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LETTER FROM CEO AND BOARD CHAIR

The past 2 years have been difficult for everyone, but the pandemic continues to be toughest on the community's most vulnerable.

When told to stay home to stay safe, hundreds of people in York Region did not have a place to stay.

When people needed support the most, physical distancing limited capacity and frontline services were strained as emergency housing programs experienced outbreaks.

When the days were dark and stretched into years, **you were there. You rallied.**

With your support and staff's perseverance, Blue Door rapidly launched lifesaving services, including one of the only Isolation Sites in York Region for vulnerable people with COVID-19 as well as the 200 Doors campaign.

Ignited by the urgent need for housing to "stay safe", Blue Door led the 200 Doors campaign in collaboration with eight York Region housing organizations, successfully housing more than 500 community members.

Your support also created greater long-lasting change.

With a focus on homelessness prevention, based on Construct's instant success and your dedication, **Blue Door's social enterprise marked its second anniversary by expanding into Durham Region!** An exciting second year, Construct also spearheaded the national trades program "TradeWorx" with the generous support of The Home Depot Canada Foundation.

Expansions also took place at a vacant Parks Canada house. Blue Door's Construct team turned the house into a beautiful duplex to provide decades of supportive and affordable housing for families. A year of growth, in May of 2021, Blue Door and Mosaic Interfaith Out of the Cold celebrated their merger, to provide "one-door" to housing. The benefits of working together are seen daily. With your support and the wonderful faith communities, over \$160,000 was raised during the Coldest Night of the Year event, and individuals experiencing homelessness have found stable, safe, and affordable housing for years to come.

MISSION

To support people who are at-risk of or experiencing homelessness to attain or retain affordable housing.

Growing further still to bring national attention to housing and homelessness, Blue Door's podcast relaunched as "On The Way Home" in partnership with the Canadian Alliance to End Homelessness.

Now, 40 years since first opening, the way forward is filled with hope.

Together, with your generous support and the talent of staff, Blue Door is creating and supporting new affordable housing, including purchasing properties, operating transitional housing supports at The Regional Municipality of York's new 18-unit building called Passage House, and organizing the development of York Region's first Affordable Housing Community Land Trust.

Through innovative collaborations, Blue Door is addressing health and employment as root causes and perpetuators of homelessness through the opening of a Health Hub in partnership with Southlake Regional Health Centre and further expansion of Construct into Peel Region with Humber College.

During the toughest of times, your support changed and saved lives.

Now, as the world rebuilds, your support will change communities, this country, and generations to come. Through innovation, hard work, and passion; together, we can and will end homelessness.

Thank you for being part of the solution!



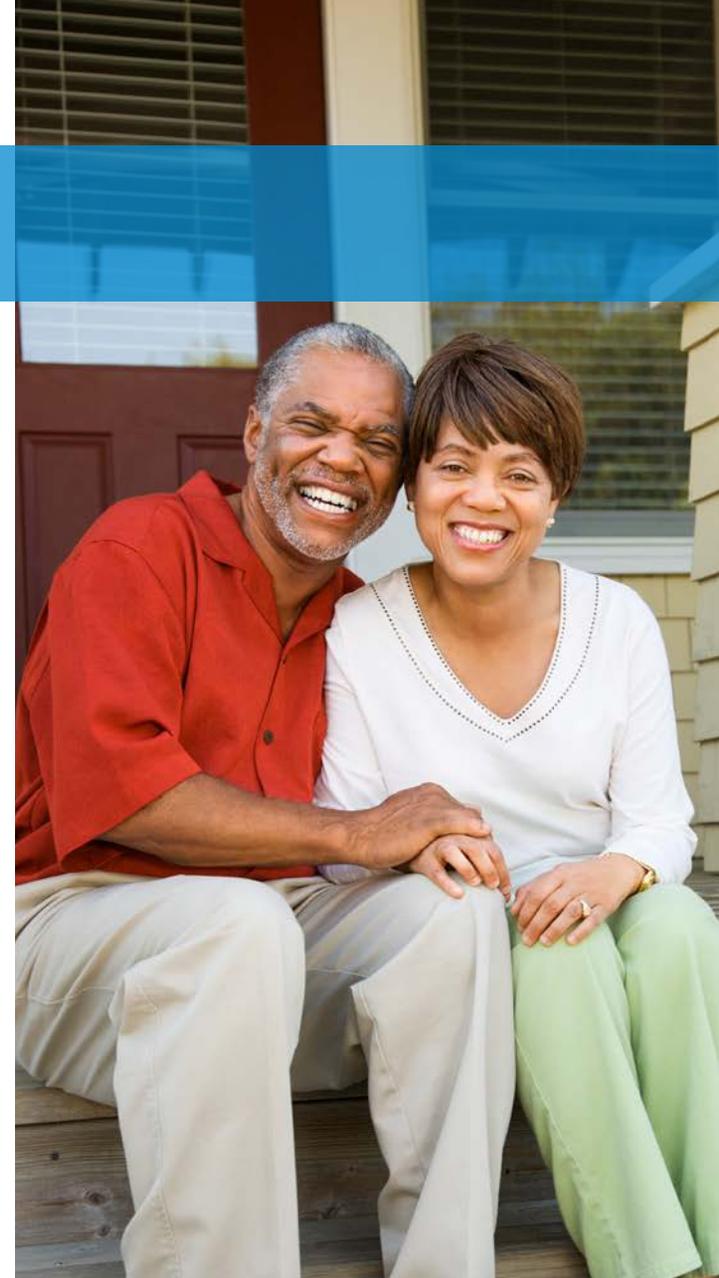
A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael Braithwaite".

