

Spring  
2025



# Carty House Chronicle

A First Home & Helping Hand for Female Refugees in Ottawa



Thank you for an AMAZING 2024 Annual Appeal!  
We exceeded our \$20,000 goal!  
Your generosity is so greatly appreciated!



## OTTAWA GOGGINS RUN 2025

### Ottawa Goggins runners raise money for Carty House

Can you imagine running 48 miles over a snowy and bitter cold weekend?! These gracious folks raised over \$9,600 for Carty House! UNBELIEVABLE! Thank you for every single step in support of vulnerable women! You all are the best!

*Thank You*



**coconut LAGOON**



dominioncity  
@omunicipity · Original audio

Dominion City and Coconut Lagoon hosted a great evening of cold beer and amazing food, all in support of refugee services in Ottawa. Thank you!

- Archery Games Ottawa/Breakspace
- AVI-SPL
- Beacon Hill Charity Bonspiel
- Canadian Martyrs Church
- Catholic Centre for Immigrants
- Centretown United Church
- Citron Hygiene
- City of Ottawa
- Coconut Lagoon
- Common Threads Quilting Guild
- Congregation of Notre Dame (CND)
- Conseil des écoles catholiques du Centre-Est FOCUS program
- DeSerres Art Store
- Dominion City Brewing Company
- Ecstatic Dance Ottawa
- Export Development Canada - EDC
- Five B Family Foundation
- Grey Sisters of the Immaculate Conception
- Imaging Excellence 2.0 Inc.
- Kelly Family Foundation
- Kent Street Dental
- la Vie en Rose
- Let's Run Outside - Goggins Run
- Ontario REALTORS Care Foundation
- Ontario Trillium Foundation
- Ottawa Integrative Health Centre
- Ottawa Mennonite Church
- Ottawa Police Services
- Ottawa Real Estate Board
- Ottawa Shoebox Project
- Ottawa Tourism
- Ottawa Vally Quilters Guild
- Place du Village Square
- Rotary Club of Ottawa
- Shoppers Drug Mart
- Sisters of Holy Cross
- Unitarian Universalist Fellowship Of Ottawa
- United Way of Eastern Ontario
- Virginia And Raymond Lafond Fund
- Zonta Club of Ottawa

**Special Thanks to**





# Carty House Happenings

! --As you may remember, we opened Carty House II in October 2024! We are at full capacity and going strong!

! --During the month of January 2025, staff logged 643 one-on-one support interactions with residents! Our highest monthly count yet!

! --There are several residents waiting for their refugee hearing dates. Staff continue to guide residents through understanding the refugee legal processes.

! --A recent new resident eagerly shared her excitement about using her time at Carty House to focus on personal goals— finishing school, starting a new career, and working towards independent living.

! --Carty House is providing several residents with the finances for dental care and eye care, as well as referrals for mental health resources. Staff continue to schedule "women's health days" that provide resources and information for healthy living as women in Canada - all part of the healing process for female refugees.

! --Staff are always helping residents to understand life in Canada. For some, that might even involve learning to use a can opener, a vacuum, and a washing machine for the first time.

! --Many of our residents have experienced winter for the first time; They learned how to shovel and play in the snow too.

! --We have been amazed to watch residents who don't speak English or French still finding amazing ways to communicate. So inspiring!

! --The residents are all busy...for example, one resident recently completed her Massage Therapy exams, and one is working in data analysis. Two residents are full time students at university or college, and one resident has completed her Ontario High School Diploma program. Another resident hopes to start law school in the fall! Two residents are completing the Early Childhood Education Assistant program and will be ready to work.

! --Staff continue to work one-on-one with residents to update their resumes, apply for jobs, and provide interview preparation support. One resident recently completed her probation period at work and is now a permanent employee! Congrats!

! --Staff also provide budgeting workshops with residents, as well as helping residents to understand the Canadian tax process and resources for assistance with tax filing.

! --We have amazing volunteers who are teaching either English or French. Another volunteer is providing computer support to a resident in order to improve her digital literacy skills. Thank you volunteers!

! --Some of our residents have been volunteering in the community and are loving getting to use their talents in so many ways. This included a resident who went grocery shopping with one of our grocery volunteers and learned so much about food in Canada.

**We hear from residents on a regular basis how thankful they are to be living at Carty House. And it's all because of you! Thank you for your continued support!**

thank you



**Mary Catherine Fiorentino**  
1933 - 2024

"There are some who bring a light to the world, that even after they have gone, the light remains."

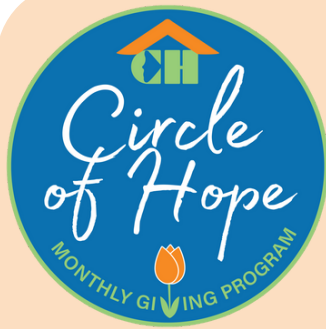
A kind friend to Carty House, Mary began her support back in 2014 and she never forgot about our vulnerable residents. She was beyond generous while she was with us, and she has graciously remembered us in her will. We are forever grateful. Rest in peace, Mary. And thank you. ❤️

We all know what it's like to put our suitcase away after a trip - no big deal, eh?

