

2023-2024 Impact Report



# BEYOND

# **m**ission

The Neighbourhood Group Community Services works with people at every stage of their lives, providing access to innovative and effective programs, and collaboratively building and advocating for an equitable, just, and vibrant community.





**Jennifer Hartviksen**Board Chair



**Bill Sinclair**President and Chief
Executive Officer

The Neighbourhood Group Community Services is known to all as a place where staff and volunteers go above and beyond to provide care, support, and advocacy to meet the whole needs of people, families, and neighbourhoods!

Together we provide extraordinary support for people in need, but also tackle the big issues and crises that touch all of us everyday in a big urban city. Thank you for reading our Impact Report and the powerful stories of Andrew, Ella, Fatimot, Farzana, Luca, Masha, Wilbert and more.

There are many highlights from 2023/2024, but we especially want to welcome Kensington-Bellwoods Community Legal Services and Downsview Childcare into our group! The path to justice for many of our participants includes free community legal services, and the path to prosperity for many of our families includes affordable childcare. In addition to these Downsview and Kensington locations, we also opened three new offices in partner hubs in Scarborough this year, with the focus of providing holistic services to youth, women, and families. We are proud to be building successful and sustainable neighbourhoods in Toronto.

On behalf of the Board of Directors, we want to express our sincere appreciation for all of our incredible and dedicated staff, volunteers and peer leaders, our generous donors and funders, and our neighbours who fight for a better Toronto.

# **A YEAR IN**

# PICTURES



Participants from the Youth Arcade Studio pose by the murals they painted in the alleyway between Belleuve Ave. and Augusta Ave.



Offering free haircuts in shelters is one of the added services we provide in SafeSpot, a peer-run harm reduction program.



Everyone got into the spirit to show our pride at the Toronto's annual Pride Parade.



Thanks to the generosity of companies like RBC Capital Markets, we shared healthy food and fun at events like the annual summer barbeque at our Norm Houghton supportive housing residence.



**EVERY CHILD MATTERS!** LORD LANDSDOWNE **ROOM 104** 



The National Day for Truth and Reconciliation was recognized across the organization, with special events at our Corner Drop-in, and educational projects at our childcare centres.



Volunteers served up nutritious meals and holiday cheer at one of our holiday dinners.



Residents enjoyed their furry friends at Pet Palooza, a gathering of people in our supportive housing who receive assistance for their pets through Tango's Pet Fund, founded by Sonia Yung.

# **Services and Programs**

In 2023-2024, The Neighbourhood Group Community Services' in-person and online programs helped improve the lives of **47,815** vulnerable people in priority Toronto neighbourhoods.

#### **>** Childcare

Il provincially-licensed childcare centres provided safe and enriching childcare for 1,127 children, ages newborn to 12 years. Locations include:

- · Bellevue Ave.
- Canoe Landing Centre
- Downsview Public School
- Harbourfront Centre
- King Edward Public School
- Lord Lansdowne Public School
- Ontario St.
- Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic School
- Waterfront Public School
- Winchester Public School
- Yonge & Sheppard Centre

#### Children & Youth Services

Drop-in, academic and employment support, mental health, arts, recreational, mentorship, advocacy and justice programs helped 3,849 children and youth transition through the teen years. Programs include:

- After School Programs
- Extra Judicial Sanctions/ Measures
- Game Changers Restorative Justice
- Integrated Model of Care
- Kick Start
- Kidz Klub
- Legacy

- Newcomer Youth Drop-in
- Steps2Success
- Summer Camps
- Youth Arcade Studio
- Youth Awoken
- Youth Outreach Workers
- Youth Recreation & Leadership

#### Community Development

Working alongside community members to address issues and build better neighbourhoods helped **4,616** people through advocacy, education, mediationand support. Programs include:

- Community Dinners
- Community Gardens
- · Community Mediation
- · Easy-Access Voicemail
- Financial Advocacy and Literacy
- Neighbourhood Pods– Mutual Aid
- Social Action
- Teesdale Food Bank



#### Employment Services

Programs, workshops, training, resource centres, individual counselling and job development helped **5,182** job seekers prepare for and find employment with specialized programs for newcomers, at-risk youth, and people with mental health challenges. Programs include:

- · Better Jobs Ontario
- Carry On
- Connections
- Enhanced Services
- Employer Services
- Moving Forward
- New Knowledge, New Steps
- Opportunity Knocks
- Youth Job Connection
- Youth Works

