



SPENCE NEIGHBOURHOOD ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

FEBRUARY 2019

IT TAKES MORE THAN A HOME TO PREVENT HOMELESSNESS

Since its inception 10 years ago, the Homelessness Outreach Mentor (HOM) Program has found and secured housing for almost 500 individuals experiencing homelessness. The need for this program is growing: the 2018 Winnipeg Street Census reported that at least 1,519 individuals will experience homelessness in Winnipeg on any given night. And the reality is that this number is most likely higher.

The HOM Program works to get individuals experiencing homelessness into housing and provides them supports to keep them housed. This supports includes setting participants up with home necessities and teaching the basics of home-care, creating a community support network, and providing six months of wraparound support and care. The HOM Program also gets participants set up with a source of income.

When you give to the HOM program, you are helping individuals experiencing homelessness get placed in permanent, safe housing, and provided with the wraparound supports necessary to prevent further episodes of homelessness. When you give to the HOM program, 100% of your donation goes directly to housing folks experiencing homelessness in our community.

How the HOM Program Works:

STEP 1 : connect the participant with a source of income, resolving any previous rental or social assistance issues, and procuring identification.

STEP 2 : the participant is placed in housing in the private market, or in social housing if available. We work to build a relationship between the landlord and their new tenant, to help ensure a smooth tenancy experience.

STEP 3 : participants are provided with a bed, and a startup kit of basic home necessities.

STEP 4 : participants are connected with any needed medical, mental health, addictions, family, and community supports they may need. Addressing the whole of a person's needs is the key to remaining stably housed.

STEP 5 : participants typically stay with the program for 6 months, during which the Homelessness Outreach Mentor continues to help with supports and advocacy, until the participant is ready to fly solo.

A Story from the Homelessness Outreach Mentor:

"This year as the HOM, I was able to be part of something really special. I had a man come to my office who is hearing impaired and was homeless. As time and information unraveled, this case became more and more challenging. I had to problem solve and put my skills to work in order to navigate systems effectively. I was able to help get him into a more specialized Manitoba Housing building that offered daily supports and safety. There were also banking needs to be set up as well as eviction preventions due to some inability to manage finances effectively, in order to pay rent. My participant was then referred to Winnipeg Regional Health Authority Access Downtown East where he was connected with many resources that were able to offer more hands-on support with managing his day-to-day finances and stabilizing his life. He is now thriving and happy in his unit and discharged off my case load. I had the pleasure of helping a very nice person to become a part of this great community and that does feel good."

Donations to the HOM Program can be dropped at 615 Ellice Ave., or made online at www.spenceneighbourhood.org/donate, clicking "Click to Donate" and selecting "Housing and Homeless Outreach" from the drop-down menu.

For more information about the HOM Program contact: The Homelessness Outreach Mentor at 204-783-5000 ext.108, row@spenceneighbourhood.org or the Housing Coordinator at 204-783-5000 ext.105, housing@spenceneighbourhood.org

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COMMITTEE MEETINGS THIS MONTH

HOLISTIC HOUSING: FEB 5
CED: FEB 12
YOUTH & FAMILIES: FEB 13
EOS: FEB 14

TENENTS': FEB 19
SNA 2SLGBTQ+: FEB 20
SNA BOARD: FEB 26

VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT: THE AMAZING MICHAEL ARINZE!

DECEMBER UPDATE FROM WE24

Which SNA program do you volunteer with?
The Social Circus program, as the main instructor.

How long have you been with SNA?
Since the beginning of the Social Circus program in October.

Why do you (continue to) volunteer with SNA?
I enjoy people realizing their potential in a discipline and then seeing how that develops locally and in other areas of living and being. And knowing that THEY CAN DO IT.

What is one contribution, achievement, benefit, or highlight you most proud of in your experience with SNA?
Just being there and seeing them as they make their journey. Being part of that process and supporting them along the way with anything I can do as a professional and human.

