

john howard society

York Region

**Effective.
Just.
Humane.**

ANNUAL REPORT

2022-2023

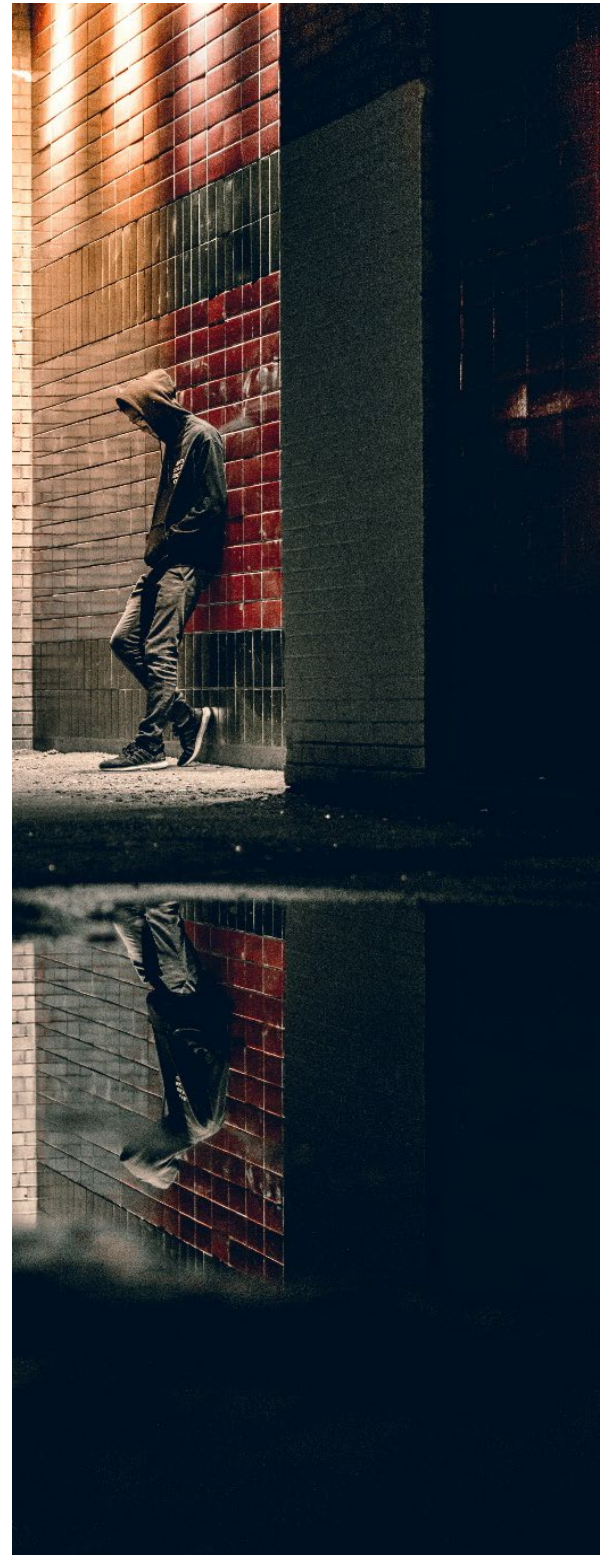
WHO WE ARE

The John Howard Society of York Region is one of 19 local offices in Ontario that work together in delivering more than 80 evidence-based programs focused on prevention, intervention, and re-integration. These programs range from helping youth develop the life skills that will let them achieve full potential, to helping families navigate issues of criminal justice, to providing job training for those leaving incarceration so they can contribute to their community in a meaningful way.

Our Agency has over 12 years of experience in supporting our community through a variety of programs/initiatives aimed at increasing positive outcomes. We employ staff who are consistently upgrading, and we rely on the changing climate of our communities to direct programs where they will have the most impact. We respond to the needs of our community to make sustainable, meaningful change. We are respected for working with individuals facing significant stigma, high acuity, and complex barriers.

It is a living system of accountability, correction and growth that must work for the communities and individuals it touches. We believe that when our responses to crime are truly effective, they cost society less and provide us with more. When they are just, they create safer communities. And when they are humane, they reflect the potential everyone has for a better future.

Whether with policy or programming, advocacy, or service delivery, we strive for human justice in Ontario.





MISSION STATEMENT

“Effective, just,
and humane
responses to crime
and its causes”



BELIEFS STATEMENT

1. Commitment to Reducing Harm

We strive to reduce harm by building a community of awareness around stigma and nonjudgmental approaches to care.

2. Fostering Community Connections

We believe that the strength of our community lies in strong connections with one another; we seek to elevate agencies committed to inclusion and empowerment and expand program development through enhanced relationships.

3. Person-Centered Care

We are committed to acknowledging the value in every individual and implementing opportunities that contribute to their success.

4. Commitment to Change

We empower our community through the elevation of skills and knowledge. We are dedicated to investing in their stories and being responsive to their needs.



VISION STATEMENT

Providing our community with opportunity to thrive through continued improvement, second chances, and fostering connections. Promoting systemic change through the creation of safe spaces that are responsive, innovative, and inclusive.



