

What if home is a *dangerous* place to be?

Yellow Brick House, situated in York Region, serves abused women and children across GTA.

We have two emergency shelters and offer community counselling and supportive programs to women and children not staying in our shelters which include: individual and group counselling, family court support, mental health counselling, immigration support and transitional housing support.

We serve over 5,000 women and children every single year.

You can help women and children escape violence and rebuild their lives.



Yellow Brick House provides four main services for the thousands of women and children that step through our doors or reach out to us for support.



Emergency shelters



24 hour crisis & support line



Community counselling & support services



Public education

In Canada, it is estimated that each year 800,000 children are exposed to their mother being abused.

- Domestic violence has significant negative effects on children's emotional, cognitive, social, and behavioral development.
- Children who witness violence in the home have *twice* the rate of psychiatric disorders as children from non-violent homes.
- *Sixty percent* of children from violent homes have post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD).

At Yellow Brick House, we work with children to help them recover from trauma.

Together, let's help children grow into healthy adults.



What does it take to rebuild a life?

Financial goal: \$775,000
to support unfunded shelter beds per year

Will you make a yearly pledge to help families stay safe?

All services are free and confidential

Safe living space
Trauma counselling
Mental health counselling
Parenting support
Group support
Legal & Immigration information access
Transitional housing support
Employment support
Transportation
Community service referrals
Basic housewares
Food and clothing



"When I saw my new home, I had an overwhelming feeling that I had found freedom. I realized that I don't deserve to live in an abusive relationship."

- KM (Survivor)



Before 2022, our shelters offered a combined total of 41 beds and 10 cribs. However, the pandemic forced us to convert our congregate living shelter space into family units, reducing our capacity by 30%.

In July 2023, we successfully completed the expansion of our Markham shelter, thanks to federal funding, adding 5 more family units and restoring our pre-pandemic capacity.

Despite these efforts, Yellow Brick House's two shelters in Markham and Aurora have not received sustainable operating funding. Only 25 of our 41 beds are funded. This leaves us with a **\$775,000 funding gap** for the 16 **unfunded** beds. These beds remain open through our annual fundraising efforts. Additionally, our 10 cribs are also not funded.

Compounding this challenge, Ontario has seen a 53% increase in domestic homicides, underscoring the urgent need for our services. Help us keep our shelter beds open.

The need for these beds to remain open is critical as we are only one of the two violence against women agencies in York Region, and these beds save lives.

Yellow Brick House needs your pledge to provide safety to women and children in our shelters. It is important to note that the average duration of stay for a woman in our shelters is approximately 8 weeks. With your invaluable support, we can make a remarkable difference and save lives.

"When he found out I had been talking with other expectant mothers, he smashed my cell phone. He said I didn't need other friends: I was lucky he loved me, since no one else would want someone like me."

- TC (Survivor)



"We urge you to consider making a contribution to the Yellow Brick House shelter program, dedicated to safeguarding at-risk women and children. The significance of supporting victims of violence remains profound, especially in the aftermath of the recent global challenges."

—Jim MacSween, York Regional Police Chief

Funding need to keep shelter beds and cribs open

Our immediate needs are funding existing infrastructure by providing funding for unfunded shelter beds so that we can continue keeping them open.



Help Women and Children Escape Domestic Violence and Rebuild their Lives

To donate, contact Pamela Deveaux at 905-709-0900 (ext. 2233) or pamelad@yellowbrickhouse.org.



Scan the QR code
for a glimpse
inside our shelter.

yellowbrickhouse.org • 905-709-0900 • 52 West Beaver Creek Rd., Unit 4, Richmond Hill, ON L4B 1L9
Charitable Registration Number: 11910 5187 RR0001 • Crisis & Support Line: 1-800-263-3247

