

“Building Fully Engaged Self-Realized & Thriving Communities”

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Message from Chairman of Board of Directors

Malcom Hassan Zoraik



The fiscal year 2023/2024 has been a remarkable period of growth and transformation for Midaynta Community Services. As we go into 31 years of service, our commitment to fostering social and economic well-being in marginalized communities remains unwavering. This report highlights the milestones, developments, and initiatives that have defined our work over the past year. Midaynta's vision is to create thriving communities that support the holistic well-being of individuals across all aspects of their lives. Guided by this vision, we have continued to expand our services and enhance our strategic initiatives to address the evolving needs of the diverse communities we serve. Our dedicated staff, volunteers, and Board of Directors have worked collaboratively to implement impactful programs, advocate for marginalized populations, and foster empowerment within the community.

This year, we focused on extending opportunities for youth empowerment. With support from Service Canada, we provided employment and skills-building experiences to 25 youth during the summer, offering them meaningful roles in our programs while equipping them with valuable skills and community connections. The introduction of new programs marked a significant highlight of the year. The HomeSafe York program provides vital support for individuals and families navigating housing instability. The Youth in Community Services program has expanded our reach

by offering tailored services to youth focused on community engagement and empowerment. Additionally, the New Roads: Youth Violence Prevention program reflects our dedication to addressing critical issues affecting vulnerable youth by focusing on proactive measures to prevent violence and support rehabilitation.

Our operational efficiencies have also been enhanced through investments in program monitoring tools, expanded social media engagement, and website upgrades. These efforts have allowed us to better connect with our community and stakeholders while improving service delivery. Additionally, we made strides in refining organizational policies, particularly in human resources, to foster an informed and cohesive work environment.

Partnerships have remained central to our success. Collaborations with organizations such as the Toronto District School Board (TDSB), Service Canada, and other community-focused entities have amplified our collective impact and enriched the services we deliver. As we look to the future, Midaynta remains committed to advancing our mission to empower marginalized youth, promote community well-being, and address systemic inequities. With the unwavering dedication of our volunteers, staff, and Board of Directors, we will continue to drive positive change and create lasting impacts for the communities we serve.

Message from The Executive Director



Mahad Yusuf

Reflecting on 2023/2024, this year has been one of remarkable growth, strategic realignment, and impactful service delivery for Midaynta Community Services. Despite encountering challenges, our unwavering commitment to progress has allowed us to innovate, expand our reach, and enhance the quality of our services.

Among our most notable accomplishments this year was the launch of several transformative programs. The HomeSafe York program, addressing housing instability in York Region, has provided critical housing support to individuals and families in need. The Youth in Community Services program has empowered young people to actively engage in their communities, fostering leadership, personal development, and social responsibility. Additionally, the New Roads: Youth Violence Prevention program has taken a proactive stance against youth violence, focusing on prevention, rehabilitation, and fostering safer communities. While we initially faced challenges, Midaynta Community Services successfully expanded our Youth Mentorship Program (YMP), Community Safety Program (MCIS), and peacebuilding initiatives in Mogadishu, Somalia. Through these efforts, we established strong partnerships with several universities in Mogadishu, which have been instrumental in driving the success of these programs. These collaborations have enabled us to create impactful, sustainable initiatives that address critical community needs and contribute to peacebuilding and youth empowerment in the region.

A significant milestone this year was the completion of our comprehensive Strategic Planning process in 2024, which sets a clear direction for

the years ahead. This strategy aligns with our mission, vision, and values, ensuring that we continue addressing systemic challenges and empowering the communities we serve with innovative solutions. Partnerships have been pivotal to our success. Our collaborations with key stakeholders such as the Toronto District School Board (TDSB), the Toronto Police Services Board (TPSB), and other vital organizations have enabled us to amplify our impact and advocate for meaningful systemic change. These partnerships underscore our commitment to building bridges and fostering collaboration to benefit marginalized communities. While we celebrate these achievements, we remain ever mindful of the persistent systemic barriers—racism, poverty, violence, and the criminalization of Black communities—that continue to challenge the people we serve. Midaynta Community Services is resolute in its mission to confront these inequities by providing culturally sensitive, accessible, and impactful services.

As we look ahead, our focus will remain on expanding organizational capacity, developing innovative programs, and creating targeted initiatives that address the evolving needs of our community. Guided by our Strategic Plan, and supported by the dedication of our volunteers, staff, and partners, we are confident in our ability to continue driving positive change. I extend my deepest gratitude to our funding partners, stakeholders, supporters, and staff for their unwavering dedication to our mission. Together, we will continue to build stronger, more inclusive communities, ensuring that Midaynta Community Services remains a beacon of hope and empowerment for all those we serve.

About Midaynta Community Services

“Midaynta has been committed for over 30 years to building vibrant, socially integrated & united communities.”

For over 30 years, Midaynta Community Services has been a vital resource for refugees, immigrants, and youth across the Greater Toronto Area (GTA). Midaynta has consistently expanded its services to meet the evolving needs of the communities it serves. Today, the organization employs a dedicated team of 16 full-time staff and two part-time staff, with an additional 25 youth hired each summer through Service Canada Youth Jobs to support the organization's programming and services.

Midaynta offers a broad range of services, including immigration and settlement support, counselling, case management, and housing and homelessness assistance. In addition to these foundational services, Midaynta provides educational programming designed to enhance the well-being and empowerment of its clients. The organization also offers specialized support through several key programs, such as the Youth Mentorship Program (YMP), Youth Outreach Worker Program (YOW), Enhanced Outreach Worker Program (EYOW), Student and Family Advocate Program, and Project Turn-Around. These programs aim to address a wide array of issues affecting marginalized youth, such as mental health, employment, navigating the criminal justice system, gang prevention and intervention, stress management, conflict resolution, and cultural education.

A key initiative, Project Turn-Around, has been especially impactful, offering tailored support to Black youth aged 12-20 who are at risk of or involved in the criminal justice system. This program provides case management, counselling, gang awareness education, employment support, and cultural and community education, helping youth navigate significant challenges such

as poverty, low educational attainment, and social exclusion. In response to growing community needs, Project Turn-Around has expanded to include the Youth Justice Program and the Gender-Based Violence Program, further strengthening Midaynta's capacity to support vulnerable youth.

In addition to its youth-focused programs, Midaynta administers the Eviction Prevention in Community (EPIC) program, which addresses housing instability and supports individuals and families at risk of eviction. The organization's commitment to growth and innovation is reflected in new initiatives such as Youth and Community Services, HomeSafe York, Youth for Change, and New Roads all of which aim to tackle issues such as housing stability, youth leadership, and systemic inequities. These programs represent Midaynta's ongoing dedication to meeting the complex and evolving needs of its community.

For decades, Midaynta has been a leader in understanding and addressing the structural needs of the Black community, particularly youth in Neighbourhood Improvement Areas (NIAs). The organization's culturally sensitive programs, in partnership with other community organizations, have ensured that Midaynta remains responsive to the unique challenges facing the Black community. As Midaynta moves forward, its mission remains focused on empowering individuals, fostering resilience, and creating opportunities for marginalized youth to build brighter futures. The continued growth of Midaynta's programs and services demonstrates a firm commitment to addressing systemic barriers, supporting marginalized communities, and promoting social justice.



1993

Midaynta was established in July 1993 as a family reunification project

1995

Became Incorporated in August 1995 as a non-profit organization.

2005

Focus shifted to youth programming as youth-violence increased in the city

Present

Continuing to provide programs & services needed by the community

Youth Outreach Worker Program

Our Youth Outreach Workers (YOWs) have made significant strides in addressing the needs of students within the Toronto District School Board (TDSB). By working closely with TDSB social workers and principals, they have been instrumental in providing vital support to students facing socio-economic challenges. Their collaboration with employment agencies such as Tropicana has led to successful referrals, helping youth access necessary resources within the community. Our YOWs have also provided hands-on assistance in creating and refining resumes and preparing students for job interviews. Moreover, through partnerships with Toronto Police Services (TPS), they have engaged youth and their families, particularly through initiatives like the Eid Drives and monthly Division meetings, ensuring that these young individuals feel supported and connected to their community.

