

You're helping build trust, one meal at a time

Your loving gifts support an entire team of compassionate people who do everything they can to serve Casey House clients.

Christene Stevens, manager of outpatient services, has a very insightful perspective on the Casey House lunch program. She appreciates how the lunch program offers a low-barrier first point of contact for new and prospective clients.

Christine goes on to explain, *"Often a person will come in for lunch and then stay to access one of our social events such as bingo or karaoke. As they connect with staff, volunteers and other clients, they begin to build trust. That's when they might start to feel comfortable asking about or hearing about other services that are available."*

Flexibility is important too. People can pick up food at the front door if they aren't able to come inside. Sometimes, people will grab a meal for their friends who can't leave the house.

"I often hear comments about how great the food is – and how they appreciate having fresh food options like fruit."

Your kind-hearted support is there behind every meal, making sure we can



Christene Stevens, manager of outpatient services

keep on offering compassionate, stigma-free care to people living with, or at risk of, HIV.

The food program is an essential part of that care. Nourishment gives the body what it needs to heal, but a meal can provide something just as important: an opportunity to build trust. People come to Casey House and reach out for care if they trust and believe that we will welcome them with dignity, respect, and compassion.

As Christene says, trust-building often starts with a simple meal. That meal can connect someone to a vital support system of health care, peer support, friendship, community – and so much more.

Your support of the Casey House food program helped us provide almost 85,000 meals over the past year – thank you!

The power of a Thanksgiving meal and your hope-filled **messages of love!**

Every lunchtime meal at Casey House is special, thanks to your steadfast support and the combined efforts of our incredible food services team and volunteers. Our Thanksgiving lunch services can feel extra-special for some clients. Many come to feel their 'lunch family' is their true family — those people who accept them just as they are.

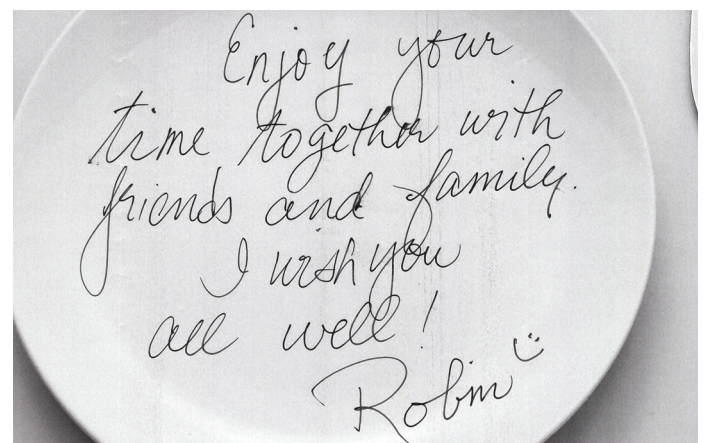
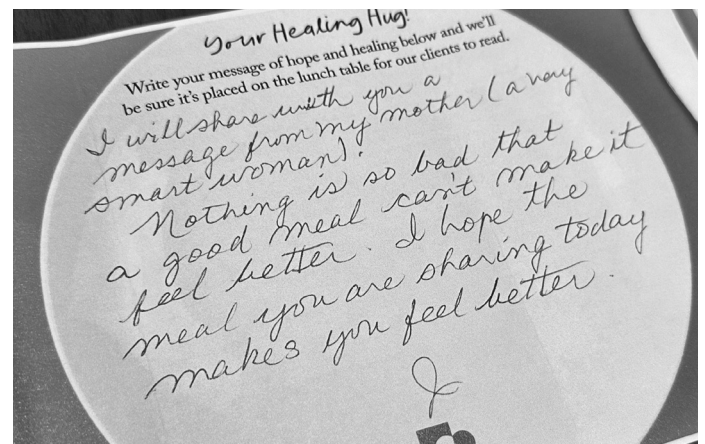
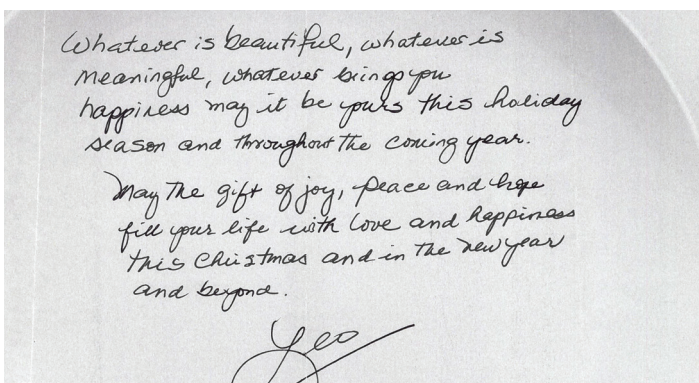
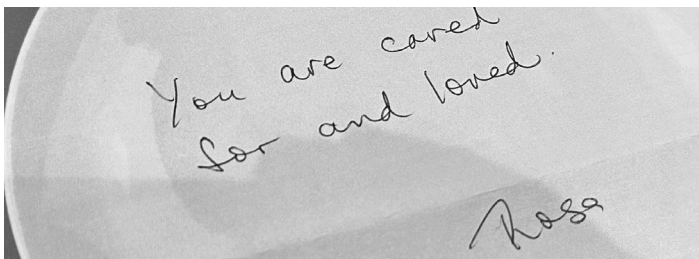
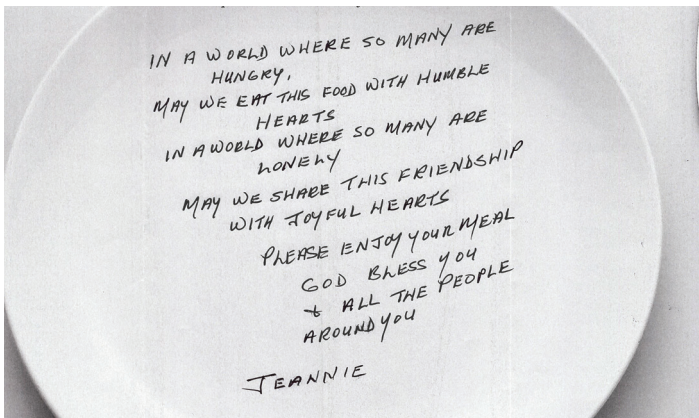
If you celebrate this holiday, it might also feel special to share a traditional plate of turkey, mashed potatoes and gravy, and 'all the fixings', with the people who are closest to you.

