



Photo Courtesy of Trellis



2023

Year in Review



Photo Courtesy of the Foundation team

Because of you, we're making a difference!

Each Year, The Home Depot Canada Foundation looks forward to sharing our results and celebrating everything we have accomplished with the support of our Customers, Associates and Vendor community. During our most recent Annual General Meeting, I had the honour of being appointed Chair of the Board of Directors of The Home Depot Canada Foundation, a role I am deeply passionate about. The work the Foundation does nationally to help support the communities we serve is incredibly meaningful because all youth deserve a chance.

In 2023, we were able to support 186 youth serving organizations with over \$10 million bringing us to \$70 million of our goal of \$125 million by 2030. We're able to accomplish this with the support of The Home Depot Canada, vendor fundraising and campaigns like The Orange Door Project Campaign. In 2023 we supported 60,000 positive interactions with youth experiencing or at risk of experiencing homelessness, by expanding their access to housing (short and long term), increasing their access to wrap around supports and investing in youth employment opportunities.

This report gives us the opportunity to showcase and celebrate the work currently being done and the work that is yet to come. The impact these dollars have made in the communities we've invested in is meaningful and necessary.

In 2024 and the years to come, we remain committed to this cause. It is important that we continue to drive awareness and educate Canadians on the issue youth face so that together we can slow down the cycle of chronic homelessness.

With your support we can continue to help make a difference.

The Home Depot Canada Foundation thanks you for your support towards our commitment to prevent and end youth homelessness. Together we can change the future of underserved youth.



Doug Graham

Chair, The Home Depot Canada Foundation
Vice president, Marketing and eCommerce,
The Home Depot Canada



2023 Highlights



Made progress on our pledge to invest \$125 million by 2030, achieving **57%** of the target by the end of 2023.



2

New Partners

Brought on 1 new TradeWorx™ partner and 1 new Strategic Partner

\$10.4M

Total Investment in 2023

\$70+million against \$125 million pledge by 2030

358

Grants

186

Organizations

60K+

Interactions

Approved 358 grants to 186 organizations supporting 60,000+ interactions with at-risk youth and youth experiencing homelessness.



Photo Courtesy of Harvest House Atlantic Inc.

Our commitment in numbers & achievements

The Home Depot Canada Foundation proudly supported **186** organizations in 2023.

Funding was granted through our Strategic Partnerships, TradeWorx™, Orange Door Project Campaign, Youth Opportunity Grants and Community Development Grants.

2023 investments across Canada include:

