

RESIDENT ACCOMPLISHMENTS 2019-2020

EMPLOYMENT:

This past year, residents have been busy earning wages by: working in a mailroom; teaching art classes to children, youth, adults and seniors; working at Shoppers' Drug Mart as a cashier; at Value Village sorting clothes; and at Eden Community Homes doing yardwork at Hillholm including snow shoveling, watering the lawn, and weeding. They have also been hired to do cleaning and courier jobs.

VOLUNTEERING & DONATING:

Residents like to give back to the community. One of our Hillholm residents made a sizable monetary donation to the Daily Bread Food Bank. Two of our Beverley residents donated several large bags of clothing to a Nigerian charity.

North Toronto Support Services benefits from one of our Hillholmers who helps facilitate social recreation program.

One resident acts as an usher at his local church on Sundays, while another packages food at the Salvation Army.

Several work at Progress Place either in the boutique as a sales rep, in the café assisting with food prep, or in the computer lab helping others to become more tech savvy.

In the summer months, one resident worked in a tuck shop at Pioneer Camp near Orillia.

EDUCATION & COMMUNITY PROGRAMS:

Our residents can be found at Routes, Reconnect and Our Place attending classes for employment and life skills, and one goes to regular bible classes.

INDEPENDENCE:

We are proud to see several of the residents at Beverley House advocating their own government matters; doing their own banking and shopping; navigating the city; helping with general management of the household by cooking, after-meal clean up, recycling and other basic chores.

ACTIVE HEALTHY LIFESTYLES:

During the year our residents having been attending tai chi and yoga classes at Cecil Community



We've Become Ruthless!

Long-time Hillholm resident Ruth Silver, seen here with resident Amy Lee, has moved on to a nursing home facility. Ruth was a part of our *Eden Community Homes* family for 35 years. Ruth contributed her time by helping out around the kitchen and crocheting animal blankets for the Toronto Humane Society.

We miss her. Best wishes to Ruth at her new home!

Centre; joining smoking cessation programs offered through Progress Place; helping with meal planning; playing ringette in the winter and soccer in the summer with Variety Village; weight-lifting at Planet Fitness; swimming at the YMCA; focusing on weight loss; going on walks and cycling around the city.

VANDUZER ART STUDIO 2019-2020

On a monthly basis, there are approximately 450 face-to-face visits to the VanDuzer Art Studio by about 95 individual artists. The studio also plays host to large-scale meetings & festive dinners. Non-profit & for-profit organizations rent the space throughout the year.

The **VanDuzer Holiday Art Show & Sale** was very well attended in December 2019. Approximately 200 people came out to see the artwork produced here at our studio. Each show brings new works of art to an appreciative crowd. Our Holiday Show & Sale will be held in December!

Monthly Events:

Artists' Meeting

Our open forum allows artists to have a voice in what they'd like to see happen at the studio. New workshops are developed and suggested classes arise as artists research more and more ways to creatively express themselves.

World Travelogue

We've been exploring a myriad of fascinating countries abroad!

Each month, visitors to the VanDuzer Art Studio "travel to foreign lands" by viewing a screened photo presentation, sampling local food, and checking out regional customs and handicrafts. So far, we have "visited" Cambodia, Laos, Ireland, Greece, Ecuador, Egypt, Spain, Poland, Guatemala, Vietnam, Cuba, India, Mexico, Scotland, Belize, Iceland, Italy, Portugal.

Backyard BBQ

From May to September, the warm weather enticed a large gathering outside to enjoy each others company in the garden with burgers, salads and sodas in hand.

On-going Weekly Group Gatherings:

SUNDAYS

Open Art (7 attending)

MONDAYS

Open Art (7 attending)

Woodworking (5 attending)

Soapstone Carving (4 attending)

TUESDAYS

Open Art (7 attending),

Acrylic Painting (16 attending)

Pottery (10 attending)

WEDNESDAYS

Drop-in Art (various)

Crafts (various)

THURSDAYS

Drop-in Art (various)

Yoga (8 attending)

Papercrafts (4 attending)

FRIDAYS

Special Event Workshops
(various)

Beading (6 attending)

Calligraphy (6 attending)

Art Drop-in (4 attending)

SATURDAYS

Art Drop-in (8 attending)

Individual Projects:

- ◆ **Felting**
- ◆ **Oil Painting**
- ◆ **Mosaic**
- ◆ **Sewing**
- ◆ **Wire Work**
- ◆ **Sculpting**

Special Workshops:

- ◆ **Beginners Acrylic**
- ◆ **Painting with Your Muse**
- ◆ **Print-making**
- ◆ **Silk-screen Printing**

SOCIAL ACTIVITY & RECREATION 2019-2020

The Social Recreation Program involves organizing and identifying recreational activities and personal development opportunities within the community; developing in-house opportunities to socialize and/or learn; and various recovery opportunities.

This year, residents of ECH involved themselves in the community by attending:



Art Gallery of Ontario
Queen Street Art Crawl
Royal Ontario Museum
Walk for Schizophrenia
Beaches Jazz Festival
Rendezvous with Madness
Nuit Blanche
Gay Pride Parade
Word On The Street
Singing Out
Mad Pride Week
Street Festivals
Canadian National Exhibition
Luminato
Live Theatre
Meet-up & City Walks
Films & Film Festivals

At home residents enjoyed:

Arts & Crafts, Barbeques, Board Games, Cards,
Bingo Nights, Birthday Parties, Puzzles, Sudoku,
Order-in Nights, Life Skills Workshops,
Spa Days, Seasonal Celebrations, Movie Nights

Left, ECH staffers Jan Christensen and Terri Stefaniw grill burgers in the back garden for the gang at the end of each month from late spring to early fall.

FOOD DONATION PROGRAM NOW IN ITS 4th YEAR!

Being socially responsible and pro-active within the community has always been first and foremost with Eden Community Homes. This is the third year for our Food Donation Program!

Instead of health viable fruits and vegetables going to waste because they're not perfect, ECH staffer Tamara Wilen has been picking them up from Freshco and delivering them to the VanDuzer Art Studio for residents of ECH and artists in the studio to use.

She has also arranged distribution of the food to two other community agencies:

- ◆ **The Gathering Place** (part of Toronto Council Fire Native Cultural Centre). This group provides meals 3 times a day, 7 days a week to those in need;
- ◆ **Feed It Forward**, an organization that feeds people on a pay-what-you-can basis. They have recently opened a pay-what-you-can grocery store.