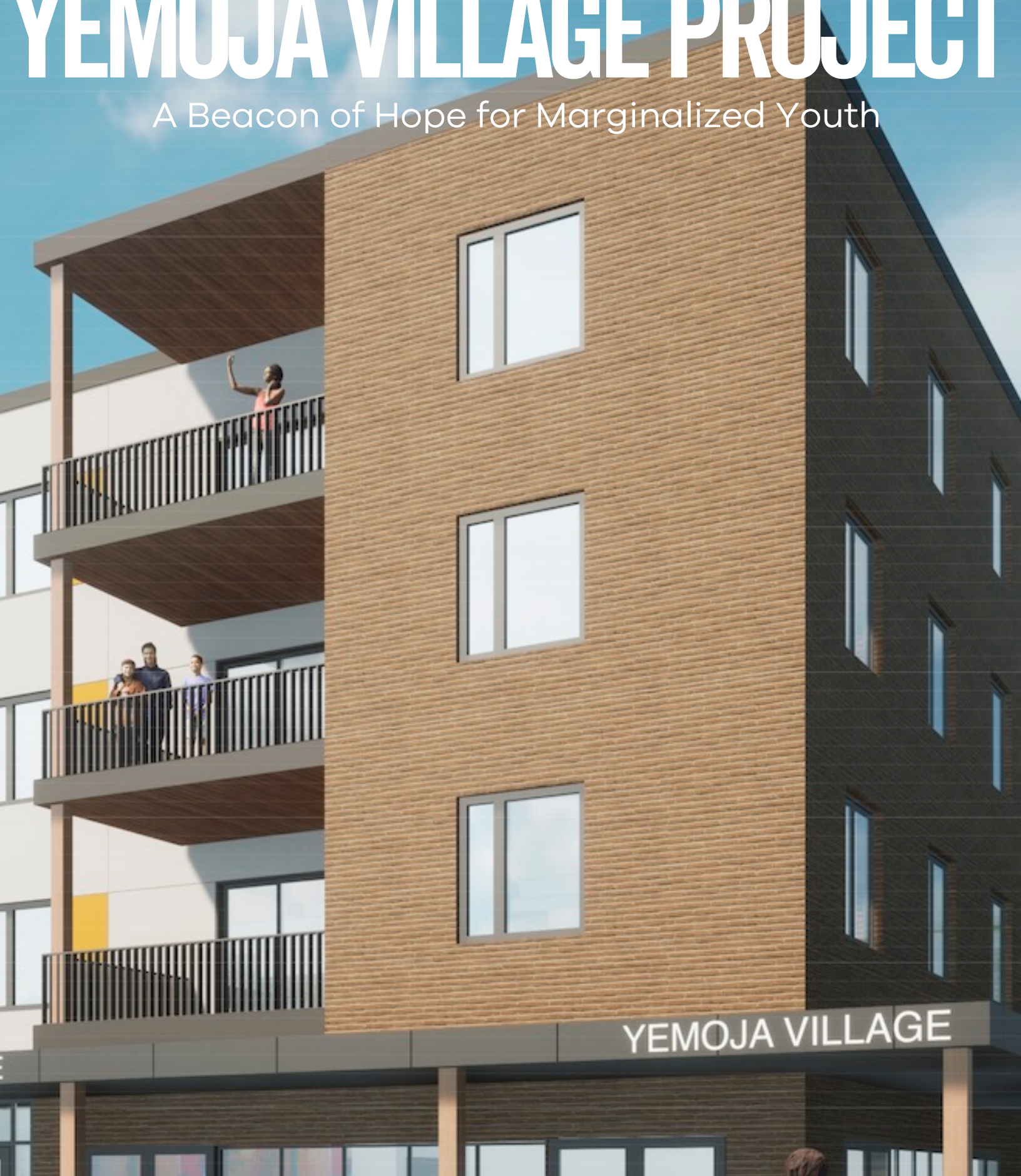




YEMOJA VILLAGE PROJECT

A Beacon of Hope for Marginalized Youth



THE YEMOJA VILLAGE

The Yemoja Village Project, led by BGC East Scarborough, is poised to be a transformative beacon of hope for marginalized youth in Scarborough-Rouge Park. This initiative aims to convert the West Hill United Church property into a vibrant community hub featuring 47 affordable housing units. Its primary goal is to offer marginalized and racialized young adults and families deeply affordable, secure, and permanent housing, along with the necessary support systems to help them flourish.

