

# OUT FOR CHANGE

ELIZABETH FRY TORONTO

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## Sharing is the new Hope

While some of us expected to hear Piper Chapman, star of the Netflix series Orange is the New Black, speak on April 20 at Roy Thomson Hall, Piper Kerman was there instead. Piper Kerman proved to be much more intellectual and reflective than the tv portrayal of her character. Her story of irresponsible behavior, regret, and imprisonment was thread together with the hope and grace emanating from the community of women surviving and bonding together in prison. Almost 2000 audience members were inspired to think about why women are imprisoned

and how imprisonment affects them and their children. Thank you Piper Kerman for opening up the conversation and talking about the important work of Elizabeth Fry!



Before taking the stage, we had a chance to mix and mingle with Piper and snap a few photos.

And before entering the theatre, patrons had the chance to visit our "Wall of Hope" to write their personal messages of hope. Now the wall is displayed in front foyer serving as inspiration for the clients who visit our office. ■



Above: "Wall of Hope"

Top Right: Piper Kerman,  
Lucille Dobbins (Elizabeth Fry volunteer)

Right: Lori Murray (Elizabeth Fry Peer),  
Piper Kerman, Shirley Michael  
(Elizabeth Fry Peer)





## SHOW

On May 8, we hosted SHOW (Securing Housing Options for Women) Symposium where over 50 Toronto-based agency staff spent the day discussing how we can work together to help the most vulnerable women in our community access housing. The day began with an Eagle Woman Singerz performance followed by an engaging personal account of one's woman journey of recklessness, loss, hope and courage. The afternoon saw six tables of working groups prioritizing and strategizing. The SHOW symposium was the first step in our collective effort to address housing for our clients. We will keep you updated on the progress of SHOW. ■

## Let's Do the Math

In 2007, the Sheldon Chumir Foundation estimated that the emergency response to homelessness costs taxpayers from \$4.5-\$6 billion annually. This figure includes the cost of emergency shelters, social services, health care and corrections. The updated figure for the annual cost of homelessness to the Canadian economy is \$7.05 billion dollars.

In the Wellesley Institute's Blueprint to End Homelessness (2007), some figures are laid out.

Monthly cost of housing while people are homeless;

- **\$1,932** for a shelter **bed**;
- **\$4,333** for provincial **jail**;
- **\$10,900** for a hospital **bed**;
- **\$701** for **rent supplement**; and
- **\$199.92** for **social housing**

Permanent housing is not only a better solution, is it also the most cost-effective. ■

## Promise in the Park



One year ago, we began a partnership with Red Dress Productions around their Promise in the Park project of building a permanent mosaic installation in Winchester Park. After a year of community art workshops and discussions, the Aboriginal story of Fisher and Skyland was chosen to depict the neighbourhood themes of "loss and found", "here and there", and "new and experienced." There will be "way finder" mosaic

birds placed through the neighbourhood leading to the representation of the story in the park. Our clients and volunteers have enjoyed a number of sessions creating the birds, of which a few will find a home in our front garden. ■

# Remember the Children

**A**t least 25,000 children each year across Canada have an incarcerated mother, becoming silent secondary victims. Children with incarcerated mothers are:

- **4 times** as likely to be **suspended from school**
- **3 times** more likely to be **chronically absent from class**
- **4 times** as likely to **fail classes**
- **36%** more likely to **drop out of school**
- are more likely to experience **residential instability and separation from siblings**
- are more likely to be **uncertain about their futures.**

In a study conducted by Voices for Children, few incarcerated mothers reported that their children had visited the prison. Reasons that were given included not wanting their children entering a prison, the visiting arrangements were not nice for children, the children lived too far away and transportation was difficult or too expensive, and the current caregiver did not believe they should visit.

There are efforts in the community to address the crisis of the children.

