

Together WE CAN!

ANNUAL REPORT 2014 2015



Changing Building COMMUNITIES. Transforming TORONTO.

Our MISSION

The Yonge Street Mission exists so that all the poor and vulnerable in Toronto that we encounter will experience God's love, peace, and justice at a level that represents the highest stewardship of the resources invested.

Our GOAL

The Yonge Street Mission will work in partnership toward the realization of the end of chronic poverty in Toronto.

Our

LOVE

CREATIVITY

INTEGRITY

DIGNITY

JUSTICE

GRATITUDE

PEACE

Letter from BOARD CHAIR AND CEO



Dear Friends,

We're about to share some of our most transformational moments of the past year with you.

As we reflect on our past year, we realize that the generosity of our donors and the selfless acts of giving from our volunteers—combined with the tireless dedication of our staff—contribute to making good things happen every day, in every corner of The Yonge Street Mission.

Our long legacy of walking beside people as they journey out of poverty inspires us to envision a Toronto where everyone feels they belong; where everyone can access the tools and resources they need to thrive and accomplish their goals.

Changing Lives. Building Communities. Transforming Toronto: this phrase encapsulates our goal to eradicate poverty in Toronto in one generation. Guided by our enduring belief in the dignity and value of each and every human being, we've taken some significant steps forward to realize our vision for vibrant communities of healthy, fully engaged citizens who can sustain themselves and their families. We know for certain that we're on the right path.

We also know for certain that we cannot do it alone—no single organization could. We have begun to engage social, municipal and private partners to create all the necessary conditions to empower people to make positive, sustainable changes in their lives and neighbourhoods. By building new relationships, deepening existing ones and learning from each other, we are playing a pivotal role in shaping the future of our city the Toronto our children will inherit.

Now, more than ever before, we must continue joining hands to change lives, build communities and transform Toronto.

Together, we can!

William Onuwa Chair, Board of Directors

Ari Dit

Angie Draskovic President & CEO

Changing VES

50 high school students received Student Awards; they receive up to \$2,000 a year for four years of Post Secondary Education. "Before anyone can change their life, physical and mental health are essential—but all the right supports must also be in place—and one of the most important supports is secure employment. 'Peter' is just one of our success stories!"

- Debbie Mitchell, Program Director, Connecting Youth to Work

One of the many YSM initiatives to advance the journey out of poverty is Connecting Youth to Work (CYTW), a comprehensive 8-month experiential work program that makes it possible for at-risk young people like Peter to develop the skills and practical on-the-job experience he needs to secure permanent employment:

With rambling communication skills and finishing every sentence with "ya know what I'm sayin'?", Peter's street-involved attitude and conflicted emotions made the possibility of permanent employment extremely unlikely. He often felt overwhelmed and discouraged. But after 2 weeks of interactive employment/life skills training and 10 weeks of working hard in the YSM kitchen, Peter has made enough progress to be placed at Starbucks for the final 20-week component of the CYTW program. Once almost unemployable, Peter is now learning how wonderful it feels to cash a regular pay cheque.

- 538 youth from YSM's Evergreen Centre for Street Youth had intensive employment services with a Case Manager
- Starbucks Barista program:
 - 32 youth participants
 - 28 youth were employed or returned to school at conclusion of program
- 6,703 visits to the computer lab from children/youth
- 938 visits to the computer lab from adults
- **50 high school students** received Student Awards; they receive up to \$2,000 a year for four years of Post Secondary Education.

Building

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Several women's groups, including a sewing collective, were established this past year.

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"The women that came to meet and teach the basic sewing classes in the community wanted to start selling some of the items they made... so they organized a small group of women who had great sewing skill and willingness to form a collective. Now they sew together as a group of 7 women who immigrated to Canada all from different countries: Sri Lanka, Bangladesh, and Afghanistan. They design their own items to sell and meet together every week as a group to try sewing new designs."

- Lindsey Hepburn, Community Capacity Builder

Several women's groups, including a sewing collective, were established this past year to bring immigrant women from the community together. Creating and sharing in a group can catalyze a group of strangers into a thriving community, where each individual is transformed.

One individual summed it up like this:

"With this kind of mutual learning opportunity, our group is able to experience and learn new things. We continue to grow, and I am passionate to see our success in the near future. It is a learning experience for me to teach others as I have learnt sewing when I was very young, and I am happy that I have had this opportunity to share my knowledge and skills with the women from my own community. I would love to see how much our group would contribute and be a benefit to the community in the future. I believe by putting our time and our efforts, we together can achieve our common goals."

- YSM supports 16 community groups, of which 9 are resident-led
- 12 women belong to Community Kitchen groups
- 34 men belong to two different men's groups
- 20 residents participated in the Newcomer Voices' Film Making project
- 60 residents attended the Community Film Screening
- 65 newcomers attended the Newcomer Halloween Costume Party
- 67 youth attended March Break Camp
- 120 residents took part in the Community Clean Up

Transforming TORONTO.

