



eva's *COMMUNITY*

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"Without the continued support of donors, I wouldn't be where I am today – working in finance"

– Reno, former Eva's youth

Eva's Phoenix gave Reno, and so many others, the shelter, community, and life skills to launch into independence.

From Shelter to Stability: AJ's Next Chapter

With the stability of Eva's, AJ found confidence, community, and the chance to pursue his dreams of university and beyond.

Discover how Eva's JPG Program is helping youth like Accolade turn creativity into lasting security.

From graphic design to career dreams, JPG graduates are building secure futures.

Fueled by You. Driven for Youth.

Thanks to your generosity, youth now have safe, reliable transportation to housing appointments, school, and opportunities that build independence.

MESSAGE FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

At Eva's, every young person's story embodies the power of your generosity. Together, we create a continuum of care—pathways of Shelter, Stability, and Security—that transform lives.

Reno found safety and community, giving him the confidence to rebuild his future. AJ gained stability through mental health supports and a place where his sense of identity and belonging flourished. And Accolade, through our JPG program, is now merging her skills in construction and design into a promising career.

Recently, I met Desran, an international photographer who received his very first camera at Eva's. His journey is a vivid testament of the lasting ripple effect your support creates. These stories—and even the gift of a new van that safely transports youth to programs and

opportunities—are made possible because of you. For over 30 years, Eva's has stood as a launchpad for independence. With your continued partnership, thriving futures are within reach. Thank you for being part of these stories.

With gratitude,
Aisha Francis
Interim Executive Director
Eva's Initiatives for Homeless Youth

To learn more about Desran's journey scan the QR code or visit evas.ca/desran

STABILITY: FINDING HIS STRIDE

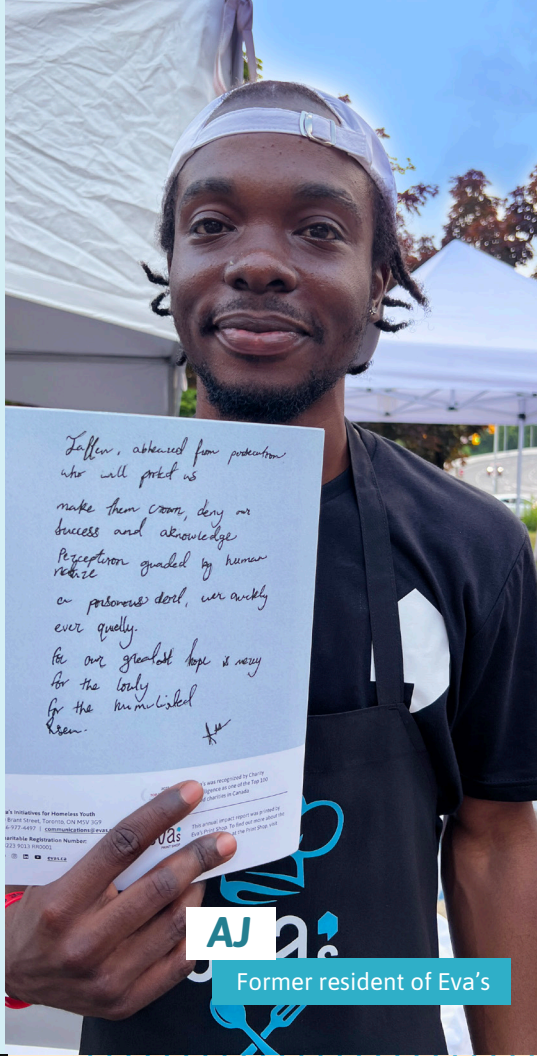
With the stability of Eva's, AJ found confidence, community, and the chance to pursue his dreams of university and beyond.

When AJ arrived in Toronto from the Bahamas in December 2022, he thought he'd be living with his older brother. Instead, he found himself standing outside Eva's Place with his bags and an uncertain future.

Inside, AJ found more than a bed, he found the stability he needed to begin again. Eva's staff stepped in with compassion and practical support, even spending days tracking down his immigration lawyer when he couldn't reach her. "If it wasn't for them, I don't know where I'd be with my immigration status," AJ says. "That moment really changed my perspective – home isn't just across the sea."

