

## the past two decades

Many of you are wondering where we are now.

As of July 1st, ARK completed packing up and purging the past 20 years of life together at the drop-in. We moved out and – for now – ARK’s belongings are in storage awaiting a new home.

For the past 20 years, ARK’s community grew and flourished in our beloved space on Gottingen St. As we grew, the space grew with us becoming a beautiful sanctuary for youth from across our country.

We celebrate the two decades we lived in our home on Gottingen Street: sharing meals, tears, laughter, conversation, friendship, beautiful music, incredible creativity, compassion, news of births and, sadly, news of too many deaths.

We truly shared life and found home together.

## why the change

ARK was challenged to balance our resources with the growing demands of building repairs and maintenance.

During the past few years, it became evident that the health of our building deteriorated, due mainly to the adjacent condemned building with which the drop-in shares a roof. Faced with this challenging situation, we decided it was time to revision where to commit our energy and resources.

## moving forward

What a season of change – for the drop-in community, for our block on Gottingen Street and for you, our supporters. Packing up the drop-in is not the end, but a hopeful step towards something new.

Someone recently said, “Ark is on the move,” and really Ark has always been moving among the community. While we no longer have a physical location, we are still active in our community building relationships, providing support, and planning for the future.

Since early spring, young visionaries from ARK’s community have met with us, as well as key partners and committed supporters to dream of possibilities for ARK. It’s clear to us as we listen, that ARK is unique and that the place of welcome and community that was the drop-in is missed. We are committed to finding a new space – a healthy, central, creative place that is a welcoming community.

We are looking forward to the future, as committed to our community as we have ever been, as we search for a new space to call “HOME.”

We are also pleased to share that Bethany deViller has joined our team as we pursue new possibilities. She has come along in this time of transition offering new energy and a willing spirit, as well as helping hands and a love for the community.



[www.cnoy.org](http://www.cnoy.org)

## Save the Date: February 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2019

**Coldest Night of the Year** is an annual fund-raising walk that secures **one third** of ARK’s financial need each year.

We are able to operate because of this significant financial support.

It is in the security of your outpouring of support that we can dream and imagine what is possible for ARK.

## currently with ARK

The **drop-in** has been a safe place, a place to call home, for street-involved and homeless youth, ages 16-24. Like any home, the centre offered daily meals, showers, laundry facilities, and access to other basics like clothing and socks to the youth who came through our door.

Despite not having a permanent location, ARK continues to be a community where youth are valued, respected and encouraged to thrive. We walk alongside people, through community outreach and support, building relationships that allow us to provide:

- help accessing vital services in the community
- individual support
- assistance accessing emergency shelter and finding long-term housing
- support through the court system and in correctional facilities
- networking with other outreaches in our community, regionally, and nationally

Homeless youth from across Canada have been part of our community for over 25 years and continue to be our primary focus.

**Sunday Suppers** continues to be a place of community for guests and volunteers gathering each week. After 30+ years of hosting meals in St. Andrew's Church building, Sunday Suppers is building on their partnership with the church and exploring the possibility of becoming an official ministry of St. Andrew's.

## Many thanks for your sustaining support

Thank you for your patience, your questions, and your commitment to partner with us. We need your support and prayers in this season of change and welcome you to come alongside us into ARK's new chapter.

We are so grateful for the many ways you all support us—with meals, finances, socks and shoes, your skills, care and prayers. It all has and continues to make a difference.

It has been a challenging and emotional year. In this season of Advent we too wait, wonder and trust God to prepare ARK for what is unfolding.

*Peace and gratitude!*

## Christmas Gifts

- Giftcards:
  - Subway/Tim Horton's \$5-10
  - Sobey's/Superstore \$25
- Hats, mittens, and socks
- Long johns for men/women
- Black/grey hoodies (M/L)
- Lip balm
- Tooth brush/toothpaste/dental floss
- Nail clippers
- Powerbank (portable charger)

To find out where to bring your donations, please email or call us!

**ARK is funded solely by donations from individuals, churches, and community initiatives.**

To make a tax deductible donation:

[www.canadahelps.org](http://www.canadahelps.org) — ARK (HALIFAX)

E-transfer or cheque payable to ARK

Pre-authorized monthly plan (of \$20 or more)

Contact us to set up an account

# ARK

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