As the needs of our youth continue to evolve in response to rising living costs and inflation, our YOWs remain dedicated to advocating for their well-being. They work tirelessly to find and connect youth with

the necessary services and resources, maintaining strong collaborative relationships with professionals both within and outside the organization. These partnerships have enabled us to increase youth participation and accommodate larger groups, ensuring that no one is left behind. Our YOWs are committed to being a voice for the youth, strategizing innovative outreach methods to ensure that the needs and concerns of the young people they work with are not only met but heard and addressed.

Looking ahead, our YOWs will continue to break down barriers, equipping the next generation with the tools they need to overcome the challenges of today's world. Their dedication is evident in the variety of youth trips and activities they've organized for 2023/2024, including the Raptors Youth Summit, a perfume workshop, go-karting, pottery classes, a Marlies game outing, and a Raptors preseason game. These events not only provide fun and engagement but also contribute to the holistic development of our youth, helping them build confidence, social skills, and a sense of belonging.



Enhanced Youth Outreach Worker

The Enhanced Youth Outreach Worker (EYOW) program remains a cornerstone initiative dedicated to supporting Black youth across the Greater Toronto Area (GTA). Over the past year, the program has made significant strides in fostering trust and building meaningful relationships within the community through targeted outreach efforts in schools, mosques, and community referral networks. These efforts have allowed us to provide critical support to youth facing a wide array of challenges, ultimately helping to empower them toward brighter futures.

One of the program's most notable accomplishments in the past year was the successful delivery of a construction-focused career session aimed specifically at newcomer youth. This initiative introduced participants to the skilled trades sector, highlighting career opportunities and pathways that were previously unknown to many. By providing valuable career insights and practical resources, this session bridged the gap between potential and opportunity, fostering a sense of hope and possibility for youth looking to carve out successful futures. In addition to career exploration, the program reinforced the importance of cultural identity, helping participants to develop a stronger sense of belonging and self-confidence. This holistic approach ensured that youth not only gained practical skills but also had the opportunity to embrace their cultural heritage as a source of strength and pride. The EYOW program's approach is grounded in cultural relevance and tailored to meet the unique needs of Black youth. Through a combination of short-term counseling, mentorship, and support services, the program addresses both immediate and long-term needs, while

simultaneously promoting the positive development of participants. Utilizing the Youth Outreach Worker Program's positive youth development model, EYOW empowers participants to navigate personal and systemic challenges, strengthen family ties, and connect with critical community resources.

Our commitment to addressing the complex needs of Black youth is reflected in the services provided, which are designed to foster resilience, self-empowerment, and social inclusion. The program not only serves as a support network but also plays an essential role in helping participants break down the systemic barriers that often hinder their success.

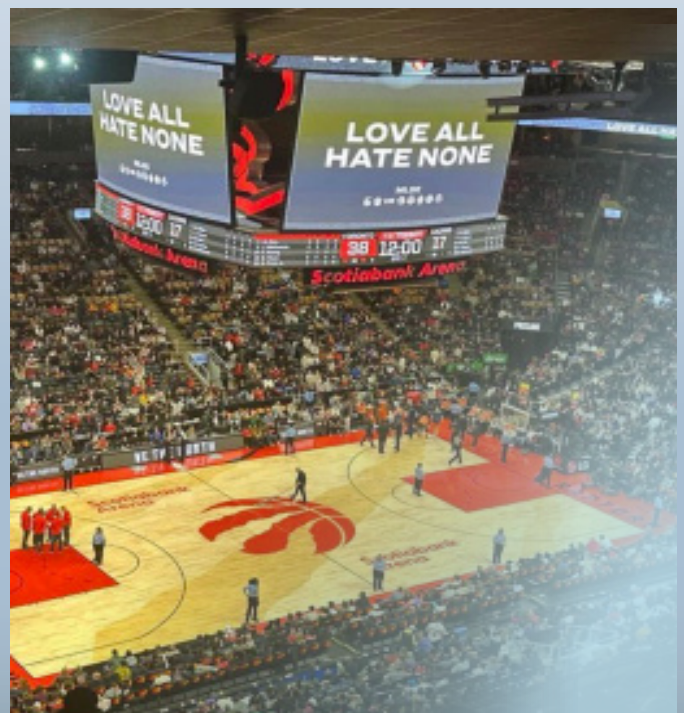
As the EYOW program continues to grow, we remain dedicated to providing Black youth with the tools, resources, and opportunities they need to thrive. Moving forward, we will continue to evolve our strategies, ensuring that youth are equipped with the confidence, knowledge, and skills to build lasting success. Our ongoing commitment to breaking down systemic barriers, promoting cultural identity, and creating an inclusive and supportive environment for high-needs youth remains at the heart of our mission. By empowering young people to overcome challenges, we are contributing to the creation of a more equitable future for the communities we serve. In conclusion, the EYOW program's impact over the past year has been profound, but the journey is far from complete. Together, with continued dedication and community partnership, we will continue to create opportunities that inspire hope, foster growth, and ensure lasting success for Black youth across the GTA.

Youth Mentorship Program

The Rites of Passage Youth Mentorship program strives to empower Black Canadian youth ages 12-16 years old residing in the Northwest Toronto area through mentorship, cultural enrichment, and skill-building opportunities. The program aims to inspire young individuals by connecting them with positive mentors, offering guidance on personal development, education, and employment while fostering a strong sense of community and identity. Through the Youth Mentorship Program, we have facilitated opportunities for the youth to explore their sense of creativity and develop new skills. Youth had the opportunity to participate in a perfume making workshop where they learned the art and science behind creating unique scents as well as a pottery workshop where they had the chance to experiment with clay, design, and sculpting techniques. Through participation in these workshops, the youth had the opportunity to explore their creative expression and engage in unique activities they may not usually experience. These experiences broaden their perspectives, inspire new interests, and promote personal growth and development within a supportive environment.

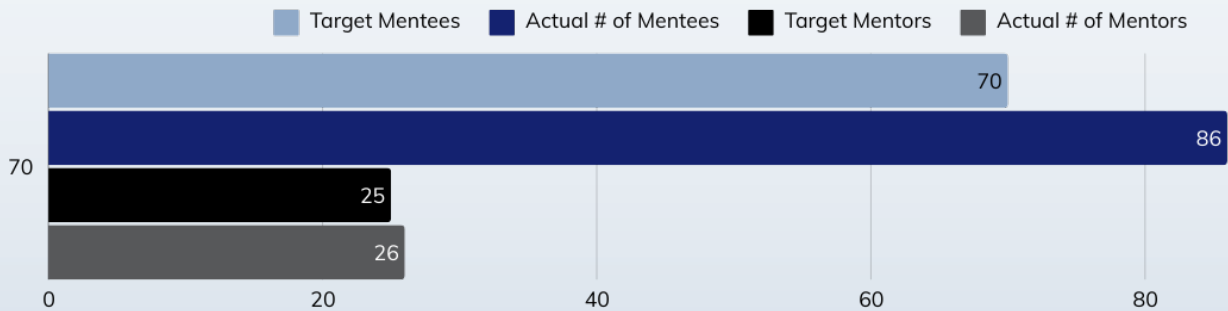
Youth Mentorship program continues to strengthen its community partnerships within The Toronto District School Board, with schools in the Northwest Toronto Neighborhood which has provided us the opportunity to deliver programming at a number of schools. Delivering ongoing workshops in schools that have a high enrollment of youth of African/Afro-Caribbean descent. The aim of these workshops is to foster positive identity and self-esteem in the youth that will have a positive impact on their personal development and growth. Our workshops provide a space for the youth to learn about topics that interest them from financial literacy to positive and negative peer influences while incorporat-

ing group activities and discussions to create a safe space for the youth to feel heard, accepted, and understood. Some key highlights from the year included that we were able to take our mentees to a Toronto Raptors opening game. For most of these youth it was their first time visiting the Scotiabank Arena let alone watching an opening game. Attending a Raptors game provided the mentees with unforgettable memories and memorable experiences they will cherish and remember. As part of our ongoing Mentoring Through Arts Workshop series, our mentees had the opportunity to participate in a spoken word workshop led by a highly skilled spoken word artist. During the session, the mentees were split into two teams, where they collaborated with one another to create innovative spoken word pieces using words provided by the workshop facilitator. The youth then presented their final pieces to one another, demonstrating impressive teamwork and camaraderie. This workshop highlighted the mentees collaboration, creativity, and ability to express themselves through art.



