

**2012/2013
Annual Report**



*The Place ...
For New Beginnings*



MESSAGE FROM THE ACTING EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

On behalf of the Board of Directors, Management, Staff, and most important, the youth we serve, we would like to present you with the Saskatoon Downtown Youth Centre Inc./EGADZ 2012/2013 Annual Report. Through the dedication, commitment and hard work of EGADZ staff, board of directors, funders, and numerous business and private individuals, we are able to offer hard to serve youth an opportunity for personal growth and a place to feel safe.

This year was extremely busy with our purchase, renovation, and a move into our new building at 485-1st Avenue North. With purchasing our own building we will have stability in a demanding real estate market, as well in time, we will own the building. With a smaller space we will use community resources to assist in recreational activities needed for the youth we serve.

As well in 2012/2013, we opened two new homes for mothers needing assistance to get their children back that are currently in care. With relocating Baby Steps to a bigger home, we increased the capacity to 2 mothers and up to 8 children living at the home. As well we had Colleen and Wally Mah from NorthRidge Developments Inc. provide a generous donation to another home called Mah's Place for 2 mothers and up to 3 children that have been returned into their mother's care. We are honored to name the home after Colleen and Wally as they have been such a committed donor to EGADZ.

It is our role as a community based organization to assist Children, Families, and Youth so they can gain positive outcomes in their lives. Everyone needs to be provided a continuum of services that include but not limited to; emergency services, outreach, hang out space, recreation, housing, employment and educational opportunities. By creating a flexible continuum of care, we can maintain our goal of providing services that work towards growth and independence.

We need to thank The Government of Canada, The Province of Saskatchewan, The City of Saskatoon, Corporate and Private Donors, as without this support EGADZ would not be able to carry out the important work needed to move youth along to independence.



Our Vision, Values and Mission Statement is as follows:

Vision The Saskatoon Downtown Youth Centre Inc.-EGADZ is a community based inter-agency organization that provides resources and actively supports services that empower "hard to serve" youth to help themselves reach their full potential. The Saskatoon Downtown Youth Centre Inc.-EGADZ provides a safe acceptable place for "hard to serve" youth with links to their families, with support of the community. The Saskatoon Downtown Youth Centre Inc. - EGADZ believes in having youth involved in expressing their needs and determining services they require in order to meet their needs is paramount.

Values

- We value youth and their potential including their right to be heard and to self-determination.
- We value a holistic approach to seeking harmony and balance in the lives of individuals.
- We value community support and assistance in addressing the needs of "hard to serve" youth.
- We believe in basic human rights and equality rights regardless of race, religion, gender, ability, age, and socio-cultural status.
- We value staff, volunteers, and board members.
- We believe in respect for others, property, and the environment.

Mission Statement

Our mission is to encourage "hard to serve" youth in the city of Saskatoon to make choices that improve their quality of life through the provision of direct services and an inter-agency approach.

Please feel free to visit our website at www.egadz.ca for more information on the structure and services we provide.



YOUTH DROP-IN CENTRE

Program Overview:

The EGADZ Drop-In Centre is an inclusive, safe, and supervised environment where young people are able to utilize our space outside of school hours. Many people accessing the Drop-In Centre face various barriers due to socioeconomic status, thus requiring support in areas of food, housing, education, mental health, physical health, advocacy, and lack of recreational opportunities. This past year youth, children and families accessed the Centre 10,047 times. Clientele visits ranged from coming into the centre once, to other accessing the drop-in over 300 times.

A sample of youth that accessed the Drop-In Centre in 2012/2013

30+ times – 42 youth

70+ times – 24 youth

100+ times – 14 youth

175+ times – 7 youth

The Centre offers a monthly calendar of events including social/recreational activities, sports and cultural events. Programs and activities provided by the Centre are based on youth's input, interest and needs. These programs aim to improve the quality of life for youth at risk by helping build self-confidence and enhancing developmental opportunities. It is staff's responsibility to build healthy relationships and influence them in becoming active in the community and in improving their living conditions while providing opportunities for personal growth. They also engage youth in one-on-one informal counselling to address problem areas and personal needs. Other services include; support, information, referrals and emergency services. In 2012/13 Ninety Five percent of people accessing the Drop-In Centre identified as being of Aboriginal decent. Therefore, staff practice cultural awareness and sensitivity in all program and service areas.

The biggest change for EGADZ this past year was that in 2012, the organization moved from its long time location to a new building. Although the move was challenging, the building is now a permanent home and is located only a few blocks north of the old building. The Drop-In Centre is located on the main floor and is easily accessible. Youth, children and families accessing the Drop-In Centre may utilize the following:

- Couches, tables and chairs for the youth to interact
- Books and board games
- Foosball, ping pong, and pool tables
- T.V's for movies or video games
- Stereo system and karaoke machine
- Computers to surf the internet or for educational or employment purposes
- Clothing room, laundry room, shower room, public phone, and public washrooms
- Posters and calendars of events happening within the Centre and the Community

Drop-In Centre Outcomes

The overall goal of EGADZ Drop-In Centre is to identify needs of youth and implement appropriate programs and services. It demonstrates the on-going work of advancing the vision and mission of EGADZ and reflects current and relevant priorities of, funders, management, and board of directors. The six main goals of the Centre are as follows:

- Help youth choose productive and healthy life style choices.
- Counselling youth and preparing them to access appropriate remedial counselling services suitable to effectively address their individual personal needs and problem areas.
- Youth have access to positive activities in a structured setting.
- Youth have access to positive adult role models.
- Improved access to community supports and services that increase their developmental opportunities and enhance their quality of life.
- Youth have established and are using a support system that relies less on intensive services from the Ministry of Social Services and other human services.

The Centre successfully achieved the six identified outcomes as explained in detail in the following:

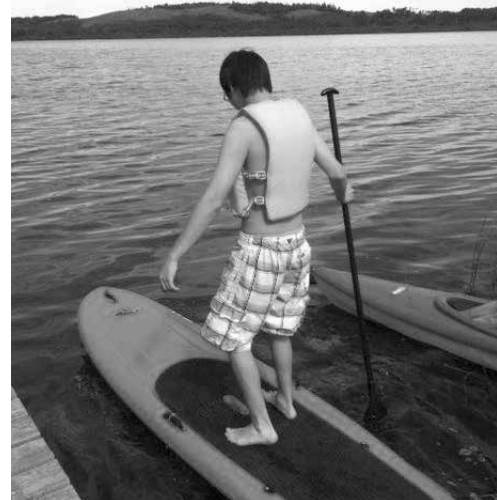
The Centre provided a safe supervised alternative for youth who were at risk of being involved in an unhealthy lifestyle on the streets. Through various initiatives facilitated by EGADZ, they were able to choose productive, healthy lifestyles in a structured setting. In 2012/2013 the Centre offered 297 community based activities and events in which the youth, and children participated 1,433 times. Physical activities included roller blading, biking, swimming, archery, basketball, floor hockey, dance lessons, winter/summer camping, sailing, horseback riding, hiking, rowing, wall-climbing, water skiing and bowling. Youth were also able to attend hockey games, cultural theatrical plays, Festival of Lights, Mendel Art Gallery, Public Library, The Exhibition, Aboriginal Missing Women's Walk, Monster Truck and many more. The opportunity to engage youth outside of the Centre in organized sports, recreation and events helped youth develop life skills and community connections.

The summer sports camps built self-confidence, exposed youth to new activities, increased physical fitness, taught teamwork and conflict resolution. Youth were also provided support in addressing personal needs and issues of sexual health, self-harm, childhood traumas, and drug and alcohol abuse. During this fiscal year, they received support and informal counselling, while others were referred to appropriate counselling services and programs. Informal counselling through reflective listening continues to be effective with many youth coming to the Drop-In Centre. A compassionate and non-judgemental attitude towards their point of view is important in building trust between the youth worker and youth. This relationship is an important step, especially in cases when they required professional counselling.

Another component in this effort was the Practicum Placement Program. The Centre was provided with students completing professional degrees in the area of Social Work, Aboriginal Justice, Youth Care Work and Nursing. The practicums worked with youth discussing topics ranging from sexual health, contraceptive methods and personal hygiene to tattoo safety, chronic diseases, drugs and alcohol and nutrition. A method that proved to be successful with young people was the interactive education session, where game-style learning took place, this increased their knowledge and attention span while creating sense of excitement. Through these initiatives, youth have been able to find healthy alternative methods of coping with their needs and issues which allowed them to communicate more effectively at home, school, and work. Many have chosen positive alternative methods to deal with stress, anger, frustration and sadness rather than engaging in unhealthy behaviours.