In response to the pressing need for affordable housing, the project addresses national statistics indicating a projected shortage of over 3.5 million housing units by 2030. It also confronts the deteriorating state of housing affordability, aiming to provide equitable solutions to this critical issue. By commencing construction in 2025, the project marks a significant milestone in community development and empowerment.

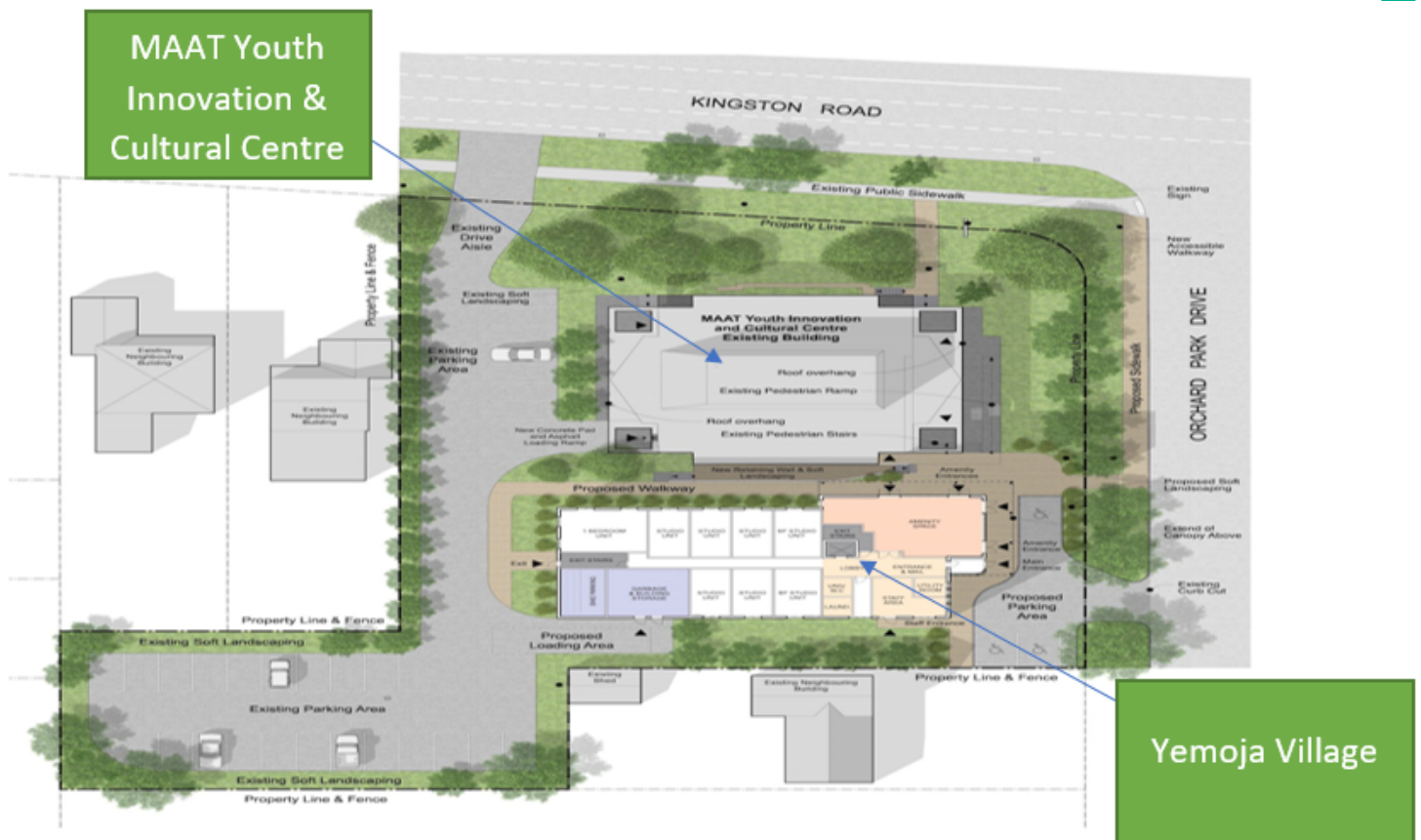
The Yemoja Village, situated at 62 Orchard Park Drive in Scarborough, is envisioned not just as a housing complex but as a comprehensive community revitalization endeavor. It will stand adjacent to the Mentorship Arts Academics Technology (MAAT) Youth Innovation & Cultural Centre, serving as a dedicated space for youth aged 13 to 29 to explore their potential and pursue their aspirations. The project offers a range of programs, including academic support, artistic expression, physical well-being, mentorship, employment assistance, and tools for independence. Its holistic approach aims to empower marginalized youth, particularly Black and Indigenous youth, by providing them with opportunities for integration into various aspects of life, from education and career to family and social engagement.

