years of Service Awards



**40 YEARS**

## 40 YEARS

William Ysselmuiden



**20 YEARS**

## 20 YEARS

Claude Luscombe • Enid Mitchell • Angelo Restivo  
Manus McGowan • Sheila McGowan

## 15 YEARS

Dave Adams (posthumous)

Cordis Boyd • Ingrid Cipolla • Bruce Jones  
Celia Lobo • Marie Lethbridge • Mary Stimac



**15 YEARS**

## 10 YEARS

Lori Barker	Sylvia Lamont
Frank Barich	Marguerite Larocque
Nino Barbone	Patricia Legato
Rosa Cantagalli	James Monkelbaan
Vittorio Cantagalli	Michelle Morin
Josie Caputo	Dorothy Moroz
Mario Cupido	Joan Nowacki
Edward Dunn	Eleanor Petrovsky
Stephen Grzenda	Debby Russ
Maureen Harper	George Rzepka
Celeste Heyerichs	Lillian Scibetta
Elizabeth Holland	Teresa Szypula



**10 YEARS**

## 5 YEARS

Louise Bernier	Jude Malone
Lisa Brennan	John Martin
Arlene Charters	Chris Mason
Patricia Cordiner	Marilyn McLaughlin
Linda Downey	Richard Moore
Dennis Galassi	Peggy Morley
Yvonne Graham	Pat Murphy
Patricia Harrington	Dianne Peeling
Lorraine Harrison	Marianne Phillips
Kathleen Holder	Martha Pierre
Shirley Hopkins	German Jr. Reano
Peter Hunter	Tanusree Saha
Joseph Kaposy	Lorraine Skinner
Sheila Kaposy	Phil Small
Leroy MacPhee	Kelly Turingia
Loretto Mahony	Darlene Zeni



**5 YEARS**



## Irene Krawchuk's commitment pays off in many ways for Good Shepherd Centre

Good Shepherd is proud of the many supporters who have dedicated their time and money to help our community.

Irene Krawchuk is one of those wonderful people. Irene has been volunteering with Community of Light at Good Shepherd's Hot Meal Program, since 2004. Not only has she donated her energy and talents, but as a retired Royal Bank of Canada employee, Irene participates in the company's Employee Volunteer Program, and receives \$500 a year for every 40 hours logged volunteering. Recently, she presented Carmen Saliccioli, director of The Good Shepherd Centre (pictured), with her ninth donation from the Royal Bank program. As a result, The Good Shepherd Centre, to date, has been the beneficiary of \$4,500.

"Wow! Thank you to our angel Irene and we hope you will continue volunteering with us for a long time," says Carmen.



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

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

Staff at 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:

**Good Shepherd Development Office**

905.528.6565 • [info@gsch.ca](mailto:info@gsch.ca)

[goodshepherdcentres.ca/donate](http://goodshepherdcentres.ca/donate)

 A blue and white advertisement for the Good Shepherd Golf Classic. At the top is the logo for "Good Shepherd GOLF Classic" featuring a stylized golf club head. Below the logo is the text "Putting Women & Youth on Par" in a cursive font, followed by "Supporting Good Shepherd Youth Services & Women's Services" in a smaller font. The event location and date are listed as "Heron Point Golf Links" and "September 8, 2016". A large image of a golf club head is on the right side. At the bottom, it says "For more information or to register 905.528.6565 x3309 • [events@gsch.ca](mailto:events@gsch.ca)".

## GLAMOUR IN THE HAMMER

It's become one of Hamilton's premier cultural events.

Glamour in the Hammer attracted 600 guests to the Cotton Factory on April 22. The event showcased eight fashion designers and nine popular local restaurants. Also featured were performers from the Hamilton Aerial Group (pictured).

Proceeds from the evening support homelessness prevention programs at Good Shepherd's Venture Centre.



### Lots of love with seniors and kids

A beautiful partnership began on May 2, when seniors from Good Shepherd's Assisted Living Program visited children at the Jeanne Scott Child & Parent Resource Centre to make Mother's Day gifts. The Centre doubles as an alternative education classroom and a child-minding service, where young moms can earn their high school diploma without worrying about their children. The senior women had a great time helping the kids show their moms how much they love them.

## Notre Dame Community Resource Centre

# The community steps up to keep the doors open

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After the tour, John attended a holiday party for homeless and street-involved youth. His passion for the project grew and John became an ambassador for the CRC in the community.

