

ANNUAL REPORT

2022 - 2023



john
howard
society

London & District



London & District

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Human Rights Policy

Recognizing the intrinsic worth and dignity of every human being, the John Howard Society is committed to upholding the principles set out in the Human Rights Code of Ontario and Canada. This commitment is expressed in the following undertaking:

The Society shall provide services within its mandate to every person without discrimination regardless of race, ethnicity, language, religion, marital status, gender, sexual orientation, age, abilities, economic status, political affiliation, national ancestry or criminal record.

The Society shall maintain such personnel policies and practices as are consistent with the tenets of the Human Rights Codes of Ontario and Canada.

The Society, through its employees, shall deal with representatives of the community in a responsive manner with courtesy, respect and without prejudice or discrimination.

OUR CORE VALUES

- ▶ We believe that every individual has intrinsic worth and has the right to be treated with dignity and respect.
- ▶ We believe in the potential of all human beings and in their capacity for growth and change.
- ▶ We believe that all individuals have the right to live in a safe and peaceful society and that justice is best served through measures that resolve conflict and promote the reparation of harm.
- ▶ We believe that individuals are responsible for their own actions and must be held accountable for those actions.
- ▶ We believe that the root causes of crime are found within communities and that the solutions to crime are also found in communities.
- ▶ We believe in serving community needs by cooperating and collaborating to achieve a healthy and safe society.

Mission Statement

Effective, just and humane responses to crime and its causes

MANDATE

In furtherance of its Mission, the Society:

- Provides for the effective integration into the community of those in conflict with the law and provides, or encourages others to provide, services to those in contact with, or affected by, the criminal justice system
- Promotes changes in the law and the administration of justice which will lead to the more humane and effective treatment of individuals
- Promotes citizen awareness of the problems of crime and its causes, acceptance of responsibility to respond to these problems and involvement in the delivery and management of justice related programs
- Promotes the fair and humane treatment of all incarcerated persons and seeks to ensure that all forms of detention and imprisonment comply with relevant legal and human rights standards

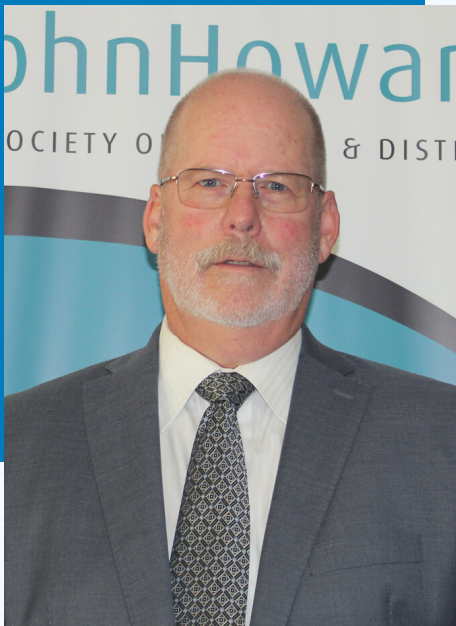
Description

The John Howard Society of London and District is an organization of citizens who accept responsibility for understanding and dealing with the problems of crime and the criminal justice system.

Inclusivity/Diversity

The John Howard Society of London and District recognizes the barriers which prevent some members of the community from participating fully in society and affirms its commitment to policies, practices and the provision of services without prejudice or discrimination, as stated in the Human Rights Policy of the John Howard Society of Ontario.

Message from the President of the Board of Directors and the Executive Director



It is an honour to present the 2022-2023 Annual Report on behalf of the John Howard Society of London and District (the Society). This past year has been a busy year, full of both opportunities and challenges, which have become somewhat commonplace in our time. We served 3,239 clients and completed over 24,000 individual sessions. It has only been through the hard work, dedication, and perseverance of our very talented and resilient group of staff that we not only pushed forward but continued to provide exemplary service to our clients and community.

This past year, the Society reviewed its 5-year Strategic Plan with help from the staff and Board members. The staff joined our Board for an afternoon of focused discussion and shared perspectives on where the Society needs to concentrate moving forward which ultimately led to some important priority areas - continuing with our focus on providing effective services to our clients, enhancing our community engagement, exploring non-traditional funding opportunities,

developing new marketing and fundraising strategies and strengthening our Board of Directors and our staff team. Our team has shown strong commitment to the ongoing development of skills, strategies and collaboration both within our agency and in the community.

Our community has experienced a series of challenges that presented themselves in forms we had not envisioned. From the COVID-19 Pandemic to the Opioid Epidemic, the housing and homelessness crises, and the increasing challenges in obtaining funding both privately and from government services, have all put a strain on our organization. Challenges that continue to present themselves, both internally and externally, are negatively impacting those who receive services from the Society.

Some of these challenges have also negatively impacted our organization. Our community continues to deal with the impact of the ever growing homelessness crisis, mental illness and substance use problems. Over the last past year, we have seen a drastic increase in the number of incidents which have compromised the safety and security of our properties, but more importantly that of our staff, volunteers, clients and community members who access our agency. Over the past several months, we have implemented many different measures to increase the safety and security of our staff, buildings and those who access our services. The Society continues to advocate and collaborate with other community partners, stakeholders, and neighbours to address these issues and eliminate their impact on the community. We are optimistic that our community will continue to work together to find the ultimate solutions to these issues.