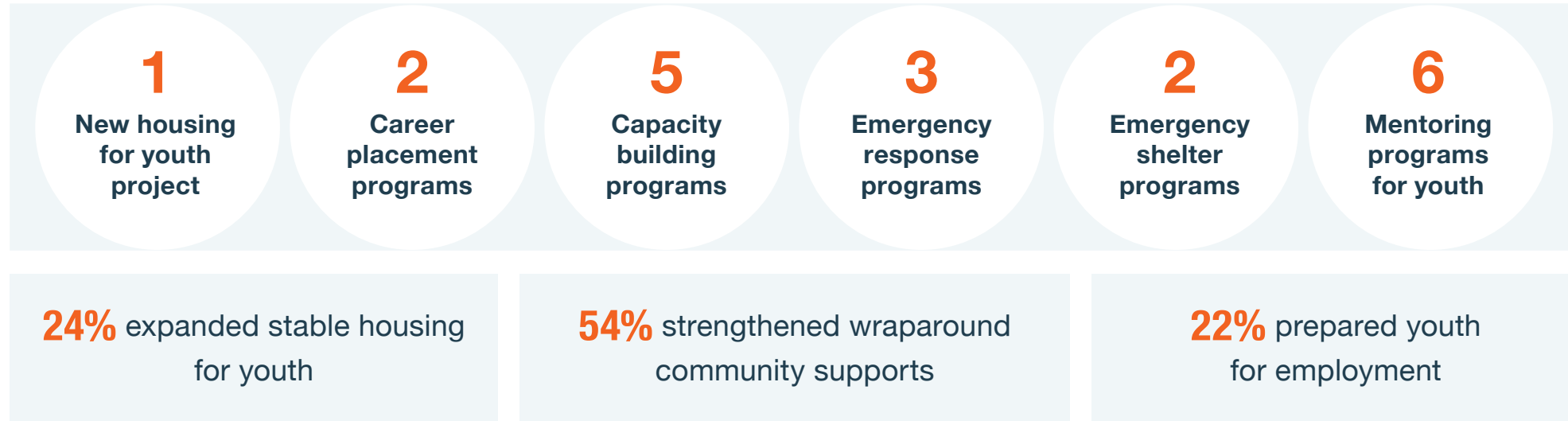


Alberta (AB)	British Columbia (BC)	Northwest Territories (NWT)	Manitoba (MB)	New Brunswick (NB)	Labrador & Newfoundland (NFL)	Nova Scotia (NS)	Ontario (ON)	Prince Edward Island (PEI)	Quebec (QC)	Saskatchewan (SK)
Dollars invested per province										
\$972,072	\$837,634	\$85,000	\$747,758	\$113,123	\$713,467	\$231,349	\$5,525,213	\$36,256	\$1,092,751	\$57,015

Each year **The Home Depot Canada Foundation's Youth Opportunity Grants** support projects dedicated to preventing and ending youth homelessness in Canada, focused on alignment with our strategic priorities to expand affordable housing for youth, increase youth employment readiness and provide youth with wrap around community supports, including prevention strategies.

In 2023, through the Youth Opportunity Grant, The Home Depot Canada Foundation invested **\$1,285,000** to organizations seeking support for primarily prevention work, including shelter diversion programming, renovation and housing projects and employment programs.

19 charity partners received grants and **+38,000 at risk youth and youth experiencing homelessness** were supported through the following youth initiatives:



Dollars invested per province:

BC	NWT	NB	ON	QC	MB
\$225,000	\$75,000	\$75,00	\$615,000	\$220,000	\$75,000



StepStones organization was a Youth Opportunity Grants recipient in 2023. Here is how this grant supported one of their youth program participants.

Michael* was referred to StepStones by the Children's Aid Society in 2022. He became involved in child welfare due to his father being incarcerated and





Photo Courtesy of StepStones

his mother's lack of acceptance of his identity as non-binary. Michael has experienced many mental health concerns including anxiety and suicide ideation. His CAS worker identified his primary needs as housing, mental health, and employment support. Michael was matched with a one-to-one StepStones Connection Coordinator upon intake and subsequently with a volunteer mentor.

Michael has always been motivated to do well for himself but required intensive intervention to stabilize his mental health and his housing situation.

He also lacks adult and family support and is on the road to building connections with individuals and communities with StepStones support. With thanks to the Home Depot Canada Foundation, StepStones has been able to connect Michael with ongoing mental health support including a subsidized therapist with whom he feels very comfortable and sees on a regular basis. His Connection Coordinator was able to locate stable housing for him and secure a StepStones Housing Grant to support first- and last-month rental payments. Michael obtained a position in a service industry, where he worked for just over a year, then was accepted into George Brown's Child and Youth Worker Program, which he began in January of 2024.

The Home Depot Canada Foundation's support of our work with Michael has made the difference between a young person continuing to struggle in crisis mode, and achieving safety, stability, and an educational pathway. Michael has reported making numerous friends in his program as well as with peers at the many StepStones' events he attends. He has connected with a volunteer tutor who works with him twice a week to help motivate him and continue achieving his high grade-point average. He and his two beloved cats are settled into a stable apartment, while he continues to receive assistance from StepStones to maintain his health and well-being. We are so proud of Michael's progress and we thank the Home Depot Canada Foundation for giving young people like him the opportunity to thrive.

*StepStones is using the alias name "Michael" for this young person to protect their identity.



Canadian Mental Health Association
Kelowna

One of the projects The Home Depot Canada Foundation supported through Youth Opportunity Grants is Bright Mindz, a program run by the Canadian Mental Health Association in Kelowna. Bright Mindz is providing safe and affordable housing with supports for young people through 18 studio units of housing. It also offers Case Management supports to connect youth with social, clinical, and community-based resources, developing a collaborative case plan with youth, Bright Mindz staff, and service delivery partners. The program ensures housing stability, enhances community and family connections, improves wellness through access to physical and mental health services, and offers education and employment opportunities. With 95% of residents maintaining stable housing for 12 months, 85% reporting stronger community ties, and significant improvements in life skills and wellness, the program fosters long-term stability and self-sufficiency among participants.



