



Did You Know

RainCity Housing is leading the way with its 'Housing First' philosophy. Many of the current supported housing programs in Vancouver require that individuals achieve a substantial level of "housing readiness" before they can access housing. Typically this means a client must be stable, linked with treatment services, able to self-administer medications and have minimal levels of challenging behaviours.

By providing services to those who may not be considered 'housing ready' by others, RainCity Housing has been successful in breaking the cycles of chronic homelessness, instability and substance use for many of their clients by providing assertive interventions within a high tolerance environment.

The goal is not simply to get people off the streets. It's to provide a comprehensive array of supports to assist in achieving stability, thereby allowing people to move forward with their lives.

Making a Difference

A Cup of Care

It started with an idea to prepare and distribute enough soup to feed hundreds of people through the winter of 2008, one of the coldest in Vancouver's History.



The folks at Joey Restaurant Group first approached RainCity Housing in the fall of 2008. They had an idea that could make a difference for people staying in shelters in Vancouver's Downtown Eastside. They would prepare and distribute enough soup to feed hundreds of people through one of the coldest winters in Vancouver's History. A Cup of Care was launched.

Now in its second year, Joey Restaurant's Cup of Care program prepared and served 10,000 cups of soup to those in need in communities across Canada. "We wanted to find a way to harness the skills and talents of our team to help our community," says Chris Mills, Executive Chef, Joey Restaurants. "Providing good food is what we do best, so preparing nutritious meals for our neighbours in need seemed like the perfect way to help. As a company it is really important to us to give back to the community and make a difference and we plan to continue the Cup of Care program, and we hope to see it grow in the future."

Thanks to everyone at Joey Restaurant Group for making a difference!



JOEY RESTAURANT GROUP

www.joeyrestaurants.com

Adding up the Dollars



Vancouver homeless to benefit directly from the UBC Dollar Project

The UBC Dollar Project team has selected RainCity Housing to be the recipient of their fundraising efforts for this year. The Dollar Project is an ambitious project aimed at collecting a single dollar from each and every one of UBC's 47,000 students, staff, and faculty to donate to charitable causes.

A simple idea with potentially great results!

Welcome new Chair

Dr. Jennifer Newman has been appointed Chair of RainCity Housing and Support Society.



When asked what first drew her to RainCity Housing and what she liked about the organization, Jennifer responded:

“I’m now an organizational psychologist but at the outset of my career, I worked with Youth At Risk For Street Involvement. Due to their exposure to substance abuse, violence or neglect, some of the teens had one foot in and one foot out of street life—they literally teetered on the edge. As a result, this sometimes put me on the streets alongside the kids.

I saw what it was like when you have no where to go, when no one seems to care if you live or die, or when everywhere you turn, someone wants to use you. When I was introduced to RainCity Housing, it brought me back to these roots and I saw how RCH pierces this darkness and I wanted to help in some way, again. I like the tenants/clients. I like their courage, their sense of community and the lessons they teach about human spirit and dignity. I like the staff for all these same reasons and I appreciate the donors and funders for their compassion and sense of community too. And finally, I believe in the aspiration and the inherent dignity behind the RainCity mission—a home for every person. “

Jennifer succeeds Marie Robinson who has been the devoted and enthusiastic leader of RainCity Housing for the past two years. Our sincere thanks to Marie for the amazing work she has done on behalf of our clients.

“I appreciate the donors and funders for their compassion and sense of community”



Fundraising Shining a Light on Homelessness

Loyal supporters of RainCity Housing have likely been wondering what has happened to our annual luncheon, Shining A Light on Homelessness. We decided that it was time to add a little sparkle to our annual event – keep your eyes open for a date in mid to late Spring 2011...

In the meantime, we’re looking forward to the opportunity to say ‘thank you’ to our many donors and supporters in the fall of this year. Stay tuned!

Wishlist

- New sewing machine (with warranty)
- Tickets to movies, museums, local events
- Art supplies
- Musical instruments
- Money for activities
- Cameras (for the photography group)

Your Donation

Provides safe housing, greater sense of purpose and improved quality of life for people living with mental illness, addictions and other challenges.

Fran Romer - Donations Manager
Call me: 604-215-5991
Email: fromer@raincityhousing.org
CanadaHelps: www.canadahelps.org

Thanks to You

Here are just a few examples of how your donation has touched another person:

- food for the folks at the Dunsmuir Community Program when they needed it most;
- community kitchen nights at the Vivian, where women can gather, have a meal and begin building relationships;
- a brand new roof and kitchen with industrial appliances at Princess Rooms;
- a much needed new laundry machine at Triage Shelter;
- you have strengthened our Community Integration and Peer Support Program for people who are wanting to make changes in their lives.