

John Howard

Society of Peterborough



Annual Report

2015 – 2016

June 22, 2016

Mission

In partnership with the community to make Peterborough safer through prevention, reform, aftercare and treatment services for persons who are, or who have the potential to be involved in the Criminal Justice System.

Objects

- a) To assist those who have been, are or who are at significant risk to come into conflict with the law by providing services, counselling and other assistance to such individuals on a non-profit basis.
- b) To study and promote the study of the causes of crime, and to study and promote the study of better means of crime prevention and to publish or make publicly available the results of such studies with a particular view to improving the corrective process.
- c) To develop and promote better community understanding of the problems of offenders, of crime and of the criminal justice system generally with a view to encouraging members of the community to participate as volunteers in the prevention of crime and in assisting offenders to become productive members of society.

Our Board of Directors 2015-2016

Chair: Chris Russell

Treasurer: Linda Twohey

Members

Catharine Blastorah

Joan Connolly

Rob Hotston

Paul Legacy

Allen Rodgers

Dan Smith

JHS Annual Report 2015-2016

On behalf of the Board of Directors, I am pleased to report that the John Howard Society of Peterborough continues to thrive and grow offering exceptional programs and services within the city and county of Peterborough.

We are delighted to announce that as we continue to be responsive to community needs, we have had some exciting developments in the past year.

Firstly, we partnered with Peterborough Police Services as they received a grant from The Ministry of Community Safety and Correctional Services to implement a Community Mediation program. We joined with the Peterborough Housing Corporation and together implemented a program that would focus on neighbour disputes. Currently there are over 20 volunteer mediators trained and we have supported the facilitation of 13 disputes. While this funding has officially ended, we are continuing to offer the service, have expanded into other areas of the community and we are seeking additional funds to enhance the service.

Also in the fall of 2015, we conducted our first series of workshops for the Caring Dads Program. An anonymous donor affiliated with the Community Foundation of Greater Peterborough generously provided the funding in order for us to begin this 17 week program. Caring Dads combines elements of parenting, fathering, and emphasizes the need to enhance men's motivation and promote child-centered fathering. Our second group is currently underway.

In January, the Ministry of Children and Youth Services announced that we were the successful applicant to implement a peer mentoring and restorative practices program in partnership with local schools. Currently focussing our efforts with Kenner CVI, we will be working with staff there in the fall to train student peer mediators.

In March we were notified that we were the successful applicant in securing a Youth Mentorship Program in partnership with Employment Planning and Counselling Peterborough and the Trent Valley Literacy Association. Also funded by MCYS, the Aspire Program will match young adults (17-25) with a mentor who shares an interest specific to the youth's employment and training goals. The first mentor training session will take place in the summer of 2016.

As we continue to develop new partnerships and implement new programs I am looking forward to another tenure as board Chair and to be a part of such an exciting organization.

Respectfully Submitted
Chris Russell

BOARD CHAIR'S REMARKS

JHS Annual Report 2015-2016

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REMARKS

When one door closes another one opens, and for the John Howard Society, 2015 – 2016 has been a year of many new doors opening. The summer of 2015 was very quiet as we had said good bye to the Quantum Program, the fabulous staff team and of course the chatting and laughter of the youth enrolled in the program. But as fall rolled around, we welcomed back Graham Petty (formally of Quantum) as a co-facilitator in the Caring Dads Program. Marion Little then joined us as the Coordinator of the Community Mediation Program. Marion and the volunteer mediators have been a welcome addition to our agency bringing with them their own expertise and new perspectives to the work that we do. Community Mediation has enhanced our partnership with the Peterborough Police Services and we have developed a new association with the Peterborough Housing Corporation.

The Youth Mentorship Program has provided us with the opportunity to develop a more formalized partnership with Employment Planning and Counselling as we “share” Bethann Brown in the position of Volunteer Mentor Coordinator. Bethann is working for both agencies as we have similar mandates so rather than competing for volunteers we have chosen to work collaboratively and efficiently in order to enhance the work experience of youth in our community.

