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## One woman's journey into homelessness

By David Lea  
OAKVILLE BEAVER STAFF

What would it be like to be homeless? How would it feel to go from a normal life to a life where the stuffy insides of a car serve as your living quarters? How would you feel about yourself if confronted with such a situation?

For long-time Oakville resident Sharon White, 60, no imagination is necessary.

White is new to the homeless experience as she only started living in her car on July 19, of this year.

It's a nice car, a Nissan Rogue, which driving down the street does not look out of place in Oakville.

The car, however, is a remnant of White's very different life, and now houses a sleeping bag, clothes, suitcases, books, water bottles and White herself.

"I never thought this would happen to me. Never in a million years," said White, during an interview in Coronation Park.

"If you knew my past accomplishments and where I've traveled, flying on TD jets, and here I am now...it's just unbelievable."

White agreed to tell her story on the condition that her real name be withheld.

She has children who live in the area and said she doesn't want them to be impacted.

She also said there is a great  
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ERIC RIEHL / OAKVILLE BEAVER

**FINDING COMFORT:** Sharon White (not her real name) adjusts the bedding she uses to make sleeping at night in her car more comfortable. The 60-year-old Oakville woman has been living in her car since mid-July while she looks for a job and a new home.

## KSM needs \$100,000

*Campaign seeks  
100 donors to wipe out  
deficit by end of month*

By David Lea  
OAKVILLE BEAVER STAFF

Kerr Street Ministries needs 100 partners to tackle its \$100,000 deficit and it needs them now.

On Friday, the not-for-profit organization's new executive director, David Di Sabatino, issued a press release stating that he is looking for 100 partners willing to donate \$1,000 each to help eliminate Kerr Street Ministries' current financial situation and allow it to continue helping Oakville's marginalized citizens.

To make matters worse, the money is needed by the end of August.

"Obviously, right now, we are in a position where we do need some new financial donations," said Di Sabatino.

"When you look at the residents of Oakville, more than 170,000, we're looking for 100 of them who would say, 'I can write that cheque, that's easy. I've done well financially.' One thousand dollars can help and we are in a situation where we are trying to expand our reach as far as supporters throughout the year are concerned so we don't get into this situation next year."

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