The Society has valued the relationships we have had with our community partners and stakeholders through the years, and this year has been no exception. Collaboration has allowed us to enhance the services we offer to our community members who need our support. We are so grateful for our funders and donors who have consistently supported our initiatives and programs. Their supports

have been pivotal in helping us address the needs of one of the most vulnerable populations in our community. The Society continues to advocate and seek additional funding opportunities to support new and existing initiatives to address gaps in services to help our clients.

To our extremely talented, devoted and experienced staff whose commitment to providing the highest quality programming is always front of mind; thank you for working so hard to provide outstanding services to our community. We are counting on your support this year so that we can continue to offer effective programming to our clients. Never before have we been more grateful for and reliant on our staff than we have been over the past couple of years. Their passion and their willingness to put in the time and effort to properly position the Society for strength in these very difficult times is greatly appreciated. We recognize and applaud the dedication of our staff who continue to be the most valuable assets for our organization.



We are very appreciative to our many dedicated volunteers who have enhanced our capacity to serve our clients. We could not do the work without your efforts. Thank you for your contribution and commitment to our organization.

We would like to thank our Board of Directors for their devotion to the John Howard Society. Their exemplary leadership, expertise, and generous contributions of time and talents help make this organization strong and vital. This past year, Board members, along with friends and community members, have been volunteering their time and expertise to renovate and upgrade both office buildings on Queens Avenue. In 1977, an addition was made to the original 601 Queens Avenue building that had been constructed in 1922. Worn and dated after so many years of use by thousands of clients and staff, a new look has been achieved through the of installation of new LED lights, noise reducing office doors and ceiling panels, along with the addition of noise reducing panels on walls, floor runners, painting and countless other adjustments. The security system at both 570 and 601 Queens Avenue has been upgraded by the installation of front gates, keyless entry doors and the relocation and addition of security cameras. We are extremely grateful to our Board of Directors for their generosity and commitment to making the John Howard Society a better place for everyone. THANK YOU!

We are proud of all we accomplished last year, and the coming year promises to be equally challenging and rewarding. With the strong leadership of our Board of Directors and the incredible commitment of our staff and volunteers, we look forward to continuing with our Mission of **“effective, just and humane responses to crime and its causes.”** It has been a privilege to serve as the President and the Executive Director for the 2022-2023 year.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Stuart Ewing".

President

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Taghrid Hussain".

Executive Director

Board of Directors

2022 / 2023

Officers

Mr. Stuart Ewing, President
Mr. Jeff Gray, 1st Vice President
Ms. Sandy Ferreira, 2nd Vice President
Mr. Abdulrahman Saad, Treasurer

Directors

Professor Peter Barton
Mr. David Peeling
Mrs. Christina Ninham
Mr. Christopher Dobson
Deputy Chief Patricia McIntyre
Mr. Michael Cywink
Dr. Jared Berman
Ms. Mary Kay Arundel
Ms. Roberta Gibson
Ms. Lynn Humfress-Trute (until June 29, 2022)
Mr. Michael Shannon

Honourary Directors

Mr. George Brunton
Mrs. Margaret MacGee
Mrs. Sheila Davenport
Mrs. Judy Webb

JHS LONDON STAFF 2022-2023

Taghrid Hussain, Executive Director
Kelly Reiter, Manager of Accounting and Administration
Juli McGrenere, Manager/Social Worker
Kathleen Lowe, Clinical Supervisor
Courtney Coqu, Institutional Worker/Counsellor
Tracey Gough, Institutional Worker/Social Worker
Lara Hicks, Support Worker
Britney Avery, Social Worker
Samantha Fernandes, Social Worker
Jensen Newell, Social Worker
Ryan Kaiser, Counsellor/Direct
Accountability Program Coordinator
Rudy Al Hadbai, SHOPP Worker
Jamie Wertz, SHOPP Worker
Laura Earle, Counsellor
Brian Webster, Social Worker
Julia Lansens, Social Worker
Brett Landsborough, Employment Specialist
Greg Bowman, PAR Program Facilitator
Mary Gregg, PAR Program Facilitator
Lynne Harris, PAR Program Facilitator
Autumn Hanna, Summer Jobs
Cindia Key, Summer Jobs

Anita Parker, Indigenous Services Program Supervisor
Carolyn Henry, Indigenous Services Worker
Shannon Pryslak, Indigenous Services Worker
Rachel Read-Baxter, Indigenous Services Worker
Charlene Beatty, Indigenous Services Worker
Crystal George, Indigenous Services Worker
Kristen Longdo, Indigenous Services Worker
Ana Rojas, Director of Programming and Marketing
Stephanie Alegria, Senior Bail Supervisor
Ricardo Suarez-Leon, Senior Bail Supervisor
Mathew Dewit, Bail Supervisor
McKinley Pickett, Bail Supervisor
Meagan Oldroyd, Bail Supervisor
Katelyn Brush, Bail Supervisor
Destini Hearn, Bail Supervisor
Jovana Lojpur, Bail Supervisor
Jacob Dias, Bail Supervisor
Ashley Chief, Bail Supervisor
Tia Elkhayri, Bail Supervisor
Emily Woodward, Bail Supervisor
Aaron Martin, Bail Supervisor

Students

Britany Avery – MSW Practicum - King's University College
Olive Li – MSW Practicum - King's University College
Jessica Uitvlugt – BSW Practicum - King's University College

VOLUNTEER PROGRAM



15 Volunteers 930 Hours Contributed

The aim of the program is to build leadership and organizational capacity and to develop the next generation of volunteers. Members of the community are recruited, trained and supervised in the provision of agency services. Volunteers expand the capacity to deliver effective services to the community.