#### Housing & Housing Development

Supportive housing, eviction prevention, case management and wraparound services helped **538** people maintain their independence. Locations include:

- Art Manuel House
- Cecelia Murphy Building
- Community Link House
- Dovercourt Place
- Jean Dudley House
- L.L. Odette Place
- Macey Place
- Norm Houghton Complex
- O'Connor House

## Independent Living & Seniors

Personal Support Workers, nutritious food, recreational services and general assistance helped **5,492** seniors and adults living with physical and/or mental challenges live independently and with dignity. Programs include:

- Adult Day Services
- Cantonese, Korean and Mandarin Programs
- Case Management
- Congregate Dining
- Home at Last
- In-Home Services and Personal Support Workers
- Meals on Wheels
- Respite Care
- Seniors Active Living Centres
- Stroke Survivors
- Transitional Care
- Transportation and Toronto RIDE

#### Legal Services

Kensington-Bellwoods **Community Legal Services** helped 1,396 people living on low incomes resolve issues with tenant rights, immigration and refugee status, and income security (CPP, OAS, ODSP & OW). The clinic also provided public legal education workshops, shared information at community events, advocated for more equitable laws and policies from all levels of government and participated in community development initiatives in partnership with other agencies and non-profit organizations.

#### Newcomer Services

English classes, workshops and settlement support helped **4,745** newcomers successfully adapt to life in Canada. Programs include:

- Beginners Computer Skills Program
- English Conversation Circles
- Workshops
- LINC & ESL English Classes
- Perinatal Settlement Support Services
- Rainbow Connect

Healthy Lifestyle

• Women's Program

#### > Trustee Hub

Mentoring, financial and administrative assistance helped 108 community groups fulfill their mandates to improve social and economic justice. Some include:

- Alliance For Equality of Blind Canadians
- Crescent Community Service
- Emotionart
- Moss Park Women's Group
- South Asian Advisory Group
- · Youth4Youth

#### Urban Health & Homelessness Services

Holistic case management, harm reduction and poverty reduction services improved the mental and physical health of 20,870 people who are living below the poverty line, including people who are homeless or marginally-housed, and those who have mental health and substance use challenges. Programs include:

- Clinical Care and Case Management Services
- Community Connect
- Corner Drop-in
- Crystal Meth Project
- Employment ProgramEviction Prevention (EPIC)
- Harm Reduction Services
- HIV & AIDS Prevention
- Integrated Prevention and Harm Reduction (iPHARE)
- Kensington Market
   Overdose Prevention Site
- Mobile Shelter Support Program
- Partners for Access and Identification (PAID)
- Peers in Emergency Departments
- Peer and Park Outreach
- Peer Training and Development
- Safe Seniors Supported Housing
- SafeSpot
- Street Survivors
- Toronto Community Action Team (TCAT)
- UHN Stabilization Centre
- Voluntary Trustee Program

# **Defined by dreams**

Farzana's Canadian journey continues as she helps other newcomer women

Farzana had high hopes for her life in Afghanistan, with a Public Administration and Policy degree and years of experience at a renowned non-profit. Unfortunately, the turmoil there shattered her dreams, leaving her with nothing but the clothes on her back and a heart full of hope yet to be abandoned.

After immigrating to Canada, her initial days were confusing and overwhelming as she faced the daunting task of starting a new life in a foreign land. However, Farzana found solace at The Neighbourhood Group Community Services, thanks to the shared experiences of fellow Afghan newcomers.

Programs for newcomers provided Farzana with the support and resources she needed to navigate her new environment, including settlement services, adult education, employment opportunities and a connection to her new community. This was most felt in the Women's Program, where newcomer women from all backgrounds gather to share their experiences and support each other.

"The essential services I accessed through the Women's Program helped me bridge the gap between my past experiences and my new life in Canada. What really helped me turn the corner was when I started volunteering. I found a new purpose and a way to give back. That led me to a summer job and a role as a Women's Outreach Assistant, and now as a Women's Program Outreach Worker.

"When I think about my journey, and the challenges I faced when I arrived, I know my life is no longer defined by what I lost, but by my new dreams and goals. I am committed to helping other newcomer women like myself, to empower them and help them navigate their new lives in Canada."

