

A COMMUNITY OF COMPASSION. A PLACE OF HOPE.

# TOGETHER, WE'RE STRONGER

SUMMER 2021



## STORIES OF RESILIENCE

As we reflect on this past year, I am moved by the strength and resiliency of our caring community. From our generous donors to our dedicated volunteers, you have been alongside us each step of the way helping to care for the record-breaking number of clients who turn to ehm for support.

Throughout the pandemic we remained open to provide 104,508 meals, distribute 4,583 articles of clothing, and offer 1,031 showers. ehm remains a place of hope for our clients and you, our donors, make it possible.

In this newsletter, you'll learn more about how ehm brings staff, volunteers, and clients together to foster a stronger community and create a brighter future for all. What we've learned while navigating through these uncertain times is with your continued support ehm is stronger and together we'll continue to care for those who need us most.

*"ehm is a place of hope for our clients, and our donors make it possible. We couldn't do it without you."  
– Ariana, ehm Residence Coordinator*



### INSIDE

Meet ehm resident, Horacio. After facing a challenging setback, Tenant Support Staff provided him with the resources needed to regain his confidence and get his life back on track. Read more on page 2.

*"ehm is my support system. They walk alongside me on my journey and help me reach my goals."*





## SUPPORT SPOTLIGHT: RESIDENCE PROGRAM

The strength of ehm's Residence Program is not just its ability to give tenants the supports they need to stabilize their health and their housing – it is the ability to empower tenants to look forward and plan a new future for themselves.

For many tenants moving in, this is the first step in taking control of their lives. We connect them with mental health and medical supports, and help them stay on track with their care plans. Many tenants are learning skills such as meal planning and budgeting. We help build communication and interpersonal skills so that tenants can surround themselves with strong, healthy relationships. When housing and health are well

managed, tenants can think about things such as trying new hobbies, going to a museum, taking walks in new parts of the city, or even taking classes.

Another important piece of our Residence Program is building community. Through programs like gardening, bingo, walking groups, holiday meals, movie nights, and crafts, we provide tenants with a sense of belonging and the opportunity to make meaningful connections with their neighbours. Many of ehm's tenants have developed long-lasting friendships and have created chosen families. Because these are critical programs, we have found ways to keep many of these activities running safely throughout the pandemic.



*Horacio, ehm resident (left) poses with Nigel, Tenant Support Worker (right) outside Evangel Hall Mission.*

**“Working through this setback has been easier than I thought thanks to ehm. I know good things are around the corner because I have their support.”**

**Horacio**  
*ehm resident*

## CLIENT SPOTLIGHT: THE COMEBACK IS GREATER THAN THE SETBACK

After leaving the only home he's ever known, Horacio made his way from Nicaragua to Canada to build a better life for his family.

Horacio found his first permanent home through ehm's Residence Program. With stable housing and employment secured, things were coming together. But like many when the pandemic hit, Horacio lost his job.

After bumping into Tenant Support Worker Nigel, casual small talk about losing his job quickly turned into an

action plan. Nigel stepped in to ensure Horacio applied for financial assistance so he wouldn't lose his home and could pay his bills. Together they worked on Horacio's resume and submitted several job applications.

Horacio's short-term goals include finding employment and with ehm in his corner, he's confident that he will receive a job offer very soon. Looking forward, he is still working hard to create a brighter future here for his wife and child and he cannot wait to be reunited with them.

# BEATING THE HEAT

In the coming months, you and your loved ones might be counting down to the official start of summer, organizing trips to the cottage, and soaking up every last ray of sun before the season fades.

For our clients and tenants, they'll too be thinking about the arrival of summer and how they will stay safe from the heat in the city. Because of closures and reduced access to indoor spaces, finding drinkable water and a cool space indoors is more difficult than ever before.

When clients come to ehm to shower, do their laundry, or grab a meal, they can sit and wait in a cool, air conditioned space. This is a critical resource that helps prevent heat stroke and heat exhaustion.

We also provide air conditioning in our 84 residential units to ensure our tenants are safe and comfortable. Almost half of ehm tenants are seniors, so having dependable air conditioning is vital for heart and lung health and helps tenants stay safe indoors throughout the pandemic.



## JOIN US FOR THE 19TH ANNUAL EHM GOLF TOURNAMENT

It's time to dust off your clubs, get working on that swing, and join us on the course for the 19th Annual ehm Golf Tournament on June 15, 2021! We're excited to work with Pheasant Run Golf Club to offer a fun tournament that is COVID-19 safe.

With your continued support, we can care for even more clients experiencing homelessness, poverty, and social isolation. Remember, when you participate in our tournament, you're not just playing golf, you're changing lives.

Register online today:

<https://www.evangelhall.ca/getinvolved/events>

For more information, contact Caitlin Silveira at 416.504.3563 ext. 246 or [caitlin.silveira@evangelhall.ca](mailto:caitlin.silveira@evangelhall.ca)



2021 ehm Golf Tournament Committee Co-chairs. From left to right: Beth Hemstad, Linda Herron, and Gordon Cooke

**"It takes a community to care for a community. Get involved and change a life."**

**Linda Herron**

*ehm Golf Tournament Committee Co-Chair*

# WE NEED YOU: SUMMER PRIORITY ITEMS

For many people experiencing homelessness and poverty, we are their closet and without us they wouldn't have access to seasonally appropriate clothing. Help ehm stock up on the latest priority items for summer:

## CLOTHING

- New underwear
- Long johns
- Raincoats and spring jackets
- T-shirts and sweatshirts
- Jeans, pants, and track pants
- Shorts
- Running shoes
- Water proof gloves and mittens
- Tents and sleeping bags
- Large backpacks

## PERSONAL CARE

- Lip balm
- Travel-sized shaving cream
- Travel-sized shampoo and conditioner
- Hand and leg warmers
- Rub A535
- Incontinence products
- Deodorant
- Sunscreen

## FOOD

- Bottled Water
- Frozen vegetables
- Individual packets of creamers/milk for coffee and tea
- White rice
- Juice boxes
- Individually packaged snacks



## THREE WAYS YOU CAN HELP TODAY

- 1 PROVIDE A MEAL**  
Help us keep our tenants' and clients' bellies full by donating prepared meals or sandwiches.
- 2 BECOME A MONTHLY DONOR**  
Your consistent generosity helps ehm continue to adapt and provide essential community services through this crisis.
- 3 LEAVE YOUR LEGACY**  
Include Evangel Hall Mission in your estate plan today and give the gift of hope in the future.

Due to the changing rules and restrictions related to the pandemic, please contact us before dropping off your clothing or food donations. To schedule and reserve your time slot, please call 416.504.3563.

**STAY CONNECTED.  
WE'D LOVE TO HEAR FROM YOU!**

## EVANGEL HALL MISSION

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 @evangelhallmission  
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ehm is proud to be a mission of The Presbyterian Church in Canada, under the care of the Presbytery of East Toronto. We have been providing services to those in need since 1913. Charitable Registration #11890 3129 RR001