SOAR
Community Services

Funds from The Youth Opportunity Grant also supported SOAR Community Services' shelter diversion work in Brantford. SOAR's shelter diversion program transitions young people from the shelter system to stable housing in order to prevent further homelessness within the Brantford community. By connecting youth to family/kin or placing them in age-appropriate affordable housing, the program aims to minimize shelter stays and ensure emergency beds are reserved for those in immediate need. Funds support a Shelter Diversion worker to interview youth seeking shelter to explore alternative housing options, providing necessary support such as transportation, landlord mediation, and financial aid. Successful diversion rates, particularly for first-time shelter users, significantly reduce repeat shelter access, thereby lowering overall system demands and enhancing long-term stability for the youth.

The Home Depot Canada Foundation's Community Development Grants support small scale projects and programs that support an organization's efforts to prevent and end youth homelessness. In 2023, The Home Depot Canada Foundation **donated \$648,000** to **57 small scale projects** through the Community Development Grant Program.

Dollars invested per province:

AB	BC	MB	PEI	NS	ON	QC	SK	NWT
\$46,000	\$60,000	\$30,000	\$10,000	\$20,000	\$359,733	\$72,233	\$20,000	\$10,000

Projects included support for:



12,000+ at-risk youth and youth experiencing homelessness were supported.

“Shifra taught me how to love, live in a communal set up and respect everyone irrespective of their status i.e. student, volunteer, staff etc. [...] I found art therapy, midwives, public health nurses, cooking lessons, counselling, budgeting classes, and rental assistance all useful in my journey of independence”.

– **JC**, Shifra Homes Client



Shared by **Natasha Schlosser,**
Saskatoon Downtown Youth
Centre Inc.

Saskatoon Downtown Youth Centre Inc./EGADZ Action to Employment Community Crew Project, ATE, is an ongoing, successful project created in 2011. This project is a year-round yard care and maintenance service for the vulnerable population, including lower income elderly, and those suffering from physical impairments within our Saskatoon community.

When KJ first applied to Action to Employment, he could hardly talk on the phone with a supervisor to plan an interview time. KJ is naturally a quiet person and has been described as having social anxiety. Having KJ complete his interview and become employed with Action to Employment was a big outcome considering his introversion.

KJ has been working full-time for the Action to Employment crew for over a year now and has grown to obtain the esteemed position of Junior Team Lead. KJ has spent the last couple of months taking responsibility and stepping up in that leadership role.

Now that he has built up his confidence in using the snow blower, he has been assisting others to handle it safely and efficiently. He also can lead and mentor other youth now that he is more confident in not only his role but in using his voice. KJ has come out of his shell and is quite outgoing in his ability to lead and advocate for his team when needed.

KJ has now built the confidence in himself to start looking for employment out in the community. Working with Action to Employment has empowered him to see his strengths and realize how capable he is of achieving anything he wants in his life.



Shared by **Nancy Romic,**
Executive Director, Shifra Homes.

JC, one of our clients, arrived at **Shifra Homes** when she was seven months pregnant, she had been sleeping in a church due to homelessness. She had moved to Canada to pursue post-graduate education and discovered her pregnancy while in school. With no support network or family in the country, she had to pause her studies.

We took her in at Shifra Homes and provided her with immediate shelter, safety, food support, mental health counseling, and other assistance. Following the birth of her daughter, we extended her stay at the shelter to allow her to complete her education, providing assistance through volunteer tutors, babysitting, and additional support as needed.

She has now earned her MBA, and with the help of our support network, transitioned to her own apartment. We continue to provide her with a monthly rent subsidy of \$400 and weekly food support. JC has secured a job at RBC bank in Toronto, highlighting the success residents can achieve with comprehensive wrap-around services and support system. She has formed strong bonds with other residents, whom she now considers her sisters, as they support each other while navigating single motherhood and independent living.

Through Shifra Homes, JC not only found stable housing, pursued education, and became a loving mother, but also built a supportive family and community for life.



Photo Courtesy of Shifra Homes Inc.

