



MOVING FAMILIES FORWARD TOGETHER

When Aria, Hamid and their family opened the door to their new apartment, they were overcome by emotion. With the help of our Moving Program - they were moving into more than housing, they were moving into a *home*.

Aria and Hamid came to Canada in January with their 4 children as refugees. Years ago Hamid had fled his home country of Eritrea for political asylum. He found refuge in Saudi Arabia for a time, but when Hamid was laid off from his job he and his family were being forced back to Eritrea, where their lives would have been in danger. Using all of their savings, they fled to Canada.

Many families arrive at our doors with nothing - whether escaping to Canada as refugees or fleeing an abusive partner in the middle of the night. But with your help, we are with them every step of the way, even after they are ready to move out of the shelter.

Our Moving Program helps families transition out of the shelter when they are ready to move by providing donated furniture and household items to help them get started, as well as a moving truck and driver.

With the lack of affordable housing in Toronto and the high cost of private market rent, the support to set up and furnish an apartment makes all the difference for families recovering from homelessness and abuse.

Most families see an average savings of over \$1,800 through the donated items they receive which not only aids them financially but helps ease their stress after living through a period of crisis.

So far this year, we have helped 18 families move into their new homes. Recently we began a partnership with Enercare and their Fresh Start Program to provide additional support for families moving out of our shelter.

"Unfortunately, many people find themselves needing to escape difficult situations and we're committed to working with organizations like Red Door to support these families to get the fresh start they need." - John Macdonald, President and CEO of Enercare Inc.

Through your donations we are able to continue providing our Moving Program for families leaving our shelter. Over 95% of families who use our outreach services including our Moving Program remain housed and settled in the community.

Learn more...

Every \$1 in support of our Moving Program means \$3 saved for a family. Learn more about our unique program and the ways that you can help.
reddoorshelter.ca/programs/moving-program

RBC CYCLING CHALLENGE RIDES FOR RED DOOR

A little bit of sweat goes a long way! Cycling enthusiasts from RBC peddled hard to raise funds for Red Door at Torq Ride indoor cycling gym on April 5th. The goal was to go beyond just getting in shape and create an opportunity for the team to have fun and support a local meaningful cause.

With the space generously donated by Torq, all proceeds came to Red Door. Together the team raised over \$3,000 through online fundraising from friends and colleagues, and secured a generous grant from the RBC Foundation for an additional \$5,000!

“The evening was a great success – it was a community initiative combined with a fitness challenge, motivating instruction, retro remix tunes and networking with colleagues. The representative from Red Door was very moved with a surprise contribution from the RBC Foundation. Participants and supporters should feel very proud,” said organizer Ryan Zimmerman of RBC Capital Markets. *“We look forward to repeating and growing this event next year.”*



34 members of Team RBC challenged each other at the 1st annual RBC Ride for Red Door

BE A RED DOOR CHAMPION

Join our community of fundraisers and create your own online page to easily collect donations from your friends, family and colleagues.

Great for workplace events, challenges and a-thons, in lieu of gifts for birthdays, and more.



Learn more: reddoorshelter.ca/champions

Interested in a cycling challenge? **Torq Ride** hosts a monthly Ride for Red Door.

Learn more on page 4

COMMUNITIES IN ACTION

More and more community groups, workplaces, neighbours and friends are coming together to make a difference for homeless families through fundraising events in support of Red Door.

Over the past few months we have participated in a diverse range of events from a kaleidoscope of global art, culture and cuisine hosted by students from George Brown College, a National Axe Throwing Championship, a spectacular gala hosted by the GTA Chapter of the Asian Real Estate Association of America, and a city-wide celebration of sweet treats with the 6th annual Macaron Day.

Special events are such a great way, not only to raise critical funds for Red Door, but also to raise awareness about family homelessness, domestic violence and the ways that people can help make positive change.

We encourage you to check out our events calendar to join in the fun, or learn more about hosting your own event!



