

#### **ABOUT SISTERING**

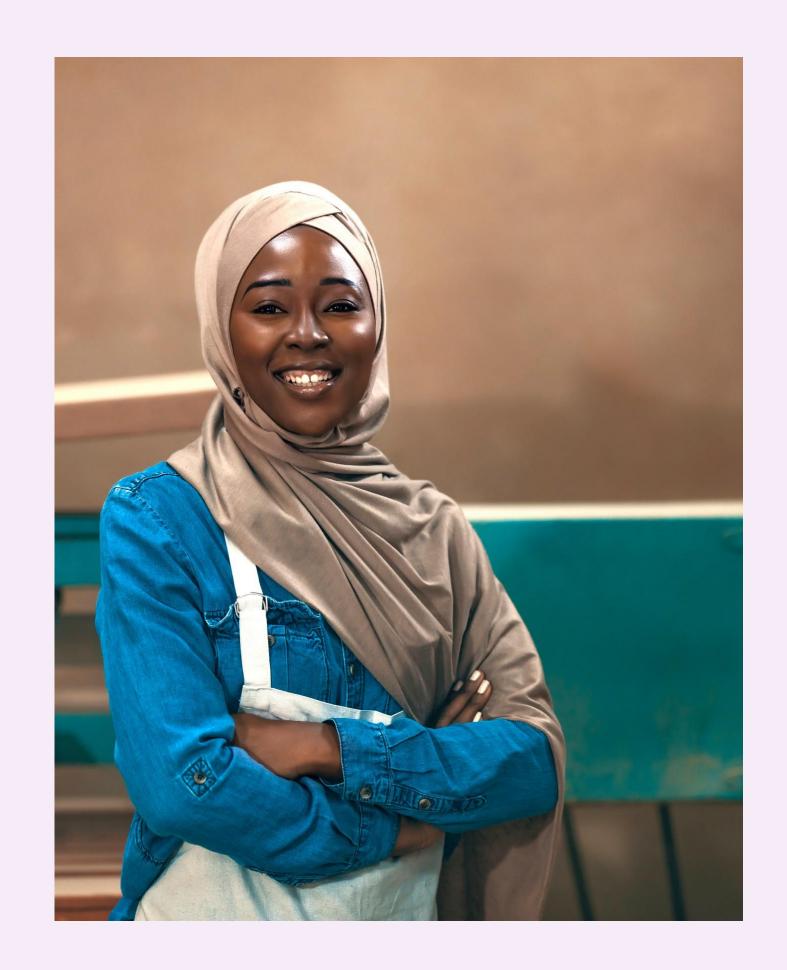
Sistering is a multi-service agency for women and gender diverse people who need assistance to address their basic needs through social services and wrap-around supports. We are leaders in serving women, in all their diversity, and have been in existence for over 40 years.



