



Red Door

FAMILY SHELTER



BUILDING A COMMUNITY OF HOPE



"The Red Door provided that brief sanctuary that I desperately needed to get back control over my life and to begin to build a healthy future for my children. The resources that they connected us with have been invaluable. With that kind of support behind you, there's no way you can't succeed."

Former Red Door resident

BEHIND THE RED DOOR

WHO WE ARE

The Red Door has been on the front lines of delivering support services to homeless families and abused women in Toronto and the GTA since 1982. Each year we provide emergency housing and related support services to over 350 families through 161 beds at two sites in Toronto.

The Red Door Family Shelter works to address homelessness in our city by (1) providing housing at our two shelters, (2) providing support services for shelter residents, and (3) providing support to residents when they move back into the community so that the transition to their new life is both positive and permanent.

WHO WE SERVE

- Women and children fleeing domestic violence
- Families experiencing a housing crisis, such as eviction
- Refugee claimants who have no place else to turn
- 85% of families are mothers with their children or single women
- On any given night there are over 80 children and youth seeking shelter with their parents

Homelessness is a complex issue that costs Canadians up to \$6 billion every year. Emergency shelters like Red Door with supportive programs that help families transition back into the community and into stable, affordable housing are vital to reducing the cost of homelessness and to building a stronger, safer community for us all.

Working to end family homelessness is critical to the well-being of our city.

CHALLENGING THE STATUS QUO

“We provide excellent support services but within a depressing environment that undermines each person’s capacity to feel good about themselves.”

Bernnitta Hawkins, Executive Director (retired)



Children are innocent casualties of family homelessness.

The original family shelter was designed over 60 years ago, and was never meant to accommodate over 100 people a day. It was institutional, inadequate and depressing, and affected our ability to provide the restorative and positive environment that families in crisis so badly need and deserve.

- 43 families stayed at the family shelter every night, yet we had only 23 bedrooms
- Inadequate quiet space for children to do their homework
- Lack of communal space for support programs
- Front entrance was on the main street so residents’ comings and goings were easily observed
- The building was old, institutional and depressing
- Lack of natural light, peeling paint, poor air circulation and a boiler many years past its life cycle
- In short, the family shelter was dilapidated, insecure, and over capacity

“A home is security and comfort, a sense of belonging. Everyone deserves a place of refuge.”

Red Door Supporter

BUILDING A COMMUNITY OF HOPE

We have exciting plans to help transform the lives of homeless families by delivering high-quality support services in a new purpose-built family shelter that will replace our aging and inadequate facility. Our new family shelter will be a welcoming sanctuary.

- Functional and accessible
- Plenty of natural light and feels like a welcoming refuge
- Sanctuary of a lockable bedroom for each family
- Dedicated children's programming space
- Secure and safe outdoor playground
- Secure building access system and front entrance on the side street
- First purpose-built family shelter to be part of a mixed-use development in Toronto



Architectural rendering

Be the key to a bright future. We need your support! We are calling on the community to support our fundraising campaign to raise \$3 million for equipment, furnishings and resident services at the new shelter.



Your support of the Red Door is an investment in help and hope for those who need it most.

YOU ARE THE KEY!

Be the key to a bright future. Your support of the Red Door's capital campaign is an investment in our community and, most importantly, it is an investment in help and hope for those who need it most.

DONATE

To learn more about the ways that you can help visit:

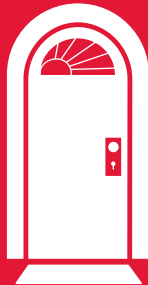
www.reddoorshelter.ca/building-hope

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