

# the archway

Recovery through hope, healing and restoration | fall 2021 newsletter

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adeara





the forward

## Second Chances. New Beginnings.

Shoulda, coulda, woulda! Haven't we all said that at some point in our lives? Having the chance for a 'do-over' is such a gift! This is why Adeara exists.

Adeara is all about second chances. Redemption occurs through the long-term process of recovery, reconciliation, and restoration. Every resident who walks through our door takes a step in that new direction. They have the opportunity to move forward from abuse into safety, abandonment into community, poverty into provision, brokenness into forgiveness, and addiction into sobriety. This journey takes courage, humility, vulnerability and strength. What many see as impossible and hopeless actually becomes a sustainable reality.

Over the last few months, we have seen the fruit of our resident's hard work. Four women have successfully moved into independent living after months, and in a few cases, years of work.

Although it's always emotional to see a resident move out, we're so encouraged when they come to that place of healing, confidence and empowerment—one that allows them to take their next step. Staying connected to the women after they leave allows us to follow them and cheer them on as they take on their new direction!

Thank you for supporting Adeara and allowing us to provide opportunities for second chances. Our prayer for every woman is that she would have the chance to live her life to its fullest.

Jesus says in John 10:10 (NIV), "The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full." The ultimate second chance!

**Lori Patrick**  
Executive Director



a spotlight on...

## The Evening of Dreams Gala

### **We May Not Be Able To Gather. But We Can Still Give.**

We have an update, and we need your support. As many of you know, Alberta has introduced new restrictions amidst the rising COVID-19 cases, and we have had to make the difficult decision to cancel our upcoming Evening of Dreams Gala.

The Evening of Dreams is our annual signature event—one that raises a significant portion of Adeara's income. This will be the second year that the Evening of Dreams will not be able to bring in the revenue we normally expect.

Though our gala is cancelled, that does not mean addiction is taking a break. In fact, the need for addiction recovery services in our community is stronger than ever. We know that we can't come together in person this year, but

we can still unite to provide women with the professional help and support they need. We would like to ask you to consider donating the amount that you might have spent on a ticket and auction items to Adeara. Your continued support during these challenging times gives us the capacity to change lives—to help free women in crisis from addiction and pain. We cannot gather, but we can still give.

If you can, please consider donating today at [give.adeara.ca](https://give.adeara.ca). If you'd like to talk with us directly about giving, you can reach Lori, our Executive Director, at [lori@adeara.ca](mailto:lori@adeara.ca). We'd love to hear from you and set up a meeting to talk about what's coming up in this new year and how you can help.

Thank you so much for your support during this difficult time.





"My life changed dramatically in so many ways. Through Him, I was able to restore a relationship with my children and with my family. Adeara didn't only save my life: it changed it fully."

tales of hope

## Jocelan's story

**Hi, my name is Jocelan, and I'm 42 years old.** I grew up with my mom, dad and my older sister in an alcoholic home. My dad was the drinker. My early life consisted of many types of abuse, some in the home and some outside of the home. I struggled in school and was diagnosed with ADHD. It was fairly new and treatment was even newer. I slipped through the cracks. I had no idea why I was so lost in school and was ashamed to admit it. I found it easier to mask my self-hatred and low self-worth by acting out, skipping class and fighting. Eventually, I was kicked out of high school and was not welcome at any public school.

My coping mechanisms extended beyond my behaviour at school. I also struggled with bulimia and anorexia and spent time in the hospital for it. I continued to search for solutions outside myself: shopping, overworking, and relationships. By the time I was 23, I was married and had three children. I was struggling—I felt so alone and unsupported, and the trauma of my childhood had followed me. I started using drugs at the age of 25, and by the time I was 26, I had lost everything because of my addiction: my marriage, my kids, my home. I went in and out of recovery, but with each relapse, I sunk further and further. I eventually ended up with criminal charges for crimes I had committed to support my habit.

I was lucky enough to have been accepted into Drug Court. Instead of serving your sentence in jail, Drug Court allows you to serve your sentence in the community through programs like detoxification, addiction and recovery programs, therapy, etc.

This is how I found myself walking through the doors of Adeara. I spent 16 months there, learning how to manage my emotions, deal with triggers, and received intense trauma therapy. Adeara is also where I found Christ. My life changed dramatically in so many ways. Through Him, I was able to restore a relationship with my children and with my family. Adeara didn't only save my life: it changed it fully. I have since graduated from Drug Court and had

the support of Adeara right to the end. I have been able to take and pass my GED. Through my GED, I received diagnoses of other conditions that affect my learning. This has made it easier for me to pursue my education at Vanguard and obtain my degree in theology, pastoral care and counseling. I have also had the wonderful opportunity to become a part of the Adeara staff team, where I can give back to Adeara and the community. I can honestly say that today life is good, and I look forward to what tomorrow brings. I know that I am never alone, and through Christ who strengthens me, I can do all things.

