



## **Pay the Rent and Feed the Kids**

**www.paytherent.ca**

We are a coalition of Toronto community groups concerned with income security issues. We are part of a larger coalition from across Ontario that has organized to lobby for an increase to the shelter allowance portion of Ontario Works and Ontario Disability Support Program.

Too many people in our community are forced to choose between paying the rent and eating, and for those with children, the ultimate choice is often between paying the rent or feeding the kids. Inadequate shelter allowance rates are leading to increased hunger and homelessness. Here in Toronto we are mobilizing community members, public figures and anti-poverty advocates to voice their opinions on these issues in an effort to challenge the provincial government to raise social assistance rates to reflect the actual cost of living. The solutions we propose are simple!

- Raise the Shelter Allowance component of social assistance to reflect average market rents;
- Re-implement effective rent controls;
- Return the Basic Needs component of social assistance to 1994 levels;
- Index social assistance rates to the cost of living;
- Expand rent-g geared-to-income and other affordable housing programs.

Please lend your support to this campaign. Current campaign endorsers include:

*Advocacy Centre for Tenants Ontario, Centre for Equality Rights in Accommodation, Daily Bread Food Bank, DisAbled Women's Network, Federation of Metro Tenants' Associations, Income Security Advocacy Centre, Kensington Bellwoods Community Legal Services, Low Income Families Together, Metro Network for Social Justice, Nellie's, Ontario Association of Food Banks, Ontario Coalition for Social Justice, Ontario Federation of Labour, Ontario Social Safety Network, Parkdale Community Legal Services, Sistering, Somerset West Action Network, The STOP, Toronto Disaster Relief Committee, UNITE Ontario Council, YWCA of Greater Toronto.*

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- Yes, please add us to your names of endorsers for public use.**

**Organization:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Contact name:** \_\_\_\_\_ **phone:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_ **e-mail:** \_\_\_\_\_

- Yes, I want to be involved in an organizing committee! (Name/contact phone #)**

**Public Awareness:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Mobilization:** \_\_\_\_\_

- Yes, I want to contribute funds or other skills & talents to support the campaign!**

**Please contact Loreen at (416) 203 0050 x238 to make a contribution. Your funds will go towards campaign costs such as posters, materials and organizing costs such as travel, childcare and community meeting costs. (Tax receipts available).**

This form can be mailed to the Pay the Rent and Feed the Kids Coalition, 191 New Toronto St, Toronto, ON M8V 2E7 or faxed to (416) 203 0049.