



To provide women with opportunities to improve their quality of life through self-development and community action.



ANNUAL REPORT 2018-19



United Way
Greater Toronto

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT



As a long time supporter of the Working Women Community Centre (WWCC or the Centre), I was honoured to be asked to serve again on its Board of Directors and humbled to be elected to the position of President. I appreciate this opportunity to broadcast some of the Centre's accomplishments this past year and highlight the clear impact of those achievements for newcomer women and their families.

Let me begin by recognizing the contributions of our Executive Director, Marcie Ponte, to the Centre's success. I think it fair to say that with

Marcie's leadership for the past two decades, the WWCC is an award winning organization. In 2018, the YMCA named Marcie as a "Woman of Distinction" and in 2019, York University conferred on Marcie an Honourary Doctor of Laws Degree. Marcie will be the first to tell you that these accolades are a reflection of the exceptional work of WWCC and its dedicated staff.

Some of that exceptional work is in the area of food security. The Centre has been able to increase the number of plots at the Oriole Community Garden. Through partnerships with the Oriole Food Space, Flemingdon Community Health Centre and the North York Food Bank, the Centre saw greater participation at community dinners from residents in the Don Mills' area. With funding from Toronto Public Health and in partnership with Access Point Danforth, the Centre will be delivering the Community Food Works program, which will offer Food Handling Certificate training to approximately 200 newcomers in the Victoria Village and surrounding communities.

Another area of remarkable work is in education. Through the City of Toronto's Legacy fund, the Centre expanded its learning programs and developed a Parent Ambassador's Training program to enable newcomer parents to gain knowledge about the Canadian education system. More than 60 parents participated in the Centre's 12-week sessions, which enabled them to develop skills to be their children's best advocate and to ensure their children achieved their academic potential.

The WWCC has developed a strong reputation for consistently providing knowledgeable, holistic services for newcomers through the Centre's settlement programs, as well as a having strong commitment to scholastic success for newcomer children. The Centre has also established itself as a leader in the settlement sector and as an innovator of new initiatives, which are creative while being impactful.

I want to acknowledge and thank our funders, partners, staff and volunteers for the confidence they have bestowed on the WWCC through their continued support and collaboration.

Lorraine Boucher
President, Board of Directors
Working Women Community Centre



GOLDEN MILE



Construction of the Eglinton Crosstown light rail transit (LRT) will bring millions in private property investment into the Golden Mile area over the next 20–30 years. Given the scope of potential change and the impact on adjacent Neighbourhood Improvement Areas, a different approach is required.

Working Women Community Centre has secured funding through the United Way, Our Strong Neighbourhoods stream, to develop a comprehensive local response that includes not only the community benefits framework but also convening of neighbourhood stakeholders and targeted supports to local resident leadership.

LINC CNC 2018–2019



This past year, WWCC collaborated with the City of Toronto, St. Stephen's Community House, DanceWorks and Dreamwalker Dance Company in "The Welcome Project." This project was part of the Toronto Newcomer Day. It involved the use of welcoming gestures: in which participants increased awareness of self, built trust, safety and confidence, and experienced unity through non-verbal communication using dance-based practices and contemporary artistic values.

Andrea Naan from Dreamwalker engaged with LINC staff and ran a series of workshops in our daytime LINC classes, which focused on positive attitudes, acts of kindness, reciprocity-allowing students to tune in, and self-expression. The workshops focused on core Canadian values and provided a safe space for participants to come together.



THE ORIOLE COMMUNITY GARDEN AT ADVENT LUTHERAN CHURCH

The Oriole Community Garden is an important aspect of our food security work for the Oriole Food Space, a partnership between Working Women Community Centre, North York Harvest Food Bank, and the Flemingdon Health Centre. Together we work to increase food access and build awareness of food security in the Don Valley North catchment area. Since 2005, it has been a place to grow fresh food and a special place where neighbours (mostly newcomers) can socialize and meet new people. This year we expanded the number of plots from 127 to 147. Many thanks to Advent Lutheran Church who provides the land that makes the garden a success.

HOME INSTRUCTION FOR PARENTS OF PRESCHOOL YOUNGSTERS (HIPPIY)

WWCC's HIPPIY program is a unique home-based integrated educational program which recognizes the parents to be their children's first and best teachers. HIPPIY gives parents the opportunity to play, learn, bond and grow with their children.

This program not only empowers parents to help their children successfully enter the school system in Canada, it also provides newcomer families with settlement supports that decrease isolation, improves English language skills, and eases the settlement, integration and engagement process into Canadian society.



COMMUNITY FOOD WORKS INITIATIVE

Community Food Works is a partnership program between WWCC and the Toronto Food Strategy at Toronto Public Health. It is a program that combines the Food Handler Certification with nutrition education, food skills and employment support to newcomers and other residents in Toronto. Participants get support with job skills, build social networks and learn about food safety and healthy eating. The program uses learner-centered participatory approaches where sessions are tailored to meet the needs of the communities.

FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS 2018-2019

REVENUES	2019	2018
Federal	\$3,588,701	\$3,438,287
Provincial	\$453,109	\$453,447
Municipal	\$360,082	\$330,296
United Way	\$854,417	\$917,931
Foundations	\$831,570	\$518,659
Others	\$174,043	\$207,811
Total Revenues	\$6,261,922	\$5,866,431
EXPENDITURES	2019	2018
Personnel	\$4,353,260	\$4,107,078
Building Occupancy	\$897,514	\$914,947
Program Expenses	\$547,612	\$500,141
Administration	\$61,328	\$58,555
Equipment	\$175,941	\$123,533
Purchased Services	\$160,236	\$121,195
Staff Related Expenses	\$20,158	\$23,655
Insurance	\$14,330	\$13,820
Total Expenses	\$6,230,379	\$5,862,924
Excess Revenues Over Expenses	\$31,543	\$3,507

OUR FUNDERS

Federal

Immigration, Refugees & Citizen Canada (IRCC)

- LINC
 - Welcoming Communities
- Ministry of Labour
- Status of Women
 - Human Resources and Skills
 - Development Canada (HRSDC)

Provincial

Ministry of Citizenship

- Newcomers Settlement Program (NSP)

- Ontario Women's Directorate
- Pay Equity Funding

Municipal

City of Toronto

- Community Service Partnership
- Investing in Neighbourhood
- Legacy Fund
- Community Food Works
- Toronto Employment & Social Services

United Way of Greater Toronto

Foundations/ Organizations

Brookfield Foundation
 JVS Toronto
 Ontario Trillium Foundation
 Toronto Catholic District School Board (TCDSB)
 Toronto District School Board (TDSB)
 Regional Government of the Azores
 Tides Canada

VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION



OUR PARTNERS

We thank our partners for their continued collaboration in service delivery to over 10,000 newcomer families across the City of Toronto.

- Access Alliance Multicultural Health & Community Services
- ACCESS Employment
- Advent Lutheran Church
- Aisling Discoveries Child & Family Centre
- Alzheimer Society of Toronto
- Barbara Schlifer Commemorative Clinic
- Birchmount Bluffs Neighbourhood Centre
- Bloor Gladstone Library
- Canada Centre for Victims of Torture
- Canadian South Asian Growth & Support Services
- Career Foundation
- Centennial College
- Central Eglinton Community Centre
- Centre for Immigrants & Community Services
- Children's Aid Toronto
- Chinese and Southeast Asian Legal Clinic
- City of Toronto – Newcomer Office
- Community Living Toronto
- Credit Canada
- Davenport Perth Neighbourhood Community Health Centre: Early Years
- Don Mills Family Health Team
- Dream Walker Dance Company
- East Toronto Chinese Baptist Church
- Emery Adult Education Centre
- Ernestine's Women's Shelter
- Evergreen College
- Fairview Library
- Family Services Toronto
- Flemington Health Centre
- Firgrove Learning & Innovation Community Centre
- George Brown College
- Heart & Stroke Foundation of Ontario
- Hong Fook Mental Health Association
- Humber College: ESL
- Immigrant Women's Centre
- Injured Workers Consultants
- Jessie's Centre
- JVS Toronto
- Karen Partnership Group
- Labour Community Services
- Learning Disabilities Association of Toronto District
- Madison Community Services
- Mennonite New Life Centre
- Meridian Credit Union
- METRAC
- Mothers of O'Connor
- Nancy Niel
- New Circles Community Services
- North York Community House
- North York Harvest Food Bank
- Oasis
- Ontario Early Years Centres
- Parkdale Parents' Primary Prevention Project (5P's)
- Parkdale Community Health Centre
- Patricia Wells Immigration Lawyers
- Philippine Overseas Labour Office
- Roseneath Theatre
- RBC-Bloorcourt & Fairview Mall
- Right Relations
- ROM (Royal Ontario Musium)
- Scott Mission Childcare Centre
- Seneca College
- Shoppers Drug Mark-Fairview
- Sesheme Foundation
- Springboard
- Stanley Public School: Continuing Education
- Stonegate Community Health Centre
- TAIBU Community Health Centre
- The Christopher Leadership Course Canada
- The Cross-Cultural Community Services Association
- The People's Church
- The Students Commission
- The Neighbourhood Office
- Toronto & York Region Labour Council
- Toronto Catholic District School
- Toronto Community Housing Corporation
- Toronto District School Board
- Toronto Green Community
- Toronto Intergenerational Partnerships
- Toronto Police Services
- Toronto Public Health
- University of Toronto Faculty of Applied Science & Engineering
- West Neighbourhood House
- Willowdale Community Legal Services
- Woodgreen Community Services
- Workers Action Centre
- Workplace Safety & Prevention Services
- Yorkdale Adult Learning Centre
- York University Concurrent Teacher Education Program
- Young Parents No Fixed Address
- Youth Services Network
- YMCA Assessment Centre

WWCC IS ALSO A MEMBER OF THE FOLLOWING NETWORKS

- Chinese Canadian National Council of Toronto Chapter
- Chinese Integration Networking
- HIPPIY Canada
- Middle Childhood Matters Coalition Toronto
- Ontario Council of Agencies Serving Newcomers
- Social Planning Toronto
- Toronto Neighbourhood Centres
- Woman Abuse Council Toronto



Celebrating the success of our graduating On Your Mark students for the 2018/2019 school year!

OUR LOCATIONS

Downtown

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Toronto, Ontario M6H 3J1
Tel. 416-532-2824
Fax 416-532-7432

North York East Centre (Fairview)

5 Fairview Mall Drive, Suite 478
North York, Ontario M2J 2Z1
Tel. 416-494-7978
Fax 416-494-5266

Victoria Park HUB

1527 Victoria Park Avenue, 2nd Floor
Toronto, Ontario M1L 2T3
Tel. 416-750-9600
Fax 416-750-9606

North York West Centre (Jane & Finch)

2065 Finch Avenue West, Suite 106
Toronto, Ontario M3N 2V7
Tel. 647-346-3700
Fax 647-346-3701

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