



# Huron House Boys' Home SPRING BULLETIN 2013

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## From the New Executive Director

It is my privilege to take on the role of Executive Director at Huron House Boys' Home. As one of the key social service providers in Sarnia-Lambton, the Boys' Home has a history of providing excellent service to male youth in need, and I am excited to have the opportunity to provide leadership for this important work.

There are many reasons I was eager to accept the position, beginning with my observations of the way the community has embraced the Boys' Home, and the way service providers of the community collaborate - always working with the best interest of the kids in mind. In more than 30 years of providing residential care, I have rarely seen such extraordinary, coherent support for young people. It truly is unique, and I plan to maintain the vital relationships that foster this support: relationships with you, our supporters; with the community at large; and with other social service agencies.

Another reason I was attracted to the Boys' Home is the quality and commitment of members of the Board of Directors, and their connectedness with the community. They have demonstrated adept fiscal management, and are resourceful in meeting the needs of our youth. They are caring, compassionate and ethical and I am enthusiastic about working with them as we go forward.

Most importantly, it is clear that the staff members at Huron House are invested in providing excellent care for our residents. Their job is difficult and requires extreme patience, exemplary communication skills, team work, role modelling, and integrity. I look forward to getting to know the staff members better and to working with them while we continue to develop an outstanding children's mental health service.

It is inherent in my position to build on the legacy left by Ken Akers and to provide support and guidance in the next chapter of the Boys' Home. I feel honoured to be in such a position.

I am delighted about the Huron House Boys Home Run/Walk/Skate/Bike coming up on June 16th, and hope to meet many people at this fantastic event. Please feel free to come up and introduce yourself. I will always attempt to be available if you or your group would like to learn more about Huron House Boys' Home.

*Don Adam*

**It's easy to smile when someone cares!**



## Winter Fun at Huron House

### Outdoors



Pond Hockey - a Canadian Tradition!

### Indoors



Survivor Games

## Upgrades Completed

Renovations of our upstairs apartment are complete and we are thrilled with the opportunity to provide our residents with a comprehensive independent living environment.

A team of staff have been assigned to carry out a program providing our residents with skills to assist them as they make their transition from our care to independent living. They are excited, invested in providing our boys with these important life skills and sharing their future success.

## Men Who Cook - Bigger and Better than Ever



We didn't really believe *Men Who Cook* could be better, but it was! Facilities were bigger and better at the Dante Club, and décor from R. L. Designs added flair. Also getting big nods of approval were John Wing Jr. who entertained with his excellent wit; Mike Weir Wines which provided free wine sampling during the reception hour; a superlative dessert by the chefs at Landmark Village; and a unique mystery soup competition.



This year's favoured cooks were Jason Cormier (Smoked Chicken Lasagna), Jason McMichael (Purdy's Pickerel and Sweet Potato), Rory Ring (Bacon! Bacon! Bacon!), and Murray Budden (Grilled Cheese Panini). We felt compelled to include the fourth winner due to the extraordinarily close voting,

and the amazing taste sensation when the Grilled Cheese Panini was paired with the Bacon! Bacon! Bacon! For links to photos visit [www.hhbh.ca](http://www.hhbh.ca).



Thanks to all who made it possible. More than \$25,000 was raised and will directly benefit the boys of Huron House.

**It's easy to smile when someone cares!**



RUN



WALK



SKATE



BIKE



Join us  
Sunday, June 16, 8 a.m.  
Mike Weir Park

**GO ONLINE AT**  
[www.boyshomerun.ca](http://www.boyshomerun.ca) to pledge or donate online, find forms, maps, fees, start times, event details, links to photos, past times, Running Room, Facebook, Twitter and more.

**T-shirt Challenge**  
We would like a collection of Run/Walk/Skate/Bike t-shirts in action, so take a photo and post it to our Facebook event page (Run Walk Skate Bike) OR to your Twitter account (#HHBHRun). From the submissions we'll randomly select one and the contributor will have their registration fee refunded.

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FRONTLINE SPOTLIGHT

Featuring Boys' Home Staff

For Dan Wodzinski, much to his surprise, all roads led to social work. As a graduate of St. Patrick's High School, Dan enrolled at the University of Windsor, taking the courses that held the most interest for him, and successfully completed a three-year Sociology degree.

But university was only one component of an extraordinary education. For five summers Dan worked at an international youth sports camp, building relationships and skills. His co-workers were from all around the world and he further developed his experiences and friendships as he travelled to Europe, Australia, the Middle East, the Caribbean, Mexico and North America.

It all made him a perfect fit for Huron House Boys' Home. He came one summer, mostly to help with Olympic Day, liked it a lot, and 'just stayed'. He has been here five years and loves the way the staff get along - team work, communication and good doses of humour. They just don't leave room for negative attitudes.

If he could change things, it would be to have more outings for the boys and more exposure to music (Dan developed a continuing love for music when he 'blew out his knee' playing soccer).

Having just bought a money pit (aka house) with his girlfriend, Dan knows how tight financial resources can be, but he reminds readers that good used musical equipment, or volunteering to share musical talents are also great ways to support Huron House.

Foundation Board of Directors

- Mike Raes, President
Brian McKay, Treasurer
Peter Norris, Member-at-Large
Jamie Carson, Member-at-Large
Jim Foubister, Board Liaison
Don Adam, Executive Director

Operating Board of Directors

- Bert Phills, President
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Joseph Pagano, Treasurer
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Darryl Germain
Terry Doyle
Dan Daamen
Ron Van Dam
Andre Morin
Don Adam, Executive Director

Since 1970... a Home and Future for Boys

Yes, I would like to make a difference in a boy's life! Please accept my gift to Huron House Boys' Home.

- \$50 \$75 \$100 \$250 Other \$

Please make cheques payable to: Huron House Boys' Home

Name: Address:

City, Prov: Postal Code: Phone #:

For credit card payment, please complete the following: Visa MasterCard

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