



# OMRA

April 2023

## News

## OMRA and Race Weekend



**OMRA provides monthly rent subsidies to about 45 newly arrived refugee families each year. OMRA Shelter has entered the Tamarack Race Weekend on May 27–28 to raise funds to continue this work!  
GO TEAM OMRA, GO!!!**

There is a proverb from Burkina Faso: “If you want to go fast, go alone; if you want to go far, go together!” OMRA members like to go together. OMRA is participating in this fun fundraiser so we can continue to offer portable rental subsidies to some refugee families in Ottawa for years to come.

There are two ways to support OMRA Shelter in the Tamarack Race:

1. **Join the OMRA team and participate in a race.** Use this link to register: <https://raceroster.com/64371?aff=ZHVS3>. Follow the prompts and register for any race. You can walk, run, or stroll the 2k (most of the OMRA participants are doing the 2km together), but you can choose to run the 5k, 10k, half marathon or the marathon.

2. **Sponsor a member of the OMRA team.** Check out all our participants at [OMRA - help us raise money Race Roster — Registration, Marketing, Fundraising](#). Just click on the name of a person you’d like to sponsor and then choose the amount you want to donate.

Please share this opportunity with friends, family, colleagues and neighbours! We are very excited for OMRA Shelter to be entering our first Tamarack Race. Together we can go far!

Contact Donna at 613-720-0438 or Maria at 613-567-7389 with questions or for help with registration or donating.

## New Roommates



Three men from the Sudan recently set up house together: two brothers needed help to afford an apartment. Their CCI caseworker came to the rescue, finding another fellow from Sudan, also recently arrived. Why not share an apartment, share expenses? When asked later whether they'd worked out a system of sharing duties, the oldest replied, "Of course, we are family."

Stephen Dale, an OMRA volunteer—pictured above with two of the fellows—first met them when helping to move in furniture. Now Stephen and the older brother meet weekly at a coffee shop for coffee and English conversation. He and his brother are both in school, learning to navigate this new country.

## Annual General Meeting

Our second Annual General Meeting as a registered charity will be at the Ottawa Mennonite Church, 1830 Kilborn Ave, Ottawa, on Monday, June 26. There will be refreshments and conversation at 6:30 pm, followed by the meeting from 7:00–8:30 pm. Come out as we celebrate OMRA's 2022 accomplishments and share exciting plans for the future. This is a great opportunity to become a member, ask questions and share time with people who want to make a difference in our local community.

## OMRA Picnic

Warm weather is coming and so is the Annual OMRA Picnic! Put the date in your calendar now. Come and join us for an afternoon of friendship, delicious food, great conversation, fun and games, and a paddle on the Rideau River. We'll gather at Brantwood Park, 39 Onslow Cres in Ottawa, at 1:00 pm on Labour Day Weekend on Saturday, September 2. (The rain date is Sunday, September 3).

### Contact OMRA

<https://omraottawa.org/>

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