Peterborough Action for Tiny Homes Launches Clothing Hub and Supply Depot

PETERBOROUGH, ON, Dec 8, 2023 — In partnership with Elizabeth Fry Society and Habitat for Humanity PKR, Peterborough Action for Tiny Homes (PATH) is launching "Ready for Home" a pilot program at 385 Lansdowne St. Ready for Home is a Clothing Hub and Supply Depot where participants and volunteers work in collaboration 1 day a week to clean, repair and package clothing items and basic supplies to help people experiencing homelessness survive the winter. The program gives individuals with barriers to housing a meaningful way to build community, learn and practice skills and contribute back where there is need.

Donated items are dropped off by appointment, processed on-site and redistributed to existing Peterborough charities and organizations. Donated items are not available from the Lansdowne location but are processed through the supply hub so that the generosity of Peterborough citizens can provide additional support to other street-level efforts over the coldest months of the year.

Community volunteers work side-by-side with participants in a relationship-first approach. The Ready for Home program, with the support of The Elizabeth Fry Society of Peterborough, accommodates existing goals with individual coaching being provided for each program participant. PATH continues to conduct all due-diligences with site grading and zoning requirements to construct sleeping cabins on the property which they are leasing through the generous support of Habitat for Humanity PKR.

"We are thrilled to be using the space to create this program while we keep pressing forward with the approval process for constructing our cabin community. Having a small number of participants enrolled in this weekly program allows us to build the kind of community we hope for once members are able to live on site. The goal has always been to have an array of skillbuilding activities within a tiny home community as participants work toward more stable housing solutions," noted Margaret Slavin, interim Board Chair for PATH.

"The Ready for Home program creates a place for participants to learn skills, gain trust with the local Ashburnham community and spend at least one day a week out of the cold and in a warm, dry facility, where basics like food and running water are accessible. It also provides clean, warm clothing items to others that can literally save lives in the harsh winter conditions," says Marion Burton, Chair of PATH's Steering Committee.

For more information about PATH or the Ready for Home program email inquires to <u>pathadm22@gmail.com</u>. For information about how to donate or volunteer, visit <u>www.pathptbo.org</u>

- 30 -