

March 10, 2021

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.

Kerry's Place Autism Services is Canada's largest service provider to families with children, adolescents, and adults, with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD). Since 1974 Kerry's Place has been creating, and providing evidence-based supports and services across the province of Ontario that enhance the quality of life of those with ASD. Today, we are envisioning a future where all persons with Autism Spectrum Disorder are participating fully in their communities. With staff of more than 1200, Kerry's Place is one of the only organizations in the country that serves the entire life span of those with ASD.

Kerry's Place head office is located in Aurora and operates 80 homes and apartments throughout southern Ontario to provide persons living with autism with quality residential services. Within York Region, Kerry's Place residential sites are located in the Towns of East Gwillimbury, Georgina, and Newmarket. Rent supplements help to bridge the gap between monthly ODSP and the average market rent in York Region.

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,



Sue VanDeVelde-Coke

President and CEO

Kerry's Place Autism Services