



*House of Hope*  
*La Maison de l'Espérance*

## **About Us**

### **History and Mandate**

The House of Hope-La Maison de L'Espérance (House of Hope) is a non-profit agency contracted by CSC (Correctional Service Canada) to provide residential and community based program services to federally incarcerated male offenders on conditional release.

House of Hope was founded in 1974 by Yvon Leblanc, a reformed offender, who noticed a growing need for offender support during their transition back into the community. He believed that support and treatment during the reintegration process would reduce the rate of recidivism and help promote safe communities.

Since its inception, the House of Hope has served the interests of the community at large and our clients through providing appropriate services to promote successful transition from an institution to the community. The main goal of the organization is to support our clients to reintegrate into the larger community in a responsible and pro-social manner, free from criminal activity.

### **Experienced and Diverse Service Delivery**

The House of Hope is a longstanding, trusted service provider for the Correctional Service Canada, in transitioning offenders back into the community. The organization has successfully served diverse populations in both its residential site located on Gilmour for 43 years and non-residential programming in terms of the offence type, culture, risk level, age, health and mental health.

The success of the House of Hope is dependent upon evidence-based practices and a qualified staff team. All staff providing front-line service to clients are required to have a postsecondary degree or diploma in criminology, psychology, social work, correctional worker program or a

related field; and a minimum two years of related case management, knowledge of community resources, and critical risk assessment skills.

The House of Hope's programming and staff training has evolved over the years to address the changing landscape of the offender population through continuously monitoring our population and adapting to evidence-based intervention. For example, The House of Hope is currently developing programming for its clients around trauma, cognitive-behavioural mindfulness relapse prevention, and intensive social reintegration support for mental health needs.

In addition to qualified staff, the House of Hope is governed by a voluntary Board of Directors who has experience in corrections and community based services. The Board provides governance oversight and guides the financial and policy management of the House of Hope, while representing the community at large.

### **Transition and Reintegration Outcomes**

The House of Hope has had great success in transitioning offenders from the institution to the community and has been able to demonstrate its positive impact. The House of Hope has completed a review of all clients from April 01, 2004 to March 31, 2017 and found that only 1.4% were returned to a federal prison for committing a new offence.

The House of Hope is proud of this record of success and looks forward to continuing to provide for the safety of our Centretown neighbours and the successful reintegration of our clients into the community.