

## MEDIA RELEASE

August 10, 2021

### Yellow Brick House to Re-Open Shelters in September 2021 Thanks to Ontario Trillium Foundation Support

**Richmond Hill** – Over the last six months, Yellow Brick House has completed a series of renovations designed to modify our emergency shelter and crisis counselling and support offices to protect clients, staff and volunteers from the unnecessary risk of contracting COVID-19 or a future pandemic illness. The upgrades were made possible thanks to a \$150,000 Resilient Community Fund grant awarded by the Ontario Trillium Foundation (OTF).

“The most dangerous time for an abused woman is when she attempts to leave her abuser. About 26% of all women murdered by their spouse had left the relationship, and half of the murdered women were killed within two months of leaving their abuser,” Lorris Herenda, Executive Director of Yellow Brick House explains, “These funds made it possible for Yellow Brick House to safely provide our services to vulnerable women and children at a time when the rates of domestic violence are on the rise due to the pandemic.”

Funds from the grant have been used by Yellow Brick House to implement layout changes, plexiglass barriers, signage, wall mounted hand sanitizers, break-out lounge area accommodations, improved air flow and cafe style tables and chairs for two of their locations.

As we navigate a new disrupted reality that includes physical distancing, this project has moved Yellow Brick House’s essential emergency housing and counselling space into readiness for later stages of the pandemic and post-pandemic.

#### About Yellow Brick House

Founded in 1978, Yellow Brick House provides life-saving support services and prevention programs to meet the diverse needs of individuals, families, and communities impacted by violence. Over 6,200 women and children received life-saving support from Yellow Brick House last year. Yellow Brick House asks the public to join Yellow Brick House’s movement to end domestic violence in our communities. To learn

---

52 West Beaver Creek Rd., Unit 4, Richmond Hill, ON L4B 1L9

Crisis & Support Line (phone or text): **1-800-263-3247**

Administration: **905-709-0900** • Toll Free: **1-800-263-2231**

Charitable Registration Number: **11910 5187 RR0001**

[www.yellowbrickhouse.org](http://www.yellowbrickhouse.org)

    @yellowbrckhouse

Ontario 

 United Way  
Greater Toronto



more about the services and programs provided by Yellow Brick House, please visit their website at [www.yellowbrickhouse.org](http://www.yellowbrickhouse.org).

### **About Ontario Trillium Foundation**

The Ontario Trillium Foundation (OTF) is an agency of the Government of Ontario, and one of Canada's leading granting foundations. OTF awarded \$115 million to 644 projects last year to build healthy and vibrant communities in Ontario.

### **Media Contact**

Lorris Herenda, Executive Director 905-709-090 [lorrysh@yellowbrickhouse.org](mailto:lorrysh@yellowbrickhouse.org)

---

52 West Beaver Creek Rd., Unit 4, Richmond Hill, ON L4B 1L9  
Crisis & Support Line (phone or text): **1-800-263-3247**  
Administration: **905-709-0900** • Toll Free: **1-800-263-2231**  
Charitable Registration Number: **11910 5187 RR0001**

[www.yellowbrickhouse.org](http://www.yellowbrickhouse.org)

    @yellowbrckhouse

