

YWCA TORONTO

2015 ANNUAL REPORT

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MESSAGE FROM CEO & BOARD PRESIDENT

sacred medicine garden, and mental

wellness programs. It also connected

dedicated donors to Winona's Place

because they believe Indigenous

housing and a place to call home.

In the fall, we closed our beloved

Beatrice House when our lease

expired. We are thrilled that we

have purchased a new site where

we can re-create our innovative child

development and housing programs.

women have the right to safe

HEATHER M. McGREGOR Chief Executive Officer (left)

MARLI RAMSEY President, Board of Directors (right)

of government, donors, and partners to stop violence against women, reduce poverty, and tackle the affordable housing crisis in our city.

2015 was an historic year for women, with the appointment of Canada's first gender-balanced Federal Cabinet. We are excited to have women's voices shape and influence change at the decisionmaking cabinet table.

As you read this year's annual report, we hope that you will be as inspired as we are with the women and girls who shared their stories of change and discovery. They are remarkable women, making remarkable change.

A year of remarkable change.

At YWCA Toronto, we create and deliver services that transform lives and break down barriers. Our 32 programs serve more than 12.000 women and families in 12 sites in Toronto, from Scarborough to Etobicoke. We focus on helping women build strong futures with well-paying jobs, safe housing, high quality child care, and lives free from violence.

In 2015, our work with Indigenous women was strongly influenced by the ground-breaking report of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission. It helped shape our programming - Healing Circles, a We hosted two important events at our Elm Centre - the launch of Ontario's Sexual Violence Action Plan and the Big City Mayor's press conference on affordable housing. We are keen to work with all levels



BUILDING STRONG FUTURES

CINDY Employment Centre Participant

"YWCA Toronto is the place to go. It removes real barriers."

Cindy left China in 2001, intent on creating a new life and secure future for her family in Toronto.

She felt lost at first. But she soon discovered YWCA Toronto. She enrolled in an employment training program and aced a work placement that led to her first job. "It was so exciting. The YWCA paved the way for my future."

Cindy recalls the significance of simple things like TTC tokens and a business suit for job interviews. "It gave me the confidence to succeed."

Cindy is now a Director at Purolator. In 2015, she attended YWCA Toronto's Women of Distinction Awards as a guest of Sun Life Financial. "It brought back memories seeing the women on stage telling stories just like mine." It moved her to become a donor.

Soon after, Cindy was telling her own story at a YWCA event. "I wanted to give back, because I would not be where I am today without the help YWCA Toronto gave me when I first came to Canada."

MAKING CHANGE

YWCA Toronto helps women build strong economic futures. In 2015, we provided employment and skills training to support over 6,000 women on their employment journeys.

As our city welcomes immigrants and refugees from around the world, our services help newcomer women make strong starts. Through one-on-one employment counselling, training and work placements, we help women access the labour market and secure that critical first job.

We are also transforming the skilled trades, a traditionally male-dominated field. Our pre-apprenticeship programs assist in training women to become electricians and refrigeration mechanics. These are stable, sustainable careers with higher wages and advancement opportunities.

At YWCA Toronto, we strive to open doors to independence and opportunity for all women. This is why we advocate for action to tackle income inequality. Women need permanent full-time jobs with benefits, affordable child care and pay equity.

\$6.3 million invested in employment and skills training

4.048

women in employment and training programs gained stronger economic futures

1.005

newcomers developed job readiness skills to prepare them for the Canadian labour market

969

women built business and career skills in YWCA Toronto's social purpose enterprise



CREATING SAFE HOUSING

CHARLENE Winona's Place Tenant

"Winona's Place has everything a community needs... I am so grateful to be here." Charlene discovered yoga at YWCA Toronto's Beatrice House, intrigued by its link to the breath of life so important to her own culture. She learned that from her mother, whose teachings she eagerly absorbed growing up with 11 siblings in Sagamok, on Lake Huron's north shore. Not all her memories are so easy. Charlene has persevered through trauma and loss, on and off reserve. Understanding the impact of that past helps this strong Ojibway woman stay in charge of her present.