Michael Braithwaite
CEO



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Marianne Marando".

Marianne Marando
Chair, Board of Directors



VISION

A Region where everyone has safe, affordable, and supportive housing.

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EMERGENCY HOUSING



More than just a bed, emergency housing programs provide extensive wraparound support including virtual mental health programming, help with housing searches, health and employment-related supports.

30 **PORTER PLACE**
for Men
30 People Nightly

Porter Place is the only year-round men's emergency housing in York Region.

15 **LEEDER PLACE**
for Families
15 Families Nightly

Leeder Place is the only emergency housing for all types of families in York Region.

12 **KEVIN'S PLACE**
for Male Youth
12 People Nightly

Kevin's Place provides a caring environment for male youth ages 16 to 26.

Continuing to Navigate COVID-19

ISOLATION SITE | In partnership with York Region and public health, Blue Door provided one of the only Isolation Sites in York Region for people experiencing homelessness with symptoms or who tested positive for COVID-19. To support the health of vulnerable people, the Isolation Site was staffed 24/7 by Blue Door client service workers, nurses, security personnel and cleaning staff.

KEVIN'S PLACE | In response to an increase in senior men accessing Porter Place, Blue Door repurposed Kevin's Place to provide emergency housing for five senior men, helping the men secure housing based on health and accessibility needs.



300+
INDIVIDUALS
SUPPORTED



19,000+
NIGHTS OF
SAFETY



64,000+
MEALS
SERVED



300+
MENTAL AND
PHYSICAL
HEALTH
REFERRALS

SEASONAL EMERGENCY HOUSING

Mosaic Interfaith Out of the Cold

A coalition of over 50 interfaith communities, Mosaic Interfaith Out of the Cold provides seasonal emergency housing for adults and youth experiencing homelessness in York Region.

Mosaic Interfaith Out of the Cold's resilience in the face of the COVID-19 pandemic has been exemplary. Operating two emergency housing sites, Richmond Hill Presbyterian Church and Ebenezer United Church in Markham, the program continues to provide vital support to vulnerable individuals seven days a week, from November to June.

