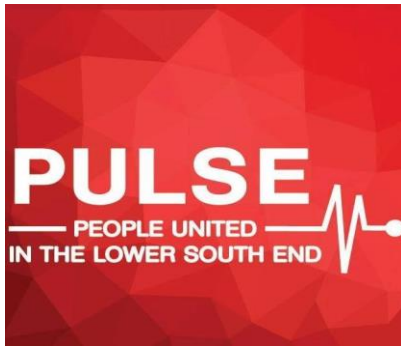


IMPACTING NEIGHBOURHOODS FOR 10 YEARS THROUGH FUNDING FROM THE CITY OF SAINT JOHN



The Village



Waterloo Neighbourhood Association



AroundBlock



Issue 62 December 2018 / January 2019 sjcommunitynewspaper@gmail.com

where we celebrate the good news from our communities in Saint John NB



Combined impact of Neighbourhood Funding						
	Services/ participants	Businesses and Partners	Volunteers	Volunteer Hours	Value Volunteer hours	Cash/In-kind
Around the Block	9000	180	350	1000	\$15,000	\$23,000
PULSE	2200	72	456	1745	\$26,180	\$17,900
Crescent Valley Resource Centre	7000	70	100	1890	\$28,350	\$35,000
Waterloo Village Association	1463	218	242	4697	\$70,455	\$11,250
ONE Change	68,093	232	2,155	16,125	\$241,875	\$145,340
Teen Resource Centre	7000		20	300	\$4,500	
Totals	94,756	772	3323	25,757	\$386,355	\$232,490

Return on Investment of \$150,000 Annually from the City of Saint John

Number of People Served/Participants	94,756
Number of Businesses and Partners Engaged	772
Number of Volunteers	3323
Number of Volunteer Hours Contributed	25,757
Value of Volunteer Commitment based on \$15 per hour	\$386,355
In Kind/ Cash Contributions to our work	\$232,490
Financial Return on Investment	4:1

The Importance of Neighbourhood Revitalization

Poverty is social and economic vulnerability caused by a lack of resources needed for dignity, self-sufficiency and well-being. Ultimately, poverty means reduced opportunity to participate fully in the life of one's community. ***Within Saint John, poverty is primarily located in 5 distinct geographic neighbourhoods.***

Between 1989 and 2003, Saint John experienced a 26% decrease in the number of manufacturing jobs, more than anywhere in Canada. More recently, the city has focused on developing new sectors such as tourism, information and communication technology, energy, and service sectors. The service sector now accounts for more than three-quarters of all jobs in Saint John.

People living in poverty face barriers to work such as personal, health, and disability challenges, mental health and addictions issues, a limited number of good jobs, a lack of education and training, criminal records, and structural and historical barriers. People living in poverty cannot afford basic necessities like healthy food, adequate housing, medications, dental care, and transportation. As a result, people feel stressed, frustrated and alone.

Across the 5 neighbourhoods in Saint John, children, single parents, people with mental health and addictions issues, people with disabilities and seniors, are most vulnerable to poverty. Youth, recent immigrants, unattached individuals aged 45 to 64 years, and low-wage workers are also at risk.

Priority Neighbourhoods:

PlanSJ defines the priority neighbourhoods as:

"...the five neighbourhoods within the urban core of the City including the Old North End, Crescent Valley, the South End, Waterloo Village and the Lower West Side. In these neighbourhoods a significant concentration of poverty exists and all levels of government and the non-profit sector are focusing services and investment to support community and social development and positive transformation."

In 2008 the City of Saint John Common Council approved a motion to invest in neighbourhood-based revitalization. We are thrilled to say that the City of Saint John has continued to invest in the coordination of priority neighbourhoods for 10 years and we are now completing our first 3-year service agreement. It is good to know that Saint John Common Council recognizes the value of this investment in neighbourhoods. And we are equally pleased to share some of the ways this funding has supported the growth, revitalization and capacity of our priority neighbourhoods.

Request: At this time, the Neighbourhood Action Group is requesting continuation of the funding for Neighbourhoods for another 3-year term.

What started slightly more than a decade ago as grassroots neighbourhood organizations with a \$150,000 investment from the City to share among the 6 partners with great ideas, and a great deal of passion has created a groundswell of support, motivation, and change in our neighbourhoods and within our City.

Defining the role of Neighbourhood Revitalization

The following roles describe the support offered to neighborhoods through our Neighbourhood Organizer Positions. The way this appears in each neighbourhood is different based on specific neighbourhood needs. However, the themes are consistent within each neighbourhood.

1. Build relationships with local residents and neighborhood leaders to engage their active participation in improvements;
2. Develop relationships with community partners to engage with residents in planning, supporting and implementation of priorities.
3. Support development and implementation of neighborhood plans and priorities.
4. Connect residents to other community resources;
5. Encourage sharing between priority neighborhoods;
6. Provide an active and supportive role to the neighbourhood through leadership and mentorship and coordination.
7. Participate in the Neighbourhood Action Group to share information and partner in collective neighbourhood efforts.

