

Annual Report

2017-2018



**John Howard Society of
Peterborough**

JHS Annual Report 2017 - 2018

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.

Board of Directors 2017 – 2018

Chair: Chris Russell

Treasurer: Linda Twohey

Members

Karen Bateman

Dr. Lara Hiseler

Rob Hotston

Paul Legacy

Dr. Allen Rodgers

Dan Smith

Executive Comments

An Annual General Meeting is a time to reflect upon and celebrate what has past, honouring the present and looking ahead to see what the future may bring.

This year we said good bye to Barb Bird after nearly twenty-five years of service with the agency. Barb began her tenure here as office manager then worked with youth. She facilitated programs in the schools and was our Institutional Worker attending Warkworth Institution on a regular basis. Barb was also trained to deliver Correctional Services of Canada sanctioned programs to parolees. Barb was then the lead for the Partner Assault Program before broadening her skills yet again and was the founder of the Healing From Within Program. Barb is now wintering somewhere warm and enjoying a well-deserved retirement!

We also said good-bye to Susanne Kuhl Morgen-Hille, as Partner Support in the PAR program, Cheryl Bell from reception and Evan Bates from Aspire.

As cycles continue and people leave and move on from the agency, we welcome new employees who bring their own unique skills, knowledge, expertise and fresh perspectives to their work. Diane Gallagher came on board full time in reception. Jane Garant, who is new to the community, joined the Aspire Program, Nicole Soanes joined us fresh from Fleming College to lead the Restorative Justice Committee and Catherine Hickey is our new Partner Contact in PAR. We also welcomed back Graham Petty, a former employee, as lead at the Long Term Suspension/Expulsion Program. Our most recent additions are Suzie Compeau and Wes Ryan who have joined us in Healing From Within.

In an ever increasingly fast paced world, the JHS remains a constant in the community and finding the balance between that consistency while growing our programs and services is a major key to our success. Whether it is an increase (or decrease) in funding, keeping a close eye on changes within the community, knowing what clients' needs are, asking ourselves how we can expand partnerships and collaborate with community partners, everyone at the agency is involved. We are listening to each other and we are talking to each other. This includes the board of directors, staff, volunteers, clients and funders. Some discussions are more formal than others, but we all share the common goal of providing the best programs and services for the community that we can.

As we look towards 2018 – 2019 we are already starting to make some changes. The implementation of a small management team and realigning our programs and services will be the focus of the year. Our intent is that this team will lead to different and improved ways in doing our work externally with our partners and internally with our own services. More about that in next year's report.

Respectfully Submitted
Chris Russell, Chair

Respectfully Submitted
Kathy Neill, Executive Director

Staff 2017-2018

Administration:

Executive Director: Kathy Neill

Financial Manager: Elaine Webster

Reception: Diane Gallagher, Cheryl Bell



Crystal Blakley, Marion Little, Bethann Brown,
Dana Hetherton.

Justice Programs and Services

Partner Assault Response: Dana Hetherton

Partner Support: Catherine Hickey

Youth Diversion: Crystal Blakley, Megan Carrick, Abbi Barrie

Youth Justice Committee: Nicole Soanes

Institutional Services: Megan Carrick

Anger Management/Caring Dads: Dana Hetherton

Group Facilitators: Dana Hetherton, Don Gibson, Kirk Hillier, Bill Kilpatrick, Jane Garant,
Jude Sternloff, Graham Petty, Kathy Neill

Community Services and Training

School Based Mediation: Marion Little, Catherine Hickey

Aspire: Bethann Brown, Jane Garant

Suspension/Expulsion: Graham Petty

Healing from Within: Barb Bird (retired), Suzie Compeau, Wes Ryan

Community Based Mediation: Marion Little, Catharine Hickey

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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 that you work with and support.

Our volunteers have contributed approximately **1830** hours this year.

Volunteers:

- Facilitate Restorative Circles
- Are members of the Board of Directors
- Mediate Neighbour Disputes
- Support the facilitation of groups
- Do amazing garden work!
- Mentor Young Adults
- Clean up our spaces
- Share their expertise with others
- Supervise youth
- Promote the agency
- Fundraise
- Participate in Day of Caring

Thank you to our friends at TD Commercial Banking in Peterborough for volunteering to clean up our training room and former woodshop



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

Community Involvement

November 2018

In partnership with Escape Maze, our United Way Campaign included “The Rightful Heir”. Escape room puzzles that required teams to solve in order to escape the John Howard Society and find the Rightful Heir to the diamond ring.



