

## EQUAL ACCESS TO HEALTH SUPPORTS FOR PEOPLE EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS THROUGH BLUE DOOR'S NEW HEALTH HUB, THANKS TO GENEROUS FUNDING FROM TD BANK GROUP

With hospitals in nearly every major city, the need for a Health Hub in York Region dedicated to serving people experiencing homelessness may not be glaringly obvious.

Blue Door, an organization marking its 40th anniversary in 2022, sees daily how youth, families, and seniors experiencing homelessness are falling through the gaps.

While poor health can lead to homelessness, experiencing homelessness eats away at a person's immune system. Without enough food, with little sleep, and the overwhelming stress of trying to meet even the most basic daily needs including where to eat, shower, or go to the washroom, a person's health quickly declines.

As a result of poor health, people experiencing homelessness have a mortality rate 2-4 times higher than the general population.

Supported by



While simply trying to survive, people encounter overwhelming barriers to medical attention and improved health including missing health cards, lacking a family doctor, immense stigma and shame, or no place to go home and recover.

Through its corporate citizenship platform, the TD Ready Commitment, TD Bank Group is providing generous funding for Blue Door's new Health Hub, which is opening in the fall of 2022.

An on-site Nurse and Hospital In-Reach Worker will offer lifesaving support through the Health Hub.

By streamlining health supports to improve health and housing outcomes, in collaboration with Southlake Regional Health Centre the Hospital In-Reach Worker connects with people helping discharge people with no fixed address into housing and connecting them to the Nurse.

The Nurse provides basic care, education, and is vital in connecting people to community healthcare options and family doctors.

During the pandemic, at a time when good health and access to housing can mean the

difference between life and death, Blue Door's new Health Hub offers a beacon of hope and good health for our community's most vulnerable.

To learn more, visit [www.BlueDoor.ca](http://www.BlueDoor.ca)

40 YEARS  
BLUE  
DOOR

34-47

Average Life Expectancy  
for People Experiencing  
Homelessness  
(Compared to 77-82 years  
among the general population)

## Together in Safety

Building Connections in Firearms Safety



### September is World Alzheimer's Month

Firearms and other weapons can be found in households across the country. In most situations, their presence creates no problems for responsible gun owners and family members. However, firearms can pose a significant risk if someone in the home is living with Alzheimer's or another dementia.

Together in Safety is a public safety resource program created by the Firearms Safety Education Service of Ontario and the Chief Firearms Office of Ontario. Working with our partners, like the Alzheimer Society of Ontario, we are promoting awareness and education in firearms safety and harm prevention to all Canadians.

If you are concerned for a loved one with a dementia diagnosis, visit <https://togetherinsafety.ca/dementia-firearms/> for more information and resources.