



Discovery
House

Fall 2009
newsletter



It is Time to Celebrate

It has been a tough year – for individuals, for families, for businesses. But Calgarians still rally and step-up to help others.

“Despite personal and business challenges, so many Calgarians are generous and supportive”, said Marla Ferg, Manager Community Relations at Discovery House. “When our community works together, we can weather the storm, and ensure those in need get the help they require.”

At the Purple Heart Gala 2009, Discovery House’s signature event, we will celebrate this year’s successes. With a reception-style affair, music and entertainment, Discovery House will recognize the help it has received from friends and supporters, the dedication of the staff to their work, and the courage and strength of the women and children who took the steps to break the cycle of domestic violence.

“At a time when so many people have felt the weight of financial insecurity and life struggles,

it is more important than ever to connect and celebrate”, said Ferg.

Athena Resources is one of the companies that has made the effort to keep its philanthropic commitment solid throughout the economic downturn. “I feel I have been blessed in my life”, said Pat LaBorde, from Athena Resources. “And it is my responsibility to give back to those in need.”

Athena Resources is the Purple Heart Gala’s Presenting Sponsor, showing its support to the Gala for the fourth year in a row.

“My husband and I get great pleasure from supporting DH”, said LaBorde. “Teaching for many years in high needs schools has given me a special interest in women’s and children’s issues and I am committed to empowering women to make significant changes in their lives.”

This year Athena is joined by Gold Sponsor -

Canadian Oil Sands, Silver Sponsor - Haworth, and Food Sponsors - Scott Land & Lease, and Stikeman Elliott LLP. Media sponsors are Avenue Magazine and Energy 101.5. To help Discovery House reach its fundraising goal, Mayfair Diagnostics will be matching donations received during the Gala to a maximum of \$5,000.

The funds raised during the Gala are vitally important to Discovery House and its clients. The cutting edge programs and high quality

services we provide to the women and children we serve have a high cost. Fundraising is one of the means we adopt to ensure our clients receive the help they need to be successful in making positive changes in their lives and living violence free.

Join us November 5 from 5:30 pm at Hotel Arts in Calgary for a reception-style dinner gala. Savor gourmet food. Enjoy live entertainment. Connect. Celebrate.

Would you like to Adopt-a-Family?

Some of us are already compiling our wish list for Christmas and looking forward to the festivities and its joyful atmosphere. Gifts wrapped in brightly colored paper, happy family gatherings around a bountiful dinner table, laughter and joy.

Too often we forget that Christmas can be a dreadful time for a mother that may find herself unable to satisfy her children's dream of a joyful, fun and caring celebration.

Please help make a family's dream come true by adopting a Discovery House Family. Adopt-a-Family is a program that pairs caring individuals,

organizations, or groups, with women and children in need. In past years, the outpouring of generosity and the giving spirit brought tears of joy to the families that received gifts for the holiday season.

Contact us at 403.204.6836 or communityrelations@discoveryhouse.ca to learn more about Adopt-a-Family and find out how you can help our women and children.

Think about a different kind of gift for your family and friends this year: adopt a family in their name and let us recognize them with a thank you note!

Discovery House's Christmas Wish List

If you wish to help but are on a limited budget, please consider making a gift to Discovery House's residential or child & youth program. Below is a list of NEW items needed to enhance the delivery of service to both adult and child clients.

Miscellaneous stationary for clients (i.e.: agendas and daily organizers, accordion file folders, etc.)

Miscellaneous hygiene supplies (i.e.: toothbrushes, liquid soap, hair conditioner, baby shampoo, etc.)

Microwaves Electric kettles Digital camera

Toaster ovens Camcorder

Please be aware that Discovery House is not accepting donations of second hand clothing, household items, furniture or toys. The decision has been taken in the spirit of providing our clients with the support they need without weighing on our limited space and resources.

Contact 403.204.6836 for more information.