18 Residents belong to the Community Engagement Group. "Friends Against Poverty is moved by a strong passion to raise their voices to contribute to ending poverty as well as by a desire to come together to support each other. They attended and spoke at several sessions at city hall in the last year, culminating in enthusiastic participation in a bake sale at city hall to raise money to end poverty when they felt city council wasn't directing enough funds to that purpose. The group meets regularly and continues to monitor the Toronto poverty reduction strategy."

- Joel Klassen, Community Capacity Builder

TO Prosperity (Toronto's Interim Poverty Reduction Strategy), drew on the voices, experiences and ideas of hundreds of Toronto residents from all parts of the city who have experienced poverty in their lives. One of those voices belonged to Jenny, someone who YSM's Community Development Team helped prepare an address to Mayor John Tory and the Toronto City Council Executive Committee last fall. Jenny volunteered to speak, at the last minute when the original speaker could not be there. Even though she was nervous, Jenny's voice resonated in a room that went quiet as she spoke. There were many more eloquent deputations from community leaders who were more experienced than Jenny. But Jenny's voice helped Toronto City Council unanimously approve the Interim Strategy. Congratulations Jenny, you should be extremely proud of yourself. We are!

- 18 residents belong to the Community Engagement Group
- 26 youth are on the Youth Council
- 102 residents took part in the Poverty Reduction Strategy Community Consultation
- 180 residents took part in the Voter PopUp for Federal Election

Advancing our vision to END CHRONE OVER In Toronto

The Yonge Street Mission's approach to ending chronic poverty comprises intentional and co-ordinated action at three levels. Together with our partners, YSM will be there now and in the future to provide the resources, support and encouragement each person needs – whatever it takes.

Changing LIVES.

To rise out of poverty, physical, emotional, mental and spiritual health is essential. The right supports must also be in place – such as secure housing, education, employment and ensuring that children are safe, well fed and well cared for while parents are at work, looking for work, or at school.

Our plan embodies holistic, wraparound supports and services – delivered in collaboration with our partners – making it possible for individuals, families and communities to move forward.

Building **COMMUNITIES.**

Many communities in Toronto – such as Regent Park and St. Jamestown, where our initial efforts are focused – are populated by people who face multiple barriers to rising up from poverty: discrimination, health challenges, language issues, isolation and marginalization.

Our plan supports the development of self sufficient, empowered neighbourhoods by equipping community members with skills and resources to find the most appropriate and sustainable solutions.

Transforming **TORONTO.**

Currently communities and the people living in them function within our municipal, provincial, and federal governments infrastructure. But even healthy people who are committed to investing in their neighbourhoods can face systemic challenges and barriers at all levels of government. To fully realize our vision of ending chronic poverty in Toronto, we must intentionally add another layer of action.

YSM aims to transform Toronto by helping to remove these systemic barriers.

TOGETHER WE CAN!

Volunteers 45,239

by 3,525 volunteers

Foodbank

29,616 visits to the Food Bank by 3,223 people

Daycare 36 children used the daycare

Seniors 5,668 visits $285 \stackrel{\text{served at Christian}}{\text{Community Centre}}$ 25 attended Summer Camp 175 attended foot care clinics 150 attended blood pressure clinics 30 sewing classes were held 15 workshops

Computer Lab

6,703 visits to the Computer Lab from children/youth 938 visits to the Computer Lab from adults

Visits to Jail

384 visits to jail by Evergreen & Yonge Street Mission staff

Evergreen1,617 youth received health5636,500 youth received450

563 visits to nursery for baby supplies, such as formula and diapers
450 Welcome Baby packages were given out to new moms

Meals 71,563 total number of meals served at YSM 38,790 meals served at Evergreen 3,040 seniors served lunch

15,510 served at homework club, computer lab, daycare and camps

Other Forms of Outreach

43 women attend the annual camp for women

300 visits by sex workers with YSM's Community Outreach Pastor

Christmas

840 families attended Christmas Toy Market

1,712 children received gifts 1,629 people were served at the Christmas Food Market

141 boxes were delivered to seniors

REVENUE	2015	2014
General Fund contributions Scholarship contributions Other restricted contributions Bequests and estate income Gifts in kind Government grants and subsidies – housing <i>daycare</i> <i>other</i> Sales and program income Rental income Interest income	5,705,980 33,306 713,395 964,456 142,272 556,951 761,593 1,315,602 929,666 92,552 135,568	5,877,617 35,077 939,917 548,265 215,122 506,899 740,044 1,304,713 824,577 98,198 116,392
Total Revenue	11,351,341	11,206,821
EXPENSES Relief and Support Transitional Services <i>Education</i> <i>Employment</i> <i>Housing Support and Stabilization</i> <i>Community Development</i> Church at the Mission Counselling Advocacy Program Development Subtotal	1,155,450 1,617,873 1,970,497 725,727 1,652,238 333,469 118,664 193,082 195,614 7,962,614	1,293,752 1,636,822 2,078,628 654,767 1,817,318 311,227 134,188 240,840 350,325 8,517,867
Administration Public Relations and Development Subtotal	581,675 2,379,696 2,961,371	711,788 2,384,024 3,095,812
Total Expenses	10,923,985	11,613,679

