

### **The Home Depot Canada Foundation**

# A Year in Review 2022



Chair Our Letter

Celebrating Commitment 2022

Opportunity Partnerships Grant

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**A letter from The Home Depot Canada Foundation's Board Chair** 



This year, we are proud to be celebrating the 15th anniversary of The Home Depot Canada Foundation. When it all began 15 years ago, we were focused on serving the community's needs in the areas our stores serve, and in the first five years we granted \$10 million to building stronger communities.

In 2012, we did the work to determine the right cause that both aligned with our The Home Depot Canada core values and served a great need in Canada. This is when we made the decision to invest in preventing and ending youth homelessness. In 2013, we made our first \$10 million commitment to prevent and end youth homelessness, with a hope that we could slow down the cycle and offer guidance and support to give youth the tools they need to make their futures successful.

In 2023, we remain dedicated to this work, to driving more awareness to educate Canadians on the issue and to providing support to youth who face challenges with homelessness. The Home Depot Canada Foundation is committed to creating new paths for youth and we are doing this by investing \$125 million by 2030. We have already achieved \$60 million against this commitment, and we will continue to watch this grow with the continued support of our customers, associates, partners, suppliers and communities.

This review serves as an opportunity to pause and celebrate all the important work The Home Depot Canada Foundation supported in 2022. I hope you enjoy reading about the valuable impact we've been able to make with your support. When it comes to the youth we serve, their needs continue to change and evolve. The barriers they face are complex and require complex solutions. Not only do they need a safe place to live, they also need access to support services that will help them create healthy pathways to exit homelessness. This is the future of The Home Depot Canada Foundation's work.

Thank you for supporting The Home Depot Canada Foundation and our commitment to prevent and end youth homelessness. Together we can change the future of at-risk youth.

Thank you,

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Pamela O'Rourke

Chair, The Home Depot Canada Foundation Vice president, merchandising, The Home Depot Canada

## **Our Commitment in Numbers & Achievements**

### **2022 Highlights**



In total The Home Depot Canada Foundation invested Brought on 4 **0.2** <sup>in</sup> 2022



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new TradeWorx partners including partners from Quebec



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Made progress on our pledge to invest \$125M by 2030, achieving 4 of the target by the end of 2022

In 2022 The Home Depot Canada Foundation supported **30,000+** youth at risk of or currently experiencing homelessness.



