



Annual **REPORT** 2015



**360°
kids**

Surrounding kids
in crisis with care

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

Positioned for **growth**... **building** on our **momentum**



Reflecting back over our most recent fiscal year, we witnessed many accomplishments and even more important, many seeds being planted to position our organization moving forward.

We continued to leverage the strength of our new brand – 360°kids, and we saw firsthand the huge success of the 360°Experience and what it is like to spend a day (or a very cold night) in the shoes of a homeless youth. Continued progress of the new Richmond Hill Housing and Community Hub with an anticipated opening in Spring 2016, as planned, will be a huge step in helping youth in our community. We continued to build the strength of our team, the expansion of our programs, our relationships within the community and our financial position.

The most significant learning was the delicate balance that youth of today face and how a single event or decision, very often outside of their control, can put a youth out on the street. As I meet more and more youth that access our services, I am truly impressed at the obstacles they must overcome and their determination. Those of us in the business community would be impressed with this skill set.

We have a great team at 360°kids and I would be remiss if I didn't extend a word of thanks. To our Executive Director, whose vision and drive is the fuel for our growth. To our great staff at 360°kids who do an amazing job every day, often without thanks and recognition, for ensuring we get everything possible from our available resources. To our clients and those we serve - the kids - they are truly remarkable and inspirational, and as I am learning, Every Kid Matters. To our funders, who continue to believe in what we do and the value we deliver. To our community stakeholders for allowing us to chase our vision and support our cause. To my fellow Board Members for their incredible contributions and teaching me some important lessons about giving back. And lastly, to our volunteers who are the backbone of our incredible organization. Thank you for a great year and a bright future.

What better way to shape our future than to work with and help our future – because Every Kid Matters. I am so excited to be part of this dynamic and growing organization that continues to deliver incredible value to those in need. May our reach always exceed our grasp.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Bruce Bailey'.

Bruce Bailey,
Chair, Board of Directors

"I'd go to Nonna's", he answered when asked what he would do if he could no longer live at home. "What if Nonna's wasn't an option?" I asked, pushing him a little. "I have no idea" he conceded. Noah, like hundreds of other kids his age who might find themselves homeless on any given night, had no idea where to find shelter if home was not an option.

It was March 26th, 2015 and it was brutally cold. Over 30 local high school kids, ages 14 and up, had volunteered to spend the night on the streets in the shoes of a homeless youth in our first ever 360°Experience- Young Leaders Edition. I was charged with the safety of a group of four kids, who were heading up to Leeder Place Family Shelter, operated by Blue Door Shelters, in East Gwillimbury. For hours on end, they trudged through the snow and cold, without complaint, and soaked up the experience. Their biggest complaint throughout the night... they were hungry. Unlike their adult counterparts, who had participated a couple of weeks earlier in the 360°Experience, it wasn't the lack of sleep or cold that bothered them, it was the lack of food. Being far removed from being a teenager myself, I had forgotten what it was like to be a teen and to be constantly hungry. It also made me think about how hungry kids on the street are, when they have no fridge to raid and very little money to buy food.

I was so proud of the kids who took part in the Young Leaders Experience. Not only will they carry that experience with them for a lifetime, but they raised \$27,000 to help homeless youth in the process. Quite often, kids of today are labelled as privileged or entitled. From my seat on our many hours on the bus that night, that label couldn't be further from the truth. Our future is burning bright.

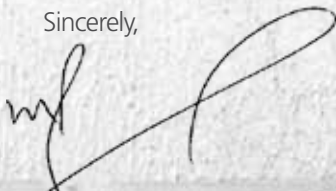
In the Spring of 2016, every kid will matter just a little bit more. This is when the new Richmond Hill Housing and Community Hub will open its doors, and will literally double the number of available beds for homeless youth overnight. Joining Home Base Richmond Hill at the new location will be our emergency housing program – Connections, as well as our transitional housing apartments STAY Richmond Hill (Supportive Transitional Apartments for Youth). Planning is currently underway around programming, staffing and making the transition to the new space.

Our Every Kid Matters Campaign, had a strong first year in its effort to raise **\$2.1 million** to provide equipment and furnishings for our new Home Base Youth Housing and Support Centre in Richmond Hill, as well as program expansion and long-term housing solutions. We need your help to continue this momentum into this year, as I am confident that together we will reach our goal.