She has found a better place. In July, she and her eight-year-old daughter moved into Winona's Place, the YWCA's permanent housing for

Indigenous women. A proud mother of three children and two grandchildren, Charlene is a steady, supportive member of the Winona community. She participates in Healing Circles and communal celebrations and enjoys the rooftop gardens where traditional herbal medicines will grow this summer.

As Charlene walks her daughter to school, she thinks about her own journey, grateful for YWCA Toronto's part in it.

"Winona's Place has everything a community needs," says Charlene. Peace, security, connection. "I am so grateful to be here."

MAKING CHANGE

YWCA Toronto helps women access safe, affordable housing. In 2015, we provided a permanent place to call home for over 900 women and their families in five communities across the city. We are recognized as a leader in the affordable housing movement. It is why we are so proud of Winona's Place – and why we strongly support the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's call for a new relationship with Indigenous peoples.

All of our affordable housing initiatives help women build on their strengths, create stability and plan better futures. However, there is still much work to be done. Toronto is challenged with over 95,000 households on the social housing waiting list - a staggering statistic. It is why YWCA Toronto is working with all three levels of government and community partners to develop new affordable housing - because every woman needs a safe place to call home.

\$13.1 million
invested in permanent
housing programs

949

women and children live in safe affordable housing

246

women received specialized mental health and addiction supports

50

units of affordable housing designated for women of Aboriginal descent



ENDING VIOLENCE

ELECTRA
December 6 Fund
Recipient

"Why do women wait so long before leaving? I'm 69. We have to love ourselves." For decades, Electra, a thoughtful, gentle 69-year-old Ecuadorian woman, longed to escape an abusive marriage. Last summer, she found the inner strength and open door to walk away from isolation and harm, into a new world - hard, but hers.

Electra was safe, but had no one to turn to and nowhere to live. She landed at a homeless shelter then interim housing, where staff directed her to YWCA Toronto December 6 Fund. The fund offers micro-loans for women fleeing violence. Her application for assistance to set up her apartment approved, she moved into her new

place just before Christmas. She often wonders, "Why did I wait so long to start my life? Why do women wait so long before leaving?"

Today, Electra feels very lucky. "I'm on the first floor, and I love it because the bus is at my door and I can go to the library whenever I want." Electra has plans, including a pastry-making course she always believed was out-of-bounds.

Not anymore.

MAKING CHANGE

YWCA Toronto helps women escape and recover from violence. In 2015, we provided over 1,300 women and children with vital resources to rebuild their lives. Services such as: safe shelters, micro-loans, and healing programs where women and children can recover from trauma.

Ending violence against women is a priority for the YWCA. It is a tragedy that one in three Canadian women will experience violence and that 90% of sexual assaults against women are never reported. This shows a broken system that fails women.

Yet there were encouraging developments in 2015 - an inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and an Action Plan on Sexual Violence and Harassment. However, there is still an urgent need for a national violence against women strategy. YWCA Toronto will be there - advocating for the systemic changes needed to create safer communities for women and girls in Canada.

\$3.5 million

invested in violence against women shelters and programs

74

women and children found safety and support at a YWCA Toronto shelter

42.

women and children overcame trauma in healing and expressive arts programs

191

women and children received micro-loans that helped them escape violence

7



GIVING VOICE

RISHONA Girls' Centre Participant

"The Girls' Centre is a welcoming and positive space. Thank you to the wonderful staff for helping me find my voice."

Girls can find their voice in many ways for many reasons. Rishona, an intelligent and quietly intense girl just-turned teenager, remembers a moment that gave rise to hers. "Watching my nine-year-old cousin play, realizing she is more at risk simply because she is a girl. I advocate for her."

Rishona, who has worked hard to overcome anxiety, attributes her ability to articulate and act on her social justice commitment to YWCA Toronto's Girls' Centre. She found there a community respectful of differences, a real connection to the

girls and staff, and thought-provoking programs like Miss Media.

She joined the Girls' Council but wanted to do more. She directed her Bat Mitzvah donations to the Girls' Centre and wrote a blog spreading word of its work to 29 countries on six continents.

Rishona clearly has a voice, and with it, a vision of how, why and when to use it to improve the lives of girls, women and marginalized people here and around the globe.

MAKING CHANGE

YWCA Toronto helps girls and mothers thrive. In 2015, there were over 1,900 participants in programs at our Girls' Centre, Camp Tapawingo, Teen Mothers', parenting programs, and our early child development centre.