ELLIE LEWIS
ARYANNA PSOFIMIS
EMILY WOODWARD
JADE ORQUIN
CINDIA KE
AUTUMN HANNA
AMANDA CAMERON
SYDNEY PICKLE
JESSICA TIEMERSMA
FILIP TRAJCHESKI
LORI CUNNINGHAM
NABILA MOHAMMED
CINDY FERGURSON
NATALIA PAVLOVETS
KAYLA DRISCOLL

Carol Reid Volunteer of the Year Award 2022

The Carol Reid Award was established in 2001 in honour of Carol Reid who was a long-term staff member of the John Howard Society of London and District. Carol was a woman of courage and determination. Carol, a social worker who lived with a visual impairment, carried a large caseload of clients, conducted interviews at Elgin-Middlesex Detention Centre, developed community education programs for elementary school children, supervised students and performed the role of volunteer coordinator. Her standards were high and she demanded the best from her volunteers and students. Following her untimely death, this annual award was established to recognize the volunteer who has made an exceptional contribution to the agency that year.

Aryanna Psofimis began her volunteer experience at the John Howard Society in October 2021. Aryanna graduated from Western University this year with a Bachelor of Arts in Honours Specialization in Criminology. Aryanna volunteered with the Bail Verification and Supervision Program as well as the Children's and Teen's Groups. Her eagerness to learn and make a difference in the community was always demonstrated by embodying our mission "**effective, just and humane responses to crime and its causes.**"

Aryanna is a passionate and committed volunteer and has made an exceptional contribution to the John Howard Society. She is well received by staff, volunteers and clients and always brings her perspective and knowledge when working with clients. Since commencing her work with the Society, Aryanna has contributed over 200 hours of volunteer service.

Aryanna is most definitely worthy of the Carol Reid Volunteer of the Year award. Thank you for your hard work and dedicated contribution to the Society.

Congratulations Aryanna!



BACKYARD "CLEAN UP" DAY





The members of the Board of Directors are actively involved in supporting the John Howard Society in different ways, in addition to their formal responsibilities. Throughout the year, members of the Board of Directors volunteered their time to complete maintenance and renovations at the 570 and 601 Queens Avenue buildings. In the spring, board members gathered at 570 Queens to clean up the gardens, remove garbage and overgrown bushes and trim tree branches. The day was a success and was capped off with a barbecue to celebrate the transformation of the yard. Thanks to the board members for creating a beautiful outdoor space.



john
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London & District

Programs



United Way
Elgin Middlesex

Counselling Program

Clients 1263 Interviews 2984 Collateral Contacts 9529 Case Conferences 787

Counselling is provided to individuals who are involved, or are at risk of involvement in the criminal justice system. Counselling is also provided to their respective families. The John Howard Society of London and District offers both short and long-term counselling services. Counselling services are offered in-person or remotely.

The length and frequency of the counselling sessions varies based on clients' needs and progress. Social workers engage the client in a therapeutic relationship to assess risk and needs and to develop an intervention plan. Clients are assisted with problem-solving, developing new coping and social skills, improving familial relationships, addressing mental health and substance abuse and examining attitudes and beliefs which create barriers to their success in the community."

Greg's Story

Greg began attending services at the Society at the request of his parole officer, but expressed an interest in receiving counselling and assistance with emotional regulation. In the beginning, Greg struggled with communicating his emotions and self-reported projecting past issues and insecurities onto his new relationship. While receiving counselling, Greg was provided educational materials on communication and healthy relationships. During discussions, Greg began to apply this material to his personal life to better communicate his feelings with his partner to create a healthier relationship. Greg also began to challenge his problematic thinking to help manage his thoughts, emotions, and insecurities that were impacting his current relationship. During discussions, Greg spoke about how he had been applying the skills that he learned to his relationship with his partner and the benefits that he had been seeing as a result. Greg reported that he had been communicating more openly with his partner about his emotions as well as being more open to hearing about his partner's feelings and perspectives. He described that he had a more positive outlook on life and plans to move in with his partner. Greg was appreciative of the non-judgemental environment that allowed him to express his emotions openly.

Community Education Program

Public Events 64 Total Audience 1100

The John Howard Society works closely with many community groups and coalitions to educate and involve more people in understanding the social justice issues affecting John Howard Society clients, providing information and workshops about the criminal justice system and its impact on society. The John Howard Society provides speakers to churches, service clubs, government and community organizations.

Institutional Visiting

The John Howard Society provides weekly visits to the Elgin-Middlesex Detention Centre (EMDC) to provide information, counselling, and advocacy to assist individuals with reintegration planning. Incarcerated individuals discuss their struggles due to their involvement in criminal activities, how to avoid future involvement, resources for addiction treatment, both inside the criminal justice system and community based services, connections with family members, expectation in various institutions, planning for release on parole or mandatory release, and more. Incarcerated individuals may place a request with the guards on duty to see a worker from the John Howard Society. Collect calls are accepted from all provincial and federal institutions.



