

**March 2024*****Community Engagement***

- On Monday, March 4<sup>th</sup>, a member of the Community Engagement Team continued a collaboration with St. Mike's-Unity Health (in partnership with Dixon Hall and Parkdale Queen West Community Health Centre), by educating new nurses on the complexities of harm reduction and working with homeless populations.
- On Thursday, March 21<sup>st</sup>, two members of the Community Engagement team presented two educational workshops to staff at New Hope Leslieville, a 52-bed shelter run by the Salvation Army. Over two hours, audience members learned more Homelessness, as well as De-escalation and Building Compassion.
- On Tuesday, March 19<sup>th</sup>, the Community Development and Client Programming Supervisor, joined by Programming Supervisors from Metro and nearby Delta, were given a tour of Dundalk by Site Managers. As the tour wrapped, staff began to strategize future joint community engagement activities and collaborations.
- March 26 Resident Council Update:
- At Delta, Ansar foundation donated 60 halal meals during Ramadan.
- At Delta in March, we started a volunteer-run fitness classes that occurs once a week for residents.
- At Delta in March, the Programming Supervisor coordinated the start Salsa classes on a weekly basis
- In March, we had 7 Placement Students complete their shelter placement with HF. We will have a few students in the summer and hopefully 7 starting in Sept. 2024.
- 4117 Lawrence had a barber onsite starting monthly haircuts.
- At 22 Metropolitan, we celebrated Ghana independence day with hotel by doing buffet lunch
- At 22 Metropolitan in March we hosted a women's day celebration with food, games and educational posters
  - **Resident Council (March meeting):**
  - Continued discussion Building/Purchasing Newsstands. Buying colour printers is now complete.
  - Resident Council would like to use the budget for workshops and live music onsite. Council members were tasked with suggesting/reaching out to local musicians for hire.
    - Sourced a play troop through Jammii and identified some local musicians to reach out to.
    - Council would like to spend money on Just for Laugh tickets, Ryan to purchase on their behalf
  - Next meeting April 30th
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**Feb. 2024*****Community Engagement***

- In Feb., a new Supervisor of Programming (1:30PM-9:30PM) started in their new role at 22 Metropolitan.
- In Feb. the Manager of Community Engagement chaired 1 Community Liaison Committee Meeting for the Willowdale community.
- Residents from Willowdale went on a trip downtown to visit the CN Tower
- Grassroots organization, Neighbourlink North York were onsite inviting our residents to the newcomer's welcome tea event on February 25 and offering volunteering opportunities.
- At Willowdale, Woodgreen Community Services. Counsellor was onsite facilitating the workshop but also offering our residents counselling services such as referrals, information, application support as well as introducing their new program (Newcomer Community Integration Program)
- Willowdale celebrated black history month with cultural food, dress and bead making
- Residents from 4117 and St. Clair attended International Auto Show at Metro Toronto Convention Centre.
- Residents from 4117 attended Tour of Fort York. Clients were able to interact with a tour guide and ask questions about Black Soldiers who fought in the war of 1812 at Fort York. Our clients were also joined with clients from the Delta
- Residents at 545 Lake Shore from both Couples floor and Co-Ed floor participated to get their hair braided. A barber was also onsite and was also to give 45 haircuts
- At 545 LS we set up the space in Co-Ed dining area using dividers and screen for a power point presentation by the Imagine Health Team on 'Taking Care of Skin'.
- At 545 LS, a Mothers to be outing took place (shopping/treat) to make them feel cared and loved. Programming Supervisor arranged a kind of Baby Shower like mainly connecting them with a resource final year nursing student specializing in Prenatal care.
- In Feb. 2035 Kennedy Rd. (Delta) hosted an African drum circle in celebration of Black History Month
- In Feb. 101 Placer and 702 Kennedy residents enjoyed a interactive Drag Show
- On Thursday, February 1<sup>st</sup>, staff from Advocacy Centre for Tenants Ontario (ACTO) visited Pacewood and presented to newcomers on expectations, rights and responsibilities for Toronto/Ontario tenants. 9 clients were in attendance.
- On Monday February 5<sup>th</sup>, a volunteer at Meegwetch – who had already been offering computer tutoring – also began facilitating a weekly arts and crafts program for residents.
- To celebrate Black History Month, senior staff at Pacewood conducted a quiz on noted topics in Black History with residents. Prizes were awarded, over multiple stages.
- Collaborating with both ICM and community engagement teams, staff from community partner Progress Career Planning Institute (PCPI) visited Willowdale and 22 Metro. on Wednesday, February 7<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> and presented on the agency's services.
- At Willowdale, The Wrap Around Program is facilitated in partnership with Street Haven on-site every Monday from 10am to 12pm for eight weeks.
- At 22 Metropolitan, the Community Engagement team hosted a Lunan New Year party with music and dance celebrating Chinese culture and good fortune.

**Jan. 2024*****Community Engagement***

- January 10<sup>th</sup>, members of the Community Engagement team, in collaboration with a colleague from Dixon Hall, presented an overview of its educational workshops to the Community Liaison Worker Network.
- On Thursday, January 25<sup>th</sup>, a new volunteer began offering weekly yoga classes for clients at 224 Spadina. The program will be supervised by the site's Enhanced Services Supervisor.
- In Jan. the Manager of Community Engagement chaired 3 Community Liaison Committee meetings for the 2035 Kennedy Rd. (Delta), 545 Lake Shore and Willowdale communities.
- In Jan. We hosted Coffee with Councillor Cheng at Willowdale Welcome Centre (WWC) so residents could connect with their local government.
- In Jan, residents from Willowdale visited the Ripley's Aquarium downtown.
- Residents from Willowdale began volunteer led hot yoga and weekly exercise classes.
- 545 LS T.C. organized resource person from Hospitality Workers Training Centre. Rosemary from HWTC provided information on short term/fast paced free training opportunities.
- Residents from 545 LS went to The Bentway for ice skating and got free skates, hot chocolate and snacks courtesy of MPP Glover (Spadina Fort York)
- Residents from 702 Kennedy enjoyed Online-generated Bingo and Trivia game in between: 2:30 pm 22 residents joined the game. TNG Staff supported snacks and drinks were provided
- 101 Placer Court started Art Therapy weekly
  - **Resident Council (Jan 25<sup>th</sup> meeting):**
  - Continued discussion to use the budget for improving the resident newsletter. Hiring graphic designer. Building/Purchasing Newsstands. Buying colour printers.
  - In the meeting (Jan 5) we talked about plans HF kick-off party.
  - Resident Council would like to use the budget for workshops and live music onsite. Council members were tasked with suggesting/reaching out to local musicians for hire.
  - Next meeting March 26 online.
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**Dec. 2023*****Community Engagement***

- In Dec., Community Engagement Team continued their collaboration with St. Mike's-Unity Health (in partnership with Dixon Hall and Parkdale Queen West Community Health Centre), by educating new nurses on the complexities of harm reduction and working with homeless populations.
- Beginning with a coordination meeting on Tuesday, December 20<sup>th</sup>, The Community Development and Client Programming Supervisor – in tandem with senior Pacewood staff,

partners at the 519 and the Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Programming Supervisor- is supporting a Policy Development Officer with the City of Toronto and SSHA to organize paid focus groups with Pacewood residents. The results of these interviews will be incorporated into a report designed to update Toronto Shelter Standards so as to better serve 2SLGBTQIA+ clients who access shelter services.

- Thanks to a grant from the Catherine and Maxwell Meighen Foundation, seniors at multiple housing sites, as well as Willowdale Welcome Centre and Delta will have access to regular music therapy services courtesy of Caleb Gilman
- A cupcake baking activity took place at the Waterfront Neighborhood Centre. Willowdale clients attended the event alongside clients from 545 Lakeshore Boulevard West.
- At Willowdale, The Skills for Success Program was facilitated by Street Haven on-site every Thursdays from 10am to 12pm for Eight weeks. Fourteen women got a certificate as the program successfully.
- Monday December 11th from 10am to 5pm . 17 residents from WWC Building A&B were able to get a free haircut.
- In Dec.15 residents from Willowdale attended the Exercise Class facilitated by Mark G. (Personal Trainer)
- In Dec. The Waterfront Neighbourhood Centre and Chris Glover (NDP Spadina-Fort York) hosted a holiday party and dinner for some of the local shelter residents. Over 100 residents from 545 LS attended and received gifts.