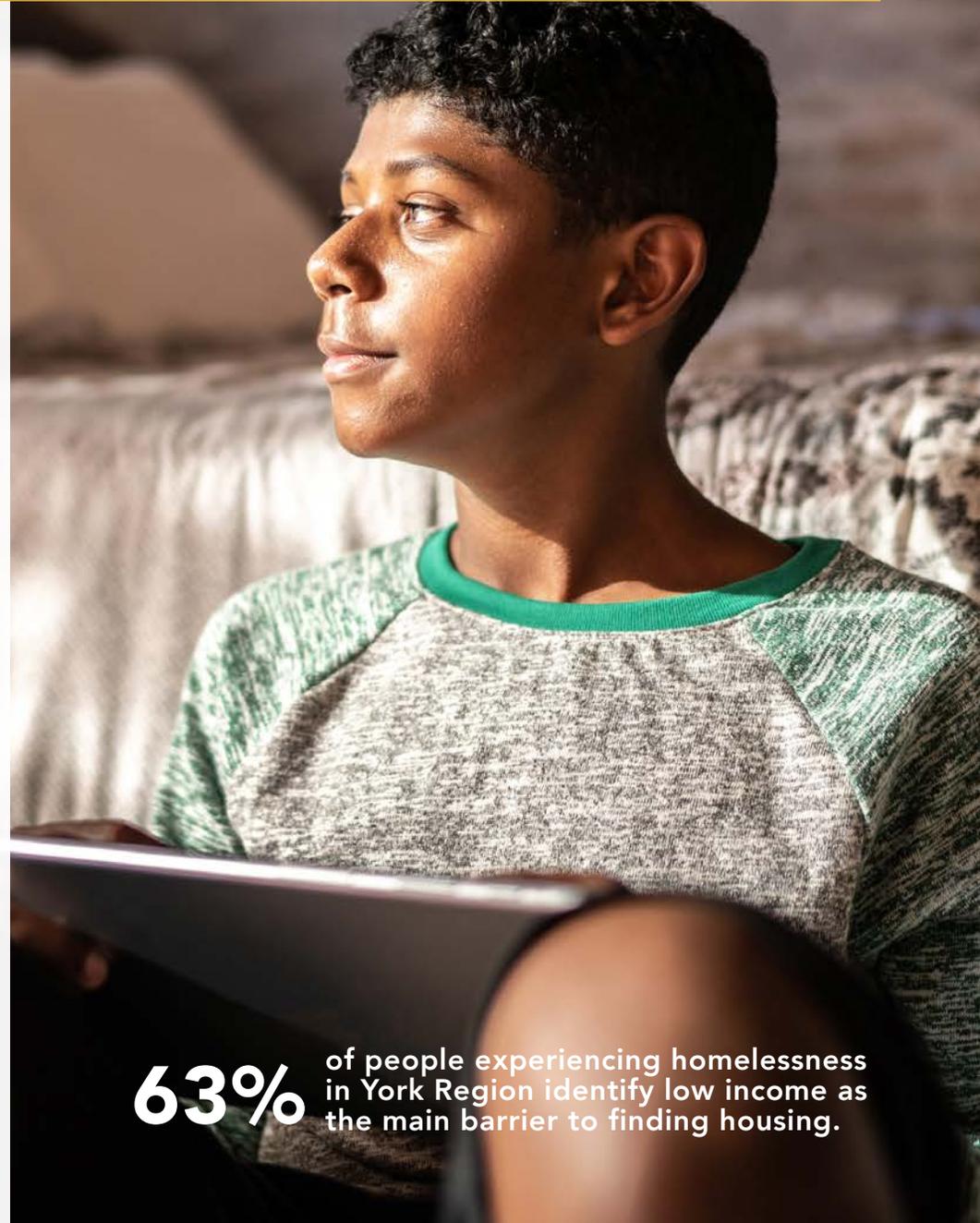
Each night, the program offers 20 emergency beds, meals, clothing, transportation assistance, and medical services. As well, thanks to the merger with Blue Door, housing support and case management are now provided on-site.



5,000+
MEALS SERVED



200+
PEOPLE FOUND
REFUGE AND
SUPPORT



63% of people experiencing homelessness in York Region identify low income as the main barrier to finding housing.

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COMMUNITY SUPPORTIVE/TRANSITIONAL HOUSING

Housing in a Community Setting

Vital in preventing people and families from re-entering homelessness, supportive housing provides vulnerable people longer-term housing and case management support to overcome barriers in finding a place to call home.



INCLUSION

1 House
4 2SLGBTQ+ Youth

The first of its kind in York Region, INCLUSION provides 2SLGBTQ+ youth with supportive housing for up to one year.



ABODE

4 Units
4 Families

Provides families with intended stays of up to one year.



FORWARD

1 House
3 Senior Men

Offers senior men supportive housing for six months to one year.



In 2021, The Northpine Foundation generously invested in the purchase of the previously rented INCLUSION house, bringing stability to the program and ensuring 2SLGBTQ+ youth will always have a safe place to call home in York Region.

4,500+
NIGHTS OF SAFETY
IN SUPPORTIVE HOUSING

Home is Where You Feel Safe and Supported

Before I arrived at Blue Door's INNclusion program, I lived with my family. We were far from a perfect family.

At home, it was toxic, highly emotional, and physically abusive.

It was filled with pain. Pain and trauma which caused my mental health to decline.

Even though I had never been on my own before, I didn't have a job, and I was shaking with fear, I left.

I came to INNclusion, a program for 2SLGBTQ+ youth - like me.

A safe place.

A safe place where I wake up every morning, and for the first time in years, I'm not afraid to leave my bedroom.

