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Carty House Chronicle

September 2018

Fun times at first Spring Gala

By Tobi Cohen

Delicious Italian fare, a hilariously fun icebreaker game, fabulous door prizes and a mbira serenade were just some of the highlights of this year's annual gala which took place June 14 at Biagio's Italian Kitchen.

The event drew some 90 guests, including many Carty House residents, who began the evening getting to know one another by filling in an icebreaker game that asked them to "Meet someone who has taken a ride on an elephant" or "Find three people who were born in Ottawa." Completed questionnaires were entered into a draw for a fabulous wine pack and other prizes.

Anneke van Nooten, a seasoned public speaker who works with the Catholic Centre for Immigrants, a partner refugee-serving organization, gave a powerful speech that challenged guests to take their "welcome to the next level."

"Welcoming newcomers does not just change their life, it changes the lives of the people who welcome them," she said, recounting the experiences of her Tunisian husband when he met her parents for the first time and that of a group of newcomers in need who were welcomed by an elderly Ottawa man into his home.

"The word welcome, the act of welcoming, is like warmth on a cold winter day," she said. "It's like water when it's hot and muggy outside.

Another thoughtful speech came from Justine Nkurunziza, a former resident who shared the story of her arrival in Canada from Burundi in 2016 and what it was like to come to Carty House.

Good cheer and better company were had at an old Carty House tradition with a new twist this year. Photo courtesy Maria de los Angeles Uribe.

Herbert Masamvi also regaled the crowd with his mbira, an African instrument, and even let a few guests give it a try.

In the end, the gala raised $5,400 to support ongoing services at Carty House. Huge thanks to all the organizers, the staff at Biagio's, everybody who attended the event and our community sponsors Audrey Kenney, John Maxwell and Jacqueline Romero. A thank you also goes out to city councillor Tim Tierney and his wife Jenny who joined the party and donated a beautiful gift basket.

Can't wait 'til next year!

Visit Facebook.com/CartyHouseOttawa to see more photos!

What's coming up

Saturday Sept. 29
8AM to 1PM

Ride For Refuge
@ Mitel Building, Kanata

Join Team Carty Cares in going the distance! See reverse >>

Get Involved

Looking for a volunteer opportunity? Contact **office@cartyhouse.org** to see how you could make a positive impact on the lives of Carty House residents.

Donate c/o

Carty House
P.O. Box 4758 STN E
Ottawa, Ontario K1S 5H9

Did you miss our AGM?

Find the 2018-2021 Strategic Plan on the Carty House website.
www.CartyHouse.org

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Join the Ride for Refuge!

By Tobi Cohen

If you haven't signed up for the Ride for Refuge, what are you waiting for?

On September 29, Carty House will be participating in a community walk/bike ride aimed at raising money for refugee-serving organizations across the city. Participants can choose between a 10, 25 or 50 km route, or join a 5km walk.

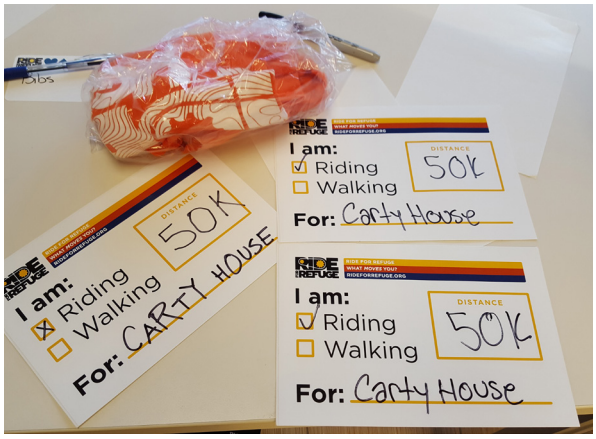
We're looking for riders and sponsors and are counting on you to help spread the word!

Create your own team with friends, relatives or co-workers or join Carty Cares, the official Carty House team. Just don't forget to direct the donations you collect to Carty House.

Also, Carty House volunteers will be manning a rest stop along the route. Stop by for some refreshments and say hello. Join us after the race for a fabulous free barbecue.

If you can't make the race, do consider sponsoring the Carty Cares team. Proceeds raised will go directly towards helping our residents build new lives in Canada.

See you on the course!



Congratulations to former resident Justine Nkurunziza for receiving the Welcoming Ottawa Ambassador award from Mayor Jim Watson and Sarah Onyango, chair of Welcoming Ottawa Week, this summer.

Thank You

We say a big thank you to Tobi Cohen, who completed a three-year term as a board member in August 2018 and has led the charge on many fronts, notably in her role as co-chair of the fundraising and communications committee. Tobi remains a part of the Carty House family and we are delighted she wishes to stay involved in other meaningful ways.

Welcome

Since April 2018, Carty House has welcomed Janice Anderson and Nataly Azzi, along with Kabahenda Kiggundu and Nilmini Perera, who bring valuable expertise in a range of areas to our board of directors.