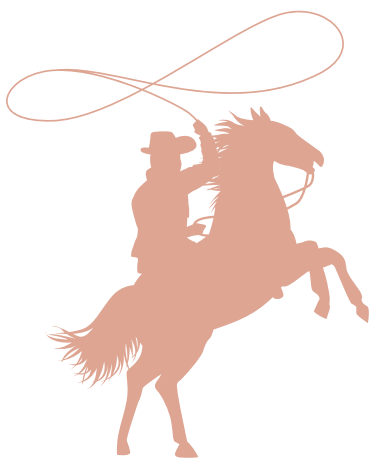




Community for Everyone



ALPHAHOUSE

NEWSLETTER
2024 • ISSUE 2

ALPHA HOUSE UPDATES

Sober Living Supportive Housing Program

Providence House has been apart of Alpha House's continuum of housing programs since 2022 and has historically been operated with a harm reduction focus, but we are excited to share that earlier this year we officially transitioned this program to our FIRST sober living facility for individuals with past addiction and homelessness. We believe in being able to offer an entire spectrum of options for clients so we can meet people where they are and support them individually based on their needs. We are grateful to be able to add this recovery-oriented service to our continuum of care.



Homelessness Awareness Campaign!

Warm. Weather. Doesn't. Solve. Homelessness.

Back in April, we were super grateful to discover a little extra funding we could put towards a city-wide awareness campaign. This was timed alongside the city-wide rezoning conversation and we took the opportunity to get the word out about our services, and our uncompromising stance on the need for increased housing supply, density, and variety. Stretching across a few **billboards, transit shelters, buses, and trains**— did you see us somewhere these past few weeks?

Warm weather tends to reduce urgency around housing crisis and homelessness. But warm weather doesn't solve homelessness - supportive housing does.



Give Hope Through Housing

What does home mean to you?

Home is a place of comfort, safety, and stability. It is much more than a shelter; it is a sanctuary. For our clients, home is a place where they can work on other aspects of their lives to create a healthier future. It changes lives.

The need for housing is urgent so, alongside our awareness campaign, we started the **Give Hope Through Housing** campaign to find landlords and raise money in order to provide stable housing options for our community housing clients. Here are some of the ways you can help:

1. **Donate** to our housing program and your money goes to deposits, subsidizing rents, groceries and essentials. Our goal is to raise \$100,000.
2. Create a “housewarming kit” with essentials like linens, pantry staples, cleaning supplies and toiletries to help us set up clients’ new homes (email info@alphahousecalgary.com for drop-off options)
3. **Contact us** to learn more about the resources and support available to landlords. We need to secure 20 – 30 units to meet our goal of housing 150 clients in 2024.



live. To be able to get back into housing is very tough, but when it happens, it gives you hope, joy and a future."

Chris

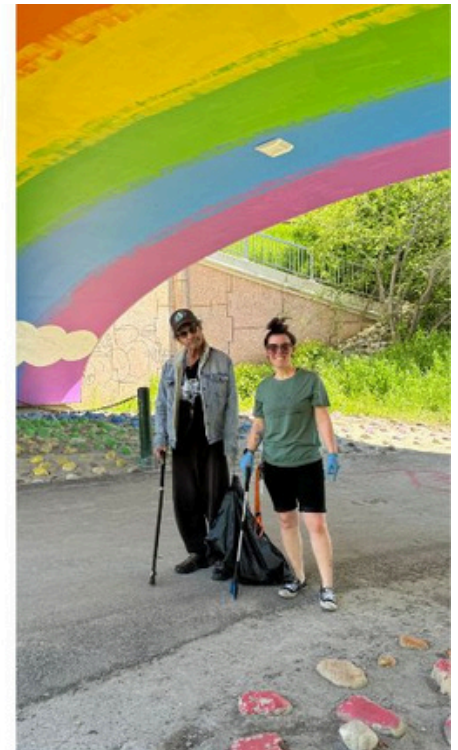
Alpha House client



Spring Community Cleanups!

We've just finished up a successful round of our regularly programmed spring community cleanups and BBQ lunches!

We are very grateful to all our community partners, staff, and clients for stopping by to participate in the cleanups. Everyone came with a great attitude and brought their A game, resulting in... maybe the most fun community cleanups yet! If you want to partner with Alpha House on a community cleanup, please reach out.





New Blog Posts



SPRING CLEANING TIME

"It's finally spring, and as the weather warms up, we just know all of you are itching to clean out your homes and garages, and donate the things that you can't use! Enter Alpha House! We put this blog post together to provide some tips for spring cleaners who are ready to purge some of their items but want to avoid the landfill."



SPOTLIGHT: INDIGENOUS PEER SUPPORT

"Helping the clients is my favourite part of doing this work. Even before Alpha House, I was doing outreach and helping people with addiction in the community. I felt like that was my purpose that the Creator gave me a couple of years ago, and I went with it..."



Click the corresponding image for each blog post to read the full article!

