

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

### What is the RAFT?

The RAFT is a not-for-profit charitable organization, providing support to at-risk youth and communities in Niagara.

### What is the RAFT's Mission?

The RAFT contributes to the welfare of our Community by helping at risk youth become independent and self-sufficient, strengthening their emotional and social well being and acting as a referral source that reconnects youth to the community. We believe that working together, one step at a time, we can make a difference.

**PLEASE  
SHARE**

### What is the Resource Centre?

The Resource Centre specializes in the support of at-risk youth living in danger of living on the street. The Centre provides hot meals, access to laundry facilities, an emergency food cupboard, social and recreation opportunities, a safe place to meet, one on one mentoring and life skills support. Youth receive help to become independent and self sufficient i.e. go back to school; enrol in training programs; get a job.

### Where is the Resource Centre located?

At 17 Centre Street in St. Catharines ~ Just off the downtown core.

### Who is the target population?

The Resource Centre supports at-risk youth between the ages of 16-22 who are homeless.

### When can you access the Resource Centre?

The Resource Centre is open 7 days a week from 6:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m.

### What are the Goals of the Resource Centre?

- o Mitigate the effects of isolation by providing youth with a safe place to socialize and connect
- o Improve health by providing nourishing meals and snacks
- o Provide learning opportunities to develop new skills and social development
- o Ensure basic needs are met by access to clothing, laundry facilities and showers
- o Promote social inclusion and help youth experience a sense of community and belonging



# Resource Centre

## What are Services based on?

Services are based on the principles of empowerment, quality of life, dignity and respect. Services are provided in a caring environment which encourages independence and self-reliance. When youth begin to feel in control of their lives, it builds their self-esteem and confidence and empowers them to become fuller community members.

## How is the Resource Centre Funded?

The Resource Centre is funded by the United Way of St. Catharines and District, Local Businesses, Community Groups, Friends, Foundations and the Faith Community.

## How do I obtain additional information about how I can help ?

For more information on the RAFT and their community services, please visit our website at: [www.therafthelps.ca](http://www.therafthelps.ca)

## Contact Information

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