EGADZ staff promotes personal, educational and social development of youth. In doing so, the young people we assist gain knowledge needed to seek and access other community supports and services. Further positive guidance was offered through our programs and activities led by diverse community members who helped youth become more self-aware and see the many opportunities available to them. EGADZ youth are surrounded by positive role models in the centre as well as through all of the community outings. For example, the 2012 Youth Singing Contest at the University of Saskatchewan PowWow was won by the EGADZ youth drumming group. Winning the contest has shown the significance of interacting with positive role models and its importance in helping them understand their ability to make positive impact within the community. Many who participated in that contest have now become the mentors to younger youth. They took initiatives to mentor their peers by offering positive advice and support. Thus, peer mentoring has been an effective method in guiding them to make healthier choices.

People who do not have the opportunity to access appropriate and effective programming are at risk for engaging in negative and destructive behaviours. They have a higher probability of receiving intensive services from social services, the health care system and the courts. The Centre helps youth, children and families to become active members of society by establishing a strong support system. This is extremely important in minimizing the reliance on intensive services. Youth at the Drop-In Centre required support in accessing community supports and services. Due to their lack of knowledge regarding resources, many found this process to be intimidating and overwhelming. Therefore, the Drop-In staff worked with youth on-one, and educated them on various community supports and services. Learning about the



The summer sports camps built self-confidence, exposed youth to new activities, increased physical fitness, taught teamwork and conflict resolution





processes and procedures of various resources allowed youth to feel more comfortable in accessing them independently.

A great way to encourage youth to participate in their community while building lasting life skills is to volunteer. Drop-In staff and youth volunteered at 16 community events this past year.

As the outcomes have shown, given the opportunity, many people who engage in a productive and healthy lifestyle, deters them from using a support system based on intensive services. Youth accessing the Centre have the potential to become positive contributing members of society given the adequate support and resources. In the coming year, the Centre will continue to engage youth in programs and services that promote life skills, healthy life styles and positive activities aimed at supporting independence and engagement of youth, children and families within the community.

Statistics of Services Provided by the Youth Centre in 2012/2013

Advocacy – 27
 Personal identification – 30
 Taxes – 18
 Medical appointments – 68
 Homework help – 206
 Housing assistance – 49
 Condoms – 109
 Information sessions by practicums – 42
 Professional counselling, treatment and AA – 37
 Informal one-on-one counselling – 69
 Case planning – 120

Program areas the EGADZ Drop-In Centre provided in 2012/2013

Sports/Physical Educational Programming

With the generous funding provided by Canadian Tire Jump Start program, EGADZ was fortunate to have offered various structured sports and physical activities throughout the year. Youth involved in sports gain self-confidence, develop self-esteem, learn team work, and gain leadership skills.

Statistics

Salsa – 36 participants
 Summer Sports camps – 25 participants
 Sailing – 3 participants
 Horseback riding – 5 participants
 Rowing – 5 participants
 Wall climbing – 29 participants
 Water skiing – 12 participants
 Bowling – 42 participants

Highlight

An 18 year old youth came to the Centre to stay out of trouble and engage in positive activities. He frequently went bowling, wall climbing, and attended Salsa dancing every Wednesday. During these activities he confided in staff that he had addictions issues and needed help. The staff encouraged him to try attending an AA meeting. He agreed, but felt uncomfortable to go alone. The staff supported him to his first meeting by providing transportation and reassurance. He continued attending meetings on his own and still participates within various activities facilitated by the Drop-In Centre. He has mentioned to various staff that the Centre plays a crucial part in him living a positive lifestyle.

A great way to encourage youth to participate in their community while building lasting life skills is to volunteer. Drop-In staff and youth volunteered at 16 community events this past year.

CULTURAL PROGRAM

EGADZ Cultural Connections, funded by Community Initiatives Funds, provides access to cultural supports and experiences to the youth, families and children at the Drop-in Centre. There were 87 participants involved in various activities and events 312 times. Involved participants have access to activities with an elder once a week. There were weekly drumming, monthly sweats and round dances, pow wows and community events. EGADZ Cultural Connections participants are primarily First Nations and Metis youth living off reserve. Some lack cultural connection to family, community, and elders. Reconnecting to their culture helps them to gain confidence and self-esteem, and a sense of belonging. Once they begin to build self-confidence they continue to attend school, find employment opportunities, care for their children, stay away from drugs/alcohol, and the gang lifestyle. Through this program, many of the young people have added confidence to access cultural opportunities on their own. In addition those who have shown growth have helped to plan excursions to other activities and special events in the community. Having this comfort and knowledge base give them ownership over the program, activities, and community they live in.

Statistics

Drumming – 47 individuals
Crafts with an Elder – 95 individuals
Sweat Lodge Ceremony– 31 individuals
Round Dance – 45 individuals
Pow Wows – 31 individuals
Cultural Plays – 15 individuals
Other cultural activities – 48 individuals

Highlights

A 13 year old boy started coming to drumming with the group home he was in. When he left the group home, he continued to attend drumming on his own. Because of his dedication and persistence to learn drumming, he was part of the drum group that won a trophy for the Youth Singing Contest at the University of Saskatchewan PowWow.

Another 13 year old boy who suffers from Intense Social Anxiety started coming to the Drop-In centre. He started by building a rapport with one youth worker who got him involved with the drummers. He now attends consistently and participates enthusiastically.

EMPLOYMENT PROGRAM

The Employment Support Project, funded by Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada, was a 3 month project that assisted “hard to serve” Aboriginal youth in addressing barriers to participate in the workforce. This program supported them in employment readiness and drivers training. The project included support for them to obtain personal identification documents, job search, interview preparation, driver's license, and general support in obtaining and maintaining employment.

Statistics

Program participants – 65
Handing out resumes – 27 individuals
Received clothing or equipment for employment – 29 individuals
Obtained Identification – 19 individuals
Completed Interviews with perspective employers – 13 individuals
Maintained/and or Obtained Employment – 17 individuals
Participated in Drivers Training – 22 individuals
Updated resumes – 43 individuals
Actively searched for employment – 38 individuals

Highlight

An 18 year old female who participated in the Employment Program, got a job and now has her driver's license. Through this employment opportunity she has become a young community leader, who organizes positive activities for other youth.





KITCHEN PROGRAM

Another service offered by EGADZ is providing healthy nutritious meals and snacks for youth, families and children. The new EGADZ building received a commercial grade kitchen, thanks to the generous donation from Potash Corp and the Saskatoon Community Foundation. The kitchen is located on the main floor and is utilized by various programs within EGADZ. The Drop-In kitchen program is facilitated by youth workers and a kitchen support staff. The main function of this program is to provide youth, children and families with a nutritional snack after school, followed by supper at 5 pm daily. The Centre was able to serve 2,303 nutritional snacks and 3,891 healthy suppers to people during 2012/13. Thanks to the addition of a regular kitchen staff with a background in health and nutrition, the consumption of fruit and vegetable intake increased three times from the previous year.

Highlight

WJ

This story of a 16 year old girl accessing the Drop-In Centre illustrates the importance of the Drop-In Centre's role in a young person's life and its effectiveness by working together to improve their quality of life.

WJ came to the Centre when she was 13 years old. She was extremely shy, insecure, and avoided having conversations with others. WJ spent the majority of her time at the Centre only utilizing the computer area. She came from a non-supportive household where her older brothers and sisters were involved in very high risk lifestyles. WJ had few positive role models and support systems. Through the years the staff slowly started building trust with her and she started opening up more. The staff saw her engage in various activities within the centre, such as video games, foosball, and pool. Soon enough she was participating in activities outside of the centre with the staff and other youth. Eventually she became active in sports, cultural, and summer programs offered by EGADZ.

Over the year, through one-on-one support from the staff, WJ has had a significant change in her academic achievements and social interactions. WJ also frequently helped with meal preparation, and reinforced rules and regulations of the Centre, mentoring younger youth. She participates in the majority of the cultural activities such as sweat lodge, drumming, pow wows and round dances. She is allowed, by the elder, to be a "helper" before the sweat lodge ceremony and aids in all the preparation prior to the start of the activity. She explains the process of the ceremony to new youth and staff, who are new to this process. WJ is also active in drumming and helps encourage the younger youth in the drum group.

This past year WJ participated in the Employment Program at the Centre where she completed her driver's training and received learner's licence. She is determined, dedicated and persistent to create life changes for herself. Through the Employment Program, WJ also received assistance with her resume and handing them out to potential employers. Two weeks later, she was called for an interview. She got the job and is now working part time while maintaining school. After her first pay cheque WJ went to the bank and opened up a saving account. WJ's goal is to save 60% of her pay for a car. She also told EGADZ staff she felt proud of her job and now was able to talk to customers and coworkers confidently.

TEEN PARENT PROGRAM

Teen Parent Program continues to be supported through Health Canada-The Community Action Program for Children (CAPC).

