# DECLUTTERING



With Ease

Presented by: Diane Woodworth, Professional Organizer Worth Organizing

Prepared for: Summerville Family Health Team Healthy Aging Series October 5, 2022

### Introduction

- Owner/Operator of Worth Organizing
- Trained Professional Organizer
- Executive Member of Professional Organizers in Canada (POC)
   Halton-Peel chapter
- o Member of the Education Committee, POC National
- Canadian Certified Rehabilitation Counsellor
- Ontario Certified Teacher
- o B.A Psychology/Certificate in Rehabilitation Services
- Member of the Chamber of Commerce
- Member of the Rotary Club



## Agenda

- o What is Clutter?
- Why Clutter Happens
- The Benefits of Decluttering and Organizing
- Steps to Decluttering
- Role of a Professional Organizer
- Q&A (throughout)



#### What is Clutter?

- o v. to fill or cover with scattered or disordered things that *impede movement* or *reduce effectiveness* <a href="https://www.merriam-webster.com">https://www.merriam-webster.com</a>
- o n. a lot of things in an untidy state, especially things that are *not useful* or necessary <a href="https://www.collinsdictionary.com">https://www.collinsdictionary.com</a>



#### Why Clutter Happens





- Health issues
- Physical limitations
- Emotional attachment/memories
- Life Transitions (e.g. birth, death, divorce, move)
- The purchase price of the item
- The perceived value of the item
- The nature of our job (e.g. teachers, contractors)
- Environmental consciousness
- Unable to find the items when needed
- Buying is easy! (e.g. Online, 'multiples' offers)



#### Benefits of Decluttering and Organizing

- Save money
- Save time
- Avoid frustration
- Improved mental health
- Surround yourself with useful and meaningful belongings
- Personal health and safety
- Knowing that family members and friends or others
   will enjoy the items you no longer need/have space for
- A fresh start and more







#### Decluttering: Before you Begin



- Identify the spaces that needs your attention
- O Which space will be the most difficult for you to decide what to keep and what to let go of?
- Owhich space will be the easiest for you to make decisions?



#### Decluttering: Where to Begin



- 1. Choose one space
- 2. What will this space be used for? What will belong in that space?
- 3. What already works well? What do you like/dislike about it?
- 4. Who will be using the space?



#### Decluttering: The Nitty Gritty



- 5. Remove the items in the space
- 6. Sort through the items donate, sell, keep, toss
- 7. Determine which of the items you are keeping will belong in this area
- 8. Return the items that belong in the space. Rehome those that do not.
- 5. Maintain the space



#### How a Professional Organizer can assist

- Partner with you to develop a plan of action to declutter the spaces in your home
- Work with you to reconfigure a space based on your needs and vision
- Assist with the decluttering process and work with you to find a new home for your belongings
- Remove donation items from your home
- Coordinate additional services such as junk removal, contact with auctioneers, consignment stores, and donation centres
- If you are moving, pack your belongings in an organized fashion after decluttering
- Unpack and organize your belongings in your new home/spaces
- o Purchase organizing materials







Before

After







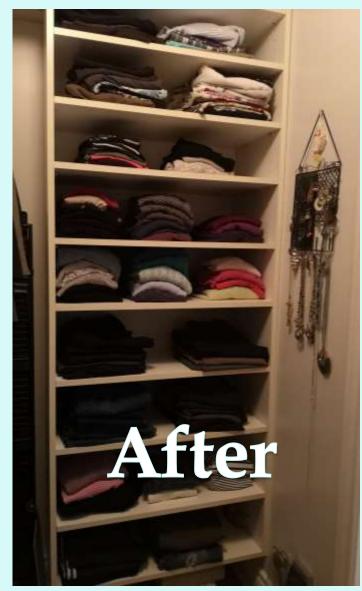














# Where can the belongings you are ready to part with go?



- Offer to family members or friends
- Donate to charitable organizations
- Schools, local organizations
- Sell/Consignment stores
- o Museums
- Auction
- Online/in-person auction
- Online platforms





<a href="https://www.vecteezy.com/free-vector/museum">Museum Vectors by Vecteezy</a>









\*Free telephone consultation\*
Serving Erin-Hillsburgh, Caledon and surrounding regions

- A little resource to guide you in your decluttering journey:
   Declutter in 10 Steps
  - See Worthorganizing.ca website for more resources

## Thank you for your time!

Diane Woodworth, CCRC, OCT Worth Organizing worthorganizing@gmail.com 416-897-3672

worthorganizing.ca



organizersincanada.ca