Saint John, has Canada's longest-running and most inclusive anti-poverty initiative and was among the first in Canada to establish a poverty reduction strategy.

The community has been made stronger by sharing information and engaging in mutual problem-solving to eliminate poverty. And through the work of Priority Neighbourhoods we have created space where people from all sectors can come together where we focus on 4 pillars of success. Neighbourhood Revitalization; Education; Employment and Health.

How has investment from the City impacted the lives of residents in priority neighbourhoods through their community led approach?

We define neighbourhood-led approach as: activities undertaken by neighbourhoods in order to achieve social, economic or environmental objectives defined by residents.

There is no 'silver bullet' in terms of a single neighbourhood-led approach that is best placed to tackle poverty. There are a wide range of neighbourhood-led approaches and poverty related outcomes vary across and within approaches in terms of scale, nature and timing.

Some approaches impact on 'material' forms of poverty by reducing costs such as

- accessing food resources,
- providing access to participation in programs at no-cost, or

- creating employment opportunities.

Approaches can also impact on the 'non-material' aspects of the experience of poverty by

- enhancing health and well-being,
- improving quality of the physical environment, and
- increasing levels of social participation.

The timing and nature of poverty impacts varies by activity.

- Some have immediate financial benefits on 'pockets';
- others improve the longer-term 'prospects' of households exiting poverty in the future;

Neighbourhood-led activities achieve a range of valuable outcomes around poverty. It is important to consider small-scale, neighbourhood-level activities by using **more than just** a quantitative yardstick. Neighbourhoods cannot be expected to tackle area-wide disadvantage in isolation. That said, more substantial, targeted and sustained investment for neighbourhood-led activities in low income neighbourhoods could increase the scale of outcomes.

The particular skills and leadership qualities of neighbourhood leaders, as well as the existence of an active and supportive voluntary community, also emerge as important elements of success. One implication is that different approaches may have varying levels of transferability depending on the demographic make-up of a neighbourhood. There is a need for more rigorous research to identify the outcomes and impact of neighbourhood-led activities on poverty. At the same time, it is important not to solely assess activities in terms of outcomes *as the process of participation is equal in importance in many* neighbourhood-led interventions.

Volunteer Mobilization

Voluntary activity in low income neighbourhoods offer important benefits that impact on non-material forms of poverty by improving individual wellbeing and opportunities for social interaction.

- 1) One example of a group set up to tackle isolation among residents in the North End found that improvements in well-being were also associated, in some cases, with movement into work or education. This implies voluntary action that aims to improve the non-material dimensions of poverty may also impact on 'pockets' or 'prospects.'
- 2) More than 1000 Volunteers gave their time and sweat equity to build the Kiwanis North End Play Park in the North End. A true testament to Neighbourhood-led initiatives building momentum in our community.

Food Insecurity

Rapid growth in the use of food banks, food purchase clubs, food pantries, food redistribution and community meals, community gardens etc. **in all of the neighbourhoods**, shows the important role they play in meeting the immediate material needs of households experiencing food poverty; they also deliver improvements in well-being through social interaction.

Community organizing

Neighbourhood community organizing have notched up notable successes including advocating reinstatement of Community Policing following cuts to program; Through an organized approach, the neighbourhoods met with the SJ Police Commission with a thoughtful presentation, used media to share their message and met with local and provincial leadership to ensure this valuable resource was not lost to the neighbourhoods. Although many lobbied for this reinstatement, we think that the message was heard loud and clear from the neighbourhoods and we were pleased with the outcome which had immediate benefits on well-being of neighbourhoods.

Community organizing approaches have significant potential to scale up and achieve wider change E.g. Last year, the Government of Canada launched a consultation process that

brought leaders to Saint John to look deeply at poverty. It was through the Neighbourhoods that coordination and participation of residents experiencing poverty were connected with the consultants and through neighbourhoods that residents' voices were heard loud and clear. This ensured that the needs of low-income people in our most impoverished neighbourhoods had the opportunity to share their lived experience of poverty and how life could be improved through direct action of the Federal Government. The resulting Poverty Reduction Strategy from the Government of Canada highlights Saint John and the comments of our residents in its report which is the foundation of Canada's Strategy – Tackling Poverty Together

Neighbourhood Employment Training

Neighbourhood-based forms of training can tackle material forms of poverty through creating jobs for local residents as well as generating income in the local economy. This may have immediate benefits for the pockets of those who secure jobs. Volunteering opportunities within neighbourhood enterprises may also improve the employment prospects of those outside the labour market.

