

Innovative, New Housing Support Program for At-Risk Women Launched Jubilee Fund's Rent Guarantee Pilot Program will be First of its kind in Manitoba

November 6, 2021, WINNIPEG, MB. // Winnipeg-based Jubilee Fund has announced a new program to assist at-risk women in securing long-term, safe, affordable. housing.

The program will see Jubilee provide a financial guarantee for women leaving abusive circumstances and who are no longer able to remain in shelters or other forms of transitional housing.

"This program will directly touch the lives of women seeking a better, safer more secure life for themselves and their children," said Jubilee Fund's Monica Dueck. "When we began exploring the need we found that there was an enormous gap in service that needed to be filled. The positive response we have received from the sector has been overwhelming and humbling."

Similar to how Jubilee Fund acts as a financial guarantor for non-profits, the organization will guarantee one year of rent for qualified applicants and act as a co-signor making it easier for women to build a financial history and find suitable housing. Often at-risk women run into barriers due to a number of factors including a lack of documented financial history that make property managers leery of extending a rental agreement to them.

"Without safe, secure, affordable housing at-risk women have been known to return to abusive settings with disastrous results for them and any children that may be involved," said Dueck. "It can take years to secure provincially subsidized housing and, in the meantime, we hope this program bridges a gap. We're not paying the rent for people; we're giving women the chance to show they are capable of taking care of themselves. We're saying we believe in, and will stand with them. After a year with a solid track record and documented financial history property managers will be less likely to require a guarantor."

Jubilee will be working with support organizations such as Manitoba Association of Women's to receive applicant recommendations when the program launches this spring. If all goes well the one-year pilot will be extended to additional demographics depending upon success rates and available funding.

The funds used to back the program come from investors, donors and organizations like The Winnipeg Foundation and the province of Manitoba.

For more information about the Rent Guarantee Program contact Monica Dueck at 204-589-5001 or email monica@jubileefund.ca.

To learn more about the Jubilee Fund and investment opportunities visit www.jubileefund.ca or contact 204-589-5001. The Jubilee Fund offers a range of donation and investment opportunities such as Jubilee Investment Certificates (JICs) for people and organizations interested in ethical investment and social impact.

MEDIA INQUIRIES:

Contact Monica Dueck, Fund Development Manager at Monica@jubileefund.ca, w. 204-589-5001.

PHOTO: Monica Dueck making the program announcement at Jubilee Fund's annual Champagne Brunch.



www.jubileefund.ca