A safe place where I am not constantly afraid my mother will start yelling and threatening to take away my medication.

A safe place where mental health is talked about and my health issues are not something to be ashamed of.

At INNclusion, I am no longer an outsider.

To feel safe and supported by Blue Door and youth like me, has changed my world.

It took me less than 10 days to find employment and I am now back at university, finishing school.

- Juniper



40%

of youth facing homelessness identify as 2SLGBTQ+.

**Names, dates and photos have been changed to ensure confidentiality and respect of privacy.*

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EMPLOYMENT SOCIAL ENTERPRISE



CONSTRUCT

An employment social enterprise in its second year of operation, Construct provides a comprehensive eight-week skills training program. The program includes on-the-job work experience, and wraparound supports to **help vulnerable individuals secure long-term well-paying careers in the construction trades.**

In 2021, Construct continued to grow by increasing its cohorts and expanding into Durham Region, with further expansions planned in the coming year.



2021 ONPHA INNOVATION AWARD WINNER

Construct won the Innovation Award in recognition of the program's innovative response to homelessness.

Help prevent homelessness in your community by hiring Construct for competitively priced, high-quality commercial or residential construction services.

Learn more at ConstructGTA.ca



55+
GRADUATES



90%
OF GRADUATES
ENTERED LONG-TERM
EMPLOYMENT
OR EDUCATION



TradeWorx

Powered by The Home Depot Canada Foundation, TradeWorx is an investment in 10 successful Canadian employment social enterprises helping youth at-risk of homelessness gain skills training and secure long-term well-paying careers in the trades, and ultimately the ability to afford and retain housing.

Constructing a New Path Forward

At the age of 21, my life was in a state of chaos, and I was criminally charged and imprisoned.

When released, I quickly realized opportunities were limited with a criminal record, and my old ways were a constant temptation.

I knew something had to change.

I was determined to start my journey towards legal employment and a meaningful life, but things were not easy.

After rejections from seven employers, **I was introduced to Blue Door's Construct program.**

That's where everything changed.

At Construct, I had a supportive environment. I learned crucial life skills like accountability, punctuality, and confidence as well as technical skills and experience needed to land a career in construction.

Just two years after being at my lowest point, I am a completely different person thanks to Blue Door and Construct.

I have such pride in the person I have grown into, and how much I have developed as a trades professional.

I now have a full-time job at Stuart Olson, my own car, and am hoping to find a place for myself very soon.

- Matt



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PARTNERSHIPS AND RESEARCH

Innovation through Conversation and Collaboration



THE GOOD FOOD IMPACT | [GoodFoodImpact.org](https://www.GoodFoodImpact.org)

Established in 2021, the Good Food Impact alleviates food insecurity in Stouffville by providing access to healthy, nutritious meals in convenient, pre-frozen, ready-to-eat packages. Blue Door is proud to support local non-profits through intermediary partnerships.



200 DOORS | [200Doors.ca](https://www.200Doors.ca)

In partnership with eight York Region agencies, Blue Door led the 200 Doors campaign, which rapidly rehoused and provided housing retention for families, youths, and adults during the pandemic.



PODCAST | [OnTheWayHome.ca](https://www.OnTheWayHome.ca)

In partnership with the Canadian Alliance to End Homelessness, Blue Door's podcast relaunched and expanded nationally as On The Way Home. The podcast features fascinating guests from industry experts to advocates striving to end homelessness.



FUTURE OF MEN'S SUPPORTIVE HOUSING

Blue Door partnered with the Canadian Observatory on Homelessness to research and develop a new supportive housing program for men experiencing episodic and chronic homelessness.



2SLGBTQ+ YOUTH HOMELESSNESS

To learn more and to better serve youth, Blue Door is evaluating INNclusion with the help of expert Dr. Abramovich from the Centre for Addiction and Mental Health.

HOUSING AND HEALTH SUPPORTS

Housing Supports

HOUSING RETENTION

Housing Retention helps individuals leaving emergency housing achieve longer-term housing stability by providing follow-up support.

HOUSING TO HEALTH

A Housing First program providing people experiencing chronic and episodic homelessness with wraparound support to increase the likelihood of long-term housing retention. Housing to Health is a proud partnership between Blue Door, The Krasman Centre, and LOFT Crosslinks Housing and Support Services.



