

Boarding Homes Ministry

“Perhaps life is all about celebrating God and people.”

These words came from a boarding home resident. They are paraphrased on the medallion of the E.H. Johnson Award presented to the home communities created by Boarding Homes Ministry. The award, and this statement of faith, speak to the importance of building joyful Christian communities.

This letter introduces the new *Dollar-a-Day* fundraising initiative by Boarding Homes Ministry.

The project has two goals: **first**, raise finances to sustain BHM’s existing ministry and help it expand; and **second**, to raise awareness of mental health issues within our congregations and neighbourhoods.

This partnership will benefit your congregation or church group as well as Boarding Homes Ministry.

The ***Dollar-a-Day*** project works in this way: the enclosed material is brought to your Session. Session approves the project, and a start date is chosen.

- Each household or member of your church group is asked to set aside one dollar per day for a period of forty days. We are respectful of the financial challenges families face and hope this level of donation will be possible. However, even the smallest donation is a gracious gift, and will further the care of people who are ill.
- Enclosed are short narratives to be read weekly. These remind the group or congregation of the ongoing project, and also promote awareness of mental health issues. Readings invite church members to consider their own roles in pastoral care.
- One of these weekly readings draws attention to BHM’s ***Cat Jeffry Church School Curriculum***. The kit contains lessons for children, high school students, and adults. You can request this curriculum and explore your role in developing healing and celebratory relations with those gifted and important people who experience mental health problems.
- At the close of the project, each household forwards their donation to Boarding Homes Ministry. A tax receipt will be provided by BHM which a registered charity: 88996 0621 RR0001.

Attached are: one general ***Boarding Homes Ministry*** poster; one ***Dollar-a-Day*** poster; and one poster for the ***Cat Jeffry Curriculum***; one **bulletin insert** to further introduce Boarding Homes Ministry, and the **weekly readings** which promote the fundraiser and highlight elements of pastoral care that can apply in our neighbourhoods, and, importantly around our family dinner tables. Thank you for considering this project.

Rev. Rodger Hunter, Chaplain, is available to speak to your congregation or church groups.

Find more information about our ministry at www.boardinghomesministry.ca

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