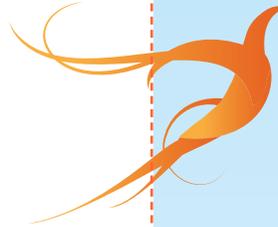
We recently completed the delivery of a National Crime Prevention Canada (NCPD)-funded parenting program. Although we worked with a range of parents and their children, the population with the greatest need was mothers who have lost custodial rights. We provided intensive support and training to help mothers either regain custody or expand their access. We are searching for funds to continue this service.

We work in partnership with **F.E.A.T for Children of Incarcerated Parents** helping to bring children to the institutions so they can visit their moms.



*(Source Alison J. Cunningham, and Linda L. Baker. "Invisible Victims: The Children of Women in Prison" In Waiting for Mommy Giving a Voice to the Hidden Victims of Imprisonment. London, Ontario: Centre for Children and Families in the Justice Systems, 2003.)* ■

## Yes! I would like to support



**Elizabeth Fry** t o r o n t o  
Hope. Strength. Justice.

### PLEASE CHOOSE ONE:

Here is my **monthly gift** to provide stable, ongoing funding:

\$15  \$25  \$35

Other \$ .....

### OR

I am renewing my support with a **one-time gift** in the amount of:

\$50  \$75  \$100

Other \$ .....

### OR

You can make a safe and secure donation on-line at **www.**

**efrytoronto.org/make-a-donation**

I authorize Elizabeth Fry Toronto to process my gift through my:

**Cheque** (attached)

**VISA**  **Mastercard**  **AMEX**

**Pre-authorized Debit**  
(Attach VOID cheque.)

Note: Available for monthly gift only.

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Name (please print)

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Card No.

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Expiry Date

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Signature

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Today's Date

I understand that monthly gifts will be processed at the beginning of each month and I may change or cancel at any time.

This gift is  **in honour of**  
or  **in memory of**

**Elizabeth Fry Toronto members support our mission, vision and values and have voting rights at our AGM.**

**I would like to renew or purchase a membership**

Individual Membership - \$10.00

Group Membership - \$50.00  
Organization Name:

(Membership fee is not eligible for an income tax receipt.)

**I would like to receive the Out for Change newsletter**

Please send by

mail or  e-mail address:

Elizabeth Fry Toronto sometimes publishes the names of donors. Please check if you wish to remain anonymous.

I would like to include Elizabeth Fry Toronto in my will. Please send me information.

Elizabeth Fry Toronto respects your privacy and protects your personal information. From time to time we trade our mailing list with other reputable and like-minded charities. This allows us to find new donors to support our work. However, if you prefer not to have your name traded, please check this box

## Dental-X Smiles Centre

**F**or our clients, priorities usually include securing housing, finding a job and reconnecting with children, not dental care. However neglected teeth can lead to dire consequences affecting one's long-term health, self-esteem, relationships and ability to secure employment.



We would like to thank Anaida Deti and her team at Dental-X Smiles Centre for providing free oral exam and teeth cleaning to Elizabeth Fry Toronto clients. When you need to budget for rent, food, transportation and medication, free oral care is a gift.

With the high cost of dental care in Canada, private hygienists' clinics like Dental-X Smile Centres are a growing trend in oral health care. Patients can expect to pay less while receiving the best oral health care.

Deti is passionate both about good oral care and helping the community. Thank you! To learn more about Dental-X Smiles Centre, visit their website <http://www.dental-xmilecentres.com> ■



### Our Mission

To support women who are, have been, or are at risk of being in conflict with the law.

### Our Vision

A society that ensures all women have the dignity and capacity to make informed choices about their lives and avoid conflict with the law.

### Our Values

We are committed to:

- **Agency** – to be instrumental in our lives and the lives of others
- **Dignity** – to ensure each person is regarded as worthy, honoured and esteemed
- **Diversity** – to respect and celebrate human difference
- **Innovation** – to create change that makes things better
- **Resilience** – to recover from and adjust to change and challenge