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**HOUSING TO HEALTH
WRAPAROUND
SESSIONS**

Health Supports

HOME TEAM

A pilot project, Home Team offered sports and recreation support to youth, adults, and families staying at Blue Door's emergency housing programs. Vital during the pandemic, the project reduced social isolation and improved wellness.

HOSPITAL IN-REACH

Launched as a pilot project in collaboration with Southlake Regional Health Centre, the Hospital In-Reach Worker facilitates hospital discharge into appropriate housing for individuals with no fixed address.



150+

**PARTICIPANTS
IN HOME TEAM**



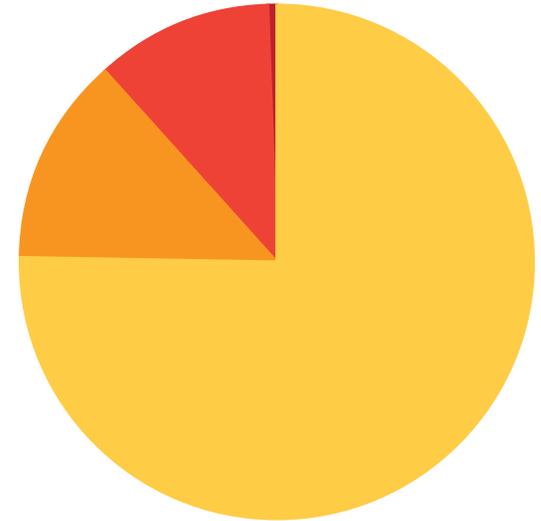
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FINANCIALS



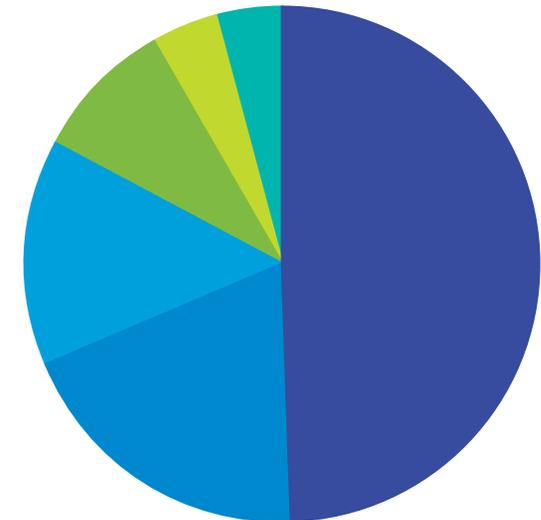
Revenues

Government	75%
United Way Greater Toronto	13%
Donations, Grants & Other Funding	11%
Construct's Services	0.5%



Expenses

Emergency Housing	49%
Support Programs	19%
Construct	14%
Supportive Housing	9%
Housing to Health	4%
Fundraising & Admin	4%



THANK YOU

Thank you to the following generous leadership donors and grant funders for their significant financial or in-kind contribution of \$1,000 or more in 2021.