DONATIONS & VOLUNTEERS

Love Pack Project Donation

This Spring we were approached by a group called [The Love Pack Project](#), who solicited donations from a ton of community members and dropped off hundreds of donations for our staff to hand out. The donation included t-shirt/ball cap gift bags, hygiene kits, bottled water, Gatorade, and other clean clothing. We are incredibly grateful to The Love Pack Project team for organizing this donation, and to everyone who generously donated to this initiative.



Smile Cookie Campaign

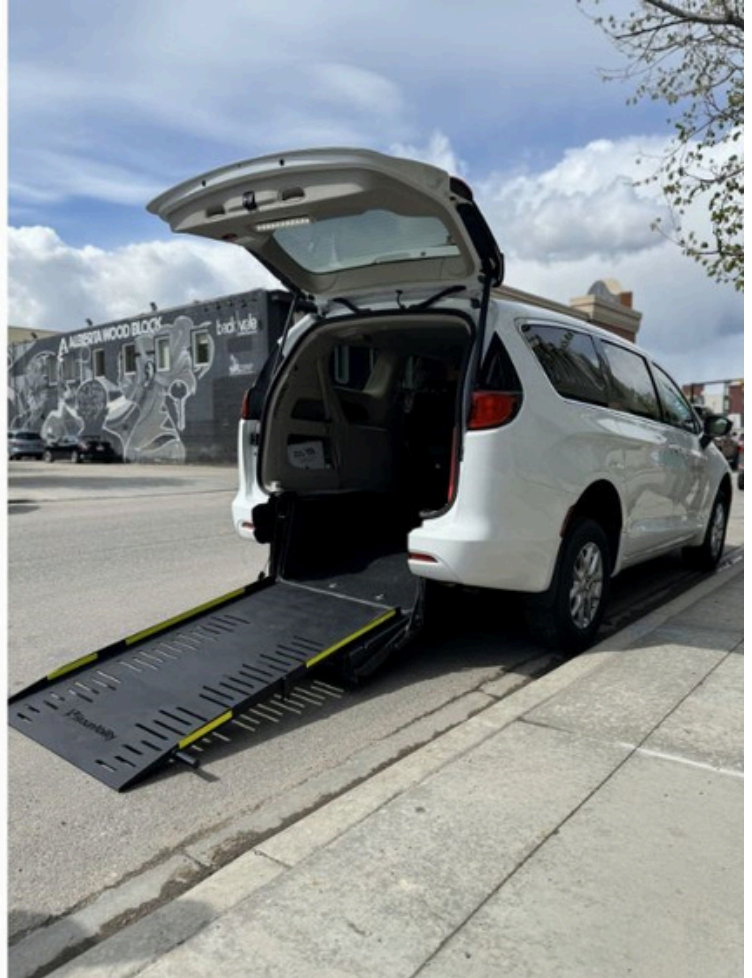
Every year, Tim Hortons works with local franchises for the Smile Cookie campaign, where 100% of the proceeds go towards supporting charities and community groups across Canada.

We want to send a big thank you to the [Dollar A Day Foundation](#), and to the local Tim Horton's franchises that chose to support Alpha House as a part of the Smile Cookie Campaign! What a difference this \$25K will make!



Accessible Van Addition!

We are excited to share that we've added a wheelchair accessible van to our fleet of vehicles. We've recognized that mobility challenges present a huge barrier for our clients who want to access resources, services, or even to attend appointments. We started working to fill this gap a handful of years ago with our Permanent-Supportive Housing building in the Hillhurst-Sunnyside area, which is equipped with mobility aids and 24/7 on-site supports. We've been wanting to add a wheelchair accessible van for a while and now, thanks to a grant from the [Calgary Homeless Foundation](#), we are finally able to integrate a wheelchair accessible option to our Outreach fleet.



Chipotle Food Donations

Chipotle touched down in Calgary last year in Sunridge, and recently opened a second location down in Seton. In preparation for the opening of each restaurant, Chipotle makes a ton of food as a part of their staff training. All of that food went to local agencies, coordinated by the [Distress Centre](#), and Alpha House's emergency shelter benefitted significantly! We love to see that all this extra food was given back to the community and we're grateful to have been apart of it. Check out Chipotle's new Seton location!



Volunteer Appreciation

We wanted to say thank you to all our volunteers for all the time you dedicate to make sure our clients have access to clean clothing, hygiene kits, and food. We have a regular sandwich making group that has been going strong for many years, corporate groups that come through to volunteer their time for a couple of hours, and regular events with [Soup Sisters](#) where corporate groups participate in a soup making workshop, with all the soups going towards feeding vulnerable populations.



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, we would love to have you!!! Email info@alphahousecalgary.com



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



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:



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

ALPHAHOUSE

Social Media Channels

Keep up with what's happening in the House!



Copyright (C) 2022 CALGARY ALPHA HOUSE SOCIETY. All rights reserved.

www.alphahousecalgary.com

Our mailing address is:

203 15th Avenue SE, Calgary AB, T2G 1G4