Characters from the Rightful Heir



Jane Garant, Elaine Webster, Kathy Neill, Diane Gallagher and Rob Hamm at the United Way Campaign final luncheon.

A very special THANK YOU to Rob Hamm.

Rob was a volunteer member of the speakers bureau for the United Way Campaign in 2017/2018. Rob told his story of selling drugs to feed his own addiction, unhealthy relationship patterns, spousal assault and jail. He attended Anger Management, PAR and Caring Dads at the JHS and with some other group members started the Men Supporting Men (MSM) program.

Today he is clean and sober, in a new healthy relationship, has custody of a daughter from a previous relationship and an 8 month old baby. Through MSM he and other members volunteer their time and have become monthly meal preparers at the One Roof Community Dinner and have just planted a vegetable garden here at JHS.

Community Involvement and Training

Prison Law Forum: Issues of Criminalization and Imprisonment

Aging in Corrections

Pre-Release Fairs

Crossover Youth

Empowering Resilience

JHS Conference

MCYS Symposium

PPS Youth Forum

Youth Justice Ontario Conference

Peterborough Inuit Cultural Competency

HSJCC Crossover Youth Conference

Empowering Resilience Conference

MCYS Symposium

Canadian Congress on Youth Criminal Justice

National Restorative Justice Symposium

Inuit Cultural Competency Training

Volunteer Management Training by JHS Ontario

Quarterly Regional Restorative Justice Forums

Training for Charity Bingo

Board Governance Training

Mediation Training

Non Violent Communication Training

Dismantling Brick Walls of Stigma Workshop

Volunteer Management Meeting

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:

242 clients referred

126 PAR program completions

193 victim contacts made

Caring Dads

John Howard Society continued to offer the Caring Dads program in Peterborough. 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.

Clients Served:

18 referrals

10 intakes completed

5 clients successfully completed the 17 week program

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.

Our staff attended the annual Pre-release Fairs in Kingston and Warkworth. Attending minimum and medium secure institutions we provided support as well as information about our agency and the community for release purposes.

Clients served: 67

Youth Diversion

The youth diversion team strives to provide meaningful consequences to offences, while recognizing the needs of the client and the community. Clients are referred to us by police services or the courts.

EJM Program: Clients served 106 (95% completed)

EJS Program: Clients served 38 (82% completed)

Youth Week Activities



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.

"In a real sense all life is inter-related. All men are caught in an inescapable network of mutuality, tied in a single garment of destiny. Whatever affects one directly, affects all indirectly."

– Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Clients Served: 144

Conferences held: 16

Victims supported: 15

Volunteers: 14

Collectively, the youth who engaged in the program completed 281 hours of community service and offered 52 apologies (either written or verbal) to persons who were harmed

Youth Programs and Workshops

Over the last year, programs and workshops were delivered to 88 youth involved through the Extra-Judicial Measures and Sanctions program, including self-referrals. The following is a breakdown of the specific program and workshop statistics;

Rethink:	19
Young Women's Lives:	19
Substance Use:	13
Anti-Theft:	26
Impact of Crime	11

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 442 youth, their families and caregivers

Jane Garant and Dana Hetherton



Community Services and Training

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 men over 18 years. Referrals accepted from the courts, family, employer, physician, self and other.

Clients served:

- 85 inquiries about anger management
- 55 intakes completed
- 45 attended the program
- 33 successfully completed the 8 week program

Long Term 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.

Clients Served:

- 89% attendance
- 13 students
- 6 voluntary admissions to program after end date
- 70 hours of Volunteering Opportunities
- 165 hours of Programming delivered
- 216 hours spent on Recreation/Engagement Activities

Personal Development Programs:

- Anger Management
- Healthy Relationships
- Employment Readiness/Resume Writing
- Emotional Awareness
- Conflict Resolution
- Non-violent Communication
- Evaluating the impacts of gender

Volunteering Opportunities:

- Kawartha Food Share
- One Roof Community Dinner
- PACE "hot lunch" program

Recreation/Engagement

Activities:

- Daily gym time
- Art and Music
- Meditation
- Martial Arts
- Hiking
- Card and board games

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. We are providing Mediation/Restorative skill development in the following ways.

