



LITTLE THINGS WITH GREAT LOVE

The harsh weather conditions of January into February were brutal for our folks living outside. We went through donations of sleeping bags, blankets, gloves and winter wear incredibly fast as the need grew and the weather was merciless in preserving these belongings outdoors.

Thanks to the beautiful generosity of our extended community, we had an abundance of sleeping bags available every time someone asked. We didn't have to turn anyone away empty handed. Even the folks who asked several times a week for an extra blanket or sleeping bag were able to take with them something clean, warm, and dry.



On one particularly miserable and cold evening, I was sitting with Aiden, a person who is used to sleeping rough. Even on the coldest nights of the year, he still opts for the partially covered cement slab outside an empty building as his shelter rather than the close quarters of emergency shelters.

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Sanctuary London is.....

A Safe Place. A Place to Belong. A Place we Like to Call 'Home'.



LITTLE THINGS WITH GREAT LOVE (continued)

I knew he was inevitably going to ask me for a sleeping bag. Moisture, theft, fire damage, there are multiple reasons Aiden struggles to hold on to his belongings for very long.

He surprised me, though, when he specifically asked if we had a quilt in the donation closet. Sure enough, we had one! Aiden and I looked it over together. I commented on how beautiful it was, the quality of it, the tenderness put into the stitches and thoughtfulness of the patches, colours, and thread used to create this masterpiece.

Aiden's eyes welled up with tears.

“Someone made this for someone they loved and cared about. To keep them warm and safe at night...” His voice cracked and trailed off as he clutched the edges of the quilt.



“It’s **just for you** tonight, Aiden.” I responded, “ All that love to wrap you up in!”

There is a song by the Porter’s Gate called ‘Little Things with Great Love’. We don’t always get to see the impact of each act of kindness and love. But it is an incredible honour to experience moments like this in our community.

Tessa Buckley
Community Care Worker



THANK YOU!

For those of you who have supported Sanctuary financially this past year, we are so thankful. It is only because of you that we are able to continue to do the work that we so love and believe in. More than just your financial support, we also

appreciate your prayers and the many other ways we are supported by our extended community. We feel deeply cared for when folks drop off sleeping bags or hand warmers, or when you ask “what else do you need?” Caring for our community members has been tough on these cold, dark, short days... And we know it would be so much harder if we had to turn people away without being able to offer them these life saving items.

When we care for our community, especially for those who are most vulnerable and marginalized... we care for each other.

SAVE ^{the} DATE...

Sanctuary London Presents

Trekking For Home ROAD RACES

Run - Walk- Cycle

April 18th, 2026 @

Talbot Street Church

513 Talbot St, London, ON

For more
Info please visit our
website:



Kids Race

5K

10K

21K

Come out &
help support
an incredible
cause!

BBQ &
community
celebration to
follow.

sanctuaryLondon.ca



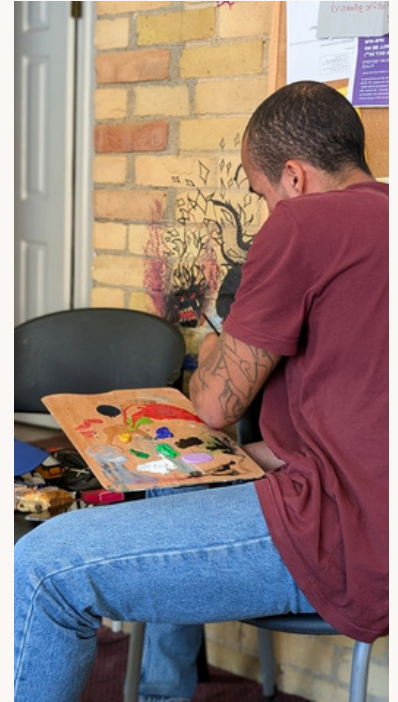
FINDING HOME.
TOGETHER.

Register Today!

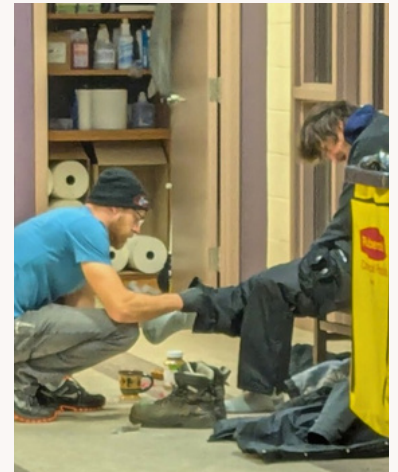
Supporting our Sector

ERIC STOLTE - BOARD CHAIR

Recently London's City Council was poised to reduce funding to already underfunded agencies that work to support people who are deprived of housing and shelter in London. Sanctuary London played a key role, alongside of other community partners to prevent this. Two Sanctuary staff members, working with 76 other frontline workers from across the sector, composed a letter that they all collectively signed and released to the local media in order to warn the public of the dangers Londoners were facing. The letter notes: "Most of us [frontline workers] are only one or two paycheques away from being homeless ourselves. We do this work because we know that every member of our community is a person deserving of love and care. If these changes take place, people we know and love will die premature and preventable deaths." To illustrate this, in a subsequent interview, one Sanctuary worker stated: "Earlier in the winter, outreach workers found a person stuck in their tent because their feet were frozen to the ground. They were able to save that person's life. But if there are no outreach workers going out to do that, that person's dying in their tent."



Sanctuary works hard to provide a place where people can experience a sense of home. This is at the heart of what we do. But this work is carried forward in the context of local politics, and a whole community of caregivers who struggle against mighty odds to support those who are experiencing homelessness, especially those forced to live in outdoor encampments. Thus, in a situation of dire need, Sanctuary helped provide critical direction to guide city policy and ensure a better life for all members of our community. In this instance, Sanctuary itself received no direct benefit from the hard-won financial changes, yet we know that all of us stand or fall together. As a donor and Board Chair, I'm truly proud that our Sanctuary staff team care enough to selflessly engage our city, in partnership with others, to secure every bit of life possible for all members of our community.



Thank you for taking the time to read!

And please consider taking an opportunity to come and visit us sometime in the near future. Come have dinner or coffee with us! Or attend one of our upcoming Fundraising or Community Celebration events! We would absolutely love the opportunity to get to know you just a little bit better.

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