**Jocelan**  
**Previous Adeara Resident**



upcoming events

# A Third More Than A Fad Thrift Store Location

Just over a year ago, we opened our first thrift store location: More Than A Fad Southside. Since then, we’ve seen the need and the opportunity to grow beyond that original location, and the doors have opened. (Okay, we may have charged through some of them.) This summer, we opened our second location in Kingsway, and this fall, only a few months later, we opened our third location at Westpoint. To say the least, this has been quite the journey! We are so grateful for the distance we’ve come.

### The new location

Where is Westpoint, you ask? Our third thrift store is located on 170th Street and 100th Avenue next to the old Cheesecake Factory. It boasts bright wall-to-wall windows on three fronts, a spacious layout, and two change rooms! Currently, it is not accepting item donations, but that may change in the near future. Stay tuned.

We’ve found that each of the three stores is unique, and we love the natural, boutique feeling that Westpoint fosters. This store is special for another reason too – we’ve

introduced a new pricing and tagging system, which makes it easier for customers to read the prices on the tags and it helps our volunteers check out items more quickly. This system will be rolling out to our Kingsway and Southside locations in the new year.



### ‘Tis the season to be grateful

We have a lot to be proud of, from the lively branding created by Everyother Studio to the unique shopping experiences we’ve created at each location. But what we are MOST proud of is our team. From the beginning, our staff and volunteers have taken ownership of More Than a Fad. They’ve put in extra hours, extra effort and (most importantly) extra love to get MTAF to where it is now. Several of our volunteers have even jumped out of a plane at Adeara’s annual Leap of Faith, together raising over \$11,000 for our centre! At Adeara we have a saying: addiction thrives in isolation, and healing happens in community. Yet it’s not just women in recovery who need community—it’s all of us. It’s how we are built. And when we look at the people who have supported us through this last year, we can see how big we’ve been blessed.



### We have an urgent need

As we’ve grown, we’ve felt a consistent need across all of our stores: a need for volunteers. We have a lot more space for seniors, mothers, students, workers, and everyone else to join our team and help the wheels at More Than A Fad turn smoothly.

You might be the perfect fit if you:

- Are available once a week to once a month during the work day or weekends
- Love thrifting! (Discounts are available to volunteers.)
- Are interested in getting to know new people, want to support Adeara in a tangible way, or want to get some work experience as you apply to retail positions

If that sounds like you, grab a friend and sign up to volunteer online at [morethanafad.ca/volunteer](https://morethanafad.ca/volunteer). We need your support, and we thank you so much in advance!

Donate to Adeara today so that our mission of helping women grow forward can be realized.

### Amount

- ☐ \$25   ☐ \$50   ☐ \$100   ☐ \$250  
☐ \$500   ☐ \$1000   ☐ Other: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

### Recurrence

- ☐ Monthly   ☐ One-time

Individual gifts will be acknowledged with an official tax receipt for income purposes.  
Charity Number 899611032RR0001

### Payment Information

- ☐ Cheque   ☐ Visa   ☐ Mastercard

Name on Card \_\_\_\_\_

Card Number \_\_\_\_\_

Expiry Date \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_ Signature \_\_\_\_\_

- ☐ I hereby authorize Adeara to charge my credit card as specified above

Call us at **780-423-5516** during business hours to donate by phone or you can also donate online at [adeara.ca](https://adeara.ca)



# We need volunteers!

**More Than a Fad** thrift store has been so fortunate to receive so many donations from our generous giving community. In fact, we have been blessed with so many donations that we can't get through them all! We are in need of volunteers to help sort, price and sell items during the mornings and afternoons, Monday to Saturday. If you are available once a week or more to help out, please sign up as soon as possible at [morethanafad.ca/volunteer](https://morethanafad.ca/volunteer)

**With an act of giving, you ensure that families can grow forward**

**Thank you!**

Individual gifts will be acknowledged with an official tax receipt for income purposes. Charity Number 899611032RR0001

## Donor Information

Full Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

Province \_\_\_\_\_ Postal Code \_\_\_\_\_

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☐ Yes, sign me up for the e-Newsletter!

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