Community Development Grant testimonials

In 2023, The Home Depot Canada Foundation made a **\$3.81M investment** in strengthening our Strategic Partnerships. **+18,000** at risk youth and youth experiencing homelessness were served with this funding. Funding went to supporting large scale projects and programs focused on serving youth when they need it the most, our largest multi-year commitments to achieving our mandate to prevent and end youth homelessness.

Dollars invested per province:

AB	BC	MB	NL	NS	ON	QC
\$500,000	\$200,000	\$409,000	\$500,000	\$100,000	\$1.5M	\$600,000

14% expanded stable housing for youth

64% strengthened wraparound community supports

22% prepared youth for employment

18 youth serving charity partners supported.



Photo Courtesy



Sarah's Inspiring Journey

In the words of our Strategic Partners



The Home Depot Canada Foundation have shared a thriving partnership with 360 Kids since 2015, including Strategic Partnership, Orange Door Project campaign and Team Depot support. This year's funding provided support to 360 Kids' employment and housing programs.

Employment support plays a crucial role in preparing young people to attain and maintain employment. In 2023 The Home Depot Canada Foundation's support served 399 youth, including operational expenses for the renovation of a new Youth Hub in Newmarket. This location allowed for 360 Kids to expand their Every Bite Matters Programming, which achieved 67% of youth attained employment or returned to school and 1200+ formal pre-employment workshops have been provided to youth since it began.

The Home Depot Canada Foundation's Strategic Partnership funding in 2023 also allowed 360 Kids to invest in long term transitional housing. This work contributes to 70 youth with long term transitional housing and 12,263 over night stays. One of the

youth who benefited from this program is Sarah, a nursing school student, who faced many challenges that led to homelessness due to financial difficulties. Despite living in her car for months and struggling to stay afloat, Sarah persisted and got introduced to the 360kids Transitions program. With this support, Sarah found shelter, steady income, and counselling. This allowed her to complete her nursing exams and find a new purpose in advocating for others.

The Home Depot Canada Foundation is also a proud supporter of 360 Kids innovative NightStop program, providing 43 clients with a safe place to stay in 2023.



"We are not the burdens that many of us have grown up feeling we are. Thanks to YSB, I now know that I didn't deserve the hardships I faced, [...] "This has been home for me for the past few years, the only place where I've felt welcome, where I felt like I was understood." [...] Thank you, YSB, and to all your partners including Home Depot, who support young people like me. I'm not sure what my life would look like if it hadn't been for the support, compassion and guidance I've received."

- Amara
Resident at one of YSB's long-term housing buildings

DANS LA RUE

"When I first got to Montreal and started using the Day Centre's services, I was sleeping on the street. When a job opened up at the Day Centre depot, I leapt at the chance, but I couldn't start working until I found a place to stay. I spent three weeks looking for an apartment so I could take the job. Dans la rue! Thank you for helping me and thousands of other youth."

- Simon

"I can turn to Dans la rue when I'm feeling down, but they are also there for me when things are going well. They listen, and they have counsellors who speak Spanish. They've been a huge help in dealing with my refugee claim."

- Juan,
A refugee who is experiencing homelessness

tesy of Youth Services Bureau

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DANS LA RUE

YOUTH SERVICES JEUNESSE

Covenant House Vancouver

Phoenix

Photos Courtesy of Covenant House Vancouver and Phoenix

Strategic Partners photos



The Home Depot Canada Foundation provides Strategic Partners with funds to help youth who are experiencing homelessness find housing, redefine their future, and grow.

Strategic Partners



Photo Courtesy of Build Up



TradeWorx

In 2023, **TradeWorx™** invested in organizations across Canada to empower youth with the skills and trade certifications needed to help them secure a living wage and attain permanent housing. The TradeWorx™ program focused on continuing investments to current partners, expanding programming to new provinces and reaching more youth through targeted scholarship investments.

A total of just over **\$2M invested** in TradeWorx™ Partners in 2023.

190 Youth supported

15 Organizations

100% Youth prepared for employment

Purpose Construction is a trades training social enterprise that works to build careers in the construction sector for people with barriers to employment.

Through funding from **Tradeworx™**, Purpose Construction was able to pilot a new training program in 2023 - the Purpose Homes Residential New Home Construction Training Program. Through this program, **20 youth** with barriers to employment participated in the construction of a new-build single family affordable housing project in Winnipeg's North End.