Todd's Story

Todd has been in and out of custody for most of his life. Todd has struggled with his mental health, past traumas, homelessness and substance misuse for numerous years. Throughout our institutional visits at Elgin-Middlesex Detention Centre, Todd and the institutional worker established a great working alliance. Over time, he learned helpful emotional regulation strategies, problem solving skills and how to better manage his risky thinking to improve his overall mental wellbeing. Todd was able to complete a Breaking the Cycle (BTC) Program application and was accepted into the program. Since Todd was released from custody, he has been prescribed the drug Sublocade (opiate replacement therapy), and found part-time employment. Todd continues to have a relationship with the Society through the BTC Program. He feels more confident being able to manage his thoughts, emotions and behaviour and has been able to live in the community for the longest period of time in his adult life.

Anger Management Program

The Anger Management Program is a cognitive-behavioural based program for individuals aged 16 and over which is delivered in 8 sessions on a one-on-one basis or in a group setting. The goal of this program is to help individuals learn to recognize anger, promote self-regulation, identify triggers, learn to communicate more effectively and make better decisions in the future.

Navigating Relationships Program

The John Howard Society offers a 6-session program focused on establishing and maintaining healthy relationships. Sessions are offered on a one-on-one basis. The Navigating Relationships Program is a psycho-educational program focusing on skill building through the promotion of positive and healthy relationships.

Record Suspension

The John Howard Society assists individuals in completing applications for a suspension of their criminal record. The Society also offers information about travel waivers (a document that allows Canadians with a criminal record to travel to other countries). This service assists individuals in regaining confidence, finding employment and boosting their self-esteem.

Client Testimonial

"Having your assistance in helping me with my pardon has let me put my past mistakes behind me and opened doors when it comes to my future career. Your staff has been very kind, understanding and meticulous in their work. John Howard staff provided me with insight into the system and a better understanding as to what happened to me when I committed my offence. The financial assistance in paying for the pardon and paperwork was crucial and I couldn't have done it on my own. Thank you for everything you have done for me with this good deed. I will be more mindful of my actions going forward, not just because of the hard work that would be lost if I were to be careless and get charged again, but because it gives me that chance to roam the world freely and find my spirituality. This was step one in regaining my life again and breaking the chains in the mental health system is next. I then plan on enjoying life with my love and spending as much time as I can with my family that I have been blessed with and returning these blessings anyway I can. Again, thank you for the helping hand. I am very grateful."

Youth Outreach Program

The John Howard Society received funding from the Sifton Family Foundation to provide counselling services to youth aged 13 to 18 who are at high risk of being unsuccessful in school. The program targets high-risk/high-need youth who are identified as having connection to the criminal justice system, either as a client or as a family member of an offender. The program is offered in London, Elgin County and Middlesex County.

Youth Testimonial

"John Howard Society has made a big impact on the way I handle certain situations. I was taught helpful strategies that I use when I am needing them. My counselor replies to all my emails promptly, and with a detailed response. John Howard Society makes sure to take care of all of their clients and makes sure they're all happy with the service they're receiving. Also, John Howard Society being free without an hourly charge is great for anyone who needs counseling but can't afford it."



PROGRAMS

Children's Group

Children 34 Group Sessions 46

The Children's Group is an after school program for children living in the Boulee, Huron, and Kipps Lane communities. The John Howard Society offers a group for girls and boys between the ages of 4 and 12 years in the Huron subsidized housing project. The group offers a safe place to go after school to engage in fun educational activities, eat snacks, build positive relationships and develop skills.

Michael's Story

When Michael first started attending group, he was shy, had communication barriers and struggled with playing with other kids. Group leaders supported Michael one-on-one and encouraged him to practice his speech. Group leaders worked to reinforce positive behaviours with the group including sharing, helping other children and listening to instructions. Within a few months of attending group, Michael became more confident and outgoing around the other children and his communication significantly improved.



Women's Group

Participants 17 Group Sessions 37

The John Howard Society of London and District offers a weekly support group for women who have a loved one involved in the criminal justice system. The group offers women an opportunity to receive support through emotional crises, evaluate their relationships and receive relevant information about the criminal justice system. The women share common experiences and emotions in a confidential and non-judgemental setting and develop new coping skills. Through involvement with the group, women build friendships with other women and feel less socially isolated.

Teen's Group

Participants 16 Group Sessions 40

The Teen's Group is a program offered in the Boullee, Huron and Kipps Lane communities. The group supports youth, aged 11-16, with career development, course selection, team work, critical thinking and creativity. The group teaches employment skills such as building a resume and success in interviews. Volunteering is encouraged. The group helps youth in understanding leadership through the exploration of team work, critical thinking, cultural diversity, creativity and more.



Youth Testimonial

"I like teens group because it's a nice, fun, professional place. I like to paint and talk with the leaders. My friend and I like to come here together and laugh a lot."

Breaking the Cycle of Post-Incarceration Homelessness (BTC) Program

Breaking the Cycle is a hotel-based intervention program that provides rapid stabilization for those experiencing post-incarceration homelessness and facilitates supports in safe and suitable accommodations. This program aims to help vulnerable individuals aged 18 years and over who are newly released from custody to avoid living unsheltered in London. The program provides intensive case management, reintegration support, mental health and addiction counselling, assistance with accessing basic needs and system navigation.