Do you have any advice to share with folks wanting to volunteer with SNA?
Bring yourself in its entirety. Know your stuff. And when you are there; realize these are very capable humans and individuals with personality formed from far and wide. Appreciate them; honour them and show them the ropes and watch them be amazing. Nurture their spirit of play and discovery and enjoy as they light up the sky: the little-big stars.

December was a busy month for WE24, we opened our doors 7 night a week thanks to the cold weather strategy. Since December we have had over 250 different participants accessing the space with a total of 33 new participants requiring services from WE24. The space was open a total of 27 days. As part of the cold weather strategy, we have enhanced our outreach process by doing more patrolling at night to make sure people don't freeze to death.

In December we held our annual Holiday Dinner, with a total of 41 members accessing the program that night. Along with the dinner we brought in the new year with traditional teaching.

We're thankful for all our participants, staff and volunteers. With special thanks to our top volunteers: Austin Grozelle, a former participant who has become a regular volunteer at the space.

Sean Sousa - WE24 Program Manager
204-783-5000 ext: 110
sean@spenceneighbourhood.org



Did you know that homeowners and landlords can receive financial assistance to rehabilitate, repair, and make adaptations to homes and buildings? If you are a renter, ask your landlord to apply!

For more information, contact:

Rental Housing Improvement Program: housingprograms@gov.mb.ca

Minimum Home Repair program: 311@winnipeg.ca

Manitoba Hydro: www.hydro.mb.ca,

Rent Assist: www.gov.mb.ca/fs/eia/rent_assist.html

Winnipeg Rental Network: winnipegrentnet.ca

Spence Neighbourhood Association,

housing@spenceneighbourhood.org

You can contact Vanessa at the Rental Safety program to help assist you with resources and applications: 204-783-5000-ext 107 or rentalsafety@spenceneighbourhood.org

RENTAL TIPS

Spence Neighbourhood Association (SNA):

615 Ellice Avenue (Head Office):

Community Connecting, Environment & Open Spaces, Finance, Homeless Outreach, Housing, & Rental Safety.

430 Langside Street (Magnus Eliason Recreation Centre - MERC): Building Belonging, Children, Newcomer Youth Outreach, West End 24 Hour Safe Space, & Youth Drop-In.

365 McGee Street (West End Commons):

First Jobs 4 Youth, Wahkohtowin Strengthening Families Program, Homework Club, & Youth Crew.

231 Isabel Street (Central Neighbourhoods):

Gang Action Interagency Network (GAIN)

350 Spence Street (Axworthy Health & RecPlex):

Community Sports Program

Phone: 204-783-5000 | **Email:** liaison@spenceneighbourhood.org |

Website: www.spenceneighbourhood.org

SNA'S FEB. '19 PROGRAM/EVENT LISTING

CHILDREN & YOUTH PROGRAMS

Building Belonging

Monday-Friday | 3:30-5:30PM | 430 Langside
Structured programming for kids ages 6-12 with lunch and snacks provided and pick up from home and drive home available within the Spence neighbourhood. Registration forms available at MERC. Contact: SNA Building Belonging Coordinators at 204-783-5000 ext.112.

Art City Outreach

Mondays | 4-6PM | 430 Langside
Express yourself with facilitators and guest artists at art making workshops for ages 6-12. Contact: SNA Building Belonging Coordinators at 204-783-5000 ext.112.

