

GIVE BACK BY DESIGN...

By Catherine-Lucie Horber

AS A DESIGNER I TRULY BELIEVE IN THE

power of design. The magic that transpires when I transform a room is rewarding. It's not only because of the positive changes that were made to enhance the space but mostly because of the emotion and feeling I am able to evoke in people after they see the finished product.

Design affects how we live and feel. It is beyond the furniture, pillows and layout – it is about the look on their faces, the tears of joy and amazement – this is the rewarding part of my work and makes me want to continuously do more.

It is not only their home we've changed but their life and life style and how it improves how they feel every day. That very feeling, that happiness is what inspired us to want to share it with others that needed a boost in their life. This is how the "Give Back by Design" Initiative was started.

Every year Royal Interior Design Ltd selects a few families who would highly benefit from a boost of happiness in their life. Our recipients are in need due to extreme lack of financial resources: a struggling single parent, senior retirees, new immigrants, families struck with illness or a tragic event in their lives.

Royal Interior Design donates its full design services, from conceptualization to full implementation and realization. In many cases, whenever budget permits, even full funding for the projects. Sometimes it doesn't take much to go a very long way..

Our last donation was for a family of five in a small condo. They had immigrated as government refugees, as they were under extremely difficult and life threatening circumstances in their country of origin. Heart breaking stories – it makes us realize how fortunate and lucky we are to live in such an amazing country with all the daily abundance we have and enjoy.



Our hearts went out to this family, although we wish we could have done more, they were grateful and thankful and tears of happiness were shed in amazement at the results of what we had done in their little apartment. Although small, it was cozy, functional and inviting. And that is why we do what we do, that feeling and gift is priceless!

Our dream would be to help a lot more families. Unfortunately we alone can only sustain and sponsor a select few per year. In order to do more we would love to receive more support from leading community groups or partnerships with firms interested in also assisting families in their local community.

In 2015 our goal is to service a minimum of 10 families in the GTA. Together this priceless initiative can continue to grow stronger and help more

even more families in need.

Anyone is welcome to help!

Currently when we design a home some of the clients' older furniture is donated towards the program. Any furniture company, accessories retailer, or anyone wanting to help are welcome to contact www.royalinteriordesign.ca



Catherine-Lucie Horber
Designer Catherine-Lucie Horber is the Principal of Royal Interior Design Ltd. The firm provides decorating, staging and renovating services for both small and full scale residential projects throughout the GTA. Known for creating elegant & affordable design solutions tailored to suit different lifestyles.
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