



FUNDRAISING GOAL SURPASSES \$500,000 MARK!

As of September 30, 2015, \$530,680 has been raised for Acadia Place. Thank you for your generous contributions!

The Acadia Place project brings together KAIROS Calgary, Calgary Homeless Foundation and CUPS to support individuals and families experiencing homelessness as they find a new home at Acadia Place, a 58-unit apartment complex in southeast Calgary. Together, our goal is to raise \$1.5 million to pay down the mortgage on Acadia Place and provide lower rents for those most in need.

If you would like to contribute to the Acadia Place project, please donate through your church or directly to the Calgary Homeless Foundation at: www.calgaryhomeless.com/get-involved/donate.

Please reference: Acadia Place. Thank you!

CALGARY HOMELESS FOUNDATION UPDATE

Calgary Homeless Foundation (CHF) is a catalyst and enabler for Systems and Service Agencies to optimize client success.

CHF focuses on four strategic pillars of work: Advocacy, Research and Development, Systems Planning, and Funder. CHF is committed to collective impact and to partnering with service agencies, the private sector, government (municipal, provincial and federal), the faith community, other foundations and all Calgarians to end homelessness in Calgary.

CHF is one of nine partner agencies with the RESOLVE campaign. RESOLVE is a unique collaboration of nine partner agencies raising \$120 million to build affordable rental housing for 3,000 vulnerable and homeless Calgarians. CHF's goal as part of the campaign is \$45 million. As a result of donors such as KAIROS, we have raised over \$26 million or 59% of our goal!

Paying down the mortgage on Acadia Place will ensure the tenant rents remain at 30% of their income, which provides stability and sustainability for the individuals and families who call Acadia Place home, and CHF is able to maintain the buildings and daily operations. In February 2015 the mortgage was renewed at an interest rate of 1.78% and \$436,647 donated by KAIROS was applied to the principle amount of the mortgage.

Together we are ending homelessness in Calgary. Thank you for your ongoing support.

SAVE THE DATE!

ENGAGE, MOTIVATE, ACHIEVE

AN UPDATE ON HOMELESSNESS IN CALGARY

November 14, 2015 at 9:30 AM - 12:00 PM

Calgary Urban Project Society (CUPS)

1001 – 10 Avenue S.W. Calgary, Alberta T2R 0B7

Guest Speakers



Diana Krecsy,
President and CEO, Calgary Homeless Foundation (CHF)



Amanda St. Laurent,
Community Development and Engagement Manager, CUPS

Hear firsthand what it means to be homeless or at risk of being homeless, learn about the work being done, and the progress made so far, to end homelessness, and discover how the ecumenical community can continue to support agencies, such as CHF and CUPS, that are working to eliminate homelessness.

HOMELESS AWARENESS DAY

Friday, October 9, 2015 was declared **Homeless Awareness Day** by the City of Calgary at a noontime ceremony at Olympic Plaza. The theme for this year's event was **KEYS TO CHANGE**, representing the importance of Affordable Housing as a cornerstone to the Plan to End Homelessness.

HOMELESSNESS is defined as *"those who do not have a permanent residence to which they can return whenever they so choose."*

Who are Calgary's homeless?

In October 2014, more than 3,500 people were experiencing homelessness.

How many households are at risk of becoming homeless?

In Calgary, 23,165 households live in poverty (income less than \$20,000 and spending more than 50% of their income on shelter). Of those, 13,765 were renter households, who are at a much higher risk than homeowners of becoming homeless.

How do people become homeless?

While every person's entry into homelessness is different, similar factors come into play such as childhood factors, interpersonal/family factors, mental health/addiction, health problems, housing transitions and minority status.

What can we do to help end homelessness?

Each one of us can make a difference through small actions that reap big results:

1. Understand the issues. Follow CHF, Face it Calgary and I Heart Home on Twitter and get in touch with the agencies who are battling homelessness in Calgary.
2. Donate your time, clothing, food or whatever you have to give. Send monetary donations to the RESOLVE campaign or the Calgary Homeless Foundation to help build affordable housing.
3. Educate yourself and pass on your knowledge to friends and family.
4. Be a part of the solution by offering employment, affordable housing or job training.
5. Contact your councillor, MLA or MP urging them to do all they can to end homelessness in Calgary and support affordable housing.
6. Smile and be kind. Acknowledge the homeless, say hello and start a dialogue. You may get more out of it than you could ever imagine.



HOMELESS CHARTER OF RIGHTS MY RIGHTS MATTER

Canada's first Homeless Charter of Rights was launched on June 18, 2015 in Calgary. The Charter arose out of community consultations held by CHF with people who have experienced homelessness, and input from the private sector and public service agencies.

Some of the key rights listed in the Charter include the right to:

- Be treated the same as any other person by government and public services;
- Be treated fairly in the legal system;
- Have access to medical treatment and care;
- Privacy;
- Use parks, public benches and public transit;
- Not be discriminated against or harassed because people think you are different.

More than just a document, the Charter represents a movement for social change that will end discriminatory practices that impact the quality of life of people experiencing or at risk of homelessness. The Charter identifies the rights of those experiencing homelessness in Calgary and identifies those rights within health, justice and housing services.

"A healthy and just society can be measured by its treatment of its most vulnerable citizens," says Diana Krecsy, President & CEO, CHF. *"Understanding rights is integral to individuals being able to identify and address discriminatory practices that undermine their ability to access services and move beyond homelessness."*

Please refer to the CHF website for a full copy of the Charter.

DOCUMENTARY: DO YOU SEE ME?

In conjunction with the launch of the Homeless Charter of Rights, a short documentary was created on homelessness and discrimination. *"Do You See Me?"* provides insight into the experiences of discrimination from those experiencing homelessness as well as observations from those working collectively to end it in our communities.

The documentary can be found on YouTube: *"Do You See Me?"*



"...and you will be called Repairer of Broken Walls, Restorer of Streets with Dwellings."

(Isaiah 58:12)