

Issue #18 – Winter, 2007

Foundation Activities Holiday Cards raise \$14,000

Causeway Foundation's sixth annual Holiday Card Campaign proved to be the most successful to date, with total revenue of \$14,000. Some 25 caring individuals and organizations ordered large quantities of cards. As well, there were 20 participating retailers who assisted the Foundation by selling cards in their stores.

Since its inception in 2001, the Holiday Card Campaign has raised nearly \$45,000 in support of Causeway's employment, education and wellness programs. This year, thanks to the generosity of our sponsors, every dollar raised will go directly to Causeway Work Centre's Wellness program. We wish to acknowledge and express our gratitude to the following benefactors:

Sponsors - Warlyn Construction Ltd., RBC Financial Services, Smith Petrie Carr & Scott Insurance Brokers Ltd.

Donors: Canada Post Corporation, Emond Harnden LLP, Morenau Sobeco, Cox Merrit & Co.

In-kind Sponsors: TriCo Printing, Banfield-Seguín Ltd.

Crabtree Foundation funds electrical system

With extreme gratitude, we wish to report that a grant of \$33,000 has been received from The Harold Crabtree Foundation for upgrading the electrical system in the Causeway building. Originally built as a school in the early 1900s, 22 O'Meara Street underwent various uses before it became home for Causeway Work Centre and Causeway Foundation. Over time, as requirements changed, walls went up and others came down. Two kitchen facilities were installed and the heating and cooling systems changed. The building's electrical system became overtaxed and outdated - some circuits were under utilized, whereas others were overextended. Under the direction of Foundation Board Member Peter Woollings, specifications were developed and bids called for renovating and upgrading the system. With estimates in hand, the Crabtree Foundation was approached for help. Their prompt offer of assistance has now resulted in the completion of all the electrical work required. Our thanks go to The Harold Crabtree Foundation for their generous grant that has improved this major component of the Causeway building.

Causeway Work Centre Activities

A number of events involving Causeway consumers took place at the Work Centre in the past number of weeks.

Needle Hunters Recognition Breakfast

For more than six years, Causeway Work Centre has undertaken contracts with the City of Ottawa for early morning collection of condoms, crack pipes and syringes. Causeway consumers team-up to "sweep" downtown parks, playgrounds and sites adjacent to daycare facilities. To acknowledge these little-publicized efforts, all 18 "needle-hunters" were feted at a Recognition Breakfast held at Causeway in November. Catered by Krackers, the event was also attended by Paul Lavigne, SITE coordinator for the City of Ottawa, by outreach agency representatives and Causeway staff.

Wellness luncheon



Awards were given to five Wellness participants for successfully completing one full year in the program.

Since its inception in early 2003, Causeway's Wellness Program has proven to be one of the most successful initiatives ever launched by the agency. The evidence was easily seen at a luncheon held in December for Wellness participants. Attendees cited weight loss, improved physical fitness and enhanced self-confidence as benefits they received.



Margaret's bequest

Margaret Denstedt-Williamson was a long-time friend of Causeway. Back in the Clubhouse days, she was a regular member and frequent participant in various Clubhouse activities. Margaret passed away last October, but wished to remember the organizations that had assisted her through the later years of her life. Causeway was one of her selected beneficiaries and received a bequest of some \$25,000. It is extremely gratifying that the care and attention given a client would be remembered and we would be rewarded so richly. The Foundation Board is considering several options to use the bequest in a way that will honour Margaret and provide support for Causeway programs.

What is Causeway?

Causeway Work Centre has assisted people with chronic mental illness and other disabilities for more than 25 years. Causeway services include: Pre-employment and skills development; Computer Training; a comprehensive Youth Pre-employment program; various Supported Employment programs; Casual Jobs enterprise, a Wellness program and Community Kitchen; an Outreach serving those with mental illness and/or concurrent disorders; and Krackers Katering, an entrepreneurial business, run by and employing Causeway clients.

