



**News Release – 28 January 2020  
(Update to WRYM Appeal Release January 17)**

## **Update – Community donates \$19,300 to match \$13,000 given by formerly homeless youth**

Rising to a January 17 challenge by a formerly homeless youth, supporters of the Windsor Residence for Young Men (WRYM) have donated \$19,300 to match, and surpass, the \$13,000 he donated to boost WRYM's Transitional Housing Program. This is the program that has helped the anonymous young man and so many others build new lives. His generous donation kick-started *WRYM's January 2020 Urgent Funding Appeal*.

WRYM's Chair of Donor Development Dave Freeman said at the time, "WRYM depends almost entirely on community donations, and he heard that our year-end fundraising was not as successful as we had hoped. He wants to inspire others to help, and he wants to remain anonymous."

His \$13,000 example has really motivated people - as of January 28, WRYM's January 2020 Urgent Funding Appeal has raised a total of \$32,250 in urgent donations to be applied to the WRYM Transitional Housing Program.

"It took a great deal of confidence in his future to take this large amount of money from his savings and contribute to WRYM," said volunteer Executive Director Greg Goulin today. "He can now feel confident that it was the right thing to do. Donations of well over \$19,000 to match his donation says our community was very impressed."

Despite its success and unlike many other social agencies, WRYM receives very little government funding and depends on community fundraising. It is a constant challenge. WRYM offers the only supportive transitional housing program for young men in Windsor. Unlike an emergency shelter, drop-in centre or subsidized housing, the program provides young men 16 - 24 years with a supportive home, individual counselling, and basic life skills. Youths with potential are diverted from the streets to reconnect with their community, education and employment. WRYM's 2019 statistics show an average 95 percent success rate over the past three years. In 2019, WRYM assisted 96 clients in its Transitional Housing, Aftercare and Outreach programs. Of these, 42 young men were enrolled and successfully graduated from the Transitional Housing Program.

For more information, visit WRYM's website at [www.wrym.ca](http://www.wrym.ca), Facebook site at [www.facebook.com/windsorresidenceforyoungmen](https://www.facebook.com/windsorresidenceforyoungmen), or telephone 519.981.9917.

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*Editors: 2 photos attached (1) Dave Freeman, Chair of Donor Development, Windsor Residence for Young Men (2) Greg Goulin, Executive Director, Windsor Residence for Young Men*

*Media liaison:*

*Brian Worrall, Pres.  
Windsor Residence for Young Men  
Tel 519.255.7930/226.280.7203  
E-mail [jbrianworrall@gmail.com](mailto:jbrianworrall@gmail.com)*