



TOGETHER WITH CHURCHES

Meet Indwell's foundational community partners

The work of creating affordable housing for people seeking health, wellness and belonging depends on support from community partners, government representatives, individuals, and many more. When we each bring our strengths, skills and assets together, we can end homelessness and transform lives.

But there's no doubt that Indwell would not be what it is without the involvement of local churches. They are why we were able to launch this charity in 1974. While Indwell is not a church, we work closely with churches. Our tenants thrive when they are a part of the fabric of a faith community.

In our last newsletter, we introduced a new formal partnership that is in development with Hughson Street Baptist Church in Hamilton's north end. A generous grant from Stronger Philanthropy is helping Indwell explore, document and formalize this innovative partnership to gain the capacity to duplicate it elsewhere.

“Our church specifically has gotten involved with this issue because as we read through Scripture, we see God calling us to care for others. What does it mean to care for them? You read Isaiah 1, and every word that’s associated with caring for people is an action word from us to those that are more marginalized,” says the pastor of Hughson Street Baptist Church, Dwayne Cline. “Then we said, what about housing? What about a place where people could live? We own a piece of property ... and our church agreed that we should put housing in with our new church facility on this property on James Street [North] in downtown Hamilton.”

This is the first time a church has invited Indwell to participate in their building planning from the very beginning, but it's certainly not the only instance of collaborative community development with congregations. Read on to learn more!

*Above Left: Pastor Dwayne Cline speaks at the 2012 Hope & Homes Banquet at the Perkins Centre
Above Right: Christmas hampers are one of the ways Hughson reaches out to its community*

GROWING EAST

Church communities at the forefront of upcoming expansion into Mississauga

At Indwell's Resource Centre, we receive emails and phone calls every week from various sources, all interested in replicating some part of Indwell's model. Amid these conversations, occasionally a clear overlap of vision and goals leads to a new development.

Around four years ago, two churches from Mississauga – Portico and Meadowvale Community Christian Reformed Church – started engaging with Indwell based on the needs they were seeing in their community. Indwell worked with Meadowvale to do a Community Needs Assessment to better understand where and how these churches could best step in to serve their neighbours.

It quickly became evident that there was a high need for affordable rents and supported homes in Mississauga. A 2016 report on housing indicated that in the region of Peel, only 252 units of affordable housing exist for individuals requiring mental health support, while 1,093 people are waiting for one of these units to become available. Long wait times for individuals in dire need are part of what compels Indwell to move into Mississauga. "The mismatch is so stark," says Sylvia Harris, Indwell's Project Developer for this region. "Although it's perceived to be a wealthier community, the social service needs are high and there are many gaps."

Indwell began to develop community relationships with political leaders, faith communities, and service providers. Recently, the team was mandated by Indwell's Board of Directors to make a concentrated push to develop a program in Mississauga. As we've begun to step forward into this new territory, Indwell has been deliberate about creating a model

for expansion that will extend the organizational culture, knowledge and passion into this new region. Independent, affordable apartments with on-site supports are in the works.

"The church is the reason why we're going to Mississauga," says Sylvia. "They have been persistently knocking on our door for four years, and they will be critical partners going forward. Right now, finding land is our biggest obstacle. We're looking at creative models that may allow us to partner with churches and build around their sites to make an affordable housing project. We need them."

This step forward for Indwell is also a tremendous opportunity for new people and organizations to become familiar with Indwell. Who do you know in Mississauga who might support our vision, partner with us, and benefit from our housing?