- Examples of this can be seen through ONE Change in their Sector Training Programs, GED, and WES programs delivered in partnership with PETL. Connecting people with Employment and Skills Training - more than 100 people to jobs.

Increased community leadership and participation in Saint John's most challenged, yet resilient, neighbourhoods. Through Neighbourhood support and participation within community, planning teams have advanced with resident leadership and significant resident involvement both through Living SJ and other Groups.

Resident's receiving help where they live. Food security, connection to programs and supports directly in the neighbourhoods.

- **Income Tax Programs:** Each neighbourhood offers income tax clinics to support residents. At PULSE through Mary LeSage and ONE Change through Christa Petts more than 1000 people have their income taxes prepared. With support through the YMCA they also offer clinics for newcomers. Often the taxes can be complex and multiple years. The comments from those receiving this service has been incredible as both Mary and Christa and their volunteers often make people aware of benefits, they could be taking advantage of. This also allows residents to access other benefits going forward – clearly impacting the 'pockets' of individuals.

New programs and services planned, delivered and provided at a neighbourhood level, especially services for children and youth.

- A great example of this is the introduction of a new Maker Space program at the Teen Resource Centre and ONE Change – Nick Nicolle Centre – this new initiative is having incredible results in engaging kids in creative learning with everything from computer coding to building rockets.
- There is also neighbourhood development, **clean-ups in all neighbourhoods**, **Crescent Valley Bike Program** providing bikes to kids from all of the neighbourhoods, playground builds (**Kiwanis North End Play Park**), **community gardens** and work on a Green House for Crescent Valley, property repairs happening in the Old North End with plans for a project through the Land Bank Committee, as momentum builds in neighbourhoods.
- **Neighbourhood hubs have become part of community conversation** bringing an increased awareness of the challenges and good work being done in Saint John neighbourhoods. Residents are also more aware of their rights and responsibilities as citizens.
- PULSE and Waterloo Village were very much involved in the development of a Plan for South Central Peninsula. We have seen backpack programs, lunch programs, the

launch of a new Sharps Needle Boxes in neighbourhoods, through many partners working together with our neighbourhood leaders.

Partnerships and Opportunities

One of the most exciting outcomes for Neighbourhoods has been development of some wonderful partnerships. One which we would like to highlight is the recent gifting by the Friars Sisters of proceeds from their annual concert for the second time. In addition to this wonderful gift and recognition of the impact neighbourhoods have made and are making is the development of a fund through the Saint John Community Foundation by the Friars Family which will host all proceeds from the Friars Christmas Concert going forward. This fund will be held in perpetuity to support initiatives of the priority neighbourhoods. The recent concert yielded \$50,000 for the priority neighbourhoods – It also included an addition \$21,000 to go directly to the new fund.

SOME HIGHLIGHTS OF THE WORK FUNDED THROUGH THE CITY OF SAINT JOHN

Around the Block, Saint John's community newspaper, shares good news stories of the work of our neighbourhoods and has been delivering Newspapers in the Priority Neighbourhoods for 10 years.

Around the Block Newspaper

No one could have predicted the impact of this small project.

The Around the Block Community Newspaper hosted by the Human Development Council serves our community and is not just any newspaper.

This GOOD NEWS – Paper- as Juanita Black – Editor and driving force, is quick to remind us, has mobilized the voice of neighbourhoods in highlighting the positive stories from our neighbourhoods. Around the Block has been in the hearts and hands of residents for ten years now!

That however is only part of the story. We are talking about impact.

When Juanita was hired part-time to become editor of the Newspaper it didn't even have a name. She grew the paper - both in participation of community contributors and business sponsors. Juanita had to become very organized. There are a lot of pieces to editing a newspaper. As Juanita grew, so grew the paper. The Newspaper gave voice to many but in Juanita's hands it became a voice of Community success. People living in poverty were tired of being objects of pity and judgement. And through **Around the Block** and Juanita Black, the story changed. The story became a good news story of people helping others, of personal success, of kindness and goodwill, and of celebration of opportunity.

Juanita not only grew as an editor but also as an advocate. She became a voice to be heard and listened to! Juanita is wise. She has a way of cutting to the core of an issue and being clear about a good response.

Juanita became part of the Leadership for Saint John in challenging poverty through both *Vibrant Communities* and *Living SJ* and at the provincial level with the *Economic and Social Inclusion Corporations* Board of Directors. Juanita has received many awards and accolades over the years including the Queens Jubilee Medal, and recently the Vibrant Communities Canada National Leadership Award for Poverty Reduction. Juanita continues to serve on many committees and boards to provide guidance and support to our community and recently has established in her name the Juanita Black Fund with the Greater Saint John Community Foundation.

Both Juanita Black and the Around the Block Newspaper started with a small amount of money through the City of Saint John – the ripple goes much further. For through this initiative which was seeded by the City of Saint John – we now have a renowned community publication and a leader who has contributed significantly to Poverty Reduction Efforts and been recognized by Government and Community alike for her leadership in Saint John; in New Brunswick and in Canada.