Community

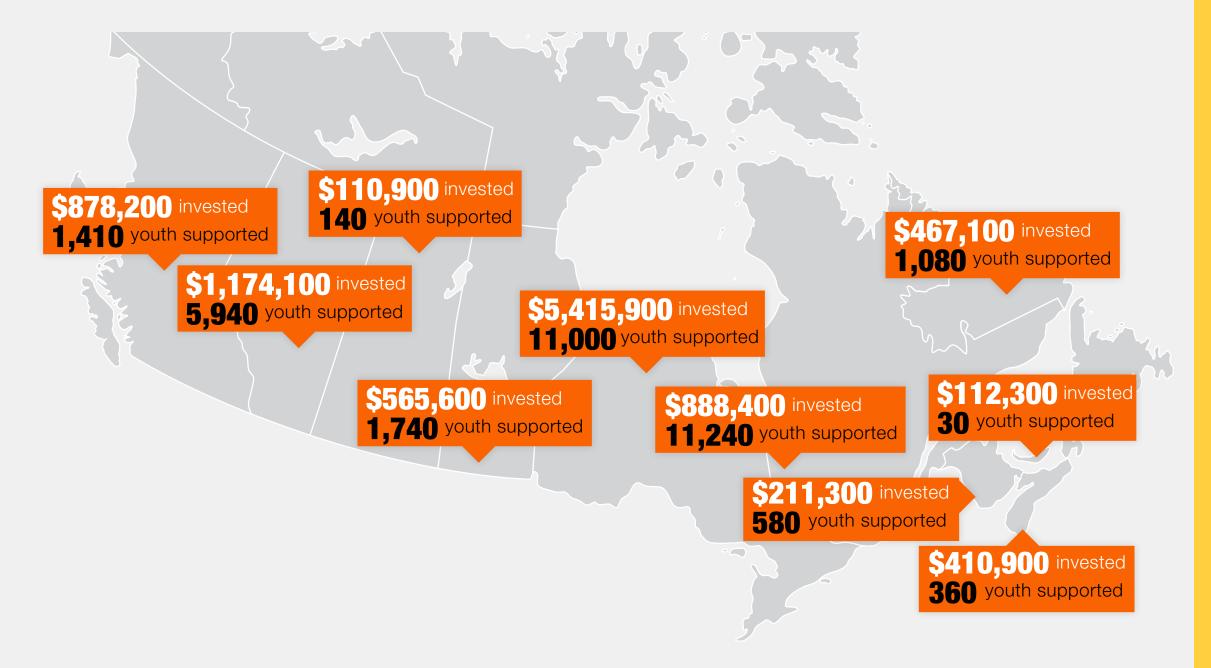
Grant



## \$125 MILLION FARGET BY 2030

## **Celebrating 2022**

The Home Depot Canada Foundation proudly supported 202 organizations in 2022. Funding was granted through our Strategic Partnerships, TradeWorx, Orange Door Project Campaign, Youth Opportunity Grants and Community Development Grants.



Tradeworx

Community Investment 2021 Project Update

### 2022 Investments: Across Canada include:



## **Strategic Partnerships**

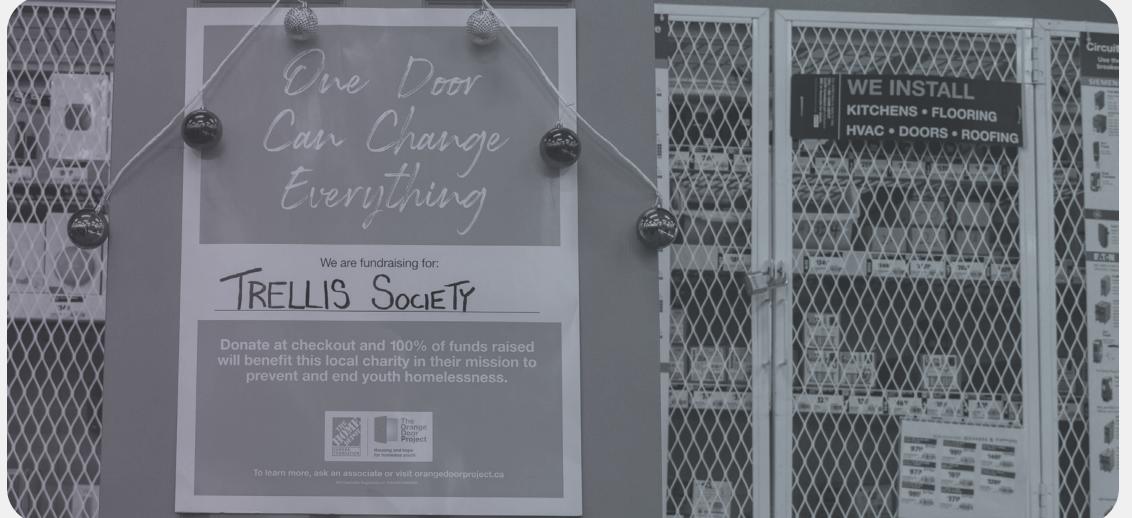


In 2022, The Home Depot Canada Foundation made a investment in strengthening our Strategic Partnerships

+21,000at risk youth and youth

experiencing homelessness served since organizations received funding in 2022





Celebrating Strategic 2022 Partnerships

Chair

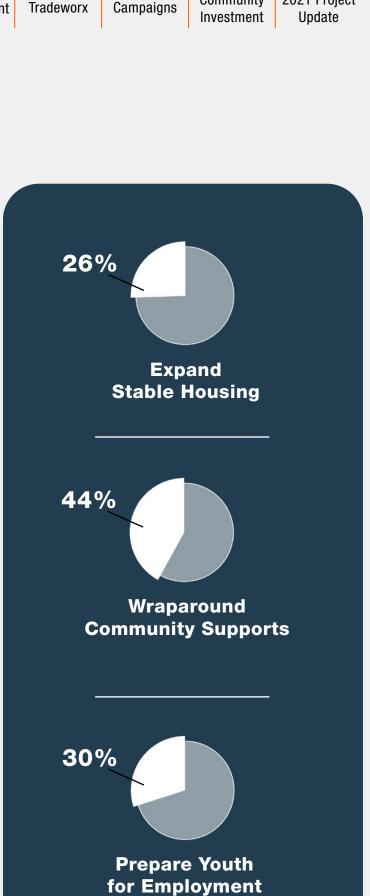
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## **Spotlight – Youth Without Shelter**

The race is not for the swift but those who endure to the end! The future is in your hands!

