

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

October 21, 2016

**SOS Children's Village B.C. Receives a \$35,000 Grant From The Home Depot Canada Foundation**

**Surrey, British Columbia** SOS Children's Village B.C. today celebrated receiving a \$35,000 grant from The Home Depot Canada Foundation for the charity's **Transition to Adulthood Suites Project**. The grant is part of The Orange Door Project Grant Program, which supports repairs, renovations and/or modifications to housing accommodations or other support facilities for homeless youth. **The funding will be used to complete the final two of five basement suites for youth aging out of foster care.**

SOS B.C. has been running a capital campaign – ‘Say Yes to the Village, No to the Streets!’ - since June 2014 to raise the \$250,000 required to make the suites a reality. The charity is now in the final stages of funding for this project. The transition suites will provide a stable home where young adults or young mothers, who would otherwise be homeless, will live healthier lives with access to the extensive green space and facilities of the Village which include a sports court, art and music studio, one-on-one support from a youth worker, therapy programs, clothes from the SOS Children's Village Thrift Store Foundation, and more.

“This project wouldn't have been possible without the funding generously provided by The Home Depot Canada Foundation,” said Douglas Dunn, executive director of SOS Children's Village B.C. “Most youth leave foster care without anything other than a few clothes. Over their time here, the youth will earn the suite - everything in there, the bed, the dressers, the drawers, the computer, the microwave, will be theirs to take with them once they complete our year-long program.”

“Working together with our community partners, The Home Depot Canada is committed to ending youth homelessness and we are so proud to support SOS Children's Village B.C. with their Transition to Adulthood Suites Project,” said Jeff Kinnaird, chair, board of directors, The Home Depot Canada Foundation and president, The Home Depot Canada. “By supporting the organizations that provide important life-skills programs, we are helping bring housing and hope to our most vulnerable youth.”

The Orange Door Project Grant Program is part of **The Orange Door Project** initiative, the Foundation's three-year, \$10M pledge to support renovation and repair projects and programs that provide vulnerable and homeless youth with access to safe, stable housing and support services.

By the end of 2016, The Home Depot Canada Foundation will have distributed almost \$4 million in grants to 141 charitable organizations across Canada through this program which began in 2009.

More information on SOS Children's Village B.C.'s trailblazing capital campaign is available at [www.sosbc.org/notothestreets](http://www.sosbc.org/notothestreets).

### **About SOS Children's Village BC**

SOS Children's Villages is the world's largest non-governmental, non-denominational child development organization for fostered, orphaned, and abandoned children. It has existed for over 65 years with presence in 134 countries and 572 Villages. British Columbia is home to the only SOS Children's Village in Canada. SOS Children's Village BC provides homes, a supportive community, and programs to help foster children and youth in need grow into caring, self-reliant adults.

### **About The Home Depot Canada Foundation**

The Home Depot Canada Foundation is committed to putting an end to youth homelessness in Canada. On any given night, more than 6,000 young people are without a place to call home, making youth homelessness one of the most urgent social issues facing Canadians today. Over the next three years, through The Orange Door Project initiative, the Foundation has pledged \$10-million to support renovation and repair projects and programs that provide vulnerable youth with access to safe, stable housing and support services.

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