



Community for Everyone

ALPHAHOUSE

NEWSLETTER
2024 • ISSUE 1

ALPHA HOUSE UPDATES

Downtown Ambassador Program

Alpha House is excited to announce that, after discussion with the Calgary Downtown Association, we have taken on operations of the Downtown Ambassador Program as of January 22.

We'll be working with the City of Calgary to operate the Downtown Ambassador Program in a way that best addresses the immediate needs of Calgary's vulnerable population, as well as assisting with social conditions that have economic impacts for businesses operating in the downtown area.

The program is now operational from 7 AM to 7 PM, 7 days a week as a mobile response resource for a wide range of complex social needs in the downtown core.



Laundry Room Renovations

We are very excited to share that, with the support of the [Rotary Club of Calgary at Stampede Park](#), we'll be working on renovating our laundry room in order to better support our clients with clean clothing. This project has been a long time coming; our laundry room has caused us many a headaches throughout the years, requiring frequent maintenance as the washers/dryers/pipes couldn't keep up with the constant influx of clothing.

We are incredibly grateful to the Rotary Club for seeing value in this project, and making it easier than ever to get our clients the clean clothing they deserve.





Harm Reduction

“The social services sector evolves with the needs of the people that it serves; harm reduction has become a leading framework for those working with individuals facing homelessness and substance use challenges because of its effectiveness in minimizing risk in situations involving physical health, mental health, and/or substance use.”



World Social Work Day

“The CDTC’s Indigenous program’s partnership with Alpha House sets aside 2 beds every week for Indigenous individuals who are wanting treatment. These clients either start in the Detox program or, if already sober, move into the Transitional Recovery program while we support them with referrals to long-term treatment programs or other social service supports (income assistance, employment referrals etc).”



Open the Door! Give Hope Through Housing

Campaign launching in April

Alpha House will tackle Calgary's lack of affordable housing in an awareness campaign this spring. With housing inventory at a critical low, it is becoming increasingly difficult to secure client housing. As rents continue to rise and vacancies decline, we are helping clients with their monthly necessities, such as food and utilities, to ensure they can stay in their homes. But we need your help to keep up with the increasing costs and our housing program needs.

Watch for new information on our website, social media posts, outdoor advertising, and more in your communities. Please consider how you can help us give hope through housing.

"I worked with caseworkers – the support is huge and helps a lot – I've done a lot of work and am more independent. I have a basement suite and love living there. I feel safe." - Nikki, Alpha House client



Open the Door!

**Give Hope Through Housing
Campaign Launches in April**

DONATIONS & VOLUNTEERS

FitHouse Charity Workout

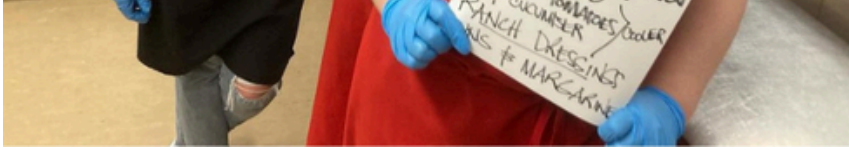
A local gym called **FitHouse** hosted an awesome fundraiser in the form of a charity workout. with the proceeds going toward Alpha House! The amazing people below got together for a class led by one of their instructors, and ended up raising \$500 for our programs. We love to see unique fundraisers that bring people together for something they love in support of a great cause.



Volunteer Appreciation

We have had some awesome volunteer groups join us in the first 3 months of 2024 and we cannot wait for all the groups to come! If you are interested in Corporate or Individual Volunteering, please connect with us at info@alphahousecalgary.com





Youth Central YVC Day

March 2 was the annual Youth Volunteer Corps day, with this year's theme being kindness. Calgary's chapter celebrated YVC day by inviting 24 youth volunteers to spread kindness in a number of unique and practical ways! They painted kindness rocks and placed them around the downtown area, made 150+ sandwiches for Alpha House, and wrote notes of kindness which were then folded into origami hearts to be placed with the handmade sandwiches.



Interested in helping with our clothing donations?

Thank you to all the wonderful folks who donated clothing during the winter months for our clients. Being homeless does not become less traumatic, upsetting, or difficult during the warmer weather but we know exposure to the elements is a critical issue in Calgary in the winter so thank you to everyone for donation warm winter clothing. If you're interested in helping us with sorting and laundering donations on a regular basis, please reach out.



