



## Fact Sheet

### Chez Doris Expands Overnight Spaces for 60 Women

Every winter, Chez Doris adjusts its services to support the increasing needs of women facing homelessness and exposure to harsh weather. Alongside its year-round overnight shelter, the organization opens a seasonal warming station, welcoming more women and offering a safe place to spend the night.

This winter, Chez Doris can accommodate up to **60 women per night**:

- 24 permanent places at the overnight shelter (1437 Chomedey)
- 36 additional places offered through the warming station program

The warming station has been operating since **Monday, December 1** and will remain open every night from **8:00 p.m. to 7:00 a.m. until March 31, 2026, inclusively**.

Most of the service is provided at the day centre (1430 Chomedey Street), with extended hours every night during this period, offering **30 spots (10 beds and 20 seated spaces)**.

Additionally, **six temporary beds** are available at the overnight shelter (1437 Chomedey), increasing capacity throughout the cold season. The **24 permanent beds** at the overnight shelter are still accessible via the usual reservation process, in person at the day centre each morning.

To access the **overnight shelter**, each woman goes through a mandatory intake process: she deposits her belongings at reception, takes a shower, and receives pyjamas provided by Chez Doris before settling into her bed.

Hot drinks and snacks are available at both the day centre and the overnight shelter, creating a welcoming and comforting atmosphere for women in need.

Chez Doris has brought in an extra team to expand the overnight shelter and extend the day centre's hours as a warming station, operating 24/7 throughout the winter. Around ten additional staff have been hired and trained to support these services. Overnight, qualified staff are present to ensure safety and provide support, allowing women to escape the cold in a calm, warm, and supervised space.

"When temperatures drop, concern grows for all women who do not have access to a safe place to spend the night. Once again this winter, our dedicated teams have moved quickly to open these

additional places and welcome more women out of the cold. I am deeply grateful: their compassion and commitment make a real difference. Thanks to them, more women can find shelter, rest, and regain their strength during these difficult nights.”

— Diane Pilote, Executive Director, Chez Doris

### **About Chez Doris**

Chez Doris is a Montréal-based charitable organization, open seven days a week, offering a safe, non-judgmental environment and essential services to women experiencing homelessness or extreme vulnerability. Founded in 1977 as a day shelter, Chez Doris has grown to serve more than 1,700 vulnerable women each year, offering them comprehensive support in a respectful and inclusive environment. In addition to meals, the organization provides clothing, financial management support, medical services, a night shelter, and access to various housing solutions, including permanent residences.

Chez Doris' mission is to support and empower every woman in a precarious situation so that she can reach her full potential, offering a full range of services in safe spaces where they can find help and comfort without judgment.