

The Haven

haven (hā'vĕn) noun. A place of safety or refuge.



YES Newsletter: Summer 2013

YES Welcomes New Executive Director by Mary Overholt

Suzanne Galloway grew up watching her mother, a social worker, deal with families in difficult situations. She credits this experience for her perspective on the world and her passion for working with youth. Suzanne initially chose Peterborough for its reputation as a queer-positive, university town where she could canoe, and she has made her home here, working first at YES as relief staff, then at the Peterborough AIDS Resource Network and the Peterborough County-City Health Unit. With a Master's degree in Community Psychology, Suzanne is interested in how an individual's well-being is based on the context for wellness in their community. This philosophy drives her work at YES, where Suzanne plans to embrace the challenges of running a multi-facility organization on a limited budget by creating and building upon existing partnerships with community organizations and volunteers. Her energy for helping our clients move on from life at the shelter is already evident. Welcome, Suzanne!

Congratulations to longtime YES employee, Wyatt Lamoureux, on his new position as Shelter Supervisor!

Farewell, Walter by Brian Landry

On May 13th, the Board of Directors hosted a dinner for retiring Executive Director Walter Johnstone at the Junction. Congratulatory speeches were given by special guests Chief Murray Rodd; former Mayor Paul Ayotte; United Way CEO Jim Russell; and Linda Mitchelson, Division Manager of Peterborough Social Services. The speakers noted how, under Walter's direction, YES thrived and changed to meet the ongoing needs of the community. Walter expressed how he will miss working with the staff, Board, and community members. Board Chair Don Bocking thanked Walter and presented a token of the board's appreciation to Walter and his wife, Denise.



10th Anniversary Celebrations by Mary Overholt



On February 26th, about 85 friends of YES gathered at the Junction to celebrate the 10th anniversary of the shelter's opening. Founding Executive Director David Haw was among the evening's speakers, who recalled the history of the shelter and some of the challenges and hard work put into getting it started. The speakers expressed gratitude that the shelter is still in operation, despite the many financial challenges it has faced over the years. Guests enjoyed music by Doug Horner, appetizers, cake, door prizes and gift bags, all thanks to our generous donors and sponsors. Special thanks to Justin Faux of the Junction. It was a wonderful opportunity to

meet the many important people who have helped to create and sustain YES and to celebrate the work that our staff and volunteers do to support youth and families in our community.

Remembering Don Lynch by Wyatt Lamoureux

YES mourns the loss of Don Lynch, husband to longtime case manager, Ruby, and equally longtime volunteer for YES and the YWCA food box program, who passed away suddenly in May. Don helped keep YES and Abbott House running, from repairing broken windows and toilets, to picking up our monthly food order. I will miss Don's dry, sharp sense of humour (he was particularly good at putting me in my place), and his quiet patience when mentoring some of our youth clients. Our heart goes out to Ruby, her children, and grandchildren.

"Y.E.S... a home for growth and opportunity in our community."

Lakefield College Students' Research Benefits YES by Suzanne Galloway

YES is thrilled to be the recipient of \$5,000 from the Youth Philanthropy Initiative, an international program that aims to develop community leaders by giving students a hands-on experience of philanthropy. Big thanks to Luke Berg, Mark Walter, Marc Gulyas-Doy and Liam Sinclair of Lakefield College School for their presentation on YES, which was deemed to be the best. We are pleased to have benefited from this program that offers youth the skills and awareness to make a positive difference in their community.

Youth for Youth Concert Another Huge Success by Mary Overholt

Many thanks to the students and staff of Holy Cross and St. Peter's Secondary Schools who raised over \$10,000 through the 2013 Youth for Youth Concerts. This year's event featured two shows at Market Hall, and brings the total for this annual and vital YES fundraiser to over \$60,000!

Thanks to the Community Foundation of Greater Peterborough by Suzanne Galloway



The Community Foundation of Greater Peterborough (CFGF) fosters philanthropy through the creation and management of endowed and special funds. Through funds managed by CFGF, donors provide grants to charitable organizations. This year, YES was pleased to receive \$3,500 which we will direct towards more programming for our residents. We are very grateful to CFGF for providing innovative opportunities for charitable giving.

Carriage House Update by Simon Weigh

The 9th school year of the Carriage House program has come to an end. This Youth Homelessness Alternative Education Program is unique in the province and it has become a mainstay in the Kawartha Pine Ridge DSB for reconnecting youth on the margins with their educational career. This happens by putting student needs in equal standing with educational requirements, and addressing barriers to education in a smaller, more personalized setting so that our youth see achieving an Ontario Secondary School Diploma as a real possibility and a point of pride. It is always a team effort and the unique partnership between KPRDSB and YES is the key to program success for students. This year the Carriage House saw 51 students, 25 of whom attended classes for at least 3 months, and these students earned a total of 58 credits.

Youth Emergency Shelter Welcomes New Volunteers!

YES is looking for volunteers to help with food bank deliveries, facility maintenance, sorting and organization of donations, and group repair projects, as well as cook dinner, conduct recreation activities, and drive the moving van. Details are posted on our website: <http://yesshelter.ca/yesnews/index.php/volunteer-needs/>. For more information, or to volunteer, contact Wyatt at 705-748-3851 or email wlamoureux@yesshelter.ca.

Join Our Mailing List

We'd love to keep in touch with you. To join our mailing list, and receive our twice-yearly e-newsletter and occasional news alerts, send an email to board@yesshelter.ca with "join mailing list" as the subject.

YES Needs Your Support



YES relies on support from the community to augment our operating budget and provide special programs for youth and families. Please consider helping us out. Donations by cash or cheque can be mailed or dropped off to the shelter. Donations over \$20.00 are issued a tax receipt. Donations can also be made online - visit our [website](#) and click on the Canada Helps link.

Homeless? We Can Help

If you or a youth or family you know is at risk of being homeless, Y.E.S. can help. We provide emergency and transitional housing for youth aged 16-24 and for families, as well as a variety of related programs and services. The shelter is open 24 hours a day, 365 days a year, across from FreshCo in downtown Peterborough.

