Carty House is a transitional home and a community for refugee women in Ottawa

CARTY HOUSE

FALL 2013

Volunteer Profile

I was born in Paris, France and moved to Canada just before my third birthday. My father was in Foreign Affairs and as a result, my family was posted to many different countries. From the ages of 8 to 12 I lived in Germany and had the opportunity to travel across most of Europe. As an adult I went to visit my parents in England, Russia, China and Czechoslovakia (when it was still one country). I have also travelled extensively across Canada, the United States and the Caribbean.

I have a diploma in Early Childhood Education and currently work as a home childcare consultant for a large licensed agency. Many of my home childcare providers come from different countries. My travels have helped me to empathize with people who immigrate to Canada as I had a small taste of what it was like to live in a foreign country where I did not speak the language or understand the customs. I am constantly learning more from my home childcare providers.

In 2009, I took a certificate program in Fundraising Management as I realized that many not-for-profits are in need of qualified/knowledgeable people to help them keep their programs afloat. I was fortunate to be accepted as a volunteer fundraiser for Carty House and am now busy planning ways to help raise the profile of the organization as well as raise funds to help meet program needs.

I have had the opportunity to meet some of the Board members and residents and look forward to meeting the rest during my time with Carty House. Watch for big news about important events in the coming months!!!

Denise Chadala, RECE

NEWS FROM THE CARTY HOUSE COORDINATORS

As we move into fall, Carty House is in full swing again, with residents returning to school, work, ESL classes, and job training. Many of our residents have been successful in their search for employment, finding work in the fields of personal support work, telemarketing/communications, childcare and cooking. We welcomed two new residents over the past few months from Afghanistan and Somalia and have helped two others find apartments, furniture, and household items to make their new place 'home'.

Health has been difficult for many in the house this fall, with surgery, flus, colds, and physical stress. In many instances we've also seen the beauty of community, with residents coming together to support and take care of each other. It has also been a stressful time for residents in terms of immigration processes, and we have been supporting them in their struggles.

A former resident had positive news this fall: her children will be joining her from Kenya! After months of waiting, their visa applications have finally been processed. She will be reunited with her children within the next month! We are overjoyed.

We are happy to announce that we have three new interns who are now assisting us with Grant-Writing, Fundraising, and Program Evaluation as a result of positions we posted this summer. Many new volunteers have also reached out to Carty House. They will be contributing through ESL tutoring, assisting with job searches, organizing workshops and helping with craft & games nights.

We were successful in our application for another May Court grant. This grant allows us to offer financial support to residents who need health services such as physiotherapy, prescription medication, eye glasses, and clinical counseling. We are very grateful for this support. Thank you May Court Club!

The Ottawa Refugee Network is continuing with our meetings this fall, and we are participating in UNHCR's 16 Days of Action Against Gender Based violence. In partnership with Matthew House, we will be organizing a Human Library to create space for refugee women to tell their stories and highlight their struggles and experiences. This event will occur later in November. Stay tuned and join us!

We are looking forward to our visioning session this November to reflect on our work and to plan for the future, as we change and grow to better serve refugee women and our community!

Glennie-Ruth & Lena

RECENT FUNDRAISERS

August 2013

A very successful fundraising dinner was held at the Green Door Restaurant on August 19th. The food was fresh and delicious and we thank the Green Door owners and staff for their generosity and support.

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We also thank the band 'Grateful We're Not Dead' for putting on an entertaining show, encouraging bidding on Silent Auction items and playing a great selection of dance tunes.

It was good to see many of our guests dancing before and after the dinner was served.

RECENT FUNDRAISERS cont'd

September 2013

The Green Door Restaurant on behalf of Carty House presented a Gluten-free Vegan cooking class on September 16th to 12 participants. All proceeds from ticket sales were donated to Carty House.

Once again to the owners of the Green Door Restaurant, 'Thank you from the residents and staff of Carty House'!

October 2013

On October 5th, Team Carty House – Ride for Refugees, led by team captain Lena McFarlane, rode in the Ride for Refuge cycling fundraiser. The ride takes place in many cities across Canada and the U.S. Participants raise funds to support their work with the displaced, vulnerable and exploited. It was a beautiful day to connect with other organizations across Ottawa and a great way to raise money. We exceeded our goal of $4000. Thank you to all of our RIDERS and DONORS who made this event such a success!

Your generosity in supporting all of these fundraising events has enabled us to continue to provide the services and programs we offer to the residents.

Carty House
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You can donate to Carty House directly by mail or through
www.canadahelps.org

Registered Charity Number: 833764293RR0001

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Thank you to all of our donors. Your support is critical in these tough times.