

# Stop Creating Homelessness and Hunger! Petition

## **Incomes of the Poor Should Reflect the Cost of Living PETITION**

**Whereas** the Government of Ontario reduced social assistance rates paid to low-income households by 21.6% in 1995, then froze them at that level.

**Whereas** the Government of Ontario stopped all funding for affordable public housing in 1995, then eliminated rent controls in 1998.

**Whereas** the cost of housing in Ontario has increased by 24% in the past seven years, well above the rate of inflation for that period, while the shelter allowance, the portion of the social assistance cheque that is to be used to pay for housing costs, has remained stagnant.

**Whereas** in Toronto, for example, the average rent for a two bedroom apartment costs \$1,047 per month and the shelter allowance for a single parent with two kids receiving welfare is just \$554 per month.

**Whereas** skyrocketing rents and stagnant incomes place incredible financial stress on low-income households.

**Whereas** low-income households are forced to use money for food and other basic necessities to keep a roof over their heads, causing them to go without many basic needs, like food, clothing and medications.

**Therefore be it resolved** that we, the undersigned, petition the Legislative Assembly of Ontario to demand that the Provincial Government of Ontario provide shelter allowances that reflect the actual cost of housing across the province.

NAME	SIGNATURE	ADDRESS	PHONE
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Please return filled out petitions to: **Your host agency or the Pay the Rent and Feed the Kids Coalition,  
c/o Daily Bread Food Bank, 191 New Toronto St., Toronto, ON M8V 2E7.**