



WOOD'S HOMES

110
Years

THROUGH IT ALL

Wood's Homes is
here for you

**A \$40M campaign to transform
young lives through live-in mental
health and recovery programs**

Suicide is the **2nd** leading cause of death for young people ages 10 to 24.

Canada ranks **3rd** in the world for youth suicide.



“ *They saved
my child's life.*

THROUGH IT
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Getting to know **Wood's Homes**

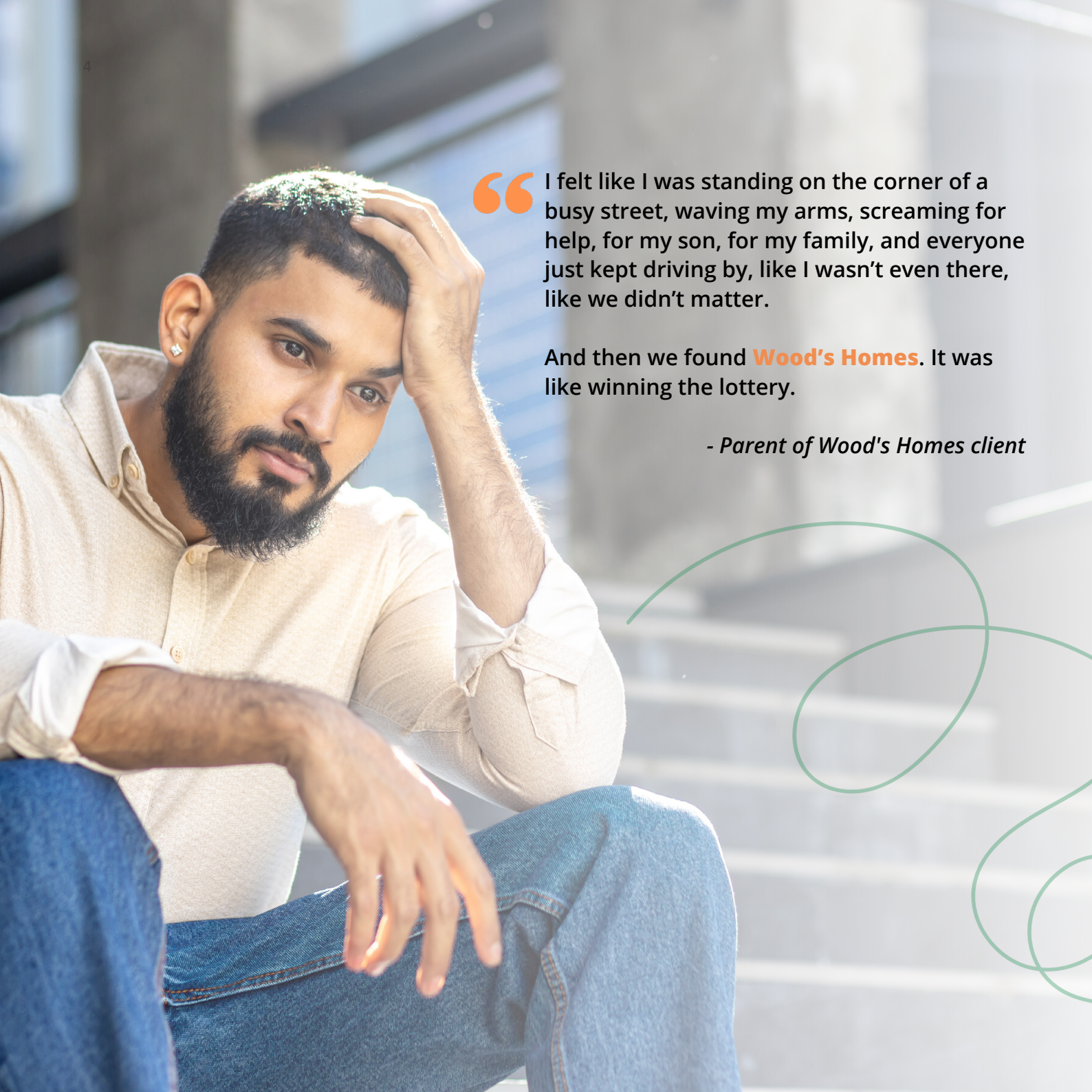
Wood's Homes is a mental health centre. We provide treatment and support for children, young people, adults and families with mental health needs. We proudly serve in Calgary, Lethbridge, Strathmore, Fort McMurray, Cold Lake, Grande Prairie, and Lac La Biche.

Children and youth that come to Wood's Homes for live-in, on-site care exhibit extreme behaviours like self-harm or violence towards others. They have tried everything to stop their pain.

When a family enters Wood's Homes, they often have little hope for their child or for their family.