In 2022, The Home Depot Canada Foundation continued its partnership with Youth Without Shelter by committing to their Emergency Residential Program, providing immediate care and support for up to 33 youth each night, and their Housing and Aftercare Support programs, focused on placing youth into stable, affordable housing to prevent relapse back into homelessness.

"The value of Youth Without Shelter's after-care program is becoming paramount and our goal is to continue to invest in our growing team. YWS is designed to offer our youth wrap-around supports so they can move to stable living but the main focus is on keeping those youth housed. Our Housing & Aftercare specialist is 'on the road' every day meeting with former residents ensuring their environment is safe, they have all of the resources they need to live independently, she communicates with their landlords if necessary and overall she does all she can to ensure our youth don't fall into the trap of chronic homelessness. As more and more residents move out of the shelter, this team will require additional resources and support and The Home Depot Canada Foundation's donation ensures they receive those on a consistent and sustainable basis."

– Monika Fox, Director of Philanthropy

"It is hard to believe how much my life has changed and improved for the better in such a short amount of time. I entered YWS not knowing what to expect, and am now enrolled in school and employed [...] It has been such a good experience living at YWS and I will always be grateful that I became a part of it. Thank you to YWS for providing me with a home away from home."

- R. Past Resident of Youth Without Shelter

Community Investment



## "The Home Depot Canada Foundation provides Trellis with the funds to help youth who are experiencing homelessness to find housing, redefine their future, and grow." -Michele Chiasson-Suart, Senior Development Officer and Kim Ledene, Senior Director

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## **Strategic Partners**













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Welcome Hall **MISSION** 







Youth

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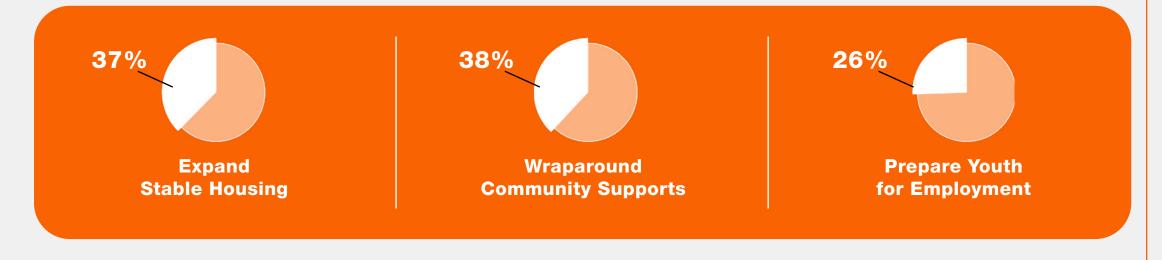


In 2022, The Home Depot

investment

Canada Foundation made a





**C** charity partners **Supported** for

renovation and housing

programs

projects, employment and

homelessness prevention

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Homelessness **Prevention Programs** 

### **Career Placement** Program

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## **Spotlight – Safe Haven Foundation**

The Safe Haven Foundation was one of The Home Depot Canada Foundation's 2022 Youth Opportunity Grant Recipients, supporting the renovation of a newly acquired apartment building into a youth residence. J is one of the participants selected to live in this residence. Here is J's story.

"J immigrated to Canada in 2017, fleeing torture and abuse in her home continent, Africa. In search of a good education, J found refuge staying with family friends, until this living situation became unsafe as well, she had no choice but to move into a shelter. She lived there for one year before being referred to the Safe Haven Foundation in February 2020. Their Haven's Way program provided J with the resources and support she needed to graduate high school, complete driver's education and get her driver's license. J acquired her Canadian Citizenship in 2022 and the joy this brought her was inspiring.

She is a resilient young woman who has fled many abusive situations to keep following her dreams. After graduating high school, J worked, saved her money and, with the help of scholarships, is now a full-time student enrolled in Social Work at Bow Valley College. She became the very first resident of Safe Haven Foundation's new affordable housing initiative, Haven's Harbour, as of February 2023. Funding from The Home Depot Canada Foundation has played an integral part in helping with suite renovation costs to provide this opportunity for J, and for additional youth to move into the building very soon!"