The Teen Parent Program is focused on assisting Teen Parents and /or expecting Parent(s) on becoming better equipped in raising healthy happy children so that they can enjoy the benefits of being a positive and loving family. With prevention at the heart of the program, specific positive parenting information on child safety ,proper shelter ,health ,nutrition and nurturing love is delivered through 4 integral components within the program-The Nobody's Perfect Program ,The Life Skills Program, Attachment and Bonding Activities , Individual Support/Emergency Services which also include Outreach Services . Our commitment to child Safety, protection and prevention are embedded through various modules that can be implemented immediately to have maximum success.

These goals were achieved by offering formal and informal parenting information sessions and activities twice a week throughout the year, as well as, individual informal counseling, emergency support, supplies and outreach services.

The "Nobody's Perfect" Program

One of the educational sessions is the "Nobody's Perfect" Program which was designed by the (CAPC) Community Action Program for Children to meet the needs of high risk, low income families across Canada. The Nobody's Perfect Program is based on three goals which are: Preventing Child Injury, Preventing Child Obesity, and Child Mental Health. The Nobody's Perfect Program is run 3 times a year at EGADZ and has 8 sessions per group in which attendance is mandatory in order for a parent to receive a Parent Certificate. This year the Nobody's Perfect program was ran twice. In 2012/ 13 the program had 17 individuals attend with 9 receiving their Parent Certificates. To assist Parents to maintain in the program they received transportation, childcare and snacks.

Highlights

In 2012/13 one of the Parents BN was trying to get her child Back after being apprehended by Social Services .Her child had been apprehended for over one year now and BN was ready to follow through with programming .One of the requirements from Social Services was that she attend a parent program. BN attended The Nobody's Perfect Program and received her Parent Certificate. At this time BN has progressed to having supervised visits, leading a healthier lifestyle, abstaining from alcohol and drugs, obtaining an appropriate residence, and will be getting full custody of her baby soon.

CS has been a parent since the age of 14, and over the past 4 years has acquired tremendous support from EGADZ. Due to CS's commitment in attending programming, she has been offered by the Saskatchewan Prevention Institute the opportunity to obtain her "Nobody's Perfect Facilitator Certificate". This will assist her with future employment and self-esteem building.

CC is one of the EGADZ regular youth, as well as ,someone who has attended The " Nobody's Perfect" Program on a regular basis since she was 16yrs. She has had her share of struggles with family dysfunction over the years. She is now 19yrs old, graduated grade 12, working in a beauty Salon, and still keeps her child as her number one priority.

Life Skills Program

The Life Skills Component teaches coping skills to parents that need assistance in dealing with life experiences. This is done through learning about stress relief, cooking, crafts, informational presentations, and connecting to community supports. This will teach Teen Parents the importance of taking care of one's self in order to take better care of their child(ren).

Highlights

The Domestic Violence module was one of the programs that were presented in 4 sections, first on Community, family, relationships, and child abuse information. The main goal is to make the parents aware of the impact they have on keeping violence out of their lives, by starting at home with their children and families. There were 19 parents who attended these sessions. There were also 2 nutrition sessions and 10 parents that attended. These sessions were facilitated by





the practicum Nursing Students from the University of Saskatchewan. The students were able to give the parents a medical perspective on what happens to children when they do not eat proper meals and eat too much junk food. The Practicum Students offered solutions to eating problems with their children.

Statistics

From April 2012 to March 2013

20 Lifeskill sessions ran with 19 parents attending

Attachment and Bonding

The Attachment and Bonding component offers activities and sessions for both parent and their child so that they will create a bond. For the majority of these parents positive play was not normally a practice at home.

One of the approaches in achieving this goal was the Summer Fun for Families. This section offered bonding activities and was done during the months of July and August. The parents were involved in brainstorming the activities and then carried throughout the summer. These sessions involved visits to the Forestry Farm, games at The Fun Factory, visits out to the Community Playgrounds, Swimming Pools, and walks by the river.

Highlights

There were also special events such as Birthday, Easter, Valentine's Day, and Christmas Parties where there were craft stations and games set up for parents to do with their children. These activities and events carried on throughout the year and also include visits to the Biology Building, Bowling, and a School Supper and Bingo.

One of the parents expressed how she knew her Mom loved her but never really felt like she had a close bond with her. She did want her child to grow up in the same circumstances. She always thought that love was being able to buy your child whatever they wanted. She spent money on her child that she couldn't afford. Over the year she learned to spend quality time with her child and to give him positive attention. She has become a loving, supportive mom, but also a nurturing Parent with positive boundaries.

The My Homes

In addition, there is a group held every 2nd Tuesday of the month in which the Teen Parent Program meets with the My Home Parents. This is a partnership with the My Homes. This year the Baby Steps Program moved to a new facility. In its new location the flexibility of the program began with more client participation and program engagement. The participants discussed topics such as Child Safety, Emergency preparedness, labor and delivery, nutrition and immunization. The Parents attended a Christmas Party at The EGADZ Youth Centre and a night where the Centre parents and the My Home parents got together for mini golf.

Emergency Support and Supplies

The emergency supplies and supports services are available to Teen Parents on a continuous basis. The Services offered were set up according to the needs of the parents. These needs are: referrals, Baby supplies, medical and outreach assistance, clothing and food packs, personal hygiene items, and support for basic one on one informal counseling.

Statistics

From April 2012-March 2013

There were 517 individual visits for varying emergency and support needs.

These included:

35-Referrals	6-Food packs
44-Clothing	5- Medical related referrals
102-Diapers	
113-Formula	
37- Personal hygiene	35- Baby supplies
14 -Pregnancy tests	145- Bus tickets

Highlights

There was a new couple who just moved to the city from their Reserve and they were struggling for their first few months here in Saskatoon. They could not afford Baby formula and diapers, while the father was searching for work. They accessed EGADZ for the first few months until the father obtained appropriate employment. They stopped in to thank EGADZ for the assistance and hoped to contribute some day when they could afford it.

A young mother was very distraught about her situation her partner left her in as she was very reliant on him for everything. She was left with 2 toddlers, all the bills, and expecting a child any day. EGADZ provided immediate services of; diapers, formula, food, a way to get to the hospital, and medical support. Because of the support this young Mother was able to obtain other services that allow her independence.

Childcare

One of the services offered the youth who attend programming is childcare for their children .The new EGADZ Centre is pleased to present a new Childcare centre for the babies and toddlers while their parents are in program. The childcare centre offers a very loving environment for the children .The childcare area was used 216 times in 2012/13.

SCHOOL SUPPORT PROGRAM 2012/2013

The School Support Program is a community based intervention program designed to assist youth that are experiencing an array of difficulties. These are barriers to acquiring or maintaining an educational placement. Many live in unstructured family environments with high levels of social disadvantages. As a result, many of these young people demonstrate negative responses stemming often from dysfunctional home and parenting environments. Furthermore, issues such as truancy, substance abuse, gang involvement, homelessness, criminalized behaviors and mental/emotional/ physical health concerns are significant factors that impact their education.

Program staff support youth in many aspects of their lives. Staff seeks to provide youth with support for legal issues by transporting and attending court, lawyer's appointments, and probation reporting. Further supports include visits and calls to the home and school, providing in school crisis interventions, suspensions, wake up calls, transportation to school, parent visits, and one-on-ones with youth. Moreover, staff attends case conferences, contact workers, make outside agency referrals such as: Mental Health, Addiction Services, detox and/or treatment, and personal counseling.

The School Support program is financially supported through the Ministry of Corrections Public Safety and Policing and is able to accommodate twelve individual youth between the ages of 12 and 17 at any given time throughout the year.

Youth continue to be involved in program during extended school breaks and the summer months. The summer portion of the program provides structured programming that includes life skills, field trips, recreation, community awareness, physical education and camping. This provides consistency and structure in their lives and has proven to be very beneficial upon their return to the upcoming school year.

School Support Program 2012/13

Carried over from previous year - 10

Total referrals this year - 86

Total intakes - 71

Males referred - 69

Females referred – 27

Repeat for year – 13

Home/parent contacts - 1654

One on One's/crisis interventions - 39

Cont. worker/Case conferences – 424

Lunches - 364





School Support Program 2012/13 Continued

Recreation hours – 1203.5

Life skills hours – 208.5

Volunteer hours – 17

Field trip/cultural hours – 62

Phys. Ed. hours – 354

School contacts/Visits - 274

Highlights in 2012/13

During the summer of 2012 there were 25 individual youth who remained involved with the School Support Program. These youth were offered and supported through healthy recreational activities and a camping trip. This approach offers consistency and structure in a young person's life that has demonstrated to be beneficial upon their return to school. Of the 25 individual youth there were 16 of those who youth re-entered school in the fall.