The paper delivers 9000 copies 4 times a year (for 10 years) door to door in priority neighbourhoods. The paper is also provided online and via email. This is something that Saint John has reason to be proud of.

Annually the Newspaper received over \$20,000 in Ad Sales through business and community sponsors. There are also other sponsors that have supported other costs related to the paper. Hosted by the Human Development Council the Around the Block Newspaper has extended its reach even further through the HDC's online following.

Annually the Newspaper utilized more than 350 volunteers who contributed more than 1000 hours through photography writing, and editing the paper.

Volunteers 350

Volunteer hours 1000

Volunteer Value \$15,000

Advertising Sales \$23,000

Contribution from the City of SJ \$23,500

Perhaps the most important gift that **Around the Block** gives to community is the **Gift of Stories** of significant impact that go un-noticed. They are not the big stories of large investments but rather the small stories of resilient spirit existing in our neighbourhoods and the profound impact being made by local residents.

This is an example from the most recent issue of Around the Block – Themed Holiday Traditions – This is a story from the Nick Nicolle Centre – Florence's Tree



We have many trees in the Nick Nicolle Centre. Almost one in every room. However, this tree is and will always be my favourite. We call it Florence's Tree. Florence Willigar knits all year long and when Christmas is approaching, she comes to us with her bag of goodies. Easily enough to fill the tree 3 times. And we replace as kids access the goods. Florence could sell this but she chooses to give it to the centre so that kids that might need a pair of mittens or a hat or scarf can easily get it. This is community. This is what Christmas is all about sharing your gifts and talents to benefit others. Thanks Florence. If anyone has any wool, we always pass it on to Florence so that next year she can continue the tradition of keeping kids warm in the North End. Together we are ONE!



Crescent Valley Resource Centre The year 2017-18 has been busier, more productive and successful than ever before. We have developed in so many ways and directions. Our staff, our programs, our outreach, our partnerships, our special events, our volunteers and the number of residents served have all grown.

Besides the many successful programs that are led by our staff we have great partnerships with other organizations that provide programs and services in our facility. CVRC helps promote those programs and often provides nutritious snacks.

During 2017 some of the programs and services were the Family Resource Centre's Playgroup, The Newcomer Resource Centre's Crafts & Conversation, Social Development's sponsored Art Classes for Children & Adults & the Singing Group. We also house READ SJ and for part of 2017, the Salvation Army.

CVRC is a hub for Crescent Valley, a model to other priority neighbourhoods, a leader in poverty reduction and a great place to live and work. The CV newsletter is widely distributed monthly to keep residents, friends and partners updated. CVRC is an active member of the CV Stakeholder Group, Neighbourhood Action Group, and several Living SJ committees. We continue to work with residents and make changes to programs & services as needed but remember to keep those that are well used and appreciated like our Healthy Breakfast Program and Yak & Snack.

We look forward to 2019. We have plans to build a greenhouse & more garden plots and to expand our Food Security services around this new "Growing Place". We hope to have a Bike Skills park built in the old playground. We are open to listening to residents on what they vision in the future of CV.

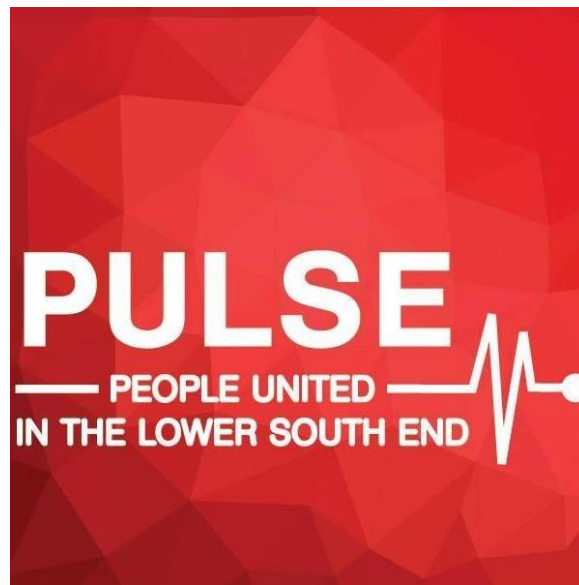
At the Crescent Valley Resource Centre, we are lucky to have folks from all walks of life pass through our door every day. Whether as a volunteer, donor, participant or someone simply curious to find out what we do, the CVRC has generated a buzz around the neighbourhood, and in the region.

The Crescent Valley / Anglin Drive residents and volunteers are at the heart of our work. We are proud to support them on their journeys and help them become connected and participatory, while embracing and promoting their gifts and talents.

