The SHARP Foundation - 2013

Mission:

To provide quality client-focused care for the community’s vulnerable persons living with HIV.

Vision:

Every person living with HIV will have housing and supports to meet their needs.

Mandate:

To develop and implement innovative programming to provide safety and security for the clients we serve and reduce risk behaviours to prevent further transmission of HIV in the community.
Who Does SHARP Serve?

HIV Positive Persons with challenging behaviours requiring a high level of supervision

HIV Positive Persons requiring daily support

HIV Positive Persons requiring weekly supports

HIV Positive Persons requiring intermediate supports

HIV Positive Persons

Individuals at Risk of Contracting HIV

Individuals housing and support needs can move up and back down the pyramid, as circumstances change for them

Due to the advancement of treatment and care of PWLA’s, for most individuals their state of health can change drastically over the course of their lives.
Who Does SHARP Serve?

Client Profile … becoming increasingly complex

- Heterosexual Female
- Gay/Lesbian/Bisexual/Transgendered
- Heterosexual Male

- Hepatitis C
- First Nations / Aboriginal
- Substance Use
- HIV-related Neurological Disorders
- Mental Illness
- Brain Injury
- Parkinson’s Disease
- History of Abuse

- Cancers
- Physical Disabilities
- Sex Trade Background
- Criminal Backgrounds
- Below Poverty Level (100%)
- New Canadians
- Seniors
- History of Chronic Homelessness
- Stigma / Discrimination

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SHARP’s Spectrum of Integrated Care
the SHARP Foundation subscribes to a harm reduction approach
Building a Spectrum of Integrated Care ...

our beginning

the SHARP Foundation (Society Housing AIDS Recovering Persons)
• established by Walter Beswick, Don Gallant and friends
• care provided in a few homes in the Calgary inner city by volunteers.

“... we lived and we loved along with him.... in his room, I repeat his own room ... he had something of his own until he died. Where can others go?”

Walter Beswick, Founder

beswick house

24/7 interim, palliative and long-term care & support • professional health staff • licensed • room for 10 • extended family • safe • accessible • non-judgmental.

“If it had not been for Beswick House our brother would have died years ago, alone and on the streets. He knew he was loved and was always thankful for the life you gave him.”

Family Member

scott house

intermediate supports • 3 bedrooms
• developing routine for medication
• sharing responsibilities • building life skills • family • enhancing self confidence and reliance • friendship

“Where there was once resistance , there is now openness. Where there was once isolation, there is now friendship,. Where there was once a feeling of helplessness, there is now hope and faith. “

Family Member

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<thead>
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<th>1990</th>
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Building a Spectrum of Integrated Care ...

**project 2011**
creating a home for five • resident mentoring • working together • freedom • companionship • quality of life • pet • health • responsibility

“I don’t ever want to leave here... I have my room, my garden and my white picket fence.”

Resident

**project kathleen**
24/7 psychosocial / health support for females • professional social work / rehabilitation staff • licensed • 4 bedrooms • referred by public health • safe • non-judgmental • family • harm reduction • low client/staff ratio

“I can’t believe how lucky I am to have a real home where people and Charlie let me be me... Thanks! Thanks! Thanks!”

Resident

**carlyle commons**
integrated residential development • 1-bedroom fully accessible or adaptable & 2-bedroom apartments for individuals 50+ or small families • community programming • peer supports • friendship • environmental design

“Let’s build a home where residents will be recognized not for living with HIV but living in the best building in Calgary.”

Community Partner
# Client Care & Support

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<th>Program</th>
<th>Beswick House</th>
<th>Scott House</th>
<th>Project 2011</th>
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SHARP’s Housing Partner

Research in Canada and the United States has shown that:

Comfortable and safe housing is a primary, structural intervention in improving the health outcomes of individuals living with HIV and to reduce the harm caused by further transmission of the disease.

Calgary Housing Company

- Partners for over 20 years
- Owns or manages all facilities
- Arranges for rent subsidies for clients
- Maintains facilities to meet standards
- Assists with community buy-in
Some of SHARP’s Community Partners

• Alberta Provincial (HIV) Policy & Funding Consortium
• Alberta Health Services (Harm Reduction, Southern Alberta Clinic, Transition Services, Addictions/Mental Health, Palliative Care)
• AIDS Calgary Awareness Association
• Alpha House
• Bow Valley College
• Calgary Drop-In and Rehabilitation Centre
• Calgary Homeless Foundation
• Mount Royal University (Social Work, Public Relations, Nursing)
• University of Calgary (Social Work, Nursing)
Building a Spectrum of Integrated Care ... The Future

Training (On-Line)

- Clients with complex needs represent a significant challenge for front line workers
- Assisting individuals presenting to health and social services (often in crisis) have complicated issues associated with, but not limited to chronic disease, addiction, mental health, homelessness and contact with the criminal justice system
- In many cases an HIV diagnosis is not the primary defining issue in clients with complex needs rather only one component of the many underlying conditions that influence challenging and problematic behaviour
- Framed in a human rights / harm reduction structure
- Developed by subject-matter experts throughout the community
- Interactive case studies

“This is too good not to share with other agencies.”

Funder
Thank You

• Questions?

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  www.theSHARPfoundation.com