

BREAK THE SILENCE STEP IN MY SHOES

2025 funds raised will support Nights of Safety

Date: Sunday, November 2, 2025

Location: St. Andrew's College
15800 Yonge St, Aurora, ON L4G 3H7

Time: 10am - 12pm (Noon)



Become An Event Sponsor

Make an impact in your community!

Sponsor the 2025 Yellow Brick House, Break The Silence, Step In My Shoes Walk.

Contact Pamela Deveau at pamelad@yellowbrickhouse.org or call 905-709-0900 ext. 2233

Letter from Our CEO

Join us on November 2, 2025, at St. Andrews College in Aurora for the Break the Silence, Step in My Shoes Walk.

This important event **supports Nights of Safety**, a program that provides emergency shelter and life-saving services to women and children fleeing domestic violence.

Domestic violence affects individuals and families across every community, culture, and income level. For many, leaving an abusive situation means stepping into the unknown. Our shelters in Markham and Aurora offer a secure, supportive space where survivors can begin to rebuild their lives.

Demand for these services continues to grow. **Of the 41 beds and 10 cribs at Yellow Brick House, only 25 beds are provincially funded.** Community support is essential to ensure we can keep every door open and every bed available to those in crisis.

By sponsoring the Break the Silence, Step in My Shoes Walk, your organization plays a critical role in creating safer futures for women and children in our region. Your partnership helps provide shelter, counselling, crisis support, and other life saving services.

We invite you to walk with us and take a stand against domestic violence and demonstrate your commitment to building a safer, more supportive community for all.

With gratitude,



A stylized blue ink signature of Lorris Herenda.

Lorris Herenda
Chief Executive Officer



"At Yellow Brick House, my children and I finally felt safe after years of fear. The counselling and mental health support gave us the strength to begin healing and rebuilding our lives."
- Survivor Samin



Deepa's Story

When the emotional abuse turned physical, I knew I had to make a choice. Not just for myself, but for my children. **I had lived in the same community for years, surrounded by people who never suspected what was happening behind closed doors.**

Yellow Brick House became the place where I stopped hiding and started healing.

That first Night of Safety was more than just shelter. It was a turning point. For the first time in years, I slept without fear. The staff welcomed us without judgment, offering warmth, understanding, and the resources we so desperately needed.

Counselling helped me rediscover my voice, and group sessions reminded me that I was not alone. My children, once withdrawn, began smiling again in the playroom filled with laughter and comfort. Yellow Brick House gave them back their childhood.

With their support, I found stable housing, navigated the legal system, and began rebuilding a life free from violence. Today, I live safely, free from abuse, with my three children—now thriving teenagers.

That single Night of Safety marked the beginning of a new chapter. It was a chapter rooted in strength, resilience, and hope.

- Deepa, survivor

"When she finally called me to say she was safe, I cried—tears of relief, fear, and gratitude all at once. I had spent so many nights worrying, hoping she and her children would find a way out.

Yellow Brick House made that possible. From the first call to the crisis line to the support she received in shelter and through safety planning, they were with her through it all.

They gave her more than just safety—they gave her the space to breathe, the tools to heal, and the hope to begin again."

- Carmen, Friend of Survivor

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. Yellow Brick House has served **over 155,000 women and children since it's inception.**

Your support is vital to ensure that individuals, families, and communities can live free from violence through our two emergency shelters, 24-hour crisis and support line, public education programs, and community counselling and support services for both women and children.

Funds raised through the **9th Annual Yellow Brick House, Break the Silence Step in My Shoes Walk** will support **Nights of Safety.**



"I stayed at Yellow Brick House with my children nine years ago when we needed safety the most. The shelter gave us a place to recover from trauma. This year, attending the Break the Silence walk reminded me of the incredible support that carried us through those difficult times. Being surrounded by people who care deeply about ending domestic violence made me feel proud and hopeful for others still on their journey."

- Selina, Survivor

BREAK THE SILENCE

"I used to stay quiet so my little sisters would not be scared. I thought I had to be strong for everyone.

But at Yellow Brick House, one of the counsellors sat down and asked how I was doing. Through one-on-one counselling and teen-focused group sessions, I realized I was not just a protector, I was a girl who deserved a voice of her own.

Their support helped me find that voice, and I will carry it with me for the rest of my life."

- Talia, Survivor



Become an event sponsor and save lives!

Yellow Brick House, Break the Silence, Step in My Shoes Walk, sponsors will receive:

- Partnership with an established and respected charity
- Advertising and delivery of branded materials directly to key decision-makers and business owners
- Business exposure within the York Region
- A powerful and inspiring teambuilding experience

Yellow Brick House, Break the Silence, Step in My Shoes Walk
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2025 Sponsorship Opportunities

Recognition	Title \$5000	Community \$2500	Ambassador \$1000
Company profiled on Yellow Brick House website with direct links	X	X	X
Logo on all event communications (before, during & after)	X	X	X
Lawn sign advertisement with sponsor logo	X	X	X
Recognition in slide show welcome video	X	X	X
Recognition in post-event thank you ad	X	X	X
Opportunity to provide promotional items for participant bags	X	X	X
Present Top fundraiser prizes	X		
Naming opportunity – event renames to include company name	X		
Recognition in pre-event promo videos	X	X	
Company Name featured in Press Release	X	X	

Interested in Maximizing Your Impact? Become a Matching Donor.

Matching donors play a powerful role in inspiring others to give. By pledging to match donations during our Break The Silence, Step in My Shoes Walk, you can double the impact of every dollar raised — and encourage more community members to get involved and help us reach our goal.

Last year at the Break the Silence Step in My Shoes Walk... 2024



Over 270 participants



\$77,791 raised to support
Nights of Safety program



Over 200 total volunteers

Come, stand beside us, and step into our journey to raise awareness about the vital services offered by Yellow Brick House. Together, let's champion and aid women and children breaking free from violence and abuse, empowering them to rebuild their lives in a safe environment.

Become an event sponsor today: Contact Pamela at pamelad@yellowbrickhouse.org or 905-709-0900 ext. 2233

Scan QR Code to access
Yellow Brick House's 2024
Break The Silence, Step in My
Shoes, Walk Impact Report



Your Impact

Regrettably, in 2024, 62 women and children lost their lives in Ontario as a result of gender-based violence. Yet, thanks to your support, Yellow Brick House has been at the forefront of tackling the pervasive issue of violence and abuse against women and children in the York Region and the GTA. Through our four core programs, we offer safety and support, working to create a safer future for those in need.

Thanks to donors like you, last year (2024-2025 fiscal)

- 146** Women and children stayed at our emergency shelters
- 5,021** Individuals were served through our services
- 530** Individuals received counselling
- 1,938** Crisis calls answered
- 2,585** Students received education through our public education program
- 4,465** Volunteer hours served



2 Emergency
shelters



24-hour Crisis
and support
line



Community
counselling and
support
services



Public
Education