

NOVEMBER 8, 2026 | A Stable Start

Imagine being 17 years old and not knowing where you'll sleep tonight. You're trying to finish school, figure out your future, and navigate the world, but so much of your energy is spent just finding a safe place to stay.

For too many young people, this is what housing insecurity looks like. And without a stable place to call home, it can be extremely difficult to focus on anything else.

In Hamilton, Ontario, Wesley Youth Housing is helping young people move beyond that uncertainty. The program supports youth aged 16-21 who are experiencing homelessness, or are at risk of losing their housing. This work extends beyond providing a bed to create a place where young people feel safe, can build relationships, learn practical skills, and begin to imagine a different future.

Some youth arrive at Wesley with very few belongings and limited resources. The program provides welcome kits with bedding, towels, kitchen supplies, and personal hygiene items. These essentials help young people settle in with dignity, and they can take these belongings with them when they move into independent housing.

Support continues beyond those first days. Youth take part in hands-on cooking classes, learn everyday life skills, and enjoy activities such as skating, movie nights, and community outings. Birthdays and holidays are celebrated, too. These moments might seem small, but for young people without strong family connections, they can make an extraordinary difference.

Since Wesley Youth Housing began in 2007, it has served 378 young people. In the most recent reporting year, all nine youth who completed the program moved into stable housing. These outcomes reflect what can happen when young people have the time, encouragement, and practical support they need to build independence.

Our gifts through Mission and Service help make this possible by supporting staffing, facility maintenance, essential supplies, and life-skills programming. In a time when operating costs continue to rise, and the need for affordable housing remains urgent, this support helps Wesley continue offering young people a safe place to take their next steps.

Thank you for supporting programs like Wesley Youth Housing through your gifts to Mission and Service. Together, we can help make sure that a difficult beginning doesn't have to determine what comes next. [Let's give generously.](#)