Through 2012/13 there were 71 youth provided assistance and support to attend and maintain their school placements.

There were 910 breakfasts given out to youth before they were dropped off at school throughout 2012/13. This was in part through funding from Child Hunger and Education Program.

Youth are picked up each day by staff ensuring a nutritious breakfast, relationship building and attend their educational placement. In 2012/13 there were there were 1375 transportations to educational facilities.

School Support staff had 229 contacts with educational facilities/programs to support, advocate or assist with youth issues

Highlights of 2012/13

When we think of our youth we need to remember the daily struggles they face. One such youth showed not only courage, but great determination to overcome her current circumstances. Coming from a highly gang involved family, being pregnant at fifteen and no educational involvement for over two years this young girl decided the only hope for her child and herself was to change her direction in life. In the beginning, she started in our Day Support Program where this new drive to succeed was apparent. She showed up daily and participated in all aspects of programming. She attended addictions appointments, counseling and parenting groups to progress toward a positive lifestyle change. Showing this determination to change she transitioned into First Ave Campus where she began her academics for the first time. Although, at times the work was difficult, she never gave up. In less than two months of working in First Ave Campus, she was ready to move into an academic school outside of EGADZ where she continues to receive support through the School Support Program. Through her will to succeed, she continues to attend school daily, work hard on her academics and is now better equipped to face life's challenges.

A letter from a youth in the School Support Program;

"Well I want to go to school. EGADZ really helps me to stay focused. I also realized not going to school gets me nowhere. I'm ready to stick it out and better myself and my life, I know there's gonna be off days but I just wanna get this done. This time it's gonna change cause I got a ride to school and all I got to do is not skip. That was my only problem. I haven't skipped at EGADZ so I'm gonna keep it up."

DAY SUPPORT PROGRAM 2012/2013

The Day Support Program is a community based intervention program for youth in conflict with the law, who have lost their whole or partial existing educational placement, and require an alternative avenue to stabilize as a means to re-integrate into an appropriate educational placement.

Youth are supported through daily contact with staff who provide wake up calls, breakfast/lunches, transportation, parent/home visits, one on one's with youth, daily contact with their workers, attend case conferences and medical support. Staff advocate for youth by making outside agency referrals such as Mental Health, Addiction Services, detox and/or treatment and personal counseling.

The Day Program is funded through the Ministry of Corrections Public Safety and Policing and is able to accommodate 12 individual youth at any given time throughout the calendar year.

During the summer months the program shifts to recreational activities that expose youth to positive alternatives that they may seek to gravitate to and continue on with.

The summer component of the program provide youth with support, structure and stability that lends towards a more successful transition for them when re-entering an appropriate educational placement for their new school year.

In keeping true to our Random Acts of Kindness, once a month the youth plan out what they will do to try and make someone else's life a little bit brighter. Such things as shoveling people walks, handing out flowers to strangers, purchasing breakfast for someone, or plugging an expired parking meter. The youth enjoy these experiences and find the insight to selflessness.

Day Support Program Statistics 2012/13

Total referrals this year- 90

Total intakes- 67

Males referred- 59

Females referred -31

Repeat for year - 20

Home/parent contacts – 551

Transportation - 702

Lunches served - 908

Contact workers/case conference - 457

One on One's - 8

Life skills hours – 558.5

Volunteer hours – 268

Field trip/cultural hours – 216

Rec. hours – 1877

Education studies hours- 7.5

Phys Ed. hours – 505

Work Ed Program hours – 222

Design Studies hours- 157

Highlights 2012/13

This year 60% of youth that utilized the Day Support Program re-integrated back into an educational program and 41% of those were transferred into the School Support Program for continued support in their new educational placement.

During the summer of 2012 there were 8 youth who participated in the Work Education Program where they received training, experience and pay for their work. The Employment component offers youth exposure and experience in the work force that they can utilize to springboard to other employment opportunities.

The summer component provided youth with a variety of activities and experiences through sporting, recreation, fieldtrips, swimming, bowling, BBQ's and a camping trip, in an attempt to create positive experiences and opportunities.

This year 100% of summer participants entered back into an educational program in the new school year.





Throughout 2012/2013 there were 393 breakfasts made available for youth. Portions of this were made through the financial support of Child Hunger and Education Program.

The Day Support Program is thankful for its Community Partners in 2012/13 which included: Sherbrooke Community Center, Mental Health & Addictions Services Outreach Services, the Cosmo Civic Center, S.P.C.A., and Saskatoon Community Youth Arts Programming Inc. (SCYAP).

One of the unique highlights of the year was a request by the Ancient & Accepted Scottish Rite Valley of Saskatoon to have our youth paint a mural on canvas of the Portrayal of one of the Scottish Rite Degrees. With the support of our community partner SCYAP, numerous youth participated in painting the mural over a period of time. Youth were able to learn the skills necessary to paint such a project and put those skills to use in the mural itself. To watch the project unfold over a period of two months was extraordinary. From the early frustrations to the confidence gained towards the end of the project was remarkable. The Ancient & Accepted Rite was so impressed with the mural our youth painted, they have asked us to do two more and generously made a donation in appreciation for the outstanding job youth put forward.

Outcome of 2012/2013

A thirteen year old girl began in the Day Support Program after being asked to leave her educational placement. She was a proud mother of a young baby, but was struggling with family and personal issues. She was quiet at first and carried a lot of anger and trust issues. In time, she began to transform into a happy, young person who was generally a joy to be around. She adjusted well to the Day Support Program and made close connections with other youth. Within six weeks she advanced onto First Avenue Campus. After a number of months, she was transferred half time into a mainstream school and shortly after, was able to maintain a full day of classes. She is still involved in Day Support Program once a week where we are able to maintain contact assisting the transition into independence. This young girl has excellent attendance and shows that she wants to do well, for herself and for her son. She was able to secure a daycare spot within her school and is accepting more parenting responsibilities. With continued support from the School Support Program this young person will continue to grow.

A quote written by a past youth on her Facebook page with an attachment to the EGADZ web site

"I am going to be extremely honest right now when I say this program saved my life. I will never forget where I came from. It's nice to see their final report and recognize the people they served last year- they actually made a difference in so many people's lives...."

SUMMER CREDIT RECOVERY PROGRAM 2012

Participants from both the School Support and Day Support Programs were offered a chance to take part in continuing their education through the summer months. The purpose is to afford youth an opportunity to finish credits they were unable to complete during the school year.

A number of the youth in program were in a situation where they were only partly finished certain classes and were not going to be able to receive a credit for the work they had done. In previous cases the youth would have to re-take the class the following year. The efforts of students work and progress warranted the development of a Credit Recovery Project as an alternative means for youth to continue towards completing/receiving credits. Students could take English, Math, or a Native studies course and receive a high school credit. The classroom was designed to accommodate morning and afternoon classes.

Highlights 2012/13

There were 4 youth who participated in the credit recovery program and 1 credit was obtained.

There was 1 youth who started a credit and was able to finish that credit in the new school year.

Three youth from the Credit Recovery Program returned to school in the fall, 8 months later, 2 of those youth are still enrolled full time in their school placements.

Letter from a youth;

"Thank you! For being a helpful, wonderful teacher and helping me achieve my grade 10 math credit. FINALLY! Now thanks to your efforts I can attend classes in the fall without having to do it over. Now I have the knowledge on how to build a budget plan and everything."

Letter from a youth;

Thank you for the letting me have the opportunity to try get my math credit. I enjoyed learning from you. I like the way you teach because you explain things so I can understand how to solve the question."

Letter from the teacher;

Once again the credit recovery program has proven for me to be a rewarding experience. The students are wonderful young people that are very personable and warm. They are all extremely intelligent, but need a little help to recognize and gain confidence in their abilities. I have found that they view of EGADZ as a welcoming and safe environment and this carries over into the positive attitude that they bring to the classroom. The students are very respectful and try very hard to remain engaged in their work. Although only one student received credit this summer, I strongly believe that the credit recovery program was a success. I have witnessed students become excited and take ownership about their learning, as well as feel an overwhelming sense of pride and satisfaction when they score well in an exam. The informal and non-threatening atmosphere of EGADZ somehow enables them the students to leave their "issues" outside of the classroom and allows them to feel proud to be studying. I have enjoyed working, for the second summer, and feel very privileged to work with this amazing group of young people. I think the program is worthwhile and makes a difference in the lives of these youth.

Program Statistics 2012

Transportation – 20

Breakfasts - 35

Contact with worker/Case conference – 5

Home/parent contacts - 18

Lunches - 11

FIRST AVENUE CAMPUS (FAC) 2012/13

First Avenue Campus is a partnership with the Education in Custody Grant through the Ministry of Education.

