



Red Door
FAMILY SHELTER

2019 Gratitude Report

THANK YOU FOR CHANGING LIVES



YOU'RE MAKING FUTURES BRIGHT

New beginnings. Hope. An open door to a brighter future. This is what your support means to families at the Red Door.

This 2019 Gratitude Report is for you. You have touched the lives of the 361 families who have come through our doors: moms who sought sanctuary from abuse, refugees who fled desperate situations, and families who had nowhere else to turn. Each of these families now have a brighter future ahead of them thanks to you.

Read their stories, hear from other kind donors and volunteers like you who are making a difference, and review our financial summary to see how your donations are being put to good use.

Celebrate the achievements you've made possible. You are truly changing lives.

THANK YOU.



WHAT YOU HELPED ACHIEVE

SHELTER.



200 families had access to emergency shelter



147 mother-led families



30 two parent families and other configurations



23 single women

STRENGTH.



counselling and case management



on-site medical care and referrals



advocacy, legal and immigration support



connecting to community resources



supportive programming for 359 children



parenting and life skills workshops

STABILITY.



81 families moved to permanent housing



621 visits to our weekly food bank



65 families received donated furniture and moving support



161 families were helped to remain housed after leaving the shelter

YOU'RE OPENING DOORS Sanctuary for families in crisis

On any given night there are over 8,000 people in Toronto, including families who are seeking shelter.*

With your help, the Red Door provides safe, emergency shelter to families in crisis through two shelter locations:

VAW (Violence Against Women)

A secure 55 bed shelter for single women and moms with children escaping intimate partner violence.

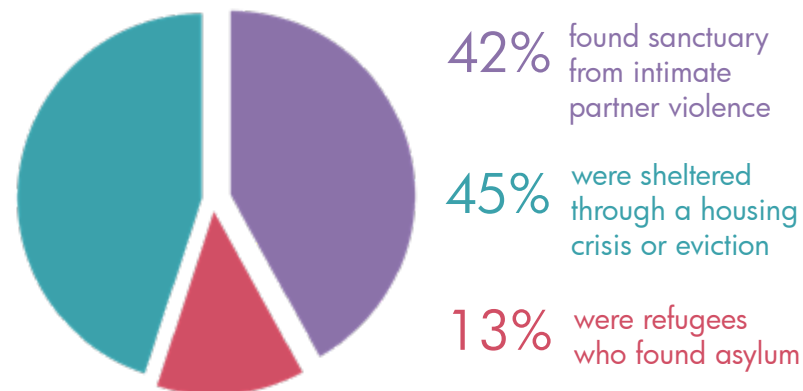
FAMILY SHELTER

A 106 bed family shelter for single moms, two parent families and single dads, many who are experiencing a housing crisis, eviction or who are refugees seeking asylum.

For every family the goal is the same: to be safe and to build a brighter future for themselves and their children.



200 families found sanctuary at the Red Door:



Christine's Story

"I am 32 years old and a mother of two. I came to the Red Door because I experienced mental and emotional abuse in my home life. I was conflicted about my decision. The most difficult challenge was explaining to my children why they were being uprooted from the only life they knew. This left me feeling extremely angry and sad at the same time.