For the 2023-2024 fiscal year, the Rites of Passage Program engaged 28 mentors and 86 mentees who supported the program, exceeding the programs annual target goal of 70 mentees. The program successfully attracted a diverse group of mentees from different backgrounds majority being of African descent. Many youth from various ethnic backgrounds participated in our workshops which was great to see. In addition, positive feedback was received from the mentees about the support they are receiving from their mentors. Having the mentorship matches in-person and virtually has allowed greater reach, flexibility, and accessibility for mentees and mentors who cannot attend an in-person session. The

mentor and mentees matches within the program have been instrumental in addressing issues related to self-confidence, educational pathways, and leadership development. One challenge we encountered with the program is that the needs of the mentees have evolved. Their challenges are no longer limited to academics and social life. Many mentees are now facing a range of socio-economic issues, including housing insecurity and difficulty accessing basic necessities. To address this challenge, we will ensure our mentors receive training and resources, equipping them with the tools needed to effectively support their mentees in navigating these barriers.



Student and Family Advocate Program

The Student and Family Advocate Program for Black students (ages 6-18) and their families is dedicated to offering comprehensive support within the education system. The program aims to ensure that systemic barriers do not hinder Black students' academic and social development. By addressing these obstacles, the program strives to create an equitable educational environment where Black students can thrive and achieve their full potential and Black families are supported in that journey.

Challenges and Emerging Trends

One of the most significant challenges encountered by the SFA program this year relates to human capacity and the need for more support due to the education system's operation. For instance, this year, the turnover rate of school principals and vice principals, particularly in low-priority neighborhood schools where our agency provides support. While the program has garnered recognition and acknowledgment from many schools, the frequent turnover in school leadership poses a considerable obstacle to sustained progress. The issue of turnover exacerbates the already demanding task of advocating for systemic change within these schools. Each time a new principal or vice principal is appointed, the program must invest time and effort in reintroducing its initiatives and securing their buy-in. This repetitive cycle consumes valuable resources and disrupts the continuity of advocacy efforts, impeding the program's ability to effect lasting change.

Compounding this challenge is the absence of formal agreements or partnerships between our agency and the schools it supports. Without a structured

framework, the program faces difficulty solidifying its collaborations and ensuring sustained commitment from school administrators. The prolonged process of establishing formal partnerships further hampers progress and contributes to the sense of frustration and exhaustion experienced by advocates.

Moreover, systemic barriers within the education system present challenging obstacles to creating meaningful change. These barriers may include bureaucratic red tape, resource constraints, and ingrained cultural norms that resist innovation and reform. Overcoming these entrenched barriers requires a concerted effort to advocate for policy changes, allocate resources more equitably, and dismantle systemic inequities. Furthermore, the inadequate response of school administrators to situations that can lead to mental health crises or involvement in the youth justice system poses a significant concern. The mishandling of such situations not only jeopardizes the wellbeing of students but also undermines their academic success and future prospects. Particularly troubling is the prevalence of bullying experienced by Black students, which not only undermines their sense of safety and belonging but also contributes to disengagement from school and increased dropout rates. Addressing these multifaceted challenges demands a comprehensive approach encompassing advocacy, partnership building, and systemic reform. In collaboration with the ministry of education in advocating for stable leadership, formalized partnerships, and culturally responsive practices within schools, the SFA program can strive to create an educational environment that fosters equity, inclusion, and positive outcomes for all students and families.

Successes: This Year's Highlight

The success story we're excited to share highlights the pivotal role of the Student and Family Advocate (SFA) program in advocating for a student facing suspension pending expulsion amid allegations of sexual harassment and involving unwarranted police intervention. This case exemplifies the program's commitment to equity, justice, and support for marginalized students and families. The story began when the family of the suspended student reached out to the SFA program for assistance. The situation was dire: the school had escalated the issue to involve law enforcement, and the student's future hung in the balance. Despite initial reluctance from the school to engage in dialogue, the family insisted on the presence of the SFA advocate during any meetings, recognizing the importance of advocacy and support in navigating the complexities of the education system. Upon scheduling a meeting with the school, it became apparent that the principal harboured biases against the student, viewing him as a "problem child" and displaying a lack of empathy or concern for the family's distress. The SFA advocate recognized the urgent need to escalate the situation to higher authorities, given the severity of the allegations, the apparent bias from the principal, and the potential repercussions for the student's academic record and future. Throughout the advocacy process, there were numerous instances of miscommunication and systemic racism within the school administration, further

underscoring the importance of the SFA program's intervention. The student and their family reported feeling marginalized and disregarded by the school administrator, who appeared to treat Black students differently and dismiss their concerns.

In response, the SFA advocate conducted interviews with other affected families, gathering evidence to support their case and amplifying the voices of marginalized students. Armed with compelling testimonies and evidence of systemic biases, the advocate approached the superintendent to advocate for the student's rights and demand accountability from the school administration. The SFA advocate achieved a favourable outcome for the student through persistent advocacy and strategic collaboration with the superintendent. The suspension was removed from the student's record, and they were not expelled from school, allowing them to continue their education uninterrupted in their senior year. The principal was also removed from the school as well. This success story exemplifies the transformative impact of the SFA program in challenging systemic injustices, advocating for marginalized students, and ensuring equitable access to education. By amplifying the voices of marginalized communities, confronting biases within the education system, and demanding accountability from school leadership, the SFA program continues to be a beacon of hope and support for students and families facing adversity.



Student and Family Advocate Program



Unity in Action: Engaging Communities and Partners

The Family Fun Day Extravaganza at Greenholme Junior Middle School was a delightful event that brought families together for an afternoon of joy and entertainment. Hosted by the SFA program, the event featured various activities, performances, and delicious treats, creating unforgettable memories for attendees of all ages. Approximately 250 people attended the event, including members of the school community, local families, students, parents, guardians, and other community members. Active engagement was observed throughout the event, with families participating in various activities and enjoying the festivities. The Family Fun Day Extravaganza organized by the SFA program was a tremendous success, uniting families in the community for a day filled with laughter, games, and cherished memories. The event exemplified the spirit

of community and collaboration, bringing together individuals of all backgrounds to celebrate togetherness and create lasting bonds.

Engaging with the SFA system navigator of Parents of Black children during coach calls has proven invaluable for the Student and Family Advocate (SFA) program. Through these interactions, we've received essential guidance and support, particularly in navigating complex cases. One notable collaboration involved a case at a local high school, which escalated to involve the police and potential school expulsion due to systemic failures. By leveraging the expertise and insights of the SFA system navigator, we were able to effectively advocate for the rights of the students and families involved. This collaboration provided much-needed support and empowered us to challenge unjust practices and seek meaningful resolutions for the affected individuals.

