



THE ST. LEONARD'S SOCIETY OF HAMILTON REPORT TO THE COMMUNITY 2016



Promoting the personal growth and development of offenders and those at risk of offending.

Providing programs and services that support the transition to becoming integrated members of society.



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A MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



2016 marks my 35th year working at The St. Leonard's Society of Hamilton (SLSH) and 22nd year as the Executive Director. The number one reason for staying at SLSH so long is job satisfaction. Where does this satisfaction come from?

First, SLSH is governed by a dedicated and committed Board of Directors who have embraced and furthered the Mission, Vision and Values of the organization. Without this oversight we would easily have strayed from the "first principles" of community corrections.

Second, SLSH has a wonderful staff. I am inspired every day by the passion and efforts of our staff. The SLSH staff continually take on tasks that are outside their job description to make our clients and community better. Our staff tirelessly volunteer their help, sit on committees and offer suggestions on how we can better serve this community.

Finally, I love Hamilton and our "downtown" community. Over the past five years I've attended many community meetings and spoken with the media in support of the planned renovation of our halfway house facility at 24 Emerald St. South. I've met with three neighbourhood associations, the Spectator Editorial Board, The Bill Kelly Show, City Council and Councillors. Many of these meetings have included staff and current and former clients of SLSH. During this time, the level of understanding and appreciation for SLSH has grown greatly. It blesses me greatly every day to be part of a community that appreciates St. Leonard's role and contribution to making a safer community.

John Clinton
Executive Director

MISSION STATEMENT

We serve our community by promoting the personal growth and development of offenders, or those at risk of offending, by the provision of programs and services that positively impact on their transition to becoming integrated members of society.

VISION

We aspire to a community where all people have value and the capacity to change.

VALUES

- We promote social justice and social responsibility
- We inform and promote awareness of the need for community corrections
- We promote and deliver evidence based practices, programs and services
- We develop collaborative relationships with clients, staff, community, and other providers
- We ensure accountability through open and transparent operations, evaluation, and responsible leadership
- We treat our clients and community with dignity and respect



Photo Credit: prisonerjusticeday.ca

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT



The St. Leonard's Society of Hamilton has served the community for over 43 years. We are committed to an unfailing belief that, 'how we treat the least of our fellow humans is a reflection of who we are as a society.' The work of St. Leonard's is driven by a dedicated Board of

Directors drawn from across our community and a tireless and committed staff team. We are inspired by the knowledge that our work can renew and change lives for the better.

Our work in community corrections contributes undeniably to the safety of our city. As our mission statement articulates we serve our community by working with offenders or those at risk of offending by the provision of programs and services that positively impact on their transition to becoming integrated members of society.

We are particularly proud of our successful GreenBYTE program delivering employment services and a computer technology program that provides real opportunity for our residents. The program has donated over 4,000 computers to low income and at-risk families in our community.

St. Leonard's is dedicated to fulfilling the vision of the founder of the first St. Leonard's House in Canada, Reverend Neil Libby 'to free individuals from the past and support them in facing the future with dignity and new hope.'

Together we will continue to work in facilitating the transition of offenders into our community and in ensuring the safety of our community. Our vision will continue to be that all people have value and have the capacity to change.

Christopher Cutler
President

OPERATIONS

St. Leonard's employed 27 professional staff members over the year to provide programs and service that supported offenders and those at risk of offending in returning to our community.



Financial information on the operating cost and revenue sources for the services provided by the St. Leonard's Society of Hamilton is available on www.slsh.ca



"Prisons are not only places that men go to; they are places that they come from."

~ A.M. Kirkpatrick

INTRODUCTION TO RESIDENTIAL PROGRAMS AND SERVICES



The St. Leonard's Society of Hamilton has been very successful in providing residential services to clients returning to the community. To be selected for entry to our programs, clients are interviewed inside the penitentiary by our Inreach Coordinator. All applicants are also reviewed by a Community Assessment Team consisting of police, parole, St. Leonard's and community representatives. We are looking for clients with a rationale for being in Hamilton. We are also looking for clients that need and will benefit from our services. Successful applicants come to a residential program where caseworkers work collaboratively with Correctional Service of Canada Parole and other social service organizations based on their personal Plans of Transition.

EMERALD STREET TREATMENT CENTRE

At this residence we continue to see a great many successes as clients benefit from a stable and supportive residence and program. Last year we helped 27 clients successfully graduate from the Emerald St. Centre. We also built many new relationships with the community as we prepare for our major building renovation planned to start in 2016.

ROBERT STREET RESIDENCE

At this residence, we carefully assess and match client needs with resources in the community. This program is very successful at assisting our clients to become prosocial, contributing members to our community. Last year 18 clients successfully graduated from our program.

DAY REPORTING CENTRE

This Center supports clients who are transitioning out of a community residential program to independence in the community. One of the biggest challenges for a person returning to the community after incarceration is finding suitable housing. We work with determination to assist our clients to find safe and affordable housing in Hamilton. We also assist clients to build skills through creating resumes, problem-solving, crisis counselling and participating in programs. Our program is engaged with other helpful community programs to improve community integration results.

GREENBYTE PROGRAM

Our clients and volunteers develop practical employment skills through computer certification. Our employment training program supports individuals leaving the prison system and making successful transitions into the community.

At GreenBYTE, we collect used computer systems, refurbish them, and then provide them to low-income families and children in need, at no cost. Over GreenBYTE's 12 year history, we have provided more than 4,000 computers to families in need, through partnerships with local organizations supporting children and youth.

To donate computers to the GreenBYTE program, please contact us at mmarchand@slsh.ca



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