At the YWCA, all of our programs promote resiliency. We offer a safe space for girls to become leaders and learn skills - from media literacy and critical thinking skills, to digital and engineering pursuits, to outdoor fun. Our family programs promote positive parenting and child development. We are dedicated to strengthening families.

In 2015, there were encouraging changes to Ontario's Health and Physical Education curriculum. Led by girls, the curriculum now includes content on sexual consent and healthy sexuality. However, there is still work to do to support families – particularly increasing affordable child care. It is one of YWCA Toronto's most important advocacy priorities, because there are over 16,000 children on the waiting list for affordable child care.

\$2.9 million invested in girls' and family programs

728

girls built friendships and became leaders at YWCA Camp Tapawingo

312

girls became critical thinkers, challenging sexualized and violent media images of girls

893

teen moms and families increased social networks and developed confidence and the skills to raise healthy children



SPEAKING OUT

ABOVE QUOTE ROSEMARY BROWN (1930-2003)

First Black woman to run for the leadership of a federal party

YWCA Toronto works tenaciously to break down barriers that hold women back from achieving equality. In 2015, we launched our first on-line election strategy, #womenvoteforaction. We highlighted issues that are core to our mission - violence against women, safe affordable housing, child care, and income inequality.

From a survivor's call to end violence against women, to a 12-year-old girl promoting voting, the campaign helped amplify the voices of the women and girls we work with, reaching over 4.5 million people through media and social media. It made women's issues election issues.

We engaged stakeholders with Call to Action campaigns - including the successful call to cancel musician

Action Bronson's concert at Yonge-Dundas Square because his misogyny harms women.

We made deputations on homelessness and sexual violence. We called for a gender analysis of homelessness and safe housing options for women. We advocated for trauma counselling and free legal supports for sexual assault survivors proceeding through the criminal justice system.

By speaking out, we have shaped policy, influenced decision-makers, and given women a voice in creating change.

MAKING CHANGE

At YWCA Toronto, we work to build public awareness, tackle discrimination and identify solutions that improve the lives of women and girls. Our advocacy work is informed by the women with whom we work and the issues that most significantly impact their lives. In 2015, our efforts focused on:

- Speaking out alongside 50 other civic leaders for investment in Toronto's poverty reduction strategy.
- Calling for a reversal of the federal government's cuts to refugee health care.
- Hosting the launch of Ontario's It's Never Okay
 Action Plan on Sexual Violence and Harassment,
 and Canada's Big City Mayors' press conference on affordable housing.
- Supporting Up for Debate's call for a federal party leader's debate on women's issues.
- Joining with other leading feminists to denounce fear mongering against women who wear nigabs.

1 in 3 Canadian women will experience violence in their lifetime

90% of sexual assaults against women are never reported

37% of single women-led families are living in poverty

16,802 children are on the waiting list for affordable child <u>care</u>

95,280 households are on the social housing waiting list



ENGAGING DONORS

CLARA HUGHES Mental Health Champion participates in Winona's Place Healing Circle

"Profoundly grateful for the sharing circle at YWCA Toronto...listened, learned and left inspired." In 2015, our donors responded to the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's report, raising \$230,000 to increase the safety of Indigenous women and children living at Winona's Place.

Our generous Winona's Place supporters tell us why:

"One of the reasons we are so dedicated to YWCA Toronto's Winona's Place is because it provides a safe, affordable place for Indigenous women and their children to live."

"Too many women have nowhere to go to escape violence. They cannot access housing that is affordable and safe. We started to connect the dots – violence against women, residential schools, missing and murdered Indigenous women. We knew we had to step up and do something."

"Donating and encouraging other philanthropists to give to Winona's Place is connected to the work of reconciliation. We are very proud to be part of YWCA Toronto's call for justice, safety and a new relationship with Indigenous peoples."

MAKING CHANGE

This year, annual donations were the most generous in the history of YWCA Toronto. In 2015, 3,246 donors and 519 volunteers made it possible for YWCA Toronto to help 1,000 more women and girls than ever before. While gifts take many forms – from community fundraising, to committed monthly pledges, to sponsorships – a common bond is the belief that everyone in our community, every marginalized and disadvantaged woman and girl, deserves safety, respect and opportunity.

