



2021 WINTER GRATITUDE REPORT



YOU
MAKE THINGS
HAPPEN

YOU KEPT US GOING

TOGETHER, we've accomplished so much thanks to you, this past year and especially this past holiday season.

This pandemic has not been easy for anyone, but **YOU** helped us to:



Provide shelter and housing to 200+ women across the city in our four supportive housing residences and emergency shelter.



Serve 94,000 meals last year.

YOUR ongoing support makes all of this possible. But, we have more to do in 2021.



More than 1000 women become homeless in our city every year.



Since December 2020, we serve over 100 women in our temporary shelter. A partnership with the City and Shepherds of Good Hope.

But with you by our side, we know **HOPE is possible.**

YOU Generously gave your time, skill, and support throughout the year:



25,000+ COVID-19 masks were donated this year.



We received almost 800 gift cards to support women in our programs.

MEET SARAH

Cornerstone's Executive Director

Cornerstone Housing for Women is thrilled to introduce our community to our new Executive Director, Sarah Davis.

In January 2021, Sarah took on the role of Executive Director.

Sarah has been supporting vulnerable populations - primarily women that are at risk or have experienced homelessness - for over 15 years.

She completed a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Criminology at Carleton University and also has a College Diploma in Correctional Work.

She has considerable experience working as a front-line staff and has progressively taken on more senior roles with various social justice and social service organizations across Ontario.

Sarah has developed a keen understanding of and commitment to vulnerable individuals' difficulties, as well as a solid knowledge of how racism, ageism, classism, sexism, homophobia, trauma, addiction, mental health, criminalization, violence against women and transgender issues impact marginalized people. Her experience includes work with communities that tackle multiple barriers such as poverty, discrimination, criminalization, lack of health care and lack of housing.

Sarah is an active board member of the Alliance to End Homelessness Ottawa (ATEHO). Through ATEHO and other organizations, Sarah has participated in public education and advocacy, from supporting individuals at Federal Hearings to delivering lectures in university classrooms.

Sarah is honoured to be an advocate for the women of Ottawa and looks forward to working alongside the compassionate Cornerstone community of staff members, residents, volunteers, donors and community partners.



VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT

A Message from Rosemary, Volunteer Coordinator

This past year was unlike any other. Our volunteers truly are the roots of our organization. Although many of our regular volunteers were unable to be with us in person, they were definitely by our side in one way or another. **You keep us going!**

I'd like to send a special thank you to a few rockstars throughout this pandemic.

Ronna (in the photo), has been a superstar during the pandemic and since volunteers returned in July. Ronna has been available to help in the kitchen and the donation room. She worked tirelessly to help us get things organized at our new temporary shelter - doing everything from heavy lifting, sorting and packing of food and then organizing our new pantry at our new temporary shelter.



I'd also like to give a huge shout out to all the volunteers who came back in July to help us in our Booth Street kitchen as well as the donation room at Booth Street. Our volunteers Sonia and Susan were true Christmas Angels in helping sort donations for our Holiday Bags for the residents. Also a huge thank you to our volunteers Mary, Val and Katie who continued to support Cornerstone residents in their Friendly Visitor role, visiting with their resident matches regularly and always bringing friendly and comforting words during this difficult time.

Last, but not least the amazing Rev Hilary Murray and the Spiritual Care Team who all through the pandemic have brought us hope and connection through their newsletter and now virtual prayer circles.

My thanks go out to all Cornerstone volunteers who have kept in touch and send well wishes to staff and residents even though we can't be together in person.

CORNERSTONE YPAB

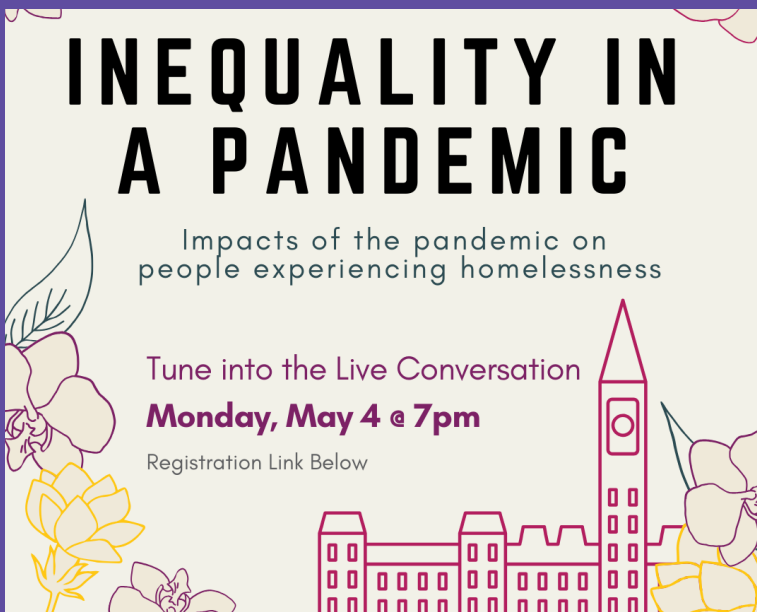
Young Professionals Advisory Board 2020 - YEAR OF COVID



The YPAB made the most of 2020. We joined the Coldest Night of the Year in February. We supported the 1,000 Women Panel at Ashbury College in March.