VALUE STATEMENTS

Commitment to Integrity

We commit to serving our community in a way that is fair and unbiased, promoting dignity and respect with the highest quality of service through evidence-based approaches.

Belief in the People We Serve

We recognize and celebrate the intrinsic worth in everyone and are dedicated to a culture of mutual respect and belonging.

Accountability and Compassion

We lead with compassion and care for one another, striving to foster accountability through recognizing strengths and promoting positive change.

Continuous Learning

We grow through our successes and learn from our evaluations; we are dedicated to listening to our community and responding through informed approaches.

Staff Team

Arielle Boshi

Youth Outreach Worker and Counsellor

Kelly Budenz

Facilitator

Marina Byun

Court Intake Worker

Kaitlyn Carter-Cuffe

Facilitator

Hayley Chan

CSI Program Worker

Erika Chang

Acting Executive Director

Natania Clarke

Partner Contact Worker

James Crittenden

Employment Specialist

Megan Dalrymple

Facilitator

Zaynab Dhalla

Youth Counsellor and
Facilitator

Jason Ernewein

Peer Support Worker

Shawnee Enkin

Peer Support Worker

Laura Foster

Facilitator

Tara Goldman

Youth Counsellor

Nikki Hanson

Reintegration Worker

Narmin Halabchi

Intake Worker

Jamie Hayashi

Court Intake Worker

Anisah Hussain

Facilitator

Izzie Jones

PAR Facilitator

Banin Abdul Khaliq

Reintegration Worker

Gowtham Katherval

Facilitator

Josh Kirstein

PAR Facilitator

Sarita Leicher

Program Coordinator

Jennifer Lloyd

Youth Counsellor and Facilitator

Bradley Marr

Finance Manager

Cheryl Martin

Youth Counsellor

Dominique Matthews

Facilitator

Nehama Meckler

Court Intake Worker

Sanaz Milanizadeh

Program Coordinator

Emad Moghrabi

Employment Specialist

Tyler Murphy

Peer Support Worker

Michael Neblett

Reintegration Worker

David Patrick

Youth Counsellor and Facilitator

MaKayla Pelekis

Youth Outreach Worker and
Facilitator

Tricia Samaroo

Program Coordinator

Sherelle Schoburgh

Facilitator

Malavikka Sinnarasa

Facilitator

Shannon Speirs

Executive Director

Ernest Tam

Youth Counsellor

Karyn Tam

Intake Worker

Alexandra Thomson

Program Coordinator

“Note to Self”

(Written by a PAR Client, as a message to the peers in his group)

“You can’t dwell in the past because the past is not coming back for you.

Whatever has passed is now lost in time and cannot be undone.

You have this moment to grow and learn from what has come to pass.

You may have been through a lot.

You may have even been through hell, but remember, hell does not own you.
Nor did hell create you.

In this world we live in today, unfortunately, we must all struggle and suffer.

We all have a story to tell. Our story may help others who are lost within
themselves or
the past.

Someone out there may have a tougher battle.

The experience and trials we learn from can be the answer to end the pain that
others may be feeling presently.

NEVER GIVE UP!! Anything that may come your way, be willing to accept that
challenge.

Have the strength to endure it at the best of your capability. As long as you’re
breathing, and your heart is beating, you can make that breath worth
something. It may even possibly save a life.

Make Gold from The Damages”.



Adult Services

Direct Accountability Program (DAP)

Funded by the Ministry of the Attorney General (MAG), DAP is an alternative to formal prosecution for people who have been charged with certain minor criminal offences. The program involves participants being held accountable for their actions through community-based sanctions that seek to address the harm their charges may have caused to others the York Region community.

In December 2022, MAG approved a pilot project for a new sanction option. The Peer Assisted Learning (PAL) Program introduced peer support as a model proven to be effective in the road to recovery. The PAL Program provides DAP clients who have been struggling with mental health issues and/or substance use and have a history of repeat offending with up to six one-on-one sessions with a Peer Support Worker. By creating improved access to peer support and community-based services, clients can improve their circumstances and quality of life, which will prevent them from re-entering the criminal justice system.

EMPower

JHSYR was fortunate to be selected by JHSO as one of three local offices to pilot EMPower, an employment program, a program that supports Black, Indigenous, and Newcomer populations looking to find employment.

People who are motivated to be in the workforce but may be facing challenges in finding employment due to barriers such as criminal justice involvement, homelessness, and other circumstances are assisted by an employment specialist. EMPower is funded by the Government of Canada, Department of Canadian Heritage.

Mental Health and Addictions Peer Support (MAPS) Program

In partnership with JHSO and the Ministry of the Solicitor General, JHSYR was able to deliver the MAPS Program, a program that utilizes the expertise and lived experience of Peer Support Workers.

Peer Support Workers with lived experience in the areas of homelessness, substance use, mental health systems, and/or criminal justice involvement work with individuals on probation to explore their recovery goals. Individuals can be connected to culturally specific community supports, services pertaining to mental health and addiction services, housing supports, and social assistance.