# VISION

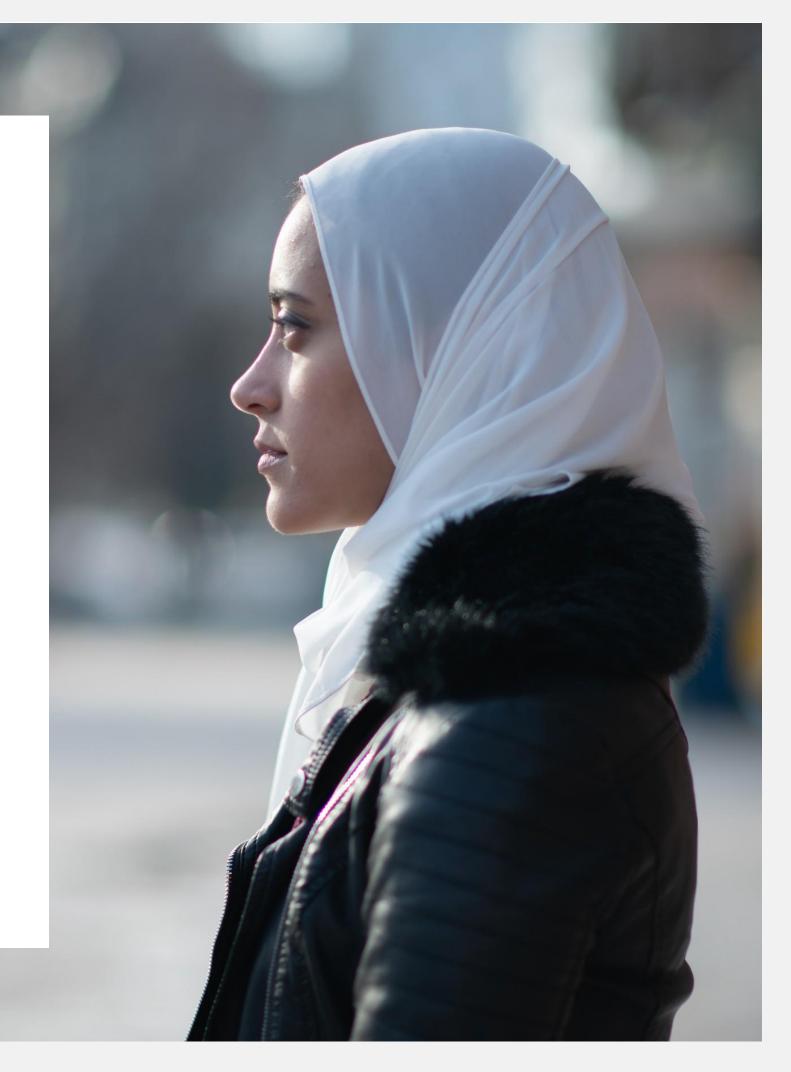
We create a safe, welcoming, and non-judgmental space by principles of feminism, anti-racism, and anti-oppression. We offer practical and emotional support to those who experience social isolation, homelessness or precarious housing, trauma and violence, discrimination, substance use, or need mental health support. Our equitable programs and services enable women and gender diverse people to take greater control over their lives. We work in collaboration with others in the community to change the social conditions that endanger the welfare of the people we serve

**Our vision:** A world where all women and gender diverse people are safe, respected, valued, and treated with dignity. All women and gender diverse people have equitable opportunities to thrive and participate in inclusive communities.



# **OUR VALUES**

- **COMMITMENT:** Sistering is invested in creating safe and inclusive spaces to respond to the needs of the community.
- ACCOUNTABILITY: Sistering is stewarded by those with lived experience
  and is led by individuals invested in the well-being of the organization and the
  people it serves.
- **EQUITY:** Sistering's programs are user-informed and designed to meet the needs of our diverse community.
- INTEGRITY: Sistering is honest and transparent.
- EMPATHY: Our services meet our users where they are at, offering a range of immediate needs and longer term supports
- INCLUSIVITY: We offer safe spaces for women and gender diverse people to access the services they need with care and compassion.
- RESILIENCE: Sistering is agile and capable of responding to create a
  positive impact for the community.





Sistering services are available to cis women and gender diverse people. We acknowledge that gender identity and expression are fluid. Sistering works to create a safer space and welcomes selfidentified people of diverse trans identities into our communities.

### **GENDER INCLUSION**



## WOMEN & GENDER DIVERSE PEOPLE

### ARE MORE LIKELY TO EXPERIENCE



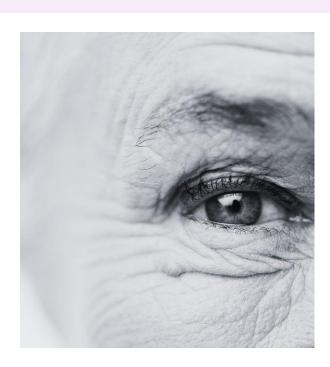
VIOLENCE & SEXUAL ABUSE

75% of women and children experience homelessness as a direct result of domestic violence (Canadian Observatory on Homelessness, 2021).