In addition, collaborating with the Children's Aid Society (CAS) and youth justice programs has proven immensely beneficial for the Student and Family Advocate program, providing crucial support for parents navigating the complexities of the education system during challenging times. This partnership has enhanced the advocacy efforts of the SFA program and ensured that families receive comprehensive support to address a range of issues impacting their children's education and well-being. One significant aspect of this collaboration is the joint effort to address systemic issues of racism within schools. By working closely with CAS, the SFA program has been able to advocate for the rights of students and families impacted by racist practices, framing such behaviour as a form of child negligence. This strategic approach has enabled the program to hold accountable those responsible for perpetuating racist behaviour within the school environment, fostering a safer and more inclusive educational environment for all students. Sharing this experience as a panelist at the Community of Practice conference and in the bi-weekly outreach committee meeting has enabled us to share best practices and learn from each other. Moreover, the partnership with CAS extends beyond reactive measures to proactively support families and ensure the academic and social success of Black students. By receiving referrals from school trustees, CAS can identify and intervene in situations where Black students may be at risk of academic underachievement, social isolation, or involvement in the youth justice system. Through targeted support and advocacy, CAS works collaboratively with the SFA program to address systemic barriers and promote equitable opportunities for

Black students to thrive academically and socially. Additionally, the collaboration with YouthJustice programs enhances the SFA program's ability to support students and families involved in the justice system. By coordinating efforts with these programs, the SFA program can provide holistic support services that address the underlying issues contributing to youth involvement in the justice system, such as trauma, poverty, and lack of access to educational opportunities. This multidisciplinary approach ensures that students receive the support they need to reintegrate into the education system and succeed academically, ultimately breaking the cycle of involvement in the justice system.

Working with TCDSB in the equity and diversity plan has also helped families and students in navigating the board. During this fiscal year we were able to make change presentation on the zero-tolerance policy for the use of the N word and to ensure that Black students are not to get into trouble as they transition to the new policy.

In summary, the collaborative efforts between the SFA program, Parents of Black children, CAS, and youth justice programs demonstrate the power of partnership in addressing systemic challenges within the education system and promoting the well-being and academic success of all students, particularly those from marginalized communities. By leveraging the expertise, resources, and networks of these organizations, the SFA program can provide comprehensive support services that empower families and create a more equitable and inclusive educational environment for all students.



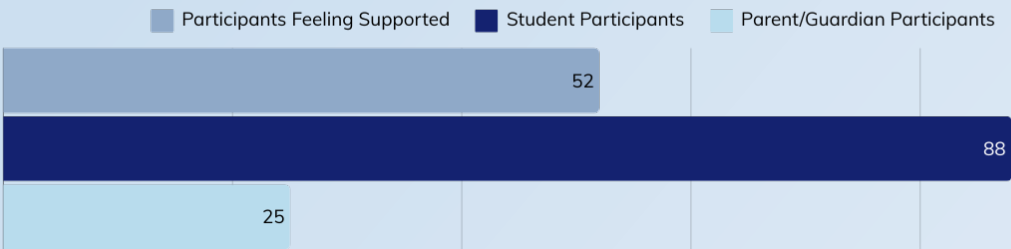
Student and Family Advocate Program

Future: On the Path Ahead

The Student and Family Advocate (SFA) program hopes to expand its future initiatives to enhance community support and foster meaningful change. One key goal is to establish a Community Dialogue Forum that will serve as a platform for open discussions among students, families, educators, and community leaders. This forum aims to facilitate conversations on critical issues, share experiences, and collaboratively develop solutions to challenges faced by marginalized communities. Additionally, the SFA program plans to organize more family engagement events, building on the success of initiatives like the Family Fun Day, to strengthen bonds within the community and create opportunities for families to connect and support each other. To engage more families, the Family Fun Day will be held in priority neighborhoods in Wards 2 and 6 school, ensuring that families in these areas have greater access to resources and can participate in family-building events.

Another significant goal we intend to focus on in the upcoming year is parent

education for prevention. Empowering marginalized and immigrant families with the knowledge and resources needed to address potential challenges proactively in which students and families can have a better experience within the Ontario Education System. This includes workshops and seminars on topics such as navigating the education system, understanding students' rights, and promoting mental health and well-being. Furthermore, the SFA program aims to collaborate with community partners to advocate for more policy changes that promote family unity and address systemic issues within the education system. Recognizing that current policies often separate rather than unify families, the program will work towards developing culturally sensitive approaches that acknowledge and respect diverse family structures. The belief is that stronger families contribute to stronger societies, and by empowering families and addressing systemic barriers, the SFA program seeks to create an inclusive and equitable educational environment that benefits all students and their families.





From Doubt to Triumph: A Student's Journey with SFA

When I first decided to attend university, I faced many obstacles. One of the biggest challenges was being told by my high school guidance counsellor that I should go to college and that university wouldn't be an option for me. I felt lost and unsure about how to move forward.

That's when I found the Student and Family Advocate (SFA) program through Midaynta Community Services. The SFA coordinator was incredibly supportive and dedicated to helping me achieve my dream. She provided personalized guidance and resources, ensuring I had everything I needed to succeed. From helping me research potential universities to assisting with my application essays, the SFA coordinator was there every step of the way.

Thanks to the unwavering support and encouragement from the SFA program, I could confidently apply to my dream university. I am thrilled to say that I have been accepted and will be starting my university journey soon. I am incredibly grateful to the SFA program for their invaluable assistance and for making my dream a reality. Thank you for believing in me and supporting me through this critical time in my life.

- Grade 12 High School Student, Etobicoke North, Ward 2 TDSB



Youth for Change Program

This year, Midaynta Community Services continued to expand and enhance the Youth for Change (YFC) Program, which was initially launched to address the crisis of youth substance abuse, addictions, and mental health within the Black community. Supported by Health Canada, the program aims to provide culturally relevant and responsive programming for Black youth aged 15-29 facing these challenges.

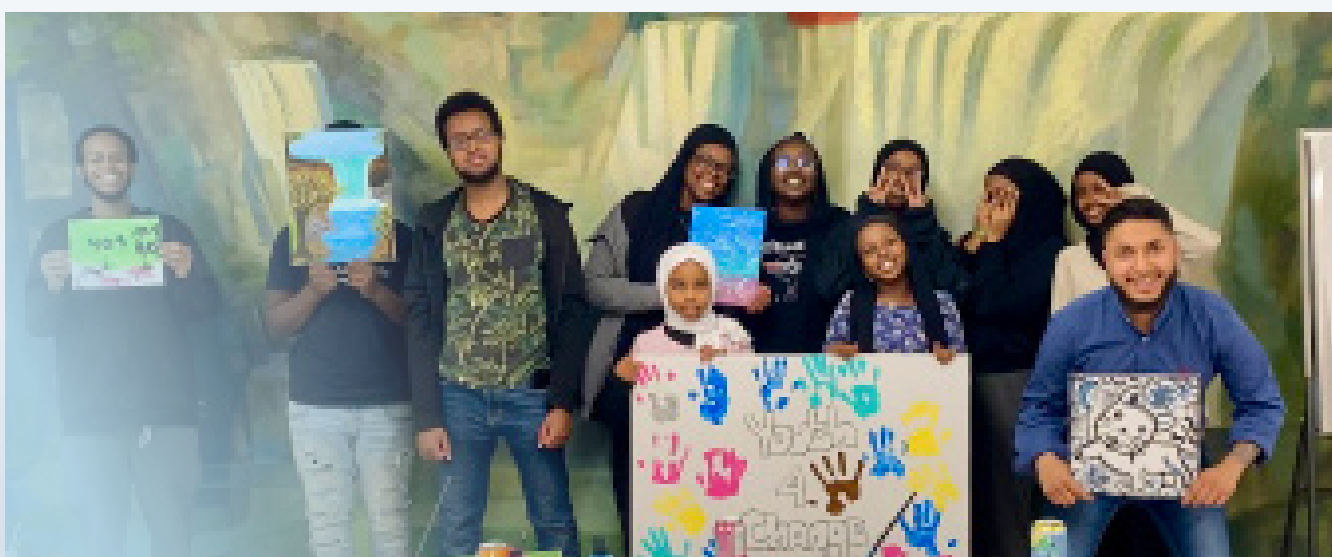
Building on the foundation set in previous years, the YFC Program has made significant strides in reaching out to youth and their families, offering a variety of activities and resources to support mental health and substance use recovery. Two successful art exhibitions were held on October 6, 2023, and March 6, 2024. These events showcased the creative works of youth participants, who expressed what they had learned about mental health and substance use through visual arts and spoken word. The exhibitions served as a platform for youth to share their journeys and insights with the community.

