



Our Story

Humanize Homelessness



*Fix the 6ix is trusted by
West Neighbourhood House.*





Dear Fix the 6ix supporters,

On behalf of the Fix the 6ix team it is my pleasure to share with you the work we have done to alleviate, destigmatize, and humanize homelessness over the past six years. Fix the 6ix is a volunteer committee trusted by West Neighbourhood House. We are thrilled to have the continued support of this United Way of Greater Toronto Agency, which gives us the opportunity to learn and to grow with a shared vision for the community.

Our programs improve the quality of life of people experiencing homelessness because we believe that no one in our community should be left behind. The ReGiftcard program uses unwanted gift cards to bridge critical resource gaps for Toronto homeless shelters. Our Humanize Homelessness program elevates the stories of individuals who are homeless to inspire a new understanding of the homeless community in Toronto. The better we understand homelessness, the better we will be equipped to end it.

Thank you for taking an interest in Fix the 6ix. We look forward to connecting with you to see how we can alleviate, destigmatize, and humanize homelessness together.

I encourage you to continue reading to learn more about our trustee, our values, and our programming efforts.

Sincerely,

Deanna Lentini, Committee Chair and Founder



Dear Fix the 6ix supporters,

The mission of West Neighbourhood House is to enable less advantaged individuals, families and groups in the community to gain greater control over their lives and within their community.

West NH agreed to trustee Fix the 6ix in 2016, providing the structure of a charitable organization under which Fix the 6ix can develop and grow.

So what does being a trustee mean? As a trustee of Fix the 6ix, West Neighbourhood House is able to provide the following supports:

- Guidance as we share our over a century of experience in the non-profit sector in Toronto
- Charitable tax receipts to those who donate to Fix the 6ix
- Administrative support

As a multi-service neighbourhood centre that is always looking for innovative solutions to the challenges in our community, we are delighted to support and collaborate with Fix the 6ix.

Sincerely,
Maureen Fair
Executive Director



Our Programs

We are proud to share who we are, what we do, and why we do it. Learn more about our two primary programs: the ReGiftcard program and Humanize Homelessness.

WHO WE ARE

Fix the 6ix is a volunteer committee trusted by West Neighbourhood House. Fix the 6ix was started by Deanna Lentini in 2016.

WHAT WE DO

We alleviate, destigmatize, and humanize homelessness in Toronto.

We bridge critical resource gaps for shelters in Toronto by turning unwanted gift cards into a charitable solution.

We elevate the voices of the homeless community; the better we understand homelessness, the better we will be equipped to end it.

WHY WE DO IT

We improve the quality of life of individuals experiencing homelessness because we believe that no one in our community should be left behind.

OUR VALUES

INCLUSION
COMPASSION
SOCIAL JUSTICE
HUMAN DIGNITY



ReGiftcard Program

Fix the 6ix is the only organization in Toronto that turns unwanted and partially used gift cards into a charitable solution. Since its inception in 2016, more than \$9300 worth of gift cards have been used to bridge critical resource gaps for Toronto homeless shelters. Past donations from the ReGiftcard program have included the following:

- Purchasing Cineplex movie tickets for Eva's Place Homeless Youth Shelter
- Donating grocery, pharmacy and Starbucks gift cards to Kennedy House Youth Shelter
- Purchasing coats and wardrobe staples for clients of The Meeting Place
- Contributing books to the family library at Juliette's Place family shelter

\$9300
worth of gift cards donated



Donate Your Gift Cards



Jimmy's Coffee

Fix the 6ix collects gift cards by partnering with local businesses and workplaces to set up donation stations on premise.

Donation stations can be placed near POS counters, reception desks, and in break rooms at your workplace. They are an excellent way to rally your customers, clients and colleagues around a good cause. Our team will drop-off and pick up the donation station at your convenience.



Humanize Homelessness

Our team of volunteers coordinate monthly outreach in Toronto to provide individuals who are homeless an opportunity to share their stories. Our team offers care packages including gift cards, snacks and essentials to every individual we meet. With the participants consent, they may choose to share their story with us.

We interview individuals experiencing homelessness to elevate their voices and destigmatize this community. Fix the 6ix aims to create a space where people with lived experience feel included, acknowledged and valued, while improving the public's understanding of homelessness and its complexities.

Since the program's inception, Fix the 6ix volunteers have shared the stories of over 90 individuals experiencing homelessness.



93

individuals experiencing homelessness interviewed





“ The mind is much more powerful than money, but often we let the money control our minds- which is why you’ll find me in the financial district in the evening, rather than daytime. During the day, it’s flooded with suits and I hate it, along with the people that wear them. People feel so entitled just because of the suit and the money they make. But at night, the suits come off and suddenly it’s not about the money but about the energy and having fun in the city. I’ve made some poor decisions throughout my life, but I have never let money take over my mind or define who I am. Put me beside a guy wearing a suit and take a guess at which one has two university degrees and speaks 6 different languages- Yeah, I might just surprise you. Clothes don’t always make the man. ”

community thanks

“When we get the pizza tickets, we take them straight through to the morning drop-in, where there’s usually about 150 guests who have come for coffee and snacks. Our drop-in guests love the chance to get a slice of pizza, and the tickets disappear fast. Thank you for making it possible for people who can’t afford pizza to enjoy it – I get lots of smiles when I distribute those tickets!”

- Helena van Nooten, Manager of Good Shepherd Ministries

“Fix the 6ix generously donated 21 \$20 Starbucks gift certificates to Horizons for Youth. These certificates were included in the Christmas gifts given to our residents. Starbucks drinks are usually not accessible to our residents due to their low incomes, so these gift certificates made their winter holidays very special”

- Stacey Murie, Fund Development Associate of Horizons for Youth

“Fix the 6ix has given our youth an opportunity to enjoy something that they seldom can. Youth and staff enjoy spending time together in a relaxed setting. We all look forward to and cherish our monthly movie trips and our popcorn treat!”

- Aimee Le Lagadec, Eva’s Place – Eva’s Initiatives for Homeless Youth



Let's Connect!

To further discuss partnership opportunities between your organization and Fix the 6ix, you can connect directly with us via email at info@fixthe6ix.ca.

If you would like to donate gift cards you can mail in or drop off at the address below.

West Neighbourhood House (Attn: Fix the 6ix)

248 Ossington Avenue

Toronto ON, M6J 3A2.

If you would like to make a monetary donation, you can do so through the West Neighborhood house website, by selecting Fix the 6ix from the FUND drop down menu:

<https://www.westnh.org/donate/>

fixthe6ix.ca

facebook.com/fixthe6ix

[@fixthe6ix](https://twitter.com/fixthe6ix)

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United Way

Toronto & York Region

West Neighborhood is a United Way agency