

From: kathleen mochnacki

Sent: Wednesday, March 10, 2021 10:34 AM

To: Regional Clerk <ClerkGeneralLine@york.ca>

Subject: Support Housing Rent Supplement Support for Individuals who Live on a Provincial Housing Allowance, and receiver Healthcare

To Region Councillors and the Regional Clerk,

Our organization would like to add our support to Reena's request for Rent Supplements for the Lou Fruitman Reena Residence and the development of a fair and equitable process to deliver rent supplements to individuals qualifying for healthcare supports in the years ahead.

Home on the Hill Supportive Housing is a volunteer driven Charitable Organization, developed by the families of those with serious mental illness living in the Richmond Hill area. We are very grateful for the support of the faith community in Richmond Hill together with other not for profit organizations and very important community leaders. Without this charitable support, we could not offer the five supportive housing beds that we provide.

One of our tenants is on OAP/GIS which is far lower than the ODSP payment that the others who are on ODSP receive. We are very grateful to the Richmond Hill United Church who rents their Manse to Home on the Hill for way below market value. The current rent that we ask from our tenants goes towards this rent alone. The cost of food is addressed through the kind donations of Life Corp Foodshare. The support services that we offer are funded by United Way, the Government of Canada, Richmond Hill Hall Charities, and private donations and volunteers.

One of our tenants lives in a Housing York building and his rent is supplemented by a subsidy from St. Mary's Anglican Church.

Although our organization does not currently build or own not-for-profit housing facilities, we may in the future rely on for-profit rental property operators willing to have our clients rent from them.

The individuals we support require rent supplements to bridge the gap between \$497/month ODSP and the average market rent in York Region. Although Home on the Hill is profoundly grateful for the charitable support which we receive from the faith community and other non profits, it would be very important to be assured of reliable sources of income in the future.

These rent supplements ensure that those in need who qualify for healthcare supports, also have the ability to keep a roof over their head.

We look forward to the passage of this resolution and working with the York Region staff team that will be charged to set up a fair and equitable process to deliver rent supplements to individuals qualifying for healthcare and or social supports in the years ahead.

We hope this resolution will pass, and that the result will be a clear mandate to staff to execute, enabling York Region to join other Municipal and Regional jurisdictions in the Province who have already recognized the shared responsibility of providing “deeply affordable” housing to individuals who through no fault of their own are living on a monthly shelter allowance, and provided a clear mandate to staff to execute.

Thank you,

Kathy Mochnacki

Kathy Mochnacki MSW RSW

President of the Board of Directors

www.home-on-the-hill.ca

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Pronoun: She/Her