While we are excited about the new Hub, what really makes 360°kids tick, is the people. Our extremely talented and dedicated staff, volunteers and partners have given hope, love and support to thousands of kids and families this year, and in doing so have changed the course of their lives.

On behalf of 360°kids, I would like to thank our volunteers, staff, community partners and donors for their continued support in helping 360°kids make *"Every Kid Matter"*.

Sincerely,



Michael Braithwaite
Executive Director



THE NEW HOME OF...



Home Base
Connections
STAY

It is almost here!

The Richmond Hill Hub will be the new home of our Home Base, Connections and STAY programs - providing wraparound supports and assistance to at-risk and homeless youth in York Region.

The Regional Municipality of York has been working with VanMar Constructors to create this new multi-purpose development at 10415 Yonge Street, in the Town of Richmond Hill. Housing York Inc. will own and manage the building, and 360°kids will operate the youth hub. This hub will include our Home Base drop-in centre, indoor and courtyard recreational space, a music studio, computer stations, counselling rooms, education space, 14 emergency units (called Connections) and 11 transitional units (called STAY). 360°kids' home office will also be relocated with the building.

As you can see, the construction has been proceeding very well and is expected to be completed in Spring 2016, followed by 360°kids moving in and opening its doors.

The Every Kid Matters Campaign is our commitment to raise \$2.1 million to help equip the youth hub, and launch expanded programming within the facility and across the Region. With community support, we will be able to invest in improving and expanding supports offered to kids so they can become stable, well-adjusted adults who contribute to the community.

Visit 360kids.ca for more information or to make a campaign donation because *Every Kid Matters*.



Every Kid Matters Campaign



My Story - Sami

Growing up I was always that socially awkward kid. A little different than all of the others. Because of that, I was made fun of and bullied at school alot. I also came from an abusive home – verbally and physically and made to feel like I wasn't important to anyone. Except my little sister. She looks up to me, which is why it was hard for me to leave home but I just couldn't take the abuse anymore.

I moved into 360°kids residential program almost a year ago and have grown so much since that first time I entered through their doors. When I first arrived, I was resentful, angry, and didn't know what I was doing with my life. I was fearful that I would end up on the streets. During my time in the residential program I have enhanced my independent living skills (and my love of cooking and gardening), worked on gaining employment resources, and completed my high school education all thanks to the hard work and dedication of the staff at 360°kids. I have also increased my interactions with people and have learned how to handle conflict with maturity.

As a result of my growth I will be starting culinary school in October 2015, and will be working towards my goal of becoming a Chef. I know that I have a great future ahead of me. You just have to stay positive and work towards your goals.

Nothing is ever impossible. No matter how much life can tear you down, and make you think that there is nothing to look forward to, you just have to stay positive. I know I did with the help of 360°kids and the wonderful staff.





Young Leaders Edition

For the first time ever this year, 360°kids hosted the 360°Experience Young Leaders Edition.

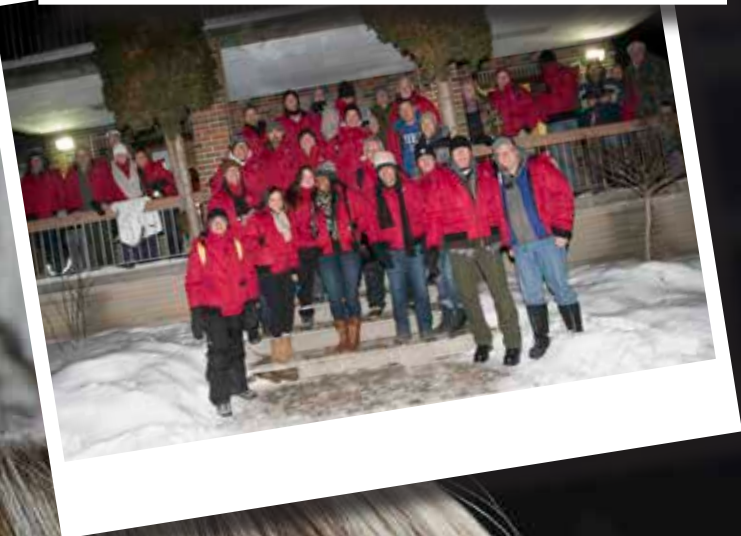
As the number of youth on the streets continues to rise in York Region, we felt it was very important to engage youth in the serious issue of youth homelessness that is happening in their own communities, to their classmates, to their friends. 360°kids brought high school students together to experience homelessness firsthand and what some of the challenges their peers face as they spend a night outside with nothing more than pocket change.

