

For Immediate Release  
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## **Catherine Donnelly Foundation Renews Commitment to End Youth Homelessness in Canada**

**(TORONTO, ON)** — The Catherine Donnelly Foundation (CDF) is pleased to announce a renewed multi-year commitment to the fight against youth homelessness by partnering and working together with **A Way Home Canada** over the next five years. A Way Home Canada is an innovative collaboration of organizations and funders from across the country, that together are aligning strategies and resources to affect real change on the issue of Youth Homelessness. With a ten-year mandate, the goal of A Way Home is to shift the focus from simply emergency services to prevention and the eradication of youth homelessness in Canada. *“We have come together as a coalition rooted in the mutual belief that ending youth homelessness in Canada is possible,”* said Sheldon Pollett, Co-Chair of the National Learning Community on Youth Homelessness and A Way Home Board member.

The Catherine Donnelly Foundation has been one of the seed funders of A Way Home by previously supporting from 2012 to 2015 the work of the Mobilizing Local Capacity to End Youth Homelessness network. The Mobilizing Local Capacity to End Youth Homeless program was successful in demonstrating impact in collective community action, promoting systemic change to public policies in Canada and fostering collaboration among national organizations in the sector. This work led to the emergence of the A Way Home Canada coalition.

*“The Board of Directors of CDF approved a new commitment of \$1.25 million in funding to ensure A Way Home can carry on with its ground-breaking and ambitious efforts to end youth homelessness. This signifies a total investment of \$2.5 million dollars over 10 years from the Catherine Donnelly Foundation to prevent and eradicate youth homelessness.”* said Valerie Lemieux, General Director of the Catherine Donnelly Foundation. Together with the Catherine Donnelly Foundation, a broad and diverse group of funders are convening in the A Way Home Funders Table, a structure that will support coordinating financial commitments, reporting mechanisms and active engagement in the work with Coalition members.

In 2017, the funding contributions of the Catherine Donnelly Foundation will among other notable work support the development of an indigenous-led youth homelessness community planning toolkit.

### **About the Catherine Donnelly Foundation**

The Catherine Donnelly Foundation is a private charitable foundation based in Toronto that provides grants to charities addressing issues related to Adult Education, Housing and Environment.

**For more information**, please visit: <http://www.catherinedonnellyfoundation.org>

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