The United Way of Toronto and York Region recently reported that YWCA Toronto "demonstrates sector leadership and innovation, particularly under financial management and...it is at the leading edge of program innovation and sets benchmarks." We invite all stakeholders to peruse our impact reports, audited financial statements and CRA filings on our website, or simply call us for more information.

On behalf of the women and girls we serve, we thank all of our donors for helping to make a difference.

\$2.57 million donated to YWCA Toronto in 2015

\$680,000 raised at the YWCA Toronto Women of Distinction Awards, presented by SunLife Financial

1,000 runners supported
Violence Against Women shelters
and raised \$115,000 with the
help of Bang and Olufsen
and Lexus Downtown

Girls' Centre programs thrive when Toronto's tech community raised \$30,000 at its inaugural HoHoTO event



YWCA TORONTO

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

YWCA Toronto's Board of Directors are committed to creating change for women and girls across Toronto. They ensure that our work is aligned with our vision and mission, steward our financial and donor resources, and provide leadership and oversight of our strategic plan and initiatives.

YWCA TORONTO BOARD OF DIRECTORS

(L to R, standing) Maureen Bell, Carlene McCubbin, Bessy Triantafyllos, Julie Neff, Suhuyini Abudulai and Alice Longhurst (L to R, sitting) Linda Chu, Nikita Patel, Marli Ramsey, Pierrette Dosanjh, Signe Leisk

Absent Sonali Chakraborti, Lauren Hulme, Silvia Jacinta, Barb Keenan, Pam Liao and Christine Tekker

OUR STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

- Strengthen awareness of YWCA Toronto, leveraging our credibility and reputation.
- Ensure financial and organizational sustainability.
- Integrate continuous quality improvement in operations and programs.
- Deliver high-impact, life-changing programs for women and girls.
- Align advocacy with mission priorities, supported by program expertise.
- Promote strong governance and employer best practices.

OUR VISION

YWCA Toronto will be a leader in transforming the lives of marginalized and disadvantaged women and girls in Toronto.

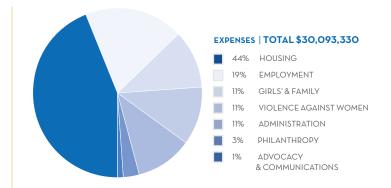
OUR MISSION

YWCA Toronto accomplishes this vision by being a strong advocate for women and girls, providing transformative services in the areas of employment support and training, housing options and shelters, leadership development programs for girls and key supports for women and children who have experienced violence.

2014 REVENUE & EXPENSES

Year ended December 31

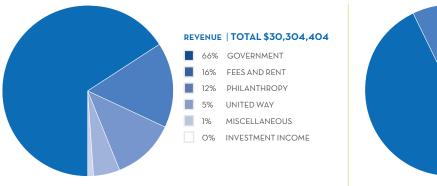
REVENUE | TOTAL \$30,428,800 69% GOVERNMENT 15% FEES AND RENT 10% PHILANTHROPY 5% UNITED WAY 1% INVESTMENT INCOME 1% MISCELLANEOUS

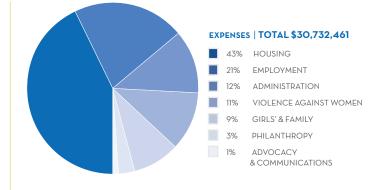


2014 EXCESS OF REVENUE OVER EXPENSES FOR THE YEAR: \$335,470

2015 REVENUE & EXPENSES

Year ended December 31





2015 EXCESS OF (EXPENSES OVER REVENUE) FOR THE YEAR: (**\$428, 057**)

Auditors: Ernst & Young LLP | A full set of Financial Statements is available upon request. Charitable Business #10822 9865 RROOOl Information filed under the Public Sector Salary Disclosure Act, 1996 is available on the Ministry of Finance website: http://www.fin.gov.on.ca.

