LOGIFEM

CHEZ NOUS

HUMANITY & CONNECTION
at the heart of Logifem

Behind every service, program and interaction at Logifem is a deeply human approach to supporting women and children through some of the most difficult moments of their lives.

It can be found in the way staff build relationships, the care that goes into welcoming a new family, and the small gestures that remind women they are seen, valued and welcome.

Compassion begins with understanding.

Creating a culture of compassion starts with the people who work at Logifem.

Staff are encouraged to participate in training that develops empathy and deepens their understanding of the realities faced by the women Logifem serves. Many bring not only professional experience but also their own life experiences and a deep commitment to helping others.

Logifem places a strong emphasis on giving staff the tools they need to approach every woman with compassion, dignity and respect.

A welcome that says "You matter"

Every woman and child arriving at Logifem receives a welcome kit.

For women, this can include everyday personal-care items such as soap, shampoo, feminine hygiene products, nail clippers and makeup. Children receive an age-appropriate gift of their own.

These may seem like small things, but they communicate something important to someone arriving at a shelter:

You were expected. You matter. We care.



Welcoming
Every woman and child arriving at Logifem receives a welcome kit.

Creating moments of joy
Moments of connection where women feel seen and supported.

Time to heal
Women and their children can stay for up to 12 months.

The relationships that develop between the lines

Staff members also develop informal relationships with the women they support. They may share a conversation, offer a kind word, help with something practical or simply be present.

These everyday interactions can make a shelter feel less like a service and more like a place where people belong.

And that sense of belonging does not necessarily end when a woman leaves.

Women who have previously stayed at Logifem are always invited to return to the holiday celebration, no matter how long ago they left.

It is a simple but powerful message:

Once you have been part of the Logifem community, you are family.

Creating moments of joy

Logifem's new cultural mediation program adds another dimension to this human approach.

Women can participate in activities simply because they are enjoyable and meaningful, from Zumba and virtual reality experiences to making piñatas.

These activities offer something beyond a service or intervention. They create opportunities for women to laugh, discover something new, spend time together and simply be themselves.

Time to heal

One of the most important aspects of La Lumineuse and Maison Benoy, Logifem's two shelters, is that women and their children can stay for up to 12 months.

Healing does not happen on a schedule.

Women arriving at La Lumineuse may need time to regroup after trauma, regain a sense of stability and begin rebuilding their lives. Having the time and space to do that is itself an important part of the support Logifem provides.

Because supporting women is not only about meeting their basic needs. It is about making sure they feel **seen, respected, welcomed and cared for—every step of the way.**







"I FINALLY FELT HEARD AND UNDERSTOOD"

When I first reached out to Logifem, I was facing an extremely difficult situation. My son had been placed in foster care, and I needed to find a supervised housing resource that could accommodate both of us so that I could work toward regaining full custody.

Finding a program that would accept me without having my child in my care was incredibly difficult.

After being on Logifem's waiting list for several months, I received a call from a pre-shelter support worker. He took the time to truly understand my situation, listen to my concerns and help me find a resource that met my specific needs.

Thanks to his support, I was able to access a supervised housing program that was right for me.

For the first time, I felt heard, understood and supported without judgment.

I received practical advice as well as the emotional support and encouragement I needed during an incredibly difficult time.

Today, I am in a housing program that is right for me, and the gradual process of reunification with my son has begun.

"To the donors who support Logifem, I would say that this service changed my life. It gave me hope when I was facing so many obstacles and helped me find the right resource for my situation. The support and encouragement I received made an enormous difference. Services like this can truly change lives."

—M



A BRAND THAT REFLECTS WHO WE ARE

Logifem offers a continuum of housing and support services that help women at different stages of their journey toward stability and independence.

Our new brand platform brings this vision together in one phrase: **Logifem, a stepping stone to stability.**

This idea captures the role Logifem plays in a woman's journey. We provide a safe and supportive foundation from which women can take their next steps, rebuild their lives and regain their sense of agency.

Every woman's path is different, but our goal remains the same: to create the conditions that allow women to move toward greater stability and autonomy.

A NEW CHAPTER: A SHARED COMMITMENT TO ENDING HOMELESSNESS

After 15 years at Logifem, I recently began a new chapter in the role of *Responsable du soutien aux personnes élues – itinérance et cohabitation,* supporting the City of Montreal's executive committee on homelessness issues. While my role has changed, my commitment to addressing homelessness remains as strong as ever.

During my years at Logifem, I saw firsthand the challenges women and children face, the dedication of the teams working alongside them, and the barriers that make finding safe, stable housing so difficult. These experiences have stayed with me, as have the questions we have asked for years: How can we prevent homelessness before a crisis occurs? How can we improve access to housing and ensure women and children receive the support they need to rebuild their lives?

In my new role with the city, I hope to bring these realities into broader discussions and contribute to solutions that mobilize many partners, including Montreal's strong network of community organizations. I am joining a committed team that approaches this complex issue with empathy and humanity.

Thank you for sharing our belief that every woman and child deserves safety, stability and hope. I look forward to helping advance this shared mission from a new perspective.



Sally Richmond

LISTENING WITH MORE THAN JUST WORDS



For Andrea Fuoco, supporting women at Logifem has never been about providing a roof over someone's head.

Andrea has worked across Logifem's shelters, transitional apartments and post-shelter services. Today, she supports 13 women—seven single women and six mothers with children.

Women can stay in the transitional apartments for up to three years, giving them time and stability to rebuild their lives and move toward greater independence.

After years of experience, Andrea has developed something that cannot be learned from a checklist: an instinct for sensing how a woman is really doing.

She has learned to listen with more than words—to observe, notice and understand what may be happening beneath the surface.

Seeing what isn't being said

For Andrea, some of the most important conversations happen without words.

An apartment can tell her a lot.

A woman who has spent a long time navigating homelessness may move into a safe, longer-term home but still have difficulty believing that the space is truly hers.

If Andrea walks into an apartment with minimal furnishings and very few personal touches, she may recognize that the woman has not yet fully settled.

She hasn't necessarily made the emotional transition from having a place to stay to having a home.

On the other hand, a chaotic living space may indicate that a woman is struggling to manage her environment or that she is facing challenges that are affecting her overall well-being.

Andrea knows that this is when her work matters most. She can sense that there is still something to work through, and she can meet the woman where she is—without judgment or pressure.

For Andrea, entering someone's home is deeply personal.

She remembers visiting one woman who would serve her Turkish coffee every time she came to see her. Another welcomed Andrea with Moroccan tea, prepared and poured in the traditional Moroccan fashion.

These simple gestures were meaningful because Andrea was being invited into a woman's personal space, her culture and her life.

She was witnessing a woman live independently and begin to thrive on her own terms.

Because having a home is only part of the journey.

A woman also needs to feel safe there. She needs to feel that she belongs. She needs to begin imagining her future.

And sometimes, it takes someone like Andrea to recognize that she is not quite there yet—and to walk alongside her until she is.

That's Logifem's human approach in action.

It is the instinct to see the person beyond the circumstances. The patience to understand what isn't being said. And the human connection that helps a woman move from simply having a place to live to truly feeling at home.

SAVE THE DATE: FEBRUARY 27, 2027

COLDEST NIGHT OF THE YEAR 2027

Join Logifem for the 4th annual Coldest Night of the Year, a community walk supporting women and children experiencing homelessness. Details to follow.

coldest night OF THE YEAR



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