

All for just \$18 – What a deal!

Overnight adventure in Downtown Toronto - Treat yourself and a friend for just \$18!

Arrive anytime after 2:00 pm and enjoy appetizers. Dinner is served at 6:30 and is a 4 course, home cooked meal ending with pastries and ice cream. Table service is pleasant, courteous and prompt.

After dinner you can visit the library, the clothing boutique, a foot care clinic, watch a movie or play cards. There is a nurse or doctor on site for any emergency that might arise. People start settling in for a good night's sleep before 10 pm and wake up to the smell of a homemade breakfast at 6 am. Check-out is at 8 am and our guests leave with a TTC token, a bag lunch and a 'Have a great day!' from one of our staff.

And, if you meet our basic criteria your entire evening is paid for by an anonymous person on your behalf. The criteria? You are homeless, under housed, unable to afford food or socially isolated.

More things to consider:

1. Appetizers consist of day old rolls with PBJ or, on a good day, Cheeze Whiz.
2. Dinner is delicious and as nutritious as possible given the financial constraints.
3. The pastries are day-olds from a local bakery.
4. Sometimes there are some fruit or veggies before dinner.
5. 55 people sleep in the basement of a church on thin vinyl mats.
6. There are no showers and only 4 sinks and 6 toilets for everyone.

It doesn't sound like such a great deal anymore does it? But there's more.....

Many of your fellow guests will have drug or alcohol addictions and the incidence of other or concurrent mental illness among them seems higher than in the general public. Some guests will suffer from illnesses such as schizophrenia or bi-polar disorder and will find it impossible to manage their behavior in a way that we think of as 'normal'.

Please consider donating to First Interfaith Out of the Cold.

Every penny you donate goes to support our guests – we have no paid staff and we receive no government funding. For more information about donations and how to make one please contact Lynda at infointerfaith.outofthecold@gmail.com All donations over \$10. will receive a charitable donation tax receipt.

Or consider becoming a volunteer.

We need a new group of dynamic, committed volunteers to fill the spots being left vacant by long time volunteers and leaders of the program who are moving on to do other good works.

For more information about First Interfaith Out of the Cold please visit our website firstinterfaithoutofthecold.ca or contact me directly.

Thank You to all our past donors and volunteers and to all of you who are considering getting involved with this much needed, often difficult, but hugely rewarding program.

Lynda

Program Coordinator

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