

# No Presents: A New Tradition for 9 Year Old!

**A new Christmas tradition began this year for 9 year old Tina Silhan.**

During thanksgiving dinner, Tina's aunt, Stephanie Moriarity, asked, "How would you feel about not getting Christmas presents from me? Instead we would go shopping together and give the presents to Wesley's Christmas Store?" Tina agreed and one afternoon Tina and Stephanie went shopping and picked lots of Tina's favourite toys. They brought the gifts to Wesley's Christmas store and as Stephanie recalls, "we were greeted by very kind volunteers." Afterwards, Tina shares, "I felt good and think that the little girl who got the Orbeez Spa set is very happy!" Stephanie agrees, "Tina now wants to do this every year so it will be our special Christmas tradition and I am so very proud of my niece!"

Thank you to all the families, churches, school groups and businesses that extended generosity and kindness during the holiday season. With your help, almost 1,400 households were supported with food and new gifts! A remarkable 450 volunteers contributed over 5,800 hours to make the Christmas Store



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## Message from Daljit Garry, Executive Director



*The Honourable Peter MacKay, Minister of Justice and Attorney General of Canada with Daljit Garry and members of Wesley's Board of Directors*

Welcome to 2015! Thank you for your tremendous support in 2014 and I look forward to your continued involvement as we celebrate Wesley's 60th anniversary in 2015. I was pleased to speak with many donors in December as we unveiled our new donor wall at 52 Catharine Street North. I am always impressed with the level of commitment from our donors and interest in our programs.

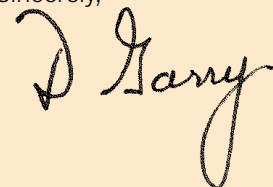
New funding has helped us launch new programs and initiatives, such as the women's wing in the Harold E. Ballard Special Care Unit and faculty upgrades at Wesley Youth Housing by The Home Depot Canada Foundation. Recently, The Honourable Peter MacKay, Minister of Justice and Attorney General of Canada, visited Wesley and announced more than \$100,000 in funding over 2 years to Wesley Urban Ministries to

provide employment training opportunities to youth involved in the justice system in Hamilton. The youth will be trained in food services and a catering social enterprise business.

With your help, we continue to reach out to individuals in need. An example was Wesley Employment Services quickly responded to the Target closure announcement. Workshops have been presented in store and individuals have begun receiving one to one case management support.

I look forward to seeing you in 2015. Please stay tuned for more details on a variety of 60th anniversary special events!

Sincerely,



# VOLUNTEER BEST PRACTICES & OPPORTUNITIES

Sandra McKay is passionate about her volunteer work at Wesley Day Centre, preparing and serving meals. She recommends to new volunteers, "Don't look at it as us helping them, it's all of us working in a community!" Wesley has a wide range of volunteer opportunities for individuals and groups. We currently have several openings for Wesley Day Centre's Sunday Dinner program. Thank you to all the Churches, employees from ArcelorMittal Dofasco and United Steel Workers for their delicious Sunday dinners!

To learn more about all our volunteer opportunities and the next **Volunteer Meet & Greet**, visit [wesley.ca](http://wesley.ca) and click Volunteers or contact Tara Monks-Canfield at [tara.monks-canfield@wesley.ca](mailto:tara.monks-canfield@wesley.ca) or 905.528.5629 ext. 240. You can hear more from Sandra on a new Wesley video on Volunteer Best Practices at [wesley.ca](http://wesley.ca)

## Vision:

Wesley Urban Ministries has a vision of community, where justice and compassion guide the way we live, where all members are treated with respect and dignity.

## Mission:

- Decrease Barriers by developing and delivering programs that address the needs of people who are marginalized
- Increase Opportunities by providing services that help individuals to achieve their full potential
- Be a model and catalyst for social transformation

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happen this year. From students to seniors, our volunteers worked together to make the Store possible! For many, Wesley's Christmas Store is a seasoned annual event but for individuals like Tina and Stephanie, it was the start of a new tradition. A special thank you to those involved for the first time such as the staff from Giant Tiger (Store #21 on Cannon) that organized a coin drive

and raised \$2,400, a team of employees from Dan Lawrie Insurance Brokers Inc. that volunteered one evening after work and the staff and tenants at 270 Sherman that warmly welcomed the Store this year. There is plenty of time to make Wesley's Christmas Store part of your traditions during 2015!

## NEW Wesley's 1st Annual Family Day Hawaiian Super Bowl



### Support Wesley's Housing and Homelessness Services

Sunday February 15th  
Splitsville Bowl,  
1525 Stone Church Rd E, Hamilton  
10 am. – 12 pm  
\$25 per person (\$12.50 tax receipt)  
or special \$100 family lane up to 6 people

Fun for all ages and families!  
You can learn more and register at [www.wesley.ca](http://www.wesley.ca) or email [info@wesley.ca](mailto:info@wesley.ca) or call 905.528.5629



## Show Your Crazy Socks

New this year, Raising the Roof added socks along with toques to raise national awareness and funds for homelessness programs. All toques and socks sold locally support Wesley Youth Housing and Wesley Day Centre, working towards long term solutions to end homelessness in Hamilton. **We recently launched on social media a way for people to share their crazy socks, donate \$10 and we'll give Raising the Roof socks to an individual in need.** Thank you to the students and staff at Sir Winston Churchill and Saltfleet Secondary Schools for their leadership with the campaign!

## Save the Dates!

**Case for Kids Walk, Run, Ride**  
Sunday June 7, 2015  
Bayfront Park

**Wesley Golf Tournament**  
Monday September 14, 2015  
Century Pines Golf Club

**Sponsor or sign up!** 905.528.5629 or [wesley.ca](http://wesley.ca)