On a cold and wet March 26th night, 27 students stepped out of their comfort zone and into the shoes of a homeless youth. Seven groups of 3-5 students and a 360°kids team leader travelled all across York Region and Toronto, bussing 2.5 hours north to Sutton or navigating the subway downtown Toronto. An incredible **\$27,000** was raised through pledges and fundraising events held by students in their own schools and communities. Thank you to Trevor Wright and David Kim from Aurora High School and Jadyn Dragasevich from St. Andrew's College for chairing the first ever Young Leaders Edition!

360°Experience

March 5, 2015 marked the second annual 360°Experience – and it was one to remember. With temperatures hitting -23 degrees, our 32 participants truly experienced some of the hardships and challenges our youth face when without a home in the middle of a harsh Canadian winter. Community leaders, such as Mayor Barrow of Richmond Hill, MPP Chris Ballard Newmarket/Aurora, York Region Police Superintendents, and business leaders, all came together to ensure Every Kid Matters. 360°Experience was featured on Global News, City TV, CBC Radio, 1010 News, York Region Media Group newspapers, and of course our media sponsor, 105.9 The Region. Not only did this event gain 360°kids wide-spread public recognition and increased awareness, participants were able to raise a remarkable **\$96,000!**

A special thank you to York Regional Police Chief Jolliffe for chairing this year's event and truly walking the walk when it comes to making a difference in his community. This year's 360°Experience is taking place on March 3, 2016. If you would like to take part in this experience, please contact **Brittany Wilson** bwilson@360kids.ca.



OVERVIEW OF PROGRAMS

360°kids operates numerous programs designed to support children, youth and their families in York Region. Programs include:

Children's Programs (0-6 years)

Located throughout Markham, Unionville, and Stouffville, these (8) program locations offer innovative early learning, child development programs for over 1,400 families annually with more than 1,700 preschool aged children of many diverse cultures each year.

360°kids After School Program

This is an after school program for children in grades 1-8 with an objective of getting kids active and healthy in both body and mind. The program includes a variety of physical activities, cooking classes and a daily healthy snack, guest presenters, some reading and homework help, as well as self esteem building activities. Its goal is to meet the social, physical and nutritional needs of many of our students during the after school period of 3-6pm.

Home Base Youth Drop-In Centres

Located in Richmond Hill and Vaughan and serves more than 1,100 at-risk and homeless youth aged 13-24 each year in York Region. Home Base provides direct services to address issues youth presently face - employment, family issues, life skills, shelter, hot meals, counselling, recreational activities and clothing.

Youth Outreach

The youth street outreach workers provide a mobile service to youth aged 13-24, meeting youth where they are throughout York Region. Services include, but are not limited to: housing support, employment support (résumé writing, interview preparation, SIN card applications, etc), educational support (liaising between youth and teachers/guidance counsellors, etc); accessing necessary financial assistance for individuals; referring youth to other support services as needed; providing information/programming; youth advocate; case management; applying for ID with youth; crisis intervention; informal counseling; and can transport individuals to appointments where appropriate.

After School Jobs For Youth

The objective of this program is to provide (90) after school jobs for youth aged 15-18 during the school year who have multiple barriers to employment. In concert with the individual youth, 360°kids will create an action plan and goals with youth who are eager to start employment. We will work with them before they enter a placement to make sure they are job ready, through our pre-employment job readiness training and ongoing support throughout their placement to increase their skill set, and help them to thrive in the workplace.

Base 4 Success Youth Employment Program

An employment program located within Home Base – Richmond Hill, is a 12 week program comprised of in-class sessions and work placement to assist youth aged 15-30 in returning back to school or work, and acquire job training.

Youth Residences

Two homes located in Markham, housing (13) youth in crisis aged 16-19 years. Both residences provide a home for youth while they settle differences with their parents or work towards living independently.

Supportive Transitional Apartments for Youth (STAY)

Two apartments in Markham offer a supportive affordable housing solution for 6 youth (3 female, 3 male) aged 18-24 who are transitioning to independent living.

