

PRESS RELEASE



For Immediate Release

09-13-2023

Pathstone's River House Site opens its doors in Welland

New location brings Mental Health Support closer to thousands in Niagara South

Welland, ON (September 13, 2023) –Residents of Niagara South just got a new neighbour. Pathstone Mental Health is now offering services to children and youth up until their 18th birthday at their new site in Welland. **Today**, donors and media gathered at 102 River Road. River House, Pathstone's newest site, will deliver mental health therapy, clinics and resources to kids and families across Niagara and more easily to those in Niagara South.

Access is a major issue in Niagara. Often times, families start a Pathstone program with the best of intentions but a long commute to and from our Branscombe site in St. Catharines or lack of transportation altogether is a barrier to care that leads to cancelled sessions and incomplete therapy programs. We know that kids have an 87% success rate at Pathstone, when they complete their program, which is another reason why River House is such an important site. ***Shaun Baylis, CEO – Pathstone Mental Health***

A generous donation to Pathstone Foundation, facilitated the purchase of the site, which was owned by Birchway Niagara, formerly Women's Place. A River House RENO campaign was launched to cover the cost of renovating the site and hiring the staff that would be needed to support programs and operations at River House.

Immense community support made this possible. From the generous private donor that enabled us to purchase the site, to a \$250K donation match from Mountainview Building Group that inspired many to give, our campaign raised an additional \$1.2M. A gift from Greg and Diane Slaight in 2022 supported the staffing needs for River House. ***Kim Rossi, Director of Fundraising & Communications -Pathstone Foundation***

Services at River House include; One on one counselling, group clinics for children and youth. Parenting sessions and clinics, child minding and more to come in the coming months.

Today, was about gathering with the visionaries who were immensely moved by what could happen for kids and families at River House. With the massive growth happening across Niagara South, River House will be utilized by thousands each year. Our cup is full said Rossi.

About Pathstone Mental Health

Pathstone Mental Health is a community-based organization whose mission it is to provide innovative and effective treatment for all children in Niagara who struggle with mental health and addictions issues. Thanks to support from our donors and volunteers, we are able to meet the needs of more kids and families in Niagara each year. **Note**, our Support Line is open 24/7 at **1-800-263-4944**.

For more information and assistance in arranging interviews, please contact:

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