



DIOCESE OF HAMILTON

February 2, 2022

Dear Members of the Emergency & Community Services Committee,

I humbly write to you to encourage your support of the *Hamilton Alliance for Tiny Shelters* in their effort to bring simple, modest, yet profound supports to the homeless in our community.

Seeing and fully acknowledging the problem of homelessness itself demands a type of courage. It can be quite easy for each of us to look the other way, to dismiss the suffering we see, to downplay or explain away the problem, or even simply to ignore it altogether. Let us have the courage to look directly at the reality of homelessness – a reality we can see in the faces of the homeless people in our community. While their voices may often be quiet, their lives call out to each of us for help, for care, for love, and - perhaps most of all - for hope.

Taking the concrete step of providing small, temporary shelters for the homeless in our community is one way we can build this hope. The Diocese of Hamilton has been closely involved in a similar project in Kitchener-Waterloo, and in a short time this has made a true impact on the lives of many. These small gestures of hope can truly change lives.

Along with Pope Francis, I believe that, “*we are required to nurture tomorrow’s hope by healing today’s pain.*” I lend my voice in support of this initiative on behalf of the city’s many homeless, who often go unheard. May we all open our hearts to hear their cries for help!

I thank you for your commitment and dedication to our community through your civic service. May God continue to bless your efforts to make this community one of hope, solidarity, and fraternity.

Sincerely in Christ and Mary Immaculate,

+ Douglas Crosby, OMI

(Most Rev.) Douglas Crosby, OMI
Bishop of Hamilton

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