

COMMUNITY REPORT

Since 1898

hundreds of women

contributing thousands of hours

raising millions of dollars

to make your community a better place

On May 1st, 1898, Lady Aberdeen, the wife of the Governor General of the time, invited the young ladies of Ottawa to a garden party on the grounds of Rideau Hall. She urged them to use their time, energy and money to bring some joy into the lives of the less fortunate members of Ottawa. The May Court Club of Ottawa was born and has been contributing to the wellbeing of the Ottawa community ever since.

Today 280 women, from many walks of life, volunteer their time and enthusiasm in numerous ways to improve the lives of others. This report details the contributions that the club has received and the monies it has raised through its fundraising efforts over the past two years. It also gives an accounting of the money that has been disbursed to the community during that time.

Countless organizations of various sizes and mandates have been the recipients of May Court assistance. Since 1997, a good deal of our support has gone to The Hospice at May Court, a charitable organization which supports people and their families who are dealing with a life threatening illness. The Club is proud of its association with the Hospice to whom it provides rent-free accommodation, an annual grant of \$100,000 and devoted May Court volunteers who contribute 2500 hours of service to it each year.

More information about the May Court Club of Ottawa can be found on our website www.maycourt.org

Margie Howsam, President 2008 - 2010

Community Service Projects

In addition to the financial aid provided to many different organizations, our ongoing service projects help our community in many areas. Club members give generously of their time and enthusiasm (over 40,000 hours between July 2008 and June 2010) to the following activities: (The dates in bold are the dates that these committees were formed).

Hospice at May Court Reception Desk Committee (1999). Volunteers answer the telephone and greet visitors from 9am. to 3pm., Monday to Friday and in the evening on Wednesdays. Some administrative support is also provided.

Hospice at May Court Palliative Care Committee (1998). Volunteers who work in the Day Hospice assist in the residential wing and provide Home Support.

Citizenship Court (1974). Committee volunteers host receptions for new Canadians and their families following the official swearing-in ceremonies.

Early Literacy Program (1998). Members read to kindergarten students in the Ottawa-Carleton area on a one-to-one basis from October through May.

Emergency Food Box Program (1990). The Club allocates \$36,000 annually to meet the needs of hungry children. Each month May Court volunteers deliver nutritious, non-perishable snacks to 54 local schools for use on an emergency basis.

Knitting Committee (1907). Members create items for sale at the annual Christmas Bazaar and knit goods for children that are donated to local community groups. 2007 marked the 100th anniversary of this activity.

Bargain Box (1970). Volunteers, receive, sort, stock shelves, and sell donated gently used clothing and household articles. The store is open five and a half days each week from September to June and three days a week during summer months.

Grants Committee. Under the chairmanship of the Vice President, members of this committee review and investigate requests for funding, makes recommendations to The Board for disbursement of grants from monies raised from club activities, investment income, donations, and bequests. A listing of 2008-2010 grants is shown on pages four and five.

May Court Library (1925). The Library is located in the Civic Campus of the Ottawa Hospital and is open Monday to Thursday from 9am. to 1pm. Committee members sort books and magazine donations, stock library shelves, and distribute magazines, books, audio equipment and materials to patients on Wednesday and Thursday all year round.

Scholarship Committee (1998). Members review applications for the Centennial Scholarships (post-graduate studies in Nurse Practitioner courses in Ontario universities) and the Susan Anderson Memorial Scholarship in the Master's Program in Information Technology at the University of Ottawa. For details refer to the home page of our web site www.maycourt.org

Women's Breast Health Clinic (1998). Volunteers provide a welcoming and friendly atmosphere for patients and also give assistance to the staff.

Community Fundraising

The May Court Bargain Box at 228 Laurier Ave. West is the Club's ongoing fundraising project. Since the Bargain Box opened in 1970, sales of gently used clothing and household articles **have contributed over \$1,000,000** that has been distributed throughout our community.

