

Winter 2025 | Newsletter

## Celebrating every step Building a future beyond homelessness

We love to celebrate! Perhaps you joined us last year at one of our 50th anniversary events, honouring five decades of hope and homes. Staff held fun celebrations (see right) for tenant and staff achievements at our Leadership Conference in May. And thanks to so many of you, over 1,290 people are now safely housed, with access to the supports they need to thrive.

While the "big" milestones — like the opening of a new building or a large donation — are cause for celebration, it can often be the small steps and everyday achievements of Indwell tenants and staff that make a huge impact.

We asked program staff to tell us about some of the everyday milestones they celebrate with tenants, and the response was overwhelming. We hope you're inspired by the many "little celebrations" happening across our regions:





# Six months smoke-free and thriving

Harvey Woods Lofts, Woodstock

After smoking for over 50 years, Maxine decided to quit on her own to improve her health. With support and check-ins from staff, she's been smoke-free for over six months. Her improved health has allowed her to continue diamond painting, rejoin tenantled programming, and display her beautifully decorated Christmas trees in the atrium. Staff are planning a celebration to mark her upcoming one-year smoke-free milestone.



### Christmas dinner with community

King William Flats, Hamilton

New residents enjoyed their first Christmas dinner at the recently opened King William Flats. A resident stated during the festivities that it was "such a great human thing we're doing. When we're out on the streets, we're alone but when we are here housed, we are home."



#### Three years of wellness Parkdale Landing, Hamilton

(TW: self-harm) This past November, tenant Kim celebrated her three-year anniversary of stopping self-harm, a problem that used to require emergency services at least every few months. Staff threw her a party with cake, karaoke, and tear-filled speeches.

Kim has also been a tenant employee at Parkdale Landing for three years, where staff describe her as having an "incredible work ethic."



## 100 days of sobriety Hambleton Hall, Simcoe

Tenant Felicia recently celebrated 100 days of sobriety. Since beginning her journey toward this goal, staff have supported her with a daily calendar count.



Staff member Yvonne and tenant John near Strathearne Suites, Hamilton

## Across Indwell's regions, staff have shared inspiring tenant successes:

- Securing meaningful employment.
- Staying consistent with medication routines.
- Making steady progress in addiction treatment and recovery.
- Engaging more actively in community activities.
- Maintaining clean, organized apartments.
- Reaching out to staff for support when needed.
- Paying off rent arrears through a payment plan and celebrating the financial milestone with a small staff-hosted party.

You can make more of these wonderful celebrations possible through specific giving opportunities at indwell.ca/gifts-of-hope



## Hope and homes by the numbers

#### Growth in 2024

1,257 supportive homes for 1,290 people in 7 regions with 64 new homes opened in 2024.



Woodstock's 20th anniversary, Blossom Park, Woodstock



#### 344 employees - 20% increase

219 volunteers

- 22 summer employees with 36% hired by Indwell after their placement was completed
- $\circ$  43 tenants employed part-time 26% increase
- 16 student internships









Tenant's fun day, The Oaks, Hamilton



This 40-unit supportive housing program, with 10 barrier-free units, includes two restored 19th-century heritage homes which had previously been run-down boarding houses. Some of the tenants who lived in the older boarding houses moved back into Cornerstone Suites, praising the positive changes: "This is healing — this place is totally different, but it's my home. It's better this way."



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## 2025 events - save the date!

Indwell celebrations:

Simcoe | April 24 Simcoe Legion

**St.Thomas | May 15** CASO Station

Hamilton | June 5 Hamilton Convention Centre

Mississauga | September 12 Small Arms Inspection Building

Woodstock | November 5 Maranatha Christian Reformed Church

London | Fall Stay tuned!

## Grand Opening:

Kitchener, Magnolia Apartments | Fall Stay tuned!



This modular, energyefficient building is meeting urgent housing needs in Hamilton. A model unit at King William Flats. In November 2024, CityHousing Hamilton opened King William Flats, a 24-unit building providing supportive homes for racialized individuals facing homelessness. Owned by CityHousing and operated by Indwell, it offers intensive supports and is Passive House certified.

Visit indwell.ca/events for registration details and updates about future Indwell events.





For 50+ years, Indwell has been providing supportive housing that transforms lives. Every door we open together becomes a solution to homelessness.

Indwell's communities support over 1,290 tenants in regions across Southern and Southwestern Ontario-with several projects currently in development. Indwell empowers tenants through a variety of supports to achieve health and wellness goals, to positively engage with their communities, and to maintain permanent, safe housing. Indwell's programming has proven effective, with nine out of 10 tenants remaining with Indwell after their first year.

Canadian Centre for Christian Charities ACCREDITED MEMBER

How to give: indwell.ca/donate



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