

WINTER 2019

# YOUR REDWOOD

your gifts at work for women and children

THANK YOU! THANK  
YOU! THANK YOU!

Women and children find safety and healing from abuse, thanks to your gifts to The Redwood!

When women arrive at the shelter, their number one priority is safety, for themselves and their children.

Thanks to you — women can tuck their children into bed, knowing they can all sleep more soundly. The Redwood's counsellors are watching over them. The building has around the clock video surveillance. There are alarms on the doors.

When women arrive at the shelter, they worry about providing their children with the basic necessities of life — food, clothing.

Thanks to you — children can come "home" from a scary first day at a new school knowing Maureen, The Redwood's cook, will be waiting for them with a big hello and a lovingly prepared, nutritious dinner. And there are gift cards to help women buy a new school bag, winter boots, a comforting toy for their child.

And when women have been at the shelter a little while, they begin to heal and want to make plans for the future.

Thanks to you — The Redwood's counsellors are available 24/7 — to comfort, reassure and to help with legal issues, and employment, education and housing plans. Women can empower themselves in workshops on parenting,



resume-building and yoga. Children can explore art and music. Tutors help students keep up with their school work.

Last year, you assisted the 123 children and 73 women who lived at The Redwood to live free from fear, free from threat and free from abuse. You helped the 491 women who called our 24-hour telephone crisis line to live more safely. And, you assisted The Redwood to provide hundreds more women — and men — with workshops in healthy relationships, confidence and self-care, at centres across the city.

Thanks to you — our entire community is stronger!

Learn more about your gifts at work at [theredwood.com](http://theredwood.com)

COMING SOON:

# REDWOOD PARK!!!!!!

A PLACE FOR HEALING, COMMUNITY AND FUN!

As Resident Services Manager at The Redwood, Tanisha Sri Bhaggiyadatta is always asking herself — “What else can we be doing to support women and children who take refuge at the shelter? What could we do better?”

She’d been thinking about the more than 120 children who will call the shelter home for at least part of the coming year.

When children arrive at The Redwood, the range of emotions they are experiencing can be daunting. Some are frightened and anxious, and due to the abuse they have endured or witnessed, are on high alert for danger. They are easily startled, refuse to be separated from mom and are unsure of this new home, and new people. Others appear stunned, blank or even void of emotion. They need to be able to allow the feelings caused by trauma to emerge. Children will often express themselves through play and games.

The children at The Redwood need to reconnect with being children again.

**And so Tanisha began to dream...**

Wouldn’t it be wonderful if children at The Redwood had a vibrant, welcoming, engaging outdoor space where they could move, play, create, scoot, bike and imagine? The children are so resilient, courageous and bright. Don’t YOU agree that children deserve a special place where they can heal, make friends and even have fun?

Tanisha shared this dream with friends of The Redwood — Donna Hinde and Tonya Crawford of the acclaimed design firm The Planning Partnership. Tanisha was just looking for a little advice. Would it even be possible to turn The Redwood’s internal courtyard — a gray and concrete square into a special playground?



*The Redwood courtyard, today*

A few days later, Donna and Tonya came to The Redwood for a visit. They left inspired! And within a couple of weeks, The Planning Partnership had donated the Preliminary Ideas and Concept plan for Redwood Park — a multi-use space for women and children that combines safety (a child-friendly rubber surface to replace paving stones), community (opportunities for women to garden or gather for conversation), whimsy (a place to screen outdoor movies) and beauty — brightly coloured murals and furniture to replace the gray on gray. They also delivered a draft budget — and including discounts and favours from their colleagues, the estimate was \$83,000. Reasonable, but perhaps the dream would have to be put on hold for a little while.

**And then...out of the blue**, The Redwood’s Executive Director, Abi Ajibolade received a phone call.

It came from Justin Taylor, the COO at Greenrock Real Estate Advisors. He had some amazing news. The 4,000 tenants living in Greenrock buildings across the city had voted for The Redwood to receive a Greenwood Impact gift of \$20,000. “Did we have a special project that would benefit from such a gift?”

**Did we ever!** Abi told Justin about Redwood Park — and he was as excited as we were about creating a



Drawings from the Preliminary Ideas and Concept plan for Redwood Park



healing playground for children living at the shelter!  
**The dream was another step closer to reality.**

**And then...**

The very next day, Justin called The Redwood, again.  
 We had been voted by the tenants of Postmedia Place,  
 which is managed by Greenrock, to receive a second  
 Impact gift of \$10,000! **How amazing!**

We shared the good news with Donna and Tonya at  
 The Planning Partnership and they were so happy that  
 they passed the hat and made gift of their own.

**Wow!!!!** Within a few weeks Redwood Park had gone

from a dream to a "Coming Soon" reality. With the  
 project 40% financed, we can move into Phase 1 this  
 summer!