UPCOMING EVENT
WOODSTOCK
CELEBRATION DINNER
Friday, November 3, 2017



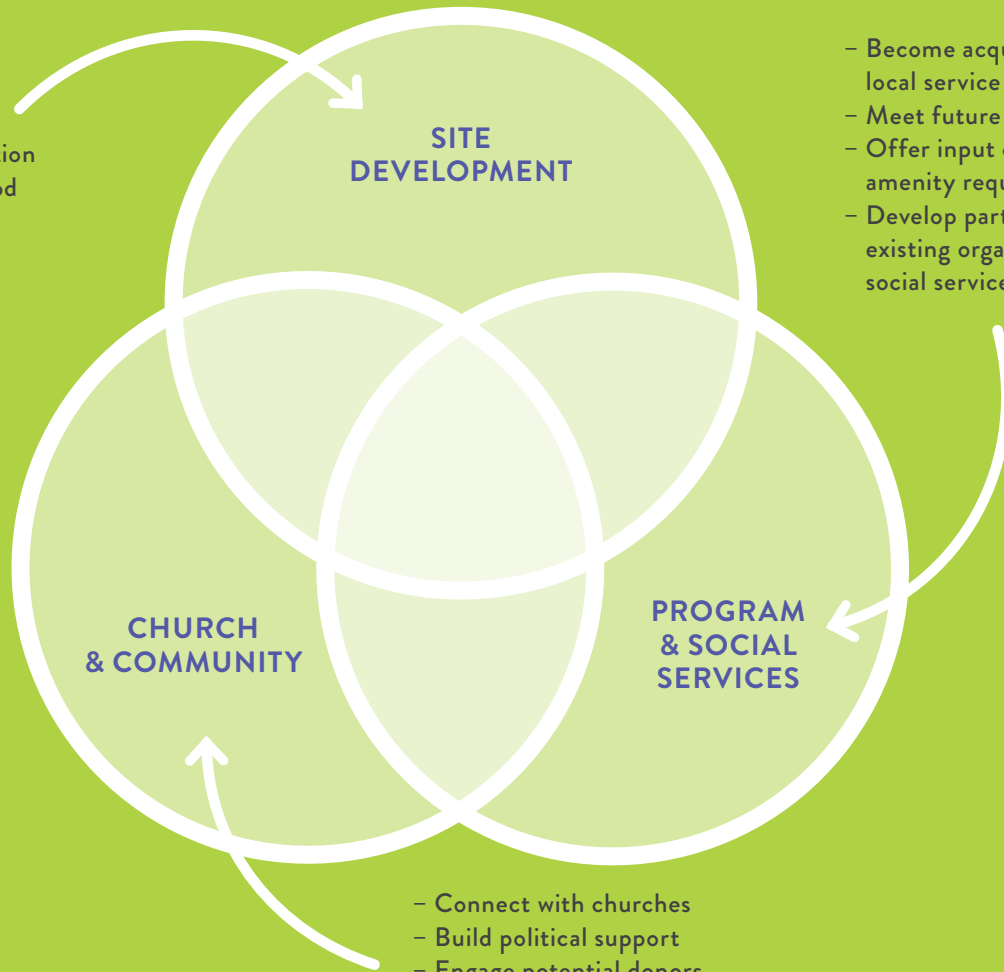
Sylvia Harris,
Mississauga Project Developer



New Hope Church and The Gathering meet at the Perkins Community Centre each week. Many Indwell tenants are involved.

INDWELL'S STRATEGY FOR DEVELOPMENT IN NEW AREAS

- Find site
- Prepare for construction
- Engage neighbourhood
- Create building plans
- Begin construction



- Become acquainted with local service providers
- Meet future tenants
- Offer input on design and amenity requirements
- Develop partnerships with existing organizations and social services

CHURCH
& COMMUNITY

PROGRAM
& SOCIAL
SERVICES

- Connect with churches
- Build political support
- Engage potential donors
- Expand knowledge of local priorities



Members of the Indwell community at the 2017 Hamilton Hope and Homes Banquet

HOW YOU CAN HELP

Begin a dialogue in your church about how you can be involved in fighting homelessness.

Send this newsletter along to someone you know who might be interested!

Encourage your connections to check out indwell.ca. They can even sign up for the email list.

Share Indwell's Facebook posts or retweet us on Twitter!

Have a conversation with someone about Indwell.

If you're not sure how to explain what Indwell does, feel free to give us a call or send an email and our team will be happy to discuss our work in more detail.

CHURCH INVOLVEMENT GOES BEYOND CONSTRUCTION

It isn't only during the beginning of a project that a church can participate in Indwell's mission. In fact, dozens of churches consistently invest throughout each stage in a multitude of ways. Here are a few examples of fun and creative ways that congregations have contributed to the wellbeing of our tenants:

- Members from Innerkip Presbyterian Church and Hill Park Bible Church share a monthly meal at our group homes in Woodstock and Hamilton.
- Church Out Serving helped newcomers to our Hambleton Hall program in Simcoe with furniture.

- Three small groups from The Meeting House host monthly games events.
- Sunday School children from Maranatha Church in Woodstock painted flower pots as gifts for tenants at Harvey Woods Lofts and Blossom Park.
- Numerous congregations give financially via offerings or through local compassion ministry.
- Many Indwell tenants also volunteer in their churches in a multitude of ways.

There are many more examples that we could share, but we want to hear your ideas! Please contact us if you or your group can share time or particular talents.



Please support our ministry!

Indwell is a Christian Charity. We rely on the generosity of many donors each month to sustain and grow our ministry.

Hope Builders donate monthly to sustain day-to-day operations.

Home Builders give one-time gifts that create new affordable housing.

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Cut off and return to Indwell

Yes! I want to provide hope and homes for people in Southern Ontario!



Name: _____
 Address: _____
 City: _____
 Postal Code: _____ Tel: _____
 Email: _____

- Count me in as a **Hope Builder** at \$_____/month
 - I'm including a void cheque
 - I'm including credit card information
 - Call me to make other arrangements
- Count me in as a **Home Builder** with a one-time gift of \$_____
 - I'm including a cheque
 - I'm including credit card information
 - Call me to make other arrangements

Please contact me to discuss Indwell's work or volunteer opportunities.

VISA Mastercard

Name on card: _____
 # _____ Expiry: _____
 Signature: _____ Date: _____

Designated Giving: Indwell will use restricted contributions for approved programs or projects. Should those needs be met, the contributions will be used where most needed.

Charitable Registration Number: 131295198RR0001

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