93%

of newcomer women found the Women's Program greatly helped them adapt to life in Canada





TRUSTEE HUB COMMUNITY MEDIATION



### **Shared vision**

Through the Trustee Hub, neighbourhood organizations gain essential support and expertise to improve their communities

As Toronto continues to grow, so does the income gap. Caught in that gap are underserved populations in the city, like youth, newcomers and people who live in racialized communities. Grassroots organizations spring to life to help people like these who are in danger of falling through the cracks, much like how the Trustee Hub came to be. Leveraging mentorship, as well as fundraising and administrative resources of The Neighbourhood Group Community Services, the Hub empowers these grassroots groups to tackle the pressing issues within their communities. Together, we strive to improve the lives of people in our neighbourhoods, and strengthen the communities themselves.

grassroots groups gained financial and organizational expertise to better serve local communities in 2023-2024



### MENTAL HEALTH MATTERS

#### **Trustee Spotlight**

Mental Health Matters truly follows its mandate to improve the mental health and well-being of marginalized youth in Regent Park. Led by youth for youth, this initiative offers free mental health services that help young people cope with the traumas and issues they face growing up in the city. By working with Mental Health Matters, youth better understand their behaviour, learn strategies to help them cope, and increase their sense of self-worth, all while reducing stigma and fostering community resilience.

# Good fences make good neighbours

Evangeline used our free Community Mediation service to resolve an ongoing dispute with her neighbour

The broken fence was only the latest of many issues with Evangeline's neighbour. A major barrier to solving the problem was that the owner lived abroad. But after several emails went unanswered, Evangeline went looking for help.

"On the City of Toronto's website, I saw The Neighbourhood Group (TNG) as the organization the city uses to handle disputes between neighbours. I heard about TNG's Community Mediation before because someone I know got a mediation training certificate from them some years ago. The answer to my problems was obvious.

"Thankfully, the owner agreed to mediation. My husband said we should focus on the fence instead of other past issues, but when we were meeting, the owner was angry about the other things and especially that we sent him a letter some years ago. Part of the reason why mediation works is that you have to listen to the other side and we did just that. We appreciated how straightforward the process was and that it helped us better understand each other.



"In the end, the owner agreed to pay half the fence cost. And we agreed to communicate by email, and WhatsApp for emergencies. We're very happy with how things turned out."

300+

community mediations in the Greater **Toronto Area reduced conflict and** improved communication among participants last year

# A hub of activity

Our youth wellness hub helps young people who struggle with poor mental health

The Taylor-Massey Oakridge neighbourhood has seen a dramatic increase in anxiety, depression, violence and the risk of suicide among youth since the pandemic. To alleviate the traumas faced by young people in the community, The Neighbourhood Group partnered with Access Alliance to create our youth wellness hub at the Access Point on Danforth.

Replicating our successful health clinic housed at the Youth Arcade in Kensington Market, the hub combines mental, physical and sexual health services in a safe space. This reduces barriers and stigma for young people struggling with poor health who now have a place to access nurses, therapists, social workers, youth workers, and referrals to employment and other essential services.

Soo is one of those youth.

"I used to be anti-social. I'd find everything boring and not talk to other people much. Someone told me about Youth Awoken at the hub because it's fun and everybody there is nice and understanding. I already knew about The Neighbourhood Group because I went to the Kickstart after school program, but Youth Awoken was new.

"I'm glad I tried it because Youth Awoken helped me with my mental health by offering inclusive activities where you don't do things all on your own. I made new friends and don't feel so alone. Life now has drastically changed to the better – my number one resource for support is Youth Awoken!"

Suicide is the **2nd** leading cause of death among youth aged 15-24





# Employment is knocking at your door

#### Andrew got his career on track through Opportunity Knocks

"I was trying to ease my way back into the workforce after a two-year recovery from a serious head injury. I really felt that I wasn't hirable or a good candidate due to the large gap in my work history. My confidence was shot and my appearance wasn't exactly polished. This made getting interviews and finding career direction difficult. I'm lucky my Employment Advisor suggested I try Opportunity Knocks, a training program for youth.

"Through the five-week training and 12-week work placement, I learned many things to help my career – interview and resume skills, financial literacy, legal advice, contacts, and professional training in first aid/CPR, conflict resolution and customer service. I improved practical life skills too, like teamwork and healthy eating on a budget. I also did a vocational assessment to better understand my strengths, aptitudes, temperament, work styles and areas for growth, which provided me with a basic road map for my work journey.

"Being part of Opportunity Knocks showed me I wasn't alone. My classmates helped take away my fear and rebuild my confidence.



And since we all shared the same goal of finding employment, we encouraged each other the whole way.