Aftercare/Transitional Support Program

A case management and group facilitations program for youth transitioning out of the care of the Children's Aid Society. This program provides life skills support (financial literacy, budgeting, housing) and helps youth stay on the right path by providing support one-to-one while they transition to independent living.

Individual and Family Counselling

At 360°kids, youth have access to our professional counsellor, who provides counselling in a non-threatening, supportive, client-focused format where access to assessment and supports/resources are made available. The counselling focuses on: personal and social development; behavioural change; cultural demands and expectations; and reintegration of youth with their families or transitioning to independent living.

Housing Support

360°kids also provides a Housing Support Worker to youth aged 16-26 throughout York Region. This service is designed to assist clients in transitioning to independent living by conducting housing searches, assisting with government applications, providing community referrals and information on shelters and other similar programs, as well as conducting the intake process to our Residential Program.

Children's Programs (0-6 years)

Located throughout Markham, Unionville, and Stouffville, these (8) program locations offer innovative early learning, child development programs such as All Babies Count, AOK Family Time, Baby Sing and Sign, Family Time, Mother Goose, Toddler Goose, Jr. Explorers, Transition to Parenting, Wiggles & Giggles with Infant Massage, Little Chefs, and Family Math.

The Family Time program (St. James) location is an integral part of my children's routine and development. I brought my first daughter when she was a only few months old and was welcomed by the other families and staff right away. Being a first time mom, I was able to find a place where there were others going through what I was going through, develop a sense of belonging for myself and children, and be connected with local members and resources.

The range of activities that are offered at St. James are so fun, creative and engaging, both my daughters continually ask to go. From the crafts that are made, snacks ate, books read, songs sang, actions danced, to the children met, support received and all the memories being made, my family is forever grateful for this precious time and safe place where my children can play and learn.

I can't say enough about the wonderful staff, in particular, Marcy. She has not only seen so many of our local babies grow up, but has been a special part of Family Time at St James. Her genuine care for others and hard work does not go unnoticed.

I am so thankful to 360°kids for providing the families of Stouffville a safe haven for children to grow, encompassing the values of kindness, family, and community. Thank you!

Over 1,400 families with more than 1,700 preschool aged children of many diverse cultures are served each year.



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360°kids After School Program

Supported 382 Kids | Daily Attendance 259 Kids

This year, curriculum was enhanced in the After School Program by partnering with the Canadian Mental Health Associations' Choices Program, participating in Jamie Oliver's, Food Revolution Day 2015 and hosting a site wide Pan AM Olympic Day at Camp Robin Hood Leadership Centre for all program participants. The program took a more hands on approach this year in creating programs that assist students with everyday life skills.

In addition to our enhanced programming, the afterschool program expanded its reach to offer community based

programming at Newmarket Co-operative Homes. Since the doors have opened in January 2015, the program has offered youth guidance, open the door to difficult conversations, such as cyber bullying and drug prevention, and created a positive and youthful energy within the co-operative.

With the support of the Newmarket Co-operative and the demand for the program, we were able to open a second community based afterschool program this year, located at John Fitzpatrick Steelworkers Housing Co-operative.

Since January 2015, 360°kids have become a part of our co-op family, for the children it has become much more than an After School Program. They have the chance to talk to the instructors about challenges at home or at school, get to know other children in the co-op and learn about nutrition and lifestyles.

Newmarket Co-operative Homes Inc.



Home Base Youth Drop-In Centres

Located in Richmond Hill and Vaughan and serves more than 1,100 at-risk and homeless youth aged 13-24 each year in York Region. Home Base provides direct services to address issues youth presently face - employment, family issues, life skills, shelter, hot meals, counselling, recreational activities and clothing.

Every day at Home Base is an opportunity for growth. Growth of our youth, programs and of our staff. The last year has been a year of rapid progression at both of our Home Base locations. We celebrate this daily and it is something we are extremely proud of.

Each and every youth who walks through our doors are welcomed and valued. Our staff engage youth and build strong relationships, through long conversations, games of pool or cooking a meal together. Over this past year we have empowered youth to find jobs, return to school, help others, attain housing and become involved within a community.

