

Camelot—beautiful design, excellent location, affordable price!



MennoHomes Inc.

a response to need for affordable housing

October 2004

Help MennoHomes continue to respond to the need for affordable housing

*Paved, sodded and all rented out—
MennoHomes first project provides housing for 16 families.*

The Village: From Construction to Community Building

With all units now rented, the MennoHomes board is eager to continue in its efforts to have “The Village” be “homes” not only “houses.” As we have believed from the start, that means more than attractive design, quality construction and good management. It will mean continuing to invest human energy so that The Village can truly become a village, a community where people begin to build trust and familiarity. We hope to soon place a Community Development worker to begin exploring opportunities for working alongside tenants in creating the kind of living community they want for their families.

Eastwood Land Allows for Seniors' Project

MennoHomes has been offered the opportunity to make a major contribution to affordable seniors' housing in Kitchener. On July 29, the board of Eastwood Mennonite Community Homes Inc. conferred to MennoHomes their remaining vacant land and a wish to have MennoHomes continue with their vision. With this 3/4 acre parcel as equity, MennoHomes can begin to acquire resources both from donors and government partners to meet the housing needs of a growing senior population.

“Innovative Waterloo Development mixes rental townhouses and affordable apartments”

This headline from the August 31, 2004 edition of the KW Record went on to announce that the MennoHomes partnership with Blaze Developments will provide 25 affordable units, and they will be ready for occupancy this fall, on schedule. The attractive bricked homes contain single bedroom units, seven of which will carry a rent subsidy to make them highly affordable. We encourage readers who are aware of potential tenants to call our partners at Blaze (747-1866) to discuss availability.

For more information, please contact:

Martin Buhr, Board Chair
pama@sympatico.ca
or 578-5546

Rick C. Bauman, MCC Ontario, Vice Chair
rickcb@mennonitecc.on.ca
or 745-8458

MennoHomes is grateful for the lending services provided by Mennonite Foundation of Canada. We also gratefully acknowledge the support and encouragement we receive from MCC Ontario.

MennoHomes is launching a \$500,000 campaign to help fund several new projects. \$350,000 will be used as equity for new seniors' apartments to be built next to Eastwood in Kitchener. MennoHomes also wants to buy and renovate existing houses/ duplexes to provide affordable housing for large families. This is a particularly acute area of need.

One recent donor, after selling a property, said that “out of deep appreciation for a home, I'd like to help someone else also have this experience.”

You can help through a one time gift, or a pledge for each of the next three years.

Here is my:

Gift Enclosed _____

Pledge for 2004 _____

Pledge for 2005 _____

Pledge for 2006 _____

Pledge for 2007 _____

Gift-in-Kind _____

(such as land, house, building for conversion to housing)

In the event MennoHomes has a house needing renovations and/or an addition I would like to contribute my labour in the area of:

- Excavation and Site Prep
 Concrete work Framing
 Plumbing/Electrical Drywall/Painting
 Finish carpentry Other

Name _____

Address _____

Telephone _____

Please return to:
MennoHomes
50 Kent Ave, Kitchener, ON N2G 3R1

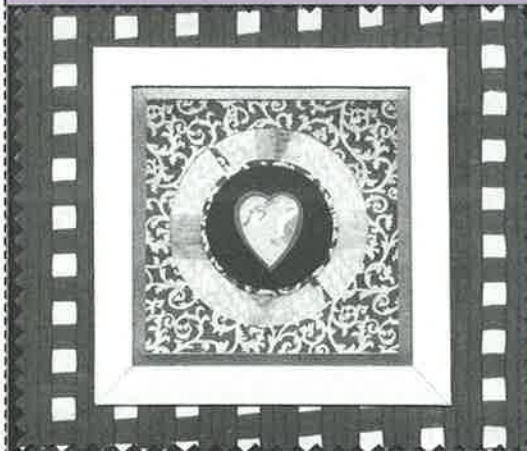
Thanks for your commitment to affordable housing!

Fifty Quilts grace beds at The Village

When Kathy Bauman asked local churches for quilts and comforters for "The Village" she had no idea she would get twice as many as she needed, and be able to send some extras to two other Kitchener agencies. Neither did she anticipate the warm welcome she and husband Ray would get when they went delivering the welcome gifts.

"This whole 'dream' has been a real blessing to me. I was blessed by the generous response of individuals and groups; I was blessed by the creativity and beauty and uniqueness of each comforter; I was blessed by the joy and thankfulness on the faces of the recipients. . . When Ray and I went from door to door, we were met with surprise and almost disbelief, and then warmly repeated

"thank you's". We were delighted to be asked in to a couple of homes but declined because we still had work to do. At another place, we were asked to wait at the door while the man went downstairs and then returned with a gift bag containing a hand made card."



Kathy Bauman, project coordinator, and MennoHomes, want to pass on their deep gratitude to all the individuals and churches who made and donated quilts for every bed at "The Village". Housewarming gifts have never been better!



Need to Know More About Affordable Housing?

Wednesday November 3

5:00 pm at Kitchener Mennonite Brethren Church (19 Ottawa St.)
As part of the MennoHomes Annual General Meeting

A Panel on the Affordability of Affordable Housing Featuring:

- Rob Horne, Director of Housing, Waterloo Region
- John Milloy, Kitchener MPP
- Eunice Valenzuela, Mennonite Coalition for Refugee Support

Saturday November 13

11:00 am at St Jacobs Mennonite Church as part of the MCC Ontario Annual Meeting

Affordable Housing as a Response to Poverty, a seminar with Board Chair Martin Buhr and MCC representatives.



Challenge your imagination

to see this open space as affordable housing for seniors next to existing seniors' housing and Rockway Seniors Centre.