"Everything led me to land two jobs as a CPR instructor and as an extra-curricular instructor in a company called Extra Ed. That's all because of Opportunity Knocks."



of at-risk youth completed their **Opportunity Knocks training to** further their employment goals



# A lifeline to happiness

Services like our Adult Day Program and Client Intervention and Assistance help seniors like Mary live happily and independently

"When I first moved to my new seniors' apartment building, I felt lonely and isolated. I was employed but on sick leave and was not sure how I could pay my rent. The superintendent program in my building, so told me The Neighbourhood Group could help. Staff listened to me and were comforting. They explained the process and how they could help me until my apartment was adjusted for rent geared to income. Before my sick benefits ran out, they helped me apply for my private and senior's pensions and prepare my income taxes.

"Throughout that time, I wanted to keep busy and see people so I wouldn't be so lonely. The Neighbourhood Group already had a day I started going. It made me happy to meet new friends in my building, do chair exercises to stay fit, have homemade lunches and learn new things in the engaging programs. There's a painting class, yoga, holiday celebrations and day trips.

"I am very grateful to live in my seniors' building and be connected to the staff who are always helping me and supporting me. Time goes by fast every day and I am not lonely anymore. The Neighbourhood Group has truly been a lifeline that keeps me and many seniors happy and active. Thank you!"



of seniors in Toronto have incomes at or below the poverty line



# Making a difference, one person at a time

As a peer worker, Masha helps people in shelters struggling with homelessness, substance use, and mental health issues

"Working at The Neighbourhood **Group Community Services** (TNGCS) has been lifechanging for me. When I joined the organization in May 2023, I never imagined the profound impact it would have on my life. TNGCS didn't just offer me a job; they extended a hand of support and opportunity when I needed it most.

"The journey began when TNGCS visited the shelter where I was staying, offering peer positions to people with lived experience like myself. This gesture of inclusivity and empowerment spoke volumes about the organization's values and mission. I eagerly interviewed for the position, knowing that it was a chance to not only rebuild my life but also to make a difference in the lives of others.

"From day one, TNGCS welcomed me into a supportive and nurturing environment. They provided comprehensive training and guidance, equipping me with the skills and knowledge necessary to excel in my role. But more than that, they fostered a sense of belonging and purpose within me—a feeling that I had something valuable to contribute, despite the challenges I faced as a newcomer.

"As a peer at TNGCS, I've had the privilege of connecting with people who have faced similar struggles to my own. Whether it's providing emotional support, responding to overdoses, connecting clients to community resources, or simply lending an empathetic ear, every interaction has been meaningful and rewarding. Knowing that I can offer hope and encouragement to others going through tough times fills me with a profound sense of fulfillment.

"Moreover, my time at TNGCS has been instrumental in my personal and professional growth. I've honed my

communication skills with the opportunity to be empathetic and compassionate, and learned the importance of resilience and perseverance. These skills are invaluable in my role as a Shift Lead and serve as a foundation for my future aspirations.

"Above all, working at TNGCS has shown me the transformative power of community and support. It reminded me that we are never alone no matter what challenges we face—and that by coming together, we can overcome even the greatest obstacles.

"I am immensely grateful for the opportunity to be part of the team because of the positive impact it has had on my life. As I look to the future, I am excited about the possibility of continuing to grow and evolve with TNGCS, changing lives and making a difference in the world, one person at a time."

overdose prevention activities and harm reduction supports were provided by peer workers in shelters last year





# **Better together**

# Gwen and Wilbert maintain their independence at Jean Dudley supportive housing

Finding supportive housing for one senior can be tough. For a couple, it can be impossible. Fortunately for Gwen and Wilbert, Jean Dudley House was the perfect spot.

After suffering a stroke three years ago, Wilbert needed the care only supportive housing could provide. At Jean Dudley House, personal support workers are available around the clock, and residents can access our other essential services like Meals on Wheels, transportation, and even our Adult Day Program.

"It was easy for Wilbert when he moved in to Jean Dudley House a few years ago and the staff could help care for him. Then when I had a heart attack, I couldn't live on my own. You have no idea how happy I was when I found I could move there too. It's exactly what I needed.

"The staff are amazing and always helpful. They know how everyone here needs something different. Being here with Wilbert lets us live independently with the support we need. And the other people here are

so much fun. It's a lovely, homey place. There's even a garden here and I'm very excited for that. Honestly, as soon as I moved in, I felt like I've been here forever."

