

Ontario Works provided basic needs, so at least I had food in my belly. Canadian Mental Health helped me put together a plan, with daily goals and such. Family members helped and that made the difference.

# Our worker kept pushing us to move forward, supported us and worked with us

I think the amount of money someone receives from ODSP or OW needs to be reviewed. There is no way anybody can afford a home at these prices with the income they get.

Supports were necessary once we became housed to pay bills, maintain the housing and keep on track with relationships and addictions.

## NOBODY chooses to have an addiction or to become homeless.

#### Homelessness doesn't have a class.

# It can happen to anyone. Alcohol, poor decisions, hard to pull yourself out.

Everyone who seeks any kind of help should be treated fairly and equally. There shouldn't be a time limit on certain situations or events that keep someone from getting the help they need and are looking for.

Not having someone to relate to makes a difference, having someone to relate to is key.

Finding that one person that was willing to help me with no judgement was the greatest gift that I could have received in my journey of homelessness.

The more difficult it is to get the help you need, the more chance you have of going back to what you know.

A turning point for me in my journey was getting sober. With that I needed to change my entire environment; I was used to that lifestyle for years, everything needed to change.

Someone must care. Walking with people. Their journey is not my journey.

The lack of stability is crippling and degrading - leaving you with almost zero self-esteem or self-worth.

### My trauma stops me from progressing further.

# I want service providers to understand - The URGENCY of the situation!