

THE GATE

Oshawa's Outreach Centre

www.gate316.com

1990 – 2018

From the President's Desk

Happy Spring Everyone: it has been a busy time for us at the Gate, the last month or so. New faces continue to walk in our door, with new challenges each day. Please pray that staff will have wisdom in every situation in knowing what is best to say and do for the people we serve. Also, please pray for the people who walk in the door, that they will be open to help and willing to learn new ways to deal with life's problems.

To bring you up to date on our building challenge. God has been good to us and has worked things out, so that we are able to stay at our present location up to June 30 now. Meanwhile, we feel God has lead us to the right building that is available just down the street from us. It has the room we need, but also has a few apartments above that would greatly help with our expenses. We have put in a conditional offer on this building, dependent on whether

we get financing approved as well as other conditions, such as approved inspections etc. We have put in an application for financing and are just waiting to hear if this will be approved. This financing will cover 70% of the mortgage if we are approved. The seller has agreed to give us a second mortgage at 6% to cover the rest. So now we will be looking for support in doing our renovations and paying off the second mortgage as quickly as possible. If anyone has the means to loan us \$200,000 at a smaller interest rate, this would help us clear our second mortgage and give us what we need to do renovations. We will only have one month to renovate before we have to move in, so the quicker we can get the supplies and help, the sooner we can make this happen. So, please prayerfully consider what you can do to help.

In regards to our activities, so far this year. We had a nice turn out for our Sponsors breakfast. It was great to see the interest and support from those who came including Mills Motors who have been supporting us for a couple years now.

Please take note of the information on our upcoming walk-a-thon in May. This would be an easy and enjoyable way to help us raise money for our new building. So please mark it on your calendar and watch on our website for the Sponsor Sheets. We will put them on the web soon.

In regards to clothes donations. Please hold off, until after our move, as our space is limited now, since we no longer have the use of the basement for storage. We do still need food though.

Once again, thank you all for your prayers and support. It is you who provides for the needy as Jesus did. So, keep up the good work, you faithful servants.

*Betty Mann
President of the Board*



OUR CUPBOARDS

Thank you for your support and for helping to keep our shelves filled!

WE ALWAYS APPRECIATE

Coffee, tea, sugar, whitener, powdered milk, ketchup, mayo, soup, Styrofoam plates, bowls and 7 oz cups, plastic forks, spoons & knives, paper towels, toilet paper, napkins, Kleenex, tin foil, dish and laundry soap and XL heavy duty garbage bags!

OUR PROGRAMS

Please consider supporting our programs.

MEAL TICKET PROGRAM

St. Vincent's Kitchen offers dinner daily for \$1.50. Thanks to your support, we are able to provide our clients with up to 25-30 tickets a day.

TRANSPORTATION FUND

Your donations can help our clients attend job interviews, medical appointments and other obligations. A one way Durham Region bus fare is now \$3.50.

CONTACT US

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Martin's Walk-a-thon

Martin's Walk-a-thon will be held on Sat. May 5 this year. Registration opens at 9:00 am and the walk starts at 10:00 from the Gate. This year the goal will be to raise funds for the renovations to our new building. So, prepare your walking shoes—it will be a 5 and 10 km walk along the Oshawa Creek Trail. Spring is here!

Volunteers Needed

If anyone is interested in volunteering their time to work at the Gate reception desk, please give Rita a call at 905-432-5316. Thanks.

Get Involved!

At The Gate, we rely on our family of volunteers to prepare and serve meals, answer phones, and help with our fundraising ventures. Contact The Gate if you are interested.

Information Sessions

We would be honoured to give your organization, church or school a better idea about Gate 3:16. Contact Betty about arranging an information session or a guided tour of our agency.

Client Story

My sobriety date is 2017.

Before I got sober, I was addicted to opiates for 10 years. It completely controlled every aspect of my life. I had no relationships, money, family or home. I became homeless. From the minute I woke up each day all my desires and energy went towards feeding my addiction.

My whole life was upside down for such a long time that I forgot what normal really was and what it was like to have relationships with others or how to get from point A to B because I sold myself to drugs. Anyone that came into my life would not last long because of the chaos that took over my life. I was completely numb to everything because of the bad things that were created by long term use. Any length of sobriety I had would be because I was confined to jail or programs but as soon as I got out I would use again making the same mistakes.

It began when I was injured in a car accident and my doctor prescribed the opiates. Later I would easily buy them off the street along with other kinds of opiates. A year later my wife was murdered, I lost my employment and my son began using.

It wasn't until I made the initiative and real decision to get myself away and make commitments to get sober and make sacrifices, that things started to change through the people brought into my life. Life today is steady. If something bad or unexpected does happen today I am prepared.

God has a way of stripping us of every excuse we will use until we become teachable.

I am thankful for the existence of the Gate and the people who show God's grace and mercy on a daily basis. They are the hands, feet and voice of Jesus to those of us who so desperately need to be loved.

Signed
A believer.



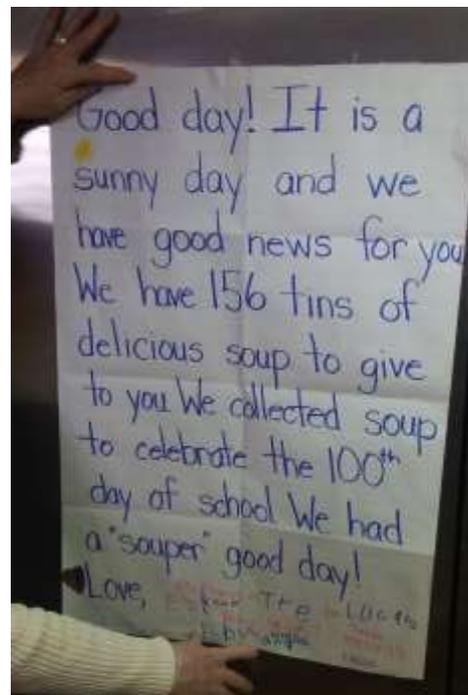
Ride for the Gate

Ride for the Gate will be held on Sept. 23 this year. Please mark your calendars and tune your bikes, for a fun day coming up this fall. Keep an eye on our website and newsletters for more details.

God knows our needs at the Gate

Just at the time when we were right out of soup, Immanuel Christian School came in donating boxes of soup that they collected in a drive to support the Gate. It is great to see young people getting involved in helping their community. Thank you, Immanuel Christian School for filling our shelf once again.

May God bless you all.



**"The best and most beautiful things in this world cannot be seen or even heard, but must be felt with the heart."
Helen Keller**