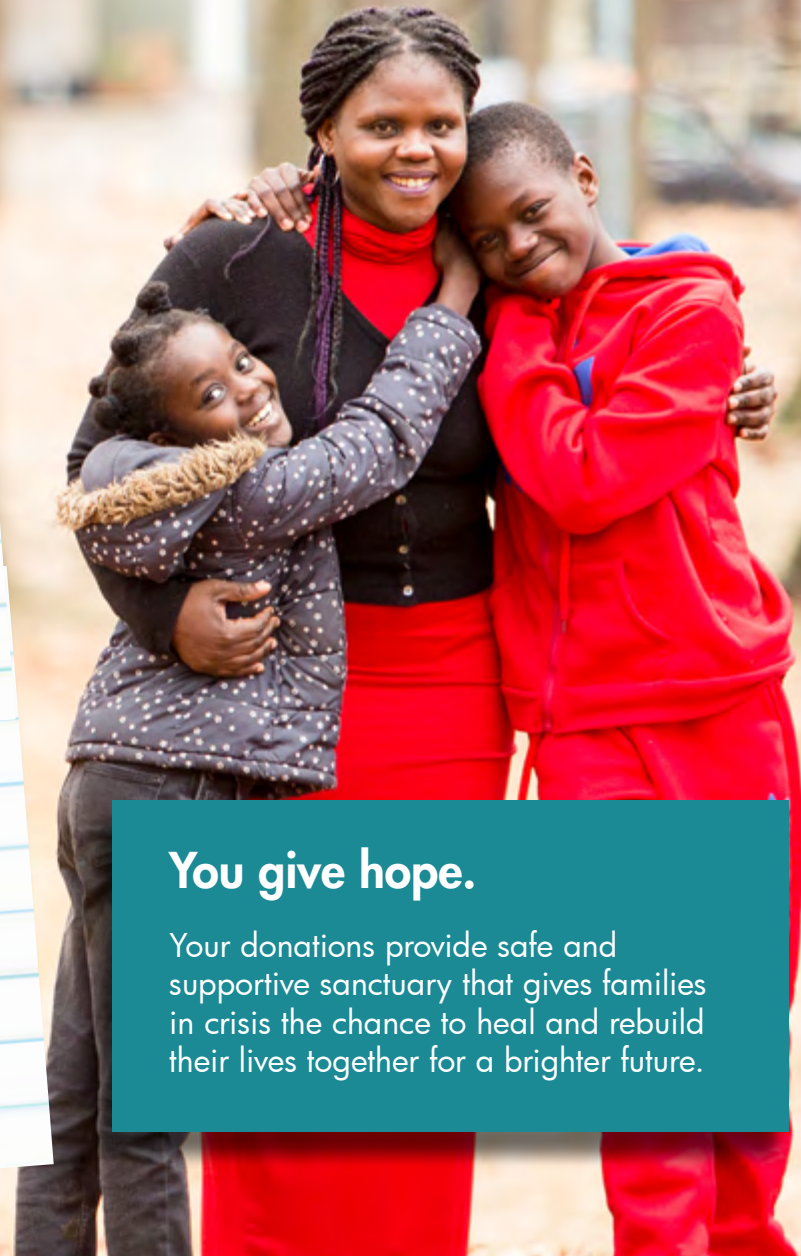
But I felt the presence of hope for my kids when we came to the Red Door. I also felt safe and relieved. I felt my deepest motivations were unlocked, and saw so many possibilities and guidance and a world now full of choices.

The Red Door brought life, love, caring, hope for my family and establishment in my career as well as a great future for my kids. I'm working hard to complete college, pursuing a career in medical reprocessing. I continue to provide positive influences for my children in all aspects of their lives, by making healthy decisions.

I would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to Red Door and all the people who are a part of this amazing organization and assisted us in our journey. We will forever be grateful to you, for your generosity, empathy and the layers of support you extended to me and my children."

You give hope.

Your donations provide safe and supportive sanctuary that gives families in crisis the chance to heal and rebuild their lives together for a brighter future.





Families Helping Families

Jennifer and Daniel are Leslieville area parents who are committed to helping families in need in their community.

“The Red Door is an amazing part of our neighbourhood and community. We’ve been longtime supporters of the Red Door because we believe in their mission and in the work they do. For our family, becoming monthly donors was a meaningful way for us to support a cause and organization that we care for and believe in.”

We’re so grateful to have many wonderful supporters like Jennifer and Daniel who are changing lives by helping homeless families build brighter futures.

YOU'RE GIVING HAPPY MEMORIES

Children's Programs



Supporting 359
children



Over 4,000 hrs
of programming

Did you know? 62% of
residents are children.

Taking care of children's emotional and psychological well-being is just as vital as the shelter we provide.


You help provide programs that support children's growth into strong, capable and resilient adults.

After School and Evening Programs

Homework help to keep up at school, recreational activities, crafts and trips.

Teen Program

Life-skills workshops for teens, recreational outings and opportunities to connect and have fun with peers.



"My children are happier. They have more confidence in themselves. When I see my children happy it makes me very happy. I live for my children."

- Aman, Father of 4

"I like program because we get to go out, have fun and learn about different things at the same time."

- Posi, Age 8

"Thank you for all the places you took us!"

- Gabriella, Age 12

"Red Door's Childcare program provides opportunities for our kids to see past their daily adversities and enjoy being a kid. Creating new experiences with families and friends are priceless moments that the kids remember for the rest of their lives."

- PG, Childcare Worker

"I was so happy to see my oldest son finally come out of his shell and smile again."

