

# IMPACT REPORT

yellowbrickhouse  
HOLIDAY 2024

Since 1978 Yellow Brick House has provided life saving services and prevention programs to survivors of domestic violence. For 46 years, we have provided lifesaving services and prevention programs to survivors of domestic violence with a safe and secure place to rebuild their lives. Our services impact the larger community by accommodating those who are victims of violence, addressing systemic issues women experience in the face of violence, and providing a sense of community and support for survivors.

Our programs are crucial today more than ever, as domestic violence continues to cost lives in Canada. From November 2023 to November 2024, there have been 62 women and children killed in Ontario as a result of gender-based violence, underscoring the urgency of our collective effort to address this horrifying epidemic.

In the spirit of this holiday season, I extend my heartfelt gratitude to our dedicated donors. Your generous financial and in-kind donations have changed lives – providing essential support to those experiencing abuse as they rebuild their lives.

Thank you for standing with us and helping women and children begin their journey toward lives free from violence!

Sincerely,



Lorris Herenda,  
Chief Executive Director,  
Yellow Brick House



Scan QR Code or  
[Click Here](#) to hear  
authentic survivor stories



*Leaving during the holidays wasn't easy, but staying at Yellow Brick House with my daughter gave us safety, support, and a sense of belonging. It made all the difference during a challenging time.*  
- Priya Survivor

# Laurie's Story

It's been five years since I escaped, and I am still recovering. My name is Laurie, and I am a mother of three—my daughter was 2, my son was 1, and my youngest was just 9 months old when everything happened. For over seven years, I endured an abusive relationship that took a severe toll on my well-being and my children's safety. My partner's short temper and anger escalated into violence. He began lashing out at me, and eventually, he targeted my children.

One night, the abuse became unbearable. He yelled, threw things, and hit both me and the kids. The noise alerted a neighbor, who called the police. Even then, I felt ashamed, as though I'd failed my children, but I knew I had to get them to safety.

A friend told me about Yellow Brick House in York Region. At first, I hesitated, thinking a shelter would be a terrible place for my kids. But with no other options, I called—and it turned out to be the best decision I ever made.

Yellow Brick House welcomed us with open arms. We stayed for two months, during which time the staff helped us heal, assisted with housing and legal matters, and guided me in building a new path for our family.

Today, as I watch my children play safely in our new home, I feel immense gratitude. Thanks to Yellow Brick House, we escaped our darkest days and started over. I will always be thankful for the kindness and support we received when we needed it most.

***A woman in Canada is murdered by her intimate partner every two and a half days.***



# Thank You to Our Giving Community!

Here are a few of our generous 2024 holiday season donors; find more photos [here](#).



*"It has been inspiring to see the Yellow Brick House and the CGI team unite with a shared commitment to making a meaningful difference. Together, we are committed to expanding our efforts, reaching more individuals in need, and creating sustainable change that transcends generations. Thank you, Yellow Brick House, for all that you do to save lives!"*  
– CGI Inc.



*"This holiday season, I am thrilled to have supported Yellow Brick House through a yoga fundraising event. Not only were we able to raise funds but we also contributed essential items from the wish list, aiming to make a positive impact on the lives of women and children affected by domestic violence. It's truly heartwarming to contribute to such a meaningful cause."*  
– Antionetta Varrasso



# Your Holiday Impact



**\$353,163**

Raised from Holiday Campaign 2024



**\$13,820**

Gift Cards



**1,278**

In-Kind Donations



**2,694**

Volunteer Hours

**Your donation to Yellow Brick House helps us provide life-saving services and prevention programs to thousands of individuals impacted by violence every year.**

*"Yellow Brick House helped us find safety and provided our children with the emotional support they needed after experiencing the trauma of domestic violence."*

- Survivor Jimena

*"The counselling services were a lifeline, helping me regain my strength and giving my young children a safe space to express their feelings and begin their recovery."*

- Survivor Samreen

