

*Carty House is a transitional home and a community for refugee women in Ottawa*



**CARTY HOUSE**  
SPRING 2015

### ***News from the Coordinators***

April Showers are finally upon us! As the seasons change, so does Carty House. This past season we had the privilege to welcome four new members into the Carty House Community from Congo, Iraq, Cameroon and Nigeria.

In addition to new arrivals we also transitioned four women into independent living. They have become self-sustaining and confident individuals who are working and studying as well as supporting family members abroad. We assisted them by moving them and setting them up with furniture and other basic needs as they established their new homes and worked on creating new lives in Canada. We appreciate all our volunteers who have offered their time, services and even furniture.

One past resident in particular had a very trying winter. She encountered many challenges that seemed insurmountable. However, in the midst of uncertainty she received a lovely and uplifting surprise with the unexpected arrival of her seven-year-old daughter. With this child came new information. It proved vital for the Refugee Determination Hearing, following which the Immigration Refugee Board delivered a positive oral decision for both her and her daughter.

We have also been very busy with the submission of bursary applications to the Congregation of Notre Dame and are hoping to hear the results soon. One bursary candidate, who arrived in September and actively pursued a training course at Le Carrefour, is about to graduate with a job awaiting her. Her determination and positive energy is proof that effectively utilizing the time at Carty House can bring big rewards. She plans to continue her education and begin anew.

Currently we are busy with developing our spring programs incorporating a biking program and gardening, which will include volunteering with the food bank. Carty House is busy connecting and working with local partners to better serve our community. We continue to encourage and support self-actualization through the teachings of sustainability, empowerment and mutual respect with support for every individual who comes through our doors.

We welcome spring as a new beginning for growth and renewal.

### **2015 Raffle**

Date & Place of Draw: **May 31st, 2015** at Carty House  
Price per ticket: **\$20.00**

Order tickets by phone **613-236-8855** OR by email to

[cartyhouseoffice@gmail.com](mailto:cartyhouseoffice@gmail.com)

### **PRIZES**

1st prize: One Via Rail round trip ticket for four, between any two points between Ottawa and Windsor - Value: \$2,160.00

2nd prize: National Arts Centre gift certificate - Value: \$130.00

3rd prize: International Dinner for Six - Value: \$120.00

4th prize: Gatineau Balloon Festival (2 passes) - Value: \$110.00

5th prize: Ottawa Champions Baseball Tickets (10 pack) - Value: \$89.00

6th prize: Ottawa Little Theatre ('Dangerous Corner' on June 9th) - Value: \$50.00

7th prize: Costco gift certificate - Value: \$50.00

8th prize: Flying Banzini Restaurant voucher - Value: \$25.00

### ***Jackie Romero, Program Coordinator***

I am happy to be the new program coordinator at Carty House. I believe that I bring insightful experiences and a unique perspective. I have a B.A in Human Rights and Law with a minor in Women's Studies from Carleton

University. Raised by immigrant parents from El Salvador, I empathize with the struggle of integrating into a new society. Having first been introduced to the topic of refugee rights in school, I became a resettlement worker at Romero House in Toronto, accompanying families and individuals through the arduous journey of a refugee claimant. I have developed a good understanding of the challenges and a deep sense of compassion. I am thrilled with the opportunity to continue this work in Ottawa, my hometown.



### **Perspective of a Past Resident**

I lived at Carty House, from November 2013 to February 2015. It is a place where people thrive. The people working in the house have big hearts that help residents integrate easily into Canada. We were happy every day with their welcome and their moral support. The furnishings and the comfort of our rooms also gave us good memories of the time spent in the house. May God bless the people managing Carty House.

My perception of Canada:

It is well organized to meet basic needs, like food, health, training and education. It is a good host country, unique in the world, and encourages people to be independent and to seek employment. This is good for the individual as well as for the country. This approach provides a good orientation for people seeking refuge.

Sincerely,  
*Domitille Ndiokubwayo*

**Thanks to everyone who donated boots, hats, scarves, mitts and winter clothing to help our residents endure the winter**

### **AGM 2015**

**Please join us for our Annual General Meeting**

**Date: May 28th, 2015**

**Time: 6:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.**

**at**

**Sandy Hill Community Centre  
250 Somerset St. East, Ottawa**

Meet our Coordinators, residents, volunteers and Board members  
Listen to interesting and informative speakers  
Sample the refreshments

### **How Jenny Waterman 'got involved' with Carty House in December 2014**



Forty guests braved a cold December evening to attend a benefit dinner organized by former Carty House Board member, Jenny Waterman. The dinner was held at The Peace Garden in the Byward market.

Devakripa Cohen, owner of the restaurant prepared a wonderful dinner that included coconut carrot soup, tofu curry, rice and samosas, followed by extra yummy chocolate chip cookies. During the evening musicians associated with the restaurant performed three songs from their tradition connected to Sri Chinmoy. The group, Sangit Saurabhi, which means The Fragrance of Music, sang in Bengali and was accompanied by flute, harp, violin, guitar and drums.

It was a lovely evening all round and through Jenny's efforts, \$1,000 was raised for Carty House.

Thank you Jenny!

### **Ways to 'get involved' with Carty House**

#### **Fundraise**

*Join our fundraising Committee*

*Host a fundraiser with proceeds going to Carty House*

#### **Donate**

*By cheque*

*Online at [CanadaHelps.org](http://CanadaHelps.org)*

#### **Support our events**

*Annual Raffle – Draw date May 31, 2015*

*Fundraising Dinner & silent auction– Date TBD*

*Ride for Refuge – Saturday October 3, 2015*

*Registration July 2015*

#### **Volunteer**

*Contact the Coordinators*

*[cartyhouseoffice@gmail.com](mailto:cartyhouseoffice@gmail.com)*

#### **Make a legacy gift to Carty House in your will**

*For more information go to [www.cartyhouse.org](http://www.cartyhouse.org)*

#### **Invite us to speak at your church, service club, youth group or school**

*Contact the Communications Committee*

*[cartyhousecommunications@gmail.com](mailto:cartyhousecommunications@gmail.com)*

**Carty House**  
**PO Box 4758 Station E, Ottawa, ONTARIO**  
**613-236-8855**

**email: [cartyhouseoffice@gmail.com](mailto:cartyhouseoffice@gmail.com)**

**Donate to Carty House by mail or  
online at**

**[www.CanadaHelps.org](http://www.CanadaHelps.org)**

**Registered Charity Number: 833 764 293RR0001**



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