Homeless

HELP END HOMELESSNESS WITH COOL AID

Last year in Greater Victoria 1,785 unique individuals used an emergency shelter bed. On a single night, more than 1,167 were counted in temporary accommodation.

As the largest organization dedicated to helping people who are homeless in the Capital Region improve their lives, Cool Aid has set a target to build 360 of the new supportive housing apartments called for in the Greater Victoria Coalition housing action plan.

How will we pay for that? According to a 2008 study by Simon Fraser University, it conservatively costs government an average of $55,000 a year to leave a person who is homeless on the street compared to $37,000 a year to provide them with housing and support.

That means that government can potentially save costs of $6.5 million each year when these 360 new Cool Aid apartments have been built! While helping improve people's lives we will also increase our region's quality of life and access to health and justice services for everyone.

Cool Aid currently provides 374 supportive housing apartments, health care for over 4,000 patients, emergency shelter for over 1,700 people every year, and diverse support services. The Society helps over 9,000 people annually in the Capital Region with properties in Langford, Victoria and Saanich. From 2003 to 2012, Cool Aid opened up nine new buildings whose programs are fully funded.

The Society has committed $1 million to the campaign because our mission is: "In partnership with others, to end homelessness in Greater Victoria while improving client quality of life."

An additional $4 million in support from individuals, companies and foundations is needed. This $5 million will be leveraged to secure government and partner funds for the up to $50 million capital budget, plus ongoing operational support.

WILL YOU JOIN US?

Cool Aid's Campaign Cabinet
Rob Reid (Chair), rob@frontrunners.ca
Brad Clark, brad.clark@raymondjames.ca
Norman Gidney, ngidney@shaw.ca
Helen Hughes, hh456@shaw.ca
Ted Hughes, thqc@shaw.ca
Tony Joe, tony@tonyjoe.ca
Alan Rycroft, arycroft@CoolAid.org
Kathy Stinson, kstinson@CoolAid.org

Advisory Council

Michael Bloomfield, bloom@islandnet.com
Frank Bourree, f.bourree@chemistryconsulting.ca
Peter Ciceri, peter@ciceri.com
Maureen Duncan, maduncan@shaw.ca
Chief Frank Elsner, Frank.Elsner@vicpd.ca
Rev. Ian Powell, ian.powell@laurelpoint.com
Naz Rayani, nazrayani@gmail.com
Sandy Richardson, sandra@victoriafoundation.bc.ca

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Victoria Cool Aid Society
Building Homes, Lives and Community