

ABOUT GOOD SHEPHERD

Founded in 1963, Good Shepherd Ministries serves individuals who struggle with homelessness and poverty. All services are offered free of charge and without distinction to anyone in need. Thanks to the efforts of volunteers, donors, and staff, Good Shepherd Ministries provides the necessities of life – food, shelter, clothing, and medical care – to thousands of individuals in need each year.

MISSION

To be present to the homeless and most neglected members of our community. To offer a broad range of compassionate programs and services to enhance the quality of life while inspiring hope and promoting human dignity.

VISION

To alleviate the effects of poverty while striving to eliminate chronic homelessness within our community.

VALUES

HOSPITALITY: The overarching value as inspired by St. John of God is embedded in all we do as we create opportunities for transformation and welcome others with generosity and openness.

QUALITY: To provide excellence in service delivery.

RESPECT: To be lovingly present and open to others.

RESPONSIBILITY: To assume a duty of care for those who use our services.

SPIRITUALITY: Committed to those we serve through all situations in their lives, honouring all traditions, cultures, and religions as a sign of hope and hospitality.



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Homeless Support Services Offered by Good Shepherd Ministries:

- Daily Meal Program
- Emergency Shelter
- Clothing for men
- Health Care
- Eviction Prevention
- Housing Follow Up
- Veterans Housing Support
- DARE (Drug and Alcohol Recovery Enrichment) Program
- Barrett House – Supportive housing with 24-hour care for those living with HIV and AIDS
- St. Joseph's Residence – Supportive housing with 24-hour care for seniors with a history of homelessness
- Pastoral Care

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PASTORAL CARE PROGRAM

Offering a comforting presence of emotional, social, and spiritual support to individuals in need



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GOODSHEPHERD.CA

Serving with Dignity, Hospitality, and Hope

Pastoral Care serves the homeless and the most neglected members of our community with the utmost dignity and respect. We believe that every person, regardless of culture, tradition, faith, or life circumstances, has a unique journey and deserves to be treated with compassion, understanding, and dignity.

We are committed to help build a city that is more compassionate, equitable, and just. Our goal is to provide everyone who comes through our doors—or who calls the surrounding sidewalks home—with a safe, welcoming, and nurturing environment where they can find a meal, healing, support in securing housing, and opportunities to explore and strengthen their faith and improve their present circumstance.



"For as water puts out fire, so charity wipes out sin." - St. John of God



A Ministry of Presence, Hospitality and Hope

Pastoral Care is a vital ministry in every facility of the Hospitaller Order of St. John of God, which serves people in 54 countries around the world. Rooted in the values of hospitality, compassion, respect, responsibility and spirituality, we offer a ministry of presence and availability to our clients, co-workers, volunteers, and visitors.

We are compassion in action, serving wherever the need exists—at our door, in our dining room, on our streets, or through personal encounters. Inspired by the example of St. John of God, we strive to bring light, hope, and dignity to all, opening doors to healing, renewal, and new beginnings.

Through a welcoming presence and a listening heart, we carry forward the flame of hospitality entrusted to us by our founder, St. John of God. We are dedicated to accompanying those who are homeless, marginalised, and vulnerable, ensuring that every person is treated with dignity, respect, compassion, and care.

Compassion in Action

Whatever challenges a person may be facing, when they come through the doors of Good Shepherd Ministries they will find acceptance, understanding, and someone willing to listen. Compassion—in our reception area, on the streets, in our dining room, or one-on-one—is at the heart of everything we do.

Our Pastoral Care team provides:

- Spiritual care and emotional support
- Internal and external referrals to professional services
- Hospital and correctional facility visits
- Liturgies, baptisms, funerals, and memorial services
- Pastoral care programs for clients, co-workers, and volunteers
- Daily weekday celebrations of the Eucharist that welcomes everyone
- Community outreach and accompaniment
- Mentorship opportunities for students from Seminaries and local and international universities
- Educational presentations and retreats highlighting the impact of our ministry

Through every conversation, every act of hospitality, and every encounter, we seek to restore hope, affirm dignity, and foster a sense of belonging.

Everyone is welcome.
Every person matters.
Every encounter is an opportunity to bring hope.

