



Red Door

Ending family homelessness one family at a time.



Newsletter

Winter 2016

Tremendous Help for the Holidays

Thank you for making the holiday season bright for families in need.

The generous outpouring of support from caring donors like you helped create lasting memories for more than 200 families over the holiday season. Many parents were truly overwhelmed with the gifts they received and expressed their sincere thanks for the opportunity to enjoy the season with their children.

"Thank you for your wonderful donation... I appreciate it more than you will ever know." -Anella, a mother of 2

We are truly grateful for your support. The holiday season is a difficult time of the year for homeless families, especially for the children. It means so much for a single mom to know that she is not alone, or for a refugee family to know that there are caring people like you who are thinking about them and willing to help.

"It was wonderful to see the reactions of residents when they received their gifts. One family stood out to me, who were newcomers to Canada, because they were so surprised and excited. You could really see their mom's heartfelt gratitude."
- Stacy Henry, Family Shelter Receptionist

On behalf of everyone at the Red Door, thank you for helping to make a difference in the lives of families in need during the holiday season. We wish you all the very best and look forward to working together in 2016 to make brighter futures possible for families affected by homelessness and abuse.

Thank you to everyone who gave to our holiday program!

For a complete list of holiday program supporters visit our website:
reddoorshelter.ca/our-donors/holiday-2015



Toronto City Council Gives Final Approval for New Shelter!

We are excited to announce that Toronto City Council has provided the final approval for the mixed-use development at 875 Queen St. East which will house our new purpose-built shelter.

A secure future is finally in place for our family shelter!

We are so grateful to Councillor Paula Fletcher, and to Harhay Developments for the success of this development plan, which is the first of its kind in Toronto to combine community services, retail and residential condos on the same site.

This is an historic moment, but there is more to do as we continue to raise the \$3M needed for equipment, furnishings and resident services at the new shelter.

For more information about our campaign visit:
reddoorshelter.ca/building-hope

HELP FOR THE HOLIDAYS

54

families sought
refuge at the
Red Door in
December



44

single moms



88

children &
teens

YOUR SUPPORT MADE THE DIFFERENCE

54

families in our shelters

149

families newly housed in
the community



203

families helped for
the holidays



toys, winter clothing,
housewares, and gifts
for each family



12,000 lbs of food
distributed



Over \$25,000 in
gift cards donated
to families

300+

donors from the
community



\$230,508

raised for support programs

Holiday Messages

A special thank you to all of the wonderful donors who sent their holiday message for a family along with their donation in December.

We received many thoughtful and inspirational messages for the families staying with us over the holiday season:

"I just want you to know that you matter to me and many other people. Life is going to get better. Keep hoping and praying. I wish you a happy, healthy and peaceful New Year."

- Anonymous Donor



Fantastic Fundraising!

Congratulations and thank you to the many wonderful workplace teams, community groups and neighbours who hosted their own fundraising events over the holiday season and together raised over \$38,000.

From ugly sweater days at the office, to concerts and gala affairs, your fundraising events made a huge impact by raising funds and awareness of the Red Door and the programs that help families heal.

"We know how children are important, and how we care about mothers at risk, marginalized people and homeless families, but the Red Door is one of those very special organizations that are actually out on the street making a difference every day. This inspires me deeply." Jake Hiebert, supporter and event organizer.



Harwick O'Shea and Cartwright Ltd. held a company brunch and raised over \$6,000.

Host an Event

Thinking about hosting your own event at your workplace or in your community? We make it easy to raise funds by providing you with the resources you need to make your event a success.

Learn more: reddoorshelter.ca/special-events



Big Rude Jake hosted another successful Blues for Red Door fundraising concert. (Photo courtesy of SNAP Bloor West)

Access Storage - Our Moving Program Partner

Every year our Moving Program helps over 150 families to move into their new homes when they are ready to leave the shelter by providing them with start-up furniture and household items. Our truck picks up donations from many generous donors in the community throughout the year to store until families are ready to move.

This donor-funded program relies on the support of many generous donors. Since 2005, Access Storage has been a key partner of the Moving Program, by providing 20 dedicated storage units at no cost. We want to recognize their outstanding commitment to helping families get back on their feet and move forward with their lives after being homeless.

Thank you to Access Storage and all of our community partners who make the Moving Program a success.



Learn more about our Moving Program: reddoorshelter.ca/programs

What can 33 cents accomplish?

A lot actually! It can give children happy memories and positive experiences to help overcome the effects of homelessness and abuse.

A monthly gift of \$10 (just 33 cents a day) can have an important impact on a child at the Red Door. Each month, your gift can help fund a day trip for a child through our children's programs, with fun activities for kids to visit local attractions or events and share happy memories together.

At any given time **over 50% of our residents are children.** Your support makes the difference.



For more information about monthly giving or to join visit:
reddoorshelter.ca/monthly-giving



Wonderful Childhood Memories

Over the holidays, the children at our shelter attended a magical afternoon performance of Disney on Ice: Dare to Dream, where they got to meet many of their favourite characters.

Thanks so much to our donors for making opportunities like this possible! Your support helps to fund special outings that give happy memories for more than 400 homeless children each year.

Learn more: reddoorshelter.ca/programs/children

Upcoming Events

Check out some of the great upcoming events happening around town in support of Red Door:

LinkedIn Headshots for Red Door - Feb 21st

Update your professional headshot. \$10 from every session is donated to Red Door. Space is limited. To book email: info@fogelphotography.com



Macaron Day - March 20th

Macaron Day is back! Indulge in sweet treats at your favourite patisseries around the city in support of Red Door. More info: macarondayto.com



For more upcoming events visit:
reddoorshelter.ca/special-events



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