We are so pleased to see residents engaged, taking part in healthy activities, developing entrepreneurial skills, having their voices heard and creating a neighbourhood to be proud of. Our neighbourhood is now home to over 55 newcomer families; how things have changed - for the better. Thank you to the newcomers who are teaching us, every day.

Through our programs we've successfully introduced food security initiatives such as Savvy Soup, Healthy Snack Day and Grow Your Own Veggies; family literacy activities such as Bookwagon, Story tent, Pop-Up Literacy events, and Family Board game and Family Movie Nights; active living through the Saint John Bike Share program; and intercultural awareness through Crafts and Conversation Club (in partnership with SJ Newcomers Centre). What do these initiatives offer residents? • increased consumption of fruit and vegetables, more affordable produce, improved gardening skills, acquaintance with different foods and cultures, • extended hours (outside school hours) of literacy-based activity, interactive parent/child activity, new and gently-used books, a culture of literacy in the neighbourhood; • stress relief and mental relaxation, increased self-confidence, opportunities for social exchange, intergenerational opportunities, chance to learn marketable skills, a sense of community belonging, • opportunity to advance bike culture in Saint John, physical activity, promote healthy lifestyle, increase knowledge of road safety and promote helmet use, active / alternative transportation more readily available to all residents. This program has expanded into Waterloo Village / Courtenay Bay neighbourhood.

Community Engagement	
# citizens	7,000
# businesses and community partners	70
# volunteers	100
# volunteer hours	1890
Value of volunteer hours based on \$15 per hour	\$28,350
Cash/In kind value/ donations	\$35,000



PULSE has spent a significant amount of time in working with the City to develop a plan for the uptown and lower South End areas. Significant time and energy into issues related to schools in the neighbourhood as well as on many

Food Security

- **NEW** - Assisted the development of a Canning & Preserving workshop for members of the 5 priority neighbourhoods and helped south end residents attend.
- Continued with the organizing and hosting of the food purchase club for residents in the south end. The goal for 2018 was to increase awareness for the program and for the month of November 2017, we had the most orders to date.
- **NEW** - Working with two nursing students from UNBSJ, a food resource binder was developed that contained food pantry recipes, health and safety information for food preparation and storage, as well as basic resources such as Canada's Food Guide and basic preparation techniques.
- **EXPANDED** - In partnership with Inner City Youth Ministries, the Waterloo Village Association and Horizon Health, we hosted the summer lunch connexion on Tuesdays and Fridays which helped to fill the gap for food insecure families in the south end who rely on the breakfast and lunch program at the school. On average, between 65-70 lunches were served. Additions to the program this year included a partnership with the Saint John Public library for a storey tent each Friday, as well as lettuce being grown on site at PULSE for use in the sandwiches and teach the children about basic gardening.
- Coordination and support for the community garden at Rainbow Park.
- **NEW** - Through partnership with Inner City Youth Ministries, the Waterloo Village Association, Horizon Health and funding support from the Saint John Community Foundation, a back-pack program was launched to help bridge the gap for

families with young children over the summer who miss the breakfast and lunch program at the school. On average 30 backpacks were prepared each week for pick-up on Friday and included snacks, easy to prepare meals for children and one family focused meal and recipe so that the families together could build their food skills. We were also fortunate to be able to include on brand new book in each back pack to help the children build their own libraries at home and encourage reading together as a family.

- Organizing and hosting of the food purchase club for residents in the south end.
- In partnership with Inner City Youth Ministries and Horizon Health, we hosted the summer lunch connexion on Tuesdays and Fridays which helped to fill the gap for food insecure families in the south end who rely on the breakfast and lunch program at the school.
- Coordination and support for the community garden at Rainbow Park.

Community Supports

- Beautification - Hosted a neighbourhood clean-up this spring with the support of the City of Saint John's Green Machine.
- Participated in multiple workshops and meetings related to the new neighbourhood plan for the Central Peninsula, including input on the proposed new school for the area.
- Supported two Working 4 Change groups that were focusing citizen identified needs, including a proposed food pantry to be hosted from PULSE, as well as the need for improved signage and signals at the intersection of Wentworth and Broad Streets.
- Continued to be a welcome and safe "open door" for people in the neighbourhood seeking assistance for everything from paperwork, phone usage, a friendly ear, library use and emergency assistance. Approximately 600 open door visits were made to PULSE this year.
- In partnership with Horizon Health Network, we hosted monthly health clinic where residents can walk in to see our Community Health Nurse.
- Hosted the annual summer kick-off and splash pad opening BBQ. This year all candidates running in the riding for the provincial election were invited (and attended) to offer an informal meet and greet with residents.
- In partnership with the Saint John High Key Club, hosted a safe Halloween spot on Halloween night. Children were invited in for candy, a tour of the decorations and hot chocolate.
- PULSE continues to be one of the only year around tax clinics for low income residents in Saint John. In 2018, we continued our trend of completing over 1,000 tax returns for people from all around the City of Saint John. In many instances, residents have multiple years to file and in some cases, have
- received 1000's of dollars in retro-active benefits, such as child tax credit and GST/HST.