HIDDEN HOMELESSNESS

Studies show that women account for 31% of the homeless population; however, a lack of safe spaces leads to many women experiencing 'hidden homelessness', which is often not represented in statistics. (the National Shelter Study in 2023)



**POVERTY** 

12% of women in Canada live on low incomes. Those who face multiple barriers are at higher risk of poverty, including racialized women, women with disabilities, and single mothers.

(StatsCan, 2023)

# OUR PARTICIPANTS MAY HAVE EXPERIENCE WITH:



#### **POVERTY**



HOMELESSNESS OR PRECARIOUS HOUSING



PHYSICAL & MENTAL HEALTH CHALLENGES



**SUBSTANCE USE** 



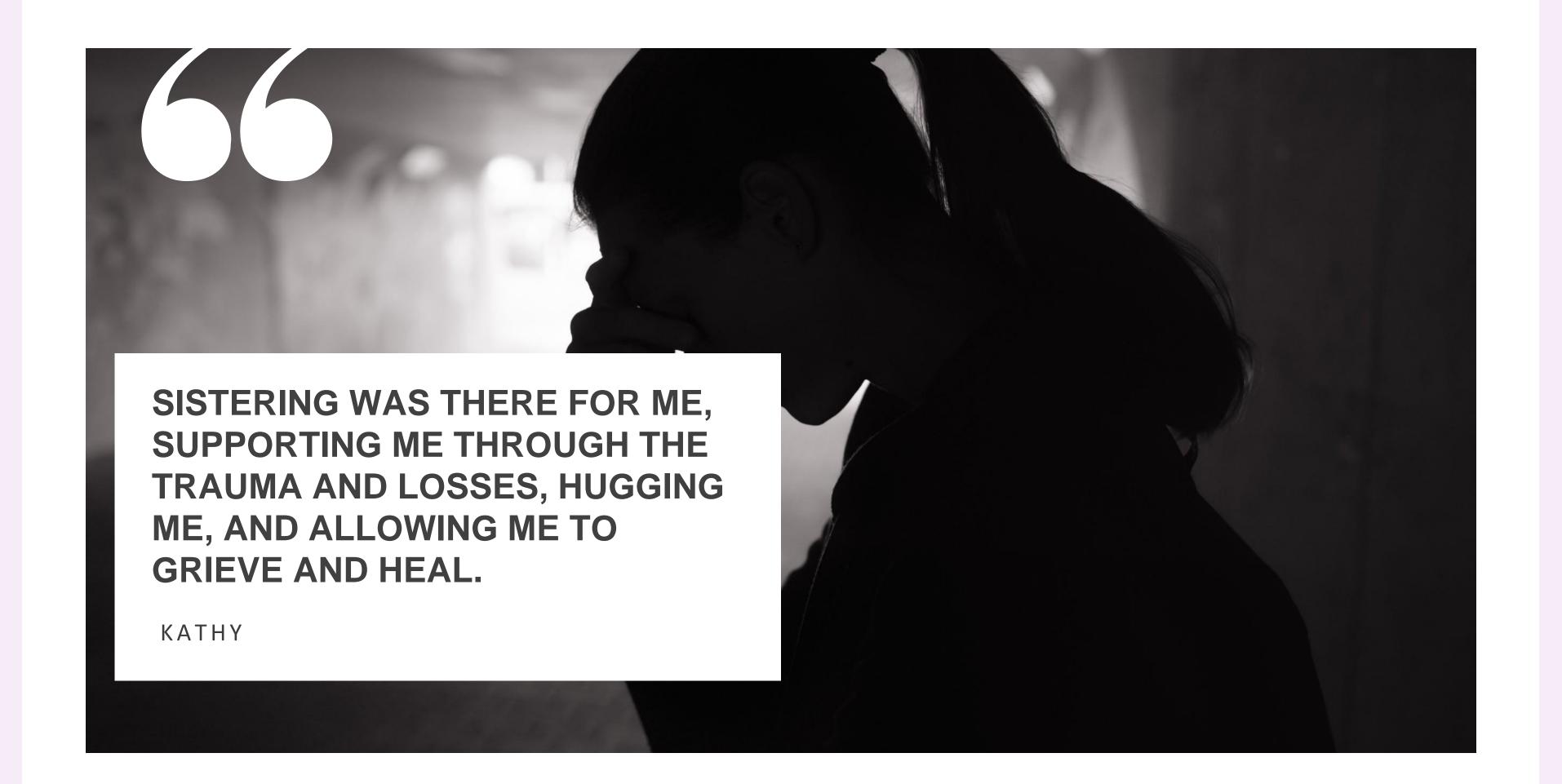
IMMIGRATION & SETTLEMENT ISSUES



DISCRIMINATION, STIGMA & SOCIAL ISOLATION



LACK OF RESOURCES



# **OUR PROGRAMS**



24/7 DROP IN

The heart of our organization, the low-barrier drop in, is a safe space for women and gender diverse people who need rest, food, one-on-one support, showers, laundry, social connection, and more.

- FOOD ACCESS PROGRAM
  - Sistering provides more than 300 hot meals daily to women and gender diverse people in the community who are experiencing food insecurity.
- MEDICAL CLINIC

In collaboration with Inner City Health Associates, Sistering offers low-barrier transitional primary care, psychiatry, palliative care, and population health services.

# **OUR PROGRAMS**



#### SPUN STUDIO

Spun Studio offers training in knitting, crocheting, weaving, and sewing, but the program goes beyond that, providing instruction in self-employment and business development skills. This empowers participants to earn a living with confidence and independence.

#### **HARM REDUCTION**

Sistering employs a team of Peer workers who have lived experience with drug use to help deliver programs. They also make and distribute harm reduction kits and educational materials, to help participants live safely and with dignity.

#### RESEARCH & ADVOCACY

In collaboration with academic institutions and community partners, Sistering invests in innovative projects that seek to understand the challenges and advance the rights of Sistering participants.



# **OUR IMPACT**

2024-2025 Fiscal Year

127,306	Meals served
75,404	24/7 Drop-in participant visits in Bloor Centre
16,075	Drop-in participant visits in Parkdale Centre