### **Nov. 2023**

#### ***Community Engagement***

- **Resident Council:** In the meeting (Nov. 8) we talked about plans for next year and budgets for the HF kick-off party. The party will be in 2024 at the Rec. Room and we have enough to invite up to 100 people. Date TBD.
  - We also discussed an idea for a monthly contest/draw where residents can enter to win prizes paid for by the resident council
  - Resident Council also wants to use the budget for improving the resident newsletter.
- In November, 8 residents living at Housing East sites attended a performance of “The Wild Rovers” a musical play inspired by the Irish Rovers band and performed at Elgin Winter Theatre. Tickets were generously donated via the citySPECIAL program.
- Over the course of November, students with Imagine Clinic’s Health Promotion team visited Willowdale Welcome Centre, Delta, Lawrence, Metro, Kennedy, Placer and Bathurst-Lakeshore to offer workshops for residents on a wide range of topics, including everything from “Diabetes Care” to “Anger Management”.
- Community Development and Client Programming Supervisor attended the Canadian Alliance to End Homelessness Conference in Halifax, Nova Scotia and co-presented a short presentation on Pacewood with a representative from the 519. The powerpoint, entitled “Building Community Partnerships and Specialized Shelter Programs for 2SLGBTQIA+ Safety and Possibility,”

- As part of the Homes for Dinner event, two former residents of the Metro refugee program shared their experiences at the shelter and their new life in Canada as a queer couple fleeing persecution with assembled guests.
- Two members of the community engagement team facilitated a two-part workshop on “Homelessness 101” and “De-esclatation and Building Compassion” with staff of OneChurch
- On November 24<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup>, three Pacewood residents were able to join outings to Black Creek Pioneer Village and the ROM respectively. These outings represent the first attempts by the Programming Supervisor at Bathurst-Lakeshore, Tsering Choedon’s to include Pacewood residents in outdoor and site-external programming.
- 24 clients from Bathurst-Lakeshore visited the Royal Ontario Museum, accompanied by the Programming Supervisor.
  - A further 24 tickets were extended to the Programming Supervisor at Kennedy/Placer, who invited clients from both of those sites.
- On Wednesday, November 29<sup>th</sup>, the Community Development and Client Programming Supervisor co-presented at “Inclusive Voices, Collective Power” an online symposium on Gender-Based Violence organized by Elder Abuse Prevention Ontario (EAPO) and WomanACT.
- At Willowdale, University of Toronto was onsite educating our residents on how to eat on a budget and the different resources available in the city
- At Willowdale, A Poppy-Making activity took place on Friday Nov 10 in building A&B. Writer and residents pay tribute to the veterans who served this country with courage and dedication by making (Poppys) as a tribute to the fallen soldiers.
- At Willowdale, Outreach and Community Relations Coordinator, Newcomer Information Centre, and Language assessment of YMCA, were onsite offering the following services to residents.
- In November, HF hosted 2 CLC meetings for 545LS and 2035 Kennedy Rd.

## **Oct. 2023**

### ***Community Engagement***

- On Tuesday, October 3<sup>rd</sup> Delta Hotel hosted Concerts in Care, a group presenting musical programming to a range of seniors’ care communities across Ontario.
- On Friday, October 6<sup>th</sup>, Metro hosted Pride Toronto for a catered meal to celebrate Thanksgiving. Almost 200 residents were eligible to participate.
- On Tuesday, October 10<sup>th</sup>, Community Engagement staff – in partnership with Dixon Hall - presented workshops on Homelessness 101 and Harm Reduction 101 to new recruits of Unity-St. Michael’s nursing program
- On Thursday October 12<sup>th</sup> Bathurst-Lakeshore residents accompanied by the Programming Supervisor, explored the High Park Zoo and hiked the trails on the south

end of High park. The event was organized by Parkdale Activity-Recreation Centre (PARC)

- On Tuesday, October 17, 101 Placer Court hosted a Community Clean-Up.
- On Tuesday, October 17<sup>th</sup>, the Community Development and Client Programming Supervisor, in concert with senior staff from shelter operations and client services, attended a logic model session, as part of a funded consultation facilitated by Taylor Newberry Consulting. The three hour session, organized and hosted by the 519, explored all areas of partnership related to the current Pacewood shelter program, and will inform a final report prepared by Taylor Newberry in 2024.
- On Monday, October 23 Kennedy Shelter hosted a Halloween Decorating and Pumpkin Carving day.
- Monday, Oct 30. The same activity was held a day later at 101 Placer Ct, where another 15 residents participated. Placer Ct. held its own Halloween Party on October 31<sup>st</sup>.
- On Wednesday, October 25<sup>th</sup>, 5 Metro residents, accompanied by the Programming Supervisor, attended a performance of “The Wild Rovers,” a musical play inspired by the music of the Irish Rovers, at The Elgin and Winter Garden Theatre Centre.

### **Sept. 2023**

#### ***Community Engagement***

- On Tuesday, September 5<sup>th</sup>, the Community Development and Client Programming Supervisor presented workshops on Homelessness 101 and Harm Reduction 101 to new recruits of Unity-St. Michael’s nursing program. Foregrounding the testimonies of PWLE, the training prepared nurses to work with homeless and street-involved clients using an empathic, trauma-informed and culturally sensitive lens.
- Thanks to a generous donation from the Canadian National Exhibition (CNE), over 150 Homes First residents – across more than seven sites - enjoyed free admission to the CNE.
- On Saturday, September 9<sup>th</sup>, community engagement staff attended the first annual Taste of North York at Mel Lastman Square, where they engaged local Willowdale residents, answered questions about the Willowdale Welcome Centre
- September 16<sup>th</sup>, Homes First staff were on hand to organize and coordinate their first ever “Morning Parade” fundraiser. In addition, over thirty residents from Willowdale Welcome Centre volunteered at the event
- On Thursday, September 21<sup>st</sup>, one resident from Delta, accompanied by the Programming Supervisor, enjoyed a canoe trip with staff from Parkdale Activity-Recreation Centre (PARC). This event, the third in a series, marks a new collaboration with PARC, which recently assumed all responsibilities and financial activities of Street to Trail, a close community partner. New hikes and collaborations have been planned for the coming months.
- The Immigration Orientation Session took place on Friday September 22<sup>nd</sup>. Nir Gepner Immigration Lawyer was onsite to present Willowdale legal services to our residents and to give them an overview of how refugee claim process looks like and what to expect in a refugee hearing,

- At Willowdale, Hospitality Workers Training Center were onsite offering different free programs (Hospitality Housekeeping and Restaurant Ready) and employment support. 26 residents were able to attend to the session and 10 of them registered for career consultation
- Delta Hotel hosted October Fest with food music, dancing, songs and prizes. Clients from St. Clair and 22 Metro were invited as well.
- In Sept. Homes First, Dixon Hall and PDQW hosted a community education workshop on the topics of Homelessness 101, Harm Reduction and De-escalation for residents in around Trinity St. Pauls (427 Bloor St. W.)
- Manager of Community Engagement attended Liaison Workers Meeting with our Community Engagement staff from around the sector. The meeting was hosted by SSHA
- In Sept. Manager of Community Engagement and Manager of Development facilitated a tour of 224 Spadina for Councillor Lily Cheng's office.
- In Sept. Homes First hosted 1 CLC meeting for Delta.
- **Resident Council:**
  - Last meeting in Sept. Involved 5 residents. We have decided to plan a mixer event in Dec. At the Rec Room at with the remaining \$4000.00