Asian Real Estate Assoc. GTA Gala



Kaleidoscope

See our upcoming community events listing **on page 4**

A MODEL FOR TORONTO SHELTERS

Three years ago when the future of our family shelter was in jeopardy, our amazing community immediately rallied behind us in support. The incredible advocacy and momentum helped us to secure a unique public/private partnership that will see a purpose-built family shelter incorporated into the new condo development at our original location of 875 Queen St E.

This partnership is now being hailed as a model for emergency shelters in Toronto. A new city report “Engaging communities in First Step Housing and Services”

cites the new Red Door shelter development and outlines a framework to design and set up shelters - recommending smaller and more customized buildings in a range of neighbourhoods, well-connected to local support services and designed with clients and the community in mind.



We're so proud of our neighbours and community for uniting to make this historic partnership possible, and for setting a shining example of inclusivity and compassion for others in the city.



YAY FOR VOLUNTEERS

We were thrilled to celebrate some of our amazing volunteers at the Ontario Volunteer Service Award Ceremony in April. Congratulations to Barbara Haddock, Claire Hepburn, Valerie Millman, Terry O'Brien, and Stephanie Porter for your 5 year service award!

With the support and commitment of our volunteers, the Red Door Family Shelter is able to work towards our vision of ending family homelessness one family at a time. Volunteers lend a hand in our programs, sit on the Board and committees, support our fundraising efforts, and are ambassadors for our organization. Your impact reaches far and wide. Thank you from the bottom of our hearts.

YOU MADE MOTHER'S DAY MAGIC

Thank you for your incredible support for Mother's Day! Moms at our shelter were so grateful to receive baby care packages for their bundles of joy as well as many thoughtful gifts and treats, including a scrumptious Mother's Day Brunch.

Over 70% of residents at the Red Door are single mothers with children. Life is very stressful for these moms who are working hard and being strong for their kids, so it means a lot when they have the opportunity to relax and be treated to something special.

"They keep us hopeful . This is very uplifting."
- a single mother of 2 at our family shelter

We were so happy to see many Mother's Day donations coming in and Gift to Empower greeting cards being sent with messages of love and appreciation like this: *"In honour of the loving and wonderful job you do each day as a mother, we wanted to make it a little bit easier for mothers in need in our community to do the same."* - Red Door Donor.

Your joyous celebration of motherhood helped raise over \$4,000 for our programs to help homeless moms build bright futures for their children. Thank you!





A GREAT GIFT FOR KIDS

Thanks to our friends at Armstrong Fluid Technology for donating 4 brand new kids bikes! During a recent leadership meeting, their executives were tasked with building the bikes together as part of a team building exercise.

They dropped off the bikes to our administrative office, and the very next day, four kids with beaming smiles came in to pick up their new bikes. Now they are off and riding for the summer! Bikes make kids happy and free! Thank you!

UPCOMING EVENTS

B&O Yorkville Run - Sign-up Today! Registration will fill up soon!

Join Team Red Door in the crème de la crème of 5k runs with great runner swag, luxury prizes and and post-run reception with hors d'oeuvres served by white-gloved waiters! Don't miss out. Sign-up at: reddoorshelter.ca/yorkville-run



Food Dudes' Block Party IV - June 23rd

"The premier event of Toronto's summer season". Catering masters, the Food Dudes host their signature event that merges cuisine, art and music into one inspired collective that takes over the city for an unforgettable night. More info at: reddoorshelter.ca/event/upcoming



Torq Ride for Red Door - June 1st, July 6th

Every first Thursday of the month, our friends at Torq Ride indoor cycling host a Ride for Red Door with 100% of proceeds donated to our programs. The nights feature high-energy work outs, live dj's and post-workout camaraderie at Prohibition Gastrohouse! reddoorshelter.ca/event/upcoming



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



DONATE

\$1 a day can change lives



VOLUNTEER

join our team to help



CONNECT

join our online community



SHARE

share your stories and feedback



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