By mid-March with COVID-19 rampant, we pivoted to hold two online dance parties with DJ Roxy Sunset and DJ JFun, raising over \$1,000 for Cornerstone. In May, we hosted a 2-part webinar about Inequality in a Pandemic and the impact on people experiencing homelessness. We hosted a Bootcamp for Cornerstone in June, a virtual workout class.

In September, we held a virtual retreat for creative brainstorming and team-building. **We look forward to putting our ideas into action in 2021!**



COMMUNITY SPOTLIGHT

Remebering Wilda Phillips

A kind message from Chair, Patricia Hassard in memory of Wilda Phillips.

She was a most remarkable woman.

Wilda was an ardent volunteer at Cornerstone for many years, chairing the Foundation Board and then the corporate Board until 2019. She put an incredible amount of energy and fun into the major fundraising campaign for the Princeton residence and was just delighted when it opened up as supportive housing for vulnerable women.

Wilda's great warmth was the first thing I noticed about her. Her inner light shone through in her cheerfulness, her smile and that twinkle in her eye. Her voice was soft but whenever she spoke, I listened because she had something valuable to say. She was always there as a mentor, sharing her wisdom and insight about things both large and small.

Wilda was a woman with an incredible variety of friends. She was a natural connector of people who had the gift of making everyone feel at ease.

She made friends with everyone she met. One afternoon this past summer she was gardening in her front lawn. A 4-year old boy from her neighbourhood was out for a walk with his Mom and called to her in greeting. When Wilda replied, he said "When the plague is over, can I come over for a play date?"

Wilda died in September 2020 and left all who knew her grieving the loss of her. I am grateful to have known her and to have called her friend.



CORNERSTONE'S WISH LIST FOR WINTER AND SPRING

Donations are stored centrally and distributed to all Cornerstone locations, including our Emergency Shelter. **We appreciate your support and are very grateful that you have taken the time to donate to us.**

Your generosity makes women's lives better!

Please note: due to limited storage space, **we are unable to accept ANY donations of clothing, large appliances or furniture, including beds.** We also **do not accept items for children.**

Urgent & Quality of Life Needs:

- towels
- linens
- all purpose cleaner
- rubbermaid bins
- cutlery
- rags
- \$10 gift cards

Please Contact Our Resource Development Coordinator To Arrange A Drop-Off Time. Thank you!
314 Booth Street, Ottawa
613-254-6584 EXT. 521 resource.
development@cornerstonewomen.ca

UPCOMING EVENTS - SAVE THE DATE!



JOIN US FOR A COVID-FRIENDLY COLDEST NIGHT OF THE YEAR CHARITY WALK FOR CORNERSTONE!

REGISTER YOUR TEAM TODAY AT WWW.CNOY.ORG

STAY TUNED FOR MORE INFORMATION ON:
INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY EVENT
PURPLE TIE GALA 2021

RESIDENT SPOTLIGHT

A resident at MacPhail House wanted you to know how your donations goes directly to supporting women like her every day.

“Looking back to review my life in Canada as the year ends today, I am very grateful to Cornerstone for my life so far. From sheltering me when I had nowhere to lay my head to connecting me to resources for my medical and mental health.

With the help of Cornerstone I was stable enough to study. I got referred to MacPhail House and met a warm reception and ready to listen ear from you.

I am better than when I first moved into McPhail and I am grateful for your help at all times Melanie.”

YOU MAKE THINGS HAPPEN

When you join our Cornerstone Community you are choosing hope. Please give hope to a woman today and give someone a home and stability tomorrow!

Do you have social media? Make sure you stay connected with us and follow us:



@cornerstonehousing



@hopecornerstone

I would like to make a donation

I am enclosing:

\$250 \$120 \$75 \$30

Other amount \$ _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ Prov: _____ Postal Code: _____

Email: _____

In person or by mail:
Cornertstone Housing for Women

Attn: Amber Bramer
314 Booth St., Ottawa, ON
K1R7K2

Donate Online: make a secure online donation
www.cornerstonewomen.ca



Our Charitable Registration Number
83725-8854-RR0001