



More Than Meets the Eye at Our Place

By Julian Daly, Our Place CEO

With the Thanksgiving weekend approaching and the busiest season for support at Our Place already underway, we are reflecting on what we're most grateful for. There is much to be thankful for, even though the ongoing crises of homelessness and poverty here on the island can make it hard to see.

There is so much to be grateful for at Our Place, particularly the wide range of programs and services we deliver to those in need—many of which the broader community is unaware of. Having the opportunity and resources to do this work fills us with deep gratitude. Because of you, we have been able to continually strengthen our Pathway of Support, ensuring that we can walk alongside individuals on their own journeys—guiding them step by step toward stability, healing, and hope.

You might already know that Our Place is the largest provider of emergency meals on Vancouver Island, serving 1,400 meals daily and over 500,000 meals each year. We've been serving these meals for over 50 years.

Our Place also operates 500 units of housing and shelter for people who were previously homeless across the Capital Region.

Our Community Centre on Pandora is a hub for various services, including counseling, medical care, showers, a safe and calm drop-in space, financial programs like tax clinics, veterinary care for the pets of those we serve, memorial services for those who would otherwise die unremembered, senior care, transportation to appointments and services, and more.

This year, we opened the first long-term addiction and recovery program for women on Vancouver Island, called New Roads Therapeutic Recovery Community. This program provides a safe and structured home for 20 women at a time to rebuild their lives. This is in addition to the New Roads program we have had for 40 men at a time for the last seven years.

We also run a landscaping social enterprise called Your Place, which provides meaningful, livable-wage work to men and women who

have successfully completed our New Roads addiction treatment and recovery program.

With your help, hundreds of people are successfully rebuilding their lives every day at Our Place.

It's not always a quick journey; it requires trust and time. Each person's journey is caringly tailored to their needs and specific challenges, but we are relentlessly supporting people to move from just surviving to actually thriving.

So, you can see we have much to be grateful for, and not least among the things we are grateful for is you, our supporters, who make so many of these outcomes possible.

Thanksgiving is a time of increased need, and we need to set more places at our table than usual. Make a gift to Our Place today and be the reason someone comes inside and starts their journey with Our Place.

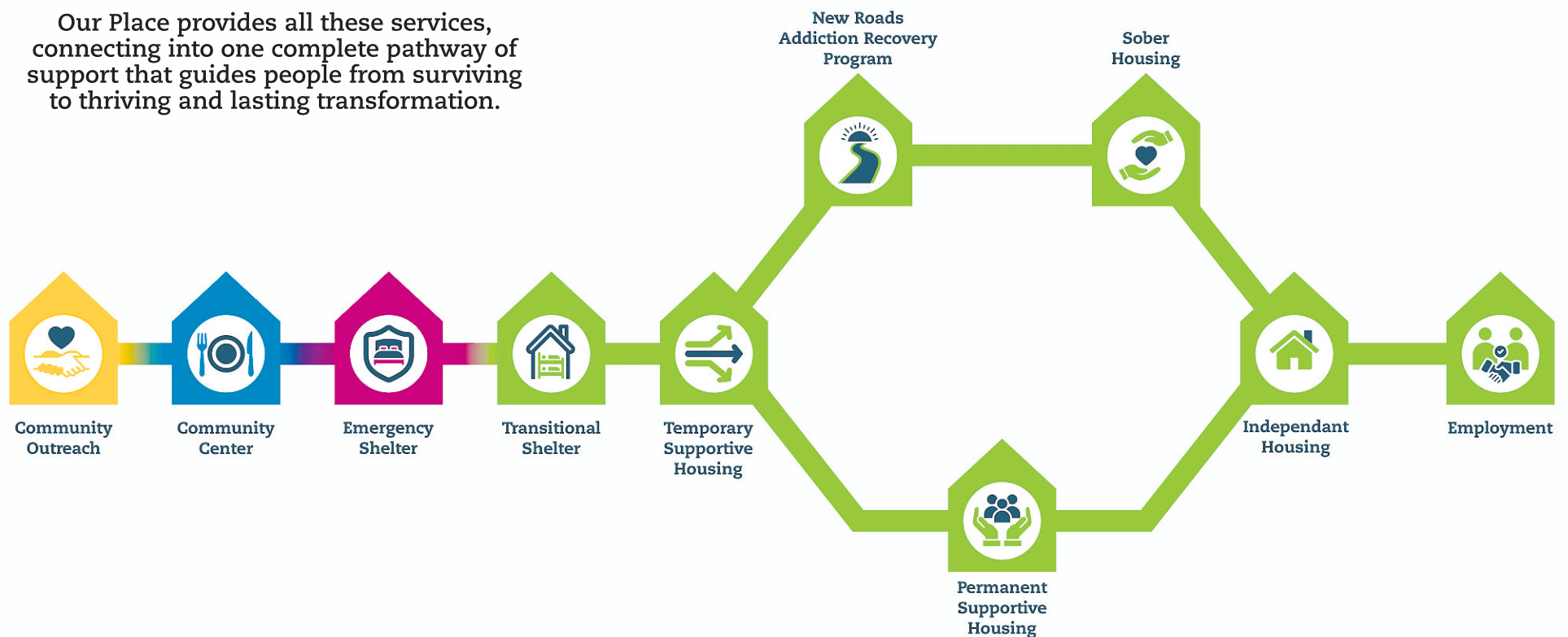
With our heartfelt gratitude,
Julian Daly
CEO, Our Place Society



To donate to Our Place Society, please visit us at:
ourplacesociety.com/donate,
call **250-940-5060**, or email
donors@ourplacesociety.com

Our Place Society Pathway of Support

Our Place provides all these services, connecting into one complete pathway of support that guides people from surviving to thriving and lasting transformation.