Causeway Foundation was established in 1998: "To raise and distribute funds to support Causeway Work Centre programs and services to further the well-being of persons with mental illness and other disabilities." It is managed by a nine-member Board of Directors: Dianne Breton, President; Robert Petrie, Treasurer; Carole Piette, Secretary; Directors: Jill Mutzeneek, Leah Eustace, Peter Woollings, Don Palmer, Len Leeks and Bruce Hiney.

www.causewayfoundation.org

Causeway's Christmas Party



Consumers, staff, family members and friends took part in Causeway's annual Christmas Party on December 7th. The traditional turkey dinner was followed by a gift exchange, prize draws and dancing to DJ-supplied music. We would like to especially thank the following business for their generosity: Blue Cactus Bar & Grill, Bridgehead Coffee House, Famous Player's Coliseum, Hampton Inn, Lord Elgin Hotel, Malone's Lakeside Bar & Grill, Ottawa 67's, Pub Italia, Theo's Greek Taverna, Travelodge Ottawa.

SPP comes to Ottawa



Portal Manager Marge McCabe

A new way of doing business is coming to Ottawa with the official launch on March 1st of the Social Purchasing Portal (SPP) at Ottawa City Hall. SPP is an interactive association of enterprises within a community whereby organizations purchase products and services from businesses that promote employment for those who are hard to employ.

Purchasers gain access to quality products and services at competitive prices while channelling their purchasing to those firms that create employment opportunities for persons who are disabled/disadvantaged. SPP models are currently operating successfully in Vancouver, Victoria, Calgary, Winnipeg, Toronto and Waterloo. Causeway is the sponsor of the Ottawa SPP and the project office is located in the Causeway building at 22 O'Meara Street.

Employment programs

In Issue 16 of *Causeway Connection*, we offered a report on the Work Centre's employment programs and services. We thought it timely to update these activities. The Work Centre offers two major employment programs: Job Quest and ESP. Job Quest, federally funded by HRSDC, is a rapid placement program for those who are homeless or at risk; its goal is to secure paid employment for clients within three months. The provincially funded ESP (Employment Support Program) is a longer-term plan aimed at securing paid employment for those who currently receive ODSP disability benefits.

Sector strategy

The Work Centre employment strategy is to bring together teams that combine a Job Developer with an Employment Support person. One team member finds the job, the other assists the client to obtain and maintain that job. There are presently four teams focusing on different industrial-commercial sectors. The four sectors are Retail & Customer Service; IT/Administration; General Labour & Cleaning; Food Services & Social Services. Each team researches their area extensively to become familiar with the specific sector needs and various employment opportunities offered. All are quite different.

Retail & Customer Service-

Causeway searches for positions in different retail environments such as cashiers, customer service reps, stock and inventory personnel, grocery store clerks, and dog walkers.

IT/Administration- A popular employment sector among Causeway consumers, potential positions include clerical and administrative support personnel, data entry, computer help, technical assistants, as well as library clerks and graphic designers.

General Labour & Cleaning-

Causeway employment specialists assist clients find jobs such as cleaners, janitors, warehouse helpers, forklift operators, car detailers, mechanic's assistants, drywallers, painters and various other construction positions.

Food Services & Social Services-

In this sector Causeway consumers fill positions for waiters and waitresses, dishwashers, bussers, prep cooks, health care aides, personal support workers, dietary aides and other social service jobs.

Rural employment

Causeway is also responsible for a rural works program called "Supported Employment for Persons with Severe Mental Illness Living in Rural Ottawa". Started in 2005, this United Way-funded initiative provides full-time or part-time employment for rural Causeway consumers with specific job placements or by undertaking contracts for the door-to-door delivery of newspapers, flyers, catalogues and other direct-mail items. The program has been successful and as a result we have made a request to the United Way for an additional three years of funding beginning in July, 2007.

How You Can Help

1. Help employ Causeway clients by identifying job opportunities. Call 613-725-3494 x.26
2. Consider Krackers Katering for food service at your next event. Call: 613-792-4954
3. Learn about making an endowment gift, or the gift of shares. Call the Foundation office 613-725-3494 x.28

To Donate

Please forward your cheque (payable to *Causeway Foundation*) to: Causeway Foundation, 22 O'Meara Street, Ottawa, ON K1Y 4N6. A tax receipt will follow.
Charitable No. 87254 0844 RR0001 (CC#18)

Yes! I want to support Causeway programs with my donation of:

\$ _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

Tel.: _____ Email: _____

To view our **privacy policy** visit www.causewayfoundation.org.

Convenient online donations: Donate online by visiting www.causewayfoundation.org then click the CanadaHelps.org line to make secure charitable donations.