



PRESS RELEASE



Canadian Mortgage News - National Archive 2004

YWCA Durham Celebrates Official Re-Opening of Adelaide House

OSHAWA, Ontario, September 22, 2004 — After months of extensive renovations, YWCA Durham celebrated the official re-opening today of Adelaide House, a 72-bed house for women and their children. The YWCA at Adelaide House offers safe emergency housing, meals, crisis intervention and 24-hour support for women 16 years and older and mothers with children.

The renovations to Adelaide House, which began in November 2003, include a new kitchen, handicapped accessible washrooms, an elevator, new plumbing and electrical systems as well as an enhanced security system and much more. Funding in the amount of \$1.296 million was granted through Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation's (CMHC) Shelter Enhancement Program. The YWCA Durham's Adelaide House also received \$118,574 through the supporting Communities Partnership Initiative (SCPI), a component of the Government of Canada's National Homelessness Initiative (NHI).

"This shelter renovation project is so vitally important to ensuring at-risk women and their children have access to emergency shelter and the services required to help them succeed," said Honourable Judi Longfield, Member of Parliament for Whitby-Oshawa and Parliamentary Secretary to Joseph Fontana, Minister of Labour and Housing. "The Adelaide House renovations are a good example of the Government of Canada's commitment to supporting those who are most in need in the community."

"The renovations to Adelaide House will enable us to improve the quality of life for the women and children we serve from across Durham Region, added Eva Martin Blythe, Executive Director of the YWCA Durham. We are very excited to continue to play a key role in providing safe, supportive housing, now in this newly restored building, to our residents at critical turning points in their lives."

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

Between 1999 and 2006, through NHI, the Government of Canada will have allocated \$1.15 billion on its commitment to address homelessness. The NHI encourages communities to work with all levels of government to develop new response to homelessness.

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