First Avenue Campus is a classroom that runs from 9:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. It is staffed with a Special Education teacher and an Outreach Support Worker. The classroom provides a continuum of services to meet the complex needs of youth involved in the justice system. This provides a seamless transition from custody to a quality educational program. This is accomplished by teaching a variety of skills including social, literacy, and mathematics in a comfortable educational setting. Each student is given an individualized curriculum that best fits the individual student to prepare them for future education experiences. First Avenue Campus is a short term transitional placement to be utilized as a stepping stone to their next placement.

The youth that are involved with First Avenue Campus face a multitude of factors which are barriers to school and community engagement. Issues such as: truancy, substance abuse, gang involvement, homelessness, criminalized behaviors, and mental/emotional/and physical health concerns.

September through mid-November there was no regular classroom due to the move of the youth centre into our new building. Although there was no classroom, the outreach worker spent the day's connecting with the last year's students to continue support, and make new connections with upcoming youth. There were 11 youth in total, 7 past youth participants and 4 upcoming First Avenue Campus students.



September through November

Parent/Home contact = 121
Schools contacts = 48
Transportation = 114
Breakfast served = 77
Contact with workers = 77
Case conferences = 7
Lunches = 32
One to One's = 13

First Avenue Campus November/12 through March/13

Number of students as of March 31/12 – 22
Total referrals - 19
Females – 8
Males – 11
Presently on role - 10
Transportation – 313
Breakfasts- 278
Lunches - 250
One on One's – 18
Contact worker/Case conference – 214
Home/parent contacts – 332

Highlights 2012/13

There were 6 transitions into community educational placements. 5 are still in school.

Outcome 2012/12

First Avenue Campus (FAC) expanded to become a full day program this school year. The change allowed for the option to have students attending a classroom setting for a full day before transitioning to another school program. As an example, one student in particular, started in Day Support, transitioned to half-time Day Support and half-time classroom for several weeks, and finally spent several weeks in the classroom on a fulltime basis before transitioning to another full-time satellite school program. Planning and goal setting was done in collaboration with both the youth's primary counsellor through Youth Services and her case manager from her group home. The 15-year-old youth was always included in the process of developing the plan and setting goals. Because the process was collaborative and transparent, the youth was able to "own" her plan, reflect on progress, and develop the confidence to move on to a school program with an academic focus. Because the involved agencies worked collaboratively, we were able to cue the youth by using similar language and remain consistent with expectations. While at FAC, the primary goal established for the youth was to improve social skills and behaviour. The team invited the school liaison officer to a case conference to give the youth a clear message regarding potential consequences if changes were not made and new charges were laid.

Following transition, follow-up was made after one week and again after four weeks. There was a slide in behaviour, but, because all parties were a part of the transition meeting, the new team was able to immediately respond and implement a revised plan. The police liaison officer has continued to maintain a connection as well. Thanks to a collaborative team effort, this youth was given the support to make positive changes and successfully transition to a school program with academic focus while having appropriate supports in place to continue developing optimistic and independent growth.

THE MY HOME (HOUSING)

The "My Home" is a safe environment that is based on a youth centered model with the main focus of the program centered on the youth having ownership in the home. All youth must be a part of their own case plan, education, and employment, becoming functioning citizens in the community and someday moving into their own independent living situations.

The My Homes are a place where "youth" can reside for an undetermined period of time as they acquire the necessary skills and confidence needed, so once they make the transition, it will be long term with the skills they have acquired.

The My Homes are separated into four categories under the Youth Centered Residential Services; Peer Homes (female), Structured Independent (female), female Staffed Homes and a male Staffed Home. Michael's Place also operates under the Youth Centered Model of Care.

Peer Home Statistics

From April 2012– March 2013 we have had 39 youth and 12 babies at the Peer Homes.

Outcomes of Peer Homes

- 5 - Transferred to Staffed Home re: Mental Health/Behavioral
- 3 - Transferred to Staffed Home re: Parental Services Agreement
- 6 - Transitioned to Supported Independent Living
- 2 - Youth transitioned back with family
- 10 - Employed
- 2 - Healthy babies born
- 2 - Placed in intense stabilization/custody

Structured Independent Living Statistics

From April 2012 – March 2013 we have placed 27 adults and 12 children at the 2 Structured Independent Living homes.

Outcomes of Structured Independent Living

- 9- Employed
- 3- Healthy babies born
- 6- Transitioned into Independent Living
- All of the young adults have participated in ongoing education

Staffed Housing Statistics (female)

From April 2012 – March 2013 we have placed 53 youth and 11 babies at the female staffed homes.

Outcomes of Staffed Housing (female)

- 9 - Transitioned back to family
- 8 - Transferred to low risk home
- 3 - Placed in Intense Stabilization
- 9 -Healthy babies born
- 5 -Employed

Staffed Housing (male) Statistics

From April 2012 - March 2013 we have placed 9 youth at the male staffed home

Outcomes of Staff Housing (male)

- 3 - Transitioned back to family
- 2 -Employed
- 1 - Placed in Intense Stabilization/Custody
- 1 -Transitioned into Independent Living/Assisted Independent Living





My Home Highlights

In 2012/2013 the My Homes gave hope and safe housing to 130 separate individuals and 34 of their children. Out of the 130 individuals, 24 had been sexually exploited via the internet or on our city streets.

- This year we were able to transition 14 of our youth back with family.
- All of our residents attended school or day program.
- Over 25 of our youth were employed.
- Five individuals have resided at the My Homes for over 3 years.
- Nine of our young people have resided at the My Homes for over 2 years.
- 19 have resided in the My Homes for over 1 year.
- 11 came in on Emergency basis.
- 7 of our youth graduated grade 12 in June of 2012 and have gone on to secondary education including full studies at the University of Saskatchewan, SIAST and Marca Hair College.

Eight of our residents will graduate grade 12 at the end of June. One has been accepted into the University of Saskatchewan, one into the LPN Nursing Program at the Dumont Institute and three are waiting to hear back from the University of Saskatchewan and Dalhousie University.

Our young people are feeling empowered and getting involved in their community!

Many of our youth are involved in Community Leadership roles such as our own My Home Youth Committee; Change it, Spoken Word, The Day of Mourning, volunteering in Africa, Peer Babysitting and many different youth forums. This year we have had so many individuals involved in youth forums, focus groups and community awareness groups. The My Homes were able to form their own Toastmasters Club. They will have their first official meeting in May of 2013.

The diagnosis of Stomach Cancer for one of our girls really got the kids thinking about others in the community. Youth and staff formed 2 teams, the "Pink Penguins" and the "EGADZ Daffodils" and entered the Cancer, Relay for Life. The boys and girls had a steak night to raise money and rallied donations. The turnout of My Home Residents and staff was overwhelming and it was an experience that we will all remember.

Unfortunately, our Melissa lost her fight against Cancer. We have entered the Relay for Life this year in the Memory of Melissa and will do so annually.

Traveling!

During Spring and Winter break our My Home family takes on downhill skiing, touring Provincial points of interest and take part in a My Home camping trip every summer as a group. 45-55 youth set out with staff on a weeklong camping trip. These trips enable the youth to see different areas of Saskatchewan, Alberta and British Columbia. During these trips the youth explore healthy ways to engage and enjoy their time together in places that will be accessible and affordable for them in their future.

One of our Peer youth worked all year, saved all her money and traveled to China for 3 months last summer and will be traveling to China again this summer.

We have had two of our current residents and one past youth travel to Ottawa for a Youth Forum on Hepatitis C.

One of our girls traveled to Switzerland, invited by the United Nations, for the Geneva Convention and she will be traveling to Maui in May.

Another traveled to Peru, Costa Rica and just returned from a trip to Indonesia.

All these youth worked very hard all year in school with averages over 80 percent and kept a part-time job in order to pay for their trips. They accomplished all this while also working on healing from their past traumas.

ACTION TO EMPLOYMENT

The Action to Employment Program is possible because of the partnership between Saskatoon Downtown Youth Centre Inc – EGADZ and the Saskatoon Health Region – Mental Health and Addiction Services. This program works closely with youth involved in the My Homes program giving youth who struggle with addiction and mental health issues the opportunity to move into the employment field.

More youth are becoming prepared with the tools needed to enter the workforce. The support given to them through this program is invaluable. Youth are faced with the competitiveness of the workforce and sometimes find it discouraging. Action to Employment gives these youth that extra support needed to overcome those discouragements.

Breakdown and Highlights

The following report is a breakdown of the youth involved in this program and the assistance they have received;

In total, 66 youth have received assistance from the Action to Employment program.