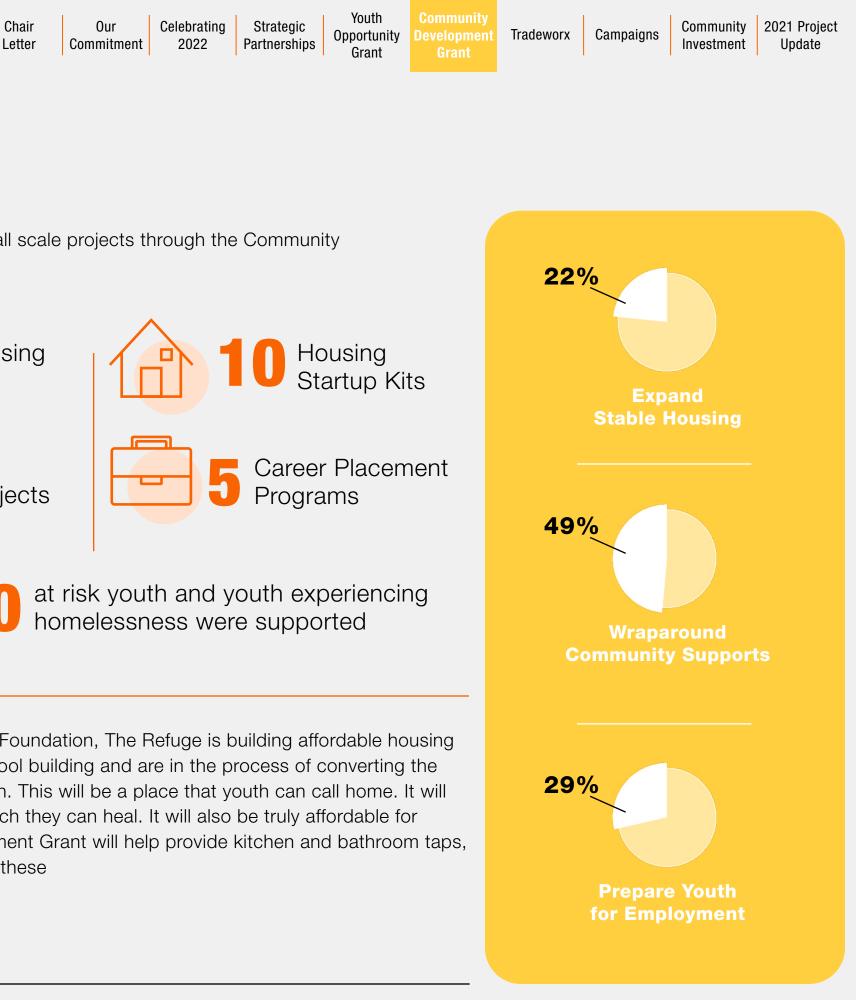
-Safe Haven Representative





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## **Community Development Grant**

In 2022, The Home Depot Canada Foundation donated \$520,000 to 52 small scale projects through the Community Development Grant Program. Projects included support for:





"With the help of the The Home Depot Canada Foundation, The Refuge is building affordable housing for youth. In 2022, we purchased a vacant school building and are in the process of converting the space into 26 affordable housing units for youth. This will be a place that youth can call home. It will honour their dignity and provide a space in which they can heal. It will also be truly affordable for them. The Home Depot's Community Development Grant will help provide kitchen and bathroom taps, fridges, cooktops, toilets and more for each of these 26 affordable apartments."

- Clarence Keesman, The Refuge

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"Funding from our Community Development Grant went towards CAF's Home Base Program, supporting youth directly, including Marco. The Home Base program has made sure that Marco has a safe space to live, not just a place to stay with a mattress, but a home that they are proud of and comfortable in. This grant helped Marco pay for a month of rent and utilities, and fill their new home with a dresser, desk and chair, bed set, as well as a small couch. The real long-term impact of stable housing will help Marco create a life they want and deserve." Children's Aid Foundation of Canada

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"The Home Depot Canada Foundation's Community Development Grant allowed New Leaf Project to support Erin. Erin is part of the growing population of youth falling into hidden homelessness. Erin is educated and smart, and unfortunately challenging circumstances led to her experiencing homelessness. When she first joined the New Leaf project, her hope was to become self-sufficient and to not rely on the Ministry for money anymore. She used the money from New Leaf's support to cover the damage deposit on her new place. Since entering her new apartment, Erin has gone back to work that she loves at a data research company and has sustained her housing. She feels strongly that without the rental deposit support, she would still be homeless."

