

Volume 4

## **NEWSLETTER**

**APRIL 2024** 

# We're year-round!



On September 1, 2023, S.H.I.F.T. moved to year-round operations.

Our goal is to support individuals and families in 'making a shift' in their circumstances by way of providing consistent trusting relationships, honest communication, and promoting participant choice and empowerment."

S.H.I.F.T does this through an outreach, emergency shelter, and daytime drop-in programs, with many supports provided in each of its programs, including food, clothing, toiletries, showers, internet access, computers, and more.

As a short-term, housing-focused shelter, the program is intended to bridge the gap between entering homelessness and moving into safe and sustainable permanent housing.

In its lifetime, S.H.I.F.T. has assisted over 800 individuals in its housing-focused programming, provided over 10,000 meals throughout South Simcoe, over 5,000 harm reduction interactions, providing lifesaving supplies and support, and we've had over 250 volunteers helping to make all this happen.

#### Inside this issue:

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S.H.I.F.T provides safe, respectful, and welcoming emergency overnight accommodation, meals and supports to those experiencing or at-risk of experiencing homelessness and/or food insecurity in South Simcoe.

We are committed to facilitating connection to further services, resources and community.

S.H.I.F.T

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# From Jeni's Desk:

Since moving to year-round operations we have successfully assisted 49 service users in finding safe and permanent housing or housing alternatives and provided over 1500 nights of safety in our emergency overnight shelter program. Collectively, between all S.H.I.F.T. programming, we have served or delivered well over 2000 meals since January.

Jenifer Pergentile

Summer is approaching, but that does not mean homelessness ends!

We are actively engaging with individuals, families and couples who are experiencing or at risk of experiencing homelessness throughout South Simcoe to work with them with working to keep their housing or offer a safe space for those without housing.

We are thrilled to have 3 new monthly donors join us in 2024! It's not too late to join our efforts in helping others make a shift for good.

We hope that you, our community, will continue to partner with us in 2024! Be sure to visit our site or follow us on social media to stay up to date on our news, events, announcements and more. We hope you enjoy learning about our work and continue to stay engaged with our team

I'd like to introduce you to the newest members of our leadership team - Candace Gordon and Courtney Holmes.

Candace Gordon joins our team as the Donor Relations and Stewardship Officer. With her year of experience in the non-profit and fundraising sector she brings with her an outgoing, fun, and positive personality and will be overseeing our community engagement, events, social media and donor relationships.

Courtney joins our team as the Program Coordinator for the Emergency Overnight Shelter and Daytime Drop-In programs. Within her role she will be overseeing the day-to-day operations of the shelter and drop-in programs, staff and volunteers, as well as working within the Intake team to complete shelter admissions and provide case management to Participants.





Please join me in welcoming Candace and Courtney to the S.H.I.F.T. family!

# Coldest Night of the Year 2023

Our 5th annual CNOY took place Feb.24, 2024! It was another HUGE success because of our amazing community of walkers, donors, volunteers, sponsors and planning team.

With your support S.H.I.F.T. was able to raise over \$150K, had over 300 walkers, 24 sponsors and over 50 volunteers!

We are always beyond grateful for the support of our community to help us raise much needed funds for our vital programs and services. THANK YOU!



#### 2023 IN REVIEW



In June 2023, you helped us raise \$1,056! Thank you!

The Great Canadian Giving Challenge is a National public contest which runs from June 1 to 30 to benefit our organization and others like us.

Every \$1 donated to a registered charity on CanadaHelps.org or through givingchallenge.ca, automatically enters our charity to win a grand prize of \$20,000.

No donation is too small and all funds raised go to supporting our vital programs and services. Contact us to learn more or donate <u>HERE.</u>

#### Mental Health Matters

World Mental Health Day took place on October 10th, 2023. This is a day to raise awareness of mental health issues around the world and to mobilize efforts in support of mental health.



S.H.I.F.T. was very grateful to have accepted a donation from the Coleman family, from the proceeds raised at the annual Kyle Coleman Memorial Golf Tournament held Sept. 16th, 2023 at Bear Creek Golf Club.

The tournament is held, annually, in honour of Alliston's Kyle Coleman, who died by suicide in December of 2016 at the age of 18.

We are honoured and feel truly blessed to be the recipient of the funds raised in his memory. S.H.I.F.T. is grateful to the Coleman family for their generosity and support of our programming.

If you would like to learn more about this tournament please check out their **Facebook** page for more information.

Thank you to the Coleman family for your unwavering support.



# **THANK YOU!**

Thank you to everyone who came out, donated and sponsored. Be sure to check out our webpage to see more and a special thank you to our event planning team! You were a huge driving force behind the success of our event. THANK YOU!

Join us February 22nd, 2025 for S.H.I.F.T.'s 6th annual Coldest Night of the Year fundraising event!

The Coldest Night of the Year is a fantastically fun, family friendly walk-a-thon that raises money for people experiencing homelessness,

hurt, and hunger. How can you get involved?

• ② Become a corporate sponsor, Start a fundraising team or Join a team and raise funds





#### **VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT** THANK YOU VOLUNTEERS

We would like to give a huge shoutout to all of our amazing volunteers!

Whether you are supporting us through events, cleaning, organizing, meal making or running errands we wanted to express our sincere gratitude!

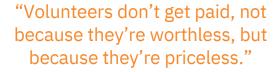
Your support means so much to so many people and we wanted you to know that YOU are making a difference in our community and the dedication, support and kindness you show to not only us but to the people we serve daily is life-changing.

We would also like to send a big THANK YOU to the CNOY planning team for dedicating every Thursday night to meetings for over 3 months, planning and executing the event and spreading the news about what we do and how we help. This event would not have been possible without the amazing dedication and support from this team and for that we say THANK YOU!

Thank you Jen, Andrea, Alicia, Sarah, Liberty, Caroline and Andrew.

And thank you to the event day volunteers for helping make sure the event ran smoothly! You all did amazing! Together we hit our goal of raising \$150,000! Thank you!

> Thank you for your passion, time, dedication, and support!



- Sherry Anderson

## **MAKE A DIFFERENCE** AT S.H.I.F.T

#### **Volunteering:**

S.H.I.F.T relies heavily on volunteers to assist us in all aspects of programming and operations.

#### Volunteers are needed now MORE **THAN** ever!

There are many different ways you can volunteer with S.H.I.F.T.:

- S.H.I.F.T. Board Committees
  - Advisory

  - Fundraising and EventsPlanning & Development
- Meal-Makers

If you are interested in volunteering please email our Volunteer Coordinator

**Donate:** Your donations make a HUGE difference, no matter the amount. If you would like to donate to S.H.I.F.T please click HERE for more information

Thank you!



#### **Mark your Calendars!**

Great Canadian Giving Challenge - June 2024 Summer Newsletter - July 2024

Follow us on socials to see what events and festivals we will be attending this summer