All year we have offered a variety of programs and new experiences for our youth. These came in the form of dog therapy, girl groups, real talk discussion groups, guitar lessons, open mic nights, makeover days, basketball games, movie nights, yoga lessons, aesthetic programs, special dinners, and speakers from the community. Each of these programs have had great attendance and have affected the youth participating in various, positive ways. Recently at Home Base Vaughan, the YMCA's Summer Job Program had a fantastic turn-out of 27 youth. Also, at Home Base Richmond Hill we had an open

mic night where 15 youth jumped at the chance to perform, these performances ranged from spoken word poetry to youth performing karaoke of their favourite songs.

Our staff are consistently taking advantage of learning opportunities and have been to numerous trainings on topics ranging from suicide prevention, effective use of social media, housing tracking tools and self-care. In addition to that, every single member of our team has been certified in Therapeutic Crisis Intervention and completed their Safe Food Handling program offered through the Region of York.

Community partners have been integral in the up-keep and face-lifts of both centers. Earlier this year Home Depot came in and renovated one of the Vaughan center's room into a new youth room, and donated a stove, microwave, table, chairs, and food pantry. YUM Canada also did a volunteer day at our Richmond Hill center, painting our front door and porch rails, adding floral gardens that have enhanced the atmosphere of Home Base.

As we continue to move forward this year, our focus remains on growth. We are committed to creating strong relationships with all community members, offering unique life skills programs, and making sure that *Every Kid Matters*.

Home Base Success Story

A.K. had accessed services at HB Richmond Hill for many years and was still living transiently. He would often come in all day and just sleep in the basement because he would stay up all night in Tim Horton's and other open spaces. Staff realized that he was getting close to 25 years old and would have to be referred over to the Krasman Centre because he was aging out of the drop in centre services. The first thing staff did was talk to A.K. about goal setting and how he could use it to move forward with his life.

A.K. set out three goals; get a job, find an apartment, give back to Home Base. Staff let A.K. know that he did not have to focus on giving back right now, but he was adamant about it. With his goals in his hands and a redone resume A.K. set out to accomplish the first goal. Within one week of job searching A.K. had found a position working on the night shift at a grocery store. Next, staff referred him to Ontario Works to help him secure first and last month's rent. This process was not as easy as finding a job but staff were there to support him and help with the many forms, tough questions and applications. Eventually he was approved for first month's rent, which was not ideal but he worked around it. A.K. sat down with staff and came up with a budgeting plan to save up enough for the last month's rent. Part of this plan was using the food pantry here at Home Base so that he could spend wisely on his other basic needs.

By the end of March, A.K. was housed and working more shifts at the grocery store. In April, A.K. accomplished his third goal by coming to Home Base and helping cook a couple meals. We still see A.K. sporadically when money is tight and he needs toiletries or food from the pantry but for the most part he is living independently and continuing to move forward.

A.K. set out three goals; get a job, find an apartment, give back to Home Base.

Total youth served: 1117

Youth who received general counselling: 456

Youth who attended life skills groups: 222

Number of instances recreational programs were accessed: 7891

Number of youth who report improved employment search skills: 95%

Youth who gained employment: 80

Success Story- Home Base Vaughan

CC has been attending the 360°kids program for almost 3 years. She attends our weekly girls group which has helped her develop her social skills and life skills such as stress management and goal setting. She has become increasingly comfortable approaching staff with any issue or question she has. CC also utilizes the center's program for any employment or education support she needs. CC comes from a family that has strict traditional cultural beliefs which as a result has often caused tension and stress in CC's home life. Throughout the last few years, CC would often come to Home Base Vaughan right after school and stay until we closed because for her, being at Home Base seemed more like home.

In the spring of 2014, CC came to Home Base with her two siblings in tears as there had been an issue in the home and their father had kicked them out. Staff was there to provide emotional and housing support to CC and her siblings, and were able to come up with a plan to get them to stay safely with a close family member. Staff was able to work with CC and her parents over the next few weeks to provide mediation and eventually worked on family reintegration.

CC and her siblings were able to successfully move back home and with the support of 360°kids staff work together with their parents to move forward and plan on how to better handle future crisis situations. Since then CC has been able to stay in school and maintain the support of Home Base Vaughan staff to work toward applying for post-secondary education. CC has continued to strive for her best, has graduated high school and has been accepted to Windsor University for radio broadcasting.

