

Dear Members of the Community & Protective Services Committee,

London Cares Homeless Response Services is pleased to offer this letter of support for 519Pursuit and the important role they play within London's homelessness response. We support the extension of the outreach services contract for 519Pursuit for the 2026–2027 term.

Having 519Pursuit engaging in friendship-based and basic needs–focused interactions allows our team to focus more on system-level coordination, connection, and housing documentation, while ensuring individuals continue to receive consistent, relational support in the community.

London Cares recognizes that supporting individuals experiencing homelessness requires diverse approaches that meet people where they are at. The range of needs present in our community highlights the value of organizations with different but complementary engagement models working alongside one another to ensure individuals receive meaningful, accessible support.

As an organization with a housing-focused mandate, London Cares supports individuals in securing housing while assisting with navigation to appropriate services and longer-term supports. This work is strengthened through collaboration with 519Pursuit, whose friendship-based outreach model prioritizes trust, presence, and responsiveness to immediate basic needs. Through consistent relationship-building, informal check-ins, and community-driven support, 519Pursuit creates opportunities for connection and engagement that may not otherwise occur.

London Cares values the collaborative spirit that 519Pursuit brings to this work. Their strong community presence and ability to mobilize public support enhances shared efforts, including the distribution of essential items and resources to meet frontline needs. This partnership creates additional pathways for individuals to feel supported, connected, and seen within their community.

We appreciate our ongoing collaboration with 519Pursuit and respect the important contribution they make through their relationship-centred, basic-needs outreach approach. We support their continued role in the community and recognize the value of sustained investment in friendship-based outreach services that complement housing-focused interventions.

With respect,  
*London Cares Homeless Response Services*