

# SHIFRA HOMES

## HERE COMES THE SUN!



The year 2022 was a very busy year. We received an unprecedented surge in the number of requests for admission into our Residential Program, breaking all previous records. We are so thankful for all the love and support that helped us successfully make it through another year!



**OUR NEW HOME**  
Photographer: Sarah Simms



Photographer: Sarah Simms

### 2022 BABIES

**Amaya - January**  
**Anaya- January**  
**Oaklyn- March**  
**Kira- March**  
**Layla- June**  
**Autumn- July**  
**Tiger Lily- July**  
**Echo- July**  
**Avalyn- August**  
**Phillip- August (only boy in 2022)**  
**Kingsliey- October**  
**Reniqua- October**  
**Lynelle - November**  
**Alaia- December**



### IN THIS ISSUE

- We welcomed our first twins!
- Official opening of our second home
- Awards & Accomplishments
- Thank you to our volunteers, sponsors and donors
- Special thanks to Ron Faubert, The May Court Club of Oakville, and Sarah Simms photography
- Nancy's 10th Anniversary
- Message from the Executive Director

# This year was full of BLESSINGS

## CONGRATULATIONS!



## AWARDS AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Throughout this year several awards and achievements have been given to Nancy Romic the Executive Director of Shifra Homes. MP Karina Gould presented Nancy Romic with the Queen's Platinum Jubilee Award on July 21st, 2022. Nancy was given a certificate and a commemorative pin adorned with the Royal Crown and the Royal Cypher (EIIR), which are personal symbols representing the Queen. Nancy was nominated for the award by a former resident of Shifra Homes. She has made a significant impact on the lives of numerous young homeless pregnant mothers and their babies, offering them hope, love, and a chance for a brighter future.

Nancy Romic has also won the 2022 YWCA Women of Distinction Community Leadership-Halton Award. Congratulations to Nancy on these well-deserved achievements!



## Shifra's First Set of Twins!

At the beginning of 2022, we were graced with two precious blessings. On January 28th we were elated to welcome twin girls, Anaya and Amaya, marking a truly momentous occasion for Shifra Homes.

Despite our home being above full capacity, we were fortunate to have two exceptionally well-behaved twins. Our team comprising of staff, volunteers, students, and support personnel collaborated closely to facilitate a smooth transition for the new mother into her newfound role.

## Official Grand Opening of Our Second Home

In July 2022, we secured a second residence to cater to the influx of homeless, pregnant mothers and their babies. As of September 1, 2022, we have commenced operations at our new home with complete occupancy. The acquisition of this additional property has enabled us to enhance our range of programs and services to fulfill the requirements of the Halton community. We can now house up to 10 mothers and their beloved babies. The exceptional backing of our community of supporters, such as yourself, has been instrumental in our ongoing accomplishments. We extend our heartfelt gratitude to the following individuals who have contributed towards this endeavor:

- Our designers Leanne Howlett, Brenda Baranowski
- Our volunteer shopper Stephanie Reid
- Our Donors
- The following businesses: Snuggle Bugz, Toys 'R' Us (Appleby Line) and Factory Tile Oakville.





## Thank You to Our Volunteers!

The contribution of volunteers at Shifra Homes is crucial to our daily operations. Their devotion, time, compassion, and affection towards our residents, babies, and staff is truly invaluable. We are incredibly grateful to have such an exceptional group of volunteers who have a positive impact on our lives. We would like to acknowledge:

- Dr. Elizabeth Caruana
- Heather Vanderkruk
- Ron Faubert
- Bill Leggit
- Lorna Dueck
- Cathy Lanc
- Craig MacPherson
- Andrea Bremer
- Becky Lang
- Lisa Toth
- Julia England
- Natasha Martin-Webber
- Carolyn Park
- Karen Bradley
- Shelton Roberts
- Stephanie Reid
- Clinton Howell
- Abby Zanatta
- Liz Lydon

### Other donors:

- St. Paul the Apostle Parish
- Halton Columbus Charities
- Faith CRC
- Bethel Christian Reform Church Acton
- Bethel Christian Reform Church Waterdown
- Wellspring Church
- Central Burlington Women's Probus Club
- Appleby United Church

### Top donors

- June & Ian \$50,000
- Timothy & Catherine O'Brien \$26,450
- Sandee & Duncan MacGregor \$15,000
- Terrance & Cynthia MacGibbon \$10,000
- W.F. Baird & Associates \$5,000

## Ron Faubert - Volunteer & friend

I would like to take this opportunity to thank one of our most valued and cherished members of the Shifra family. Ron has generously served and supported our family for 8 years with selfless dedication. We are so thankful and grateful for all the love and effort Ron has personally put into making Shifra Homes what it is today. On behalf of the entire Shifra Homes family, we would like to wish Ron all the best in retirement! A tree has been planted in honour and recognition of his selfless dedication and service to Shifra Homes.



## May Court Club of Oakville

We would like to acknowledge and thank the amazing women from The May Court Club of Oakville for supporting our mothers at Shifra Homes with monthly personal care donations.



## Sarah Simms Photography

We would like to sincerely thank Sarah Simms from Zonta Club of Oakville, who has generously donated her time and services every month to Shifra Homes. Sarah comes in monthly to capture the beautiful moments and memories of our mothers and their precious babies in photographs. The women are given professional and personal photographs so that they can cherish these times and memories for the rest of their lives.

## Our Generous Sponsors



# MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



## NANCY'S 10TH ANNIVERSARY!

The Board of Director's and Staff hosted a surprise party to honour Nancy's 10th Anniversary at Shifra Homes. Nancy has worked diligently to be the voice of our young mothers and babies. Her passion is evident in all her accomplishments.



What an amazing year 2022 was. Our first set of twins, the opening of our second home and my 10th anniversary at Shifra Homes. As I reflect on my journey at Shifra, I can not help but smile. How many people are fortunate enough to have the honour and privilege to have two amazing careers in their lifetime.

One thing that I have learned from being at Shifra is that the young moms that need our support come from experiences and circumstances that no child should ever have to live through. The level of trauma has drastically increased over the years. There are times when I lay my head down at night and struggle with the injustices of what these young women have had to endure. There are silent tears too. This is what fuels me to make an impact and difference in their lives. These women have been let down and failed by so many. As a woman and mother, my mission is to change the trajectory in their lives. To give these beautiful women the safety, security, and most importantly love that they are so deserving of.

I truly believe that each one of us can change the world. One step and action at a time. Our good deeds have a ripple effect. Your support changes the world at Shifra Homes. There is nothing more sacred or precious than being able to offer a beautiful home for these young women to lay their tired and weary heads down. What could have possibly been one of the worst times in this young mother's life is transformed into the most beautiful.

We admitted a pregnant woman that was living in the forest in Burlington. She was days from delivery. Within 4 days of admission, she delivered her precious baby girl. I shudder to even think what their story would have been had they not come to Shifra. Without a safe home, a baby is apprehended at birth altering both their lives forever. Thankfully this story had a happy and successful ending.

There are no words that can adequately express the difference that each donation makes in the lives of our mothers and babies. Your support makes a world of difference and helps to write beautiful story being written in their book of life.

With immense gratitude!

Nancy Romic  
Executive Director