

Brighter Tomorrows Fund Grant Recipients

The Brighter Tomorrows Fund, a Hydro Ottawa initiative administered by United Way Ottawa, enables frontline agencies serving the homeless and those at risk of being homeless to invest in energy-efficient renovations to help reduce their monthly energy bills. A call for project proposals was issued on February 11, 2011 asking agencies to submit their proposals to United Way before March 31, 2011. A review committee, comprised of representatives from Hydro Ottawa, United Way and a volunteer with knowledge of homelessness issues and services in the Ottawa community, scored and ranked the submissions. As a result, the following agencies and projects were selected for funding:

Daybreak provides safe, stable, rent-geared-to-income housing with support services for single adults who are homeless, at risk of becoming homeless or living in poverty, specifically those with mental illness, issues of substance abuse or people in abusive relationships.

- **\$1,692** to replace incandescent light bulbs with energy-efficient light bulbs in the common rooms of five homes and in the rooms of the 46 tenants.

Elizabeth Fry Society of Ottawa provides support services to women involved in the criminal justice system and those at risk of coming into conflict with the law and offers transitional housing for criminalized women while assisting them in finding safe, stable and permanent housing to help their reintegration into the community.

- **\$10,000** to replace six, bar-size refrigerators with two industrial-size, energy efficient refrigerators and to replace two old freezers with one industrial-size, energy-efficient freezer

John Howard Society of Ottawa works with youth and adults in conflict with the law to help them effectively integrate into the community, including helping clients find affordable housing, providing training for employment, and promoting citizen awareness of the problems of crime and its causes.

- **\$10,285** to purchase 13 energy-efficient stoves for apartment units in a building for young men.
- **\$11,000** to install foam insulation on the exterior of a transitional group home for nine homeless ex-offenders to keep kitchen pipes from freezing.

McPhail House provides safe, affordable housing with supports for women in transition from assisted living to independent living, where they learn life and social skills living in a cooperative environment.

- **\$10,000** to replace an oil-fired furnace with a natural gas-fired, high-efficiency furnace.

Multifaith Housing Initiative provides and promotes safe, affordable, well-maintained housing for people who are homeless or at risk of becoming homeless.

- **\$3,828** to install digital outdoor air reset controllers on three boilers to control the temperature of water and to control the pump.
- **\$10,594** to purchase energy and water-efficient, time-of-use washing machines and energy-efficient time-of-use dryers for the laundry rooms in three housing units.

Operation Come Home provides programs to homeless youth to help prevent them from becoming homeless adults by assisting them to reach their goals, through school and work opportunities, housing, outreach and clinical supports.

- **\$ 1,754** for an energy audit of a new 10,000 square foot building.

Options Bytown Non Profit Housing Corporation provides community-based, affordable housing and support services for people who need help to live independently due to a history of homelessness, mental illness, addictions, concurrent disorder and lack of life skills.

- **\$17,500** to install energy-efficient windows in a four-apartment, supported housing unit.

Ottawa Mission provides shelter for homeless men and offers life-changing services such as addiction treatment, job training and health care.

- **\$8,767** toward the cost of installing energy-efficient windows.
- **\$11,540** toward the cost of repairing damages to the roof.

Ottawa Salus Corporation offers affordable, supportive housing and community support services to people with mental illness who are homeless or at risk of being homeless.

- **\$14,238** to install a high-efficiency boiler heating system and hot water tank.
- **\$5,482** to install 18-gauge steel insulated doors with Thermo glass in the front and rear entrance doors.

Shepherds of Good Hope serves the needs of the homeless or near homeless, including temporary shelter services, supportive and transitional housing, and support services such as the Soup Kitchen, grocery and clothing programs, , evening drop-in and the Christmas Hamper program.

- **\$1,763** to install an electronic, programmable temperature controller with remote sensors that adjust the temperature as required at the St. Patrick Street location.
- **\$2,599** to install an electronic, programmable temperature controller with remote sensors that adjust the temperature as required at the Merivale Road location.

St. Joe's Women Centre is a daytime shelter for homeless women that provides social and educational programs to promote empowerment, autonomy and dignity in a non-judgmental atmosphere, including a laundry program in which women can schedule laundry time twice a month.

- **\$3,100** to purchase energy-efficient washers and dryers for the laundry program.

St. Mary's Home provides a specialized shelter for homeless, high-risk, young pregnant women and programs and services to help young parents gain knowledge and skills to raise health, well-adjusted children.

- **\$10,000** to install energy-efficient windows in the residence.