- New Leaf Foundation



YMCA of **Greater Moncton** YMCA du Grand Moncton

"In 2022, The Home Depot Canada Foundation's Community Development Grant supported our emergency response work. This included providing supplies as well as access to housing and case management for 103 vulnerable/homeless youth in the Greater Moncton Area; which included distributing 204 hygiene kits, facilitating 43 in-person mentorship appointments and ensured 32 youth were provided with safe and affordable housing. We are truly grateful for The Home Depot Canada Foundation's support which enabled our YMCA team to overcome barriers created by COVID-19 as well as societal systems, ensuring we reached as many unique individuals as possible." - Bonnie MacFadyen, VP, Philanthropy / VP, Philanthropie, YMCA of Greater Moncton / YMCA du Grand Moncton



Youth

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### **Spotlight – Fresh Paint by The Raft**



Fresh Paint is a social enterprise program, led by The Raft, that employs youth in the Niagara Region to help develop employment opportunities so they build marketable skills and confidence. Fresh Paint has been a TradeWorx recipient since 2021.

"Along with opening the door to future employment opportunities through training in trades; Fresh paint helps our youth earn an income which could allow them to afford a decent place to live. We found without a working wage, youth being supported by a social welfare system cannot afford independent housing, and often would prefer living in rooming houses. This created a cycle of exiting the shelter to a room and then back to shelter. It isn't hard to

imagine the sense of failure that these young people continuously experienced the longer they were involved in this cycle.

"This was the reality for one of the young men in Fresh Paint. However, since being employed, earning a living wage while learning trade skills, he has been able to upgrade his apartment and hasn't returned to homelessness or accessed the shelter. Achieving stability in where he lived has been an important first step which is allowing him to imagine a future. He is now working with our team to utilize his newly developed skills to find permanent employment in a trade." -Mike Lethby, The Raft



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# The Orange Door Project Campaign





Together, The Home Depot Canada Foundation in partnership with customers and associates

3.12

to 128 youth serving charities across Canada

\*\$3.12M was raised by customers and associates in 182 The Home Depot Canada stores during the Spring and Holiday Campaigns.



## Spotlight – WRYM and The Home Depot Store #7228

"The Windsor Residence for Young Men (WRYM) was delighted to partner with Home Depot Store #7228 for both the Spring and Winter Orange Door Campaigns in 2022. These amazing campaigns resulted in almost \$25,000 being donated to our Transitional Housing and Aftercare programs, which are dedicated to ending homelessness for youth who identify as male.

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"We are proud to report that Home Depot's partnership has helped yield some incredible results. In 2022, we were able to house 28 youth, resulting in an 88% success rate! Not only were we able to help house those youth who were currently experiencing homelessness, but in our Aftercare program, we also supported 99 formerly homeless youth in their efforts to maintain personal well-being and housing. To help illustrate the extent of assistance provided: over 2,400 different supports were provided to formerly homeless youth, ranging from well-being checks, to housing support, system navigation, and landlord advocacy." *—The Windsor Residence for Young Men representative* 



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**Raising Awareness for Youth Homelessness with Raising the Roof** 

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# **Community Investment – Team Depot**











Store 7080 Gerrard Square reached out to Friends of Ruby, where they assisted with *creating* a versatile rooftop garden space for the youth to grow vegetables with their resident cook and learn about food sovereignty and sourcing recipe ingredients. They also assisted with creating shady spaces for the youth to go to connect to nature in an urban center.

Community Investment

## **Community Investment**

The Home Depot Canada gives back through ongoing partnerships with

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## **Spotlight – Team Depot**





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A few years ago Matt E., store manager at Store 7238 (Pickering), and his family thought it would be great to Give Back to their community. They decided to fill a few backpacks with some much-needed toiletries and gifts for homeless teens in their area. A couple of years later, his store associates heard about what he and his family were doing, and they wanted to support. That year, Matt and his team were able to collect 15 backpacks filled with scarfs, mitts, toiletries, blankets, toys for children, and essentials for living on the street like tarps and bags etc. To donate the backpacks, they partnered with a local outreach group called The Refuge, a small group in Oshawa that provides food, assistance, education, and shelter when needed, to street involved teens.

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This has now become a yearly donation drive, that is growing! This year, with the help from all the stores in district 89, and partnering district 158, they were able to collect and donate approximately 580 backpacks!