Of these youth,

- 10 have been assisted in getting SIN cards.
- 3 have completed their Young Worker Readiness Certificate.
- 4 have opened bank accounts.
- 2 have received budget advice
- 35 have received ongoing support and advice with resumes, including advice on cover letters.
- 32 have gone out on numerous occasions to hand out resumes.
- 17 have had interviews and 10 of these youth have received advice or done mock-interviews in order to prepare..
- 19 youth have been given work opportunities within EGADZ,
- 4 have worked over 40 hours.
- 4 have worked 8-39 hours.
- 11 have worked less than 8 hours.
- 12 have received job offers.

All youth involved in the program have taken away valuable skills that will carry forward into their adult life. Action to Employment is an incredible resource for these youth in their growth towards independence.

MY HOME AND BABY STEPS PARENT SUPPORT OUTREACH

Parent Support is an additional Outreach Service for our My Home and Baby Steps mothers. The Parent Outreach workers are in place to assist our young mothers with fine tuning their parenting skills when and where needed, in the home and in the community.

They work hand in hand with our Baby Steps team, our My Home team and community agencies to ensure that our young parents are receiving ultimate coaching and guidance.

Parent Support staff do home visits daily where they observe and interact with mothers and their children while helping them address any concerns regarding parenting.

Parent Support staff also accompany moms and children to and from outings, educational classes, doctor appointments and other important appointments they may have.

Parent Support staff work at connecting with numerous organizations as well as connecting mothers to resources throughout the community such as budgeting classes, Pediatricians, Postpartum groups, Postpartum Counselling, Nutritionist's, and other agencies to assist in positive outcomes.

Parent Support Statistics

In 2012/2013, 22 families have been assisted by our Parent Support team.

- 682 - In Home Aid/Coaching
- 49 - Doctor Appointments
- 121 - Parent Child Recreation Activities
- 121 - Case Conferences/Planning Meetings

Program highlights and outcomes are related to the My Home, Baby Steps and Outreach Programs and are included within.

BABY STEPS

With support from the Government of Canada's Homelessness Partnering Strategy, The Ministry of Social Services, The City of Saskatoon and Colleen and Wally Mah, we were able to build a new Baby Steps home. This new home is equipped to house 2 mothers whose babies would otherwise be apprehended at birth and 8 children. This home provides an environment for mothers to learn proper parenting skills and have 24 hour support and guidance. An additional home was also built for mother's transitioning their children home from Baby Steps. This home was named Mah's House in honor of Colleen and Wally Mah for their ongoing support and generous contributions to our homes over the years.

Baby Steps Statistics

9 mothers lived at Baby Steps

18 children lived at Baby Steps

1 mother graduated from the program and is living independently with her 3 children

1 mother is transitioning into independent living with her child from our last stage housing

4 mothers move forward to second stage housing

Total women that entered in the program in 2012-2013 was 17

The remaining women still in the program is 8



Baby Steps Highlights

We have had 3 mother's move through the Baby Steps program this year. One is successful living on her own with her 3 children. The other two mothers are living with their children in their care in our independent homes.

S.K

S.K. came to us with concerns around addictions and a history of unhealthy relationships. She entered Baby Steps to regain custody of her three children that were going to be going into permanent care. She was willing to participate in programming to get help with her addictions and unhealthy lifestyle. S.K. has been in the program for a year and half; she has had her ups and downs but has ultimately become an incredible person and mother.

Her transformation can be attributed to her dedication to her three young children; which has pushed her to want more out of life. She completed a tiling course at Saskatoon Skills and Trades Center, and put her skills to work for a summer. She then decided to finish her grade 12 education at Kelsey and graduated in May of 2012. She now attends The First Nations University where she has applied to the Social Work program.

S.K took many opportunities while living in our second stage houses to plan for her future. She purchased furniture and other necessities for her family, knowing that she would soon move out into her own home. She organized daycare for her children and chose appropriate schools near her new home. She received her driver's license in November of 2012, and purchased her first vehicle.

S.K attends various programming on a regular basis that has been fundamental in her success in Baby Steps. She completed a Domestic violence course; which has helped her identify unhealthy relationships, and demand a healthy relationship for herself and her children. She has been involved in various programming for parenting; she participated in the parenting program through EGADZ as well as participating in the "Incredible Years" program through Saskatoon Child and Family services that has been essential in her new parenting skills. She attends NA and AA on a regular basis to deal with her addictions issues; as well as a counselor for these issues. Her openness to the program and willingness to learn has been pivotal to her success.

S.K was in the Baby Steps program for two and half years. She has moved on to independence,

finding her own home through Saskatoon Housing Authority where her and her 3 kids live independently. She is definitely a success story and can thank herself for her hard work and dedication to achieve a better quality of life for herself and children.

S.H

S.H has been in the program for almost two years. She came to us with a new born baby boy, with whom she had a very special bond with. To keep the bond between them, S.H stayed at Baby Steps and cared for her baby on a regular basis. She was very shy and apprehensive of the program at first, but she slowly became trusting and grateful of what Baby Steps was really about.

Before her youngest child, she had never stayed clean for more than a couple months. This was the perfect opportunity to give her a safe and healthy home to care for her new baby boy. She stayed at Baby Steps and cared for her baby every day. The bond was so strong between her and her baby that she never wanted to leave him or be away from him.

She lived a high risk lifestyle for the majority of her life, and decided that it was time to accept help and change her lifestyle. She attends NA and AA meetings on a regular basis to deal with her past drug use and is currently on the Methadone program. She continues to do very well in the program; she has not had any relapses well in our program.

She attended Domestic violence programming for her unhealthy relationships in the past, and continues to use the tools that she was taught. She recognized the unhealthy parts of her past relationships and continues to put her attention towards her children. While in the program she regained regular weekend visits with her three year old son who was in foster care. He then transitioned into the Baby Steps program due to S.H's hard work and dedication. She now has both of her boys in her care and lives independently in our second stage housing.

She came to us with a grade six education and lacked self confidence regarding schooling. She attended Early Childhood education program through The Saskatoon Skills and Trades Center. She has been getting marks (in the high 80's) and graduated in April 2011. She now attends school to continue towards getting her grade 12 education.

She has come from having supervised visits on a regular basis while looking after her baby, to caring for her two boys independently in one of our independent homes. This is a due to a combination of her working with various supports such as parenting programs, EGADZ parent support and outreach team, Family Service Saskatoon, as well as the knowledge she gained from the mentoring she received at Baby Steps.

It's astonishing to see the mature, loving and responsible person she has become. She continues to live in our second stage housing with her boys. She attends school full time and takes her boys to daycare during this time.

L.C.

L.C entered the program in September 2012 with her newborn baby girl. She identified herself as needing help due her addictions and being a first time mom. She lived in the Baby Steps home with her daughter, which allowed her access to staff 24 hours a day/7 days a week, to learn hands on parenting skills. She transitioned into our second stage housing in January, where she lives independently with her daughter. She uses Baby Steps as a daycare to look after her daughter when she has programming. She will be going to treatment in May to brush up on some skills to deal with her addictions. She continues to go to meetings to deal with her addictions.

L.C has struggled in the past with abusive and damaging relationships. As such, her self esteem and image were fairly low upon entering the program. To work through these issues, L.C. attends regular programming including domestic violence courses, addiction counseling, life skills courses and counseling. She has developed a very strong voice; she readily reaches out regarding any questions, concerns or opinions she may have. She is eager to learn and grow, and has made tremendous strides in this regard. L.C has transformed; leaving behind her dysfunctional life and creating a stable and healthy environment for the love of her life, her baby girl.

The love that L.C has for her child is clearly visible to anyone who sees them together, or talks to L.C. Her child is her main topic of conversation. She dotes on her, showers her with love and affection. She is a proud and caring mother who would do anything for her daughter. Wanting the best

possible future for her daughter, L.C would like to expand her education. She has already completed high school and is planning on entering into the fields of youth care and addictions counseling. She would like to use her own experiences to help others through their own struggles. She has minimal family support, as many of her family continue to struggle with their own issues. There are many unresolved emotions for L.C regarding her childhood and family. Counseling has encouraged her to open up and trust others. She has developed many positive and supportive relationships and created a home and family for her daughter. L.C has embraced the program; she is a confident, capable and is thriving in her role as a mother.

A.K

A.K has been in the program for ten months. When she started at Baby Steps she was pregnant with her third child; her two older boys were in the care of a family member. A.K acknowledged her struggles with addiction and unhealthy relationships. She expressed her desire to change, and offer her children a happy and healthy upbringing free of addiction. She moved into Baby Steps with the intention of creating that change.

A.K has been battled addiction periodically for many years. In this last pregnancy she felt it was time to stop the cycle she had become accustomed to. She was determined and took the steps to sobriety. Upon entering the program, she attended a treatment facility for several weeks. Since then she works with addiction counselors and has been working on her 12 steps. She has been clean for over a year now, and has not had a relapse during that time.

