



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Charity Forced into Homelessness

Toronto... February 19, 2010 was certainly a day of surprise when Caritas staff, volunteers, and residents found out that the locks on doors to the main Centre were changed. A Bailiff's notice appeared on the main entrance stating that the landlord, **Femola Builders Limited**, had taken measures against Caritas pursuant to the provisions of the lease.

"Caritas has been paying their rent in a timely manner since the very start, even throughout the hardships that our charity had to endeavour during the recent economic climate. The argument stems from an aged invoice for paving work performed in 2007, the validity of which is still under dispute," states the Executive Director, Elio Sergnese.

"It is a sad day that so many people had to be faced into a situation like this, with total disregard to the impact on the lives of the residents and their families who are in the middle of their treatment." adds Michael Tibollo, the Chairman of the Board of Directors, at time of this writing.

Caritas, also known as *a school of life*, is a registered charity, well known for its long-term residential and day programs. The type of program offered by Caritas is unique in Canada due to its 25-month duration, and the multidimensional approach, known as the Therapeutic Community. Caritas residents join the program with literally no hope for tomorrow, but upon completion of the program they have a new appreciation for life, a total change in lifestyle, and the ability to overcome its obstacles. To date, Caritas has received numerous awards and commendations for their work in the field of addiction and mental health.

Caritas operates out of the main Centre in North York, and a therapeutic farm in King City, Ontario. Caritas continues to sustain the majority of its work relying on public donations and community volunteerism.

Please visit our website at www.caritas.ca for up-to-date information regarding this matter. If you are a member of the media and would like to do a story on Caritas please email us at pr@caritas.ca as we are in the process of re-establishing our phone lines.