

Developmental Services

Names Have Been Changed
For Confidentiality

At Manse Road we work with clients living with developmental disabilities and who are transitioning into adulthood. With the support of our staff, clients build life skills and can explore their independence in a safe, family-like environment. Despite the struggles that came from the COVID-19 Pandemic, we've still had lots to celebrate this year as our clients work towards their dreams.

Suki* has almost finished her first year of college as a Child and Youth Worker, and on top her online school, she is also successfully working part-time.

Elsbeth* got accepted into college and is still waiting to hear back from a few more! She also wants to become a Child and Youth worker.

It truly warms our hearts to see our clients look up to Kennedy House staff and aspire to work in a similar field. Much like following in a parents' footsteps, stories like this remind us that we are a family.



A Legacy of Caring

At Kennedy House we believe that all individuals have the potential for change and growth. All of our programs promote compassionate, appropriate behavioural interventions, as well as group and systematic approaches that are individual in content and pace and focused on family-like settings.

Kennedy House will continue to grow and expand. We will continue to nimbly respond to the changing needs of our clients and partner placing agencies. Our vision is fixed, and has never faltered. We are devoted to the principles of child and youth welfare, the integrity of healthy relationships and the importance of individual care planning.

My Kennedy House Family:

By **Shamirah**, A Former Youth Shelter Client

I arrived in Toronto as a refugee with no family or friends. A number of kind strangers that I met along the way pointed me in the direction of Kennedy House Youth Shelter. I made my way across the city not knowing what to expect. It was scary, but all I was really focused on was finding a safe place to sleep and a warm meal. When I arrived, I was met by staff who welcomed me with open arms. They even introduced me to other youth from my country. I lived at the shelter for 6 months before finding independent housing. The staff and youth became my family in that time, and they've remained my family to this day.

When I lived at Kennedy House I discovered my true calling in life, to use my lived experience to support and empower others. My favourite moment at the shelter was when I was invited to become a Peer Mentor. I was able to support other clients, they could relate to me and never felt judged. It was such a rewarding experience and led me to my career on the frontline at shelters.

I don't like to say that the people I work with are "homeless". They are all human beings on their individual journeys, and maybe they've hit a bump in the road or taken a wrong turn, but that's life. Healing is an ongoing process, and the people you meet along the way can change your life forever. The people I met at Kennedy House changed my life. And I continue to share my story and be there for others, because I know how big of a difference that can make.



KENNEDY HOUSE

Celebrates

50 Years



www.kennedyhouse.org

50 Years

of Hope and Promise for A Better Tomorrow

May 1, 1971



Kennedy House Youth Services is established with the opening of Kennedy Road Residential Program by our founders, Ed Blazo and Doug Chin. Kennedy Rd opens as an alternative approach to the typical and impersonal institutionalized care for at-risk youth in the community.

1985



Manse Road Residential Program opens as our second home for youth in care.

May 1
1984

Kennedy House's first secure custody facility, Rotherglen, for males & females aged 12-15 opens under the Juvenile Delinquents Act.

September
1987

Our Day Treatment Program opens in partnership with the TDSB and Ministry of Education – to support high-school aged youth.

July 1989



Kingston Road Residential Program opens as a male-only residence for youth in care.

1996



Galloway Road Residential Program opens for youth in care.

January
2001

Brock Road Residential Program opens for youth in care.

March 2004



Kingston Road Program converts to a female-only residence.

July 17, 1998



Rotherglen closes, and our current secure custody facility, the Kennedy House Youth Centre opens its doors for young males sentenced or detained under the Young Offenders Act.

2002

The Youth Criminal Justice Act replaces the Young Offenders Act, and Kennedy House Youth Centre transitions to operate under the new act.

August
2007

Bailiff Services is established to support the Eastern Region Justice System and the safe transportation of youth.

2009



Kennedy House After-School/Summer Programs opens for children aged 4-12 years old in priority Scarborough neighbourhoods.

2015

Kennedy House Youth Shelter expands capacity to 40 clients.

February 2015 – Brock Road Program transitions from a Child Welfare Residential Program to a Developmental Services Program for clients living with developmental disabilities aged 17+.

June 2020



Kennedy House Youth Services officially changes our name to Kennedy House, reflecting that our programs today serve youth, adults, children, and families.

June 1, 2014



Kennedy House Youth Shelter opens as a 30-bed facility offering emergency shelter and programming to youth (aged 16-24) experiencing homelessness.

Galloway Road program transitions from a Child Welfare Program to a Developmental Services Program for clients aged 12-18 living with developmental disabilities.

December
2017

Manse Road Program transitions from a Child Welfare Residential Program to a Developmental Services Program for clients living with developmental disabilities aged 17+.

January 2021



Kennedy House Youth Shelter expands capacity to 53 clients, a direct response to the COVID-19 Pandemic.