

## TRANSFORM HEALTH CARE IN TORONTO

Giving today won't only enable YSM to treat more street-involved youth. As a health delivery partner to other Toronto health care agencies, this project will also connect youth in our care with a family doctor so when they are no longer eligible to access Evergreen's services, they'll have an existing trusting relationship with a primary caregiver.

Our partners from St. Michael's Hospital's Family Health Team eagerly await our much-needed expansion, to be made possible with your generous support!



*"YSM is a trusted collaborative partner with St. Michael's Hospital . . . We value YSM's contribution as a partner in our Family Health Team, which will [continue to] focus on connecting older youth experiencing homelessness to primary care."*

- Linda Jackson MSW, RSW, Senior Program Director, Primary and Community Care Executive Director, Academic Family Health Team St. Michael's Hospital

Join **TO.gether Team** members and help provide some of Toronto's most vulnerable young neighbours with barrier-free health care for decades to come!

Your gift today will help add 4,000 additional square feet of much-needed space for the Evergreen Health Centre. More importantly, you will give youth greater access to our health services, while improving — and even helping to save — the lives of almost half the youth who subsist on Toronto's streets each year.

**WILL YOU JOIN US?**

**YSM** | **TO.gether Team**

306 Gerrard St. E. Toronto, ON M5A 2G7

**BE A LIFELINE FOR TORONTO'S STREET-INVOLVED YOUTH:  
HELP EXPAND OUR  
EVERGREEN HEALTH CENTRE!**



**YSM** | **TO.gether Team**

## OUR MISSION

YSM's Evergreen Centre, is a safe space for street-involved youth in Toronto aged 16 to 24.

Young people are welcomed by our warm and caring team and can freely access a range of supportive programs, including fulsome health services. Our current 700-square-foot location hosts over 80 qualified professional nurses, doctors, dentists and mental health professionals who volunteer their time to provide essential health services.

On average, 5,000 youth experience homelessness in Toronto. And of them, 2,769 turn to YSM's Evergreen Health Centre to access much-needed health care. This demand for health services far outweighs our current capacity.



## DID YOU KNOW?

### Youth experiencing homelessness face:

- Increased risk of respiratory tract infections, viruses, diseases and suffering with chronic medical conditions (Homeless Hub, 2011)
- A life expectancy 30 years lower than the national average (Toronto Public Health, 2018)
- A greater likelihood of hospital admissions for mental illness (Mental Health Commission of Canada, 2013)

# WHAT WE CAN ACCOMPLISH TOGETHER FOR YOUTH

From the beginning, our intention has been to serve more youth at Evergreen. The time has come to begin construction and move our health centre onto its own designated floor and into an expanded, purpose-built, custom space. The need is indisputable. The blueprints are designed. **YOUTH IN OUR COMMUNITY ARE WAITING.**

## YOUR GIFT TODAY WILL . . .

Create lasting positive change for street-involved youth in Toronto by:



Helping YSM meet an urgent need across Toronto's health care system to reduce "hallway medicine" in hospitals and provide street-involved youth with the care they need.



Extending the hours during which youth can access health care and specialty services each week will reduce the wait-list for services because of space restrictions.



Expanding our space from 700 to 4,600 square feet will allow us to extend the hours and access to over 80 dedicated health care professionals who volunteer with us to provide a comprehensive complement of services — including doubling our dental services!



Building the Supportive Health Interventions Space which will become a safe and welcoming space for youth to receive counselling, psychiatric care and more, and will commemorate your generosity.

## NEW EVERGREEN CENTRE FOR STREET YOUTH

