

April 28, 2023

Judith Brown  
Toronto Central Adventist Church  
156-162 Bentworth Avenue. Toronto, Ontario, M6A 1P7

**Re: Toronto Central PossiBUILdity Project**

Dear Judith,

It with a great deal of pleasure that I write this letter of recognition to you and the members of the Toronto Central Adventist Church. I'm very pleased to hear about the expansion aims of the Toronto Central Adventist Church. As the former Senior Manager, of the Fred Victor Bethlehem United Shelter, it is not surprising that Toronto Central Adventist Church is aiming to expand your services in an effort to broaden your scope so that you are expanding your reach to meet the needs of marginalized communities.

Prior to my departure in 2022, your community initiatives assisted several residents at the Bethlehem United Shelter for well-over five years. Your determination, non-judgemental approach and heart impacted so many lives in different ways. To name a few impact examples, the community was able to secure meaningful employment because of your clothing drives. Those moving into housing were able to put food on their tables which lessened their food insecurity concerns so that they can pay the high cost of rent because of your food drive initiatives. Food insecurity impacts thousands of people! The lack of consistent access to enough food for everyone in a household to live an active health life is a health problem. Not only have you folks provided the essentials throughout the years, you also made the holiday season brighter for so many homeless individuals who unfortunately do not have a place they call home. The darkest times can be during the holidays, as it can bring on sad or traumatizing memories. Every year you folks brought cheer and the outpouring of donations and support to help the community really made an impact not only on the community, but the team and I.

It's heartwarming to see the impact, the generosity of the Toronto Central Adventist Church and the efforts directed at the homeless. I spent 15-years at Fred Victor Centre doing paid humanitarian work, I have never seen in all my years folks be kind, acknowledge people, saying hello, not ignoring and remembering that it takes a village. It is for those reasons that I acknowledge as well as recommended that the Toronto Central Adventist Church aim to increase their philanthropy work as you folks have a heart, and you can't teach heart, you either have it or you don't.

Sincerely,

Danielle Ashby