Client Testimonial

"The John Howard Society has been such a godsend for me. I was in the penitentiary. I had nowhere to go when I got out of jail, but I found a program called "Breaking the Cycle." The dedicated staff helped me go from a terrible situation to a calming one with a place and a chance to prove myself. Without the counselling and guidance, I don't think I would have made it. They helped me with bus tickets, clothes, food, basic needs, toiletry items and even a cell phone that I was able to borrow. I found a place to live, and their kindness didn't stop. They continue to help me. They helped me with a bed, TV and an end table. I can't thank this organization and the staff enough. This is why I felt that I had to give back by helping them at their home office by volunteering to clean their front yard and parking lot. All in all, I am very grateful for everything."

Stratford Jail Institutional Visiting and Reintegration Program

Clients 120 Interviews 283 Collateral Contacts 452 Case Conferences 308

The John Howard Society of London and District provides regular visits at the Stratford Jail to provide information, counselling, advocacy and support to assist individuals with reintegration planning. Individuals are connected to community resources to access additional support. Follow-up is offered to facilitate the individual's successful reintegration into the community.



United Way
Perth-Huron

Brad's Story

Brad was struggling with an addiction to fentanyl, and as a result, lost his housing. When Brad was living unsheltered, he couch surfed with associates when he could, but often he slept on the street. Brad was engaging in criminal activities to support his addiction. When the Society's worker first met with Brad at the Stratford Jail, an application for rent geared to income housing was completed as well as an application for a birth certificate. Brad was released on bail for a short period of time where he continued to remain homeless. He relapsed a short time after his release and returned to custody. The Society's worker began assisting Brad again. Shortly after returning to custody, Brad's mother passed away. This was a turning point in Brad's life. He determined he needed to make significant changes in his life as a result of the reality of being incarcerated during the final days of his mother's life. Brad began to see the Society's worker weekly at the Stratford Jail. He also attained his grade twelve education, began the Sublocade injection (opiate replacement therapy) and connected with mental health support. The Society's worker helped Brad to obtain housing after his release. Brad has been living a clean and sober life for the past three months while working on his goals in the community.

Emergency Transportation

In 2020, both United Way Perth-Huron and the John Howard Society saw firsthand the significant challenges of individuals released from the Stratford Jail with no means to return to their hometown. The lack of funds for transportation for individuals released from custody, who live out of the region, has created a substantial gap in service in the community of Stratford. To eliminate this gap, the United Way Perth-Huron has generously provided the Society with funding to support emergency transportation for inmates released from custody who are in need of transportation to return to their hometown.

Hope Kits

The John Howard Society of London and District received funding from the United Way Perth-Huron over the last couple of years to create “Hope Kits” for individuals released from the Stratford Jail. These kits were created to assist individuals who were released from custody without any money in their pockets to purchase essential items such as food and hygiene products. The Hope Kits include the following items: face masks, hand sanitizer, hygiene products, healthy snacks, a Tim Horton’s card for a coffee and a hot meal upon release, pen, note pad/planner, bus tickets, socks, hats, mitts, tote bag, community resources contact sheet and a gift card/voucher to purchase winter clothes for individuals released during the winter without proper attire. The Hope Kits have been extremely helpful for individuals who might be facing homelessness and trying to reintegrate into the community.



EMPower Employment Program

Participants 23 Group /Individual Sessions 193 Collateral Contacts / Case Conferences 320

The John Howard Society partnered with the John Howard Society of Ontario, John Howard Society of York Region and the John Howard Society of Sarnia to establish a pilot employment program called EMPower. EMPower was a 12-week employment program focused on developing soft skills, hard skills and technical proficiency of clients to improve labour market outcomes. The program focused on digital literacy and improving skills and competency with digital software and information technology. The program included a placement component to provide participants with paid opportunities. The target population included individuals from the Black, Indigenous and people of colour (BIPOC), and immigrant communities involved, or at risk of involvement, with the criminal justice system.



Partner Assault Response (PAR) Program Huron and Perth Counties

The PAR Program is a Domestic Violence Court initiative. It is a 12-session group intervention that provides participants with an opportunity to examine their beliefs and attitudes towards domestic violence and learn non-abusive ways of resolving conflict within a relationship. The program also assists victims/partners by reducing their isolation and providing information that will help them to make informed decisions about their safety and their relationship.



Ministry of the
Attorney General

John's Story

John was referred to the Partner Assault Response (PAR) Program and was struggling to recognize the severity of his actions and hold himself accountable for the damage he had caused to those he loved.

In the first few sessions of PAR, John was quiet and shy, unwilling to contribute to the group conversation. However, during a particular group discussion revolving around domestic violence and children, John quickly became emotional. It became apparent that John came from an abusive home and was the victim of intergenerational trauma. His parents were abusive, and their parents before him were abusive, and so on. When John talked to his family about their past, he quickly learned that no one could remember a time when abusive behaviours were not prevalent whether due to alcohol, drugs, or cultural notions of strict gender roles within a relationship.

John was faced with the onus of breaking this cycle of trauma and became the first person in his family to take accountability for his abusive actions. By the end of the 12 sessions, John was actively trying to employ the new tools and skills he had learned in the program to his life. John learned about things such as emotional intelligence, harmful beliefs and attitudes, dealing with conflict, and communication methods, all with a focus on establishing and maintaining relationships with family members, but also intimate relationships with future partners. John has stated that the topics he learned about in PAR have been fundamental to maintaining a healthy, intimate relationship. John expressed his gratitude to the PAR team for the support and for changing his life.

