

E4C ENVOY

HOLIDAY 2013



On the cover:
Elaine proudly sits in her new home, ready for the holidays

A HOME FOR THE HOLIDAYS

Achieving E4C's fundraising goal of \$1.8 million for 2013 ensures that people in need across Edmonton can experience transformational change. Currently, E4C still needs to raise \$350,000 to reach our goal.



Charitable Registration Number:
13155-8140-RR0001

E4C's mission is to limit, alleviate and ultimately eliminate poverty.

9321 Jasper Avenue
Edmonton AB
T5H 3T7
(780) 424-7543



Donate Now!

www.e4calberta.org
connect@e4calberta.org

Please call or email if you would like to be added to the e-newsletter or removed from our mailing list.

A Message from E4C's Chief Executive Officer

I invite you to take a moment to read the personal letters shared on the pages of our Envoy. Each letter comes from a young person or adult that has experienced support, comfort and joy through their interaction with an E4C person and program. It is through our unconditional giving of tangible comforts - clean clothes, a meal, an encouraging classroom or a safe place to sleep & live - that a person in need can begin to focus on the causes of their vulnerability. With courage, compassion and commitment, we at E4C walk alongside a person to overcome their adversities and to discover a sense of belonging within our community. It is through these personal connections that HOPE enters our collective lives. It is a privilege for E4C to be part of a man, woman or youth's journey. Thank you for supporting our work now and in the months to come. Happy holidays!

- Barb Spencer
E4C, CEO

Comfort & Joy



"We are a family of four going into our third year of gardening at the Alex Taylor Community Garden. Having a community garden that we can ride our bikes to is a great thing for us, and we feel so very fortunate to be part of this community garden so close to our home.

Here are some of the things this garden means to us:

- A chance to grow more of our food, to enjoy the taste of fresh garden produce, and to feel the good connection that comes from growing food
- A place for children to enjoy gardening: the raised beds make it very easy for children to be part of the growing process because they don't have to worry about stepping on the wrong place and can reach their work easily
- A place to meet neighbours and other gardeners: the casual talk between people working in their gardens at the same time is something I treasure"

Fact In a typical school year, E4C's **Clareview Head Start** supported 99 children, ages 3-5 years, and 148 parents and caregivers. Our waiting list averaged approximately 45 children and families.

"When Billy was 4 years old, he showed signs of being depressed. He would sit in his closet for hours a day and say things like, "I'm not a good boy". My partner and I couldn't figure out why he said and did these things, as we were very loving parents. With the help of the staff of E4C, we were able to understand that Billy was a little boy with adult emotions. We were able to "translate" the things he said and to understand how a healthy 4 year old communicates. Billy in turn learned ways of telling us how he was feeling. Billy is now enjoying Kindergarten. He still becomes anxious sometimes, but now we can talk things out and find a mutual solution."

- Clareview Head Start Parent

Fact The **Community Garden** came to life on the Alex Taylor School grounds in 2004. In the 2013 season there were 14 gardeners.



"The Inner City Youth Housing Project (ICYHP) has given me the opportunity to stabilize my life. It's a healthy environment where I can work on my personal issues comfortably, without judgment or fear. There are positive supports, which influence and encourage me to make positive life choices in order to better my own life. I appreciate that I can talk to staff about complicated situations and they will give me advice and insight as how to properly handle the situations to the best of my abilities."

- A youth who has experienced ICYHP

Fact From January 1st to September 30th 2013, the overall occupancy rate at ICYHP has been 96%. These rates include 4 houses that each have the capacity to house 5 youth. A total of 95 youth were housed during this period.

Fact The Shelter Exit Team at E4C housed 34 women and children since our commencement date of April 2013. These clients also have 17 children that are living with them.



"The assistance I have received, both financially and emotionally have proved invaluable. I am immensely grateful to have the opportunity to achieve success again after a long bout of depression, loss and despair. With E4C's assistance, I now have my own apartment, am involved in group programs and am actively looking for work. I begin each day with an invigorated sense of self-esteem and hope. E4C and their amazing Workers helped me find comfortable living, aided me in obtaining a new work wardrobe, assisted me in gaining access to social programs and services, and meet with me weekly to discuss issues. I truly could not be where I am today if it wasn't for their kind and generous assistance. I'm thankful for this new lease on life. This time last year, I was at rock bottom. Now, I am excited and proud to say, I am looking forward to a happy, productive and prosperous future. Life, for me, is very good again."

- A letter from a woman who was recently housed by E4C's Shelter Exit Team

TO THE PEOPLE AND BUSINESSES WHO SUPPORT E4C

THANK YOU

Donations come in all shapes and sizes, each one is greatly appreciated. These donor profiles are a sample of the generosity that makes E4C succeed.

Tree of Dreams

Government of Alberta Assessment Services Branch



Why Assessment Services Branch started collecting mitts, toques and scarves for an inner city school. When this school closed; the Mitt Tree became the Tree of Dreams located in Commerce Place. The gifts were collected for numerous non-profit organizations, E4C is the lucky recipient of these gifts in 2013.

Renee Rebryna

Family & Friends

How Renee Rebryna of Redaka Consulting along with family and friends collect mass toiletries and clothing donations creating 125 Christmas gift bags each year for Crossroads Outreach. They also contribute financial donations to E4C's nutrition programs.



Why "Many of us have been witness to or may have experienced similar circumstances. 'Compassion and giving should never come with judgment.'"

Connect with us about how you or your organization can be a part of E4C's transformative change.

Email: connect@e4calberta.org
Call: 780.424.7543 ext. 115

ISL Engineering & Land Services Ltd.



How ISL employees are very passionate about supporting E4C's School Lunch Program. Core employees organize and execute BBQs and breakfasts with financial assistance from ISL to raise funds for E4C's School Lunch Program. Last year, ISL teams served kids lunch at one of E4C's School Lunch Program schools and plan to organize it once again this year.

Why Engineers, technicians and landscape architects believe in the power of education. They also know, kids can't learn on empty stomachs.

Fill the Cup of Joy!

Your year end contribution will help us reach this goal.

22%

78%

■ \$350,000 is urgently needed

■ \$1,450,000 raised to date (thank you)

Donate Now!



Yes! I'd like to give this holiday season. Area of Greatest need Program _____

Name: _____

Total Amount: \$ _____ Payment Method: VISA MasterCard Cheque

Credit Card Number: _____ Expiry Date: _____

Your Name (as it appears on card): _____

Address: _____

Email: _____ Yes, I'd like to receive news from E4C

Phone: _____