For the past four years, we've asked Casey House's kind and generous friends (like you!) to write a special hope-filled message on a paper placemat and send it back so we can set it out on Thanksgiving.

These messages are always received with a warm smile and grateful words. Here are a few photos from past Thanksgiving meals to warm your own heart!

We're expecting to serve even more meals than ever before this Thanksgiving. We'd absolutely appreciate any extra special gift you might be able to make today.

\$6.42 gives one warm, nourishing meal to a hungry person. Plus: your gift will go twice as far — until October 9th!



More clients are feeling seen, heard and understood— thanks to you

Thank you so much **to you and all the compassionate souls** who gave from your heart to support the Casey House peer program during our Pride matching gift appeal. Great news: the match was met (and exceeded!).

With your kindness, Casey House clients continue to be connected with a trained person who has similar lived experience.

“Clients have told me having someone who understands makes them feel less alone. Some have said, ‘You give me hope.’ Those words stay with me.” – Izi, Casey House Peer

Casey House peers play a critical role in helping clients navigate the health care and social services systems and bridge the gap between clinical care and community needs. Having someone they trust who can answer very specific questions really helps so much.

So much PRIDE – for you!

Thanks to everyone – Casey House staff, volunteers, clients and amazing donors – who came out and participated in various events during Pride month!

Our hearts are exploding with pride just **remembering all of you who were out** in full force – showing this city how incredible you are.

Together, **we raised more funds and cultivated greater awareness** about the important work you support at Casey House.





Matthew & Jay, 1989

Giving every month to remember dear friends loved and lost

The picture was taken 36 years ago and still has a special place of honour on Jay's buffet. It's a photo of Jay with his dear friend Matthew, who died in 1990.

Jay Bascom says, *"My friend was taken home to die. At that time, there was no support for him where he lived."*

Jay supports Casey House because we offer a place of support and compassionate care for people living with and at risk of HIV. He says, *"You need a place that specializes in HIV care. I give to continue that availability."*

For Jay, that support is also deeply personal: as a proud gay man who lived through the devastating early years of the HIV crisis, giving to Casey House is one way he honours the friends he lost and helps ensure people in the gay community continue to find care, dignity, and love when they need it most.

We're so grateful to Jay for being one of our loyal monthly donors! We call our monthly donors the *Heart of the House* – because they provide an essential base of support we can rely on every single month.

Jay explains, *"Monthly giving is a regular thing that I don't have to worry about. The money is paid automatically it just makes it so easy. I know the money is going to a good cause. I try to give to charities that mean something to me. None have hit quite so close to home as the work that Casey House has done and continues to do."*

Sending so much love and appreciation to you Jay, and all of our monthly supporters, who remain the steady, beating *Heart of our House*! If you'd like more information on monthly giving, please call **Diane at **416-324-5108** or visit **supportcaseyhouse.ca**.**



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