Other ongoing fundraisers in the past two years have been the thrice yearly **Library Book Sales** at the Civic Campus of the Ottawa Hospital, the **Hallowe'en Bridge Luncheon**, the **Christmas Bazaar**, and the **Spring Plant Sale**.

In addition, special fundraisers are held each year. The success of these is very dependant on the generosity of our community who donate time, money, prizes and gifts in kind. The May Court Club is very grateful for this community support. For a complete listing, please refer to FUNDRAISING on our web site www.maycourt.org

The club also wishes to acknowledge the support of the media (**Ottawa Citizen, EMC, the CBC, and CTV**) in publicizing these events.

In September, 2009 the first **May Court Club of Ottawa Golf Tournament** was held with proceeds going to support the Hospice at May Court.

On May 1st, 2010 the tradition of a *May Court Ball* was revived with proceeds again going to support the Hospice at May Court.

Donors

Bequests of approximately \$100,000 have been received during the last two years from the estates of former members as well as members of the public.

Club members and their friends have also made *in memoriam* and other donations. While we do not list these donations individually, they are much appreciated. Unless otherwise designated, these monies and the bequests are added to the pool of funds that are disbursed by the club in the form of grants to the community.

Grants to our Community

Between July 2008 and June 2010, the Club disbursed over \$750,000 in direct grants and/or gifts in kind, made possible with the revenues from fundraising, donations, bequests, and our investment income. (see pages 4 and 5 of this report).

FINANCIAL AID (for period June 2008 - July 2009)

1. PALLIATIVE CARE

Hospice at May Court	<u>103,785</u>
	103,785

2. HEALTH ISSUES

Shirley E. Greenberg Women's Health Centre	25,250
St. Joe's Women's Centre	5,000
Morrison Garden's Community House	1,300
Amethyst Women's Addiction Centre	3,900
Christie Lake Kids	1,065
Youth Net	<u>2,100</u>
	39,215

3. MENTALLY & PHYSICALLY CHALLENGED

Crystal Bay Centre for Special Education	2,000
Best Buddies Canada	2,800
The Ottawa Rotary Home Foundation	10,000
Royal Ottawa Health Care Foundation	<u>5,000</u>
	19,800

4. HIGH RISK YOUTH & FAMILIES

Ottawa Children's Treatment Centre	5,000
Ottawa School of Speech & Drama	2,000
Harmony House	<u>2,000</u>
	9,000

5. EDUCATION

Centennial Scholarships	10,000
World Inter-Action Mondiale	1,500
'Angel Light' Choir John Paul II Catholic School	<u>1,830</u>
	13,350

Total Cash Donations	185,150
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"In Kind Donations" Hospice at May Court (fair market value for rent of 114 Cameron Avenue	185,750
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Total Cash and "In Kind Donations	370,900
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FINANCIAL AID (for period June 2009 - July 2010)

1. PALLIATIVE CARE

Hospice at May Court	100,000
Hospice at May Court from Golf Tournament	7,042
Hospice at May Court from May Court Ball	<u>45,000</u>
	152,042

2. HEALTH ISSUES

Alzheimer's Society of Canada	5,000
Stroke Survivor's Association	<u>3,000</u>
	8,000

3. MENTALLY & PHYSICALLY CHALLENGED

Ottawa Children's Treatment Centre	<u>5,000</u>
	5,000

4. HIGH RISK YOUTH & FAMILIES

St. Brigid's Camp	5,000
Youth Net	4,500
Ottawa School of Speech & Drama	2,000
Harmony House	<u>2,000</u>
	21,500

5. EDUCATION

Susan Anderson Scholarship	5,000
'Kids on the Block'	1,000
Carty House	<u>5,000</u>
	11,000

Total Cash Donations **197,542**

"In Kind Donations" Hospice at May Court (fair market value for rent of 114 Cameron Avenue) **185,750**

Total Cash and "In Kind Donations **383,292**