

PROGRAM FEATURE: CHILD CARE

Your support helps families thrive

Bissell Centre’s Child Development programs are designed to foster early childhood development, with a focus on learning through play.

Because of your generosity, Bissell is able to nurture an average of 166 children each year in Edmonton—helping them grow, play, and thrive. With both full-time and respite child care, families get the time and support they need to move forward.

Demand for our short-term care program grows each summer, when children are out of school and options are limited. **Your ongoing support fills this critical gap, giving families the space to build a stronger, more stable future.**



2025 Spring Newsletter
bissellcentre.org



IMPORTANT EVENTS

Mark your calendars

We look forward to honouring these significant days that mean so much to the community members we serve. These commemorations create moments of dignity, recognition, and joy for those who rely on our services.

- June 21**
National Indigenous Peoples Day
- September 30**
National Day for Truth and Reconciliation



Community
Heroes

Have you ever thought of becoming a monthly donor?

By becoming a monthly donor, you'll be reducing administrative costs and making it possible for Bissell Centre to confidently plan ahead to meet the needs of Edmontonians experiencing homelessness and poverty.

It's quick and easy to become a monthly donor online at bissellcentre.org/community-heroes just remember to check off the "Give Monthly" box!



Transforming Community Support
Fundraising Update: A Life-Changing Walk
Helping Parents and Families Thrive

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A HUB WHERE HOPE CAN GROW

Our Community Space is undergoing a major transformation!

For 115 years, the generosity of donors like you has played a key role in helping Bissell Centre continually evolve to meet our community's changing needs. With every gift, you're part of a community working to remove barriers and support people as they move out of poverty.

We're delighted to share that this spring, Bissell is evolving once again: our Community Space is transforming into a low-barrier Service Hub!

This transformation offers a more coordinated range of services, while honouring the legacy of the original Community Space.

The space has been thoughtfully redesigned to more seamlessly integrate our services and better reflect our vision of addressing the root causes of poverty.



How? By focusing on three crucial areas that create long-term, life-changing impact.

Housing support, financial coaching, and family supports will now be offered through a single, coordinated model—reducing the need to navigate multiple locations or systems to access support.

Having these essential services under one roof creates a **simpler, more inclusive intake process and provides greater consistency of support** to individuals and families as they work with various programs and partners.

Your generosity impacts lives and helps us work to meet Edmonton's most urgent needs. Together, we're delivering dynamic programs and services that bring us closer to a poverty-free community. Thank you!

SERVICE HUB TRANSFORMATION FAQ

What's changing?

Bissell's Community Space is now operating as a low-barrier Service Hub, where housing, financial, and family supports are delivered in a more coordinated, person-centred way.

This continuity helps build stronger relationships and ensures no one falls through the cracks on their journey out of poverty.

Additionally, it will offer an opportunity to bring together other partners offering expanded services, providing more comprehensive support to members of our community.

Why does this change matter?

As our community's needs evolve, it's crucial we respond with effective programs that remove barriers and meet people where they are.

How will it affect the community?

As other organizations expand their capacity to meet basic needs, Bissell is focusing on long-term solutions that break the cycle of poverty.

Key supports—like housing, financial coaching, and family supports—are now

available in one place, with fewer barriers. And our collaborative approach with partner organizations means community members can access additional services.

We'll continue to offer referrals for urgent needs, while concentrating on the areas where we can make the most impact.

Are you eliminating services?

No—our services are evolving.

Supports like housing, financial coaching, and family supports are still available and now offered through a more coordinated approach at the Service Hub.

Essential services like showers and clothing remain available for those accessing programs, as we focus on creating deeper, long-term impact for every person who walks through our doors.

How can I help?

Donate to Bissell today! To make a special gift to support the new Service Hub or its many important services, call our Donor Support Team at 780-423-2285 ext. 365 or email donorsupport@bissellcentre.org.

IMPACT UPDATE: THANK YOU!

Edmonton's Coldest Night of the Year 2025

On February 22, Edmonton walkers laced up, bundled up and changed lives. Families, friends, and supporters of Bissell joined compassionate Canadians in cities across our country for the **Coldest Night of the Year**.

We're thrilled to report that you raised an incredible **\$149,527** for Bissell Centre!

Our biggest annual fundraiser supports people who turn to Bissell to find connection, access life-changing programs and take the first steps toward a brighter future. Thank you for your wonderful support!