Youth Program

Monday-Friday | 6:30-9:30PM | 430 Langside
Programming and outings for youth grades 7-12 with a meal provided and drive home available within the Spence neighbourhood, or bus tickets provided. Registration forms available at MERC. Contact: Newcomer Youth and Outreach Worker 204-783-5000 ext.113 or newcomer@spenceneighbourhood.org

Social Circus Drop-In

Fridays | 3:30-5:30PM | 350 Spence
Drop-in circus programming for youth ages 16-29. Learn circus skills in a safe and supportive space. Contact socialcircus@spenceneighbourhood.org

WE24 Overnight Safe Space

Sunday - Saturday | 11PM-7AM | 430 Langside
An overnight space for youth ages 13-26 to rest and relax and access food, resources, and basic needs in a supportive, kind, and warm environment. Contact: WE24 Manager 204-783-5000 ext.110 or sean@spenceneighbourhood.org

COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Holistic Housing Committee Meeting

Feb. 5 | 5:30PM | 615 Ellice
Contact: Housing Coordinator at 204-783-5000 ext.105 or housing@spenceneighbourhood.org

CED Committee Meeting

Feb. 12 | 5:30PM | 365 McGee
Contact: Youth Employment Hub Coordinator at 204-783-5000 ext.115 or firstjobs@spenceneighbourhood.org.

Youth & Families Committee Meeting

Feb. 13 | 7-8:30PM | 430 Langside
Contact: Youth & Families Director at 204-783-5000 ext. 111 or kristen@spenceneighbourhood.org

Environment & Open Spaces Committee Meeting

Feb. 14 | 6PM | 615 Ellice
Contact: Environment and Open Spaces Coordinator at 204-783-5000 ext.102 or greenimage@spenceneighbourhood.org

Tenants' Committee Meeting

Feb. 19 | 5:30PM | 615 Ellice
Contact Rental Safety at 204-783-5000 ext.105 or rentalsafety@spenceneighbourhood.org

Spence 2SLGBTQ+ Advisory Committee

Feb. 20 | 6-8PM | 615 Ellice
Contact: Community Connector at 204-783-5000 ext.106 or safety@spenceneighbourhood.org

SNA Board Meeting

Feb. 26 | 5:30PM | 430 Langside
Contact: SNA's Executive Director at 204-783-5000 ext.103 or jamil@spenceneighbourhood.org

55+ PROGRAMS & EVENTS

55+ Social Club:

Feb. 11, 25 | 1-3PM | 625 Portage
Spence Neighbourhood and West-End adults 55+, elders, and seniors, please join us for a free coffee (or tea) and participate in light conversations and stress-free activities. 2nd and 4th Monday of the month. Support workers welcome. Accessible venue. Gender inclusive washrooms. We do not meet on national and provincial holidays. Contact: Community Connector at 204-783-5000 ext. 106 or safety@spenceneighbourhood.org

55+ Cooking Class

Feb. 13 | 2PM | 365 McGee
Adults 55+ are invited to learn healthy, affordable recipes and share their kitchen wisdom. Classes facilitated by Mary Jane's Cooking School. Registration required for this free program. It fills up fast! Contact: Environment & Open Space Coordinator 204-783-5000 Ext.102 or email greenimage@spenceneighbourhood.org

MORE WAYS TO ENGAGE WITH YOUR COMMUNITY

Art with Gerry

Date TBA | 5-7PM | 615 Ellice
Led by local artist Gerry Berard, AWG aims to create an accessible and inclusive space for community members of all ages and skill/experience levels to engage in free, recreational and skill-building art and craft activities. Registration required. Contact: Community Connector at 204-783-5000 ext. 106 or safety@spenceneighbourhood.org

All Bodies Swim Night

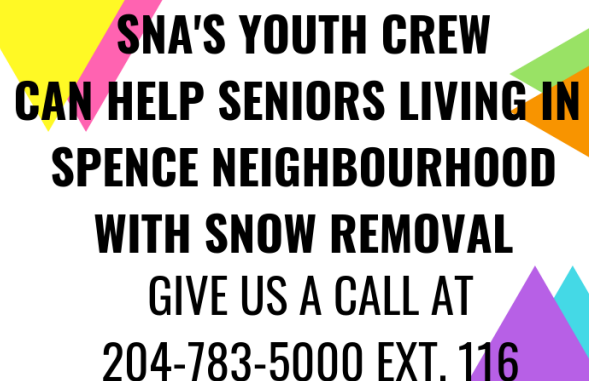
Feb. 8 | 6-8PM | 381 Sherbrook
Free | Family-friendly | All ages | Accessible venue & pool | DJs | Gender-free washrooms and change rooms | Snacks. This event aims to create an affirming, inclusive, and safer space for folk who experience, navigate, and manage various aggressions, oppressions, and violences in their daily lives and don't want to deal with them while swimming. Contact: SNA's Community Connector at 204-783-5000 ext.106 or safety@spenceneighbourhood.org