Just in time for Christmas, John donated \$230,000 on behalf of his family, which allowed the doors to the CRC to remain open until March 31, 2016.

"There is so much opportunity there, if only the youth are given a chance" said John. "It's a very important service for this community. My hope was that this donation would have an impact on the City."

In December, councillors voted not to provide the \$230,000 for 2016-17 and the CRC remained at risk of closing on April 1.

However, the donation from the LeCluse family gave Good Shepherd's Development team the opportunity to strategize on ways to raise money for future years.

"The LeCluse family gift came at a time

of desperate need. They were our Christmas Angels," said Cathy Wellwood, Good Shepherd's Chief Development Officer. "We were so thankful to have the opportunity to take a breath, pull up our socks and get out in the community to ask for support for the next phase."

Over the next several months, more than \$103,000 was donated. This was made up of gifts of all sizes and allowed the CRC programs to continue.

### The Ron Joyce Foundation's Support

There is more good news to share. After the Board of Trustees from The Ron Joyce Foundation reviewed a proposal from Good Shepherd to help fund the CRC, they committed to a grant of \$250,000, given in installments of \$125,000 over two years.

"The Board noted the urgency of (Good Shepherd's) request and the intention to search for a more permanent solution to the funding gap," said Grant Joyce, The Joyce Foundation Trustee. "I applaud this dedication to at-risk youth and the dig-

nity you afford them through your support services."

Although the community support has been positive, without a permanent funding source the CRC remains at risk of closing. For many years, Good Shepherd has relied on both City of Hamilton funding and private donations to ensure that Notre Dame remains open. We are still confronted with the reality that we do not have enough resources for the required investment in our youth.

There are many needs in our community and many people who struggle. Research shows that a third of homeless adults were homeless as teens. We need to interrupt this cycle of poverty and homelessness and empower Hamilton's youth to become independent members of society.

"I'm excited that people have reached out and are supporting this project," said John. "There is something positive from all of this – a lot of awareness has been generated and people are starting to appreciate the value of this service."



## A MESSAGE FROM CATHY WELLWOOD

The Catholic Church is in the midst of what is called the Extraordinary Jubilee of Mercy, or the Year of Mercy. This is a special year in which Pope Francis encourages us to love, show kindness and be generous. Mercy bestowed by God as well as the mercy that we, as individuals, demonstrate towards our neighbours enrich our lives and make us better people.

The Year of Mercy's slogan is *Merciful like the Father*, which derives from Luke 6:36, "Be merciful, even as your Father is merciful". This is a challenge for us to love without limits. Those of you who are familiar with Good Shepherd's mission *Charity Unlimited ... Never Stop Loving* will know how closely aligned our organization is with both Luke's writings and the theme of the Year of Mercy.

The works of Good Shepherd so beautifully echo the Catholic teachings. You just have to read these passages from the Catechism of the Catholic Church to understand what guides us:

*"The works of mercy are charitable actions by which we come to the aid of our neighbour in his spiritual and bodily necessities."*

*"The corporal works of mercy consist especially in feeding the hungry, sheltering the homeless, clothing the naked, visiting the sick and imprisoned, and burying the dead. Among all these, giving alms to the poor is one of the chief witnesses to fraternal charity: it is also a work of justice pleasing to God."*

The morals and principles ingrained in these lessons of mercy are universal; they guide us in the way we live and how we treat the people we encounter daily. Although many of our co-workers, donors and volunteers are not Roman Catholic, we all embrace Good Shepherd's roots in Catholic teachings. So much of what we do in the community relates directly back to the positive lessons of mercy taught by the Church throughout its history.

As Pope Francis said in his letter announcing the Year of Mercy, "Mercy is the very foundation of the Church's life."

I believe that "mercy" is the foundation of all our lives, regardless of our beliefs. I believe that without mercy there is no humanity.

Good Shepherd is the embodiment of mercy. I want to thank you for showing mercy to the vulnerable members of our community through your support of our organization. Whether you are an occasional donor, a major donor or you donate your time and energy by volunteering, you are Good Shepherd's partner in living our mission, *Charity Unlimited ... Never Stop Loving*.

God Bless,

Cathy Wellwood  
Chief Development Officer

## OUR COMMITMENT TO YOU

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.

### HOW TO REACH US

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 [youtube.com/goodshepherdhamilton](https://youtube.com/goodshepherdhamilton)

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