

NEWSLETTER

Volume 1, Issue 1: January 2008

“Key-she-waan-nee-min, nee chee. I love you friend.”

HUB Executive

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Karen Essery, Secretary
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Guiding Principles

- ❖ EQUALITY
- ❖ INCLUSION
- ❖ SHARING
- ❖ SELF DETERMINATION
- ❖ EMPOWERMENT

What is Making Kenora HOME?

A concerned group working on solutions for homelessness in our community.

How do we achieve this?

- ◆ Community education and awareness about homelessness and poverty
- ◆ Promoting the implementation of our May 2007 report *Community Solutions For Affordable Housing Projects*
- ◆ Community caring projects to address poverty.

Why is Making Kenora HOME important to us?

- ◆ Stable housing is one of the most effective ways to break the cycle of poverty
- ◆ Kenora will become a more inclusive and caring community.

WEAR RED IN SOLIDARITY AGAINST POVERTY

February 10-16 is Kenora's *Week of Action Against Poverty*. Members of Making Kenora HOME encourage citizens of Kenora to join us in taking action against poverty through food bank donations, coffee break discussions, meditation and prayer, random acts of kindness, bake sales, winter wear drives, or other projects of your own choosing. Here are some of the activities planned for the week:

- February 6 **“Poverty in the Community”**
Lenten Series begins at Bethesda Lutheran Church
- February 10 Interdenominational **prayers** at local churches
- February 10-16 **Food Bank Donation Bins** at Wal-Mart
- February 11 2:00 p.m. **“Souper Monday”**
Fellowship Centre
hosted by Women's Place
- February 11 11:00 a.m. **“Coffee and Chat”**
New Horizons, Keewatin Branch
- February 12-16 **“Up From the Streets”**
Art Exhibit at Sunset Gallery
- February 14 **WEAR RED DAY**
- February 14 8:00-9:30 a.m. Valentine's Day **Community Breakfast**
Fellowship Centre
- February 14 12:00 Noon, **“Run With Red”**,
Northwestern Health Unit
- February 14 Grandmothers to Grandmothers **“Cookie Grams”**
Kenora Shoppers Mall
- February 16 9:00 a.m. Interdenominational **Volleyball Tournament**
St. Thomas Aquinas High School
- February 16 **Youth Concert**, The Chemical Agents location/time T.B.A.
- March 8 International Women's Day
Kenora Sexual Assault Centre
“Tins for the Bins”

WANT TO BECOME A MEMBER?
Contact one of the Executive or call 468-

A Goal Reached - Housing Plan Developed

On May 15, 2007 the report, *Community Solutions For Affordable Housing* was released. It provides feasible options for housing projects in a format and in sufficient detail to be of use to housing providers, funding agencies, municipal leaders and the community-at-large in understanding and addressing the needs of the homeless and under-housed within the City of Kenora.

Recommendations:

1. 24 hours emergency shelter.
2. 8 single room occupancy (SRO) units.
3. 20 SRO rent geared to income.
4. 10 single dwelling Aboriginal family units.
5. Tax discount, utility discount or maintenance tax credit for low fixed income seniors.
6. 2 supportive housing projects; 10 transitional units for victims of violence, 10 units for senior supportive health and assistive living.
7. Rent subsidization; 15 units for single parent housing and 10 units for individuals experiencing mental health dysfunction.
8. Revolving housing trust for low income families.

Kenora has the opportunity to improve its quality of life by investing in these recommendations in addition to working in creative partnership.



Wear Red on February 14th!



*Wrapping Gifts for Christmas Sharing Circle
NeeChee Friendship Centre
UMAYC Youth Group, Dec. 2007*

For 2007... DID YOU KNOW ? ...

- ◆ The 2007 Week of Action Against Poverty stimulated donations of \$5,182.15 to local charities.
- ◆ Tins for the Bin donations contributed an estimated \$8,000 /month to the Salvation Army's Food Bank.
- ◆ Home Aide was created and local bands donated time and talent at youth dances.
- ◆ The Christmas Sharing Circle hosted 70 participants at the Fellowship Centre.

RELATIONSHIPS MATTER!

Making Kenora HOME wishes to thank all of the individuals, families, groups, organizations and corporate sponsors who have contributed time and money to address poverty and homelessness within our community. In particular we acknowledge the trust relationships that have developed with
The Kenora Fellowship Centre
Treaty 3 and
The NeeChee Friendship Centre

Making Kenora HOME, OBJECTIVES for 2007-2008

1. Promote implementation of the 8 housing project recommendations from the May 2007 report.
2. Continue the commitment to caring projects that take action against poverty in the local community.
3. Provide community education on poverty and housing issues.

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