



My name is Mitzy Blair and I'm the founder of an organization by the name of Blanket Program.

We focus on youth who have been sexually abused and are trying to heal themselves or even find a place where they can be supported in terms of mental health, physical health, therapeutic health, psychological health. And right about now our organization is facing a lot of challenges such a space and sustainable funding and employees.

Our organization was in the process of fundraising so that we can secure a space where we can facilitate youth who are at home right now who are facing sexual abuse and seeking a safe place to go with the overwhelmed shelters across Toronto this would be a great opportunity to open a transitional safe house. Since this pandemic a lot of young women, men girls and boys Sorry to say, there's a lot and it touches me really deep because it's happening right now.

The help that we're seeking right now is partnership with the city and other members of the community involved in social work mental health life skills planning just highlighting a few key players such as united way, camh . Also there's a lot of buildings right now like hotels and things like this that are abandoned due to the pandemic we urge the government, the city to just give us a chance to partner with other organizations and other grassroots companies that such as nurses and psychologists and we all have a hub where we can come together and utilize the space and provide short-term homing where they can transition and provide transitional help if the youth need to go to school if they need child care assistance There's another term for this hub where we provide like a family structure. I can't remember the name at this point but it's like it will cover the mental health, the structure of the family. Without these nourishing aspects a lot of people can't function. Sorry I'm getting too emotionally caught up with it but these are just the points that I want to touch base on.

In conclusion, if the government will just give grassroots, such as ours, an opportunity to have a space and join partnership with other members of the community to be able to deliver these programs I think that will be very successful moving forward, especially coming out of this pandemic. You know the hospitals, they are very overwhelmed and there are nurses right now that are looking for extra work

in a private space. And I think this would be a great opportunity for us to be able to launch something different for the future. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Mitzy-Ann Blair

<https://youtu.be/t8iOu1-Rw1s>