A.K has a history of damaging relationships in various forms. These had left her with low self-esteem and insecurity. She was hesitant to accept help and trust others. Despite this, A.K pushed herself to work on overcoming her obstacles. She reached out for support and engages in various programming; these include her working with counselors, addiction workers, parent aides in addition to her completing multiple parenting and domestic violence courses. When A.K first settled into the program, she was shy and reserved. Her comfort level was low, and she kept to herself. However, she is now very open to all of her supports and often will discuss her feelings and thoughts. She has become assertive and self-assured.

Late last year A.K gave birth to her youngest son. She has maintained care of her boy since birth, fully embracing her parenting responsibilities. When she returned from treatment, she immediately began arranging regular visits with her older children. Any and all of her free time is spent with her sons. All three of her sons are now living with her at Baby Steps, and in the very near future all three will also be returned into her care. The bond between her children and herself is strong; she is rarely without them.

A.K came to us with partial grade ten credits. She is currently enrolled in school, working towards attaining a diploma. She is enjoying school and is looking forward to pursuing a post-secondary education upon completion. She is also maintaining all of her programming, in addition to parenting responsibilities. She has shown determination and independence throughout and in all areas in which she participates.

The growth in A.K has been amazing to witness. She has broken out of her shell and empowered herself. She has accomplished her goal to improve her life, and the lives of her children and continues to do so. She is a responsible and capable mother, who puts her children first. A.K continues to live at Baby Steps, and will likely move on to second stage housing in the near future.



NEW FOR STREET OUTREACH IN 2012/2013

Mah's Place

Mah's Place which is located next door to Baby Steps, and is a new addition to the housing program. This home serves as second stage housing for mothers whom are working their way through the program. The women who reside in this home have custody of their children, and are working towards independent parenting. Mah's Place accommodates five which includes mothers and their children, and allows for a safe and supportive environment. The women who reside here are striving to build a healthy and independent life for themselves and their children.

Mah's Place is partnered with both Baby Steps and Street Outreach. Street Outreach serves as the primary support, overseeing the women and assisting with various supports such as transportation for appointments, educational support, and crisis counseling. The mothers in this home create a case plan for their individual needs with a team of their community supports. They meet on a weekly basis with this team to provide their input and review their progress.

The Street Outreach works with the women on developing life skills such as budgeting, grocery shopping and meal preparation. Support is also provided for any legal, health and financial concerns. Transportation for programming and appointments is also provided. Street Outreach frequently assists the mothers in positive lifestyle activities in which both mother and child(ren) can participate.

3 mothers lived in this house during 2011-2012 year

3 children lived in this house during 2011-2012 year

McPherson House

McPherson house is an independent home requiring a greater level of self-reliance from the women who reside there. Many of the women who live in McPherson began their involvement with Baby Steps at this stage of the program. They are able to begin independently parenting with the support provided by Street Outreach and Parent Support. McPherson can accommodate up to three mothers and two children. The mothers who reside there with their children have maintained guardianship of their children.

McPherson House is partnered with Street Outreach and Parent Support. Street Outreach provides primary support for these women and children; maintaining regular contact and assisting with visitations, appointments, referrals, crisis counseling and life skills. Parent Support meets regularly with the mothers, providing in home support and coaching. The mothers in create a case plan for their individual needs with a team of their community supports. They meet on a weekly basis with this team to provide their input and review their progress.

6 Mothers lived in this house during 2012-2013 year

6 children lived in this house during 2012-2013 year

Michael's Place

Michael's Place serves as final stage of housing in the program. This home accommodates two mothers and up to three children. The women who reside here are ready to graduate from the Baby Steps program. They have reached their goals and are able to take the final step towards independence. In addition to parental duties mothers are also responsible for their own transportation, grocery shopping and nutrition, and paying their rent.

Street Outreach keeps in regular contact with these mothers, providing support when needed. Supports at this stage in the program include crisis counseling as well as housing, educational and employment support. The mothers in create a case plan for their individual needs with their community supports. They meet on a weekly basis with this team to provide their input and review their progress.

8 Mothers lived in this house during 2012-2013 year

10 Children lived in this house during 2012-2013 year

Service provided to parents by EGADZ Street Outreach

Transports	952
Case Conferences	215
Court Support	4
One-on-One's	208
Education Support	7
Treatment Support/Referral	5
Medical Appointments	327



STREET OUTREACH PROGRAM

The Street Outreach Program works to create a safe environment for those leading or at risk of leading a "High Risk Lifestyle." Starting in September of 1993 the Outreach program has been going out into the community to provide services to less fortunate people.

Street Outreach provides services to the community seven nights a week in the outreach van, as well as day time follow-up. Street Outreach provides immediate assistance with nutrition, clothing, condoms, personal hygiene supplies, referrals or just a person who is there to listen. Street Outreach also provides emergency assistance with housing and baby supplies.

Street Outreach provides follow up assistance during the day from the hours of 9:30 am – 5:30pm. Outreach provides advocacy and support for individuals with Court, housing, education, appointments and Crisis Counseling.

Street Outreach provides support and services with addictions. Street Outreach provides referrals for addictions counseling, detox and treatment. Street Outreach continues to assist clients with support throughout treatment and recovery.

Street Outreach has built trusting relationships with members in the community. For many of our clients we provide a stable and consistent support system in their lives.

Street Outreach Program Statistics 2012/2013

Age Group	Night Streets	Day Streets	Day Contacts	Total
1-3 years	104	3	27	134
4-6 years	37	26	8	83
7-11 years	21	108	8	137
12 years	8	2	2	12
13 years	20	3	2	25
14 years	21	2	3	26
15 years	30	4	8	42
16 years	55	3	18	76
17 years	150	2	69	221
18 years	185	3	40	228
19 years	287	4	152	443
20 years	191	7	46	130
21 years	91	4	35	130
22 & over	4003	15	856	4874
Total	5249	186	1286	6720

The statistics provided above include number of contacts with those classified as street youth and sex trade combined. Of the 6720 contacts made, 37 were individuals that were pregnant at the time.

Sex Trade Statistics 2012/13

Age	Active	Possible	In-Active	Deceased	Total (excluding those inactive or deceased)
11 & under	0	0	0	0	0
12 years	0	0	0	0	0
13 years	0	0	0	0	0
14 years	0	0	0	0	0
15 years	0	0	0	0	0
16 years	0	1	0	0	2
17 years	0	0	0	0	0
18 years	3	1	0	0	4
19 years	3	3	1	0	7
20 years	3	2	0	0	5
21 years	5	2	12	0	19
22 + years	131	7	5	2	145
Total	143	19	18	2	182

Street Outreach staff encountered 18 new active members of the sex trade and 10 possibly active individuals involved in the sex trade for 2012/13.

Street Outreach Services 2012/13

Service	Night streets	Day Streets	Day Contacts	Total
Nutrition	2001	92	11	2104
Condoms	43	8	2	485
Information	17	2	2	21
Clothing	89	5	9	103
Emergency Baby Supplies	964	4	39	1007
Personal Hygiene	345	3	13	361
First Aid	10	0	0	10
Home Visits	1808	5	102	1913
Hospital Visits	26	0	0	26
Court Support and Advocacy	0	0	8	8
Telephone Contact	289	0	193	482
Crisis Counseling	357	0	57	97
Medical Appointments	36	4	57	97
Violent John Reports	1	0	0	1
Abused or Beaten	2	0	0	2
Transportation	943	15	757	1715
Emergency Food Packs	52	0	3	55
Moving assistance	3	0	10	13
Individuals Receiving				
Bus Tickets	22	0	30	52
Case Conferences	0	0	127	127
Employment Assistance	0	0	11	11
Education Assistance	0	0	28	28
Christmas Gifts	24	0	0	24
Emergency Housing	20	0	48	68
Agency Referrals	103	2	20	125

Court work

EGADZ staff continues to establish credibility and a positive reputation with the courts. Staff attends youth Provincial Court and Adult Provincial court when clients ask for assistance. Staff works through their charges, helping them understand the court process and how to follow through on court orders and/or alternative measures programming. In 2012/2013 staff assisted 8 persons in court.

Addictions Counseling and Treatment

In 2012/2013 Outreach continued to support individuals work through their addiction issues. In total 11 individuals were referred to various detox and treatment facilities. Outreach provides assistance with immediate crisis counseling, as well as contact information for addictions services. Outreach provides referrals to detox and treatment facilities. Throughout the treatment process outreach assists with personal hygiene and after care planning. When assisting individuals into treatment cultural consideration and user friendly programs are taken into account.