- Anne, Mother of 2

Volunteers Touch Lives ❤️

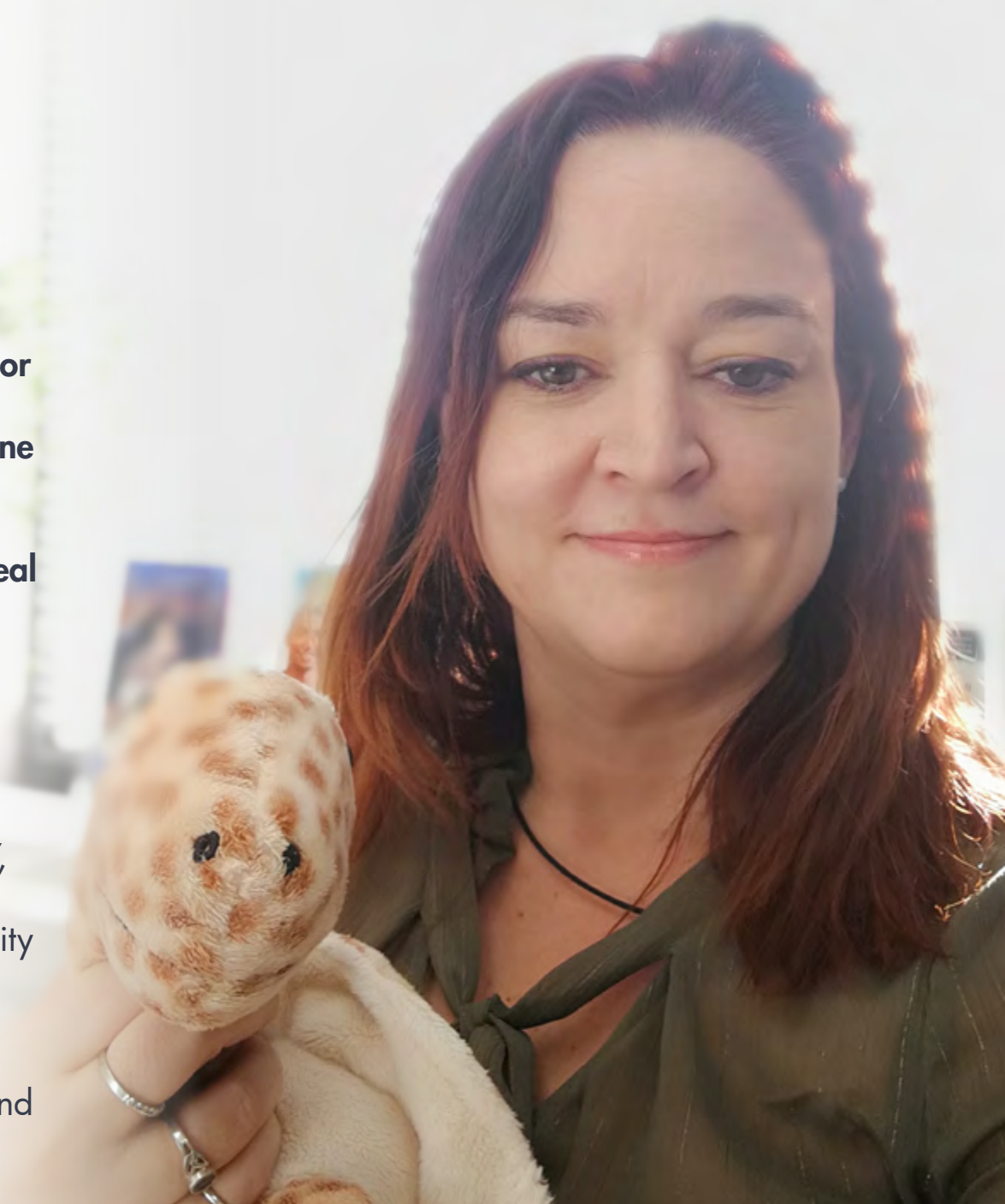
"Watching a child smile, play, learn; seeing children realize that they are safe knowing where they and their families will sleep, eat and be together, means so much. I took for granted children's laughter before I met kids at the Red Door that had real adult world fears: 'Is there enough food? Will my jacket be warm enough? Will anyone notice my boots don't fit and have holes?'"

At Red Door I get to be a small part of putting a real smile on a child's face, watch them experience safety, enjoy playing together, and be themselves.

Coming to help in the after school program every week has become my gratitude and joy."

A dedicated and passionate volunteer since 2017, Heather Benway has helped out in our weekly after school program, and participates in community events as a Red Door Ambassador.

Thank you to the many amazing volunteers who lend their time and talents to make a difference, and touch lives every day.

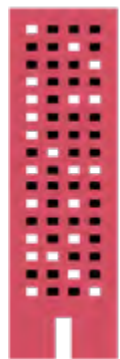


YOU'RE MOVING FAMILIES FORWARD

Transitioning to permanent housing

When families are ready to move out of the shelter, your support helps them every step of the way - from assistance to find safe & affordable housing, advocating and negotiating with landlords, securing donated furniture, appliances and items, and a moving truck & driver to help them move in.

To have that support means so much to families who have come through a period of crisis, and the savings they receive is a huge boost that can make all the difference for the family's financial stability.



58 families moved to private market rentals



23 families secured subsidized housing



240 furniture pick-ups and deliveries through our Moving Program



average savings of **\$1,800** per family through our Moving Program



Julia's Story

"Before I came to the shelter I felt unstable and afraid of the unknown. It was very challenging for me to obtain permanent housing because I was still waiting for the approval of my immigration status. It was impossible. I felt frustrated and defeated.