The youth involved in the program had the opportunity to participate in all aspects of new home construction, ranging from pouring the concrete foundation, framing, siding, roofing - all the way through to the final coat of paint. Youth had the opportunity to learn from skilled tradespeople and learn on-the-job, all while giving back to a great community project.

80% of our program graduates successfully continued on to further education or employment in the construction sector. Through this program, we completed construction of a brand new 4-bedroom home in Winnipeg's North End, which is now providing affordable housing to a newcomer Canadian family.

– Kalen Taylor

Executive Director, Purpose Construction



Photos Courtesy of Purpose Construction



The Orange Door Project

Together, The Home Depot Canada Foundation in partnership with customers and associates, invested \$2.27M to 128 youth-serving charities across Canada.

The Orange Door Project customer fundraising campaign unites all 182 The Home Depot stores across Canada in a national effort to prevent and end youth homelessness in Canada. We support **over 120 youth-serving charities**, and **100 per cent of funds raised** go directly to organizations providing housing and supportive services to homeless and at-risk youth in your local community.



The Home Depot Canada Stores Dufferin, Leaside and Yorkdale came together to support Eva's Initiatives for Homeless Youth for both their Spring and Winter Orange Door Project campaigns in 2023. Through the funds raised by customers making a donation in stores, at the checkout or online, these stores donated **\$33,190.43** to Eva's. This enabled them to continue to deliver innovative programs, promote community solidarity, and establish a support network to empower youth towards independence.

At Eva's, there has been a significant rise in Black, newcomer, and 2SLGBTQ+ youth seeking assistance, with 72% of youth in Eva's programs being Black, 57% refugees or refugee claimants, and 34% identifying as 2SLGBTQ+. Together with the support from The Orange Door Project campaign, Eva's is able to increasingly assist newcomers seeking shelter from various challenges like war, persecution, and human rights abuses, tackling issues such as racism, anti-Black racism, discrimination, homophobia, and transphobia that significantly affect youth with intersecting identities. The partnership with The Home Depot Canada Foundation through The Orange Door Project campaign helps Eva's deliver culturally specific and relevant support, including life skills, independent living skills, recreation, mental health support, employment training, and housing support. Empowering youth to build essential skills, connect with their communities, and navigate systemic barriers leads to a brighter future.

*\$2.09M was raised in-store by customers and associates in 182 The Home Depot Canada stores during the Spring and Holiday Campaigns of 2023.

The Orange Door Project Campaign

Our Annual Toque Campaign In Support of Raising the Roof



For a third year The Home Depot Canada Foundation has partnered with Raising the Roof to combat youth homelessness in Canada through sales of its signature toque. Together with our customers and The Home Depot Canada Associates toque sales **invested \$300,000** in 2023. The funds raised enabled Raising the Roof to provide it's affiliate organizations with Community grants as well, awarding **24 national homelessness agencies**. Funds also supported Raising the Roof's work to renovate **24 affordable housing units** for youth.

“The Toque Campaign is more than just about selling toques, it is a symbol of solidarity, a shared belief that all Canadian youth deserve a safe and stable place to call home.”

– Marc Soberano,
Executive Director, Raising the Roof



Photos Courtesy of store and SSC associates.

Toque Campaign: Raising awareness for youth homelessness with Raising the Roof



In 2023, The Home Depot Canada's Team Depot volunteer program supported the communities we live and work in across Canada with over **5,780 associates** providing **over 40,000 hours** of service through **205+ in person and virtual Community Projects**.

Our stores and office locations were very excited to Give Back in their communities, with **80% of our stores across Canada**, and **2,100+ SSC associates** assisting charity partners with various Team Depot projects in 2023.



MISSION
Bon Accueil

2023 Team Depot Highlights

Store 7128 St-Henri planned and executed a Province wide Team Depot event for their Orange Door Project campaign partner, and THDCF's Strategic Partner, **Mission Bon Accueil/Welcome Hall Mission**. Both districts in Quebec were involved, with **100+ associates** from the stores participating. The associates painted the Foodbank Market at Welcome Hall Mission, installed and updated lighting in the space, as well as updated their entrance way with an accent wall and logo placement. The Foodbank Market serves more than 3,000 people each week.