### **August 2023**

#### ***Community Engagement***

- On Monday, July 31<sup>st</sup>, 38 clients from Willowdale - buildings A&B paid a visit to the Royal Ontario Museum. Four staff from TNG and the site's Programming Supervisor accompanied them.
- On Friday, August 4<sup>th</sup>, a painting class was held in the lounge area of Willowdale Building A. The theme of the painting was related to motivational phrases. 20 residents participated in the activity.
- On Wednesday, August 2<sup>nd</sup>, Delta celebrated Caribana with Caribbean-themed music and a jerk chicken barbecue. Several clients from 4117 Lawrence were also in attendance.
- On Thursday, August 3<sup>rd</sup>, the SNYP truck (short for Spay Neuter Your Pet) visited Bathurst-Lakeshore and enabled clients to access wellness checks and spay their pets.
- August 10<sup>th</sup>, Street Haven wrapped up its six-week Wrap Around Program in Willowdale Buildings A&B. Seventeen women got a certificate as the program and participants had a little ceremony that included cake and reflections on the program.
- On Friday August 11, a career readiness workshop facilitated by Hodan Mohamed, a Manager of Youth Special Projects of JVS Toronto, was held at Willowdale Buildings A&B. The presentation covered an overall Youth Reach service that included job searches in Toronto and greater Ontario and how to best target their job leads and what resources to seek.
- On Monday, August 14<sup>th</sup>, staff from PTP Adult Learning and Employment visited Willowdale Buildings A&B to present a workshop on their employment and training services. 38 residents from both buildings were able to attend and 19 of them registered for various services.

- On Thursday, August 17<sup>th</sup>, Metropolitan celebrated its one-year anniversary with a jazz concert, board games, an award ceremony and a BBQ.
- On Monday, August 14<sup>th</sup>, staff from Nellie's Shelter returned to Kennedy Shelter to run a workshop on healthy dating and relationships 22 residents were in attendance.
- On Tuesday, August 15<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup>, 22 Metropolitan hosted another installment of Concerts in Care, a group presenting musical programming to a range of seniors' care communities across Ontario. 30 residents attended the prior event and another 30 attended the later concert. Each concert was followed by a karaoke session.
- On Thursday, August 16<sup>th</sup>, 12 residents from 22 Metropolitan, 7 clients from Kennedy and another 17 residents from 4117 and Delta attended Putting Edge, a glow-in-the-dark mini-putt site located at Scarborough Town Centre.
- On Thursday, August 17<sup>th</sup>, 11 residents from Kennedy took a trip to Centre Island, where they enjoyed the ferry ride, a picnic beside the water, badminton and Frisbee games, a cable car ride and carousel ride in Centreville, and the William Meany Maze.
- On Friday, August 18<sup>th</sup>, residents of 101 Placer Ct. enjoyed their last summer BBQ, featuring steak, ice cream and games and prizes.
- On Monday, August 21<sup>st</sup>, 16 residents from 22 Metropolitan and 20 residents from Willowdale Welcome Centre – A&B attended a hike of High Park, facilitated by Indigenous educator Carolynne Crawley. Participants learned important facts about the original history of the park (and Tkaronto more generally), Indigenous relationships with individual plants and beings, and how to protect the park's turtle population. Lunches and snacks were provided.
- On Tuesday, August 22<sup>nd</sup>, the Programming Supervisor at WWC – Buildings A&B inaugurated a new partnership with Creative Works Studio, a community arts-based studio located near Pape and Gerrard. Ximena Moreno, an Expressive Arts Therapist, held the first of an ongoing series of arts workshops for WWC residents.
- On Wednesday, August 23<sup>rd</sup>, Homes First inaugurated a new informal partnership with Parkdale Activity-Recreation Centre, which recently took over the operations of long-time partner Street to Trails: four residents from Bathurst-Lakeshore, accompanied by the Programming Supervisor, were afforded a canoe trip of the Humber River, facilitated by PARC staff. Bagged lunches were provided.
- On Wednesday, August 23<sup>rd</sup>, the Programming Supervisor at 22 Metropolitan ran a computer class and taught clients basic keyboard and Microsoft skills. 9 clients were in attendance
- On Thursday, August 24<sup>th</sup>, staff from Nellie's Shelter returned to Metropolitan to offer their last empowerment and self-defense workshop to residents. Facilitators shared tips for better observing one's surroundings, listening and trusting your inner voice, learning how to say no and set and maintain boundaries, and use one's mind, words and body for self-protection. 10 residents were in attendance.
- To celebrate Overdose Awareness Day (August 31<sup>st</sup>), 14 residents of Willowdale – Building B were encouraged to paint Glass Candle Holders and write messages to remember without stigma, those who have left too soon from an overdose.



- On Thursday, August 31<sup>st</sup>, 6 Delta residents, accompanied by the Programming Supervisor, attended the Canadian National Exhibition, which included walking the grounds, visiting featured exhibits and attending rides.

## **July 2023**

### ***Community Engagement***

- **Resident Council:**
  - July 19, we only had 5 attend this month's meeting. We made decisions on budgets percentages and what to do with the remaining \$4200.00. Roughly \$10,000 was decided to purchase assistive devices for residents,
  - roughly \$4000 will be used for entertainment purposes instead of training workshops (to be decided in August meeting).
  - Council to vote on: Exhibition tickets, Blue Jays game, Jazz Fest, Bowling/Arcade, Movie theatre outing or local play.
- On Friday, July 7<sup>th</sup>, Delta celebrated its third anniversary with a party.
- On Wednesday, July 5<sup>th</sup>, professional drag queens Renona and Oktavia visited Willowdale Building A and performed for residents.
- On Thursday, July 6<sup>th</sup>, staff from Nellie's Shelter visited Metropolitan to offer an empowerment and self-defense workshop to residents.
- On Thursday, July 6<sup>th</sup>, Laura Paley, a stability case manager with Street Haven, visited residents at Willowdale – Buildings A and B to offer the first of six Rent Smart workshop, to be facilitated on-site every Thursday from 10am to 12pm.
- On Friday, July 7<sup>th</sup>, Victims Services Toronto offered a human trafficking awareness workshop at Willowdale – Buildings A and B. Residents also enjoyed a visit with Dandy the trauma dog.
- On Friday, July 7<sup>th</sup>, staff at Metropolitan held a queer mingle event for LGBTQ residents. 9 people were in attendance.
- On Monday, July 10<sup>th</sup>, 4 residents from 101 Placer Ct., accompanied by the Programming Supervisor, visited Ripley's Aquarium.
- On Thursday, July 13<sup>th</sup>, the SNYP truck visited Bathurst-Lakeshore (short for Spay Neuter Your Pet) and enabled clients to access wellness checks and spay their pets.
- On Monday, July 17<sup>th</sup>, staff from Nellie's Shelter returned to Kennedy Shelter to run a workshop on healthy dating and relationships. 15 residents attended the workshop
- On Tuesday, July 18<sup>th</sup>, 7 residents from Kennedy Shelter visited the Toronto Zoo.
- On Wednesday, July 19<sup>th</sup>, 15 residents – representing clients from Kennedy, Delta, St. Clair and 4117 Lawrence – attended a hike of High Park, facilitated by Indigenous educator Carolynne Crawley.
- In July we had Tsering Choedon start as the new Programming Supervisor for 545 Lake Shore Blvd. W.

- On Wednesday, July 19<sup>th</sup>, 22 Metropolitan was visited by Dawit Demoz, a Program Manager at Jumpstart Refugee Talent, a refugee-led community partner supporting newcomers. Twenty clients were able to attend.
- On Tuesday, July 25<sup>th</sup>, 30 residents of Willowdale – buildings A and B enjoyed their first session of music therapy with Caleb Gilman of Earthtones Music Therapy and Holistic Wellness.
- July 18, we hosted another Willowdale (5800 Yonge) CLC meeting.
- July 24, we hosted our monthly CLC meeting for Delta 2035 Kennedy Rd.
- July 25 we hosted our quarterly CLC meeting for 545 Lake Shore Blvd. W.

