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SHARP *focus*

PROVIDING CARE AND SUPPORT FOR OUR COMMUNITY'S MOST VULNERABLE LIVING WITH HIV

"We think sometimes that poverty is only being hungry, naked and homeless. The poverty of being unwanted, unloved and uncared for is the greatest poverty." ~ Mother Teresa

Supported Housing is Good Healthcare

On March 19th, 2012, the SHARP Foundation hosted over 50 health, housing, government, AIDS service and HIV+ representatives from across western Canada to learn more about the impact of supported housing on health.

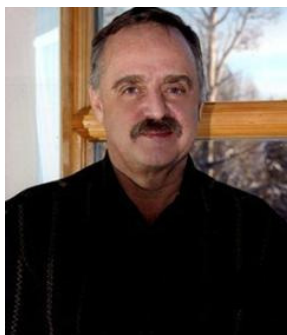
In his keynote presentation, Dr. Joshua Bamberger, Medical Director, Housing and Urban Health, San Francisco Dept. of Public Health, highlighted research that housing and supports can significantly reduce the use of costly health services and improve people's longevity and quality of life. Some of his key findings include:

- Housed individuals were more likely to have survived at 5 years follow-up (~90%) than those who remained homeless (~25%) - even though both groups had similar access to anti-retroviral therapy.
- Previously homeless individuals who were users of the health care system substantially reduced their use and health care costs (from a median cost of \$100,000/year to \$1,819/year) after being housed. (SHARP has realized similar results).
- The better the quality of housing the

better the health outcomes. This was based on reviewing statistics of the many buildings operated by his department.

Dr. Bamberger also provided the Western Canada Impact of HIV Housing research team with ideas on how to use the data already collected at the community level to measure outcomes. The next step for the research team will be to map all the resources and information already existing in the region to include with its next funding proposal to the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR).

SHARP thanks to CIHR for funding this session.



*Jeff Carlyle
SHARP Board Member
2003—2011*

Carlyle Commons: A New Level of Support

This summer SHARP is excited to offer Carlyle Commons, formerly known as Independence House, to the inspiring individuals who have lived with HIV for many years and are now impacted by aging. This program will offer new, affordable apartments from Calgary Housing Company in the innovative Lumino project and health and social supports provided by SHARP. A primary objective of this program is to allow the people we serve to live independently and with dignity for as long as possible but also to provide the supports to decrease isolation and improve health outcomes.

The program is named in memory of long time SHARP Board Member, Jeff Carlyle, who passed away suddenly in the Fall of 2011. This project was important to Jeff who believed strongly in ensuring all persons living with HIV / AIDS were provided with the housing and supports that met their individualized needs.

'Commons' is being used to reflect an environment of sharing the gifts that the community can offer to all its citizens.—a place that is free, democratic and respectful. *It takes all of us to make this happen!*



Vegetable garden planted by the residents at Project 2011 last summer.

Spring at SHARP: Let the gardening begin

*"April hath put a spirit of youth in everything."
~ William Shakespeare*

In previous years Beswick House, Scott House, Project 2011, and Project Kathleen will enjoy the bounty of their hard work.

Over the next month, Beswick House will be extra-ordinarily busy with the installation of new flooring, new security system and fresh coats of paint. We also hope to build a deck at the back to give residents more privacy when enjoying the summer sun! Any carpenters out there?

Last year we had the great fortune of the Telus Spectrum team and their families give Scott House a much needed exterior paint job. Volunteers and residents from 10 to 55 years young

joined in making the house and yard look spectacular.

If you have a club or group of friends that are looking for a cool way to spend a few hours making a difference **please let us know at 403.272.2912 or email info@theSHARPFoundation.com.**

Other Volunteer Opportunities

- **Casino**, April 30—May 1
- **ARGRA Rodeo**, June 30—July 2
- **Calgary Pride**, September 2

THANKS!

Once again Spring promises to be a busy time for all of us (residents and staff) at SHARP! It's a time to refresh, rejuvenate and renovate!

First, the residents at all the homes are preparing their gardens for vegetables and flowers. With a few truckloads of compost we can look forward to the same amazing results as

MARK YOUR CALENDAR Upcoming Events



April 25, 2012

A Taste For Life

Have dinner at one of our participating restaurants and 25% of your bill is donated to SHARP! It's fun & easy! Go to www.atasteforlife.com!

May 27th, 2012

Scotiabank Calgary Marathon

Run, Walk or Roll for the SHARP team and raise funds!

June 15, 2012

SHARP Community Spirit Fun Casino

Eau Claire Community Room
6:00 pm to 9:00 pm

A time to recognize the amazing contributions of our staff, volunteers, residents and supporters! Please RSVP

August 11 or 12
(weather dependent)

Bowls For Beswick

"One of Calgary's best events!" Participants come from as far away as Thunder Bay!

Stay tuned!

More information at:

www.theSHARPFoundation.com

Or follow us on



Come for a Great Dinner ... Then Run It Off!



April 25, 2012



**48TH ANNUAL RACE
MAY 27, 2012**

Charity Challenge

Two fun and easy ways to support SHARP!

For more information go to www.theSHARPFoundation.com

(There are still a limited number of free registrations available for the Charity Challenge — contact the office as soon as possible)



hope | dignity | compassion

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Charitable Registration #897948436RR0001