



**YOUTH
WITHOUT
SHELTER**

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Etobicoke, ON M9V 1P9

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IN TRANSITION

SPECIAL EDITION: WHEN NO ONE IS EXPECTING THEM HOME... WE ARE

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PROVIDE SAFE HAVEN



HAVING A STABLE PLACE TO LIVE CAN CREATE ENDLESS POSSIBILITIES

"I came to Youth Without Shelter (YWS) because I had nowhere else to go. I had dropped out of school due to life stresses, depression and inability to manage. I had been in an altercation with my step-father, he had assaulted me. Living at my mothers' house was no longer a safe option. My mother also didn't want me there. You might wonder what did I do wrong? Was I a bad kid? The answer is no. I never got in trouble with law enforcement. I tried my best to achieve in school and beyond. I was a kind, humble, compassionate teen.

My dads' place was the only option. He was emotionally and physically abusive towards me. He blamed me for all his issues in life. Not a nourishing, healthy environment to live. At this point I had lived 14 different places in my life. I had an emotional breakdown, wasn't sleeping or eating properly. I was put on medication to help with anxiety. Survival was the only thing on my mind. A social worker from my high school recommended YWS. I was skeptical. I said to myself I'll stay a week and if I'm not comfortable I will find a place to live on my own.

I was 18 when I came to YWS, it is a large part of my youth that shaped my life in a positive light by allowing me to make the right choices. I met amazing youth that shared similar stories as mine. I met staff that showed compassion and were great advisors. I'm not sure when it happened but the struggle was less difficult. Having a stable place to live can create endless possibilities of a bright future. We supported each other.



*Sharing goals and journey
YWS Annual General Meeting, September 2018*

At YWS I was able to graduate high school at a university level. I had a part-time job and saved up money for tuition. Getting an education was strongly advised by all staff. I was motivated and went onto college to study business. Heavy depression set in. Life took a spiral, I moved out of the shelter, worked two jobs, went to school part-time. I will forever be grateful for YWS. Last year my hard work paid off and I was accepted in a postsecondary paramedic program. It was the hardest thing one can do. I graduated in May and was hired by the Toronto Paramedic Service. For my hiring graduation I invited Yesica and Michele, two Stay in School Program staff members.

I save lives now. I contribute to society and feel very rewarded every day. I help someone in a critical situation whether a motor vehicle accident, a drug overdose or a homeless person that needs my help. I have more goals to accomplish, if it wasn't for YWS none of this would be possible."

*C. past YWS resident as shared at
YWS Annual General Meeting, September 2018*



WHEN NO ONE IS EXPECTING THEM HOME... WE ARE

www.welcomehomeYWS.ca

#WelcomeHomeYWS

Welcome Home! YWS

CELEBRATE THE JOY OF GIVING. DONATE TODAY!

HOLIDAY WISHES FOR OUR YOUTH

Gift Cards

*eg. Tim Hortons, Walmart, Shoppers Drug Mart,
Subway, McDonalds, Rexall Drugs, Dollarama*

Clothing (All Genders, All Sizes: XS - XXXL)

T-shirts, Sweatshirts, Sweatpants

Winter Jackets

Bath Sets (Male)

Male Pajamas (S - XXXL)

Body Spray, Perfume and Cologne

Skin Lotion (Travel and Large Size)

Body Wash (Travel and Large Size)

Shampoo (Travel and Large Size)

Conditioner (Travel and Large Size)

Movie Passes

Make-up

Agendas and Journals

Costume Jewelry

Reusable Water Bottles

Black Hair Care Products

ONGOING WISHES FOR OUR YOUTH

Underwear (Male: S - L)

Winter Boots (Male: 8 - 13 Female: All Sizes)

Towels (Bath Size)

Sheet Sets (Twin Size)

Warm Blankets (Twin Size)

Tissue (Travel and Boxes)

Toothpaste (Travel and Large Size)

Tooth Brushes

Lip Balm

Female Leggings and Athletic Pants (All Sizes)

Long distance phone cards (\$5)

Please Note: Kindly do not wrap gifts in gift wrap. If you wish, please place the gift in a gift bag instead.

At this time we are only accepting **NEW** items. Due to limited storage space we are not currently accepting donations of gently used clothing.

Thank you for your understanding.

— DONATE TODAY AT WWW.YWS.ON.CA —



IT IS TIME FOR CHANGE ON FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 2019

YOU GOT IT...TOKENS4CHANGE HAS A NEW NAME, TIME4CHANGE

What is Time4Change?: a year round program run by Youth Without Shelter (YWS) and its partners that educates Toronto students about youth homelessness and art activism. Time4Change culminates in T4C Day presented by **Tangerine**

T4C Day on Friday, February 1, 2019 is an all-day youth-helping-youth

initiative that sees more than 600 students and volunteers present in Toronto transit stations and other high traffic urban areas city wide to inspire the public with original theatre, spoken word, dance, visual art and song performances that share the staggering realities of youth homelessness.

Donations are collected in person and digitally to support transportation costs and essential programming at Youth Without Shelter (YWS). One youth at a time, one step at a time, one donation at a time volunteer for T4C with your school, company or community.

VISIT TIME4CHANGENOW.COM TO GET INVOLVED



YES!

I/we would like to provide a safe haven for a youth at Youth Without Shelter



- \$25 Provides one youth with one night of shelter at Youth Without Shelter
- \$117 One monthly transit pass for a youth at YWS to strive for educational goals
- \$127 Milk with each meal for one week for 53 youth at YWS
- \$350 Fresh fruit for one month for 53 youth residing at YWS
- I would like to Adopt-A-Bed by contributing this monthly amount
- I would prefer to contribute this amount

Name: _____ Credit Card Number: _____

Phone Number: _____ Expiry Date: _____ CVC# _____

Email Address: _____ Signature: _____

Address: _____

Please return form with cheque (*payable to Youth Without Shelter*) or credit card information to:
Youth Without Shelter, 6 Warrendale Court, Etobicoke, ON M9V 1P9

OR DONATE ONLINE yws.on.ca

YWS respects your privacy and adheres to all legislative requirements with respect to privacy. We protect your personal information and do not rent, sell or trade our mailing lists. From time to time YWS will send you updates on our solutions to homelessness and other opportunities for your involvement. If at any time you would like to be removed from our list, please call 416.748.0110 ext. 26 or email: communications@yws.on.ca. Thank you for ending homelessness, one youth at a time, one step at a time.