"I am proud to say we have donated over 2,400 back packs since this started. I continue every year to try and beat the year before. This has been one of the most amazing things Home Depot has allowed me to deliver each year. I honestly still get very emotional when asked about it and have difficulty not getting teared up!" – Matt E., store manager, 7238

## **Disaster Relief**



Canadian **Red Cross** 

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An additional

(s) \$125,000 invested in disaster relief efforts for Hurricane Fiona in East Coast Canada

\$25,000 domated to the Canadian Red Cross for Emergency Management Program across Canada

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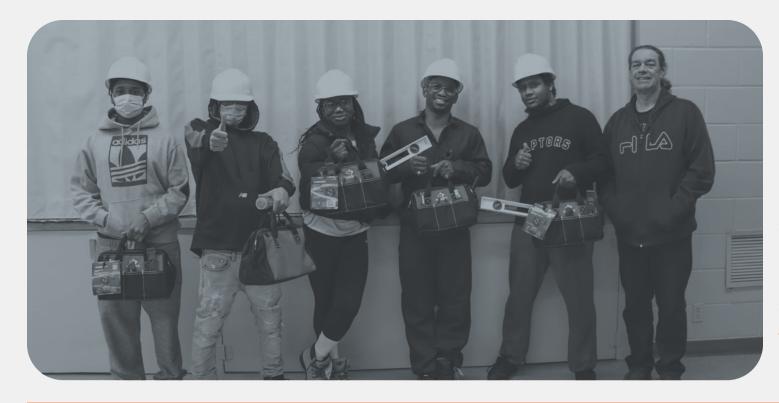


2021 Project Update

## **\$14,000** to Support our local communities for immediate community response in Saskatchewan, Manitoba, and Ontario



## **2021 Project Update**



## Scarborough

"Thank you so much for your generous donation to BGC East Scarborough youth. We truly appreciate your commitment to the youth in our community. Your donation helped purchase program materials and resources for our youth to engage in their work placements. Thanks to you, we were able to remove barriers to employment for over 90 BIPOC youth."

-BGC East Scarborough Representative



In 2021 The Home Depot Canada Foundation awarded Durham Youth Services with a Youth Opportunity Grant for their prevention program:

"The Youth Reconnect Program is a community-

based program that reconnects high-risk youth to their home community. Program participants are youth between the ages of 16 and 24 and are precariously housed and in imminent danger of becoming homeless. With The Home Depot Canada Foundation's support we have served 18 youth in the program, 14 female and 4 male." *–Durham Youth Services representative* 



Community Investment

In 2021 East Scarborough Boys' and Girls' Club's received a Community Development Grant for their program "REACH (Reaching Employment through Academic & Career Heights."

## **2021 Project Update**



In 2021 The Home Depot Canada Foundation funded Family Services of Greater Vancouver's employment program:

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"DYS is committed to providing our clients with the supports they need to create safe, stable futures. In light of the ongoing COVID pandemic, high case counts, and the emergence of new variants, our preemployment programming is taking into consideration the youth concerns about the risks associated with retail, customer service, and warehouse jobs that are often available to youth. In light of this, we are engaged in an assessment of our current pre-employment programming and looking to add options for training that would provide youth with the skills they need to access safer, online, remote work."

-Family Services of Greater Vancouver Representative







"The Portal Youth Programs have made a tremendous impact on one of the most complex students I have worked with in my teaching career. This student has had a long history of significant challenges, both at school and within the community. He has been involved with many agencies, as they tried to develop programming that could positively support his social-emotional growth. Unfortunately, many interventions were met with little success. After a significant incident at school

during the fall of 2020, this student was placed on restrictive programming. [...] When the Portal Youth Programs agreed to take on these students and help him re-integrate into social situations through the use of their experiential activities that we began to see real progress with his ability to self-regulate when given the opportunity to be among his peers. Not only did the Portal take this student on for one of their summer sessions, but they provided him with an extraordinary opportunity for growth by including him in all of their sessions.

"We have seen a completely different student since his return to school this fall. He is spending extended periods of time with his peers, demonstrating appropriate social behaviours both during class and break times, and has come to school each day and experienced success. [...]"

-The Portal Youth Outreach Association Representative

Community

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## Visit homedepot.ca/ foundation to learn more

Charitable Registration Number: 828431015RR0001