Photos Courtesy of Welcome Hall Mission



Home Depot *Gives Back* Through Ongoing Partnerships with Team Depot

Store 7142 Guelph has been supporting Hope House as an Orange Door Charity partner for years. Hope House offers services and programs that challenge the stigmas surrounding poverty and allow their community members to maintain their dignity and choice, while simultaneously providing them with tactile skills developed in a community environment, creating long-term skills that facilitate self-sufficiency.

Hope House has an acre of land close to the Guelph store, where they had started the North Field Food Farm to support their food programming. Liz E, store manager of 7142 Guelph, has been supporting the farm since June of 2019 with initial donations of wheelbarrows and basic supplies to get things going. Over the years the support has grown with additional tools, irrigation, storage and wash stations to help make it more functional. This year, her store went to harvest garlic from the farm to be added into food market and used in meal prep.

“Garlic does really well in the Guelph clay soil so it is a big crop for them. It all gets pulled out and dries in a yurt and then you trim the roots and the tops and it is good to go! The farm has been really important to them over the years because it ensures they have fresh organic food in their food market. The whole process is very cool.”

– Liz E.

Store manager, 7142



Photos Courtesy of Hope House Guelph





Disaster Response

The Home Depot Canada helps communities affected by emergencies and disasters. We work in partnership with established disaster relief organizations to support their response activities. Our primary focus is to support the communities in which we operate and where our associates live and work.

In 2023 The Home Depot Canada supported the wildfire relief efforts that impacted most of Canada.

We provided **\$45,000 in cash funding to the Canadian Red Cross wildfire appeals** for Nova Scotia, Alberta, Saskatchewan, British Columbia, and the Northwest Territories.

We also provided **\$40,000 in cash funding to local charity partners for their wildfire relief efforts.**

An additional **\$15,000 in Home Depot gift card support** was sent out to our impacted stores to provide immediate, boots on the ground support.

Photo Courtesy of Canadian Red Cross



La Hutte received a Youth Opportunity Grant from The Home Depot Canada Foundation in 2022, to support their programming and youth like Raphael.

Raphaël, 22, had been struggling with substance dependencies and mental health issues, moving from one resource to another since he was 18. Initially distant and mistrustful, his third stay at La HUTTE in Saint-Jérôme marked a turning point. Through patience and dedication, the staff connected with him and learned of **his dream to start his own electrical company**. With their support, Raphaël addressed his addiction, stabilized his mental health, and took steps towards education, aiming for a high school diploma followed by a vocational diploma in electrical work. The team also helped him find housing, which he proudly maintains.

Today, Raphaël is an engaged and confident young man, actively seeking relationships and thriving in a supportive environment. His academic progress is promising, and he is now embracing a world of possibilities. La HUTTE, a place where dreams are reignited, has helped Raphaël set and pursue his goals, transforming his aspirations into reality.

“When we believe in our dreams and put in the necessary energy, they come true. This is what the construction project of La HUTTE Saint-Jérôme has demonstrated to women and men experiencing homelessness in the Laurentians, as well as to many partners across Quebec who have followed this significant project with great interest and seek to draw inspiration from it.”



Support from The Home Depot Canada Foundation’s community development grants in 2022 went to The Boys and Girls Clubs of Durham Region’s Housing First for Youth program.

Funding from The Home Depot Canada Foundation has played a crucial role in supporting Alex, who entered the Housing First for Youth program in April 2023 at just 16 years old, following years of abuse, neglect, and homelessness. Before joining the program, Alex endured severe deprivation of basic needs like food, shelter, and hygiene facilities. With guidance from peers who had graduated from the same program, Alex sought out and was accepted into BGC Durham’s Housing First for Youth initiative.

Since joining, Alex has opened up to program workers, accessing vital community resources for both physical and mental health, addressing deep-seated trauma, exploring their identity, re-enrolling in school, and setting ambitious goals for the future. Recently, with support from the Foundation’s funding, Alex secured housing and used the support to furnish their new home, creating a safe and comforting space they can finally call their own.



With the support from our 2022 Youth Opportunity Grant The Wyndham House has been able to move 8 young people into their new bachelor-type suites, personalized just for them.

For these young people, the Bellevue Project represents a sense of stability and permanence, in some cases the first time in their lives. With this new build, we were able to give these individuals the space and independence they need as youth, while ensuring that we are providing a safe and supportive environment that meets them where they are at.