Post-Stampede Fun at Discovery House

Stampede madness was over in the city, but Discovery House's clients and staff had the chance to continue wearing their cowboy hats and boots a little longer. Thanks to a group of volunteers from Hillside Church in Calgary, Discovery House's inner courtyard was quickly transformed on a warm July afternoon by smoking barbecues and tables loaded with delicious salads and fruit. While the children were showing off their best dance moves to the sound of a guitar played by a talented volunteer, a face-painting frenzy swept over everyone. Both grown ups and children alike ended the afternoon with a piece of colorful art on their faces!

It was a fun filled afternoon. The smiles on everyone's face were the best sign of a successful party!

Thank you to Peter, Wilma, Geoff, Melonie, Lois, and to all the other volunteers that dedicated their time and energy to create a fantastic post-Stampede barbecue at Discovery House.



Peter and Wilma Cupido

Karl Lohnes supports Discovery House

On September 17, Nu-Way Floor Fashions hosted an exclusive and intimate Gala, featuring Karl Lohnes. The "Dr. Phil of design" delighted the audience with his overview of new trends in home design and décor and his great sense of humor.

"Karl helps us realize our dream home and, as a woman, I know that for most of us our home is the biggest dream we have", said Shea Gifford, V.P. Sales and Marketing at Nu-Way Floor Fashions. "But we are not all lucky and some of us have lost that dream. That's why this event was a fundraiser for Discovery House: it is about women helping other women getting what we have."

A heartfelt thank you to Shea and Fred Gifford, the evening's hosts, and to Torlys, for their generosity and commitment to our mission.



Shea Gifford and Karl Lohnes

Casino \$\$\$

Thank you to the many volunteers that donated their time and skills to allow us to run a successful casino event on September 10 and 11. We couldn't have done it without you!

Discovery House is at the Woman's Show!

Come and visit our booth at the Fall Woman's Show on October 24 & 25 at the BMO Centre, Stampede Park. We will have some surprises for you!

THANK YOU

Athena Resources Ltd • Canadian Women's Foundation • United Way of Calgary and Area – Donor's Choice • Ian and Heather Bourne • Catholic Charities • Chemnor Industries.

for your generous donations.

A Sweet Partnership

Discovery House is proud to announce its new partnership with Choklat. Through the "Million Smiles" program, Discovery House supporters and chocolate lovers will be able to order on-line boxes of truffles, freshly made to order, knowing that 50% of the purchase price will be donated to Discovery House. Check out MillionSmiles.SoChoklat.com or call Choklat at 403.457.1419 to order your truffles. Don't forget to mention "Million Smiles"!

Choklat is the only establishment in Western Canada that produces chocolate, from the cocoa bean all the way to delicious bars and truffles. Brad Churchill, the store owner, will be hosting some special "Choklat Snobbery 101" events in 2010 to benefit Discovery House. The events will introduce a small group of guests to the intricacies and secrets of chocolate making, from choosing the best fresh beans, through to the roasting process to obtain a superior final product. Chocolate tasting is of course included. Learn how to tell the difference between different quality cocoa beans, before pairing chocolate with wine.

Tickets are \$40 per person. To book your spot and become a real "chocolate snob", call us at 403.204.6836.

Mark your calendar! Start your Christmas shopping early this year!

Discovery House is the beneficiary of the funds raised through an on-line silent auction hosted by Blu's between October 1 and 8, 2009 at www.blus.com/auction. Don't miss the chance to bid on some very unique items, like custom made jewellery, gift certificates, and even two tickets for the Purple Heart Gala! Bid generously - support Discovery House.

Throughout the month of November, you can buy skin care products that are Pure, Safe and Beneficial, and know that your gift giving will also support women and children fleeing domestic violence. 100 per cent of the proceeds from selected Arbonne products will be donated to Discovery House. Please contact Sandra Lueders at (403) 288-1549 or visit www.empoweryou.myarbonne.ca for details.

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Please help.

Anything you can give will change the lives of women and children fleeing family violence.

Name: _____ Email: _____

Address: _____ City: _____

Province: _____ Postal Code: _____ Phone: _____

Please process my gift in the amount of: \$200 \$150 \$75 Other _____

Process my gift as: Monthly Donation One Time Donation

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