

Bellwoods Centres for Community Living recognized with ONPHA Award for Excellence

TORONTO, Wednesday, November 7, 2018 – Bellwoods Centres for Community Living Inc. received ONPHA’s Award for Excellence. Sponsored by Prentice Yates and Clark, Chartered Professional Accountants, and presented on October 26 at the 2018 ONPHA Conference and Trade Show in Toronto, the award recognizes a non-profit housing provider that responds to tenant or community needs with imagination, dedication and insight.

Bellwoods Centres for Community Living provides affordable housing and support services for adults with disabilities living in the Toronto area. They provide clients with the tools needed to live independently and to successfully transition from hospitals, long term care facilities, and rehabilitation centers back into their communities. Bellwoods operates 105 permanent and 15 transitional supportive units, while also providing clients with support services in their own homes.

Bellwoods received the Award for Excellence in recognition of their outstanding service that goes above and beyond to provide personal support and educational programs that break down disability barriers. Based on a non-medical social care model and driven by their client needs, they work collaboratively to enable clients to meet their maximum level of independency within their community. By encouraging tenants to partner in advisory groups, become peer support ambassadors, and volunteer in a wide variety of community programs, Bellwoods empowers them to re-integrate into safe and vibrant communities.

The Mobile Independent Living Education (MILE) program helps individuals find and maintain permanent housing, while acquiring the training and resources needed to thrive in their community. This community-based program focuses on home and community skills development, and collaborates with therapists, nurses, educators and other organizations, enabling clients to achieve optimal safety and independence in their homes.

“The Bellwoods Centres for Community Living truly go beyond their housing mandate to build strong tenant communities and partnerships,” said Marlene Coffey, Executive Director of ONPHA. *“Their dedication to develop an integrated approach to support services and housing is what allows tenants to thrive in their communities, and for their neighbourhood to flourish.”*

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More information about ONPHA’s Awards Program and this year’s winners is available at www.onpha.on.ca/awards.



About ONPHA'S Awards Program

Each year, ONPHA celebrates and recognizes its members' work, dedication and accomplishments through the ONPHA Awards program. Other awards include the ONPHA Innovation Award, the Sybil Frenette Outstanding Leadership Award, the Lifetime of Service Award, and the Tenant Achievement Award.

About ONPHA

Founded in 1988, ONPHA is an independent association funded and directed by its members, representing more than 700 of Ontario's non-profit housing providers. From Windsor to Cornwall, Toronto to Thunder Bay, our members house more than 400,000 people in 163,000 homes across 220 Ontario communities. Many of our members provide specialized housing and support services for Ontarians who need help to enjoy a successful tenancy.

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