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New mental health facility in NE Calgary will treat 80 youth per year, employ 40 people

CASA HOUSE CONSTRUCTION BEGINS SPRING 2026, OPENS FALL 2027

(Calgary - November 18, 2025) – Youth in the Calgary region with significant mental health challenges will soon have a new option for treatment, providing hope for them and their loved ones.

CASA Mental Health is steps closer to breaking ground on a new youth mental health care facility in Calgary. CASA is an independent and accredited non-profit Alberta provider of mental health treatment for kids age three to 18 and their families. The new mental health care facility – CASA House – will be located in northeast Calgary on a 1.54-hectare (3.81-acre) site within *The District in Stoney* industrial business park. The vacant lot is situated at the southwest corner of 11 Street and 110 Avenue NE, accessible via Deerfoot Trail NE and County Hills Boulevard NE. CASA House will provide much-needed services, close to home, for about 80 youth patients and their families each year through an adolescent day treatment program and more intensive live-in care.

CASA Mental Health teams have been meeting with Calgary agencies and partners over the last two years to collaborate on CASA's role in the local mental health community, as we've opened CASA Classrooms and a new Trauma program in 2025. CASA's unique programs and services complement other available services by specializing in youth and family mental health as part of Calgary's system of care.

"Alberta is seeing an increasing severity and need for mental health services closer to home for patients and families," says CASA Chief Executive Officer Bonnie Blakley. "Families are experiencing ongoing stress and isolation from the COVID-19 pandemic in addition to increased social media exposure and gaming and online addictions. Calgarians specifically might also experience intergenerational trauma and stress from economic cycles tied to local industries, so increasing access to timely youth mental health services is more important than ever."

"Alberta's government is making record investments into youth mental health," says Hon. Rick Wilson, Minister of Mental Health and Addiction. "We are pleased to partner with CASA Mental Health to bring vital, trauma-informed care closer to home for children, teens, and families through a new CASA House facility in Calgary."

Mental illnesses commonly treated at CASA include depression, anxiety, attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD) and bipolar disorder. CASA House will serve up to 57 live-in patients and 24 Adolescent Day Program (ADP) patients each year, plus their family members/caregivers. Both programs combine medical and therapeutic treatment from a multidisciplinary team of trauma-informed professionals. Teens stay at CASA House for an average of four months for support with significant mental health challenges. Youth attend ADP daily during the school year to improve social and learning skills for serious mental health challenges.

"CASA is meeting the need for more mental health services through programs that treat mental illness in what we call 'the missing middle' of the mental health care system," adds Blakley, "meaning more services than what are available at





home or in primary care, but not as acute as in hospital wards or emergency rooms. All Albertans need better access to mental health treatment closer to home, and that's why CASA is expanding its circle of care across the province, including Calgary."

CASA Mental Health secured land in Calgary earlier in 2025 and completed initial design on a 3,240-square-metre (34,875 square foot) facility, which is set to start construction in spring 2026 and open in fall 2027. Clark Builders was awarded the contract to lead CASA's capital expansion project.

"At Clark Builders, we believe every project should make a meaningful difference," says Kim Connell, Senior Vice President, Development and Strategy, Clark Builders. "Working alongside CASA and our partners in Calgary, we're helping to create a space that will change lives—where young people and families can find the support and care they deserve."

CASA is set to open three new CASA House facilities across the province over the next four years – in Calgary, Fort McMurray and Medicine Hat – as well as a new Edmonton-area building. The Government of Alberta has generously committed \$75 million toward these facilities, and CASA will seek donor and community support to fundraise the remaining amount. Once all CASA House programs are fully operational, they will be able to serve 324 more severely complex youth per year.

CASA House will employ about 40 staff members in Calgary, plus a multidisciplinary team available across programs. The team will include mental health therapists, behaviour specialists, psychiatrists, therapy support navigators, nurses and many other professions and support staff who provide wraparound services for families. CASA Mental Health also launched a Trauma program in August 2025 in downtown Calgary, which will eventually serve hundreds of children and youth per year with much needed trauma-informed mental health care.

CASA Mental Health has been serving the community since 1988, founded *by* families *for* families. CASA Mental Health is expanding its circle of care around the province to provide much needed mental health services to as many families as possible – where they need it, when they need it. This is part of our vision of a community where all children, youth and their families are provided with timely mental health care and empowered to thrive. Please visit <u>casamentalhealth.org</u> to learn more about CASA Mental Health and how we're expanding mental health care services across Alberta.

QUICK FACTS

- CASA Mental Health is building a new live-in youth mental health treatment facility in Calgary, scheduled to open in 2027.
- The facility will serve up to 81 patients per year in both live-in and day programming, and will employ approximately 40 staff members.
- The 35,00-square-foot facility will be located in northeast Calgary on a 1.54-hectare (3.81-acre) site within *The District in Stoney* industrial business park.
- The Government of Alberta has generously committed partial funding to build and operate the facility here and in other Alberta cities, and CASA will seek donor and community support to fundraise the remaining amount.

For more information or to arrange an interview, please contact:

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