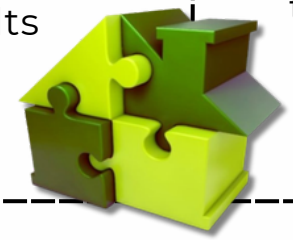
DSO
Developmental Services Ontario

National Housing Day
November 22nd

Everyone has the right to a safe, affordable place to call home.

Truly inclusive housing means everyone has a real choice about where and how they live.

Today is a chance to advocate for more inclusive, affordable community housing opportunities for everyone, including adults living with developmental disabilities.



Did You Know?

- **Over 18%** of people in homeless shelters have a developmental disability.
- **18.5%** of persons aged 15 years or older with developmental disabilities live in a household in core housing need.
- **73%** of working age adults with a developmental disability who live on their own are living in poverty.

Source: Inclusion Canada* and *Intentional Community Consortium

What does having your own home mean to you?

"It means, having my own home to go to after Tim Horton's or after I go to my parents and I'm really independent and I like that independence"

- Self Advocate

"Before I got this apartment, everything felt uncertain. At my last place, I only had a few months—maybe a year—before I'd have to leave. I was constantly worried, always thinking, "Where are we going to go next? Where can I even apply to get a roof over our heads?" It was really stressful and anxious-inducing" **- Self Advocate**

Advocacy Tips

- Learn the facts and share stories with others.
- Talk to your local Government Leaders about why inclusive housing is important for your family and community.
- Talk to your family members, friends, or support people about inclusive housing.



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Developmental Services Housing Advocacy Resources and Tools



Explore these resources to learn what **inclusive, affordable,** and **accessible housing** looks like and how it can be created. Find support for caregivers, and use helpful templates to speak with government leaders and be an advocate in your community!

Developmental Services Ontario (DSO) Resources:

- DSO Housing Toolkit
- DSO My Housing and Support Plan
- DSO National Housing Day Video
- DSO Webcasts
- DSO Housing E-Learning Modules
- DSO Free Webinars and Events
- DSO Inclusive Housing Network Guide

Learn the Facts:

- Inclusion Canada - What is Housing Inclusivity?
- Inclusion Canada - Position Statement on Housing
- Inclusion Canada - Position Statement on Financial Security & Income Support
- Inclusion Canada - Inclusive Housing Resources
- OASIS - Tackling the DS Housing Crisis
- Intentional Community Consortium
- Community Living Ontario

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Tools & Templates for Advocating:

- March of Dimes - Political Advocacy Toolkit - A guide for people with disabilities and their families and caregivers. It is designed to help you build your skills to advocate with government in Canada.

- March of Dimes - Self Advocacy Toolkit - Provides a collection of definitions, terminology, guidance, practice worksheets, and planning worksheets. It is a resource guide for people with disabilities, their families, and caregivers. It is also designed to help you build your skills to advocate for yourself in everyday life.

- Ontario for All - Tools & Resources - Offers tools and resources to help non-profit organizations speak up about issues that matter to their communities. Find guides and tips on how to talk to government, contact elected officials, take part in elections, and advocate for change.

Caregiver Resources:

- Ontario Caregiver Organization
- Canadian Centre of Caregiving Excellence
- Siblings Canada
- Family Alliance Ontario
- MicroBoards Ontario
- P4P Family Network Directory

Disability Benefit Supports:

- Inclusion Canada - Barrier Free Benefits
- Plan Institute



This document has been created for information purposes only. DSO Housing Navigators do not endorse any of the resources highlighted here.

Find your local Housing Navigator

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Know Your Housing Rights and Responsibilities:

- Canadian Centre for Housing Rights (CCHR)
- Canadian Legal Education Ontario (CLEO)
- Acorn Canada
- Legal Aid

Housing Developer Resources:

- Partners for Affordable Housing
- CMHC Housing Design Catalogue
- MyHomeMyCommunity
- Inclusion Canada - Creating Inclusive Housing Handbook for Developers and Funders



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