In July 2023, the YFC team presented at Midaynta's Annual Youth Resiliency Conference, bringing attention to the critical issues of youth substance abuse, addiction,

and mental health. The presentation highlighted the program's impact and engaged stakeholders in discussions on best practices for supporting youth. On March 1, 2024, the YFC team collaborated with other mental health organizations to host a conference focused on the impacts of mental health challenges, continuing YFC's mission of addressing mental health in different levels. This event provided an opportunity for youth, community service workers, and other stakeholders to connect, share experiences, and discuss strategies for effective support.

Throughout the year, the YFC team conducted regular presentations for youth in various schools and community settings, including North Albion Collegiate Institute (NACI), Martingrove High School, and West Humber CI. These sessions aimed to educate youth on mental health, substance use, and available resources. To address the stigma and challenges surrounding youth substance use and mental health, the program facilitated focus groups for parents. These focus group sessions provided parents with insights into the issues their children face and strategies for better communication and support.





This year, the YFC program also significantly amplified its reach through social media platforms like Instagram, and Twitter. These digital campaigns featured infographics, videos, and other posts, resonating with young audiences and fostering a sense of community. This online presence was crucial in maintaining engagement, especially during times when in-person interactions were limited. Visually appealing and easily digestible brochures and infographics were designed and distributed in schools, community centers, and healthcare settings. These materials served as quick reference guides, reinforcing the information delivered through workshops and presentations and providing critical contact information for local support services.

Despite the challenges of stigma and limited initial knowledge about substance use and mental health within the community, the YFC Program has made significant progress. The social media campaign and art exhibitions were particularly successful in engaging youth and providing them with alternative outlets for expression and support. Looking ahead, we are excited to continue building on these achievements, further expanding our outreach, and strengthening our connections with other organizations, youth, and families. Our goal remains to support and uplift Black youth in our community, ensuring they have access to the resources and support they need to thrive.

Youth in Community Services Program

The Youth in Community Services (YICS) program at Midaynta Community Services continues to empower minority and racialized youth aged 15-29 in Northwest Toronto. Over the past year, the program has played a transformative role in the personal and professional development of participants by providing them with diverse opportunities to gain skills, engage in their communities, and grow as leaders.

The primary objectives of the YICS program are centered around Skill Empowerment, Community Support, and Civic Engagement. These objectives were met through a variety of workshops and community activities that have significantly impacted the youth participants. Over the past year, the program has seen an increase in engagement, with an average of 20 participants attending workshops regularly. These workshops covered crucial topics such as leadership, volunteerism, civic participation, and job readiness, all aimed at equipping youth with the tools they need to succeed in their personal and professional lives.

The program also successfully hosted several training workshops, covering essential skills like problem-solving, leadership, and volunteerism. These workshops have had a lasting impact, evidenced by the testimonials provided by the participants. Many youths reported that their experiences in the program were transformative, giving them a deeper sense of purpose and community responsibility. Some participants shared how their involvement in the YICS program has inspired them to pursue careers in community service and civic engagement.

The program also addressed community

needs through various volunteer projects. Initiatives such as digital literacy support for seniors and the Youth Resiliency Conference made tangible contributions to the community, fostering intergenerational connections and promoting community cohesion. Additionally, the use of social media platforms expanded the program's outreach, engaging a broader audience and facilitating access to program information and resources.

Partnerships with organizations such as Khalid Bin Walid Mosque, UNISON Health and Community Services, and the Somali Immigrant Aid Organization have strengthened the program's community ties. These collaborations have enhanced the program's effectiveness and provided valuable opportunities for participants. The establishment of networks like the Toronto District School Board and Access Alliance has further supported the program's goals by facilitating access to resources and mentorship.

One of the highlights of the program this year was the Youth Symposium, an event fully organized and executed by the participants. This platform provided the youth with the opportunity to showcase their projects and reflect on their experiences. The event was well-attended, drawing over 100 individuals, including participants' families, community stakeholders, and Midaynta staff. The symposium highlighted the leadership and organizational skills the youth have developed throughout the program. Participants presented their volunteer projects, shared insights from their service placements, and demonstrated their growth in areas such as public speaking, event planning, and teamwork.



Moreover, the testimonials from youth-ambassadors highlighted the positive influence and transformative nature of the program. For instance, one participant described their journey from being a reserved individual to becoming an active leader in their community. Another participant shared how the skills gained during the program helped them secure employment, while others expressed their commitment to continued volunteerism and civic engagement. These success stories emphasize the program's role in not only providing skills but also inspiring youth to contribute meaningfully to their communities.

Overall, the Youth in Community Service program has made significant strides in achieving its goals, and the progress has been evident in the increased engagement, leadership, and skill development among the youth. The program not only equips participants with practical knowledge but also instills a sense of civic responsibility and community involvement. Moving forward, Midaynta Community Services remains dedicated to supporting youth development and investing in initiatives that empower future generations of community leaders.

Project Turn Around

The Project Turn Around initiative, under which the Gang Prevention Intervention Program (GPIP) operates, continues its impactful work, supporting families across various divisions through both virtual and in-person methods. As staff returned to work from Islington and Jane Street hub locations, outreach activities resumed, enabling engagement with community members. This quarter saw GPIP staff actively participating in City of Toronto Safety Committee meetings, offering critical incident support, and engaging in community discussions. The staff also noted a rise in housing insecurities, mental health challenges, and food insecurity among clients, leading to more frequent referrals to partner agencies for specialized care.

GPIP's outreach efforts included partnerships with various agencies and participation in key community meetings. Notable collaborations involved Fred Victor's program, which assists African, Black, and Caribbean individuals facing mental health crises. Midaynta staff have been instrumental in community engagement activities, conducting workshops at the Mount Dennis Toronto Public Library and participating in initiatives like the FOCUS meetings. These engagements have been vital in providing trauma-informed and culturally relevant support to clients, including those facing gang-related challenges.

The program also emphasized professional development and crisis response. Staff completed multiple training sessions, including Crisis Prevention and Intervention and Anti-Black Racism training. In crisis situations, the team responded promptly by connecting youth with necessary resources. Prevention and intervention activities continued through school workshops and community engagements, focusing on building positive relationships with at-risk youth. The GPIP team has successfully built rapport with local schools and the Mount Dennis community, helping youth develop social skills and emotional intelligence.

Client successes reflect the effectiveness of GPIP, with many youths showing improved self-awareness and interest in workshops. Long-term engagement from clients and support from parents have been crucial in ensuring program completion. Challenges, however, persist, particularly in accommodating student schedules and dealing with incomplete information from police referrals. The need for more private counseling spaces and transportation options for youth remain ongoing concerns that impact service delivery.

Looking ahead, expanding collaborations and partnerships is a priority. This includes enhancing outreach to local after-school programs and youth employment services. Addressing gaps in information-sharing with police and improving access to private counseling spaces are recommended. Additionally, providing mobile outreach options would allow the GPIP team to better serve clients across neighborhood boundaries and ensure wider reach and support.

The neighborhoods served by GPIP under Project Turn Around span the North West of Toronto, including communities like Mount Dennis, Kingsview Village, and Black Creek. The program's focus on fostering trust, community engagement, and cultural sensitivity continues to drive positive outcomes for at-risk youth and their families, contributing to safer and more resilient communities.