Our weekly girls group has helped CC develop her social skills and life skills such as stress management and goal setting.



Youth Outreach

The youth street outreach workers provide a mobile service to youth aged 13-24, meeting youth where they are throughout York Region. Services include, but are not limited to: housing support, employment support (résumé writing, interview preparation, SIN card applications, etc), educational support (liaising between youth and teachers/guidance counsellors, etc); accessing necessary financial assistance for individuals; referring youth to other support services as needed; providing information/programming; youth advocate; case management; applying for ID with youth; crisis intervention; informal counselling; and can transport individuals to appointments where appropriate.

Success Story:

Recently I came across a youth that had been homeless for majority of his young life. When not homeless he wound up in prison for things he thought he would never forgive himself for. He lacked guidance and compassionate people in his life. He would frequent Home Base but his tough boy attitude got in the way of everyone who tried to help him. Unfortunately his girlfriend ended up pregnant and having their baby while he was still in prison. The youth felt a sense of loneliness that he could not be the father he hoped to be because of his situation. He never wanted to be like his own father but felt like he was the spitting image. Once the youth was released he moved his new family to Toronto in hopes to get back on their feet. The youth landed a job, was set up with social assistance and his girlfriend went back to school.

Not long after their attempt to make a fresh start, the youth was working and happened to be at the wrong place at the wrong time. A major incident revolved around drugs, gang members, and weapons occurred. The youth knew he needed to flee Toronto after being swarmed by gang members at gun point while with his little baby. They headed back to Richmond Hill to revisit a place he always knew supported him but he often shut down when someone tried to help. The youth appeared at Home Base and asked for supports. As an outreach worker I connected him with the housing department where he could find something stable. The youth found housing but had to stay in a shelter beforehand (somewhere he never wanted to return to). I worked with the youth and supported him by meeting for coffee to talk, supply donated clothing, and discussing his future plans. The youth is currently in the midst of working with an employment agency to be able to support his family again. He was referred to the outreach van where he could connect with them and access supplies such as fresh produce. I took the youth to the local food bank so he was familiar of its whereabouts as well. With a donated gift card, I supplied the youth with groceries so he had food to fill his cupboards and formula for his baby. I connected the youth with local resources for furniture to help furnish his apartment. The youth was ecstatic with the wraparound supports not only from 360°kids but other agencies in the area. After a meeting the youth said "team work makes the dream work, thank you so much."

- Brittany, Outreach Worker



Total youth supported by Outreach Workers: 428

Family participants: 116

Youth referred: 336

Youth who received at least one follow-up interaction with a Youth Outreach Worker: 219

Family participants who received at least one follow-up interaction with a Youth Outreach Worker 46

Aftercare and Transitional Support Program

The Aftercare and Transitional Support (ATS) program continues to support youth leaving the care of children's aid and this year supported 131 youth. This program remains consistent, however we have initiated contact with the foster parent community with hopes of providing service for their youth as well. The foster parents expressed an interest in sending their youth to Life Skills groups; the ATS program is planning on extending an invitation to these youth in upcoming Life Skills groups.

We are working with the Light House program at Sir William Mulock Secondary School for Life Skills programming to be offered to their students. The Light House program consists of Children's Aid Society youth only. ATS expanded their life skills groups to include youth from the Light House Program.

Success Story:

Many months ago, one of my youth "Joey" used to be suicidal and refused to take any medications. I was one of the few professionals that was working with him and I constantly worried about his well-being. After many months of him living alone, I convinced my client to move into 360°kids' Youth Residence. I explained to him that he would have staff who would care for his wellbeing, a warm meal every day, support with meeting his goals, save money, and create friendships.

After a couple of months of living in our residence, "Joey" began to show hope for the future and appeared to have a more positive outlook on life, made friends and had a great relationship with staff. "Joey" also began to take his medications. Although he still has his ups and downs, "Joey" has come a long way and is positive now about his future.

- ATS Worker

Total youth served in case management: 101

Youth served in workshops: 30

Total youth served in ATS: 131



After School Jobs For Youth

The objective of this program is to provide (90) after school jobs for youth aged 15-18 during the school year who have multiple barriers to employment. In concert with the individual youth, 360°kids will create an action plan and goals with youth who are eager to start employment. We will work with them before they enter a placement to make sure they are job ready, through our pre-employment job readiness training and ongoing support throughout their placement to increase their skill set, and help them to thrive in the workplace.