28,869	Harm reduction and Naloxone kits distributed
1,701	Sessions for psychiatric and other primary care services
361	Clients received case supports

SISTERING'S WORK FOCUSES ON CREATING A CULTURE THAT IS CONDUCIVE TO THE SAFETY, EMPOWERMENT, AND HEALING OF ALL PARTICIPANTS.





# **CORPORATE OPPORTUNITIES**



# DONATE TO OUR COMMUNITY DROP-IN

A donation to our 24/7 low-barrier drop-in will impact hundreds of women and gender diverse people who rely on Sistering for a safe, warm, and supportive resting place. Your gift will help ensure that every person in our community is valued and cared for.

# CONTRIBUTE TO A SISTERING PROGRAM

By backing an established, evidence-based Sistering program, such as our Food Access program or our Harm Reduction Support program, you can feel confident that your donation will foster meaningful, lasting change for its participants.

#### **VOLUNTEER WITH US**

Join Our Corporate Volunteer Program to make a hands-on impact – prepping meals, organizing donations, and supporting events-while helping create a safe, welcoming space at Sistering.

# **CORPORATE OPPORTUNITIES**



#### **HOST A FUNDRAISER**

Employees enjoy coming together to raise funds for a cause they care about.
Whether it's a bake sale, a dress-down day, or a holiday party, your fundraiser will have a tangible impact on the women we serve.

#### GIVE AT CHECKOUT

For retailers, hosting a shopping event where a portion of the proceeds is donated to Sistering can make a huge impact for Toronto women and foster trust and loyalty among your customers.

# DONATION MATCHING PROGRAM

Matching your employees' donations is an easy and impactful way to give. Your team will appreciate that their donations are making a bigger impact, and enhancing morale and employee retention.



### **EVENT SPONSORSHIP**

Each year, Sistering hosts signature community events and supports sponsors in organizing fundraising activities to highlight our mission and generate vital support. Corporate partners receive brand recognition at these events and across our promotional platforms, including newsletters and social media, ensuring visibility before, during, and after the events.

Contact us to learn more about upcoming opportunities and how you can get involved!