11,000



hours of care are given each year from personal support workers at Jean Dudley House

# Legal lifeline

#### Ella found much-needed help for her legal issues at Kensington-Bellwoods Community Legal Services

For people struggling to find affordable help for complex legal issues, the search can be daunting. Fortunately for Ella, Kensington-Bellwoods Community Legal Services (KBCLS) was just around the corner.

Since 1982, KBCLS has been steadfast in its mission: to help people living on low incomes resolve issues with tenant rights, immigration and refugee status, and income security (CPP, OAS, ODSP & OW). They also promote public legal education, law reform initiatives and community development in our neighbourhood.

"One of my friends was in the same situation as me and went to KBCLS. She had nothing but good things to say about Lee, the immigration lawyer and the clinic, and highly recommended that I do the same. As a single mom with kids living in Canada without status, KBCLS was a blessing. They helped tremendously and walked me through everything. Lee worked very hard for me and I appreciate that so much. She was amazing!

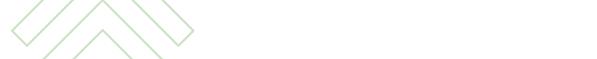


"Now I have no worries about myself, my boys and our future. I am legally in Canada now and can visit my mom and family in Malaysia who I had not seen for 20 years. I love Lee! I love KBCLS! I love Canada! Thank you so much!"



Kensington-Bellwoods Community
Legal Services resolves almost

cases per year for people
living around the poverty line



# Refuge from persecution

Fatimot found solace and acceptance in Rainbow Connect, a program for LGBTQ+ newcomers

Warning: The following story references sexual abuse and domestic violence.

"I grew up in Nigeria. At university, I became close with my roommate who then became my partner. She was a year older than me so she left a year before me. To hide my sexuality, I got a 'boyfriend'. Because of him, I was a rape victim, and couldn't get close to anyone for some time.

"After I graduated and started working, I fell in love with a man from France and got pregnant. We weren't married so to avoid the pressure of being an unmarried mother, I went to France to have my baby. Then I found out he was married with three kids and he abandoned me in a shelter. I didn't know anyone in France and returned to Nigeria.

"Four days after returning, my sister died. There was no one to look after her two children so I took care of them as my own. Eventually I got married and had another child. But there was no love in that marriage. My partner from university also wasn't happy in her marriage. So when her husband was away on business, I went to visit her.

Her husband came home early and caught us. He was furious and started beating her. She was yelling at me to run. That was the last thing she said to me. I haven't heard from her since 2009.

"I got my kids and fled to France since my first child was French-born. I found out later that my partner gave her husband fake locations to buy me time to escape. And that he kept on harassing my family after I was gone. But being in France wasn't easy. We had no family here, and no money. I slept on the street with my kids. It was only when I got temporary papers that I could get a little cleaning work to support us. After a short time, I was told my papers weren't valid and had to leave within 30 days. I couldn't go back to Nigeria. It wasn't safe for me or my kids. Luckily with help, I was able to get to Canada.

"It was tough at the start.
We were living in a shelter
and we only had a few
clothes. I was so lonely and
depressed. But a friend told
me about Rainbow Connect.

When I came there, they didn't turn me away! Everywhere I'd been, people rejected me because of my kids, immigration status, or my sexual identity. But not here. Meeting people at Rainbow Connect, I saw there were so many people like me. They became my family, my sisters. In a few months, I felt strong enough to share my story with them, like I'm sharing now.

"A few years ago, staff at Rainbow Connect helped me get my official status in Canada. The hearing was supposed to be long but when I spoke, it was done in only 10 minutes. Today, I have a good job and a three-bedroom apartment. I want to give my kids a good life, especially with what they went through. I still come to Rainbow Connect today. They gave me back everything I lost. They gave me back my life."

95%

of people in Rainbow Connect fled their countries as refugees





# **Priority child care**

The Downsview Child Care Centre gives peace of mind to parents like Vince

As the population of Toronto grows, essential community services are not keeping pace. For families already struggling near the poverty line, those services are essential. This is truly the case in the Downsview neighbourhood.

Designated by the City as a Neighbourhood Improvement Area, Downsview is one of the poorest in Toronto and continues to lack support services. That makes the Downsview Child Care Centre a critical service for residents in the neighbourhood.

Opened in December 2023, the Centre is a lifeline for parents in the community. The Centre provides a nurturing, inclusive space where children thrive through social, emotional, cognitive, and perhaps most importantly, fun programs. For parents like Vince, the availability of local, quality child care is crucial.