Bail Verification and Supervision Program

Clients 1324 Interviews 17270 Collateral Contacts 7962 Case Conferences 315



The program provides community supervision to eligible individuals who do not have the financial or social supports to meet bail requirements. Prospective clients are interviewed while in custody to determine eligibility. If release is approved by the court, clients report weekly, or more frequently, to have their conditions monitored. The program also provides enhanced supervision to support clients with mental health and substance use issues. The program offers specialized bail services for Indigenous people using a culturally appropriate approach to supervision.

The Bail Program is currently offered in the following jurisdictions: London, Woodstock, St. Thomas, Stratford, Goderich and Walkerton. Supervision is also available at the Chippewas of the Thames First Nation.

Bill's Story

After a serious car accident over a decade ago, Bill was left with a traumatic brain injury and chronic neck and back pain. The accident left Bill unable to work or properly take care of himself, and his mental health and relationships began to rapidly decline. Bill found himself isolated, struggling with alcohol and opiates prescribed for his pain. Bill was also given a new diagnosis of schizophrenia. This was all brand new to Bill, and having no idea how to access help, his mental health deteriorated to a point of crisis and a police standoff ensued which led to criminal charges.

Bill came to a state of mental clarity after receiving the proper medication while in hospital and was extremely confused about his legal situation. The court recommended the Bail Program be involved as Bill needed guidance with navigating the legal system and needed to be directed to appropriate resources.

Upon being released to the program, Bill was provided with the information on how to receive his medication, resources for his mental health and substance use, including connecting to counselling through John Howard Society's Counselling Program, and a guiding hand with the legal system. Since being in the Bail Program, Bill has made strides with his sobriety, is accessing counselling, is receiving his medications, maintaining his housing, and is repairing his relationship with his parents.

Indigenous Services Program

Adults 113 Interviews 935 Collateral Contacts 2152 Case Conferences 167
Youth 28 Interviews 366 Collateral Contacts 1618 Case Conferences 53

The John Howard Society of London and District is under contract with the Ministry of the Solicitor General and the Ministry of Children, Community and Social Services to provide culturally relevant probation and parole supervision for Indigenous adults and probation services to youth. The Society employs Indigenous workers who supervise sentence orders for Indigenous youth and adults residing in London, Oxford County, Elgin County and the three neighbouring communities: Oneida Nation of the Thames, Chippewas of the Thames First Nation, and Munsee-Delaware First Nation. The Indigenous Services workers incorporate traditional Indigenous approaches in their work with clients.



Ministry of the
Solicitor General



Ministry of
Children, Community &
Social Services

Jamie's Story

Jamie had fallen far behind in his education due to a suspension, followed by significant truancy. He had no secondary school credits and was unsure how to get back into school. Through his probation officer in the youth program, Jamie was referred to a community agency where he was able to attend both night school and summer school. This year, Jamie looks forward to attending a community school and eventually graduating with his Ontario Secondary School Diploma.

Gladue Court

In collaboration with the Court and other community agencies and organizations, the John Howard Society supported the development of a Gladue Court in London which focuses on the unique needs of Indigenous offenders. One of the Society's Indigenous Services Program workers attends the Court on a regular basis.

Community Maintenance Program Sex Offender (CMP-SO)

Clients 20 Group / Individual Sessions 88 Collateral Contacts / Case Conferences 155

The CMP-Sex Offender Program targets men who are completing federal sentences in the community and have been assessed as having a risk of reoffending sexually. The program consists of 12 group sessions as well as individual sessions.

Each group session is two hours long. The program is designed to teach participants the skills required to reduce risky sexual and harmful behaviours. It also helps participants address their attitudes and beliefs using cognitive behavioural skills. Participants are able to reconsider ways to manage behaviours and develop interpersonal, communication and coping skills.



Supported Housing of Perth Program (SHOPP)

Clients 15 Interviews 263 Collateral Contacts 75 Case Conferences 60

The John Howard Society of London and District has collaborated with the City of Stratford Social Services Department, CMHA Huron Perth Addiction and Mental Health Services, Optimism Place Women's Shelter and Support Services and Stratford/Perth Shelterlink to offer the Supported Housing of Perth Program (SHOPP).

The program is a highly collaborative Housing First program serving the City of Stratford, Perth County, and St. Mary's. The program provides housing assistance and wrap-around support services to people who are experiencing homelessness.

The program assists participants with housing stability and social inclusion, and offers mobile intensive case management services, portable housing allowances and other supports as necessary.



Direct Accountability Program (DAP)

Participants 160 Group Sessions 71 Collateral Contacts / Case Conferences 111

The Direct Accountability Program is an alternative to prosecution for eligible individuals over the age of 18 who have been charged with minor criminal offences. The program involves accused persons being held accountable through community-based sanctions. The five programs held at the John Howard Society are the Stop Shop Theft Program, Alcohol and Drug Awareness Program, Anger and Substance Awareness Program, Anger Management Program and Counselling, Support, and Intervention Program. Individuals referred to those programs have been assessed to benefit from an opportunity to address the problematic thinking, feelings and behaviours that led to their involvement with the criminal justice system.