## **June 2023**

### ***Community Engagement***

- On Thursday, June 1<sup>st</sup>, 16 residents from Willowdale-B and staff from TNG played bingo. Two gift cards were given away as a reward to the winners.
- On Friday June 2<sup>nd</sup> Yonge Street Mission presented an employment services session to residents of Willowdale Building A, focused on resume building, job search strategies program and promoting services at Evergreen Drop-In and Davis Centre Services
- On Tuesday, June 6<sup>th</sup>, Delta was visited by Zoo To You, a traveling educational program that provides hands-on interactive event with reptiles, mammals and exotics. Clients of both Delta and 4117 Lawrence – who commuted to attend
- On Wednesday, June 7<sup>th</sup>, staff from Street Haven hosted a creative writing workshop at Willowdale-B. 21 residents were encouraged to broaden their critical thinking, listening and literacy skills by sharing their stories in a safe and inclusive environment.
- On Wednesday, June 7<sup>th</sup>, a long-time volunteer, Helena, visited WWC-B, and facilitated a combined mindfulness and art workshop. 20 residents were able to attend to the class.
- On Thursday, June 8<sup>th</sup>, the Hospitality Workers Training Center provided a workshop to WWC-A on different free programs, including Hospitality Housekeeping and Restaurant Readiness, focused on employment support. 60 residents were able to attend to the session and 8 of them registered for career consultation.
- On Thursday, June 8<sup>th</sup>, the SNYP truck visited Bathurst-Lakeshore (short for Spay Neuter Your Pet) and enabled clients to access wellness checks and spay their pets.
- Monday, June 12<sup>th</sup> saw the first music therapy program at Delta, offered by Caleb Gilman of Earthtones Music Therapy & Holistic Wellness. Two more sessions followed on a weekly basis, with further series planned so far at Willowdale to start in July/August.
- On Monday June 12<sup>th</sup>, 14 clients at 101 Placer Ct. watched the Robin Williams film, “Mrs. Doubtfire,” as part of an ongoing movie night series. The movie was repeated two days later, for a further 16 clients.
- On Tuesday, June 13<sup>th</sup>, Rola Hamda, a Licensed Paralegal, provided an Immigration Orientation Session to residents of Willowdale buildings A&B.

- On Tuesday, June 13<sup>th</sup>, three employment specialists and settlement services from Woodgreen Community Services visited Willowdale Building A&B. There, they presented an employment session focused on resume building, cover letter writing, LinkedIn and job search strategies. 64 clients from building A and 26 from Building B attended the session, with 25 of them signing up for different programs to receive direct support from a job coach specialist.
- On Thursday, June 15<sup>th</sup>, 4 clients from 101 Placer Ct. visited Ripley's Aquarium.
- On Monday, June 19<sup>th</sup>, 30 clients from Willowdale A&B – accompanied by the Programming Supervisor and 5 staff from TNG - were able to enjoy a trip to Ripley's Aquarium.
- On Monday, June 19<sup>th</sup>, Delta held a BBQ to celebrate Pride month
- On Tuesday, June 20<sup>th</sup> a small luncheon was held at 22 Metropolitan to celebrate World Refugee Day
- On Wednesday, June 21<sup>st</sup>, 6 Strachan clients and 4 refugee clients attended karaoke night at 22 Metropolitan.
- On Thursday, June 22<sup>nd</sup>, Delta held a Tye-Dye Party in the programming room to help celebrate Pride.
- On Thursday, June 22<sup>nd</sup> residents at 22 Metropolitan celebrated Pride with a BBQ.
- On Thursday, June 23<sup>rd</sup>, residents at 101 Placer Ct. celebrated Pride with a BBQ, ice cream and tye-dye making activities.
- On Sunday, June 25<sup>th</sup>, a record 100 residents and staff, representing 4117 Lawrence, St. Clair, Delta, Metro and Willowdale, marched in the annual Pride Parade. A further contingent from Pacewood marched separately with the 519.
- On Wednesday, June 28<sup>th</sup>, professional drag queens Renona and Oktavia visited Willowdale Building B and performed for residents. The queens, in full makeup and costume, performed 2 songs each and danced. Renona also prefaced her performance with motivational speaking focused on experiences with being Canadian, being LGBT, being a person of color and being an immigrant/refugee.
- On Thursday, June 29<sup>th</sup>, the SNYP truck visited Bathurst-Lakeshore (short for Spay Neuter Your Pet) and enabled clients to access wellness checks and spay their pets.
- Resident Council: June 14<sup>th</sup>, -
  - 7 attendees total.
  - The council voted to use majority of budget to purchase assistive devices for residents.
  - Although not all devices could be purchased the council came to an agreement about which items not to purchase.
  - With authorisation from CEO and Property Director, Roughly \$9,722.00 will be used to purchase bulk orders of assistive devices (Smart speakers, bath chairs, reaching devices, wheel chairs, magnifiers, ramps, raised toilet seats,)
  - Council to do research on training workshops and entertainment options for remaining budget. (examples discussed we're Self defence, CPR, Crisis Intervention, blue jays game, TD Jazz Fest, The Ex, Local Plays, Bowling)

**May 2023*****Community Engagement***

- On Wednesday, May 3<sup>rd</sup>, residents at Placer Court met with Dawit Demoz, Program Manager at Jumpstart Refugee Talent, a refugee-led community partner supporting newcomers.
- On May 4<sup>th</sup> residents at Willowdale Welcome Centre Building B participated in an art class that raised consciousness of Red Dress Day (May 5<sup>th</sup>), a holiday that brings attention to missing and murdered Indigenous women.
- On Friday, May 5<sup>th</sup>, Delta's programming supervisor held a Coronation Zoom Concert Zoom concert with Her Honour Elizabeth Dowdeswell, Lieutenant-Governor of Ontario. Organist Christopher Dawes and the Venuti String Quartet performed a program of music drawn from past Coronation programs and composers.
- On Thursday, May 8<sup>th</sup>, the SNYP truck visited Bathurst-Lakeshore (short for Spay Neuter Your Pet) and enabled clients to access wellness checks and spay their pets.
- On Thursday, May 11<sup>th</sup>, Metro hosted staff from Nellie's Shelter for "Healthy Dating and Relationships," a six-part workshop that aims to impart life skills, help participants identify abuse and establish literacy around consent (among other topics). Five clients were in attendance.
- On Thursday, May 11<sup>th</sup>, a volunteer began offering regular haircutting to residents of Delta Hotel. This first session was reserved for women looking forward to celebrating Mother's Day later in the week.
- On Friday, May 12<sup>th</sup>, residents at 101 Placer Ct celebrated Mother's Day with a tea part. Pastries and tea were served and participating mothers were given leis and a single rose each.
- On Monday, May 15<sup>th</sup>, residents at 702 Kennedy shelter enjoyed "High Tea,". Tea, pastries and punch were served. A lei and a rose each were given to the Mothers.
- On Tuesday May 23, 7 clients from Kennedy Shelter, accompanied by the Programming Supervisor, went for a Nature Walk to Jack Goodlad Park. The walk allowed for exploration of the park trails, some light stretching exercises, and for residents to get acquainted with each other.
- May 23<sup>rd</sup> residents of Willowdale – Building A were able to participate in an origami, draft and painting class. The theme of the activity related to Asia heritage Month, and residents discussed the diversity of Toronto and how to embrace the different cultural backgrounds that inform city life.
- May 24<sup>th</sup>, a Career Readiness Workshop was presented at Willowdale Building B by Dawit Demoz, a Program Manager at Jumpstart Refugee Talent, a refugee-led community partner supporting newcomers.
- On Thursday May 25, residents from 702 Kennedy Shelter participated in an outdoor Bean Bag Toss event.
- On Thursday, May 25<sup>th</sup>, the SNYP truck visited Bathurst-Lakeshore once again and enabled clients to access wellness checks and spay their pets.
- On Thursday, May 25<sup>th</sup>, many residents from Willowdale Welcome Centre Building A & B attended Toronto Newcomer Day at Nathan Philips Square.
- In May, a Walk-In Dental Clinic was offered to residents of Willowdale Building B by a clinic located at 6093 Yonge Street. The clinic was offered onsite and residents received a dental care kit and

information regarding the services that the clinic provided to refugees with IFHP Coverage (free of cost).