"In Downsview, we couldn't find any centre that had affordable before and after school care. The only ones were pretty far away. With it getting more and more expensive to live in Toronto, that made it very difficult to accommodate our work schedules with our son Luca's school. And we weren't comfortable with the child cares we did find.

Life is much easier for us at Downsview. We can go to work without the added stress of worrying about dropping Luca off and picking him up. We feel very good about this Centre because he really seems to enjoy it there. He's in good hands and I know we can trust them to care for Luca. We are so relieved!"

37%

lower average household income in Downsview than Toronto average



### **Donor Roster 2023-24**

# Thank you for your generosity!

As visionary donors, partners and funders, you bring opportunity and possibility to life. Your kindness helps people improve their lives and the communities in which they live.

We are proud to be a United Way Greater Toronto Anchor Agency! Thank you to all our staff and supporters who donate to United Way Greater Toronto. We are also grateful to the many businesses and non-profits we work with annually through job and community service placements and joint initiatives.

#### **Excellent Neighbours:** \$50,000+

1 Anonymous Freedman Family Rochelle Rubinstein -**Emerald Foundation** Sonia Yung The Ontario Trillium Foundation

Dedicated Neighbours: \$10,000 - \$49,999

2 Anonymous **Aston Family** Foundation **BrookField Asset** Management Inc. -**Jack Cockwell** Charitable Impact Foundation **Charities Aid** Foundation Canada Deltera Inc. **ECHO Foundation** Estate of Josephine Jenkinson Intact Insurance J.P. Bickell Foundation Jane and Oliver Lennox-Kina Judy & Alan Broadbent Foundation Lynda Hamilton -Edper Investments Limited Patricia Lepage **RBC** Foundation **Sprott Foundation** The Catherine and Maxwell Meighen Foundation The Lawrason Foundation **Toronto Arts Council Toronto Star** Children's Charities Vinny Bhathal

Friendly Neighbours: \$1,000 - \$9,999

2 Anonymous Akler Browning LLP Alisha Kaplan Alterna Savings and Credit Union Ltd. Andrea Boctor Andrea Rosen Anna Binswanger-Healy Anthony Mancini

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Caring Neighbours: \$100 - \$999

10 Anonymous 10475793 Canada Inc. - Matthew Ma Abbas Sabur

Beverley Koven

Adam Beatty Bevonie Brown Adam Starkman Bi Rui Yu Adam Vanderlip Biiu Sebastian Adrian Pel Bik Fung Nye Ahmad Goudarzi Birinder Sidhu Ai Len Kwan **Bloor Street** Aimee Jessop **United Church** Akua Delfish Bo Sing Lee Alan Kwok **Bob Smith** Alana Dobbs **Brendan Maher** Alda Neves **Brent Lawson** Alexandra Conliffe **Brent Vickar** Aline Tso Brett Wolfson-Stofko Allan W. & Bruce A. Weber Nadia Hawkins **Bruce Cooper** Alphonse Barikage Bryant Ramdoo Amana Manori Bryna Levitin **Amber Daugherty** Canada Tour Amina Yassin-Omar System Inc. Andrew Duncan Candida Garcia **Andrew Haisley** Carol A. Thompson Andrew Milne-Allan Catherine Hennessey **Andrew Munroe** Catherine McVitty **Andrew Pruss** Catherine Siemens Anibal Mello Catherine Tallerico Ann Graham Celia Denov Ann Steer Celina Marchese Anna Dodd **Charles Andrew Anne Curtis** Barclay Charles B. Gordon Anne Marie Guchardi Annette Dreidger Chi Ming Wong Anthony Morgan Ching Chu Wong Anthony Van Leeuwen Chris Chong Chris Janson **Arturo Aster** Ash & Dange MacLeod Christina M. Cameron Asha Chiba Christina Robinson Ashley Thompson Christopher Augello Atin Bhattacharya Christopher Gilbert Avery Krisman Christopher M. & Avneet Sidhu Mary L. Bailey Barbara Fischer Cindy Chan Barbara Hall Cindy Phung **Barbara Titherington** Colette Snyder Bernard Johnpulle Colin Hardman Beth Kesselman Colin R.C. Dobell **Bette Walker** Craig Donovan

