DAY 08·WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 2, 2026

08 SAFETY NEEDS SOMEWHERE TO LIVE.



Leaving an abusive situation raises an urgent question: “Where can I go?” A decision to leave needs practical options behind it.

UNDERSTANDING THE TOPIC

Housing shapes the choices available after violence. When no safe, affordable place is available, someone may face staying in an unsafe home, staying temporarily with others or becoming homeless. Housing is part of safety planning, not a separate issue. Shelters provide immediate safety, but people also need somewhere stable to go next. Women’s Habitat offers emergency shelter and help with housing applications.

THREE THINGS THAT SHAPE OPTIONS

- **Affordability.** Can someone cover rent, especially after losing a partner’s income or while raising children alone?
- **Availability.** Are shelter beds, transitional housing or subsidized units available now, or is the wait long?
- **Accessibility.** Does the housing meet disability needs, fit the family and stay close to school, work and support?

ONE PRACTICAL ACTION

BRING HOUSING INTO THE CONVERSATION.

When you hear discussions about violence against women—at work, in your community or in local news—point out that safe, affordable and accessible housing is part of the answer.

KEY TAKEAWAY

Housing belongs in the conversation about ending violence.

LEARN MORE

211 Ontario — housing and community services (or dial 2-1-1)
211ontario.ca

Women and Gender Equality Canada — 16 Days of Activism
canada.ca/en/women-gender-equality/commemo rations-celebrations/16-days.html

NEED SUPPORT?

You don’t have to work out next steps alone.
Women’s Habitat 24-hour crisis line: 416-252-5829
Assaulted Women’s Helpline (24/7): 1-866-863-0511 · #SAFE (#7233) on a Bell, Rogers, Fido or Telus mobile
In immediate danger, call 911.