



Community In Action

Changing lives together

SPRING 2018



THANK YOU FOR MAKING 'MOM MONTH' SPECIAL

This May you did something amazing. Caring people like you came together as a community for 'Mom Month' to stand with courageous moms building a better life for their kids at the Red Door.

Your support came pouring in, from financial gifts large and small, to thoughtful donations of toiletries, gift baskets, cosmetics and other treats for moms.

Your generosity let moms at the shelter know that there are people like you in the community who want to help them succeed in their goals. Your kindness means so much.

"Just knowing that there is this help available, it's like a burden is lifted off my shoulders and I know that I can do it on my own, and I will never have to deal with the abuse again." - a single mom at the Red Door

There are many young moms with infants seeking sanctuary at the shelter, and they were so grateful to receive the baby care packages you donated to help with caring for their little ones.

We were thrilled to see many people donating Gifts to Empower for Mother's Day in place of the usual flowers and chocolates for mom, and sending thoughtful e-cards with messages of love and appreciation like this: "I have the best mom in the world, but I am biased. You gave me the greatest start to my life. All moms

YOU HELPED ANNIKA

Annika came to the Red Door 3 months pregnant with nowhere else to turn.

Once safe, she began working hard to establish a new life. She has been attending classes to start a new career as a lab technician. She is currently saving all the money she can, and is working with her housing worker to find an affordable apartment of her own.

Connected to pre-natal care, and with a pregnancy plan in place, she looks forward to welcoming her baby into the world very soon.



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should be able to do that for their kids. With our help, so many more can.”
- Red Door Donor

Together your joyful celebration of motherhood raised over \$4,000 for our support programs for homeless moms.

Over 70% of residents at the Red Door are single moms. They work tirelessly to make a better life for their children, despite the hardships they face. Thanks to your support, we are able to be there to help these moms achieve their goals and build bright futures for their families.

Thank you for celebrating ‘Mom Month’ and standing with us in support of homeless moms. **Thank you for making a difference.**



MOVING MOMS FORWARD

With your support, in May we helped 6 single moms move into new homes with their children. Your support of our Moving Program helps moms transition out of the shelter when they are ready to move by providing donated furniture and household items to help them get settled.



YOU MAKE MIRACLES HAPPEN

We recently welcomed a beautiful baby girl into the world at our shelter. Both baby and mom are safe, happy and healthy. We're so grateful. Thanks to you they have a bright future ahead.

For women living in abusive relationships, pregnancy can often trigger an escalation in abuse. Sadly, many young mothers who are pregnant or with infants need sanctuary at the Red Door. Your support helps keep moms and their children safe. Thank you.



Learn more: reddoorshelter.ca/help-moms

EAST END UNITES TO SPREAD LOVE

Leslieville was feeling the love on International Women's Day! East Love, a new signature event for Red Door, brought together our community for an inspiring evening celebrating women's strength and resilience.

Presented by Torq Ride, MOVE Fitness club, and sponsored by many local businesses, East Love was sold out within days, and raised tons of awareness and over \$12,000 for programs supporting women and families at the Red Door.

“There's a happiness movement going on in Leslieville right now, and it's happening here!” said Cheryl Torrance, one of the guest speakers who shared her personal story of resilience and courage. The speakers brought tears to the audience but also inspiration that we can overcome adversity and together make a difference.

“This was really about creating community, building on the relationships and the sense of being connected. It's an amazing testament to the community we have here.” - Julie Mitchell (Torq Ride), organizer.

We are so grateful to have such incredible community support! We look forward to seeing East Love grow even more next year!



See more events, or learn about hosting your own event at:
reddoorshelter.ca/fundraise



Experiences you make possible
with your support.

SUMMER MAGIC FOR KIDS

Summer is just around the corner! The sun is getting warmer, the days are getting longer, and kids in school just can't wait to be on summer holidays!

Right now at the Red Door, there are 90 children and teens who are looking forward to a fun-filled summer break.

“It's difficult for kids in the shelter during the summer because parents often don't have the means or the time when they are working on building their new lives”, says Carolyn Burke, Program Manager at the family shelter. “That's why it's so important that we're able to provide these experiences so kids can have fun and just be kids.”



Every summer, with your generous donations, children at the shelter are able to participate in fun activities and go on exciting day trips around the city.

We have some great plans lined up - a visit to the Ontario Science Centre, a play day at MLSE Launch pad, go-karting at Polson Pier, a Pirate Cruise on

Centre Island, and of course spending time at the beach! We know they're going to be super excited!

These are opportunities that kids in our shelter wouldn't otherwise have, and that you make possible. Thank you for giving homeless kids positive experiences and happy memories for life.

To learn more or to donate visit: reddoorshelter.ca/programs/children



RUN TO RAISE FUNDS FOR HOMELESS KIDS

You can help raise funds for summer outings and other vital programs for homeless children and teens at the Red Door by joining Team Red Door in the B&O Yorkville 5k, on September 9th.

Sign up now for exclusive, limited early bird access and save \$25 on registration, plus over \$300 in free swag including new release B&O headphones. **There are only 50 VIP registration codes available, so hurry!**

Get your VIP registration code at:
reddoorshelter.ca/yorkville-run



MEET OUR AMBASSADORS

Meet our new team of community ambassadors! Our volunteers will be out and about in the community this summer representing Red Door at local festivals, farmers' markets, and other events around the city!

If you see our booth, stop by and say hello! Chat to our friendly ambassadors, take a spin on our prize wheel and learn more about the Red Door and how you can get involved.

Visit us!

Leslieville Farmers' Market
June 24th

Sounds of Leslieville and Riverside
July 6th to July 8th

Withrow Park Farmers' Market
July 28th



MORGAN'S MAGICAL BIRTHDAY

Isn't this the sweetest? Morgan (pictured left), celebrated his 4th birthday in support of Red Door with a Red Party! To show their support, he requested that all of his party guests wear red, and instead of birthday gifts he collected toonies - raising \$100 for us! What a kind and thoughtful way to celebrate. Thank you Morgan!



For more great fundraising ideas and ways you can get involved visit: reddoorshelter.ca/fundraise

THANK YOU TO 400 VOLUNTEERS!



Last year over 400 amazing volunteers contributed their time and skills to the Red Door Family Shelter, whether it was lending a hand in our programs, sitting on our Board and committees, supporting our fundraising efforts, or being ambassadors for our organization.

The generosity and commitment of our volunteers means that we can continue making a difference for families who seek sanctuary and support at the Red Door.

Your impact reaches far and wide. Thank you from the bottom of our hearts.

Learn more about volunteering at:
reddoorshelter.ca/volunteer



PARTNERS WITH SAFE PET

We're very happy to be partnering with Link Toronto's SafePet Program, which will provide foster care for the pets of women and families seeking shelter from domestic violence. Research indicates that women are much less likely to leave their abuser if they cannot take their pets with them to safety. With this partnership, we can work together to help women and children escape abuse sooner.



DONATE

\$1 a day can change lives



VOLUNTEER

join our team to help



CONNECT

join our online community



SHARE

share your stories and feedback



Red Door
FAMILY SHELTER

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