We also welcomed Joe Crough in our Restorative Justice program while Evan Bates is on leave to pursue his MSW and Jenna Reaburn expanded her role while Megan Bolton is on maternity leave. Becky Grant joined our team working off site at the Suspension/Expulsion program and finally, we welcomed Diane Gallagher on a more permanent basis as she and Cheryl Bell are now job sharing the front desk reception/agency hub duties.

No annual report would be complete without thanking the wonderful staff, board, volunteers and community that supports the work that we do.

Thank you!!

Respectfully Submitted
Kathy Neill, Executive Director

John Howard Society Annual Report 2015-2016

Executive Director:	Kathy Neill
Financial Manager:	Elaine Webster
Reception:	Cheryl Bell/Diane Gallagher
Healing From Within:	Barb Bird
PAR Co-ordinator:	Dana Hetherton
Partner Contact:	Susanne Kuhlmorgen-Hille
Youth Justice Committee:	Evan Bates/Joe Crough
Youth Diversion/Court:	Crystal Blakley
Youth Diversion/Programs:	Jenna Reaburn/Megan Bolton
Suspension Program:	Jenna Reaburn/Rebecca Grant
Community Mediation	Marion Little
Aspire Mentorship Program	Bethann Brown
Institutional Services:	Megan Bolton/Barb Bird
Quantum Youth Workers:	Amie Kroes, Meredith McEvoy Graham Petty, Liam Rowland

Contract Staff:

PAR/Anger Mgmt. Facilitator:	Don Gibson
Caring Dads Facilitator:	Graham Petty
PAR Facilitators:	John Gearin, Kirk Hillier Bill Kilpatrick, Rebecca Grant

STAFF

Our Volunteers

John Howard Society would like to thank our volunteers who show such dedication and commitment to our agency, but most importantly to the clients.

Our volunteers have contributed approximately **2130** hours this year.

Volunteers:

- Facilitate Restorative Circles
- Are members of the Board of Directors
- Mediate Neighbour Disputes
- Support the facilitation of groups
- Shred files
- Weed the garden
- Mentor Youth
- Share their expertise with others
- Staff JHS displays at community events
- Rake the yard
- Supervise youth
- Promote the agency

Again, to all of our volunteers, a heartfelt thanks for sharing your time with us and supporting the work that we do.

Partner Assault Response (PAR)

The PAR Program is a 12 week specialized counselling/educational program offered to men and women who have been physically and/or emotionally abusive towards their partner.

Clients served:

154 clients referred

102 PAR program completions

700 victim contacts made

- I now have more knowledge about why I get angry, and how to better deal with it
- I learned physical cues to try and remain calm during high risk situations
- The program addressed issues that I could relate to
- The role plays were excellent and made the lessons come to life

Anger Management

Anger is a completely normal healthy human emotion. The problem begins when anger gets out of control, turns destructive and affects our personal relationships and other areas of our lives. This 8 week voluntary group training program aims to teach participants self-monitoring and self-management skills that allow them to reduce the intensity, frequency and duration of their anger. This program is open to both men and women.

Clients served:

71 intakes completed

53 clients successfully completed the Anger Management program

18 attended group but did not complete successfully

Adult Services

PROGRAM INFORMATION

Healing from Within

Healing From Within is a program designed to assist men heal from the trauma of childhood sexual abuse. The program is offered to men within Peterborough County to individuals as well as groups. Despite the increasing awareness of sexual victimization involving males, there remain a number of factors that continue to contribute to the underreporting of such cases.

The short- and long-term effects commonly found among sexually abused males include but are not limited to: Anger, Betrayal, Fear, Questions of Sexual Orientation, Helplessness, Isolation and Alienation, Legitimacy, Loss, Masculinity Issues, Negative Childhood Peer Relations, Negative Schemas about People, Negative Schemas about the Self, Problems with Sexuality, Self- Blame, Guilt, Shame and Humiliation.