- On Monday, May 29<sup>th</sup>, the Programming Supervisor at Metro held a fitness group for two residents, involving a walk around the Warden community.
- On Monday, May 29<sup>th</sup>, residents at Bathurst-Lakeshore attended a workshop by Unison Health and Community Services on housing and housing rights.

### **April 2023:**

#### ***Community Engagement:***

- At the start of April, the Community Engagement team grew by 2 as we hired new Program Supervisors for 101 Placer/702 Kennedy and St. Clair/4117 Lawrence.
- In April the new Diversity Equity & Inclusion Program Supervisor, Ana started her new role and will oversee programming for all HF locations.
- On Thursday, April 6<sup>th</sup> and April 27<sup>th</sup>, the SNYP truck visited Bathurst-Lakeshore (short for Spay Neuter Your Pet) and enabled clients to access wellness checks and spay their pets.
- On Wednesday, April 12<sup>th</sup> members of the Community Engagement team, together with a colleague from Dixon Hal, visited Sistering (962 Bloor St W.), to present a new workshop outlining intersections of 2SLGBTQ+ identity and homelessness to the agency's staff.
- On Friday, April 14<sup>th</sup>, residents from Metro-Strachan, accompanied by the site's Programming Supervisor, attended "Never the Last" a play presented at Theatre Passe Muraille.
- On Wednesday, April 19<sup>th</sup>, residents from Bathurst-Lakeshore visited Berkley Street Theatre to attend a performance of "Manomaa, My Brother,"
- On Wednesday, April 19<sup>th</sup>, community members with Council Fire visited Delta Hotel to host a workshop on creating cedar bundles, an Indigenous medicine for protection.
- On Friday, April 21<sup>st</sup>, residents at Kennedy shelter, together with the Programming Supervisor, hosted Clean Toronto Together. The event was held in celebration and observation of Earth Day.
- On April 22<sup>nd</sup> (Earth Day) 4117 Residents and Development Staff attended a community clean-up in Partnership with Storefront. It was a Clean Toronto initiative
- In April HF co-hosted the first Community Liaison Committee (CLC) Meeting for 5800 Yonge and local stakeholders.
- April 27<sup>th</sup> Homes First and Jane Farrow and SSHA will host a Community Walk-about in the area closest to 5800 Yonge. Stakeholders will address issues, "hot spots", and ask questions and learn from other stakeholders.
- In April HF hosted a site tour for Councillor Carroll at 101 Placer Court, she and her staff were very impressed.
- In April HF hosted a Community Liaison Committee (CLC) meeting for 545 Lake Shore W. and stakeholders. It was a low turnout.
- In April HF hosted another CLC meeting for Delta Hotel and stakeholders.
- On April 4<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup>, 18<sup>th</sup>, 21<sup>st</sup>, 25<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup>, members of the Community Engagement team – in concert with colleagues at Dixon Hall and Parkdale Queen West Community Health Centre – facilitated an introductory workshop on Harm Reduction.

- Starting on Thursday, April 27<sup>th</sup>, a volunteer – previously stationed at the Strathcona Hotel – will bring weekly yoga programming back to Meegwetch.

*Communications:*

*In the media:*

[https://www.toronto.com/news/concert-in-scarboroughs-former-delta-hotel-spotlights-increasing-numbers-of-homeless-seniors-in-toronto/article\\_63de9728-fee9-5caf-abc2-52e5f76ea9e8.html](https://www.toronto.com/news/concert-in-scarboroughs-former-delta-hotel-spotlights-increasing-numbers-of-homeless-seniors-in-toronto/article_63de9728-fee9-5caf-abc2-52e5f76ea9e8.html)

[https://www.toronto.com/news/community-partnership-brings-music-to-vulnerable-older-adults-in-toronto/article\\_d564b193-4513-5a09-8a8a-0d82edd1da05.html](https://www.toronto.com/news/community-partnership-brings-music-to-vulnerable-older-adults-in-toronto/article_d564b193-4513-5a09-8a8a-0d82edd1da05.html)

*Through to April 25:*

Twitter	Facebook	Instagram	LinkedIn
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1 tweets</li> <li>• 2 total likes</li> <li>• 3,145 total followers</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1 posts</li> <li>• 4 new page followers</li> <li>• 1,722 impressions</li> <li>• 427 total reach</li> <li>• 62 engaged people</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2 posts</li> <li>• 2,829 impressions</li> <li>• 946 reach</li> <li>• 334 profile views</li> <li>• Number of new followers: 21</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1 posts</li> <li>• 140 views</li> <li>• 92 clicks</li> <li>• 1,899 impressions</li> <li>• Followers: 1,732</li> </ul>

**March 2023:**

*Community Engagement:*

- On Friday, March 31st, muralist Derek Simmers and volunteer Rachel Robbins returned to 4117 to facilitate an arts open studio and conclude their work with residents on a mural.
- On Thursday, March 2<sup>nd</sup>, community partner Agincourt Baptist Church collaborated with Concerts in Care to present a concert to Delta residents by The Sharon Butcher Jazz Trio. Local MPP Mitzie Hunter was in attendance.

- On Thursday, March 16<sup>th</sup>, a Nigerian delegation from Family Service Toronto visited Willowdale Welcome Centre to present “Embrace Equity in Canada” a celebration of International Women’s Day.
- On Thursday, March 16<sup>th</sup>, Delta’s Programming Supervisor accompanied five residents to a National Ballet of Canada performance of Cinderella, courtesy of the citySPECIAL program.
- 
- On Friday, March 17<sup>th</sup>, 14 residents from Bathurst-Lakeshore were able to explore Toronto Comicon at Toronto’s Metro Toronto Convention Centre.
- 
- On Friday, March 22<sup>nd</sup>, a volunteer barber began offering haircuts at Lawrence shelter on a bi-weekly basis. Five residents accessed the service.
- 
- In March Homes First Co hosted it’s final CLC meeting for Strathcona/Victoria Hotel. Dixon Hall and the Youth Servie Providers will take over going forward.
- On Thursday, March 23<sup>rd</sup>, the 519 and TPH organized an MPOX vaccine clinic at 1322 Bloor St.
- On Thursday, March 23<sup>rd</sup>, the SNYP truck visited Bathurst-Lakeshore (short for Spay Neuter Your Pet) and enabled clients to access wellness checks and spay their pets.

### **Resident Council #5 Update (March 28):**

- The Firth Resident Council meeting was held on March 28th at 5800 Yonge St. (with the option of zoom) and was hosted by Ryan Evershed, Manager of Community Engagement & Client Programming.
  - 7 resident council members attended (Peter S, Peter M., Anastasia, Lee Anne, Karl Korsmier, Maria)
  - Established Council Gmail Drive folder with lists of tasks for each member: [hfresidentcouncil@gmail.com](mailto:hfresidentcouncil@gmail.com) Password: Council2022
  - Toured 5800 building with in-person attendees
  - **Our Two decided projects we will focus on are:**
1. **Workshop Series (TBD) offered to all HF residents in shelters and housing**
    - Ex's: food handlers, first aid, self-defense, computer training, DIY and trades training, budgeting, fitness, cooking, hair styling, ethicians, online access training
    - Toronto Hostel, Star Learning Centre, Access Aliance
  2. **Purchasing Smart and Assisive Devices for residents in need in both housing and shelters**
    - Cell phones, Smart Speakers, Laptops
    - Canes, walkers, toilet seats, bath chairs, ramps, reaching devices, wheelchairs, household everyday tools, magnifiers
- Group wants to spend as close to 50% of budget on each project as possible
  - Discussed: freegeeks.com, connectforsuccess.com

- Discussed idea of remaining money (if any) be spent on transportation and snacks to local concert or festival
- Next steps are researching available workshops and training initiatives and researching pricing for outlined items
- Ryan will circulate finalized list of items to purchase and training opportunities we pick with the staff in housing and shelters.
- The next meeting is scheduled for late April 2023 at Willowdale - 5800 Yonge.