- Participated in the Living Saint John initiative by attending Leadership meetings and Neighbourhood Collective Impact Team meetings.
- Beautification - Hosted a neighbourhood clean-up this spring with the support of the City of Saint John's Green Machine.
- Participated in multiple workshops and meetings related to the new neighbourhood plan for the Central Peninsula, including input on the proposed new school for the area.
- Continued to be a welcome and safe "open door" for people in the neighbourhood seeking assistance for everything from paperwork, phone usage, a friendly ear, library use and emergency assistance.
- In partnership with Horizon Health Network, we hosted monthly health clinic where residents can walk in to see our Community Health Nurse.
- Hosted the annual summer kick-off and splash pad opening BBQ.
- In partnership with the Saint John High Key Club, hosted a safe Halloween spot on Halloween night. Children were invited in for candy, a tour of the decorations and hot chocolate.
- PULSE continues to be one of the only year around tax clinics for low income residents in Saint John.
- Participated in the Living Saint John initiative by attending Leadership meetings and Neighbourhood Collective Impact Team meetings.
- Leveraged Contributions for PULSE Inc.

Partner Funding	Inner City Youth Ministries – Lunch Connexion & Backpack Program	\$17,900
In-kind Volunteer Hours	Lunch Connexion & Backpack Program	\$3,272 (180 hours @ \$18.18/hr)
In-kind Volunteer Hours	Income Tax Program	\$2,826 (156 hours @ \$18.18/hr)
In-kind Volunteer Hours	Spring Clean-up/Christmas Celebration	\$ 727 (40 hours @ \$18.18/hr)
In-kind Volunteer Hours	Working 4 Change Neighbourhood Mentorship	\$1,455 (80 hours @ \$18.18/hr)
	Total Leveraged Contributions	\$26,180 456 volunteer hours

The Village



Waterloo Neighbourhood Association

Waterloo Village is seeing unprecedented changes taking place. The work in the neighbourhood has been transformative. Over the last few years we have seen redevelopment of Chown Field, the new Social Enterprise HUB, and exceptional work from partners like OUTFLOW and the Learning Exchange. And woven within all of the development we see is the voice of residents made possible through our Neighbourhood Coordinator. Penni Eisenhauer is also a key representative on many leadership and guidance committees for Living SJ Initiatives and plays a role in ensuring that the voice of residents is represented.

Sample of Activities		
Annual Beautification of Planters	Music in Chown Field	Canada Learning Bond (Systema)
Garden of Hope Annual Revitalization	Annual HUB Cup Stone Soup Hot Lunch program	Annual HUB Cup Stone Soup Hot Lunch program
Garden of Hope Stone	HUB birthday House @ HUB Waterloo Village Holiday Social Community Open House @ HUB	Around the Block Stories
Passports to Parks in Chown Field	Learn & Go 2017	Tree Lighting Ceremony @ Chown Field & Party at Boys & Girls Club
World Hepatitis Day	Community Garden	Irving Oil clean up of Chown Field

Community Engagement	
# citizens	1463
# businesses and community partners	218
# volunteers	242
# volunteer hours	4697
Value of volunteer hours based on \$15 per hour	\$70,455
Cash/In kind value/ donations	\$11,250

Residents & partners

1. Sandra L a resident in the Waterloo Village who I met enjoying the Bark Park @ Chown Field is just thrilled with the new edition and brings her dogs almost daily.
2. Carolyn MacLellan with the Courtney Bay Tenant's association is starting a walking club and will use the trail at Chown Field.
3. Mary Saulnier - Taylor a community partner believes the role of the Community Organizer is vital in enhancing opportunities for the neighbourhood.
4. Lori Doyle a community schools partner is very pleased with the revitalization of Chown Field & the children will have lots of fun using it throughout the year.
5. Donna Reardon believes the work being done in the Waterloo Village Association and there involvement in the South Central Peninsula plan has had significant impact in the neighbourhood & is invaluable in its future redevelopment.



ONE Change and partners recently developed a parking lot donated by RiverCross Church into a beautiful playpark for our Neighbourhood. The Kiwanis North End Play Park was a true test of what community development can do. We saw more than 1000 people directly commit labour to the development of the park. Lots of physical labour! More than 200 businesses, gave resources and with investment of \$60,000 from ACOA and \$50,000 from the Province and contributions from countless others, were able to leverage this community commitment into a \$450,000 play park for our Neighbourhood.