Lisa's Story

Lisa attended the Direct Accountability Program to address issues with anger and substance misuse. She began attending programming in group, but this presented barriers for her. The Direct Accountability Program was able to adapt to her learning needs by switching to a one-on-one approach to reduce these barriers and to allow her to get the most out of programming. Throughout sessions, Lisa showed great motivation and determination. She found the Direct Accountability Program helpful in gaining skills and tools to assist her along her unique journey in both the present and the future. After developing a rapport with the coordinator of the program, Lisa expressed that she would like continued counselling, so she was referred to the John Howard Society's Counselling Program. Lisa continues to share her experiences and how she has applied the tools and skills that she has learned in the program to her everyday life.

Community Case Management and Supervision (CCMS) Program



Canada Border Services Agency

The Canada Border Services Agency (CBSA) implemented a national Community Case Management and Supervision (CCMS) Program, in partnership with the John Howard Society of Canada, to provide an alternative to detention for those who would otherwise be detained in custody awaiting the resolution of their immigration issues. The John Howard Society offices across the country are participating in this national program. The John Howard Society of London and District is one of the affiliates in Ontario that established the CCMS Program. The program offers intensive community supervision and case management services to eligible individuals so they can be supervised in the community and access counselling and services as required.

MILESTONE SERVICE AWARDS

Our success as an organization is due largely to the hard work of our amazing staff members who meet the intense challenges of the day-to-day work. We truly appreciate your hard work and commitment to the work of the John Howard Society of London and District.

As such, the Society has established the Milestone Service Awards in order to recognize our staff members for their dedication and years of service to the agency. The agency recognizes staff for each five years of continuous service. At each milestone, our employees receive a certificate of service and an award gift.



This year, three exceptional staff members are being recognized!

Ricardo Suarez Leon for 15 years of service
Ana Rojas for 15 years of service
Kelly Reiter for 5 years of service

Thank you for the loyalty and dedication you have brought to the organization over the years. Thank you for your hard work, devotion and commitment and for going above and beyond every day to assist the most vulnerable client populations in our community.

Congratulations!