Nutrition

Street Outreach provides healthy snacks for people in the community. Outreach staff uses nutrition as a tool to create new relationships with people in the community and continue to build relationships already involved in the program. During day streets and night streets staff to give out beverages, fruit, sandwiches and occasionally other snacks when available. As a result outreach can provide advocacy work and case planning that may result in positive changes for those we work with.

Street Outreach works at creating safe and trusting relationships with the community members we work with. Through community support we are able to provide nutrition and other emergency services. EGADZ street outreach also receives nutrition through personal donations, church groups and small businesses.

The total number of contacts receiving food through the Street Outreach Program during 2012/2013 was 2104

Youth Alerts

Outreach staff had a total of 5 missing youth reported to them by parents, guardians and other concerned persons in the 2012/13 year. Awareness regarding these youth alerts continues to grow, as EGADZ staff assist in gathering and sharing the information provided and hopefully locating the missing youth successfully.

High Risk Homicide Registry

The High Risk Homicide Registry (H.R.H.R) is a voluntary self-descriptive form that is utilized by EGADZ for individuals involved in the sex trade. The purpose of the HRHR is to record, on a voluntary basis, personal information on each person engaged in the sex trade. In the event of an unidentified homicide, the information document can be unsealed and used to assist in identifying the deceased or to provide valuable information for a criminal investigation into a death. There are a total of 100 individuals listed to date.

Christmas 2012

EGADZ staff continued their annual Christmas drive on December 20th 2012. Members of the community who have developed strong relationships with EGADZ .received personalized stockings and gifts as a result of the generosity of Canadian Tire and various community donations.

Outreach Highlights

Street Outreach had a 23 year old client who moved back to Saskatoon from Edmonton after her mother passed away. After returning to Saskatoon this young woman found herself an apartment for herself and 1 year old daughter. This woman got herself stabilized; started working with her supports again; enrolled in parenting classes; and began seeing a counselor. After a few Months she decided to work at getting her 4 year old son back in her custody. The 23 year old woman began having regular visits with her son. The young woman gained custody back of her son in February and continues to doing very well raising both children.

Street Outreach has a 20 year old client who has been through treatment a few times for alcohol. In the last year she has been able to stay away from alcohol and utilize her community supports. She has maintained employment and is graduating grade 12 in June 2013.

Street Outreach has a 27 year old client who was actively involved in the sex trade for years and has been battling with addictions. This last year she has made many positive changes in her life. A

significant change that occurred is that she is no longer working on the street. The client was able to get herself on the Methadone program which has assisted her in staying off of the streets. Last year she gave birth to a baby boy who she continues to have weekly visits with and is working towards one day gaining full custody. She continues to access street outreach as community supports.

Street Outreach has a 29 year old client who was actively involved in the sex trade. This client has also been struggling with addictions for many years. In the last year, she was able to get herself involved with the methadone program. She has been successful on the program and has been inactive on the street. She recently contacted Street Outreach for assistance in seeking treatment services. Outreach will continue to assist her on her road to recovery and to support her in her accomplishments.

Operation Help

Operation Help is a partnership between the Saskatoon City Police, Adult Addiction Services – Mental Health Outreach, Ministry of Social Services, EGADZ, and the services of an Elder. All of these community organizations work together to provide immediate services to individuals caught up in the sex trade in Saskatoon. The circle takes place at the police station during an undercover operation. The circle provides support to any individual, not limited to age or gender, looking to exit the lifestyle. Individuals are given 60 days to work with Operation Help, and if the client has made an attempt to improve their lifestyle, then the charges are withdrawn.

Operation Help is responsible for providing community support to those involved in the sex trade. Individuals receive immediate support and guidance in order to efficiently utilize the community resources available. Operation Help empowers individuals to have the opportunity to develop their own case plan and establish a support system in order to successfully exit the sex trade.

On a day to day basis, we are faced with multiple barriers with our clients. These include but not limited to: housing, medical (physical/mental/addictions), food, clothing, abuse issues, legal (criminal and family courts), education, and trust issues. Many have never known any life but street life. They are youth exploited through the sex trade or adults who began working in the sex trade by being exploited as youth.

A majority of clients who enter the support circle upon arrest are working to support themselves, addiction issues, and to provide for their children, etc. There are often a multitude of issues and 60 days just scratches the surface. Some clients are not successful in having their charges stayed, but are aware we are ready to help when they are ready to make positive changes. Many of these individuals choose to work with Operation Help for extended periods of time.

Operation Help Statistics

The Operation Help Program is accessible to 239 clients (as of March 31, 2013):

1 is under the age of 18
37 are between 19 - 24
81 are between 25 - 29
120 are 30 and older
237 clients are female
2 clients are male
25 Operation Help clients are deceased.

Operation Help Stings

April 2012

Two OH Stings held:

- 5 new, 8 returning

May 2012

One OH Sting held:

- 1 new, 3 returning

July 2012
 One OH Sting held:
 • 2 new, 1 returning
 August 2012
 One OH Sting held:
 • 1 new, 1 returning
 October 2012
 Two OH Stings held:
 • 1 new, 5 returning
 November 2012
 One OH Sting held:
 • 2 new, 2 returning
 January 2013
 Two OH Stings held:
 • 1 new
 March 2013
 Three OH Stings held:
 • 2 new, 4 returning

Direct Services

Aboriginal Client Contacts	2186
Baby Supplies	29
Bus Tickets	228
Calder Visits	1
Case Conference	22
Clothing	7
Court Support	176
Crisis Counseling	22
Education	6
Elder Visits	1
Food Packs	14
Home Visits	87
Hospital Visits	2
Larson House Visits	12
Medical	33
Non-Aboriginal Client Contacts	104
Personal Hygiene	23
Phone Contacts	713
Probation Contacts	8
Snacks	144
Street Contacts	86
Supervised Child Visits	12
Transports	292
Treatment Visits	8
Visual Contacts	1499

Direct Referrals

Addiction Services	27
Adult Probation	8
Calder	1
Court Worker	3
Cree Nations	2
Domestic Violence	2
Family Legal Aid	5
Food Bank	8
Harbor of Hope	3
Health Bus	1
Income Assistance	3

Larson House	5
Larson House Support Visits	12
Legal Aid	1
MACSI Center Saskatoon	4
Mumford House	3
Parenting Classes	2
Westside Community Clinic	9
YWCA Crisis Shelter and Housing	5

Operation Help Highlights and Outcomes

In 2012/13, 2 females had their solicitation charges stayed. This is a huge accomplishment for each of these ladies as they were able to overcome huge barriers in their lives.

D.D. moved from the My Home into her own place through Quint Housing. She is obtaining her G.E.D. through an adult education program. She also attends A.A. meetings and attends all prenatal appointments for her second pregnancy.

D.E. remains in stable housing for herself and her growing family. She also gained employment at the Hose and Hydrant in the kitchen cooking. D.E. also went back to SIAST enrolled in the culinary program. D.E. struggled with addiction to morphine this year but was able to detox and go on the methadone program. She was able to wean herself off methadone and is currently free of all substances.

T.A. obtained housing at Harbor of Hope for 8 months until the project shut down. She struggles with both drug and alcohol addictions but seeks help in the form of the MACSI Day Program as well is hoping to get into a 28 day program. She maintains regular visits with her two youngest boys, with the support and supervision of Operation Help. T.A. also charged a male with sexually assaulting her this year, she was able to testify and the case is going to the Court of Queen's Bench.

G.S. obtained permanent housing and went to a 28 day treatment program. She still struggles with her addiction but is constantly working on overcoming this. She has regular visits with her youngest child and is working on getting her kids back into her care.

T.W. was able to have her 213 charges withdrawn. She attended the MACSI Day Program and completed it. She has remained off the streets to our knowledge and continues to do well.

A.A. was heavily entrenched in the sex trade. She was able to relocate to another province where she completed a 28 day treatment program and able to get off of methadone. She is currently helping to raise her two children with her mother and stays off the streets. She continues to struggle with addiction issues but is working towards a positive lifestyle.

Day of Mourning – Remembering the Victims of the Sex Trade.

This year was the 13th Annual Day of Mourning. This event is coordinated by the EGADZ Youth Committee, with the guidance of Operation Help. According to the guestbook, over 150 people attended the 13th Annual Day of Mourning.

Continued Challenges

Housing still remains to be an issue over the last number of years. Treatment and detox seem to be becoming a bigger challenge. There are substantial waiting lists for both detox and treatment. It is also nearly impossible to go straight from detox into a treatment facility. With the rise in HIV cases in the province, it is a challenge to book appointments with the Infectious Disease Doctors, as sometimes the appointments are booked months in advance. Another challenge that has become an issue this past year is the use of technology. More and more sex trade workers are using the internet and smart phones as places to connect with clients





Roy McCallum - Paying it forward.