Youth Justice Program

Black families and youth often face systemic inequities and adversarial treatment in the justice system, compounded by complex legal processes and terminology. Addressing these challenges, Midaynta has achieved key milestones this year, notably partnering with the Muslim Legal Support Centre (MLSC). Formalized through a Memorandum of Understanding, this collaboration facilitates access to justice by offering culturally sensitive legal workshops, multilingual services (e.g., Arabic, Somali, French), and free legal consultations. These initiatives dismantle barriers, empower families, and provide equitable support for navigating the justice system.

Midaynta's Youth Justice (YJ) program has expanded through impactful partnerships. Collaborating with the Toronto Public Library's Mount Dennis Branch, YJ caseworkers engage with at-risk youth in a welcoming environment, offering workshops on conflict resolution, anger management, and creative activities. This grassroots prevention work emphasizes autonomy, fostering trust and empowering youth to make informed decisions. Additionally, Midaynta's Black History Month collaborations with Cuthbert House and Terry Fox House brought engaging presentations to justice-involved youth, promoting cultural pride and positive connections.

Mental health remains a critical focus, as many youth in the YJ program experience anxiety and distress linked to socioeconomic factors and systemic racism. Through a new partnership with Fred Victor, Midaynta delivers trauma-informed care and grief support, particularly for youth in Neighbourhood Improvement Areas impacted by gun violence. These initiatives provide wraparound services, coping strategies, and a safe space to navigate emotional challenges, ensuring youth and their families are supported in building resilience and fostering hope.



Gender-Based Violence Program

The GBV program continues to make significant strides in community engagement and program delivery. Workshops have been successfully conducted across multiple schools, including Greenholme Junior Middle School, Lawrence Heights Middle School, West Humber Collegiate Institute, and North Albion Collegiate Institute. This year marked the launch of the High School Cohort, which incorporated additional facilitators and PowerPoint presentations, enhancing the learning experience. Middle school workshops were designed to be more interactive, utilizing games and videos to engage participants effectively. EmpowerMENT program participants were also provided with workbooks, enabling self-reflection and progress tracking for each module. Additionally, one-off workshops were organized for various schools and organizations, broadening the program's reach.

Program awareness has grown substantially through word-of-mouth referrals, information sessions, and active involvement within schools. The GBV caseworker collaborated with Midaynta's Youth Justice Coordinator and Student Family Advocate to deliver programming in schools and detention centers, increasing awareness of the EmpowerMENT program. This collaboration has strengthened community ties

and expanded the program's visibility.

There has been a notable rise in referrals due to an increase in GBV-related incidents, such as sexual assaults. Schools have shifted their focus towards preventative measures, making referrals before youth are charged, in contrast to last year's primarily diversion-related referrals.

Professional development remains a cornerstone of the program's success. The GBV caseworker has attended numerous skill-building webinars hosted by the Learning Network and continues to participate in Community of Practice (CoP) meetings with other GBV-focused organizations. Additionally, attendance at quarterly Domestic Violence Committee (DVCAC) meetings has facilitated collaboration and information sharing among justice and community representatives.

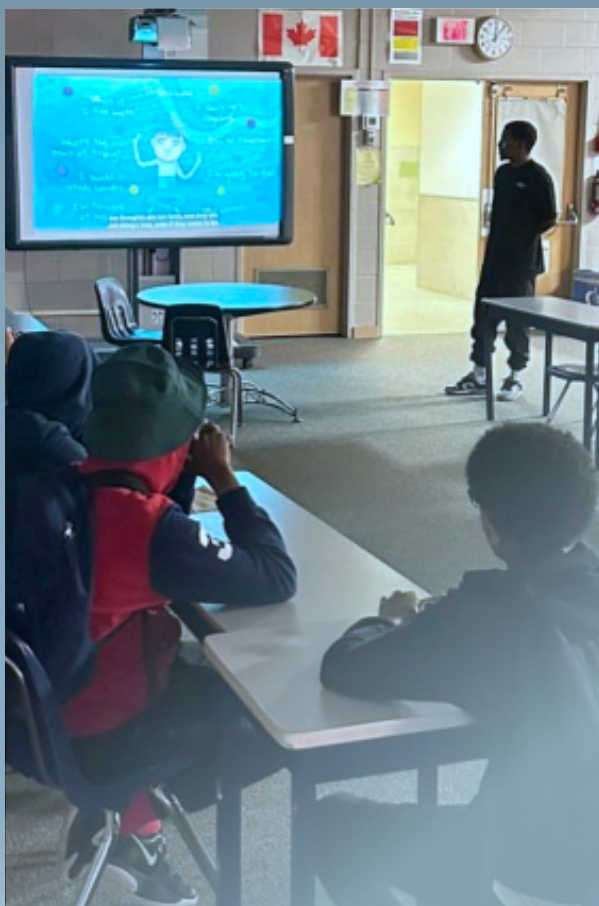
The summer plans for the program include organizing one-off GBV workshops to meet community needs, partnering with local organizations to expand reach, and continuing one-on-one case management to provide personalized support for participants. Peer support groups and skill-building workshops focused on life skills, job readiness, self-care, and GBV awareness are also planned to empower participants further.



To enhance program evaluation, the GBV team has partnered with Travonne Edwards, Assistant Professor at Toronto Metropolitan University. This collaboration aims to refine evaluation tools, such as surveys and feedback mechanisms, to measure both immediate and long-term outcomes effectively.

Success stories from the program highlight its transformative impact. Participants have secured full-time positions, completed high

school, and returned as mentors, demonstrating the lasting effects of GBV programming. Initiatives like educational videos, transportation support, and prepaid food vouchers have significantly improved participant engagement and well-being. Enhanced training manuals and psychological support services have also empowered staff and community members to address GBV issues more effectively, further strengthening the program's overall impact.



Mending A Crack In The Sky (MCIS)

The fiscal year 2023-2024 was an outstanding period for the Mending a Crack in the Sky (MCIS) program. Numerous milestones were celebrated, and engagement with the community deepened. The year began with the Ramadan Iftar Dinner on April 15th, 2023, which brought together local partners, community members, and politicians to celebrate and strengthen bonds. Following this, participation in the National Day Against Gun Violence on June 5th, 2023, included engagement with Prime Minister Justin Trudeau and other community partners, further reinforcing the commitment to combating violence in communities.

As summer approached, outreach efforts extended beyond Toronto with in-person consultations in Edmonton and Calgary, connecting with mothers facing similar challenges, broadening the impact of the work. In September of 2023, the MCIS program also played a significant role in the Community March Against Gun Violence, demonstrating ongoing dedication to addressing violence in communities.

Throughout the year, MCIS maintained a focus on community safety by holding weekly safety meetings that provided a consistent platform for addressing local concerns. Weekly healing sessions for mothers were

also hosted, offering a supportive space for those affected by violence and other challenges. Active involvement in various engagements with the Neighborhood Community Officer (NCO) program included organizing town halls and workshops on critical topics like auto theft protection and human trafficking. Additionally, participation in the Toronto Police Service's Black History Month events further solidified ties with law enforcement and the broader community.

In October, the program's creative approach was showcased during the Body Mapping sessions, facilitated in partnership with the University of Toronto. Mothers shared their stories and experiences through art, fostering deeper connections and understanding. An Eid Toy Drive was also organized with the support of the NCO program, bringing joy to many children in the community.

A significant achievement this year was participation in a roundtable with the Centre for Research & Innovation for Black Survivors of Homicide Victims (CRIB), where the experiences of families impacted by gun violence were discussed, and ways to support them were explored.



“If people come together, they can even mend a crack in the sky”
- MCIS (Somali Proverb)



Another major milestone was celebrated on February 3rd, 2024, when MCIS commemorated the third year of the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Toronto Police Services Board, marked by a public celebration on Instagram. This event, attended by community partners like Louis March, city officials, including representatives from Deputy Mayor Amber Morley’s and Councillor Lily Cheng’s offices, and police officers, underscored the strong partnerships that have been crucial to success.

