

QUARTERLY Impact Report

POSSIBILITY
PARTNERS

SUMMER 2026

Nurturing children, empowering young parents

For vulnerable young parents, who are trying to address the barriers keeping them trapped in poverty as they journey toward stability, it can feel impossible to, at the same time, meet the needs of their young children.

The Nursery at our Evergreen Centre for Vulnerable Youth was created 25 years ago, to provide holistic support for young families. It offers a safe, nurturing environment for babies and young children while their parents participate in Evergreen programs and services. Youthful parents participate in employment services, skill development, job training, attend healthcare and mental health appointments, access housing support and more, knowing their kids are well cared for in our Nursery.

Thanks in part to the ongoing committed support of **Possibility Partners** like you, what began as a childcare program at our Evergreen Centre has grown into a community of care for young families seeking support.

Meeting immediate needs

Serving more than 100 families annually, the Nursery supports 15-25 families each week, providing parents with essential childcare supplies, including diapers, formula,



Evergreen's Nursery Coordinator, Ruth, works with young parents in a space supportive of both children and adults.

baby food, and clothing, in addition to offering parenting support and care management. Many parents share that without the Nursery's help, they would be hard-pressed to afford needed items for their children's well-being, and struggle to navigate parenting challenges.

At our Evergreen Centre, young parents have access to free, freshly prepared, healthy meals and much needed no cost healthcare for themselves and their children, including prenatal care, well-baby check-ups, immunizations and even dental care.

Personalized care for parents and children

While children are cared for in the Nursery, Evergreen's Nursery Coordinator, Ruth, acts as a care manager, connecting parents with YSM's mental health, employment, and housing support teams, as well as community resources beyond YSM. Young parents can benefit from wrap-around support as they work toward setting and achieving goals. Many are working to complete their education, while on the road to building a long-term pathway out of poverty for their families.

Building community and **JOY**

Beyond daily care, the Nursery program creates opportunities for young families experiencing isolation and hardship to connect and enjoy special celebrations together.

Each May, young Nursery mothers gather to celebrate at our annual Evergreen Mother's Day brunch. While we provide care for their babies and toddlers, moms enjoy meaningful time connecting and laughing over projects like flowerpot decorating, while knowing we see and value all they do as parents.

For many, our Mother's Day celebration is a favourite event in their year. One parent, Joan, shared, *"The brunch reminded me that there are people who truly care about us."* Another mother, Maria, added, *"YSM's Nursery has given me support and hope for my child's future."*

Additionally – thanks to committed donors like you – every December Nursery families are invited to Evergreen for a special Christmas party with food, music, a gift for each child, a gift card to help relieve financial strain and provide for basic needs, and even the opportunity to have a professional family photo taken with a visiting Santa!



YSM's Nursery is a welcoming community of celebration, support, and connection.



Thank you for making important programs like our Evergreen Nursery possible!

Your committed support as a **Possibility Partner** monthly donor offers young parents relief, hope, connection, and long-term practical help as they work toward building a stable life and a brighter future for themselves and their children.

As a **Possibility Partner** monthly donor, please reach out to Akudo at aanyanwu@ysm.ca with any questions or needs you have as a valued recurring donor.

YSM
YONGE STREET MISSION

306 Gerrard Street East, Toronto ON M5A 2G7 | (416) 929-9614 or 1 800 416-5111 | info@ysm.ca | ysm.ca