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Michael Martin

Kenneth Fisher Kenneth Walley Kersti Kahar Ket Lu Kevin Godin **Kevin Taylor** Khue Lu Kim Le Chau Lieu Kim Maxwell Kim Patel King Ching Chau Kirsten Monaghan Kirsti Luoma Krizsia Praznik Krysta Lombardi Ky Phu Phung Laina Gibson Lan Fang Mao Lan Fong Chiu Lap Khac Huynh Laura Lane **Laura Norris** Laurie Brema Laurie Taniquchi Leah Tussman Lei Ken Cheung Leonard Shirchenko Leonard Sussman Levi Cooperman Li Yun Chen Li Yun Zhana Lilian Thona Linda English Linda Grearson Linda MacKeigan Linda Pace **Lorraine Ulett** LouAnn Leon **Loucas Gousopoulos** Louise T. Guillemette **Luke Andrews** Lynda Hamilton Lyndsey Gallant Lynn E. Brennan Madeleine Desjardins Madison Maria

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Ms. Mairs

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#### Giving Neighbours: \$1 - \$99

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Lingeswaren Rama Moorthy Linley Bellamy-Royds Lisa Nurse-Bernett Lisa Wana Lisan Wu Liu Ren Ju Liza Kuskelin-Savoia Louise Tetreau Lu Su Luigi Fragale Luis Dinis Luzia Couto Lyba Spring Lynise Reedy Maaja Uukkivi Maham Ansari Mahroo Araeenejad Man Duong Mani Alaeddini Manuel & Maria Dias Manuel Gomes Marc Deleuze Marc Pearson Maraaret Oldfield **Margaret Towers** Margaret Wood Maria D'Andrade-Corneal Maria Di Mana Maria Dos Santos Maria Fatima Cabral Maria Fatima Pique Maria Helena Santos Maria Julia Silva Maria Lee Maria Mendes Maria Monez Maria Rombeiro Maria Zelia Soares Marina Chong-Feng Sproul Mario Jorge Sa De Medeiros Sousa Mark A. Convery Marlene Kennelly Marsha Dilworth

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Manuel & Lucila

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**David Crawford &** 

Julia Holland

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Tania Nguyen

Thelma Sookman

Granados Marc Francoeur Margaret Oldfield Maria Podorojansky Marie Glass Marilyn Vasilevich Mary Ellen Mahoney Mary McGowan Mary Walsh Matthew Valic Maureen & David Carter-Whitney Michelle Mawhinney **Ned Stewart** Nicholas Volk III Nicolette Agnew-Ogg Norman Gillanders Patricia Kishino Patrick Lacroix Patrick Riesterer Paul Palen Pauline Mazumdar Pierre Nadeau

Rebecca Lock Reid Rusonik Rhona Zitney Sarah Murdoch Shannon Stanojevic Sheri Ellis Shirley Goldenberg Sophie McCormack Stephanie Donalds Thiago M. Oshida Tim Grant Tom Edwards Utpala Gupta Valerie March Vasu Srinivasan Victoria Lee Wendy L. Dicker Wendy Rothwell Whitney French William Bradley Yvonne Chan Zahra Ebrahim

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We apologize for any errors or omissions in our Donor Roster and respect the wishes of donors requesting anonymity. Please direct any inquiries to 647.458.1649.



### **Board of Directors**

Thank you to our Board of Directors from 2023-2024. Their compassion and commitment are instrumental to help guide the overall health of The Neighbourhood Group Community Services by defining the goals of the organization, establishing the strategic plan and setting governance policies. The Board truly makes an impact on the lives of people in our community.



Jennifer Hartviksen Chair



Josh Kleiman Vice-Chair



Vinny Bhathal Treasurer



Shannon McCauley Secretary



Levi Cooperman



Shadi Farshadfar



**Kevin Fisher** 



**Craig Knowles** 



**Nero Persaud** 



Alena Ravestein





Shannon Stanojevic Chana Weinstein



**Gregory Wilson** 



Sonia Yung



#### A special thank you to departing Board Members: Craig Knowles and Sonia Yung

Craig's dedication and desire to improve the lives of people in our community was strongly felt on the Advocacy committee and as Chair of the Quality Committee. Sonia started volunteering on the Quality Committee before joining the Board in 2017. Her leadership and kindness were evident throughout her tenure as Chair and Co-Chair of the Board, as well as the Chair of the Quality and Governance Committees. Sonia's generosity shone through with her funding of Tango's Pet Fund, a program that helps support pets of people living in our supportive housing.

# Thank you to our dedicated volunteers!

Last year, over
730 of our dedicated
volunteers delivered
more than 38,167
hours of essential
support to our
community!