**Thank you to Donna and Tonya and  
 The Planning Partnership!**

**Thank you to Justin and Greenrock Real Estate  
 Advisors!**

**If YOU would like to help build Redwood Park for  
 women and children fleeing violence, please call  
 Catherine May, Fundraising and Communications  
 Manager to arrange a conversation: 416-533-9372  
 Ext. 227.**

# SAVE THE DATE!

For those of you who couldn't attend a Redwood event last year, we can't wait to welcome you!

For those of you who did attend, we can't wait to see you again!



Join The Redwood for International Women's Day

## THE REDWOOD MONOLOGUES

A performance of true stories from the front lines of a violence against women shelter

**Friday, March 8, 2019, 7:30 pm**

The Revue Cinema \$25

Go to [theredwood.com](http://theredwood.com) for details and ticket sales

Look for your invitation to

## THE REDWOOD DONORS' OPEN HOUSE & SUMMER BBQ

Visit the shelter and learn more about the impact of your support on women and children fleeing violence.

**Friday, July 12, 2019 5 pm to 8 pm**



Join friends for

## REDWOOD-PALOOZA TWO!

A Friday night, come-as-you-are social to benefit women and children at The Redwood.

**Friday, October 25, 2019, 6 pm to 9:30 pm**

at Roncesvalles United Church

Community Event Space \$50



P.O. Box 16023, Toronto, ON M6J 3W2 | 416.533.9372 | Charitable #: 89172 8867 RR0001

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#TheRedwood #SurvivorsCourage #DonorsKindness #CommunityResolve #StaffPassion #EndGBV



# THANK YOU SAFE HAVEN MONTHLY DONORS!

Your generous gift every month provides a safe haven for women and children who seek refuge from abuse. **Your big heart makes a better future possible!**

## *Since the beginning (giving for 21 years +)*

Richard Clarke  
Barbara Gordon  
John Gregory and Lynn Horton  
R Douglas Kneebone  
Priscilla McLellan  
Tom Schmidt and Joan MacDonald  
Anthea Windsor

## *Giving for 16–20 years*

Marian Dell  
Mary Fantauzzi  
Anne-Marie Gardner  
Sharon C Gilbert  
Sonia Pinkney and David Giesbrecht  
Lisa Smecca  
Jo and John ten Brummeler  
ANONYMOUS (6)

## *Giving for 11–15 years*

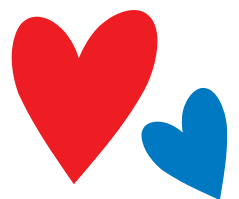
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Norm Wilner  
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## *Giving for 6–10 years*

Abi Ajibolade  
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Gail Shillingford  
Deanne Shoyer  
Dana Snell  
Laura Stenberg  
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Nikola Swain



continued...

Bailie Tabak  
Treva Thompson  
Melanie Tricker  
Jennifer Turner  
Keely Van Tol  
Georgia Vatcher  
Jainarine Albert Veira  
Olena Veryha  
Margarete Wiebe  
Diana Wilson  
Rosslyn Young  
ANONYMOUS (262)

**Our newest friends  
(giving for up to 5 years)**

Mary-Anne Aarts  
Andra Abolins  
Tara Ajeet  
Rajiv Kaushik and Natalie Alvarez  
Richard Arkell  
Jillian Baker  
Michelle Ball  
Tal Bar  
Thomas Barker  
Paula Barreira  
Sylvia Basso  
Kayla Beatty  
Bryan Bell-Smith  
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Miriam Blier  
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Andrea Corey  
Jamea Corney  
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Natalie Decker  
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Mandy DiRezze  
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Sandra Drake  
Stephanie Nicole Drouin  
Lynda Ducharme  
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Marion Endicott  
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Rebecca Evans  
Paolo Fabris  
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Jennifer Fehr  
Alan Fellows  
Denise Fernandes  
Rob Firing  
Maggie Fish  
Caitlin FitzGerald  
Peter Fleming

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Brianna Gibson  
Paul Gitlin  
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Chris Graham  
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Odette Ziezold and Jeffery Hanning  
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Stephanie Johnson  
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Ian Tyler Kaufman  
Michelle Kelly  
Jordan D Klapman  
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Yvonne Lau  
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Julie Martin  
Maria Massano  
Michelle Massicotte  
Catherine May and Celest Natale  
Jackie May  
Kim Mccallum  
Tracey McConnell  
Catherine McCullough  
Ashley McDonald  
Erin McDougald  
Matthew Steven McEwan  
Lily McGregor

Sarah McKinnon  
Geoff Miller  
Blaise Misiek  
Mairi Mitchell  
Craig Moysey  
In memory of Paul Murphy  
Carla Murphy  
Stephanie Nadler  
Amy Nhan  
Leah Odle-Benson  
Georgina O'Grady  
Mojisola Okitika  
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Mark Gonzaga  
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*Every effort has been made to ensure this is an accurate list of donors. If you notice an error or omission, please accept our apology and let us know so we can update our records.*



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