2015 GIVING

\$100.000+

Canadian Women's Foundation Ruby Family Women Gaining Ground

\$50,000+

Anonymous
Brydson Family
DRI Capital
The Honourable Margaret McCain

RBC Foundation

\$25,000+

Anonymous
CIRA's .CA Community Investment Program
Linda Chu and John Donald
Donner Canadian Foundation Awards
The Harry E. Foster Charitable Foundation
Jerry and Joan Lozinski

Margaret Newall, in memory of Ted Newall Royal LePage Real Estate Services Ltd., Johnston & Daniel Division Royal LePage Shelter Foundation

Scotiabank

The Sprott Foundation

\$10,000+

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Shoppers Drug Mart

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Arthur Waters, in memory of Ruby Waters

\$5,000+

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Filion Wakely Thorup Angeletti LLP

Frischkorn MediaCo

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Harriet and Jonathan Goodman
The Gerald Sheff and Shanitha Kachan

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Ian and Hilary McLean
Nancy's Very Own Foundation

North Toronto Business and Professional Women's Club

Frances Price

Jane Rowe and Tammy McBrien
Shoppers Drug Mart Life Foundation

Shum Vourkoutiotis Fund at the Toronto Foundation

St. Andrew's Charitable Foundation Toronto CREW Foundation

at the Toronto Star Fresh Air Fund

Joan and Robert Wright

\$1,000+

Anonymous (15) Suhuvini Abudulai

Maureen Adams

Rebecca Ruth Allen and Jeffrey Levitt

AMR Barristers & Solicitors LLP

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Maureen Bell Beneplan Inc.

Diane Blake and Stephen Smith

Lindsay Blakely

The Boiler Inspection and Insurance Company of Canada

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Mahendra Bungaroo

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Gandy Charitable Foundation

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Marion Holmes
K. M. Hunter Charitable Foundation

The Peterborough K.M. Hunter

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at the Toronto Foundation Catherine J. Riggall Marilyn A. Robertson Gail Robinson

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Pamela Thomson

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CHAMPION

Elmwood Spa/Bangkok Garden

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Shoppers Drug Mart TD Bank Group

PATRON

The Globe and Mail The Home Depot Rverson University

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Frischkorn MediaCo

The Honourable Margaret Norrie McCain

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CBC Toronto

MEDIA - RADIO SPONSOR

CHUM FM

EY

WINE SPONSOR

Chateau des Charmes

ESTATES

We honour the memory of individuals whose legacy was realized in 2015.

Earla Downing Cornelius Anderson Silber

-19

2015 GIVING

COMMUNITY FUNDRAISERS (\$1,000+) The Bang & Olufsen Yorkville Run

Green Lotus Donate & Learn HoHoTO Lexus Downtown Customer Appreciation Gala

Shoppers Drug Mart Growing Women's Health Campaign

GIFTS IN KIND (\$1,000+)

Academy of Canadian Cinema & Television Air Canada Leisure Group

Basketeers

Beach Interiors

Building Industry and Land Development Association

Cavalia

Cisco Canada Green Standards

Hard Candy Fitness

Lvnn Heller

The Humphrey Group Inc.

J. Crew

J. Crew Fairview Mall

J. Crew Sherway Gardens

J. Crew Vancouver

Jaytex Group

Ketchum

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Shirin Mostafavi

Narces

The National Ballet of Canada

Orchestra Toronto

Organic Connections Royal Ontario Museum

Jan Ruby and Mary Thomson

Sleepking/Crown Design

Soulpepper Theatre Company

Tennis Canada The Food Dudes Inc.

TJX Canada

Toronto Foundation The Toronto Tov Tea

United Way Toronto & York Region

MONARCH SOCIETY

We thank individuals who have named YWCA Toronto in their will.

Anonymous (3) Zanana Akande

Carroll Allen Dale

Kristin A. Blakely-Kozman

Ellen K. Campbell

Sarah Corman Debbie Dykes

The late Sylvia M. Erickson

Nancy Foster

Helen Gurney

Sharilyn Hale

Julia Haylock

Martine Johnson Julie Y. Lee

Frances Mendez Barcelo

Jannie Mills

Mary Pat Moore

Lorna Pike

Anne Reynolds and Derek Meehan

Catherine J. Riggall

Marilyn A. Robertson

Gail Robinson Jeanne Rowles

The late Lloyd David Smith

Beverly Stager

Vera Ingrid Tarman and Cathy Schwartz

Marilda L. Tselepis

Joan White

FUNDERS

Canadian Apprenticeship Forum

Citizenship, Refugees and Immigration Canada

City of Toronto Children's Services City of Toronto Employment and

Social Services

City of Toronto Hostel Services and Housina Help

City of Toronto, Social Housing Unit, Shelter, Support & Housing

City of Toronto, Supports to Daily Living

Government of Canada: Adult Learning. Literacy and Essential Skills Program

Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada Ministry of Community and Social Services

