

# Rise Youth Housing & Rotary's Centennial

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Meagan Hennekam, Executive Director

YES Shelter for Youth and Families

# YES Shelter for Youth and Families

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- **Mission Statement:** YES works to reduce and prevent homelessness by providing shelter, education, and transitional supports for youth and families in Peterborough and the Kawarthas.
- **Vision Statement:** All youth and families in our community are supported to lead full and positive lives.

# Past Approach- Shelter Focus

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- YES has been providing emergency shelter for over 15 years in Peterborough.
- YES' Emergency Shelter sees on average 165-184 unique youth/year
- Housing Options: Abbott House (7 spaces), private market rent.



Abbott House

# Current Approach: Prevention & Housing Focus

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- 211 Youth Homelessness prevention protocol.
- Significant Housing Expansion to YES' Rise Youth Housing Program

# Rise Youth Housing Expansion

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- Renovations at our Brock St. shelter location have resulted in 5 additional youth housing spaces with 24/7, 365 days of the year staffing.
- An brand new build at Abbott House (current youth housing facility) will increase the capacity at the house from 7 to 14. The build creates 4 brand new units in the current backyard of the facility.
- The purchase and renovation of a 12-plex on Water St. will mean another 13-15 spaces for youth.
- Development of a mentorship program, matching youth in YES' Youth Housing Program with a positive adult mentor in the community.



- The only predictor of homelessness, is a prior incident of homelessness.
- 64% of homeless people in Peterborough had experienced homelessness before their 25<sup>th</sup> birthday-resolving youth homelessness resolves adult homelessness.
- Rise youth housing ensures youth are on a path to becoming connecting and contributing adults.

“ It gave me the opportunity to be an adult, but I didn't get thrown into it in a harsh way. There have been people to help me going through it and learn about living on my own. I have had a newfound freedom after maintaining a job and working hard... The last year I have lived at the YES Shelter and Abbott House has changed me completely for the better. ”

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-754 Water Transitional Housing Participant