*Communications:*

Twitter	Facebook	Instagram	LinkedIn
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 7 tweets</li> <li>• 9 total likes</li> <li>• 2 total retweets</li> <li>• 3,147 total followers</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 11 posts</li> <li>• 12 new page followers</li> <li>• 2,758 impressions</li> <li>• 1,210 total reach</li> <li>• 158 engaged people</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 7 posts</li> <li>• 5,180 impressions</li> <li>• 2,216 reach</li> <li>• 720 profile views</li> <li>• Number of new followers: 32</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 7 posts</li> <li>• 327 views</li> <li>• 244 clicks</li> <li>• 3,804 impressions</li> <li>• Followers: 1,699</li> </ul>

**February 2023:**

*Community Engagement:*

- In February, the Community Engagement Dept. On-boarded 3 new Program Supervisors to 3 locations, 545 Lake Shore, 22 Metropolitan and 2035 Kennedy (Delta).
- The former Community Engagement Coordinator at 545 Lake Shore has switched back to the Relief role
- February 1 & 9, a long time volunteer returned to Bathurst-Lakeshore to offer residents of the basement program a workshop on financial literacy. Six clients were in attendance.
- February 2<sup>nd</sup>, fourteen residents from Bathurst-Lakeshore shelter, accompanied by the Community Engagement Coordinator, visited Allan Gardens.
- February 8<sup>th</sup>, volunteers from Transforming Style visited 22 Metropolitan with free clothing donations and makeup products, to help LGBTQ-identifying residents cultivate a new look. Thirteen clients attended the event, 9 from the refugee program and 4 from Metro-Strachan.



- February 8<sup>th</sup>, University of Toronto’s Imagine team returned to Bathurst-Lakeshore to offer their Diabetes Prevention and Management Workshop to the Coed Floor. Seven clients attended the workshop.
- February 9<sup>th</sup>, 10 youth participants from **Toronto Youth Job Corps**) participated in a community event at St. Clair shelter, painting interior walls under the instruction of shelter staff.
- February 9<sup>th</sup>, nineteen clients from Bathurst-Lakeshore, accompanied by the Community Engagement Coordinator, visited Ripley’s Aquarium.
- February 13<sup>th</sup>, a new volunteer began offering weekly yoga classes to residents at Strathcona Hotel. Three residents participated.
- February 13<sup>th</sup>, clients were able to enjoy Valentine’s Day celebration the Waterfront Neighborhood Centre. 31 clients were able to attend the event.
- February 15<sup>th</sup>, Imagine volunteers returned to Bathurst-Lakeshore to hold another workshop on diabetes prevention and management, this time for the couples floor.
- February 15<sup>th</sup>, members of the Community Engagement team again collaborated with PQWCHC and Dixon Hall on an introductory workshop to Homelessness and Harm Reduction. The workshops aims to support Unity Health/St Michael’s Hospital.
- February 22<sup>nd</sup>, Imagine volunteers returned to Bathurst-Lakeshore to hold another workshop on foot care and dental care.
- At the end of the month, Concerts in Care performed at Delta Hotel as part of a mixer involving Agincourt’s Out of the Cold program and the local Ismaili Civic Centre. Almost 100 residents participated in some element of the programme.

*Communications:*

Twitter	Facebook	Instagram	LinkedIn
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 4 tweets</li> <li>• 1,179 total likes impressions</li> <li>• 1 new followers</li> <li>• 394 profile visits</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 5 posts</li> <li>• 5 new page followers</li> <li>• 2,303 impressions</li> <li>• 1,025 total reach</li> <li>• 136 engaged people</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 6 posts</li> <li>• 3,978 impressions</li> <li>• 1,578 reach</li> <li>• 572 profile views</li> <li>• Number of new followers: 34</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 5 posts</li> <li>• 210 views</li> <li>• 926 clicks</li> <li>• 4,242 impressions</li> <li>• Followers: 1,636</li> </ul>

**JANUARY 2023:**

*Community Engagement:*

- On Thursday, January 5<sup>th</sup>, staff from the 519 accompanied residents of 1322 Bloor of a tour of the nearby Gladstone library, to learn about services and sign up for borrowing privileges
- On Monday, January 9<sup>th</sup>, the Bathurst-Lakeshore Community Engagement Coordinator accompanied 16 residents to ice skating at the Bentway, where they enjoyed free skate rentals and hot chocolate.
- On Wednesday, January 11<sup>th</sup>, residents from 1322 and staff from the 519 visited the Royal Ontario Museum, where an exhibit by celebrated two-spirit painted Kent Monkman was on display
- Starting on January 12<sup>th</sup>, residents of Bathurst-Lakeshore were eligible to book therapeutic supports with Wise Self Psychotherapy Clinic, a community partner that specializes in serving IFHP-covered newcomers and refugees.
- January 12<sup>th</sup> nine residents of Bathurst-Lakeshore were able to receive free haircuts from a volunteer barber.
- January 12<sup>th</sup>, the City of Toronto's SNYP truck (short for Spay Neuter Your Pet) parked outside of Bathurst-Lakeshore and enabled three clients to access wellness checks and spay their pets.
- On Thursday, January 12<sup>th</sup>, 18 residents from the coed, basement and couples' floor of Bathurst-Lakeshore were able to enjoy a visit to the Art Gallery of Ontario.
- January 12<sup>th</sup>, artist Derek Simmers commenced work on a City-funded mural at 4117 Lawrence, re-painting the surrounding walls of the common room area. So far, five residents and volunteers have participated in support work related to illustration and base painting.
- On Monday, January 16<sup>th</sup>, staff at the 519 organized a dinner for Homes First staff and 11 residents of 1322 Bloor. Over a collective meal of Indian food, 519 staff facilitated a conversation of possible names for the site using prompts and imaginative activities.
- January 16<sup>th</sup>, Yonge Street Mission hosted an Employment Services Workshop. Fifteen clients from all floors attended to this workshop.
- Over the course of two days – January 17<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup> – the Community Engagement Coordinator at Bathurst Lakeshore organized bingo activities on the Coed, Couples and Basement floors. Seventeen clients participated in total.
- January 27<sup>th</sup> the Strathcona ICM team hosted volunteers from the Health Promotion team of Imagine Clinic, as they continued to promote common hygiene and health care tips – this time focusing on Diabetes prevention and management.

#### RESIDENT COUNCIL:

- The Fourth Resident Council meeting was held on Jan 31st at Meegwetch Place (with the option of zoom) and was hosted by Ryan Evershed, Manager of Community Engagement & Client Programming.
- Seven residents, including one new member, were in attendance and discussed ideas for the survey, as well as the practicality of options.
- Discussed *Rogers Connect for Success* initiative
- Discussed Constuction restrictions, fire safety, permit applications
- Established Council Gmail: [hresidentcouncil@gmail.com](mailto:hresidentcouncil@gmail.com) Password: Council2022

- The Council also discussed the demographic breakdown within Homes First, as well as the possible utilization of resources outside of the Council’s budget, such as volunteers, grants, donations, etc.
- The council is focused on the greater good and are enjoying acting as a voice for the rest of the people we serve
- The Council has been very focused on trying to use the money as equitably as possible, but are finding it hard to please everyone.
- During the next meeting on March 27, we will finalize the 2 or 3 initiative and allocate a percentage of the budget for each
- The next meeting is scheduled for March 28th at Willowdale - 5800 Yonge.

*Communications:*

- We commemorated Bell Let’s Talk Day on Jan 25
- In the news (39 Dundalk):

<https://canada.constructconnect.com/dcn/news/infrastructure/2023/01/homes-first-society-accepts-delivery-on-modular-homes>

[https://www.toronto.com/news/modular-building-under-construction-in-scarborough-will-provide-housing-for-dozens/article\\_3d0ed3c8-9156-557c-baa1-7e14ce25027a.html](https://www.toronto.com/news/modular-building-under-construction-in-scarborough-will-provide-housing-for-dozens/article_3d0ed3c8-9156-557c-baa1-7e14ce25027a.html)

- Four residents were recipients of this year’s Wanda’s Arts Awards, named after Sheryl Anne Noonan, who also went by the name Wanda. Sheryl Anne was a talented sculptor and painter who resided at Homes First's Strachan House. Thanks to the generosity of the Noonan family, in 2014 we launched the inaugural awards for residents who use art to cope and heal in Wanda's memory. This year, we also offered our first poetry award in honour of another long time resident of Strachan House. Cassandra — a painter and poet — passed away from cancer in November 2021, shortly before being selected as a Wanda's Arts Awards recipient. This year’s Wanda’s Arts Awards winners were selected by 4 jurors who works in the arts, including Patricia Morehead, Wanda’s sister. Winners received a gift card of their choice to pursue their art, or for basic needs (Shoppers Drug Mart).

