

#### **MEMBER'S STORY**

"My lifestyle choices resulted in being incarcerated in a federal penitentiary. Upon release I found myself in a shared living accommodation which was unsuitable for my needs. I found myself, once again homeless. With help from caring individuals from LOFT I am now living in a one bedroom apartment."

#### **MEMBER'S STORY**

"I had completed the biggest sporting event in my life, and now was facing a life threatening event. I had a stroke caused by neo-syphilis and HIV. I wasn't welcome in my house because my stroke caused dramatic behavior, and then entered my little angel. My worker was assigned to me when I was in hospital then rehabilitation. McEwan helped me with moving, transportation and support, and I am forever indebted. Though it took me several years of gradual, declining drug use, I eventually stopped. McEwan gave me a way out. I am a better man for it; I have a girlfriend and the possibility of a family and future."































### LOFT COMMUNITY SERVICES

Bringing Hope and Recovery Home

**LOFT** offers recovery and independence for the most vulnerable, including those with mental and physical health challenges, dementia, addiction issues, the homeless, the abused and the abandoned. Our services provide supportive housing and community support services and respond to the changing needs of our diverse community.



15 Toronto Street, 9th floor Toronto, ON M5C 2E3

**p.** 416.979.1994 **f.** 416.979.3028

#### www.loftcs.org

Charitable Business Number 13058 6605 RR0001



# LOFT

McEwan Housing and Support Services

# POSITIVE SERVICE COORDINATION

## Are you HIV-positive and...

- In an unstable living situation or without a home?
- Facing eviction?
- Living on the streets?
- Just got out of the hospital or recently hospitalized?
- Need a doctor or help managing appointments?
- In a shelter?
- Just got out of jail?
- Need help getting ODSP or other benefits?

We can help.

309-200 Gerrard Street East Toronto, ON M4A 2E6

> P: 416-646-2831 F: 416-944-0880

> > www.loftcs.org

#### WHO DO WE SUPPORT?

Homeless and living with HIV. Many of the people we serve also use substances and/or have mental and physical health challenges.



#### WHAT SERVICES DO WE PROVIDE?

- Case managers to work with you to find permanent, stable housing
- Support with ODSP, OW, and other benefit programs
- We'll assist you with accessing medical services like doctors and specialists
- We'll assist you in accessing mental health services
- If you are interested in harm reduction and treatment, we help with that too
- We'll help you get your ID
- Support accessing or learning Activities of Daily Living and food security
- Assistance accessing legal services and negotiating the justice system
- General advocacy and resourcing, including culturally sensitive supports

#### **HOW CAN I ACCESS SERVICES?**

We accept referrals from other service providers, or you can refer yourself. Please call – we'd love to hear from you!

#### POSITIVE SERVICE COORDINATION

Positive Service Coordination provides short- and medium-term intensive case management for people living with HIV who are homeless, living with a mental illness, use substances, have experienced a physical or mental health crisis, and who cycle through the health and judicial systems as a result.

Positive Service Coordination is a partnership of 17 Toronto-based community and clinical partners, including healthcare institutions, community organizations, and housing providers.

The objective of Positive Service Coordination is for you to set personal goals, be housed, be engaged in care, and be engaged in the community by the time you graduate from the program. During the time you spend with a case manager—anywhere from six to 18 months—active links to available community and clinical services will be made.



#### **MEMBER'S STORY**

"I have so much to be grateful for today. Four years ago I was introduced to McEwan... Homeless, struggling with addiction. The cycle took me to jail over and over again.

My probation officer got me an appointment with LOFT. I was offered an apartment. It was out of my using area, a very nice neighborhood. A new bed, dishes, pots and pans. I was overcome with emotion; I couldn't believe that this beautiful place was for me. This was the beginning of a complete change in me. My worker helped me get financial assistance, got me a doctor and accompanied me to appointments and researched answers.

Slowly, I became more confident in myself. Someone believed in me. I reunited with my family, I take care of my aging parents, I have a wonderful relationship with my son, and I have a part-time job. I am inspired to move forward and I owe it all to McEwan for giving me a chance. All the McEwan staff are so friendly, compassionate, supportive and absolutely amazing. I don't feel so alone anymore. I've been able to turn my life around."

#### MEMBER'S STORY

"When I was first introduced to McEwan I was going through severe untreated mental health and drug use issues. Staff supported me with seeing a doctor and obtaining a proper mental health diagnosis. Staff also supported me in my search for appropriate housing. I believe that you need to have a stable roof over your head to support making significant life changes. I have been clean for 3 years and have pursued my love for art. I cannot imagine having gone through that dark phase of my life without the support of McEwan House"