



# ADVOCATING FOR A YOUTH SHELTER IN BRAMPTON

Prasad Nair (Service Director, Permanency Planning), Peel CAS

Sylvia Kolitsopoulos (Service Director, Advice and Assessment), Peel CAS

Alicia Booth (Supervisor, Youth Success 16+ Team), Peel CAS

# OUR CREDENTIALS

- Peel Children's Aid
- Prasad: Service Director responsible for Children Looked After, Youth Transitioning Out of Care, and Emergency Placements.
- Sylvia: Service Director responsible for Early Help, Prevention, and Assessment services.
- Alicia: Supervisor leading the Youth Success 16+ team that provides support to Youth in care, VYSA, and RSG aged 16 years to 23 years.



# PEEL CAS SERVICES

- Youth supported by Peel CAS
  - 18+: 136
  - 16-17: 34
- Ready Set Go (RSG) support up to 23 years





## THE ISSUE

- Youth in the community – a safe place to stay
- Vulnerable youth transitioning out of CAS care.
- Risk of human trafficking
- Increased risk of homelessness.



# THE ISSUE

- The total number of individuals experiencing homelessness in Peel Region was **866** in 2021, of which **16%** were youth aged 16-24.
- The majority of homeless youth in Peel Region stayed in **emergency shelters (37%)** or **transitional housing (16%)** in 2021
- The average cost of rent for a one-bedroom apartment in Peel Region was **\$1,484/month** in 2022, which is higher than the income assistance for a single individual with no dependents (**\$733/month**).



# KEY POINTS

- Vulnerable Transition Period - During this transition, youth often encounter significant challenges. It's a period of uncertainty and vulnerability that demands our attention and support.
- Preventing Human Trafficking - Human trafficking is a real threat to our youth. Providing a shelter can be a proactive step in preventing them from falling prey to this crime.
- Reducing Youth Homelessness - The impact of homelessness on young lives is profound. By addressing this issue, we aim to break the cycle and offer a brighter future.
- Holistic Support –Need for comprehensive services. Holistic support is essential. It encompasses not only shelter but also counseling, education, and life skills—providing youth with the tools they need to succeed.



*Thank You*

**Contact Information:**

**Peel CAS**  
**(905) 363 -6131**  
[www.peelcas.org](http://www.peelcas.org)