

DRY TIMES



THE NEWSLETTER OF ARID GROUP HOMES NIAGARA

SPRING 2006

FACTS AND INFO

BED NIGHTS

April - 360
May - 393
June - 379
July - 366
August - 385
September - 385

Budget: 85
Percent
Occupancy

DRY TIMES ALSO E-MAILED

Dry Times is available as an e-mailed newsletter. Stay informed with ARID's programs and progress.

Call Ken at 905-871-7041 or Leon at 905-227-1113 to have your e-mail address added to the list.

HOW IT WORKS - AN INSIDE STORY

Leon Legros is the current Administrator of ARID Group Homes Niagara. He is a self-admitted, recovering alcoholic, who sobered up through Arid in 1978.

He was the 56th resident to come in the doors of the "House" since its inception in 1976. How he got here is quite a story in itself. It's telling will have to wait...perhaps in another issue. Keith Hornibrook, who had founded and was running the Men's Detox at the time, had seen the need for a facility of this kind. As Leon puts it, "turning a drunk loose after a short stay in Detox was just giving him all his old problems back." There was no safe place for a recovering alcoholic to stay for longer periods of time. So Keith, Garnet Claridge and George Porter founded ARID House. In 1981, Leon approached Keith for a job. The existing "Housekeeper" was moving on so Leon was installed with the title

of Home Place Supervisor. With training received both on the job and at Niagara College, he follows three prior Executive Directors into the administrative position he



Leon and Keith at the Thorold House

holds today. At that time, there were three houses with a combined twenty-two beds avail-

able. They were all located in Thorold. ARID had entered into a contract with the Correctional Services to house inmates in a Half-way House capacity. This went from a

three to a ten bed occupancy arrangement.

Because of differing policies and fiduciary reasons, this is no longer the case.

Through its evolution, ARID has had different numbers of staff and houses but the mandate has remained unchanged. Presently, there are two houses; one in Fort Erie and one in Thorold. They have a six and eight resident capacity, respectively. There are two full-time and one part-time staff who answer to a Board of Directors. Although there is in-house...

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