When a young person experiences a mental health crisis, there is a collective trauma that not only threatens their own life, but can shatter their family.

Through it all, we are **here for them** - for families that have already given it their all.



“ I felt like I was standing on the corner of a busy street, waving my arms, screaming for help, for my son, for my family, and everyone just kept driving by, like I wasn’t even there, like we didn’t matter.

And then we found **Wood’s Homes**. It was like winning the lottery.

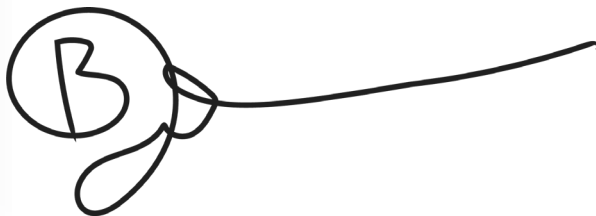
- Parent of Wood's Homes client



Mental health challenges can happen to anyone; **we know this**. It impacts all of us. And we know the pandemic made it so much worse – the isolation, increased stressors, and lack of in-person supports that are essential for mental well-being. Many people who were fine before the pandemic are not fine now. We are just beginning to see the wave of trauma; it is coming home to roost.

There is a huge demand for immersive care beds here in Alberta – we never have enough. Getting into Wood's Homes should not feel like winning the lottery.

We should be the **start of the journey** for families, not their last resort.

A stylized, handwritten signature in black ink. It begins with a large, circular letter 'B' that has a small loop at the bottom. A long, thin horizontal line extends to the right from the middle of the 'B', ending in a small, upward-curving hook.

Bjorn Johansson
Chief Executive Officer

“*Made sure my child ate in spite of their efforts not to.*”





Wood's Homes acknowledges Indigenous land stewardship

Wood's Homes community members live and work on the territories of many Indigenous Nations in Alberta.

We acknowledge the diverse cultural practices, ceremonies, and oral traditions of the Indigenous Nations in treaties 6, 7, and 8 territories, and the Métis Nation of Alberta.

We acknowledge the relationship Indigenous people have with the land, and the strength in that connection.

We are filled with gratitude for the opportunity we have to listen and learn from many Nations about this connection to the land.





A family's struggle to move forward

THROUGH IT
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"My son glanced over at me when I entered the counselling room. His expression, normally hostile, slipped into one of joy and relief. I thought, that's my boy. There he is. I knew he was still in there. He was happy to see me, for a second anyhow. And then, in a millisecond, he remembered himself and recoiled his gaze, angry, all alone. But really, underneath it all, he was terrified.

We spent years fighting for his life: through 17 hospitalizations. He was a risk to himself and to others. My youngest son, 12 when it all started, was calling 911 from the locked bathroom to be safe from his brother, who was 14. My wife and I are skilled parents, capable professionals, who advocated at every turn for help. Mental health issues don't care how much money you make, how much you want someone to get better – crisis happens.

Wood's Homes was with us **through it all**. My eldest son would not be here today if it wasn't for Wood's Homes. They rebuilt our family. While others talk about mental health, Wood's Homes is doing something about it. It is time to do more than talk."



Board Member

“ Gave me hope
when I had none.



The economics of **care** at Wood's Homes

Immersive care at Wood's Homes is
1/3 the cost of a hospital stay, with
better long-term outcomes.

Partner listing:



Where we live:

Fort McMurray
Grande Prairie
Lac La Biche
Cold Lake
Calgary
Strathmore
Lethbridge

550 staff

470 volunteers

40+ programs

1st

Organization in
Canada to provide
no-charge, walk-
in counselling
services in 1990

109

Years of learning,
innovation, and
support for
thousands of kids
and families

3

Exemplary standings
awarded by
Accreditation Canada

2

Leading
Practice Awards

40

Programs
and services


8K

Volunteer hours
every year

20,000

Children, youth, young adults,
and families served every year





“ Allowed me to sleep at night knowing my child was safe and that I was safe too.

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This **\$40M** campaign will:

- 01** Increase our immersive, live-in care capacity by **28%** (from 64 to 82)
- 02** Offer therapeutic, safe spaces focused on **healing**
- 03** **Build** families back up from the weight of their children's mental health challenges
- 04** Create new buildings that offer **culturally appropriate spaces for Indigenous gatherings, teachings, and ceremonies**

Parkdale Campus capital project goal: **\$7M**

A new 10-bed, state-of-the-art facility

This new building will provide temporary accommodation for young people from the Bowness Campus while buildings are constructed there.

Following the expansion, this facility will provide space for **contemporary immersive care**, and be available for new initiatives addressing critical mental health needs in our community.