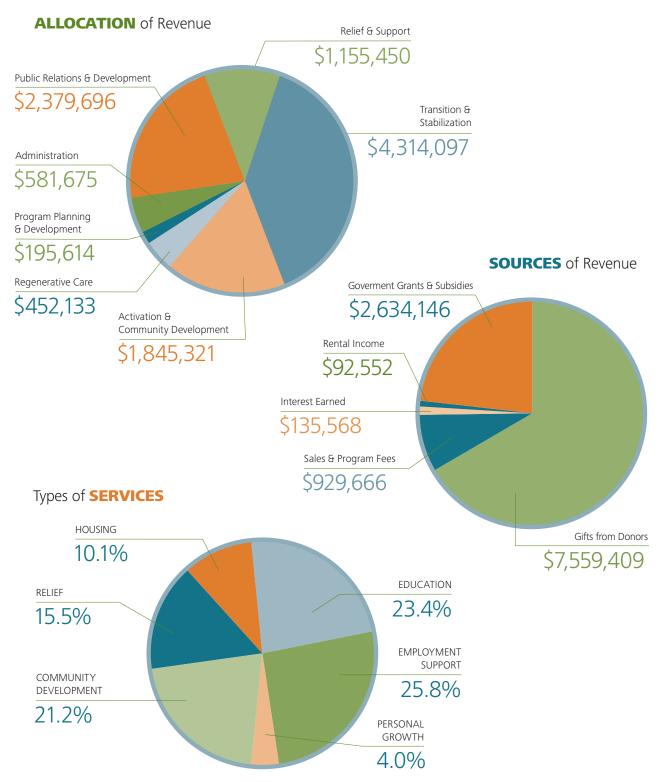
EXCESS (deficiency) of revenue over expenses for the year after interfund transfers

General Fund Housing Fund Capital Fund Restricted Funds Scholarship Fund	(7,639) (7,298) (283,080) 716,693 (26,387)	(71,993) (4,470) (157,805) (199,738) 193,625
Total	392,289	(240,381)
FUND BALANCES at end of year		
General Fund	300,000	307,639
Housing Fund	(8,716)	(1,418)
Capital Fund	6,761,595	7,044,675
Restricted Funds	2,617,252	1,900,559
Scholarship Fund	1,626,744	1,653,131
Total	11,296,875	10,904,586

This statement has been compiled from the audited Combined Statements of

The Yonge Street Mission and YSM Genesis Place Homes Inc. We are grateful to KPMG LLP for

their audit services. Complete statements are available upon request from The Yonge Street Mission.





BOARD MEMBERS

- William Onuwa Chair
- Adrian Miedema Vice Chair
- Gordon Sutherland Treasurer
- Gundy Jackson *Secretary*
- Jayne Taylor
- Donna VanAlstine
- Heather Percy
- Merry Lin
- Jim Chestnutt
- Judy Hunter

STAFF LEADERSHIP as of October 2015

- Angie Draskovic President and CEO
- Paul Davidson Mission Administrative Officer
- Brent Mitchell Mission Program Officer
- Dr. Rick Tobias Community Advocate

DIRECTORS and MANAGERS

- Gail Meats Director, Employment Services
- Ruth Pentinga Director of Volunteer Resources
- Janice Rainey Director of Relief and Support
- Moreen White Director of Finance
- Matthew Parker Lead Pastor/Director of Church at the Mission
- Jesse Sudirgo Manager, Street-Involved Services
- Marcia Shelton Program Manager, Family Services
- Kathy Webster Double Take Store Manager
- Jeanie Son Director of Community Development
- Bill Ryan Director of Reconciliation
- Sandra Baker Director of Development



CONTACT

Please contact us to learn more about changing lives, building communities, and transforming Toronto with The Yonge Street Mission.





THANK you.

To our donors, volunteers and supporters who make our work possible, to our staff and community partners who help people realize their full potential, THANK YOU for walking with our community all year long.

Together, we can transform Toronto!



YSM services and programs operate from these locations:

Evergreen Centre 381 Yonge Street

Christian Community Centre 270 Gerrard Street East

Genesis Place 280 Gerrard Street East

Double Take & TD Securities Computer Literacy Centre 310 Gerrard Street East

St. James Town 225 Wellesley St E, Unit 4B

H.B. Martin Family Centre for Urban Education & Church at the Mission

306 Gerrard Street East, M5A 2G7 416.929.9614 (includes management and administrative offices)

The Yonge Street Mission has been on the front lines of service since 1896, providing emergency help, and fostering long-term change in the lives of individuals, families and the community itself.

We are a Christian faith community working in downtown Toronto and a registered Canadian charity. All assistance is given strictly on the basis of need, regardless of colour, culture, religion, economic status, gender, sexual orientation or social condition.

We believe that all individuals are created in the image of God and deserve the opportunity for full and just participation in society.