

Out of the Cold...

For our 6th season, ehm is proud to renew its commitment to the Out of the Cold program. From November until the end of March, ehm provides a comfortable and safe environment for our guests to escape the cold and have a good night's rest.

This indispensable program is a life saver to many of our guests who would otherwise have to brave the cold, harsh Canadian winter. In order for us to continue to provide this service, ehm needs more financial support from our community. Last year ehm provided shelter, compassion and over 2,400 meals to hundreds of men and women in Toronto's downtown community.

By supporting the Out of the Cold program, you are helping to ensure that we have a reliable and steady source of revenue and volunteer power to keep this program going strong.



Urgently Needed Items for the Fall:

Clothing Items: winter coats and boots, hats, scarves, gloves, sleeping bags and blankets, socks, underwear, work boots and running shoes (sizes 8-12), blue jeans

Personal Necessities: shampoo and conditioner, disposable razors, deodorant, sunscreen, feminine products, lip balms, toothpaste and toothbrushes, individual packages of tissues, hairbrushes and combs.

Food and Kitchen Items: powdered juice, powdered milk, kitchen utensils, plastic wrap, aluminum foil, juice boxes, fresh fruit and vegetables, packaged or frozen foods (especially meat, vegetables, fruit and juice) cheese (grated or block), eggs, soup, pasta, rice, baking supplies, breakfast cereals, sugar, pepper, salt, spices frozen casseroles, tea bags, disposable items (plates, bowls and utensils)

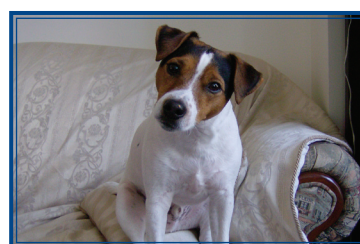
Miscellaneous: Canadian Tire Money, school supplies and art supplies, TTC tokens – Adult, Seniors and Students

Donations are accepted from 9:30 - 4:00, on Monday - Friday.

Thank you for your support!



Evangel Hall Mission
A community of compassion.
A place of hope.



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Transformation IN ACTION

Fall Update
2009

A Message from Our Executive Director Salt and Light

Recently, a group of nearly sixty members of the Women's Missionary Society of The Presbyterian Church arrived from Stratford for a tour. They were eager to discover as much as possible about ehm and the persons we serve. They spent time having lunch with staff and worshipping together and donated a large quantity of new socks, underwear and T-shirts for people in the drop-in. As they were leaving many expressed their appreciation and gratitude for the work being done at ehm, and yet I couldn't help but give thanks for these women, envoys of God's goodness and love.



Joseph Taylor with resident Arturo, and Jo Ann Hislop, Director of Programs.

Their visit helped me reflect that ehm really is the sum total of countless gifts of love and works of mercy by volunteers, supporters and benefactors; humble and unpretentious people who are the salt of the earth. The vast majority of this assistance is done with little fanfare or expectation, with service being its own reward. Like a thousand points of light, together they form a flame to illuminate and warm the lives of persons in need.

There is an idiom "that a butterfly flapping its wings in Brazil can cause a thunderstorm in Florida." This expresses the truth that we are interconnected and an act of kindness can cause an effect far beyond its source. A man named Greg was the first dental patient treated in the ehm Clinic. He had not been to a dentist in 40 years and could not chew on one side of his mouth. Due to constant pain he became depressed and even suicidal. Afterwards, he mentioned that because of the care he received he wanted to go and help other people in need. We see this effect on people's lives every day at ehm!

Autumn is a time to give thanks for the bounty of the earth. Your generous support of service, financial gifts and prayers helped us weather a difficult financial time, with increased demand for aid. Thank you! Please continue to help if you can. With your assistance ehm will continue to be a beacon of light and safe haven to people in need.

Joseph R. Taylor, Executive Director

*"The Opposite of love is not hate, it's indifference.
The opposite of faith is not heresy, it's indifference."
~ Elie Wiesel*

A Home

by Heather, an ehm resident.

I had that dream again last night
you know the one I mean.
Where I don't know where I'm going
and where it is I've been.
I'm searching for a home
a refuge from the times.
To keep me safe and warm
and give me peace of mind.

And I believe that home is where you are;
I know that I've searched near and I searched far.
Please send to me a bright and guiding star,
cause I believe that home is where you are.

It's an ache that keeps on aching,
a longing that won't leave.
A need that continues to drive me,
and so I must believe.

I'm looking for a home without fear,
a home to spend the years.

As we spend our lives together in our place,
a warm home, safe from harm home.

A lying in your arms home,
a home where I can finally be me.

And so I keep on looking,
searching for our private star.

To help me finally find you,
for I believe that home is where you are.

Our Generation

written at the August session of
Outside the Lines with Anne Marie
Woods

Our generation, my generation
we're going to rock your world, we're going
to give you some education.