Through donor-supported programs like financial literacy workshops and resume building sessions, AJ built confidence, community, and inner grounding. These opportunities reflect Eva's approach to stability: addressing not only immediate shelter needs but also the skills, supports, and relationships that set youth up to thrive.

In 2024, AJ received the Maria Crawford Strength in Spirit Youth Bursary Award, which celebrates the resilience of Eva's youth. Now, with stable housing and new opportunities, he's preparing to study forensics and psychology at university. **"I feel like there's so much possibility here. And thanks to Eva's, I have a chance to chase it."**



AJ
Former resident of Eva's

MORE THAN SHELTER: A LAUNCHPAD FOR INDEPENDENCE

Eva's Phoenix gave Reno, and so many others, the shelter, community, and life skills to launch into independence.

At Eva's, shelter is the foundation of safety, but at Eva's Phoenix, it's also a launchpad for independence. This transitional shelter model provides 50 youth with a safe place to live for up to one year.

Life at Phoenix mirrors independent living. Youth share townhouse-style units, cook meals together, budget for groceries, and learn to manage a household. With staff guidance, they also develop healthy communication and conflict-resolution skills—practical tools that will carry them into adulthood. Your support ensures they have access to kitchens, shared pantries, orientations, and mentorship that make this learning possible.

Beyond housing, Phoenix offers wraparound supports including case

management, trauma-informed care, financial literacy workshops, and employment and education programs. Donations fund work experience at Eva's Print Shop, school prep, and career-readiness initiatives, giving youth the confidence and skills to take their next steps toward independence.

For Reno, a former Phoenix resident now thriving in a finance career, the impact was life-changing: **"Without the continued support of donors, I wouldn't be where I am today. You don't know how many lives you're changing."**

Your generosity turns shelter at Phoenix into a launchpad for skills, confidence, and independent living.



Reno
Former resident of Eva's

BUILDING SECURITY THROUGH CREATIVE PATHWAYS

From graphic design to career dreams, JPG graduates are building secure futures.

At Eva's, security means more than just having a roof overhead, it's about sustainability, ensuring youth have income, skills and knowledge to navigate systems to build a future where homelessness is no longer a risk.

For Accolade, a youth at Eva's Phoenix, that future began with the JPG (Jumpstarting Print & Graphics) program, where young people gain hands-on training in graphic design, digital printing, and entrepreneurship. She joined during her summer break from college, where she studies construction trades, hoping to learn more about design and challenge herself creatively. What she found was life-changing.

"Taking part in this program was the beginning of a new journey for me," she says. With access to donor-funded programs like JPG, she was able to build confidence, envision her long-term goals, and take steps toward lasting success.

Every dollar invested in Eva's JPG program helps create this security, turning opportunity into change that lasts. Today, she's thriving in school and work, dreaming of becoming a graphic designer in the construction industry, combining her two passions.



Accolade
Current Eva's Youth

78% of Print Shop program graduates gain employment after completing the program.

Stories like Accolade's show how your generosity builds lasting security for youth, ensuring they have the tools to thrive well into the future.

FUELED BY YOU. DRIVEN FOR YOUTH.

Thanks to your generosity, youth now have safe, reliable transportation to housing appointments, school, and opportunities that build independence.

This past Giving Tuesday, on December 3, 2024, we set out with a big goal: raise \$40,000 to purchase a new van for the youth at Eva's Place.

After more than a decade on the road, our old van was no longer safe to drive, yet it was essential for getting youth to housing appointments, job interviews, medical visits, and life skills programs.

Thanks to your incredible generosity, we didn't just reach our goal – we bought the van! Today, it's already on the road, helping

youth access the opportunities and supports they need to move toward independence.

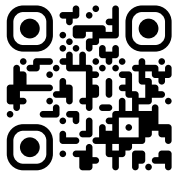
Fundraising like this fuels roughly 30% of Eva's annual budget. While municipal funding covers shelter beds, donors make everything beyond that possible—like this van, and the programs that turn shelter into care, healing, and opportunity.



*FROM ALL OF
US AT EVA'S*

**Thank you for fueling change
and helping us hit the road!**

**YOUR GIFT BUILDS
BRIGHTER FUTURES.**



Scan the QR code to donate today or visit us at evas.ca/fall25