



Media Release

For Immediate Release

May 29, 2015

The Mustard Seed & RESOLVE celebrate the 1010 Centre One step closer to ending homelessness in Calgary

Calgary, AB – Residents of Calgary’s 1010 Centre joined Mustard Seed staff, donors and political leaders today to celebrate the grand opening of the affordable housing complex — Canada’s *largest affordable housing initiative of its kind*.

“Every day I see firsthand that The Mustard Seed is a place of miracles and I am truly blessed to have these guardian angels in my life,” Robin, a resident of the 1010 Centre since October 2014, told donors and invited guests at the event.

Two years ago Robin’s husband died; she lost her job, her home, and fell into a deep depression. She ended up living in her van. Robin was in a bad place, but she made the decision to pick herself up and get on with life. That’s when she found The Mustard Seed’s 1010 Centre. Robin now lives in one of the bachelor suites and calls it her “forever home.”

The 1010 Centre offers low-rent single apartments for adults who come from a wide variety of backgrounds including homelessness, abusive situations, a history of addiction, mental health concerns, physical disabilities and chronic poverty. Each resident has a support worker they meet with at least once a week. One resident says, “I like the idea that any time of the day or night if I need to talk I can call someone and they will be there to help me.”

Stephen Wile, CEO of The Mustard Seed, says this type of affordable housing is crucial to achieving the dream of ending homelessness in Calgary.

“Everyone at The Mustard Seed understands that ending homelessness is more than just a roof over your head; it’s also about bringing people to a place of strength and independence,” says Wile.

The Mustard Seed is one of nine partner agencies who’ve partnered in the RESOLVE Campaign to raise \$120 million build affordable, sustainable housing for 3,000 homeless and vulnerable Calgarians.



Jay Westman, RESOLVE Campaign Cabinet Member and Chairman of Jayman BUILT, says collaboration between the partners and agencies committed to ending homelessness is showing tremendous progress.

“The 1010 Centre is a great example of collaboration and generosity. That it is standing here and providing homes for 224 low-income Calgarians who were either homeless or at risk of becoming homeless, should give us all hope. Amazing things can happen when we work together to solve the affordable housing crisis in Calgary. The RESOLVE Campaign, for instance, is partnering with The Mustard Seed and eight other agencies to provide thousands of affordable homes in this city. If not for prior contributions from individuals, businesses and government, the 1010 Centre would not exist.”

About RESOLVE

RESOLVE is a tangible and measurable step in helping end homelessness – and the affordable housing crisis – in Calgary. RESOLVE’s mission is to raise \$120 million to build affordable, sustainable housing for 3,000 homeless and vulnerable Calgarians. Nine respected and established Calgary social agencies have partnered with government, business and community leaders, all resolving to make Calgary a better home – for everyone. Visit resolvecampaign.com for more information.

About The Mustard Seed

The Mustard Seed is a Christian charitable organization that builds community, grows hope and supports change for people who are experiencing poverty and homelessness. It provides basic services, including meals, clothing, and shelter, as well as long-term solutions and support services such as housing, employment, health and wellness, and spiritual guidance. Founded in 1984, The Mustard Seed has been changing lives for 30 years. For more information visit TheSeed.ca. Visit 1010Centre.ca to learn more about the 224-unit affordable housing initiative.

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