Wahkohtowin Strengthening Families Program:

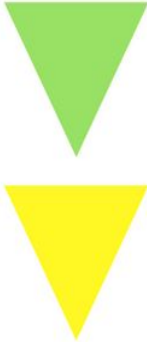
Thursdays | 5-8PM | 365 McGee
WSFP is a free strength-based skill-building program that works with youth ages 11-17 along with their families/support circles to increase communication, decrease conflict, connect with culture, and increase bonding. Childminding, dinner, and transportation are provided. Contact: 204-783-5000 ext. 125 or kai@spenceneighbourhood.org

Our Place Safe Space:

Fridays | 5-11PM
OPSS is a "comes as you are" safer space for those who identify as sex workers, experiential folks, victims/survivors of sexual exploitation and victims/survivors of human trafficking (all ages, genders, and Nations), operating as a drop-in. Harm reduction services and fun free dinner provided. Contact: OPSS Outreach at 204-774-7005 ext.106 or bobbi@spenceneighbourhood.org



**SNA'S YOUTH CREW
CAN HELP SENIORS LIVING IN
SPENCE NEIGHBOURHOOD
WITH SNOW REMOVAL
GIVE US A CALL AT
204-783-5000 EXT. 116**



SPENCE NEIGHBOURHOOD ASSOCIATION (SNA) FEBRUARY 2019

| 204-783-5000 | liaison@spenceneighbourhood.org | www.spenceneighbourhood.org |
 | Facebook @spenceneighbourhoodassociation | Twitter @snacommunity | Instagram @snacommunity |

Children & Youth Programming

Building Belonging
 Mondays-Fridays
 3:30PM-5:30PM

Drop-In Only: Feb. 1
 No Program - Feb. 18

Art City Outreach:
 Mondays 4PM-6PM

Youth Program
 Mondays-Fridays
 6:30PM-9:30PM

No Program - Feb. 18

West End 24 Hour Safe Space
 Every Night
 (including holidays)
 11PM-7AM

Social Circus Drop-In
 Fridays
 3:30PM-5:30PM

visit MERC (430 Langside) for specific children & youth program calendars

Event & Program Locations

| SUNDAY | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY |
|---|--------|---------|-----------|----------|--------|----------|
| <p><i>Programming, hours, and locations may be subject to change without much notice.</i> SNA is closed evenings, weekends, May Day, and national and provincial holidays.</p> | | | | | | |
| 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 |
| | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 |
| 10 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 |
| 17 | 25 | 26 | 26 | 28 | | |
| 24 | | | | | | |

@430 Langside
 Building Belonging (6-12 years old)
 SNA Board Meeting
 West End 24 Hour Safe Space for Youth (13-26 years old)
 Youth Program (Grade 7-12)
 Youth & Families Committee

@625 Portage
 55+ Social Club

@350 Spence
 Social Circus Drop-In

@615 Eillice
 Art with Gerry (Date TBA)
 Community Connecting Committee
 EOS Committee
 Holistic Housing Committee
 Kitchen Circle
 SNA 2SLGBTQ+ Committee
 Tenants' Committee

@381 Sherbrook
 All Bodies Swim Night

@365 McGee
 55+ Cooking Class
 CED Committee
 Wahkohtowin Strengthening Families Program