Peer Support Workers assist individuals with developing harm reduction plans and by accompanying them to appointments with probation officers, court appearances, and counselling appointments.

Mindset

Mindset, our anger management program, utilizes techniques based on Cognitive Behavioural Therapy (CBT) to help participants better understand and manage their anger and emotional responses in a more constructive and positive manner. Mindset helps people improve their self-regulation and self-management skills to help reduce the intensity, frequency, and duration of their anger and subsequently, help support the end of any patterns of aggression.


Partner Assault Response (PAR) Program

Funded by MAG, the PAR Program is a court-ordered 12-week psycho-educational program that helps individuals address intimate partner violence. The objective of the program is to promote non-violent behaviours and non-controlling attitudes in those who have been abusive towards their partners, while also enhancing safety for those who have been victims of intimate partner violence.

Throughout the sessions, participants are helped to recognize and accept responsibility for their behaviour by examining their belief systems about power and control. While individuals are attending the program, a Partner Contact Worker works with victims and/or current partners of individuals participating in the program to provide assistance with safety planning or support with connecting to necessary community resources such as counselling, housing support, food security, or social assistance.

Reintegration Program

Adults involved with, or at risk of involvement with the criminal justice system who want to reintegrate back into their home communities in York Region can receive support through our Reintegration Program. This is accomplished through case management, immediate temporary housing assistance with support to secure stable housing and help with immediate basic needs and housing start-up costs. Funding for the Reintegration Program is provided by Service Canada, United Way Greater Toronto, and the Newmarket Charitable Gaming Association.



Youth Services

Healthy Youth Preventative Education (HYPE) Program

HYPE is an evidence-based intervention that specifically targets social integration through the promotion of healthy relationships. HYPE engages youth to learn skills and make positive choices - anchoring these skills in their relationships with peers, partners, family and the larger community. This program is funded by the Region of York.

HYPE supports youth across York Region who faced multiple systemic barriers, child welfare involvement, criminal justice involvement, increased mental health concerns, and housing instability. Youth benefit from this program by having a safe space to engage with others in the community who were facing similar challenges. This dynamic allowed for increased social connection, increased social and emotional learning skills, and increased coping strategies.

Healthy Youth Preventative Education+ (HYPE+) Program

The HYPE+ Program, also funded by York Region, is an evidence-based program that helps build resiliency and promote well-being for 2SLGBTQ+ youth. In a safe space, youth engage in activities and generate discussion about what contributes to stress, well-being, and healthy relationships at school, home, and their community.

Home Again

The Home Again youth program, funded by the United Way of Greater Toronto, supports youth ages 15 to 29 with a variety of needs. This can include acquiring stable housing; employment supports; community connections; family reunification; basic needs; financial literacy; and life skills. Youth are supported with self-directed goal planning and wraparound supports.

Youth Counselling Program

The Youth Counselling Program supports youth ages 11-29 across York Region who are facing mental health or addiction issues in their lives. This program is an evidence-based intervention that specifically promotes positive mental health and healthy choices for youth. Through individualized one-on-one counselling, we provide weekly sessions for youth to discuss issues affecting their lives.

This year we continued to see a rapid increase in referrals for the Youth Counselling Program. Youth were experiencing increased concerns around substance use, anxiety, stress, criminal

justice involvement, family and relational conflict, and school stressors. The supports allowed a space for youth to feel comfortable and have discussions around what contributed to their stress, anxiety, well-being, and mental health.

Youth Reintegration

Funded by the Department of Justice, the Youth Reintegration program is offered to youth ages 12-17 involved in the justice system, specifically those from Indigenous, Black, or other racialized communities within York Region. This program provides case management and system navigation, counselling and programming based on individual need and availability.

2022/2023 Financials

John Howard Society of York Region Statement of Operations

Year ended March 31	2023	2022
Revenue		
Ministry of the Attorney General	\$ 832,694	\$ 732,156
United Way Greater Toronto	300,243	161,629
The Regional Municipality of York	259,363	244,381
Ontario General Solicitor	159,095	179,681
Department of Canadian Heritage	87,875	18,300
Ontario Lottery Gaming Corporation	60,885	25,197
Miscellaneous	60,385	28,835
Ontario Trillium Foundation	15,826	177,587
Donations	13,126	23,385
Grants and subsidies	8,829	157,912
	<u>1,798,321</u>	<u>1,749,063</u>
Expenses		
Amortization of tangible capital assets	-	8,824
Office and general	18,404	37,377
Program expenses	164,242	103,987
Purchased services	108,145	104,566
Rent and occupancy	96,900	95,420
Salaries and benefits	1,348,557	1,288,703
Staff development, training and travel	13,476	22,544
Telephone and internet	15,069	20,334
	<u>1,764,793</u>	<u>1,681,755</u>
Excess of revenue over expenses	\$ 33,528	\$ 67,308

Thank you to our Funders!



Department of Justice
Canada

Ministère de la Justice
Canada



Canadian
Heritage

Patrimoine
canadien