- 105.9 The Region
- Air Whistle Media
- Allan & Shirley Holditch
- Aubrey & Marla Dan Foundation
- Bargains Group
- Bazil Developments Inc.
- Beauregard Elkin
- Bell Let's Talk
- Beth Lawrence
- Bingo World & Gaming Newmarket
- Cambria Design Build Ltd.
- Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation
- Canada Post Community Foundation
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- Desjardins Insurance - Aurora
- Donner Canadian Foundation
- Dreher Family
- Ebenezer United Church
- Elementary Teachers' Federation of Ontario
- EllisDon Community Builders
- Employment and Social Development Canada - Reaching Home Strategy
- Enbridge
- Evan Mintz
- Everett & Beverly Frenette
- Famglas Foundation
- Felicia Salomon
- Government of Canada
- Government of Canada - Canada Summer Jobs
- Government of Canada - Youth Employment and Skills Strategy
- Government of Canada's Emergency Community Support Fund
- Government of Canada's Future Skills Centre
- Government of Canada's Reaching Home Strategy
- Government of Ontario
- Governor General's Canadian Leadership Conference
- Green Shield Canada Employees
- Harper and Griffin Vincent
- Harvey Kalles Real Estate Charitable Fund
- Hazel Ma
- Healthcare Excellence Canada
- Hockey Helps the Homeless
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- LoyaltyOne
- Lyn May
- M.N.R. Distributors Inc.
- Magna International Inc.
- Martin Dunstan
- MAZON
- McConnell Foundation
- McLean Foundation
- Mr. & Mrs. Miller
- Mr. and Mrs. Van Noort
- Ms. Quinnie Kwok
- National Housing Strategy under the NHS Solutions Labs
- Northern Karate Schools
- O'Malley's Catering
- Ontario Chamber of Commerce
- Ontario REALTORS Care® Foundation
- Ontario Trillium Foundation
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- Provident Energy Management Inc.
- Rachel Stevens
- RBC Foundation
- RC Design
- Rebecca Shore
- Resource Thrift Shop - Bradford
- Richmond Hill Presbyterian Church
- Richmond Hill United Church
- Rick & Linda Dennis
- Robert & Marianne Bahlieda
- S. & F. De Melis Construction Ltd.
- Salaam Foundation
- Schomberg United Church
- Second Harvest
- Sherrill and John Rogers
- ShiftLink
- SHS Consulting
- St. Elizabeth Seton Parish
- St. John Chrysostom Parish
- Staff Relief Healthcare Services
- TD Bank Group
- TELUS Friendly Future Foundation
- Tessier Design Corp.
- The Country Toy Tea
- The Davis Residences
- The Dunin Foundation
- The Food Bank of York Region
- The Home Depot Canada Foundation
- The Northpine Foundation
- The Regional Municipality of York
- The Renoir Residents' Council
- The Rose Corporation
- The Tenaquip Foundation
- The Willowool Foundation
- Tony Dableh
- Toronto Foundation
- Toronto Regional Real Estate Board
- Town of East Gwillimbury
- Truckstop.com Canada Ltd.
- Unilock Ltd.
- United Way of Greater Toronto
- United Way of Greater Toronto's Toronto Enterprise Fund
- Vaughan Community Church
- Walterhouse Realty Group
- Wasim Jarrah
- Whole Foods Market, Leaside
- Wyse Meter Solutions
- York Region Food Network
- Yvonne Hoogveen



THANK YOU

Coldest Night of the Year

On February 26th, 2021, over 600 community members braved the cold to help raise funds for people experiencing homelessness. Amid unprecedented barriers and limitations due to the global pandemic, **more than 600 walkers forming 100 teams came together to raise over \$160,000** – doubling the initial goal of \$80,000.

This event served as a reminder that community support is crucial in providing lifesaving services and supports. When community members do not have a safe place to stay in the winter, every night, is the coldest night of the year.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Marianne Marando (Board Chair), Martin Dunstan (Board Vice-Chair), Al Jones (Treasurer), Alana Kanapka (Secretary), Jack Harding, Caroline Hunter, Quinnie Kwok, Denise Le Bel, Anika Mifsud, Julie Ralph, Ankita Rao, David Rawcliffe, Nathan Tran Trinh, Jai Sahak

VOLUNTEERS

Volunteers dedicate their time and passion to lifting people out of poverty and homelessness. Thank you for persevering through this challenging year alongside us.

THANK YOU TO BLUE DOOR'S DEDICATED STAFF TEAM!



80% of homelessness in Canada is hidden.

PILOTING INCOME ASSISTANCE FOR YOUTH

In partnership with A Way Home Canada, the Canadian Observatory on Homelessness, and United Way of Greater Toronto, Blue Door is piloting a basic income program that provides monthly income and wraparound supports for youth experiencing or at risk of homelessness in York Region.

HEALTH HUB

Recognizing that good health is vital to maintaining housing, Blue Door, with generous funding from TD Bank Group, is launching a Health Hub in 2022. The Health Hub will include a Hospital In-Reach Worker and an on-site nurse.

PASSAGE HOUSE

Blue Door will manage and provide support to people accessing York Region's new 18-unit transitional housing site called Passage House opening in the summer of 2022.

YORK REGION COMMUNITY LAND TRUST

With the generous support of the Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation, Blue Door is partnering with SHS Consulting, Community Affordable Housing Solutions, and Robins Appleby LLP to keep housing affordable for generations to come by establishing the first community land trust in York Region.

DWELL

The result of a two-year research and community consultation project in collaboration with SHS Consulting and Habitat for Humanity GTA, Dwell provides an innovative program model that reimagines the journey from homelessness to homeownership. Thanks to generous funding from the Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation, the Dwell model is ready for implementation!



Since 1982 Blue Door has provided lifesaving supports to adults, children, and families who are at risk of or facing homelessness in York Region. We know we are just at the beginning, there is so much we can achieve together.

We are determined to reach the day when homelessness in York Region no longer exists. A day when everyone has access to safe, affordable housing.

With your support, that day will come.

40 YEARS BLUE DOOR

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