Daily Bread Food Bank

TORONTO UNION

Protect Our Shelter Allowance, Help Us Secure Housing

We are people experiencing homelessness in Ontario who rely on social assistance. When we lose our housing, we lose our shelter allowance: $390 a month on Ontario Works (OW) and $611 on the Ontario Disability Support Program (ODSP). That money is meant to keep us housed, yet it disappears at the moment we need it most. Without it, saving for a new place becomes nearly impossible, and we stay trapped in shelters and on the street.

Moving back into housing means first and last month's rent, a key deposit, moving costs, basic household necessities and other expenses. Those costs add up just when our shelter allowance is gone, and the emergency funds that exist are limited and hard to access.

Everyone deserves the dignity of a place to call home. Getting people back into housing quickly is better for individuals, families and whole communities, and it costs far less than keeping people in shelters, hospitals and on the street.

We, the undersigned, petition the Government of Ontario as follows:

We call on the Government of Ontario to create a Shelter Allowance Fund that protects our social assistance shelter allowance, so that when we lose our housing, we have reliable access to funds for first and last month's rent and the other costs of securing a new home, as quickly as possible; and that the Government of Ontario meaningfully consult with people with lived experience, municipalities, frontline service providers, and other community organizations to design and implement this program.

No.	Name	Signature	Are you on OW/ODSP?
1.			
2.			
3.			
4.			
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9.			
10.			

By signing, you agree that the information you provide here will be given to the Government of Ontario with this petition. Your information will not be made public or used for any other purpose.