As the program continues to address the pressing needs of the community, one issue that has repeatedly surfaced is food insecurity. Active exploration of launching a

“Reclaiming narratives from the shadows of gun violence” — how a group of women engaged in community-building, empowerment and advocacy through art

Posted on March 7, 2024
 Categories: Faculty, Stephanie Begun, Students



food bank in collaboration with community partners is underway, with progress anticipated in the coming fiscal year.

With the unwavering support of partners and the community, the MCIS program has achieved remarkable progress this year. As MCIS looks to the future, there is a strong determination to build on these successes by expanding workshops and training sessions for families. The program remains committed to its vision of fostering a safer, more united community where collaboration and healing continue to thrive.

New Roads Program: Youth Violence Prevention

The New Roads Program is a youth violence prevention initiative designed to address substance use, mental health challenges, and systemic barriers affecting Black youth aged 15-29 in Northwest Toronto. By amplifying youth voices and fostering open, honest discussions, the program offers culturally sensitive support, empowering young individuals and their families to navigate recovery and make informed decisions for their overall well-being.

Over the past year, the program has achieved significant milestones in engaging youth across various initiatives. Weekly lunchtime programs created a safe and inclusive space for connection, learning, and growth. At West Humber Collegiate, more than 25 male and 15 female students actively participated. Similarly, at Greenholme, the program engaged about 20 middle school boys and 20 middle school girls. These sessions included lunch and workshops featuring professionals such as local doctors, who inspired students by sharing their personal journeys.

A highlight of the year was a transformative trip to City Hall, where 30 high school students from West Humber Collegiate had the unique opportunity to meet Mayor Olivia Chow and Deputy Mayor Amber Morley. The visit provided a firsthand look at civic leadership and career exploration through guided tours and interactions with City Hall staff, leaving students inspired to envision their futures.

Physical well-being and social engagement were key goals of the afterschool basketball initiative launched at George Harvey Collegiate Institute. Every Tuesday evening, approximately 30 boys aged 14-24 participated in this program, fostering teamwork, resilience, and camaraderie in a supportive environment.

In addition to recreational activities, the New Roads Program hosted a construction career workshop at the Keele Hub, which attracted around 30 participants. The workshop featured interactive discussions with industry professionals, providing practical insights into career opportunities in construction and inspiring participants to consider the field as a viable career path.

While the program celebrated many successes, it also faced challenges that underscored the importance of adaptability and resilience. Transportation issues made it difficult for some students to attend the afterschool basketball program regularly, highlighting the need for accessible options. Securing consistent spaces for activities presented another challenge, causing disruptions in scheduling and requiring frequent relocations. Furthermore, as a relatively new initiative, building trust and establishing strong relationships within the community required ongoing effort and patience.

Looking ahead, the New Roads Program remains committed to expanding its impact. Plans for the coming year include adding one more high school and one additional middle school to its roster, addressing transportation and space challenges, and deepening relationships within the community to foster stronger connections.

Despite these obstacles, the New Roads Program is steadfast in its mission to support youth in overcoming challenges and building brighter futures. Through collaboration, innovation, and a focus on growth, the program is poised to make a lasting and transformative impact in the years to come.



Eviction Prevention In Community

The Midaynta EPIC Project is an eviction prevention initiative focused on supporting tenants at risk of eviction, particularly within Black and marginalized communities across Toronto. The program offers rapid, short-term case management, providing financial assistance, legal aid, and mental health services to address immediate housing challenges.

Rooted in a Housing First approach, Midaynta prioritizes stable housing while offering trauma-informed, non-judgmental, and anti-oppressive care tailored to each tenant's unique needs. Staff offer in-person support across Toronto, including after-hours and weekends, and accept referrals from all populations, prioritizing those most vulnerable to eviction.

Midaynta's skilled team provides expertise in tenant rights, housing law, and eviction prevention, continually updating their training to meet evolving client needs. By collaborating with community organizations, housing providers, and legal services, the program connects tenants to long-term housing resources. The Shelter Management Information System (SMIS) tracks client outcomes, ensuring accurate reporting and accountability.

Collaboration:

The EPIC program thrives on its partnerships with community organizations, housing providers, and legal professionals, creating a robust support network for tenants. These collaborations help tenants navigate housing, legal, and mental health systems, while also advocating for tenant rights and housing stability.

Success Story:

A young Black single mother, facing evic-

tion due to financial hardship and job loss, came to Midaynta seeking support. The EPIC program provided financial aid, legal assistance, and mental health support. With this help, she avoided eviction, secured stable housing, and found a job. Due to these positive strides, the client joined a peer support group, gained confidence, and now advocates for others in her community.

Looking Ahead:

The EPIC Project will continue expanding its services, strengthening collaborations, and advocating for policy changes that address housing inequities, with a focus on Black and marginalized communities in Toronto. Through these efforts, EPIC aims to reduce homelessness and promote long-term housing security.



HomeSafe York

Launched in October 2023, HomeSafe York is a new program under Midaynta Community Services, designed to provide trauma-informed, in-person and virtual supports to York Region residents at risk of losing their housing. With a focus on anti-Black racism and cultural sensitivity, the program prioritizes racialized and marginalized individuals, including newcomers facing systemic and cultural challenges like language barriers. Funded by York Region's Community Investment Plan, HomeSafe York aims to improve housing stability through tailored support, skill-building, and resource navigation.

HomeSafe York offers a range of services to meet the housing needs of York Region residents:

- **Educational Workshops:** Understand your rights and responsibilities as a tenant or landlord to navigate the housing systems confidently.
- **Personalized Housing Assistance:** Provides culturally sensitive, trauma-informed support to help clients find housing that aligns with their needs and budget.
- **Community Program Referrals:** Connecting residents with a network of community programs and resources for additional support services.

HomeSafe York has strengthened its impact through meaningful partnerships with local agencies and community resources. Collaborations with organizations such as the York Region Centre for Community Safety, Vaughan Library, and the Children, Youth, and Families Situational Tables have been instrumental in expanding our outreach and enhancing service delivery. The Vaughan Library has generously hosted several of our Housing Hub Clinics, offering accessible spaces for residents to receive support. Our partnership with the York Region Centre for Community Safety has established a robust referral network, ensuring that clients receive comprehensive support. Additionally, by participating in

the Children, Youth, and Families Situational Tables, HomeSafe York can collaborate with various service providers to address complex, intersecting needs in a coordinated and timely manner, providing more effective support for families facing multiple challenges.

Since its launch, HomeSafe York has provided critical support to individuals and families across the region. Our one-on-one Case Management, Housing Hub Clinics, information sessions, and skill-building workshops have helped clients secure housing, understand their rights as tenants, and avoid evictions. These services have become an essential resource for our clients, equipping them with the tools and knowledge to navigate a complex housing landscape.



Future Leaders Camp

The Future Leaders Summer Camp provided a vibrant and inclusive environment where children from diverse Black ethnic backgrounds could thrive. Over the course of the camp, participants engaged in activities designed to enhance their literacy, leadership, character development, and cultural awareness, all within a safe and supportive space. Leadership and character education sessions focused on teamwork, responsibility, and effective communication through interactive group challenges. Special attention was given to cultural awareness, with sessions highlighting Somali language and culture to help campers connect with their heritage and foster pride in their identity.

Artistic expression flourished through arts and crafts, including plate painting and water painting, allowing campers to unleash their creativity. Recreational activities such as basketball, soccer, dodgeball, swimming, and scavenger hunts kept participants active and engaged, while excursions to exciting destinations like SkyZone, movie cinemas, and the Gardiner Museum added an

adventurous element. Campers also built meaningful connections with peers and community members, while parents and guardians gained insights into community safety and strategies to support their children's education.