The Red Door was our pillars of support. They made a big difference in our lives. I felt completely supported until I finally received an approval of my permanent resident status. When my family moved to a unit in private market, the rent was unaffordable. The Red Door assisted me to apply for a housing allowance that helped me to pay our monthly rent.

When my eldest son arrived in Canada last November, it was very difficult for us (family of 4) to stay in a one-bedroom unit but moving to a bigger unit was impossible for us because of my limited income. The Red Door, through their Outreach Program, assisted me to apply for subsidized housing and our family was fortunate to be selected. Being a single mom, that was the best help for me and my family.

It was a very challenging moment for me but I feel grateful to be living out in the community and supporting my family on my own. I want my family to be happy and to be able to someday help those that are in need in our community."



YOU'RE GIVING FAMILIES STABILITY

Food Bank



"With the money I saved on groceries, and everyday items we need, I've been able to contribute to my children's RESPs for the first time. Thank you so much."

- Milana, Former resident

Once families have moved they continue to have a lifeline to the shelter thanks to your support.

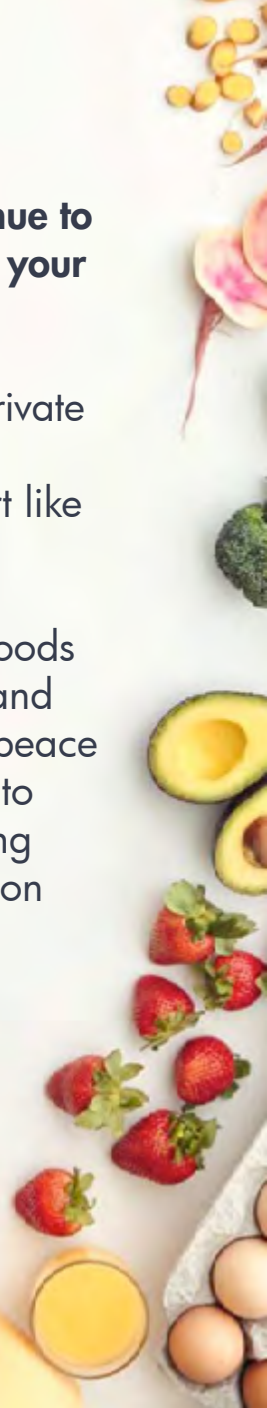
Most families who have moved into private market rentals pay over 54% of their income on rent*, which means support like our food bank can be critical.

Families receive the fresh and staple foods they need, essential household items and grocery store gift cards - giving them peace of mind knowing that they don't have to worry about choosing between keeping up with rent and putting healthy food on the table.



32,651 lbs of food distributed to help 86 families remain housed

*Including income currently received from the Canada Child Benefit.





OUR NEW SHELTER

SOON A REALITY!

Construction is nearly completed at 875 Queen St. East, the home of our new purpose-built family shelter! Families seeking shelter will soon have a safe, accessible, modern sanctuary where they can heal and rebuild their lives. The new shelter will also feature dedicated programming space, and greater privacy for families.

Thanks to the many generous donors who have donated over \$2.8M to date, we have nearly reached our \$3M goal to secure the furnishings and equipment needed to operate the shelter.

We anticipate opening the doors to our new shelter in March 2020.

To learn more or to donate visit:
reddoorshelter.ca/building-hope

OUR FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

Total Expenditures: **\$6,072,654**



83%

Shelter Operations, Staffing
& Residents' Needs

9%

Administration and Fundraising

5%

Mortgage and Amortization

3%

Professional and Consulting Fees

SHELTER OPERATIONS



Salaries and Benefits

Program staff, case workers, shelter workers, management and operations.



Occupancy

Cost to operate our two shelters, including food, supplies, and maintenance.



Residents' Needs

Daily personal needs allowance for families, TTC fares, personal items, other program costs.



Housing and Outreach

Helping families to find and maintain permanent housing, including moving support.

WHERE OUR SUPPORT COMES FROM

Total Revenue: **\$6,527,521**



47% City of Toronto

34% Ontario Ministry of Social Services

17% **Donations**

2% Pay Equity Adjustment, Interest, Misc.



YOU ARE THE KEY: CHANGING LIVES

Generous donations from people like you means that we can provide vital services that go beyond food and shelter to help women, children and families affected by homelessness and abuse to heal and build brighter futures.

Thanks to your generous support we ended this year with a surplus that will help to fund upcoming one-time expenditures associated with transitioning to our new purpose-built family shelter in spring 2020.

Find our complete list of donors at reddoorshelter.ca/our-donors



Thank you!

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