The sexual abuse of males affects not only the immediate family and friends but the community in general. These men are partners, parents, children, siblings, friends, co-workers, and community participants.

Clients served: 47

Institutional Services

Our Institutional Service Worker visits Warkworth Institution on a bi-weekly basis to assist in the pre-release process in order to make their transition to the community more streamlined.

Pre-release Fairs are held in federal institutions on an annual basis. This gives us an opportunity for us to meet with inmates who may be coming to Peterborough as well as network with other JHS affiliates and services that support reintegration.

Clients served: 41

Youth Services

Youth Diversion

The youth division team strives to provide meaningful consequences to offences, while recognizing the needs of the client and the community.

"It (the program) was helpful because it gave a second chance and I learned a lot."

EJM Program: Clients served 97 (97% completed)

EJS Program: Clients served 32 (93% completed)

Youth Court Support

On a weekly basis, we continued to have a Youth Court Support worker present in court to provide support to young people and their families around the judicial process.

Support was provided to 315 youth and/or their family members in 2015/16.

Highlights include:

- Police Appreciation BBQ
- Community Lunch and Learn event presenting Chris Cull of Inspire Canada who told his story of prescription drug abuse.
- A proud supporter of National Youth Week in partnership with Champions for Youth and Dalhousie Youth Support Services.

One male youth, who has been connected with JHS for over a year through various programs, reported that his principal commented on how his behaviour has improved. Youth noted that he walks away from conflict instead of becoming the aggressor

Youth Services

Youth Justice Committee (Restorative Justice Conference)

A restorative conference occurs when a young person who has committed an offence meets with the individuals who have been affected by his or her actions.

Principles

- Victim’s needs are met
- Youth take action to repair the harm they have caused
- Community members have a role in the justice process
- Everyone is respected
- Victims and offenders move forward peacefully.

Clients Served: 40
Conferences held: 17
Victims supported: 32
Volunteers: 10

As many of our diversions are for thefts, it became the crusade for me in this role to try to find a way to educate our youth through Restorative Conferences involving the stores that they have been stealing from. There are several “hotspots” for thefts in our community and I have been reaching out to them in order to obtain Victim Impact Statements. With these statements we are able to share with youth how stores are impacted by theft and the additional costs that are incurred as a result. - Joe Crough-

Youth Programs and Workshops

Over the last year, programs and workshops were delivered to 83 youth involved through the Extra-Judicial Measures and Sanctions program, and 16 self-referrals. The following is a breakdown of the specific program and workshop statistics;

Rethink:	EJM/EJS Diversion 13	Self-referral: 10	Total: 23
Young Women’s Lives:	EJM/EJS Diversion 6	Self-referrals: 5	Total: 11
Substance Use:	EJM/EJS Diversion 6	Self-referrals: 0	Total: 6
Theft:	EJM/EJS Diversion 43	Self-referrals: 0	Total: 43
Impact of Crime	EJM/EJS Diversion 15	Self-referrals: 1	Total: 16

Suspension Expulsion Program

The Suspension Expulsion Program is in partnership with the Kawartha Pine Ridge District School Board. Under the Safe Schools Act, it is a voluntary program for youth who have been suspended from school for more than 7 days, or expelled from school. The JHS provides programming to support the youth in developing the tools for prosocial school engagement. Programming includes: Goal Setting, recreation, job readiness skills, sexual health, anger management and conflict resolution, understanding the Youth Criminal Justice Act and volunteering at Kawartha Food Share.

Suspended Youth: 11

Expelled Youth: 7

Credits earned: 12

Quantum Program

June 30, 2015 the Quantum program wrapped up its 4th and final year. Youth were busy this year making plans for life beyond Quantum and for some life beyond high school. As the youth enrolled in Quantum move forward with their lives and all of the adventures that await them they will take with them, the experience of learning new skills, tools for life and lasting friendships.