You can view the full list of applicants here:

<https://homesfirst.on.ca/wp-content/uploads/2023/01/Wandas-Art-Awards-Applicants-2022.pdf>

The recipients this year are:

- Patrick from Delta
- Alexander from Delta
- Robert from Strathcona
- Brook from Meegwetch

<b>Twitter</b>	<b>Facebook</b>	<b>Instagram</b>	<b>LinkedIn</b>
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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 3 tweets</li> <li>• 8 total likes impressions</li> <li>• 19 new followers</li> <li>• 3,133 total followers</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 6 posts</li> <li>• 6 new page followers</li> <li>• 2,783 impressions</li> <li>• 1,327 total reach</li> <li>• 154 engaged people</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 5 posts</li> <li>• 4,047 impressions</li> <li>• 1,729 reach</li> <li>• 278 profile views</li> <li>• Number of new followers: 43</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 3 posts</li> <li>• 305 views</li> <li>• 95 clicks</li> <li>• 2,900 impressions</li> <li>• Followers: 1,592</li> </ul>
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**DECEMBER 2022:***Community Engagement:*

- On Thursday, December 1<sup>st</sup>, the Bathurst-Lakeshore Community Engagement Coordinator and one other staff member accompanied 15 clients to Ripley's Aquarium.
- Dec. 1, Homes First hosted a Community Liaison Committee (CLC) meeting with membership of local stakeholders around 22 Metropolitan Rd.
- On Sunday December 4<sup>th</sup>, Homes First's Harm Reduction and Strathcona teams hosted volunteers from the Health Promotion team of Imagine Clinic. Student volunteers presented common hygiene and health care tips related to dental, foot and wound care.
- December 20<sup>th</sup>, Imagine volunteers offered the same workshops at Bathurst-Lakeshore, facilitated by the Community Engagement Coordinator on site.
- On Monday, December 5<sup>th</sup>, a volunteer began supporting the Property team at 90 Shuter St. with administrative support duties.
- On Wednesday, December 7<sup>th</sup> a representative from Jumpstart Refugee Talent, a refugee-led organization working to integrate newcomers to Canada, gave a presentation on career readiness to 17 residents of Bathurst-Lakeshore.
- On Thursday, December 8<sup>th</sup>, the Community Engagement Coordinator at Bathurst Lakeshore, together with a frontline staff member, accompanied 18 residents to the Royal Ontario Museum.
- On Monday, December 12<sup>th</sup>, a volunteer began offering drop-in arts classes virtually to residents at Bathurst-Lakeshore. Eight residents were in attendance.
- On Tuesday, December 13<sup>th</sup>, 98 residents from Bathurst-Lakeshore – accompanied by the Community Engagement Coordinator – attend the Waterfront Centre's annual Christmas party across the street from the site. Residents enjoyed a free dinner and holiday gifts.
- On Wednesday, December 14<sup>th</sup>, the Community Development and Client Programming Supervisor facilitated an introductory, meet-and-greet event with residents of 1322 Bloor St. W.
- Dec. 17, Project Impacting Lives, a grassroots charitable organization, gave out jackets, and care kits to residents onsite at 22 Metropolitan.

- On Monday, December 19<sup>th</sup> fifteen residents from BLS were able to attend a Holiday Cookie Decorating event, including participants from couples, coed and basement floors.
- On Wednesday, December 21<sup>st</sup>a long time volunteer, offered her regular workshops on career readiness and financial literacy via zoom to residents of Bathurst-Lakeshore.
- On Wednesday, December 21<sup>st</sup>, staff and peers from the 519 organized a bingo night with residents in the basement of 1322 Bloor.
- On Thursday, December 22<sup>nd</sup>, Volunteer Coordinator at the 519, presented on volunteer opportunities with the 519 to residents of 1322 Bloor St. W. The presentation was followed by an informal movie night screening.
- On Friday, December 23<sup>rd</sup>, volunteers with Transforming Style returned to 1322 Bloor St. with free clothing donations and makeup products. The event was followed by a gift-giving and an impromptu dinner hosted by 519 and Homes First staff.

*Communications:*

- Lynn Spiegl , a former resident of Kennedy shelter was profiled in Toronto Life Magazine: <https://torontolife.com/city/i-became-homeless-in-my-60s-and-spent-two-years-at-a-shelter-this-past-summer-i-moved-into-my-own-apartment/>

Twitter	Facebook	Instagram	LinkedIn
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 13 tweets</li> <li>• 3,764 impressions</li> <li>• 1,410 profile visits</li> <li>• 107 mentions</li> <li>• 25 new followers</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 16 posts</li> <li>• 9 new page followers</li> <li>• 3,877 impressions</li> <li>• 1,687 total reach</li> <li>• 219 engaged people</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 13 posts</li> <li>• 6,884 impressions</li> <li>• 2,303 reach</li> <li>• 402 profile views</li> <li>• Number of new followers: 31</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 13 posts</li> <li>• 254 views</li> <li>• 270 clicks</li> <li>• 7,431 impressions</li> <li>• Followers: 1,490</li> </ul>

**NOVEMBER 2022:**

*Community Engagement:*

- Tuesday, November 1<sup>st</sup> – Friday, November 4<sup>th</sup>, members of the community engagement team coordinated volunteer efforts at the CAEH. Over 30 volunteers and peers participated in these efforts across the four days.

- Nov. 8<sup>th</sup> the 2<sup>nd</sup> Resident Council Meeting was held a 90 Shuter. 3 new members were in attendace.
- Thursday, November 3<sup>rd</sup>, a volunteer began offering weekly yoga sessions to clients of Meegwetch. The program attracted four clients each session so far.
- On Friday, November 4<sup>th</sup>, a volunteer began offering weekly haircuts to clients of Willowdale, averaging 12 clients per day.
- On Wednesday, November 9<sup>th</sup>, TAMOGO, a Refugee and Immigration Services agency, held their first clinic at Willowdale Welcome Centre. 27 refugee clients – from both Building A and B sites - accessed the clinics virtually.
- In Nov. 2035 Kennedy hosted it’s monthly Community Liaison Committee meeting (CLC) meetings with local stakeholders
- Nov. 29<sup>th</sup>, 45 Esplanade hosted it’s final CLC meeting.
- On Thursday, November 10<sup>th</sup>, the Community Engagement Coordinator at Bathurst-Lakeshore accompanied 5 residents on a tour of the Art Gallery of Ontario.
- On Thursday, November 24<sup>th</sup>, a new volunteer started to assist the Housing team with RGI Admin tasks. The role will continue on Thursdays on a weekly basis, based at the 90 Shuter location.
- On Tuesday, November 29<sup>th</sup>, Homes First’s Harm Reduction and Bathurst-Lakeshore teams hosted volunteers from the Health Promotion team of Imagine Clinic, an interprofessional community of students from University of Toronto’s Medicine, Nursing, Pharmacy, Social Work and Physiotherapy faculties. Student volunteers will be presenting common hygiene and health care tips related to dental, foot and wound care. The initial workshops, held consecutively on both the Coed and Couples floors, hosted 9 and 11 residents, respectively.
- On Wednesday, November 30<sup>th</sup>, a regular volunteer returned to Bathurst-Lakeshore to offer financial literacy workshops to residents.

