



SOARING TO NEW HEIGHTS

SHIFRA HOMES

WELCOME !

Welcome to our annual newsletter! As we reflect on the past year, we are filled with immense gratitude for the progress we've made together. At Shifra Homes, our mission to provide a safe and nurturing environment for young, homeless, pregnant women continues to thrive, thanks to your unwavering support. This year has been a period of remarkable growth and transformation for our organization. Our dedicated staff and volunteers have worked tirelessly to provide comprehensive care and support to our residents, ensuring they have the resources and opportunities to build a brighter future. As we share our successes and updates with you in this newsletter, we are reminded of the incredible resilience and determination of the women we serve. Their stories of overcoming adversity inspire us daily and reaffirm our commitment to our mission. We are excited to share some of these stories with you and highlight the impact of your contributions.

Thank you for being an integral part of the Shifra Homes community. Together, we are creating a path to a brighter future for many young women and their babies.

IN THIS ISSUE

- Hello Summer
- 2023 Babies
- Success Story
- 2023 Business Excellence Award
- Thank You to Our Volunteers
- Special Thank You
- Our Generous Donors/Sponsors
- Message from the Executive Director



2023 BABIES

ELLANI- JANUARY
 JAXON- MARCH
 HANNAH- APRIL
 ZARAMAE- JUNE
 YASIN- AUGUST
 JAYLAH- SEPTEMBER
 ZYAIRE- OCTOBER
 KAMSI- OCTOBER
 RAIJAH- OCTOBER
 JERIAH- DECEMBER

SUCCESS STORY

JA came to Shifra Homes seven months pregnant, homeless sleeping in a church, and without a support network after moving to Canada for post-graduate studies. We provided her with shelter, food, mental health counseling, and other essential services. After her daughter was born, we extended her stay so she could complete her MBA with the help of volunteer tutors and babysitting support. She has since secured a job at RBC in Toronto and moved into her own apartment and is, continuing to receive support through our Seeds of Hope program. She has formed strong bonds with other residents, whom she now considers her sisters, as they support each other while navigating motherhood and independent living. Through Shifra Homes, JA not only found stable housing, completed her education, and became a loving mother, but also built a supportive family and community for life.



JA with Program Manager Emily and Volunteer at her graduation



AWARDS AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Throughout this year several awards and achievements have been given to Nancy Romic the Executive Director of Shifra Homes. Nancy was the recipient of the 2023 Burlington Chamber of Commerce Business Excellence Award in the category of Women Business Leaders Winner.

THANK YOU TO OUR VOLUNTEERS

The contribution of volunteers at Shifra Homes is crucial to our daily operations. Their devotion, time, compassion, and affection towards our residents, babies, and staff is truly invaluable. We are incredibly grateful to have such an exceptional group of volunteers who have a positive impact in our lives. We would like to acknowledge:

- Carolyn Park
- Carol-Ann O'Toole
- Andrea Bremer
- Lisa Toth
- Karen Bradley
- Stephanie Reid
- Clinton Howell
- Liz Lydon
- Craig MacPherson
- Natasha Martin Webber
- Mana Golnazi
- Becky Lang
- Julia England
- Kim Clarke
- Helen OBrien
- Michelle Klysen
- Jane Liu
- Bree Toma
- Susan O'Sullivan
- Penny Turner
- Rita Van Oosterhout
- Elaine Armstrong



Volunteers being recognized by local MP



THE MAY COURT CLUB OF OAKVILLE

Shifra Homes would like to acknowledge and thank the wonderful women from The May Court Club of Oakville for their monthly donations of personal care items for our moms. While we receive numerous donations for our babies, our young moms are often overlooked. The May Court Club of Oakville visit monthly and drop off specific items that our young moms need such as: body wash, shampoo, conditioner, hairbrushes, nail polish, personal agendas and so much more. Our moms look forward to receiving these special thoughtful gifts.



Burlington Dads Association

A special thank you to the Burlington Dads Association who visited Shifra Homes and donated \$13,000 to our mission.

RONA- Home Sweet Home

Thank you to RONA for raising \$2500 for Shifra Homes through their Home Sweet Home campaign.



Knights of Columbus

Another special thank you to the Knights of Columbus who visited Shifra Homes and donated \$1,000

Our Generous Donors

Top donors:

- June & Ian
- Terrance & Cynthia MacGibbon
- Timothy & Catherine O'Brien
- Louise Villalta
- St. Paul the Apostle
- Faith CRC
- The Roman Catholic Episcopal Corporation
- Knights of Columbus Marian Council #3881
- Burlington Dads Association

Grants & Foundations:

- The Regional Municipality of Halton- HRCIF & Reaching Home
- Zonta Club of Oakville
- Oakville Community Foundation
- The May Court Club of Oakville
- The Lawson Foundation
- Starbucks

*Please note there are many more donors, grants and foundations that have asked to remain anonymous.

Our Generous Sponsors



NANCY ROMIC

MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Our homes are furnished beautifully, the women/moms and babies are happy, you can smell good food cooking, and there are daily programs and service providers visiting. There is never a dull moment. What I find the most amazing is that the homes are very peaceful, and the moms and babies thrive. Words are not adequate to do justice to what Shifra is.

When I began my journey at Shifra Homes, the one thing that I asked Randy Matters, the founder of Shifra, was to believe in me that I would turn Shifra into something special. Randy's faith in me never wavered and despite him being a man of few words, the smile on his face told me that he was proud of my accomplishments. Randy was a man of God, who started Shifra Homes in 2006, to assist young, pregnant women and their babies. He wanted to make a positive difference in this world. Randy passed away suddenly on Mother's Day. His passing on this special day is very symbolic.

While Randy has left our earthly world, he has left a legacy named Shifra Homes. Shifra Homes means safety, security, peace, healing, life and most importantly hope. There is no greater gift that one can give than hope to someone that feels hopeless.

I would like to acknowledge and thank my amazing team of staff, service providers, volunteers, students, donors, and supporters. Without each of you, nothing is possible.

Together we accomplish the impossible. We provide hope and a future to our young moms and babies. The immense gratitude and respect that I have for each of you cannot be described in words.

Special thanks to my earth Angel Randy, for entrusting me to continue his legacy of love and kindness in this world.

*Forever grateful!
Nancy Romic
Executive Director*