New Programs in 2015 2016

Community Mediation Peterborough: Turning Conflict into Connection

This volunteer-based initiative supports neighbours in solving their conflicts together. Our approach turns conflict into connection. We have connected with the community members and community organizations on a deep and meaningful level. One staff member at the Peterborough Housing Corporation shared how the program has impacted their work:

"The program has been adapted into my daily work as a first response to neighbour disputes within Social Housing communities' vs threats of termination, legal action and/or police involvement that tends to escalate the situation. This approach complements the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing's Long Term Housing strategy with a focus on building capacity and community - transforming Social Housing into the "Housing of Choice" and not "Housing of Last Resort."

Although the program is in its beginning stages from January 1st 2016 to March 31 2016 we have completed:

- *Intakes with 20 individuals*
- *Case Development with 8 individuals*
- *One mediation*

Caring Dads

In October of 2015 the John Howard Society offered the first ever Caring Dads program in Peterborough as a result of a generous donation from a private donor. Developed in London ON, this 17 week evidence based intensive program is devoted to ensuring the safety and well-being of children by working with fathers who have abused and neglected their children or exposed them to abuse of their mothers.

6 clients successfully completed the program

School Based Mediation and Restorative Practices

Under the Ontario Youth Action Plan, the School Based Mediation and Restorative Practices Program aims to promote well-being, where all children and students will develop enhanced mental and physical health, a positive sense of self and belonging and the skills to make positive choices.

Currently we are working with Kenner CVI and have been in the classrooms supporting youth in developing new skills that will support them as peer mediators. Further training will take place for these youth in the fall of 2016.

Youth Mentoring - The Aspire Program

Under the Ontario Youth Action Plan we have secured funding with an aim to address the following goals:

- Youth have at least one consistent, caring adult in their lives.
- Youth form and maintain healthy, close relationships.
- Youth achieve academic success.
- Youth have the skills and resources needed to develop a successful career or business.
- Youth are engaged in their communities.

While the program was announced in March 2016, we did not get started until April 2016... stay tuned for next year's report!

The board of directors supports ongoing professional development for staff. The following is a list of some of the conferences, certifications attained and workshops attended in 2015-2016.

JHS Ontario Conference: Redeveloping Secure Adult Attachments
Improving Services for LGBT Youth
SPDAT – Service Prioritization Decision Assistance Tool
Girls on the Edge
Youth and Drugs, Peterborough Drug Strategy
ASIST, Suicide First Aid
Social Media Uses by Youth in Conflict with the Law
First Annual Caring Dads Conference
FASD
Strategies for Navigating the Criminal Justice System
Working with individuals with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities
Unemployment and Mental Health
Domestic Violence and Older Adults
Chris Cull – Inspire Canada presentation
From Leadership to Action
What Makes a Man – 2016 White Ribbon Conference
Domestic Violence Conference
Adult Attachment Disorder
Motivational Interviewing Level 1
CAMERA Assessor Certificate
Growing Numeracy Skills: Utilizing Numbers Resources
Portfolio Development
Service Coordination
Choosing Milestones and Culminating Tasks
Tribal Trauma Theory
COYO Conference

Community presentations are a win/win for all. Other organizations or individuals learn more about the work that we do, and we are able to learn more about what others do.

Presentations to Community:

- Presentation about JHS – Holy Cross Secondary Students Class
- Understanding PAR – Peterborough Domestic Abuse Network
- Understanding PAR -Community and Justice Services students -Fleming
- Youth Diversion at JHS – PPS and OPP Police Platoons
- Community Mediation – City of Peterborough
- Community Mediation - Peterborough Housing

Community Committees:

Staff at the John Howard Society actively participates in various committees locally and provincially.

The John Howard Society gratefully acknowledges our funders

- Ministry of The Attorney General
- Ministry of Children and Youth Services
- United Way of Peterborough and District
- The National Crime Prevention Centre
- The John Howard Society of Ontario
- The Community Foundation of Greater Peterborough

Funding Partnerships with:

- Catholic Family Services – Ottawa
- Peterborough Police Services

To the private donors within the community we thank you for supporting our agency. Without this support we would be unable to support some of the most vulnerable clients in our community.

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