This year's camp successfully hosted over 30 participants from July 10 to August 9. Activities balanced fun and learning, helping campers develop critical skills such as teamwork, communication, and self-confidence. One inspiring success story involved a participant who started the camp shy and hesitant to join group activities but blossomed into an active team leader by the end of the program, demonstrating remarkable growth. The Future Leaders Summer Camp exemplified the power of community and intentional programming to inspire young minds, leaving a lasting impact on campers and their families. Looking ahead, we remain committed to empowering youth, fostering connections, and celebrating the rich cultural diversity of our community.



Girls Sewing Workshop

Midaynta Community Services, in collaboration with Community Place Hub, hosted the Girls Sewing Workshop from May 11, 2023, to June 15, 2023, with sessions held on Thursdays from 3:00 pm to 5:30 pm. Over six weeks, participants eagerly engaged in learning valuable sewing skills, which fostered a sense of community, empowerment, and creative self-expression. The workshop provided a supportive environment where participants could connect, share experiences, and build confidence in their abilities. Its success was greatly supported by Community Place Hub, which generously provided the venue, sewing machines, and a skilled instructor, ensuring high-quality learning experiences for all involved.

Due to the overwhelmingly positive feedback and the participants' enthusiasm for further skill development, the workshop was extended until August 31, 2023. This extension allowed participants to delve into

advanced sewing techniques and take on more complex projects, solidifying their skills and boosting their confidence. The additional sessions also encouraged the participants to explore their creativity further and apply their new abilities to personal and community projects.

Midaynta expressed heartfelt gratitude to the participants, volunteers, and partners who made the workshop a success. The program not only equipped participants with practical sewing skills but also became a symbol of community collaboration and empowerment. With the positive momentum gained, there is great anticipation for the workshop's return in 2024, with plans to expand its reach and impact to benefit more community members. This initiative highlighted Midaynta's dedication to creating meaningful opportunities for skill development, fostering creativity, and strengthening connections within the community.



Ask The Expert Workshops

The Ask the Expert Workshop series was meticulously conceptualized and then launched to primarily serve the multi-faceted needs of the residents within the York Weston Pelham community. Recognizing the invaluable role of community engagement in holistic societal development, the series was structured not just to engage but also to educate, support, and stir inspiration among its residents. Each workshop was crafted to be a catalyst, driving individuals towards personal growth, fostering a sense of belonging, and encouraging active participation in community affairs.

The inception of this series is a testament to the Keele Community Hub's forward-thinking ethos. Instead of adhering to traditional service delivery models, the Hub has embarked on an innovative journey, aiming to redefine how services are delivered and how community interactions are facilitated. This fresh approach leans heavily on sourcing, curating and promoting best practices that underscore the importance of robust community involvement.

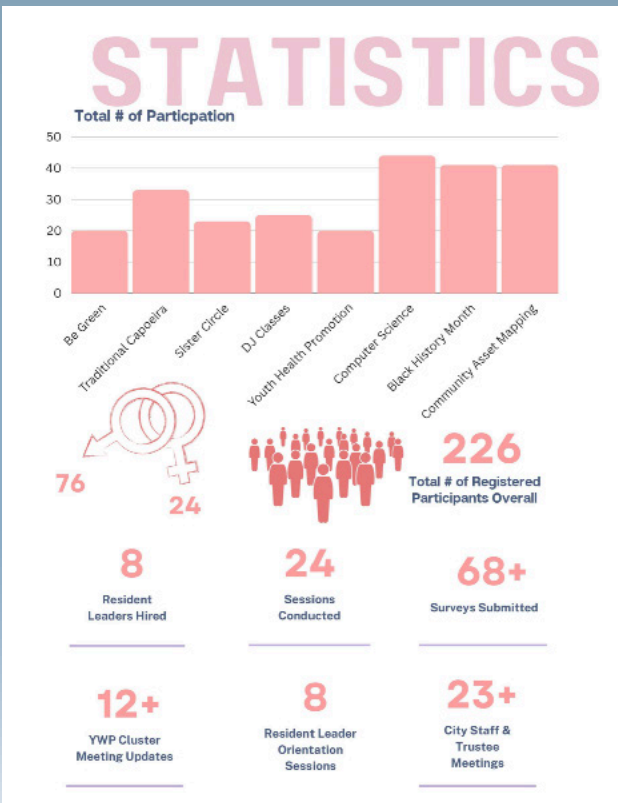
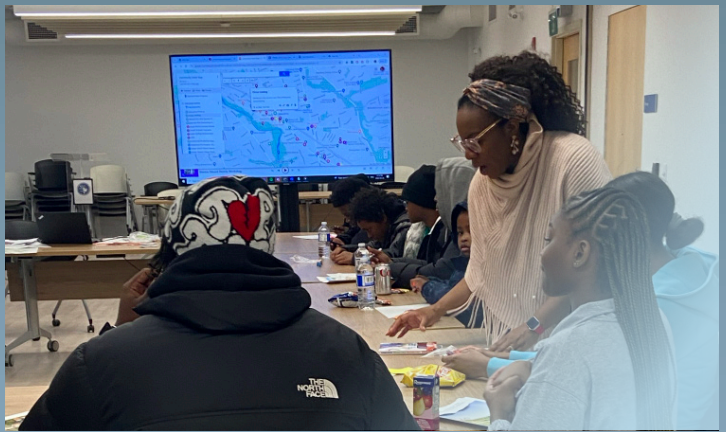
The Keele Community Hub, a champion of inclusivity, has ensured that the series gives a significant platform to Black, Indigenous, and other equity-deserving groups. This emphasis sends a powerful message: Every voice is important, every story is essential, and every resident, regardless of their background, has an equal stake in the commu-

nity's future.

The overwhelmingly positive responses from participants were a clear indication of the series' success in amplifying community participation and inspiring individuals. Many participants even expressed interest in conducting workshops themselves, validating the project's ripple effect. The active involvement of Indigenous, Black, and other equity-deserving groups ensured that the workshops were inclusive and represented a wide range of perspectives.

One of the contributing factors to the success of the project was the outreach support from the York Weston Pelham Cluster. Their assistance was valuable in boosting participant registration and ensuring the workshops reached a broader audience within the community. The Cluster also played a significant role in promoting the Call for Resident Leader Applications. The collaboration with Staff within the City of Toronto's Community Development Unit from the inception to completion ensured seamless execution and effective problem-solving. This method addressed challenges swiftly, resources were optimally utilized, and the project objectives were met with precision. This project allowed the promotion of Resident Leaders' expertise to the broader community, and as a result, 2 Resident Leaders were provided other opportunities as a result.





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Summer Students

Nafisa Abdirahman
Harun Mohamed
Sagal Muhidin
Sumaya Hassan
Hafsa Ali
Abdishakur Hassan

Hussein-Hareer Abdillahi
Abdurrazzaq Siddiqui
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Harun Hassan
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KIDS UPFRONT TORONTO

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The Centre for Research & Innovations for Black Survivors of Homicide Victims (CRIB)

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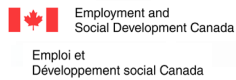
Tropicana Community Services

Progress Place

Children, Youth and Families (CYF) Situation Tables

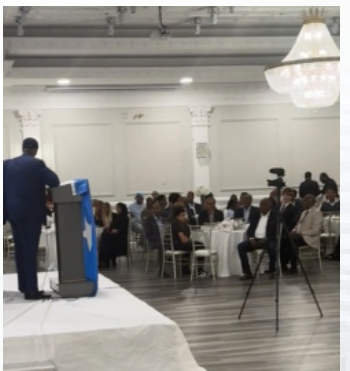
York Region Centre for Community Safety

Acknowledging Our Funders











Integrity

Diversity

Meaningful inclusion

Accessibility

Commitment



**“To build a united community,
where diversity is celebrated,
barriers are dismantled, and
opportunities are accessible
to all.”**

Midaynta's Vision



Midaynta Community Services **Annual Report** 2023-2024

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