

April 2011

Volunteer Extraordinaire



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Thank You!

To every member of our **Homes First Club** (Monthly Donors) who, between April 1, 2010 and March 31, 2011, contributed close to \$50,000 to support RainCity Housing's programs and services.

No matter the size, your monthly gift helps us move from providing a bed to providing a home.

When Marie Robinson and RainCity Housing discovered each other in 2005 the match was made. With an extensive background in volunteering and a particular interest in working with the homeless, Marie decided RainCity Housing would be the perfect place to share her experience. We're extremely grateful she made that choice! In Marie's words:

"When I lived in Calgary, I volunteered with an organization called Inn from the Cold. This collective opened their doors to the homeless every night of the year to offer a bed, a hot dinner and breakfast. Because I often stayed overnight as a volunteer support/facility supervisor, I had the opportunity to hear many of the stories behind the faces of the people we served . . . stories I won't ever forget. Those experiences have stayed with me and spurred me on to work to make a difference for those who do not have homes to go to, do not share the sense of community and security that I do.

When I moved to Vancouver in 2005, I looked for an organization that was doing good work in the area of Homelessness so I could continue to volunteer in this area. RainCity Housing (then Triage) was clearly a leader in this area so I worked through BoardMatch and Volunteer Vancouver to join the Board. This is my fifth and last year with the Board and I can honestly say it has been a wonderful experience. I have had the opportunity to learn from others while sharing my

experience and expertise to help move the organization forward. Like most volunteers will say, I've gained far more than I've given."



As immediate Past Chair of the Board of Directors, Marie has been very generous in sharing her wisdom and expertise to guide RainCity Housing through a period of enormous growth. During her tenure as Chair, RainCity Housing successfully moved from operating 4 facilities to the current 9 plus Outreach

Programs, cold weather shelters and inclusion with the Mental Health Commission of Canada's At Home/ Chez Soi study – an accomplishment which would not have been possible without strong vision and leadership on the Board.

In addition to her solid business sense Marie has been an excellent advocate for our donors, ensuring financial transparency and taking a 'best use of funds' approach to all donations.

We regret that, having completed her term, Marie will be stepping down from the Board of Directors in June of this year. She has been an incredible force and has demonstrated a true love for RainCity Housing and its work. Marie will be missed by all of us at RainCity Housing and Support Society.

"I've gained far more than I've given"

Dollars and Sense

It's always good to know how your donations add up, not just in dollars, but in practical benefits to our tenants and clients.

\$ 2	a pair of socks
\$ 5	a meal
\$10	an hour of peer support work
\$25	a pair of shoes
\$100	a pair of glasses or a set of dentures
\$200	a new bed
\$300	Community Integration activities for one month
\$600	Food for one month for a community meals program
\$1,000	Warm blankets for 200 people
\$2,500	Wow !



Join Us On the Home Team!

June 26, 2011.... Mark your calendar and start training today for the 2011 **Scotiabank Vancouver 1/2 marathon/ 5 km walk**. Don't miss this opportunity to run or walk one of the most beautiful courses you'll ever see and raise money for RainCity Housing at the same time!!

Register at: www.vancouverhalf.com and choose RainCity Housing as the charity you support. Better Still - join us on the Home Team and start gathering those pledges! Call Fran @ 604-215-5991 for details.



HOLLYBURN
PROPERTIES LIMITED

Thanks to the folks at **Hollyburn Properties Limited** for their amazing communi-

ty spirit! Admittedly a little hesitant when they learned a temporary cold weather shelter would be opening next to them on Cardero Street, they decided to put a positive spin on the situation and offer a generous welcome to the men and women who would be joining them in the neighbourhood.

Welcome they did – with the donation of several gift cards to a local food store! Finding food is always a struggle for individuals staying in emergency shelters – the gift cards

from **Hollyburn Properties** made an enormous difference to everyone at the Cardero Shelter during the long winter months

We're more than pleased to announce that **Hollyburn Properties Limited** will be expanding their involvement with RainCity Housing to include support for our on-going Healthy Living Program. The Healthy Living Program encompasses gardening, community kitchens, peer work and exercise. The program is a benefit to all who choose to participate.

Thanks again to **Hollyburn Properties Limited** for their innovative and thoughtful community spirit!



All images of people used by RainCity Housing are either purchased stock images, staff members or people attending public events.

The decision to not use images of our clients is a conscious one - an image is a literal snapshot of someone at a particular place in their life. Once placed online or in a publication an image can be copied, manipulated, and/or saved elsewhere an endless number of times; therefore for the purposes of public photos we choose not to use images of clientele.

Board of Directors

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Jane Addison	Director
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Senior Staff

Mark Smith	Executive Director
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Leslie Remund	Associate Director
Sean Spear	Associate Director

Tours at RCH

If you would like a tour of our facilities or more information about our programs, please contact:

Fran Romer, Donor Development Manager
fromer@raincityhousing.org

604-215-5991

Donate Today

CanadaHelps: www.canadahelps.org