*Communications:*

We received the following media coverage for the opening of our shelter at 1322 Bloor:

- <https://globalnews.ca/news/9314580/toronto-2slgbtq-shelter/>
- <https://www.blogto.com/city/2022/11/toronto-new-shelter-2slgbtq-community/>  
<https://www.thestar.com/news/gta/2022/11/30/a-monumental-first-step-first-2slgbtq-adult-shelter-opens-in-toronto.html>
- <https://www.cbc.ca/player/play/2131958339642>

Twitter	Facebook	Instagram	LinkedIn
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 19 tweets</li> <li>• 4,720 impressions</li> <li>• 2,090 profile visits</li> <li>• 143 mentions</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 18 posts</li> <li>• 10 new page followers</li> <li>• 4,473 impressions</li> <li>• 2,147 total reach</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 17 posts</li> <li>• 7,124 impressions</li> <li>• 2,983 reach</li> <li>• 511 profile views</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 12 posts</li> <li>• 160 views</li> <li>• 300 clicks</li> <li>• 4,855 impressions</li> </ul>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 0 new followers</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 193 engaged people</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Number of new followers: 64</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Followers: 1,431</li> </ul>
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## **OCTOBER 2022:**

### *Community Engagement:*

- On October 5<sup>th</sup> Delta's Community Engagement Coordinator started preparation for a remembrance event of residents lost. All Clients, Supervisors and the staff participated in the balloon release, followed by a collective snack of cookies and chocolate.
- In October, an informal partnership was developed with Wise Self Psychotherapy Clinic to offer psychotherapeutic services and psychiatric referrals to clients at the to-be-opened shelter program at 1322 Bloor St. W.
- In October we had a new Community Engagement Coordinator (Lizmariana Briceno Farfan) start her new role at 545 Lake Shore Blvd. W.
- On Monday, October 24<sup>th</sup> the Community Engagement team, in tandem with Homes First's Diversity and Inclusion Officer, officially launched Culture to Culture (C2C), : a series of virtual events celebrating our cultural diversity together in a meaningful way.
- On Thursday, October 13<sup>th</sup>, the Community Engagement team, in tandem with staff from Dixon Hall, continued their partnership with Unity/St. Michael's to offer an introductory workshop to nurses on Homelessness and Harm Reduction. The workshops, geared to four nurses beginning their orientation.
- In October, Manager of Community Engagement attended and presented at the St. Lawrence Neighbourhood Association to give an overview of life at 45 Esplanade during it's transition to close.
- Oct. 18, Homes First hosted a Community Liaison Committee Meeting for 45 Esplanade. 16 members attended.
- Oct. 19, The Bentway was onsite at 545 lake shore blvd. W. to conduct a survey regarding the redevelopment of the bentway and community space under the gardiner. 10 residents attended and were compensated for their time by The Bentway.
- In Oct. Tsering – Community Engagement Coordinator at Delta (2035 Kennedy Rd.), accepted a new ICM role within Homes First and is no longer working in the Community Engagement Dept.

### *Marketing and Communications:*

October 1 was National Seniors Day and October 10, World Homeless Day.

- In October we distributed our Homefull press release and received free coverage in:
  - CBC <https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/toronto/homeless-seniors-toronto-1.6609863>

- NewsTalk 1010 <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NfiryPfu1o&t=6s>
- NEWSTALK Sauga 960 AM <https://podcasts.apple.com/ca/podcast/nfocus/id1544531620>
- 640 Toronto Radio
- Good Morning Hamilton (900 CHML)
- Toronto Life Magazine (profile currently being written on Lynn, the resident featured in CBC)
- Free advertising in Metroland (Etobicoke and North York) -*Tor Star Give Back Program*

**Social Media Statistics (October 2022):**

Twitter	Facebook	Instagram	LinkedIn
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 16 tweets</li> <li>• 1,824 impressions</li> <li>• 1,365 profile visits</li> <li>• 65 mentions</li> <li>• 6 new followers</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 14 posts</li> <li>• 10 new page followers</li> <li>• 9,063 impressions</li> <li>• 6,481 total reach</li> <li>• 507 engaged people</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 13 posts</li> <li>• 6,063 impressions</li> <li>• 3,374 reach</li> <li>• 539 profile views</li> <li>• Number of new followers: 37</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 12 posts</li> <li>• 392 views</li> <li>• 310 clicks</li> <li>• 6,006 impressions</li> <li>• Followers: 1,383</li> </ul>

**SEPTEMBER 2022:**

*Community Engagement:*

- On September 1<sup>st</sup>, ten residents from Delta program visited the Ex, accompanied by the site’s Community Engagement Coordinator.
- On September 20<sup>th</sup>, Andrew Winchur, Homes First’s Community Development and Client Programming Supervisor, began a concurrent, unpaid student placement at both the Delta and Esplanade hotel programs. As a therapist-in-training, he will be supporting clients in both individual and group formats. The group, meeting every Thursday evening at the Delta hotel. These two sites now have access to a total of 5.5 hours of free psychotherapeutic support until April/May 2023.
- On September 15<sup>th</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup>, Homes First’s Community Engagement team participated in a two-part in-person workshop at the 519, focused on educating local community members on harm reduction, overdose prevention and de-escalation techniques.
- On Saturday, September 17<sup>th</sup>, a new volunteer began offering computer tutoring support to residents at the Esplanade program. The volunteer will be serving in this capacity on a weekly, ongoing basis.



- On September 12<sup>th</sup>, members of the Community Engagement team collaborated with PQWCHC and Dixon Hall on an introductory workshop to Homelessness and Harm Reduction. The workshops, geared to four nurses beginning their orientation, aims to support Unity Health/St Michael’s Hospital in fostering a more inclusive environment and service for homeless and street involved medical patients.
- On Friday, September 30<sup>th</sup>, staff and residents of Metropolitan Hotel made the trek to Nathan Philips Square to attend the afternoon programming of Legacy Gathering, a two day celebration of Indigenous culture organized by Council Fire including dancing, workshops, drumming and singing.

*Communications & Marketing:*

- Internal Communications: Continued to provide regular updates to staff, including the distribution of our monthly newsletter
- Sourced earned and paid media opportunities for our *Homefull* campaign

Days/events of recognition:

- *Homes for Dinner (Save the date):* In September we launched our social media campaign for HFD.
- *39 Dundalk:* We announced the construction of our first modular housing building on social media
- *National Day for Truth and Reconciliation (Sept 3):* Staff and residents decorated and wore orange t-shirts to commemorate and remember resident school survivors.

**Social Media Statistics (September 2022):**

Twitter	Facebook	Instagram
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 7 tweets in total</li> <li>• 1,027 impressions</li> <li>• 735 profile visits</li> <li>• 38 mentions</li> <li>• 8 new followers</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 7 posts</li> <li>• 7 new page followers</li> <li>• 2,418 impressions</li> <li>• 1,177 total reach</li> <li>• 102 engagements (engaged people)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 5 posts</li> <li>• 2,212 impressions</li> <li>• 1,350 reach</li> <li>• 270 profile views</li> <li>• Number of new followers: 20</li> </ul>

**August 2022**

- On Thursday, August 4<sup>th</sup>, St. Clair staff held a BBQ to celebrate the site’s yearly anniversary. Nearly all residents came by to enjoy a collective meal – as well as members of the local police division.

- On Monday, August 8<sup>th</sup>, the community engagement team accompanied two residents from the Delta hotel program to the first match of the women's National Bank Open at Sobey's Stadium.
- On Monday August 8<sup>th</sup> the community engagement team accompanied 4117 Lawrence's case management leads on a tour of the East Scarborough Storefront, to learn about on-site services and Scarborough-based service providers.
- On Friday, August 12<sup>th</sup>, the community engagement team continued their series of presentations on homelessness, mental health, harm reduction and de-escalation with local community members. Two members of the Unity/St. Michael's Health team were in attendance, and are now in talks to expand access of the series to their nursing teams.
- In August, several new volunteers were onboarded to assist with language interpretation support for newcomers. Based on resident need, volunteers will be able to provide interpretation support on an as-needed basis in Swahili, Turkish, Farsi and Tamil.
- On Friday, August 26<sup>th</sup>, Jumpstart Refugee Talent, a refugee-led organization working to integrate newcomers to Canada, gave a presentation to Delta residents.