

WELCOMED GUEST OR HOME TAKEOVER?

What is a home takeover?

It's normal to invite a friend or a family member to stay in your home. However, if your guest won't leave, you feel unsafe or you're losing control of your home, you may be experiencing a **home takeover**.

How does it start?

- The guest shows up needing a place to stay or
- They initially make promises, such as keeping you company or helping around the house

What can happen?

- The guest controls your space and belongings
- They make you feel guilty when you ask them for money for rent or utilities and they can't pay
- They threaten you or steal from you

How to stay **SAFE** and in control in **YOUR HOME**

- Set limits at the beginning of their stay
- Never give your guest cash, your debit/credit cards, or your PINs and passwords
- Stay in touch with friends, family, and neighbours

How to take action

Speak to:

- Somebody you trust: a friend, family member, neighbour, your landlord or support worker
- Community and Social Services Help Line **2-1-1**
- Non-emergency Ottawa Police Service **613-236-1222 ext. 7300** or TTY service for deaf or hard of hearing **613-760-8100**
- If you are in physical danger, call **9-1-1**



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