



S.H.I.F.T
SUPPORT AND HOPE
 FOR INDIVIDUALS AND FAMILIES TODAY

VOLUME 2

SUMMER NEWSLETTER

AUGUST 2022

S.H.I.F.T (Support and Hope for Individuals and Families Today) 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.

Our New Home!

Throughout the month of May, a team of staff and volunteers worked to move us over to our NEW location, at 123 Victoria St. W., Alliston. On June 1st, we began operating our Outreach and S.H.I.F.T. administration from our new home. This new location will allow us to better serve our community, with more space to operate programming and offer improved services.



Over the summer, many changes will take place both inside and out to prepare the space for our winter operations. Some major work being completed includes the addition of a shower on the main floor, alterations to the second floor bathroom and shower, paving for parking and fencing. Volunteers will be needed to assist with cleaning, prep-work and painting in September.

A special thanks to Highlands Youth for Christ for allowing us to use this incredible location to continue to serve our community.

Don't forget to stop by during our Open House—August 6th to get a tour, see what we've been up to and learn more about S.H.I.F.T.!

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S.H.I.F.T

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Instagram:

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From Jeni's Desk:

With our winter programming closed for the warmer months, our focus *shifted* to our move to the new location, and ensuring our Outreach program continues to offer consistent and quality services to those experiencing or at-risk of homelessness in South Simcoe. Over the warmer months, we will be working hard at preparing the space for our winter programming. We look forward to how this new, more spacious location will allow us to better serve our community!

We look forward to better serving our community!



While Outreach services continued to operate out of the Paris St. location, our team transitioned to our new location, at 123 Victoria St. W. throughout the month of May, with the help of some great volunteers. As of June 1st, our Outreach team officially moved to the new location and operations have been in full swing since. We are so grateful to Anchor Point Church for their hospitality and partnership at the Paris St. location, and we look forward to working with them in the future in their upcoming community endeavors.

The warmer months are all about community awareness, advocacy and fundraising for our programming! In June, S.H.I.F.T. was chosen as the charity recipient of proceeds raised during the Tottenham Community Week (TCW) annual events. A team of staff and volunteers participated in the Trivia Takedown event (we didn't win—but we had fun trying!). Also, a team of staff and volunteers attended the annual TCW street festival, with an information booth and donation collection. A HUGE thank you to the TCW planning and event team. With their enthusiasm and support, nearly \$750 was raised throughout the week, through their prize raffle. Thank you also to those that donated items to be raffled off. What a huge success!!

We're looking forward to August, and participating in the annual Potato Festival events in Alliston. Come see us at our booth, where we'll be raising funds for our Shelter program!



Mark your Calendars!

Alliston Potato Festival Parade—August 5th

Potato Festival Street Fair Information Booth, 'Beat the Bucket' Fundraiser and S.H.I.F.T. Open House—August 6th

Volunteer Re-Engagement & Commitments—starting in August.





S.H.I.F.T
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JOIN US AT OUR NEW LOCATION

OPEN HOUSE

August 6 | 10 AM to 4 PM

123 Victoria St. W.

During the ABIA Sights & Sounds
Potato Festival Street Fair

Learn about who we are, what we do,
and how you can partner with us.

Moving forward together, making a *SHIFT* for good!





SEASONAL REPORT

Emergency Overnight Shelter

Serves men, women & youth experiencing homelessness with no housing alternatives, November through April.



21 Individuals supported to secure permanent housing or housing alternatives, such as supportive or transitional housing, residential treatment, or temporary accommodations.



10 Successful shelter diversions, leading to potential participants accessing safe and appropriate housing alternatives.

44

total individuals served



35 men & 9 women accessed safe & supportive overnight shelter.



20 Individuals served met the national definition of chronic homelessness. (homeless at least 6 of the last 12 months and/or at least 2 episodes of homelessness totaling at least 1.5 of the last 3 years.)



61% Identified South Simcoe as their home or city of origin. 16% from Simcoe County.

Daytime Drop-In Centre

Provides individuals & families experiencing homelessness access to supplies, resources & housing support, November through April.



850+

Interactions to provide basic needs, harm reduction supplies, support and access to resources, and assist in finding or retaining housing.



An average of...

20

Unique individuals served per month.

and

120

Interactions per month.



SEASONAL REPORT

Street & Community Outreach

Provides access to supplies, resources & housing supports, year-round, to individuals & families experiencing or at-risk of homelessness.*

*Reflects services provided
January - December, 2021



441 Unique households accessed Outreach Program supports & resources, to find housing or remain housed.



950+ Interactions to provide basic needs, harm reduction supplies, support and access to resources, and assist in finding or retaining housing.



124 Households at-risk of homelessness were provided supports that would assist them in remaining housed.

An average of...



48 Unique individuals served per month.
and
90 Interactions per month.



10+ Community partnerships, throughout South Simcoe, to ensure wrap-around supports.

Community Dinner

Provides individuals & families in need of a warm meal access to food, supplies & supports, November through April



1000+ Meals served



Between

100-225

Individuals and families served each month.



VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT

-ALISON RICHARDS-

Alison has volunteered with S.H.I.F.T since 2019. She can be counted on to take regular shifts in the Emergency Overnight Shelter and Community Dinner programs and is quick to pick up an extra shift, in a pinch, whenever the need arises.

Alison remained a committed and passionate member of our team during the pandemic, riding the ups and downs with us. Despite the uncertainty of the times, she could be counted on to bring her enthusiasm, kind heart and bright smile (even behind a mask) without complaint.

When asked about her experience volunteering with us, Alison shared, "Volunteering has always been a part of my life since childhood. My parents have instilled in me great work ethics and the value of helping others. It means a lot to me working for such an important organization. To be a part of helping those in need to get back on their feet, by providing a warm meal or a listening ear. All the staff, volunteers and participants are what make this experience so rewarding."

A huge thank you to Alison for her time, dedication, and support!

"No act of kindness,
no matter how small,
is ever wasted."

-Aesop



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

- ⇒ Support for our new location:
 - Cleaning and Shelter Preparations
 - Gardening/Landscaping
 - Painting (indoors and outdoors)
- ⇒ Open call for volunteers for our 2022-2023 Emergency Shelter Program
 - ⇒ **Returning volunteers—NOW is the time to connect to re-commit and complete necessary training and scheduling!**
- ⇒ S.H.I.F.T. Board Committees—Advisory, Fundraising and Planning & Development

If you are interested please click [HERE](#) or 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 or email:

donations@shiftforgood.ca

Thank you!