

For immediate release
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Affordable housing boosted by McCain family's one million dollar gift

TORONTO- YWCA Toronto is thrilled to announce the receipt of a generous gift of \$1 million from one of Canada's leading philanthropic families. The gift is helping build the YWCA Elm Centre.

Opening this fall, the YWCA Elm Centre will provide 300 affordable apartments for single low-income women, women with children, women living with mental health and addiction issues and Aboriginal families.

"We made this gift because we believe the YWCA is helping women build a better future for themselves and their children," says Margaret Norrie McCain, YWCA Woman of Distinction (2005).

"The McCain family gift is helping build a healthier city by providing safe, supportive and stable homes for women who struggle to make ends meet and women overcoming their addiction and mental health challenges," says Heather McGregor, YWCA Toronto CEO. "While the McCain family gift is one of the largest we have received, the donations we are receiving from Torontonians from all walks of life indicate that many Torontonians strongly believe in the importance of affordable and supportive housing."

The YWCA Elm Centre's courtyard will be named in honour of Wallace and Margaret Norrie McCain. Framed by the two residential towers, the YWCA's new administrative offices and the amenity spaces, the courtyard will be a communal space for residents.

YWCA Toronto is currently in the final stages of the No Place Like Elm Campaign, with a goal of raising \$15 million to build the YWCA Elm Centre.

YWCA Toronto is dedicated to improving the lives of women and girls. Our programs promote equality, economic security and lives free from violence. We help women and girls flee violence, secure housing, find jobs, establish their voices, enhance skills and develop confidence. We offer a range of housing options, employment and training programs, community support programs, girls' programs and family programs. We also engage in systemic advocacy.

For more information visit www.elmcentre.ca.

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