

## **Christmas Giving Program sponsored by Condo 1 Social Committee**

In past years, the 'Fill a Purse' campaign has been very successful due to the generous donations of the residents of Ballantrae. This year, the Condo 1 Social Committee is turning our efforts to homelessness in York Region – a hot topic in the news in every part of the world – by providing Blue Door with gift cards to be given to the men, families and youth they support.

**Please deposit Gift Cards in the secure Rec Centre mailbox from December 1<sup>st</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup>.**

The mailbox is inside the front doors of the Rec Centre to the right of the inner door. It will be emptied daily and the gift cards will be provided to Blue Door during the week of December 11<sup>th</sup>.

### **URGENTLY NEEDED GIFT CARDS:**

- **\$5 Tim Hortons** gift cards give warmth during extreme cold weather alerts when beds are full
- **\$25 Grocery Store** (Sobeys, Longos, Presidents Choice) gift cards purchase food to improve health
- **\$25 Walmart** gift cards purchase groceries and essential housewares (e.g. pots, pans, dishes) during those first few months when funds are limited
- **\$25 Value Village** gift cards go a long way in providing basic clothing and footwear
- **\$25 Esso/Shell/Petro Canada** gift cards provide transportation support for housing searches, medical appointments, and interviews

If you wish to donate cash, please email [Condo1Social@gmail.com](mailto:Condo1Social@gmail.com) to make arrangements or contact Blue Door directly at [Blue Door - Giving Hope a Home](#) or 905-898-1015. Note that their storage space is limited so clothing, toiletries and personal items are not currently accepted.

### **Blue Door is a leader in preventing and ending homelessness.**

Founded in 1982 and the largest emergency housing provider in York Region, Blue Door is a registered charity that offers more than 10 innovative and collaborative housing, employment, and health programs addressing the root causes of homelessness. Blue Door transforms the lives of youth, adults, seniors, and families, helping our community's most vulnerable escape homelessness and access dignified housing.

### **Blue Door's Strategic Program Priorities**

Focused on addressing the root causes of homelessness, Blue Door's Program Priorities capture the three types of innovative and lifesaving services offered.

**Housing:** Blue Door will increase housing access and retention by creating and retaining new and existing affordable, transitional, and emergency housing.

**Health:** Blue Door will strengthen people's mental and physical health through physical, emotional, psychological, and social well-being services.

**Employment:** Blue Door's social enterprises will provide training and help people gain employment. Blue Door will also support the expansion or replication of its social enterprise service to other geographic areas.

## **Blue Door Programs include**

### **Emergency Housing Programs**

Provides support for men, male youth, and families experiencing food, housing, and healthcare insecurities. The three locations housing 30 men, 35 families and 12 youth nightly.

### **Transitional Housing Programs**

Provides dignified, independent housing in the community with intended lengths of stay ranging from 6 months to one year. While in the program, individualized case management support helps individuals set goals towards improved health, education, employment or gaining access to income assistance, and making plans for moving to permanent housing.

### **Mosaic Interfaith Out of the Cold**

Provides overnight emergency housing in York Region 7 nights a week during the coldest months of the year (October to June) at 5 host community sites. For 7 nights each week, 26 adults, seniors, and youth are served a sit-down meal, provided with clean clothes, medical care, entertainment overnight accommodation, and housing support. Comprehensive housing and wraparound supports are provided on-site to support individuals, assisting with case management, housing search, housing retention, advocacy with landlords and basic needs as well as support with applications, legal assistance, and employment supports.

### **Housing Support Programs**

Ensures very vulnerable people exiting homelessness succeed in keeping their new found housing, Blue Door offers ongoing support through two programs called *Housing Retention* and *Housing To Health*.

### **Health Supports**

By improving people's mental and physical health, Blue Door's health supports ensure people are able to successfully retain employment and housing, ultimately escaping homelessness.

### **Construction With a Purpose**

Blue Door's employment social enterprise, Construct, provides rapid 8-week skills training involving in-class training, on-the-job work experience, and wraparound supports to help vulnerable people secure long-term, well-paying careers in the construction trades.

**Note:** Donations to *Fill a Purse* can be made at a number of locations in Stouffville including Lindy Floral Boutique and Stouffville Toyota. [Drop-off Locations \(fillapurseforasistercampaign.ca\)](https://fillapurseforasistercampaign.ca)