But for a refugee woman, to be able to move her suitcase from her own room at Carty House, to the basement for storage, it is a VERY BIG DEAL. It means that she is home. It means that she is safe. It means that she can finally exhale and begin to rebuild her life, one day at a time.



Carty House had a great visit with Sr. Nina Glinski of the Congregation of Notre Dame! Now a Canadian non-profit, Carty House was started by Sr. Maureen Killoran, CND, who saw the vital need to house and support female refugees in Ottawa. The Congregation continues their support and generosity to Carty House, Thank you CND's!



We are at 51 monthly donors! WOW!  
**Can you move us to 55?**

These sustaining givers contributed over \$22,000 to Carty House in 2024 - all through monthly gifts!

Many of us pay monthly for music, streaming, maybe the gym...why not provide a monthly gift for vulnerable women!

**Thank you for considering!**



## Carty House Donor Highlight

**NIGEL DeSOUZA**

**How were you first introduced to Carty House?**

From my good and generous and wonderful friend Liz Majic.

**What inspired you to give?**

My deep appreciation for the vital work Carty House does in helping newcomers to Canada, deriving from my volunteer experience at two similar and inspiring institutions: Sojourn House in Toronto and the Intercultural Association of Greater Victoria.

**What motivated you to become a monthly donor?**

My friend Liz's explanation that stable, regular donations are so very useful to Carty House.

**What else would you like to share about yourself?**

As a philosophy professor, who teaches ethics and political philosophy especially, I discuss issues relating to immigration, cultural diversity, and respect for difference with my students, which I hope in some small way contributes to greater awareness of the importance of wonderful organizations such as Carty House



**Carty House is looking for a volunteer Handy Person!**

More details under "news" on our website. We'd love to chat!

Reach out to Louise at 613-236-8855 or email her at [Office@CartyHouse.org](mailto:Office@CartyHouse.org)

## Carty House Volunteer Highlight

**MARIANNE GRAHAM**

**How did you first hear about Carty House?**

My daughter and I saw the article about the needs of Carty House. We researched a bit more about the incredible model and success of Carty House. My daughter sold her prom dress and donated the funds to Carty House. I attended an online fundraiser and learned even more about the women who had transitioned to living independently, thanks to their positive experiences at Carty House.



**What prompted you to get more involved?**

Since my first communication with Carty House, I have felt welcomed, honoured, appreciated and a part of an ever expanding family of compassionate people - this includes all the Board of Directors, staff, volunteers and residents. Carty House serves a vital role in the community and does it in such an inspiring way. I witness the level of immense care and commitment at both Carty Houses. As a newly retired teacher, I wanted to use my skills and experiences in a useful way. This is a perfect fit for me as I have been active in refugee sponsorship for the past 10 years. I am grateful for the opportunity to be involved in some small way.

**How has volunteering with Carty House inspired you?**

I like helping in practical ways so doing the groceries and organizing the clothing/household donations is a joy for me. When I come into the kitchen with the grocery bags, I love seeing the smiles, hearing great conversations and smelling delicious food. Everyone is so welcoming and helpful! I am in awe of the sense of community and collaboration that is ever-present. It is clear that this model works because the vision is clear, the support is unwavering and the residents are committed to building a strong foundation at Carty House. It is a privilege to be a part of this organization.

**What else would you like to share about yourself?**

I look forward to contributing my time where needed to this tremendous organization, including mowing the lawn this year! I encourage folks to attend the entertaining fundraisers and/or become monthly donors to help continue the good news stories at Carty House!

**THANK YOU**

After 3 years, we bid farewell to our maintenance volunteer, Sam! We are incredibly grateful for his hard work and commitment to keeping Carty House well-maintained and wish him all the best! We will miss you, Sam-the-Man!





## A First Home & Helping Hand for Female Refugees in Ottawa

### OUR VISION

A welcoming community where all refugee women have access to a safe and stable home.

### OUR MISSION

Carty House provides a first home and a helping hand to refugee women in need in the Ottawa area. We assist them in pursuing their claims and adjusting to their new life on arrival to Canada through the provision of accommodation, as well as through material, financial and psychological support.



-  613-236-8855
-  [office@cartyhouse.org](mailto:office@cartyhouse.org)
-  P.O. Box 4758, STN E.  
Ottawa, ON K1S 5H9
-  [CartyHouse.org](http://CartyHouse.org)
-  [@CartyHouseOttawa](https://www.facebook.com/CartyHouseOttawa)
-  [@CartyHouse](https://www.instagram.com/CartyHouse)
-  [@CartyHouse](https://twitter.com/CartyHouse)

### Thank you for your support!



### WAYS TO DONATE

Website at

[CartyHouse.org/donate](http://CartyHouse.org/donate)  
Credit Card/PayPal/GooglePay/Apple Pay

E-Transfer to

[Office@CartyHouse.org](mailto:Office@CartyHouse.org)

Mail to

PO Box 4758 Stn.E.,  
Ottawa, ON K1S 5H9

Or scan  
w/ camera  
on phone!

