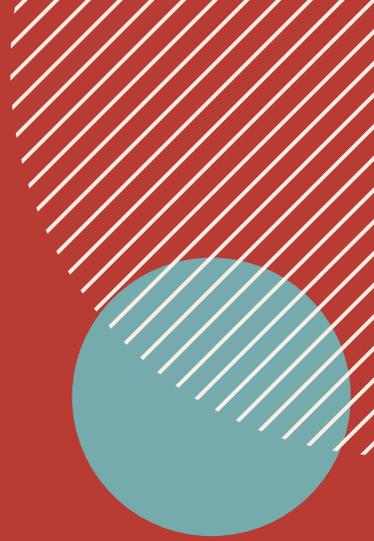


ANNUAL REPORT 2021



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SUMMARY

Founded in 2019 at the University of Toronto Scarborough, **Blankets for T.O. (BTO)** is a non-profit organization **addressing homelessness through advocacy, engagement and action**. We strive to **provide support and resources to those in need within the city of Toronto**, as well as **raise awareness** on the ongoing stigma surrounding homelessness, **with the ultimate goal of eradicating it**.

The **BTO Annual Report** summarizes **all activities and initiatives** conducted by the club over one fiscal year. This annual report is intended to **provide people information on the current state of the club and a summary of what we have accomplished**. The annual report will contain a summary of our **financials, club events and initiatives for the homeless community**. BTO strives to maintain and further **build public trust** through the transparency of our initiatives and donations in this report.

This past year, our team has worked towards our goal by **distributing food and blankets** to those in need. Because we are still in a pandemic, significance has been placed on providing **care packages containing hand sanitizers, masks, and vaccine information**; through our initiatives, we have been able to donate a total of **3775 items**.



SPONSORS



Over the past year, Blankets for T.O. is extremely thankful for the support of its sponsors. Some of the fantastic work that Blankets for T.O. has done could not have been possible without their generous support.

We would like to appreciate the new sponsors that we have connected with this past year, including **BoosterPrep, Aurora Family Dentistry, Fujifilm, UTSC** and **Convenience Kits**.



Aurora Family Dentistry
\$200 Donation



BoosterPrep
\$500 Donation



Fujifilm
2 Instax cameras and film



UTSC
100 lysol wipe packs, 500 masks, 600 reusable masks, 100 face shields



Convenience Kits
Donation of razors, shaving gels, hand mirrors, combs

Additionally, we would like to recognize our preferred sponsor, **The Princeton Review**, and some of our previous sponsors **OMS** and **Slumber and Laze**.



AWARDS & ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Each year, Blankets for T.O. strives to help those in need to the best of our abilities. In the past year, we reached various milestones and had our efforts recognized by local groups and community leaders. We are always humbled to receive these awards and tokens and would like to extend our thanks and appreciation to all persons who have and continue to support us.



March 2021 - Certificate from the House of Commons given by Shaun Chen (Member of Parliament, Scarborough North)

- Our donation efforts during the COVID-19 pandemic were recognized at our Care Package Event

April 2021 - Letter of Appreciation from Gary Anandasangaree (Member of Parliament, Scarborough-Rouge Park)

- We were accredited for our commitment to protecting vulnerable members of our society

June 2021 - UofT Student Engagement Award

- We were granted \$3,000 in funding for our proposed project to support local and global communities that were affected by the COVID-19 pandemic

July 2021 - Thank You Letter from The Denise House

- After our donation of hand sanitizers, we received a thank you letter from the shelter

December 2021 - Toronto Star Article

- Our article highlighting our recent Tote Bag Competition and our discussion on homelessness during the winter season, was published by the Toronto Star

DONATIONS

Blankets for T.O. has a membership system that allows General Members access to exclusive events, discounts and meaningful volunteering opportunities. BTO Executive Team Members also pay a \$20 membership fee to showcase their commitment towards BTO's mission. Through these membership fees, **\$600** was collected and goes towards our mission of eradicating homelessness.

BTO also received a **\$3,000 grant** from University of Toronto to support our project of aiding India during the pandemic, and in November 2021, we organized a process to allow external donations from individuals out of our organization and have reached **\$100** thus far - thank you!



BeMo

BeMo sponsor of \$300

UofT

sponsored us with masks, tote bags, water bottles, face shields, lysol wipes

With the generous donations we have received, **we were able to donate to homeless shelters, support organizations to aid Indian citizens and give back to our community.**

DISTRIBUTIONS



Care Package Event

- In March 2021, our team created 45 care packages filled with over 800 items to donate



Inn from the Cold

- In July 2021, we donated 240 reusable masks

Belinda's Place

- In July 2021, we donated 240 reusable masks



Eva's Place

- In October 2021, we donated 500 masks

Street Haven at the Crossroads

- In November 2021, we donated 20 blankets, 30 pairs of socks, 40 pairs of undergarments and 466 stationery items.



Warden Woods 24 Hour Community Respite Site

- From November 2020 to November 2021, we have donated 70 face shields, lysol wipes, masks, donuts and 800+ separate items.

Homeless Individuals on the streets of Downtown, Toronto

- In December 2021, 10 of our executive team members walked around the streets of downtown to distribute packages filled with thermal blankets, granola bars, and other supplies to homeless individuals.



EVENTS



Despite the harsh circumstances of the pandemic, BTO managed to hold a handful of successful events, while ensuring public guidelines were followed diligently.

March

- **Care package event** collaboration with Warden Woods Community Centre.
- Packages included essentials like thermal blankets, sanitizers, masks and a personalized note by the team
- 80 packages were sent out.

September

- A virtual **General Meeting** where the organization's vision and mission were discussed, and members were enlightened on the various volunteer opportunities and CCR recognition.

October

- The **Halloween paint night** for the UTSC community, held at the Instructional Centre on campus.
- This event included a painting session, a grand prize for the best painting, polaroids, and much more for only \$5 (General Members attended for free).

December

- **Donation drive** held in Downtown Toronto involved small care packages containing food, thermal socks, tissues, blankets, and presto cards.
- Heard stories directly from homeless individuals.
- **Tote Bag Competition**, an initiative that involved over 30 clubs from various universities across Canada
- Tasked to create a "care package" for the homeless containing thoughtful items for them

NEXT STEPS



In the coming year, BTO is looking forward to expanding their reach across Canada by **opening chapters at different universities**. So far, chapters at **Ontario Tech University, University of Toronto St. George Campus, Western University, McMaster University, and York University** have been successfully established. The team is looking forward to furthering this ongoing process.

The team would also like to **donate more than 10 000 items** before the end of 2022, with as many students as possible. We are currently raising funds through a Go Fund Me to accomplish this. (<https://gofund.me/34f4c76b>)

To engage the student body, BTO is looking forward to holding **exciting events** that will **inspire students to volunteer** with the team and gain a profound **understanding of the impacts of homelessness across the world**.

Finally, BTO is looking to become an officially recognized non-for-profit charity in Canada. By doing so, the team can officially request funding from the government of Canada, making their operations much more efficient and smooth.



Blankets for T.O.