- 1) This year through a huge donation of books from First Books Canada and 2 other sponsors, we were able to give 467 families from the priority neighbourhoods and about 12 other organizations, nearly 6,986 new books! A value of more than \$100,000 that gave the gift of reading this past Christmas to children from our neighbourhoods
- 2) In 2019 the Land Bank Committee is working on plans; taking action related to derelict buildings and Community partners are working on a plan to redevelop the Lorne School into an Asset for our neighbourhood and Saint John.
- 3) We launched a Needle Box Program with Partners from Horizon Health, Avenue B and many others this year that we hope to expand during the year ahead.
- 4) Our Employment Preparation and Training Programs in Partnership with Post-Secondary Education Training and Labour and weaving together several interventions that are having real impact on connecting people with real jobs.
- 5) Our Year-Round Tax Clinic is reaching more and more people with nearly 600 personal income taxes completed by our team this year.
- 6) In partnership with Brilliant Labs and funded by the Economic and Social Inclusion Corporation, we introduced ONESPACE – our new makerspace program at the centre.
- 7) ONE Change representatives, serve on a number of committees and planning teams to advance Poverty Reduction Efforts in SJ. E.g. Living SJ Teams for Health and Wellness, Neighbourhoods and Leadership. We also are part of the Neighbourhood Action Group, the Guidance Committee for the North End Wellness Centre, and the development committee for Lorne School Transformation Project. We work closely with the Land Bank Committee and Housing Alternatives in the upcoming project to develop one block in the North End to encourage development momentum and address the derelict housing in the neighbourhood.

- 8) We rely heavily on volunteers to achieve the goals of the neighbourhood but this also requires huge coordination efforts by our Community Coordinator Christa Petts and other staff of ONE Change. We also have the benefit of the Nick Nicolle Community Centre as a facility to deliver programs and services in the neighbourhood.

Month	Adults	Children	Seniors	Volunteers	Volunteer Hours
January	3108	1092	417	120	898
February	3212	2448	355	97	825
March	3594	1724	429	108	931
April	4253	2123	506	163	1104
May	3018	1473	520	121	848
June	2633	1081	359	198	791
July	2920	1668	595	179	1895
August	2846	1441	598	362	1286
September	2956	1599	840	197	1753
October	2387	2156	874	210	1960
November	2986	2664	389	213	1968
December	3599	2498	568	187	1866
Totals	37,512	21,967	6,459	2,155	16,125
Total Services	68,093		Value of Volunteers	\$241,875	



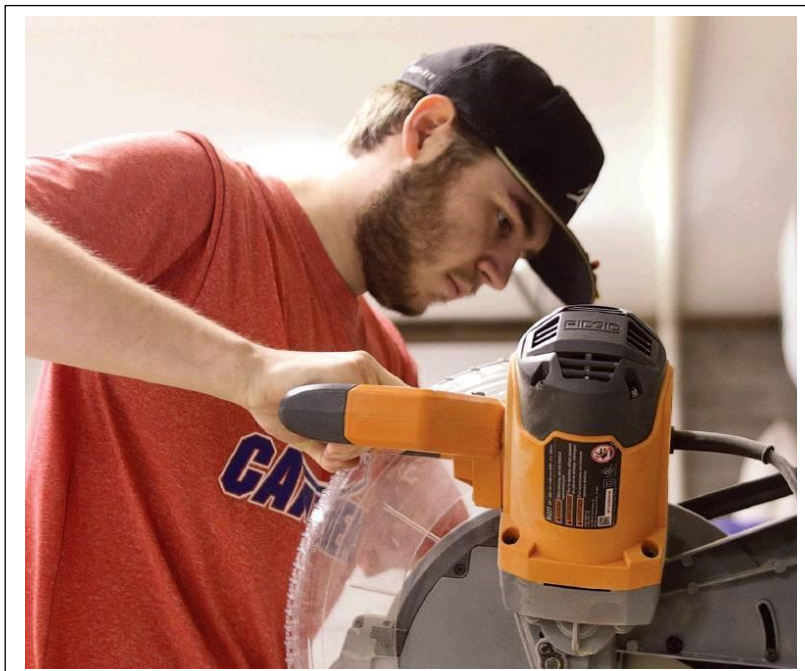
The Teen Resource Centre provides a safe and encouraging environment for youth to explore their full potential.

We offer services and programs for youth between the ages of 12-24, designed to foster in them the creativity, energy and leadership our community needs to grow and thrive. The work we do focuses on:

- providing services and programs that assist youth with their physical and mental health.
- providing on-site services to assist youth who are homeless or living in vulnerable situations.
- facilitating career path and mentoring to help youth build life skills.
- creating opportunities for community volunteerism and leadership training.
- encouraging youth to explore and discover their interests and passions.

The support and services provided by the TRC directly contributes to a healthy and vibrant youth population, reducing the risks associated with crime, homelessness, addiction and recidivism.

