



**Support, every step of the way**

Christmas & Holiday Appeal

“At 72 years of age and after living in the same apartment for 23 years in Hamilton, I became homeless for almost 2 months when I couldn’t afford my rent. I never thought I would end up like this.”

Read more to learn how you changed Gail’s life!

Dear Friends:

Gail’s annual income was \$7,896 and she simply couldn’t afford to pay all of her bills. *“I’m usually on top of life. Goes to show, no one is above becoming homeless.”* Thankfully a friend encouraged her to come to Wesley. *“I didn’t know what to expect and I find it hard to trust people,”* she says smiling while recalling how a Wesley staff member made it possible for her to move to an affordable apartment. *“I think everyone in Hamilton knows Wesley. This is where you come when you need help.”*



This remarkable change in Gail’s life was made possible because of generous donations from people like you! In a few short months, she was able to move from a life of fear and insecurity, to a life filled with renewed hope. Gail wanted to share her story with you as a way to show firsthand how your selfless contributions affect the lives of people in Hamilton. She desperately needed help, but was afraid and didn’t know where else to turn. **We can only offer this life changing support with assistance from people like you!**

Every day, Wesley supports men, women, children and youth living in poverty – battling the effects of addictions, mental health, low education, limited employment opportunities, discrimination, isolation and lack of family supports.

**Our volunteers and staff work tirelessly with the individuals we support, guiding them towards a life of improved education, successful employment and supportive independence.**

Please see over...

Your donation will dramatically change the lives of many individuals such as:

**A father, who became an alcoholic and lost everything after the death of his young child, is now rebuilding his life and in recovery.** Your \$25 monthly donation (\$300 annually) provides him with 12 critical support groups.

**A youth, who was deserted by her mother and exposed to a life on the streets, later becoming an orphan after her mother committed suicide, finding help at Wesley.** Your \$100 donation provides her with 5 life skills workshops to learn to live independently.

**A newcomer, who after re-training is now working as a dental hygienist administrative assistant, so proud of her independence and bright future ahead.** Your \$50 monthly donation (\$600 annually) provides her weekly educational and employment sessions.



**A young child, who loves playing and swimming with her Wesley friends, despite living in a high priority neighbourhood with a \$6,000 annual income.** Your \$200 one time donation provides 1 week of summer camp for two children from low income families.

**These are only 5 of the over 12,000 unique people you are helping each year when you choose to support Wesley Urban Ministries. Our fundraising expenses are a low 3%, so you can be assured your donation will directly make a difference.**

All monthly donors, as well as donors that give \$100 or more this season will be invited to a Special 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Program Tour & Tea in 2015. All individual donors that annually give \$1,000 or more will be invited to be recognized in our Annual Report and on our Donor Wall, honouring the past year's donors.

If you would like to receive your tax receipt immediately, you can make your donation securely online at [wesley.ca](http://wesley.ca). For any questions about your receipt or to make a donation In Honour or In Memory, please contact us at 905 528 5629 or [info@wesley.ca](mailto:info@wesley.ca).

Thank you for building hope and relief this Christmas & Holiday season! Your donation will make a lasting and local impact throughout 2015 and for many years to come.

Sincerely,

Daljit Garry  
Executive Director

***P.S. As Gail shared her story, she began to weep, overcome by her memories and loss. A Wesley staff member kindly reassured her saying, "the worst is over Gail." Living on the streets may be over for Gail but our care is not. With your help, we will continue to offer her support, every step of the way, so she can maintain her apartment, make positive life choices and prevent a life of homelessness and desolation.***

\*Name changed to protect identity