

## **HOOPS for HOPE Basketball Event MIX-UP on the Court at Yonge Street Mission, 270 Gerrard Street East**

August 23, 2018

On Friday, August 24, 2018 from 3pm to 6pm Toronto Police Officers from 51 Division will collaborate with YSM's Evergreen center for street youth, participating in a joint basketball event and barbeque. This year's tournament will see YSM Evergreen [HOPE program](#) participants and local police officers team up together for the first time instead of competing against each other.

"I am looking forward to being a part of the mixed team concept; officers and young people playing with each other versus against each other," said Constable Peter Roberts. "I strongly believe that this amazing neighbourhood event will foster synergy and creativity that will result in both groups winning when the final buzzer sounds."

The event will include African drumming, singing performance and a 3-point shooting contest.

Attendees can cool off during the tournament with free refreshments, hot dogs and hamburgers.

"This is an incredible opportunity to use YSM's longstanding relationship with 51 division to bridge the gap between street involved youth and law enforcement officials. We must collaborate and create a positive community for the vulnerable youth that we serve to generate effective and lasting change. This event will help us work towards that goal and will help the youth build stronger, healthier ties to their community." – Angie Draskovic, YSM President and CEO.

Media Enquiries:

PC P. ROBERTS - [Peter.Roberts@torontopolice.on.ca](mailto:Peter.Roberts@torontopolice.on.ca)

PC A. HUANG - [Acer.Huang@torontopolice.on.ca](mailto:Acer.Huang@torontopolice.on.ca)

IRIS IBARRA - [iibarra@ysm.ca](mailto:iibarra@ysm.ca) or (T) 416-929-9614 ext 4255 (C) 437-353-5663 (Yonge Street Mission)

### **About Yonge Street Mission**

To people who believe that every person is of value and has promise, YSM is the vibrant, local Christian development agency that is leading an infectious movement - going beyond meeting immediate needs by offering holistic programs and a pathway that can transform the lives of people living with poverty in Toronto from merely surviving to thriving.

### **Our five locations are:**

- YSM's Evergreen Centre for Street Youth, 381 Yonge Street (*soon to be 365 Spadina Avenue*)
- Davis Centre, 270 Gerrard Street East
- Martin Centre, 306 Gerrard Street East
- Double Take & TD Computer Literacy Centre, 310 Gerrard Street East
- Genesis Place, 280 Gerrard Street East