PROGRAMS WE OFFER

We aim to offer marginalized youth, including Black and Indigenous youth, of Scarborough a space dedicated to them with an array of possibilities including integration into academics, to career, family, and social life. The programs include:

- Academic success
- Artistic expression
- Physical well-being and food security
- Mentorship
- Employment and career supports
- Tools for independence

YEMOJA VILLAGE SITE MAP



WHY AFFORDABLE HOUSING

The goal of the Yemoja Project is to offer an affordable housing solution focused on assisting marginalized and BIPOC youth and families with access to long-term, income-based transitional housing. In collaboration with the City of Toronto, we will identify those in dire need of such services. The Yemoja Project extends beyond mere housing; it is envisioned as a nurturing environment where youth and families not only survive but also flourish. Yemoja will provide comprehensive services aimed at fostering skill development, building connections, and addressing critical social and health issues to empower individuals towards achieving their potential. These services encompass childcare, employment and entrepreneurship programs, mental and physical health services, educational support, and service coordination.

THE IMPACT

STABILITY AND DIGNITY

Countering the challenges of housing affordability, particularly for marginalized and/or racialized groups.

ECONOMIC ENRICHMENT

Contributing to the local economy and job creation, aligning with government priorities aimed at increasing the housing supply and building more affordable housing (Canada.ca).

EDUCATIONAL ENHANCEMENT

Providing stable environments conducive to educational success, as housing challenges notably affect vulnerable populations (Statistics Canada).

HEALTH AND WELLNESS

Addressing healthcare coordination challenges for homeless youth (Toronto study), ensuring better health outcomes.

SOCIAL INCLUSIVITY AND COHESION

Offering a solution to racialized housing segregation and structural oppression faced by BIPOC families.

ADDRESSING HOUSING AFFORDABILITY

Directly responding to the affordable housing crisis as a major local problem, especially for younger, urban residents (Pew Research Center).



VILLAGE TIMELINE

- 1 Status: Predevelopment Phase
- 2 CMHC Financing Approved
- 3 City of Toronto Funding Approved
- 4 Feasibility Study Completed
- 5 Preparing for Zoning By-Law Amendments

More details available upon request

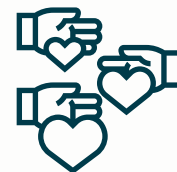
JOIN THE VILLAGE

MAKE A DONATION



Every contribution, big or small, makes a difference.

HOST A FUNDRAISER



Rally your community to support this vital cause.

SPONSOR AN EVENT



Partner with us in hosting events that raise awareness and funds

CONNECT & NETWORK



Introduce us to networks and share the campaign with your community.