UPCOMING EVENTS

Engaging Vulnerable Persons Workshop

Our public sessions for Engaging Vulnerable Persons are back for 2024! We have new dates and a lot of great content to help you understand more about what's happening in the community when it comes to homelessness and addiction. Big thanks to our partner [carya](#) for the use of their space at the community centered Village Commons



Engaging Vulnerable Persons Understanding Homelessness & Addiction

Please join us for a workshop presented by Calgary Alpha House Society in community partnership with [carya](#) covering:

- Factors that lead to homelessness & addiction
- The stigma associated with homelessness & addiction
- How & when to navigate interactions with our unhoused neighbours
- Free resources available to community & when to utilize them

Upcoming Dates

Series hosted at: carya

Village Commons 610 8 Avenue SE

For more information, please email: info@alphahousecalgary.com



Community Cleanups Anyone?

Do you want to partner with Alpha House on your upcoming Community Clean Up? Alpha House's Needle Response Team is available 7 days a week and we would love to join your event to support clean and safe communities! Reach out to info@alphahousecalgary.com

Needle Response Team

Keeping Communities Clean & Safe



For easy reporting of found needles or drug paraphernalia debris, please scan the above QR code
-or-
report to

(403) 796-5334

Please be ready to provide:

- Full address
- A description of where the needle is located
- Your name and call back number
- The number of needles or any other drug paraphernalia



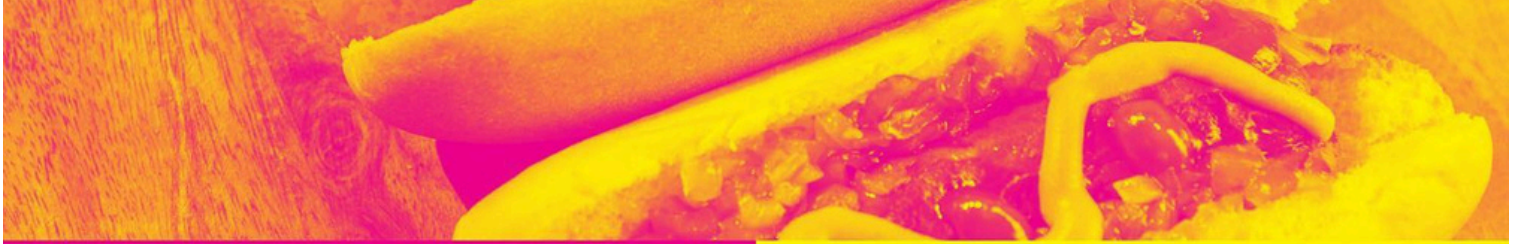
Alpha House's Needle Response Team is the largest collector of discarded needle debris across Calgary communities.

This team provides clean up & disposal on both public & private property, free of charge, and welcomes calls from businesses and community members.



Free Meal - Community Event

This event has been rescheduled for Sunday April 7th! We welcome all community members to join us and enjoy a free meal with friends.



**FREE
MEAL
POP-UP**

FREE HOTDOGS FOR ALL!

Get a free hot meal.
No registration, no cost,
simply show up for free.

Hotdogs, snacks, water and hot coffee will be available while quantities last.

11TH AVE & 8TH ST SW

ACROSS FROM THE SAFEWAY PARKING LOT

APRIL 7 • 11:30 AM - 1:30 PM • FREE



SUPPORT OUR WORK IN OUT-OF-THE-BOX WAYS

Join Our Blood Donation Team!

Join Alpha House Society's blood donation team as a Champion for Life and help us reach our yearly blood donation goal! On top of the team events, you can donate individually and indicate that you are on Alpha House's team. Check the graphic below for instructions on how to join our team:



Canadian
Blood
Services

HOW TO JOIN ALPHA HOUSE AS A CHAMPION FOR LIFE:

STEP 1: Log in or create an account on blood.ca or the GiveBlood App

STEP 2: Click on the "Partners" tab

STEP 3: Click "Join an existing team"

STEP 4: Search "Alpha House" or our team number "CALG0117318"

STEP 5: Select "Yes" and then click "Join"

STEP 6: Now you're on the team! Click "Book" to make an appointment!

**Blood is meant for circulation! Join
Alpha House as a Champion for
Life and help make all the difference**

Homeless Cars

We are extremely pleased to be working with [Homeless Cars](#) in the Calgary market and hope you will spread the word far and wide that you can get rid of that old car AND support critical public services in your community right here in Calgary



Did

YOU KNOW?



You can donate a vehicle to
Alpha House!

Just call Homeless Cars at 1-833-465-7227



Social Media Channels

Keep up with what's happening in the House!



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www.alphahousecalgary.com

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