THANK YOU

OUR FUNDERS



United Way
Elgin Middlesex



United Way
Perth-Huron



Canada Border
Services Agency



Ontario
Ministry of the
Attorney General



Ministry of
Children, Community &
Social Services



Ontario
Ministry of the
Solicitor General



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Canadian
Heritage

Patrimoine
canadien

Canada Summer Jobs



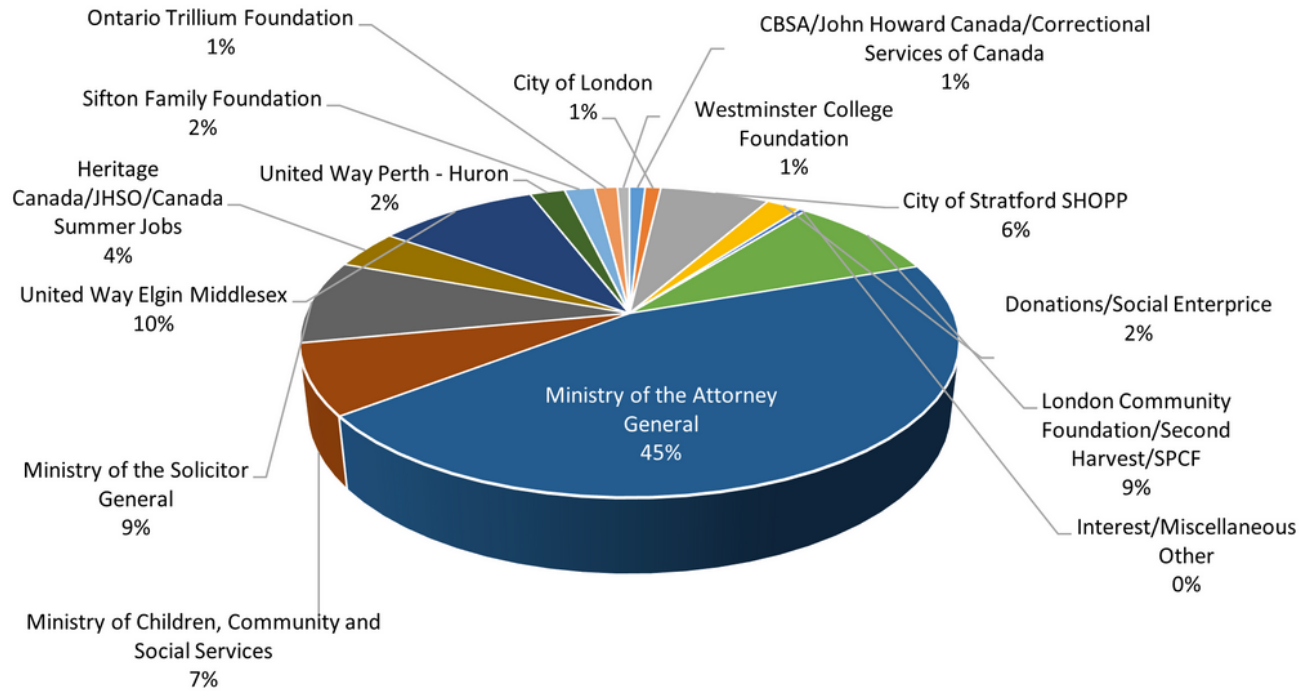
LONDON
CANADA



FINANCIAL REPORT

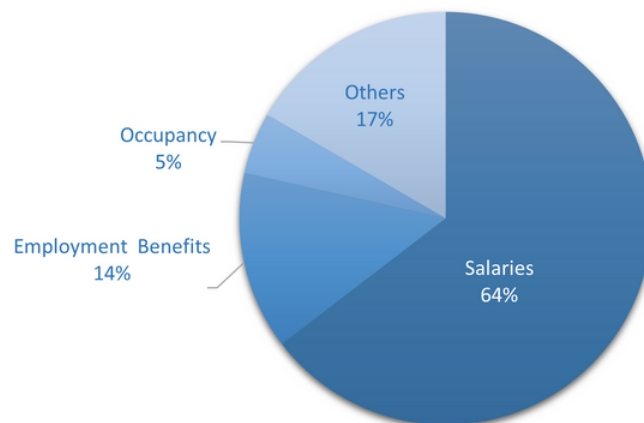
REVENUE

\$2,117,731



EXPENSES

\$2,070,564



UNITED WAY CAMPAIGN 2022



The John Howard Society of London and District has been a community partner of the United Way Elgin Middlesex for 70 years and the United Way Perth-Huron for 14 years. The Society is able to achieve its Mission each year due to the ongoing financial support of the United Way.

This year's campaign included participation from all staff, as well as volunteers, students and board members, all of whom contributed to the campaign's success.

The staff were excited to return to an in-person campaign this year, and we had many staff participate in the new StairClimb at Budweiser Gardens. The campaign team again created calendars where every weekday a draw was held for a prize. This year, the calendar draws were moved to January, and everyone was very excited to buy calendars as Christmas gifts for friends and family. Staff and volunteers provided generous prizes and many community businesses contributed as well! The calendars were very successful and continue to be one of the bigger events of the Society's campaign.

Without the participation of the Board of Directors, staff and volunteers, our campaign's success would not have been possible. We appreciate everyone's continued effort, especially with the financial commitment. We would like to announce that we raised a total of \$6359 for the United Way Elgin Middlesex and \$600 for the United Way-Perth Huron.

Total funds raised for the 2022 Campaign were **\$6959**.

Thank you to our campaign team!



Annual General Meeting 2022 - Guest Speaker

Christin Cullen, Chief Executive Officer of the John Howard Society of Ontario was the speaker for the Annual General Meeting last year when the John Howard Society of London and District celebrated its 75th Anniversary. Christin provided an excellent speech highlighting the future of the John Howard Societies in Ontario and her plan as the new leader of JHSO to move the organization forward.

Annual General Meeting 2023 - Guest Speaker

Chief of Police - Thai Truong

Thai Truong was appointed London Chief of Police on June 1, 2023. He joins the London Police Service from York Regional Police with more than two decades of policing experience, working in all four branches of York Regional Police: Support, Investigations, Administrative, and Operations. He has extensive investigative and specialized expertise in leading various units including organized crime and drug enforcement, human trafficking, intimate partner violence, homicide, internet child exploitation and special victims' units.

Chief Truong has a strong foundation in leading complex operations that include policing partners and community stakeholders across different sectors. He is a strong advocate for victims of crime, vulnerable and marginalized populations.

Chief Truong is the only police leader in Canada who has been qualified and recognized by both the Ontario Court of Justice and the Superior Court of Justice as an expert in the areas of drug trafficking, human trafficking and the commercial sexual exploitation of women and girls.

Chief Truong holds a Bachelor of Arts Degree with a Sociology Major from the University of Windsor. He has certificates from York University Schulich School of Business and the University of Toronto Rotman School of Management.

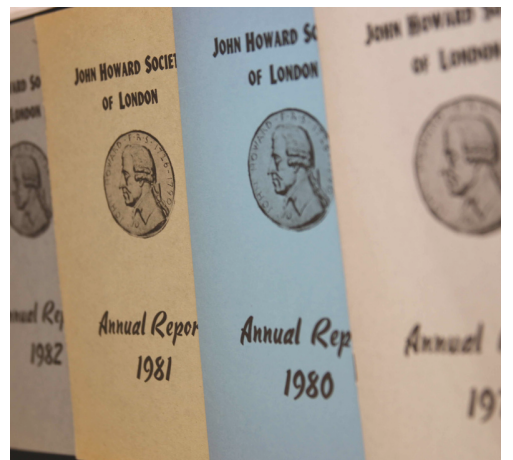


JHS LONDON AGM 2022 IN PICTURES



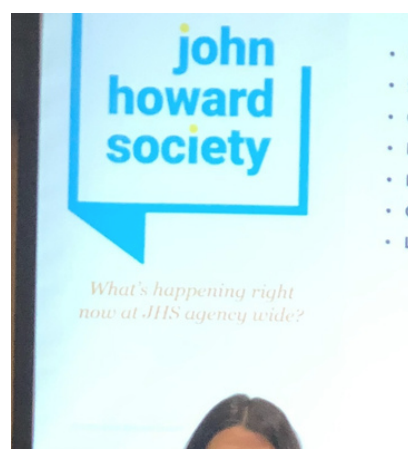
The John Howard Society of London and District celebrated its 75th anniversary last year. The Board of Directors, staff, volunteers and community members gathered at the Annual General Meeting to celebrate this milestone together. Congratulations on a remarkable 75 years!





Annual Report

JHS LONDON AGM 2022 IN PICTURES





Meet Our Team



Meet Our Team



JHSO STAFF CONFERENCE 2023





JHS LONDON 2022-2023 IN PICTURES







john howard society

London & District



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United Way
Perth-Huron



United Way
Elgin Middlesex