THE TRANSITION HOUSE

Office Administrative - Executive students at Algonquin College are working in collaboration with The Grind Pembroke, a not-for-profit charitable organization that operates outreach services in downtown Pembroke for marginalized community members across Renfrew County.

The Grind Pembroke has recently been bequeathed a house, and is now reaching out to the community for financial and other support, (labour or gifts-in-kind), required to renovate the property.

The transition house is intended for short-term accommodations for homeless individuals who have connected to community health and social service agencies, and who are working on a plan to stabilize and improve their life situation. The transition house will be a bridge from homelessness to conventional housing.

WE NEED YOUR HELP!

The Grind transition house is located on Murray Street in Pembroke, and while it has a lot of potential, it is also in need of a lot of work. Electrical, drywall, retro-fitting bathrooms and kitchen. It will take the compassion and kindness of our community to get this house up and running.

This project meets all zoning requirements.

Please help us build a bridge from despair to HOPE

for the homeless in Renfrew County.
In 2017, The Grind provided shelter to 80 adults and 3 youth over 171 nights. This was the first year The Grind Emergency Refuge opened its doors and the number of people needing shelter is expected to increase in 2018.

**HOMELESSNESS MEANS:**

- Having little to no privacy
- Needing to hide your living space.
- Moving every couple of days, couch surfing or camping.
- Hanging out with people who don't care about you, and who partake in dangerous activities.
- Dealing daily with people who are addicted and/or afflicted with mental illness
- Receiving rejection and hostility from most people.
- Trying to get off the street but lacking the necessary supports.
- Having any possessions stolen or ruined on a regular basis.
- Constantly wanting money for your needs, but when you get it, you use it poorly.
- Spending time dealing with depression and hopelessness.
- Having your children taken away from you.
- Being judged by your community, for all of the above.

**Homelessness is a real issue in Renfrew County**

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The current waiting list for subsidized housing in Renfrew County is 7 years!!!

Surely we can do better than this.

#communityhelpingcommunity
SARA AND ALEX TRIUMPH IN THE FACE OF AdVERSITY

Written by Jeannie Grace Tully

Sara and Alex met Dave Studham, current Assistant to the Executive Director of the Grind, at a United Way event that was raising awareness for homelessness. Several years later, they met him again at The Grind Coffeehouse where they were surprised that he remembered them, and their connection to The Grind was formed.

Sara and Alex, who were starting to rebuild their lives, gave birth to another girl. No longer addicted to drugs, they now have the opportunity to spend weekends with their other two children who are now living with Sara’s parents. “We’ve come a long way”, Sara said when recounting their story. Now, when speaking of The Grind and its support Sara says, “At least there is some place for people to go if they need to. We’re family here.” Both agree that the County of Renfrew needs to do more to provide low income housing to people in need. The waiting lists for subsidized housing are currently 7 years long, and there are few options available for families who are struggling to find affordable accommodations.

Sara and Alex are glad they found The Grind because they sometimes felt judged by people in the past. Alex says, “The Grind never judged us. You need help, come on in.” When asked if there was one thing they would want people to take away from hearing their story, Sara answered: “That there is hope. If you stick with it, anything can happen.”
The Grind Pembroke relies solely on the generous support of our community. All money raised throughout our campaign will be ear-marked for the transition house.

This home will provide a strong foundation, so people in need can begin the hard work of rebuilding their lives.

PLEDGE YOUR SUPPORT

HELP US MAKE A DIFFERENCE TO THOSE IN NEED

Consider making a donation. Charitable receipts can be issued for all donations over $20. There are several ways to donate. You can go to the Grind with cash or a cheque, or check out their website and Facebook for their Donate Now button.

Project Hope is also collecting donations in kind. We have a list of items that the house will need, and are compiling a list of labour volunteers. If you are a skilled carpenter, plumber or electrician, the transition house could use your help.

ON MAY 31, 2018

On May 31st, students in the Office Administrative - Executive Program in partnership with Police Foundation Students will be spending the night sleeping out in the streets in an effort to bring awareness to the issues surrounding homelessness in Renfrew County.

Each student will be out in their communities collecting sponsorship money which will in turn go towards the transition house. Please support their efforts to help our community.

FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK
www.facebook.com/projecthopeRC

CONNECT WITH THE GRIND
http://thegrindpembroke.ca/ OR thegrindpembroke@gmail.com

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Consider volunteering at The Grind. For volunteer opportunities please contact: thegrindpembroke@gmail.com