Oasis offers services for youth who are homeless, couch surfing or otherwise in need. Shower and laundry facilities are available as well as clothing, snacks & personal hygiene supplies. Staff meet with vulnerable youth and encourage them to make use of our Case Management Program.



Published in the Telegraph Journal on October 13, 2018

The loss of young people to other jurisdictions is one of Saint John's biggest challenges. The inability of many young people to get the skills they need to fill available jobs means the city is losing the people it needs to build the future.

Not only is it an economic loss for the city and a contributor to the shrinking tax base, but too many families have to watch as their children grow up and leave Saint John in search of better opportunities elsewhere. More must be done to match youth to jobs through better training. To this end, Ottawa is investing \$2.7 million in Saint John programs to help young people improve their skills for the workforce. It's a package the local Human Development Council welcomes as new hope for youth in the region.

We agree it's a wise plan, both for its intentions and its design. Funding will go to the Teen Resource Centre, Saint John Learning Exchange, Outflow and the Saint John Community Loan Fund. Already 100 people have signed up for the programs.

The program is designed in a versatile way so local operations that see results will get more money to do what works over time. This is far better than simply throwing money at a problem and waiting to see what happens.

Major funding announcement

MP Wayne Long was at the Outflow building on Thursday to announce an investment of \$2.7 million for the Human Development Council's UYES! project.

The initiative takes four principle partners in the community that are already doing "incredible work," according to Human Development Council executive director Randy Hatfield, and allows them to scale up.

Funding will go to the Teen Resource Centre, Saint John Learning Exchange, Outflow and the Saint John Community Loan Fund. As of Thursday, 100 people have signed up for the programs.

"You need people on the ground to make these things move," said Hatfield. "It's basically using innovation money and scaling up what works."

The goal is to take youth, identify the barriers they are facing, work on their soft skills, pre-employment courses, academic upgrading, and eventually try to attach them to the labour force.

Hatfield stressed it's an individualized program that "taps the experts that are doing the work."

Jayne Hall is the executive director of Outflow, and played a lead role in creating Catapult Construction and setting up the carpentry course.

Two carpenters work in the facility full-time, and help the students as they make their way through the modules.

He said it takes a "teach a man to fish" approach, and is working to become a sustainable operation with the help of this investment.

Two-and-a-half year process

Procuring the finances from the federal government has been a journey in itself, explained Long. It's taken two-and-a-half years spanning two ministers, a disappearance of the project altogether, kicking down doors, and then finally getting it back on the rails.

"This project will change lives and save lives in this community," said Long. "We can make good things happen."

He made the announcement Thursday on behalf of Patty Hajdu, Minister of Employment, Workforce Development and Labour. She said in a statement "supporting youth as they transition into the workforce and giving them the training they need to succeed is a key way in which we can grow our economy and strengthen the middle class."

TRC Drop-In Zone & Pathways to Education— programs, tutoring and services free to youth 13-18 years of age.	Improve the quality of lives of vulnerable youth Provide support to youth to stay in school and advocate with schools to assist with alternative learning plans to engage youth to graduate.	39 Individual Youth attending drop-in daily. 2975 youth contacts at after-school drop-in. Assisted 5 youth transition back to the class room with developing individual work plans and one on one tutoring.	68 Individual Youth attending drop-in and/or Pathways to Education. 4600 youth contacts at after-school drop-in. 17 youth who have been attending TRC for 3 years graduated with 9 of them receiving over a total of \$120k in scholarships. Over 7000 youth contacts accessing different services at TRC. 2100 accumulated tutoring hours	Staff at TRC through daily attendance/sign in sheets
Case Managers meet with youth to address barriers to live a healthier life. Provide supports in housing, food security and referrals to community agencies, continue to bring awareness to youth homelessness in SJ. Oasis Program/room provides shower & laundry facilities, personal hygiene supplies and clothing to youth 13-24 years of age.	Provide one on one supports to youth who are homeless or living in risky situations	44 Individual clients receiving one on supports though Case Management and 17 Individual youth accessing the Oasis room with a total of 478 youth contacts for Oasis Program	57 Individual clients receiving one on supports though Case Management and 29 Individual youth accessing the Oasis room with a total of 521 youth contacts for Oasis Program	Data collection by TRC staff
Connecting youth with the community to link youth with businesses and other services to develop skills volunteering, part-time jobs and mentoring.	Provide leadership opportunities for our youth.	9 youth obtained part-time jobs, 14 youth volunteered monthly at a local senior's home from Nov-April.	28 youth participated in a formalized mentoring program, with 19 developing individual leadership projects to support the community (i.e. raising money for mental health programs, raising awareness for child rights). Established student social enterprise program with two "businesses" developed and run by 12 youth. 20 students participated in formalized career & post-secondary awareness program. 20 youth spent day with different businesses & organizations to explore their career interests. Over 300 youth volunteer hours.	Data collection by TRC staff