Who uses Our Place services? Meet Local Senior, Paul.

The first step on our Pathway of Support often begins with a meal. For more than 50 years, the Our Place kitchen has been a lifeline—offering nourishment and emergency meals to those who need them most. For 36 of those years, Food Services Manager Brian Cox has been chopping, baking, and serving nutritious meals alongside his dedicated team.

“When I started, we served about 100 people twice a day at one location,” Brian recalls. “Now, we feed 400 or more at each meal, three times a day, across six locations.”

Among those who come through our doors, Brian sees a wide range of needs. Some come only once or twice, maybe when an unexpected expense means no money left for food. Others need support for months or years while they find their way out of homelessness, addiction, or poverty. And for some, like Paul, the need is ongoing.

Paul is first in line for lunch every day. Living on a fixed seniors’ income, he can’t make ends meet, so he relies on meals at Our Place. But Paul brings as much as he receives. He knows most of the staff and volunteers by name. When cherry blossoms bloom, he brings branches as gifts. He greets everyone with a smile and a thank-you, and during

the holidays, he is part of every celebration—never missing Thanksgiving turkey and always asking, a little shyly, for a second slice of pumpkin pie (and he always gets that second slice!).

Thanks to you, Paul has built a community here. He sits with the same group of friends most days—often other seniors without adequate supports of their own. Together, they share meals, laughter, and a sense of belonging.

For so many, a meal is the start of a larger journey: from that first plate of food, they can be referred to recovery programs, housing, healthcare, and more. It’s the first step from surviving to thriving. For Paul, it’s a warm meal, a friendly greeting, and the knowledge that he is not alone.

This Thanksgiving, will you provide a meal and ensure Paul—and everyone like him—has a hot meal and a place to belong?



To donate to Our Place Society, please visit us at ourplacesociety.com/donate



More than a meal: Thanksgiving at Our Place

For people struggling in our community, your gift can change everything. This Thanksgiving, we ask—what does it take to move someone who is struggling from just surviving to thriving?

It takes a meal. It takes an open door and a listening ear. It takes clean clothing, a shower, paramedical care, housing and shelter, addiction recovery programs, and so much more.

Did you know Our Place provides all of this—and that your donation makes it possible for everyone who needs it? Local experts and officials agree: when someone comes through the doors of the Our Place Community Centre, real change begins. Positive outcomes grow as each person finds the supports they need on their individual pathway back to health, community, and self.

For most, that first step through our doors starts with a meal.

The Thanksgiving meal from the Our Place kitchen is a powerful moment of connection during a season that can be especially lonely and isolating. It offers warmth, dignity, and a first step out of crisis for hundreds of people. Last year was our busiest ever, and this meal was 100% funded by donors like you. This year, we expect even more people will be looking for connection and a hot meal.

We need your help to open our doors wide, welcome everyone in, and ensure no one is left hungry.

Your gift this Thanksgiving can be the first step on someone's pathway out of crisis. Give today at www.ourplacesociety.com/donate



Donate now at
www.ourplacesociety.com/donate

Join us for three meaningful evenings supporting **community, transformation, and recovery.**

This year, to gain deeper connection with our mission, the 11th annual Hungry Hearts Gala has been transformed into a series of intimate gatherings celebrating care and community.

We hope to see you this fall at a Hungry Hearts VIP event!

Sunday, October 26, 2025 **An Evening at the Heart**

Join fellow members of our community whose generosity makes our work possible. Share great food, great company, and inspiring stories about the impact we're making together.

You'll hear firsthand how something as simple as a warm meal or timely on-site paramedic care can restore health, dignity, and hope for the people we serve every day. Seats are limited.

Time: 6:00pm

Location: Pacific Suite, Delta Hotels Victoria
Ocean Pointe Resort

Tickets: \$200 (includes dinner and donation to Our Place)

Tuesday, October 7, 2025 **Garden Dinner**

SOLD OUT



Saturday, November 8, 2025 **Inside Our Place**

Join us for an evening at our community centre—a behind-the-scenes experience rarely open to the public.

You'll be guided through the spaces where lives are transformed every day and hear powerful firsthand stories from our team about how Our Place supports recovery, dignity, and hope in our community.

Time: 6:00pm

Location: Our Place Community Centre,
919 Pandora Ave

Tickets: \$120 (includes dinner and donation to Our Place)

Visit www.ourplacesociety.com/events to buy tickets

For any questions, email sharrah@ourplacesociety.com
or call 250 940 5060 Ext 5108

Thank you to our Hungry Hearts Community Advocate Sponsors!



ODLUM BROWN

Peter Jando, CFA
Vice President, Portfolio Manager



LEON JUDAH BLACKMORE

FOUNDATION