Ministry of Education

Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care

Ministry of Housing

Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities

Ontario Women's Directorate

Toronto Central Local Health Integration Network

Toronto Children Services United Way of Peel Region

United Way of Toronto and York Region

PARTNERS

Access Alliance: Access on Danforth

Access Point

Agincourt Community Services Association

Aisling Discoveries Child and Family Centre AYCE Employment Services

Barbra Schlifer Commemorative Clinic

Betamarsh Incorporated - Goderich, ON Black Creek Community Health Care Centre

Brands of Success (formally Windfall)

Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives Canadian Mental Health Association

Canadian Mother Craft

Canadian Network of Women's Shelters

Catholic Cross Cultural

CAWIC - Canadian Association of Women in Construction

Centennial College

Chartered Professional Accountants of Ontario

Child Development Institute Child Evangelism Fellowship

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Children's Aid Society of Toronto

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Community and Legal Aid Services Program

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District of Parry Sound Administration Board District of Parry Sound Social Services

Dr. Jacobs

Dress for Success

Driftwood Community Centre

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Equal Voice Eva's Spot Program Four Villages Community Health Centre

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Habitat for Humanity

Humber College and Guelph Humber

Jean Tweed Centre

JJP Joseph Piccinini Recreation Center

Job Start

Kevin Kevray Appliances

Lake Babine Nation - Burns Lake, BC

Lifesaver 101 Meija Services

Moose Cree First Nation - Moose Factory, ON

North York Harvest Food Bank NSW Flectric

Ontario Non-Profit Network

Oshki-Pimache-O-Win - Thunder Bay, ON

Partners for Access and Identification Project Clinic

Polycultural Immigrant and Community Services

Rainbow Sonas

Ramalho Electric

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Rexdale Women's Centre

Sarnia-Lambton Rebound - Sarnia, ON Scarborough Southwest Ontario

Early Years Centre

Scarborough Women's Centre

Second Harvest Seneca College

Sheridan College

Sistering

Social Planning Toronto TDSB Essential Skills

The Centre for Education & Training The Furniture Bank

Toronto District School Board Newcomer Youth Services

Toronto East Quadrant Local Immigration Partnership Toronto Public Library

University Health Network

Toronto Workforce Innovation Group

Urban Health

Walker's Flectric 2000 Wiawamen Inc.

Wellesly Institute

Women's College Hospital Women's Habitat

YMCA-Language Assessment and Referral Centre

YMCA-YWCA National Capital Region Yorktown Shelter for Women

YWCA Canada

COALITIONS

25 in 5 Network for Poverty Reduction Brampton Multi-Cultural Centre

Campaign 2000 Children's Aid Societies/Violence Against Women Advisory Council

Coalition for Gun Control College of Early Childhood Educators

East Toronto Human Resources Association

Employment Ontario Equal Pay Coalition

Etobicoke Youth Network (Hub)

Girls Action Foundation Integrated Local Labour Market Planning

Kipling Community Council Mental Health and Addictions Supportive Housing Network

North York Mental Health Network ONESTEP

Ontario Association of Interval and Transition Houses

Ontario Coalition for Better Child Care Ontario Council of Agencies Serving Immigrants

Ontario Mentorina Coalition

Ontario Non-Profit Housing Association Scarborough Employment Ontario Network

Scarborough Village Neighbourhood Action Partnership

South Scarborough Local Labour Market Partnership

The Scarborough Southwest Local Immigrant Partnership Council

Toronto Aboriginal Agencies Network Toronto Coalition for Better Child Care

Toronto West Local Immigration Partnership Transitional Housing and Support Program Network

Violence Against Women Shelter Network WomanACT (formerly, Woman Abuse Council)

Women's Mental Health and Addictions Network

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