195 students received introductory non-violent communication training

14 complete mediations

36 students involved in incidents

27 peer mediators engaged

14 volunteer peer mediators attended monthly meetings

4 students engaged in restorative circles

17 incidents were diverted from suspension

Comments from the Peer Mediators at Kenner Collegiate & Vocational Institute

- "It's rewarding when you help a student and then see them in the hall afterwards. They know they have someone they can trust at school."
- "It is really nice when students smile at you because they know that you have helped them."
- "It is nice to be able to genuinely help out in your community."
- "It is super fun! There is a strong sense of community...and lots of good food!"
- "The training meets provincial standards which is really impressive to get some new skills."
- "The communication skills that you learn are excellent. You learn to interact better with people and become more aware of other people's mental state and communication needs"

Healing from Within

Some of the effects of sexual abuse on males are:

Depression and anxiety, self-blame and shame, over controlling or submissive, inability to trust, difficulty forming and maintaining healthy relations with themselves and others, anger and rage, addictions, confusion, dissatisfaction with life, never feeling good enough, suicidal thoughts or attempts, distorted views on healthy masculinity and these are just some of the effects. The HFW Program provides individual counselling and support as well as small group workshops.

Clients served: 37 men continued on their healing journey

Community Mediation Peterborough: Turning Conflict into Connection

Community Mediation is rooted in the principles of Restorative Justice and is based on the Transformative Mediation approach (Baruch-Bush & Folger, 1994; 2005). Our practice in Peterborough is also informed by compassionate Nonviolent Communication (Rosenberg, 2000; 2015). We turn conflict into connection by offering free, volunteer mediation supports for adult neighbours in conflict. This year we began a partnership with Peterborough Green-Up as part of their Neighbourhood Plan initiative.

The free adult program is funded and housed by the John Howard Society of Peterborough. Businesses and organizations are charged a nominal fee for services, which helps support free mediation for local citizens.

32 Referrals (approx.)

25 Intakes

16 Case Developments

12 Mediation participants

4 Mediations took place

5 Conflict Coaching sessions

1 Nonviolent Communication Training

“Our survival as a species depends on our ability to recognize that our well-being and the well-being of others is in fact one in the same.”

~ Marshall Rosenberg, Founder of Nonviolent Communication ~

The Aspire Program – Youth Mentorship

The Aspire program aims to support young adults, aged 17 – 25, in achieving their training and employment goals through mentorship. We believe that supportive relationships are instrumental in achieving these goals despite the many barriers that young adults may face as they enter the world of training and careers

Clients served: 129

New intakes: 46

Carryover clients from 2016/2017: 38

Drop-in Networking dinners: 73 young adults

22 volunteer mentors

Volunteer Mentors: 30

Identified Barriers to employment, training and accessing services:

- Inability to purchase basic necessities of life (i.e., food, hygiene products)
- Homelessness/living in emergency shelter, couch surfing, and inability to afford rent
- Transportation is unaffordable or inconsistent
- Difficulty with natural support networks (i.e., family issues)
- Mental health challenges (e.g., social anxiety preventing some young adults from attending large networking events)
- Domestic violence
- Physical and intellectual disabilities



Bethann Brown From the Aspire Program

Men Supporting Men

Men Supporting Men celebrated 1 year in August 2017 and is still going strong. The group was formed by men who were leaving the Caring Dads group who wanted to continue to reflect upon the tools and strategies they had learned at JHS while supporting other men in the process. This year Men Supporting Men began volunteering at Delta Bingo and Gaming Centre to fundraise for their initiatives. The group hosted 5 community dinners at One Roof Community Centre and to date they have served 670 meals in the community.



Thank you!

The John Howard Society gratefully acknowledges our funders;

- Ministry of Children and Youth Services
- Ministry of The Attorney General
- United Way of Peterborough and District
- The John Howard Society of Ontario

Funding Partnerships with:

- Catholic Family Services – Ottawa
- Employment Planning and Counselling Peterborough
- Peterborough Green-Up

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

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