If we don't get respect, then what's the
point of school.
You tell us to be patient but you're breaking
your own rules.

If I could change the world, I would look
just like myself.

It would be about family, money, success
less poverty, more wealth.

And for all the boys and girls without a
mother or a father;

Our generation will make the world its
best, we will grow stronger.

Our generation, my generation,
we're going to rock your world, we're going
to give you some education.

Youth Program Update:

Outside the Lines

Our summer at Outside the Lines was fantastic.

We had close to
30 talented young
women attending
camp this summer.
They learned
new skills and
expanded their
creative horizons.

At the end of
each camp session we do a Talent
Show, and it was incredible to
see what the campers came up
with. People wrote original songs,
choreographed dances, performed
classical piano pieces, and
presented poetry and monologues
they had written. Each camp
session also had the opportunity to
work with the professional singer/



spoken word artist
Anne-Marie Woods to
create an original song/
poem collectively (see
side bar).

In September, our Youth
Centre became busy
once again with daily
after school programs for children
and teenagers.

We are starting to collect school
supplies to give out to the program
participants. Any donations of
binders, paper, rulers, calculators,
writing implements etc. are most
welcome.

Erin Oke, Youth Program Coordinator

Resident Profile:

Mother and children get a new home

Earlier this year, resident Niama and her family received some great news from Habitat for Humanity! They will be getting their own home.

Niama was one of ehm's first
residents. She came to live with us
after immigrating from Uganda
and living in various shelters.

Living at ehm gave Niama the
opportunity to start a new life.
She was able to go to school and
then get a job at a local daycare
centre.

After establishing herself in her
new home, Niama was able to
start the process of having her
children immigrate to Canada
as well. With the help of the
Director of Residence, Marcela
Fresolone and Olivia Chow, MP,
they were finally reunited.

Last year, Niama and her family were
chosen by Habitat for Humanity
to participate in building their first
house in Canada.

Habitat from Humanity requires the
new home owners to get involved
with the charity by providing
community service.

Niama says she will miss ehm when
she moves. "Everybody here has been
so wonderful and supportive, it will
be sad to go."

The staff and residents and ehm wish
Niama and her family all the best
when they move into their new home.

Program Update:

Thank you for your support of our programs.

The ehm drop-in is busier than ever, as we have seen a 25% increase in the number of people who use our drop-in services.

Here are some typical conversations in
ehm's drop-in:

"It's the middle of the month, and
I've run out of money; Bob, can you
spare some canned goods to get
me through to the week-end?" The
Food Share Program is now back in
full swing after being temporarily
suspended. Thanks
to your generosity,
people are now
receiving canned
goods on request.

"Tony, it was cold last
night, I almost froze,
I certainly didn't
get much sleep. Do
you have a blanket?"
"Absolutely, we just got
a bunch in, hope this will keep you
warm tonight."

"I want to take a shower, but don't
want to put my dirty underwear and
socks back on, do you guys have a
new pair I could have?"

"As a matter of fact we just got a
generous donation of new socks
and underwear from one of our
supporters, here you go."

These requests happen every day.
They come from desperation, as a
plea, often with humility. ehm has
been successfully helping make the
lives of homeless and poor persons a
little more comfortable, supplying the
basics so many of us take for granted.

For generations ehm has been
able to help those in need, because
our supporters have continually
supplied us with the essentials we
need to operate. For your hard
work organizing food and clothing
drives, your willingness to donate
your precious time at community
dinners, and for the preparation of

sandwiches for the
kitchen (which by
the way is a huge
benefit to our
drop-in patrons)
we, the staff of the
drop-in,
thank you.

We receive the
heartfelt thanks,
the expressions

of joy and the smiles the recipients
of your generosity and tireless work
generate. Our patrons have come to
rely on us for the necessities of life,
because we are able to count on you
to provide them.

Each smile, each brightened face and
each thank you goes directly to you.

Bob Price,
Drop-In Support



Kitchen volunteer preparing lunch.

Evangel Hall Mission is now on Twitter. If you would like to get frequent ehm news and updates, please follow us. You can also add us as a friend on FACEBOOK.



2 ways to get
Involved

Sponsor a week of the Out of the Cold Program

For a \$350 donation you or your
community group can ensure fresh
healthy home cooked meals are
available for the men and women
who depend on this service.

Volunteer at the Ecumenical Community Canned Foods Drive

A fourth of all food collected goes
directly to ehm. This donation of
canned food provides us with meals
for over 6 months. This year the
committee is looking for volunteers
to help with the following:

- Delivering flyers from 9:30 till
noon on Saturday November
21st. These flyers inform
residents in the uptown
Toronto community of our food
collection date.
- Collect canned food on
Saturday November 28th.

Please contact Paula Aceto
416-504-3563 x 231