

## Class project underway

The living room at Miller Community House in Kent will receive a facelift from the Leadership Class of 2017 as its gift to the community. The shelter serves more than 200 residents annually and the living room area is showing its age. As many as 22 people may reside at the facility at any given time.

Leadership class members visited Miller House on November 3, 2017 as part of their Human Services program day. They explored social service needs in Portage County, and engaged with organizations and agencies that provide assistance. The day is designed to help class members understand the most critical social service needs in Portage County and how their leadership skills might be used to improve the community.

Miller House provides emergency shelter to men, women, and children facing a housing crisis. In addition to temporary housing, the 30-day shelter offers supportive services which include advocacy, information and referrals. Leadership class members raised money among themselves and sought product donations from corporate donors to update the shelter's living room and provide a backyard play set for children housed at the facility.

Class members will meet in June to provide the labor needed to complete the project which is expected to include painting, updated flooring, new furniture and assembly of the backyard play set. The ultimate goal is to offer a sense of home, safety and comfort to individuals and families during their stay at Miller House, while they transition back into the world.