



The HARVESTER

A Harvest House Newsletter | Fall 2019



In the moments after receiving his PhD on stage, the first people that came to mind for Dr. Dan Crepault were his parents “because I knew how much this meant to them.” Dan said. He knew they probably never imagined their son, once a high school drop out with a drug addiction, would one day earn his PhD and positively affect so

many young men who are now facing addiction.

Dan was 17 when he arrived at Harvest House. If we’re honest, he wasn’t Dan, he was Danny. Danny was dropped off at the doors of Harvest House, by his parents who felt like they were out of options with how to deal with Danny’s addiction. Danny had just been kicked out

of another drug rehab centre and his future did not look bright at all.

“At first, I had no interest in staying for the full year,” Dan said, “but I didn’t really have anywhere else to go.” It turns out that running out of options, may have been the best thing for

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HARVEST HOUSE MINISTRIES OF OTTAWA-CARLETON MISSION STATEMENT

The Mission of Harvest House Ministries is to rehabilitate young men who are chemically dependent, to instill in them self-discipline, and to reintegrate them into society by an inner change brought about by faith in Jesus Christ.



www.harvesthouse.org



@HHM_Ottawa1979



@harvesthouseottawa



A message from Gary

THANK YOU

This year, Harvest House is celebrating its 40th anniversary of changing lives one life at a time and it is all thanks to your support! The decades have brought many changes, but Harvest House's purpose has never wavered. We remain committed to helping addicted young men attain sobriety, turn their lives around, and work towards a bright future.

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THE HARVESTER IS PUBLISHED BY:

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Ottawa, ON K1G 3N2
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HAND CRAFTED ADIRONDAK SETS FOR SALE

The Harvest House Skills Development Centre has played an integral role in the recovery process for many men. By learning usable wood working skills, these men gain confidence, purpose and tools they can use to support a sober future.

Over the years our residents have made everything from

wooden pens to the beautiful Adirondack furniture pictured above. These chairs and other handmade wood furniture products can be purchased at www.harvesthouse.org/shop. They are available in a variety of stain choices upon request and include free delivery in Eastern Ontario.

The purpose of these activities is to provide residents with professional skills that will improve their chances of employment later in life while assisting with our fundraising initiatives.

We are very proud of the products we've built and the hands that have built them!





Communities are at the heart of everything we do. So, naturally, it's where we choose to give back.



Find out how we're making a difference
communitycomesfirst.ca



THAT'S A WRAP

Thank you to everyone who supported the Redemption Run this year. The weather was fantastic and Harvest House was filled with smiling faces all day long! A big thank you to all our runners and our volunteers for helping to make the day such a great success! We also want to say a special thank you to our many sponsors; Richmond Nursery, The Taggart Parkes Foundation, The Scottish and Irish Store, KS on the Keys, Modern Living, Todd Morin at IG Wealth Management, The Karson Group, Cardy Vacuum and many others.

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'THIS IS PART OF WHAT MAKES HARVEST HOUSE SO SPECIAL.'

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him. Danny decided to give the Harvest House program a chance and while he didn't see much potential for himself as a High School dropout, the people of Harvest House saw his potential. Education has always been a crucial part of the Harvest House program and after showing a commitment to the program, Danny was encouraged to get his high school equivalency diploma (GED).

Once Danny had tapped into his educational potential, it led him down a path that was once unimaginable. He was able to obtain his GED at Harvest House and thanks to the Enriched Services Program (ESP) at Carleton University he began pursuing his undergraduate degree. In his second year, he was hired to become a mentor for incoming students and by his third year he was awarded the Millennium Excellence Award. Danny was quickly learning that the more he applied himself to life, education and his recovery, the more fulfilling life became.

In 2011, Danny graduated from Carleton University with a Bachelor of Arts in Criminology. From there he went on to get his Master in Legal studies which led him to pursue his PhD in

Criminology at the University of Ottawa.

In the spring of 2019 and after 12 years of post-secondary education Dan graduated with his PhD in Criminology.

Harvest House faithfully supported Dan throughout

helping young men get sober. It's about showing them how much potential and talent they have and giving them the support they need to turn their potential into accomplishments. It's about giving them hope for a successful life full of purpose.

He arrived at Harvest House as an addicted high school drop out with no hope for the future but with the encouragement and support of those who believed in him, he has attained the highest possible degree in his field, earning the title of Dr. Crépault PhD (Criminology).

Dan has worked hard in both his personal and professional life. He's restored his relationship with his family and was married just over 4 years ago! In February 2019, Dan was appointed as the Associate Director of Program at Harvest House. Using the experience he's gained during his time at Harvest House, Dan serves, counsels, and mentors addicted men to help them turn their lives around. Remembering how Danny was, is what makes Dan so great at helping

other addicted young men find potential and hope when there once was none.

Dan's story shows what can happen when we, as both a society and individuals, embrace second chances.



Dan at his graduation with his wife Charissa.

his studies, giving him rides to school until he could afford a car, providing him a part-time job so he could pay his tuition, and allowing him to continue living in a re-entry home. This is part of what makes Harvest House so special. It's not only about

DON'T PUT OFF THAT GARDEN PROJECT UNTIL IT'S TOO LATE!

When you have rain, then hot, then rain, then hot, keeping ahead of your garden can slip your mind. You end up with a few tired looking hanging baskets here, some dry planters there, or maybe even just plants in the ground where critters like groundhogs used as a snack. Come let us help you refresh your garden.

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Harvest House Ministries 3435 Ramsayville Road, Ottawa, ON K1G3N2 Phone: 613-521-9114 www.harvesthouse.org

BACK TO SCHOOL MEANS BACK TO VIP

As we prepare to head back to school, our VIP program will be looking to reach another 4000 students this year!

Over the past 30 years Harvest House residents have shared their story of addiction to students in the Ottawa and surrounding area. Our 'Values, Influences, Peers' (VIP) school outreach program has played a fundamental role in Harvest House's position as a leader in addiction recovery.

When our residents stand in front of students, they share their stories that cut to the core of addiction and the consequences of following the wrong path. Hearing this important message from someone living with addiction rather than a teacher, can have a profound affect.

This program reaches your son, daughter, niece, nephew, grandson or granddaughter. While their stories are raw and paint a troubling reality, they also plant some seeds to help youth avoid the path of addiction and criminality. The key messages shared are; faith, community, accountability and the importance of open and honest communication.

These key messages aren't just the pillars for recovery at Harvest House, they're the foundation for a healthier and more vibrant community. Ones we can all embrace.

If you know an educator that might be interested in our VIP program, please feel free to share this with them.

Our organization depends 100% on the generosity of individuals like you! Donate to the Harvest House VIP program so we can continue to share our story and educate youth all across our community! You can fill out the attached donation card or go to www.HarvestHouse.org and click "DONATE NOW". Be sure to mention 'VIP' in the comments!

"It is extremely valuable. It allows conversations to begin more organically and makes students realize seeking help is not a sign of weakness."

- Teacher (Feb. 2018)

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