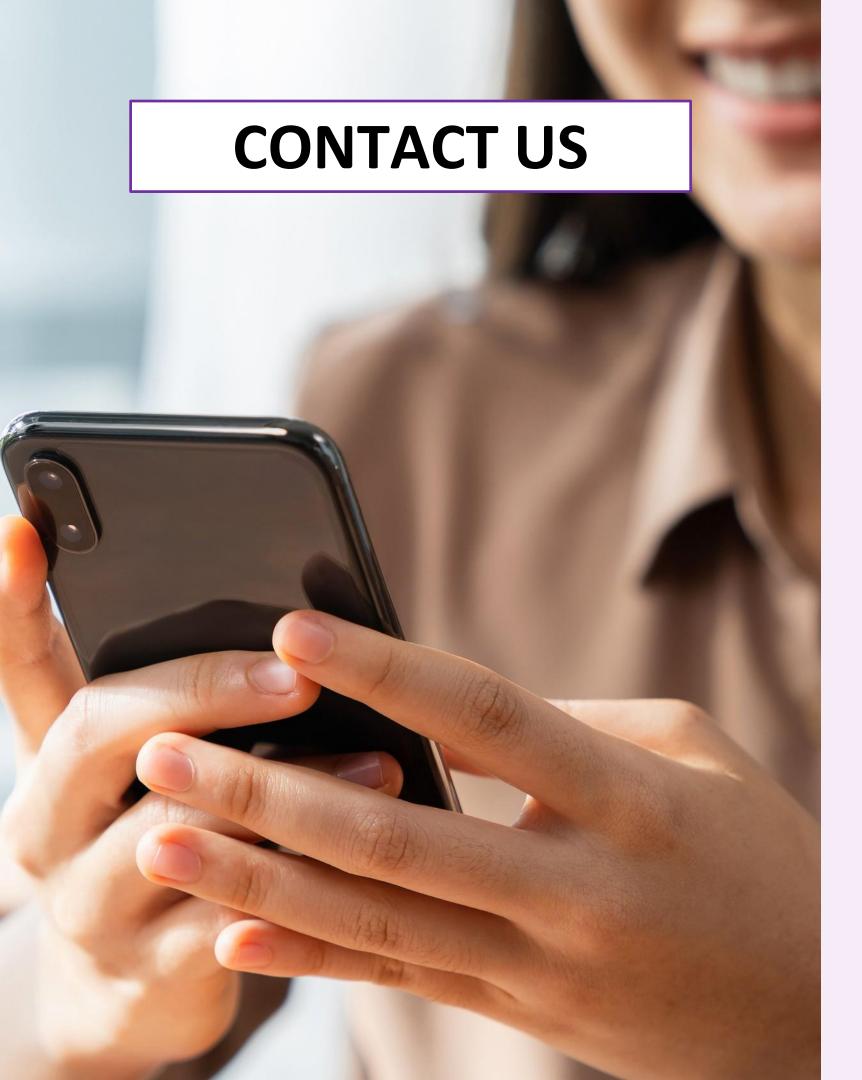
Our options for giving are flexible and customizable, as we work in collaboration with our partners to make sure all stakeholders are achieving their goals.

Talk to us about what social impact means to you!

#### BY SUPPORTING SISTERING...

- 1. You are aligning yourself with a trusted, local charity that promotes equity and anti-oppression and provides life-changing support to some of the city's most marginalized people.
- 2. Your customers, clients, and employees will value your commitment to social impact and will be proud to stand behind you.
- 3. You are enhancing your brand awareness and engaging new audiences, while supporting a well-respected charity with a long history of serving women in Toronto.





# SISTERING

We look forward to hearing from you to discuss how we can collaborate to create significant and lasting change.

#### FUND DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

- 416-926-9762 Ext.276
- fundraising@sistering.org
- 962 Bloor Street West, Toronto, ON, M6H IL6

#### SOCIAL MEDIA



@SisteringDropIn



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LEARN MORE

www.sistering.org

DONATE NOW

www.sistering.org/donate