



PRESS RELEASE



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Youth in Crisis Benefit from Shelter Renovations

MISSISSAUGA, Ontario, September 26, 2006 — More than 600 youth in crisis will benefit from the extensive renovations unveiled today at the Our Place (Peel) shelter. The 14-bed emergency shelter provides crisis counselling and referral services within a supportive environment for young people aged 16 to 21.

The federal government provided \$91,193 through Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation's (CMHC) popular Shelter Enhancement Program to renovate and upgrade the shelter.

"Our Place (Peel) is making a real difference in the lives of vulnerable youth by providing a safe and supportive environment," said the Honourable Jim Flaherty, Minister of Finance and Regional Minister for the GTA on behalf of the Honourable Diane Finley, Minister of Human Resources and Social Development. "These renovations will make sure that young people who need assistance in this community, will find it in this shelter, which is both a comfortable and safe place."

"Each year hundreds of young people walk through our doors, each with their own story," says Christy Upshall, Executive Director of Our Place (Peel). "Despite the devastating life circumstances that have brought them to our shelter, we are able to offer them safety, hope and a place of belonging."

In operation since 1989, Our Place (Peel) gives youth a place to stay; teaches skills they need to survive; offers counselling, support and referrals; and, for some, provides them a return home.

The youth will benefit from the major indoor and outdoor renovations on the security, heating and electrical systems, and from the repair and upgrading work completed in the bedrooms, bathrooms and basement.

CMHC's Shelter Enhancement Program offers financial assistance for the repair, rehabilitation and improvement of existing shelters for women and their children, youth or men who are victims of family violence, as well as for the acquisition or construction of new shelters and second-stage housing where needed.

Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC) has been Canada's national housing agency for over 60 years. CMHC is committed to helping Canadians access a wide choice of quality, affordable homes, while making vibrant, healthy communities and cities a reality across the country. For more information call 1-800-668-2642.

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