Concluding construction, **total on-site capacity will increase to 42 clients.**



Exterior - Looking NW



Interior - Kitchen



Exterior - Looking North



Interior - Shared Living Space



Exterior - Looking NE



Exterior - Looking North



Bowness Campus capital project goal: **\$31M**

The buildings that youth at Wood's Homes currently call home were constructed in the early 1960s with the intent to simply 'house' children. These facilities no longer meet the complex treatment needs seen in the 21st Century. The buildings' life cycles have extended far beyond acceptable standards for functionality, therapy, and everyday use. They are not only cramped, but pose safety obstacles and do not provide accessibility for clients who rely on wheelchair access or have other physical limitations.


Wood's Homes is undertaking a vital modernization project to construct **four new** therapeutic, campus-based care homes on the Bowness Campus. These buildings will reduce critical incidents, meet LEED environmental standard, and bring the **total on-site capacity to 40 clients.**

2026
Bowness 3
(8-bed facility)

2027
Bowness 4
(8-bed facility)

2028
Complete



A close-up photograph of a woman with short brown hair and a young boy with brown hair tied in a ponytail. They are both looking down at a smartphone held by the boy. The woman is wearing a grey cardigan over a white t-shirt, and the boy is wearing a blue denim jacket over a white t-shirt. Large orange headphones are around the boy's neck. The background is plain white.

**“ Built my family back up
from the anxiety of our
child's mental health.**


Program support fund goal: **\$2M**

In addition to capital costs associated with modernizing and expanding our facilities, we also must continue to ensure that youth have **access to supports** that go far beyond the temporary shelter.

On-going specialized treatment and recovery support is unique for young people, and one more way that Wood's Homes can be here for them, on their mental health journey, **through it all**.

\$2M, over five years, will provide a continuum of support for young people who require **immersive on-site care**.

Examples of program investment areas at several locations include:

- Family counselling and therapeutic services
 - Community mental health hubs
 - Youth employment and wrap-around services
 - Wood's Homes Research Chair in Children's Mental Health in partnership with the University of Calgary
- 



“Told me we would get
through it all together.”



Whose mental health will you be supporting?

- Only 1 in 5 children who need mental health services receives treatment
- Mental health disorders in youth are the 2nd highest hospital care expenditure in Canada
- Research shows that with earlier intervention, children will more likely return to positive mental health

In partnership with Alberta Health Services for over three decades, Wood's Homes is part of the **continuum of care** alongside our community partners.



Alberta Children's Hospital

In addition to our core partners, and in order to ensure that we are providing a continuum of care to the youth of our communities, we work in collaboration with the Calgary Centre for Child and Adolescent Mental Health's The Summit: Marian and Jim Sinneave Centre for Youth Resilience.



A steady commitment

Over the past five past years, considerable effort has been made to create cultural safety for Indigenous children and families within the Wood's Homes community. These efforts are connected to the active participation of many diverse people who are **striving to create safe and equitable spaces for Indigenous peoples**.

The process of growth for our organization includes a steady commitment to following the guidance of the many Elders and Knowledge Keepers who have taught us about the unique ways Indigenous children, young people, and families connect to community and each other. This is done through protocol - the passing of prints and tobacco - to earn the many cultural gifts of knowledge we hold today. This guides us to **new ways of being in relationship** with others.

Let us continue to **learn, grow, and heal together**. Let us create the 'good life' so future generations can be successful in ways they choose to be in this world.



matotisân asinîy Tye Rhyno
Manager, Indigenous Initiatives





Invest in the **long-term solution**

21st-century care requires safe facilities that foster a therapeutic environment. These new facilities will:

- **Improve outcomes** for the most vulnerable, who are at risk for repeated hospital stays, incarceration, or homelessness
- **Increase capacity** of immersive care beds by 28% (from 64 to 82)
- **Create cultural connections** that support healing, knowledge sharing, and community
- **Increase safety**, privacy, accessibility, and energy efficiency
- **Respond to the growing demand** and long wait times for specialized treatment referrals

Long-term sustainability is part of our campaign goal. Capital maintenance costs and operating expenses are included in our on-going government contracts. Demand far exceeds our current capacity, and, as hospitalizations increase, so has the request for our services.

What would you give to **save a child's life**?

When you give to this campaign, you are showing a young person with mental health challenges, and their family, that:

- They **matter**
- They **are heard**
- They **deserve the best care possible**
- They can be **hopeful about the future**
- Most of all, that they should **never give up**



“

I wish everybody could see the young clients the way I see them: they're flawed, but amazing. I arrived at work the other day and one of the kids ran out of the building in his pyjamas and bare feet, for no other reason than he was delighted to see me. This is a kid who has been hurt - he doesn't trust, **but he trusts me.**

We're helping to rewrite the story for everyone who comes through our doors. **They are worth fighting for.**

- Program Manager

THROUGH IT
ALL





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Help us ensure access and programs for families and young people who require immersive, on-site care.

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