Whether it's helping at our Corner Drop-in and Food Bank, giving time as a Board member, acting as a community mediator, doing community outreach, helping at income tax clinics, tutoring, or mentoring, our volunteers make a huge difference in the lives of vulnerable people in Toronto.









### **Volunteer Spotlight**



Mauricia Harvey, Meals on Wheels and Teesdale Food Bank volunteer

#### Meals on Wheels

"I choose to volunteer because I want to make an impact in the lives of people who need these types of services in Toronto and reciprocally, helping myself as well by engaging with the community.

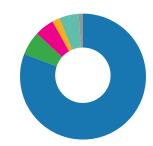
"Meals on Wheels is a great opportunity to help others who are isolated and struggle with food insecurity. But the food we deliver is just the introduction to a greater story. As human beings, we're not meant to be isolated. We're meant to connect and help each other in whatever capacity we can. With Meals on Wheels, we can interact with people one-on-one and give them a connection with other people. I've heard some people say volunteers are like their family. We give them the warmth of a friendly smile, and check in with them to see if they need any help. We give them respect and dignity.

I absolutely love volunteering here and I'll continue to do it for a very long time."

# Statement of Operations and Changes in Fund Balances

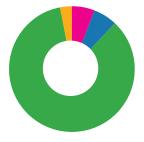
Year ending March 31, 2024

Revenues	2023-24	2022-23
Fees Home and Community	<b>\$</b> 7,368,108	<b>\$</b> 5,552,367
Care Support Services Fees from Users City of Toronto	4,619,408 3,558,526	5,082,063 3,341,320
Grants Province of Ontario City of Toronto Government of Canada United Way	\$ 24,414,794 14,980,263 10,411,883 1,317,271	\$ 23,006,048 12,526,826 9,174,078 1,553,631
Other Partner Agencies Trustee Funds Donations and Fundraising Events Investment Amortization of Deferred Capital	\$ 4,028,602 2,687,677 1,179,115 718,756 209,076	\$ 2,858,045 3,175,573 1,075,837 314,328
Total Revenues	\$75,493,479	67,876,662
Expenditures  Wages Benefits Program Expenses Occupancy Costs Purchased Services Food Services Office and General Employer Wage Subsidy and Participant Support Amortization Promotion and Publicity Travel  Total Expenditures	\$ 46,939,319 10,327,423 6,491,176 4,961,544 2,763,426 1,794,039 1,617,491 1,170,494 817,570 234,189 161,885 77,278,556	\$ 40,586,605 8,500,033 6,213,134 4,202,959 2,996,585 1,601,835 1,271,506 1,385,967 725,402 396,686 460,792 68,341,504
(Deficiency) excess of revenues over expenditures for the year	\$ (1,785,077)	\$ (464,842)



#### Revenue

- 81% Government
- 6% Fees
- 5% Donations
- 2% United Way
- 5% Partner Agencies
- 1% Investment & Amortization



#### **Expenditures**

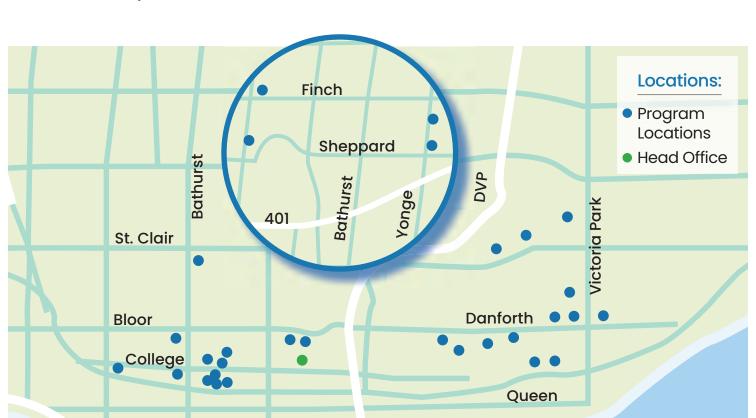
- 6% Building Costs
- 6% Administration
- 84% Direct Program Costs
- 4% Purchased Services

The 2023-2024 financial results reflect several factors, including 11% overall growth, retroactive payments and salary harmonization, rising inflation, higher demand for services, the merger with Kensington-Bellwoods Community Legal Services, and the addition of Downsview Childcare.

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CENTRAL NEIGHBOURHOOD HOUSE **NEIGHBOURHOOD LINK** ST. STEPHEN'S COMMUNITY HOUSE

















**f (a) (b) (a) (b) (b) (c) (b) (c) (** 

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