





Housing Matters Network Launch

Sue Smarkala



Housing issues are **very** complex:

- Housing affordability & lack of stock
- Seniors & Youth housing needs
- Urban versus Rural differences
- Wrap around supports –food, transportation, etc. ...

Purpose

Provide a forum to:

- encourage conversation & learning
- share information & ideas
- profile existing projects/trials
- encourage others to engage with housing issues & initiatives



CARLETON PLACE

**Creating a Local Ecumenical
Coalition to focus on
Affordable Housing Issues**

Rev. David Sherwin

Our coalition of four local churches:

- St. James' Anglican Church
- Zion-Memorial United Church
- Carleton Place Baptist Church
- Ottawa Valley Vineyard Church

Priority Issues

- Homelessness among youth
- Aging in place for isolated rural seniors
- Advocating for affordable housing policies



What we have learned

- We do not have the resources to address these issues on our own;
- Other groups are also working on affordable housing issues;
- More could be done by collaborating with others.



Building a Tiny House

- In collaboration with Carebridge, an organization involved with affordable housing
- Demonstration project to build a “Tiny House” & find a home for it

Advocacy

Attendance at Municipal Council meetings to discuss affordable housing issues and create affordable housing friendly policies for Carleton Place

Future Plans

- Continue to work on the demonstration “Tiny House” project
- Create a network of volunteers to assist isolated seniors

Future Plans (cont'd)

- Advocate for housing friendly municipal policies
- Build relationships with other affordable housing groups in Lanark County



For more information on the
Ecumenical Coalition and
the Tiny House Build
contact Rev. David Sherwin
david_sherwin@ecunet.org

ST. ANDREW'S UNITED CHURCH (Williamstown) The Surfer Pack Project

Luane Doyle





The
Surfer-Pack
Project is here.
GET INVOLVED!



Who Are We?

- A Youth driven project to fill backpacks with essentials
- Primarily for at risk youth (“couch-surfers”) or in need
- For those in crisis who require essentials
- Non-denominational (Community based)



You can directly impact the lives of temporarily homeless youth in the SDG&A communities.

**WHAT IS THE
PEER-PACK PROJECT?**

What do we
need to
know ?



What and where is there
need ?

What is needed in the bags
or not recommended ?

How can they be
distributed ?

How can we acquire what
is needed in the bags ?

Who can do this ?

Connection and
communication with
community



"This homeless population is classified as the
temporarily housed
-the invisible homeless- the couch-surfers."

Where can we
store materials
and prepare
packs ?

Creating
Packages

Who are the workers &
where do we find them ?



What is needed in the bags for each destination ?



SURFER-PACK INVENTORY LIST:

ITEM

- Backpacks
- Resource Booklet
- Notes from Yayas & Pompom person
- Toiletries case : (female)
- Toiletries case : (male)
- Tooth brush
- Tooth paste (travel/sample sizes)
- Dental Floss
- Shampoo (travel/sample size)
- Conditioner (travel/sample sizes
- Small- med. Towel
- Facecloth
- Bath Scrubbie
- Skin care(travel/sample size)
- Skin care (other)
- Q-Tips (travel/sample size)
- Razor
- Shave Cream (travel/sample size)
- Brush
- Comb
- Lip balm
- Band aids (travel packs)
- Wipes (travel packs)
- Kleenex (travel/sample sizes)
- Nail clippers (Nail Kit)
- Safety pins, sewing kit...etc
- Feminine Hygiene Products
- *Socks (Apparently a HUGE need for socks)*
- *Socks - WINTER *
- Toque (seasonal)
- Mitts/gloves (seasonal)
- Blanket (Space)
- Pillow (Inflatable/neck rest)
- Energy bars (Peanut-free)
- Candy/ gum
- Insta-coffee tubes
- Hot chocolate tubes
- Thermos Bottle/hot-cold
- Flashlight(LED)
- Extra batteries (2 packs)
- Portable phone charger
- Notepad/Diary & pens
- Face Mask (COVID)

A large black circle on the left side of the slide contains a grey icon of three stylized human figures. The figures are represented by circles for heads and curved lines for bodies, arranged in a triangular formation with one figure at the top and two at the bottom.

Implications and Considerations

- Different communities, different needs
- Bags (or boxes) considerations
 - Quick departures and relocations
 - Warm clothing for outdoors
 - Youngsters in school with un-met needs
 - Shelters for women and children in crisis
 - Contacts for street youth
 - Groceries for families or seniors
 - Community gardens with excess

We found community distribution partners...

- Counselling & Support Services of SD&G
- Baldwin House
- The Agape Centre
- Eastern Ontario Health Unit
- Cornwall Public Library
- Centre 105
- Bridging Gaps: Office
- Akwesasne Child and Family Services



How do we connect those who have with those who need ?



Social Development Council
of Cornwall & area
"building stronger communities"

Conseil de développement social
de Cornwall et de la région
"renforcer les communautés"



Akwesasne Child
and Family Services



EOHU
Eastern Ontario
Health Unit

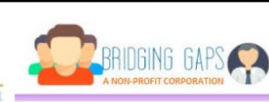


BSEO
Bureau de santé
de l'est de l'Ontario



The Area Parish of the
Centre 105
St. Lawrence

YAYAS
Youth and Young Adults



Take Ownership

- Personalization for each community
- Create a social presence that speaks to what you are doing.



For more information on
the 'Surfer Pack Project'
contact Luane Doyle

luanedoyle@hotmail.com

THE FUTURE

Sue Smarkala



Get involved!

Share your housing stories,
ideas and comments.

Be part of the Housing Matters Team.



Join Us!

Share your interest in Housing Matters
at one of our upcoming events ...

Thursday, March 17th (7:00 – 8:30pm)

or

Wednesday, March 23rd (4:30 – 6:00pm)



QUESTIONS???

Contact Sue Smarkala at
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