Success Story:

A.R. came from the Dominican Republic last year with his parents and two brothers. A.R. had difficulty with his school attendance, struggled with language barriers as well as financial issues. A.R. was referred to the After School Jobs for Youth Program in September and was provided with an employment opportunity at the City of Markham where he worked as an assistant in their recreation programs for youth. A.R. also attended a monthly mandatory Saturday class where he was provided with pre-employment opportunities and as well earned Certifications in WHMIS, Healthy and Safety, Safe Food Handling and First Aid. Furthermore, A.R. received individualized support from a case worker who provided support with his barriers to employment. A.R. finished the After School Jobs for Youth Program in June and was provided with a permanent employment opportunity at the City of Markham. A.R. hopes to finish high school while also working at the City of Markham and has dreams and aspirations to become a professional baseball player.

Base 4 Success Youth Employment Program

An employment program located within Home Base – Richmond Hill, is a 12 week program comprised of in-class sessions and work placement to assist youth aged 15-30 in returning back to school or work, and acquire job training.

Success Story:

Brandon is a young man who lacked motivation and direction. He joined the 360°kids Base 4 Success program in Feb. 2015 and was an active participant. Brandon was eager to learn skills that would assist him in finding long term employment, a job with a future.

The Job Developer had previously worked with Sands Commercial Flooring and was impressed with the sense of “family” and the support they had shown youth in our program. The Job Developer immediately thought that matching Brandon to a caring, supportive employer would benefit them both.

Brandon began working and proved himself right away. He thrived under the guidance and support of his supervisor, co-workers and the management team. He was thrilled that after his 10 week placement, he was offered a full-time position at Sands Commercial Flooring. As he proudly stated to the Base 4 Success team... “You guys have changed my life”.

116 employers recruited

296 placement opportunities for youth

142 after school jobs placement opportunities provided to youth

56 youth accepted into Base 4 Success program

50% of youth employed beyond 12 week placement

100% youth completed pre-employment training & provided with employment placement opportunities



Our youth residence is a voluntary program that offers a combination of housing and 24/7 support for youth, primarily between the ages of 16 and 19 years. The young people who enter the program are usually facing a housing crisis for any number of reasons; be it domestic abuse, emotional neglect, family dysfunction/breakdown, educational difficulties or the loss of a parent. Residents come to us through the Children's Aid Society or are community referred.

We have two residential homes with **13 beds** in Markham. Stays at the residences may range from six (6) months to a year and sometimes beyond. It is not unusual for the program to be operating at full capacity, and referred persons waiting.

Family reintegration is our primary focus. Where this is not possible or in the resident's best interest, our program seeks to help them develop the life skills necessary to transition to independent living. Over the last year twenty-three (23) young persons were served within the 360°kids residential program; six (6) of whom transitioned onto independent living; five (5) transitioned back home with their families; while seven (7) graduated high school and eight (8) are currently or will be attending a post-secondary institution in fall 2015.

The average length of stay for a youth in the program was 271 days which equates to nearly 9 months.

Youth Residences

The strongest evidence of the impact that our program has on the lives of the participants are the testimonials of the participants themselves. Most relate the positive and life-changing differences that our trained support staff of 25 have made in their lives allowing them to envision a pathway out of what may have looked to be a bleak future.

Our program does so much more than provide a roof over the heads of our participants. Our team works along with the residents at their own pace in building and strengthening basic life skills, including conflict resolution skills. Many of the residents have come to us from situations which may have damaged or destroyed their self-perception and self-confidence. We work hard to tackle these challenges through the creation of trusting and therapeutic relationships with residents. We also work alongside social and business partners in assisting residents to find part-time and after-school jobs, an integral part of achieving financial independence. At the same time, our residents are nurtured to become responsible for their daily well-being; they participate in housekeeping, cooking, time management, budgeting and laundry in a manner that recognizes their efforts and initiative.

One former resident who is currently attending university returned to the program earlier this year to conduct a life-skill session with our present residents. She was able to impress upon the other young persons, both by her words but more so by her presence, that the life-skills sessions offered in the program, are indispensable tools in redirecting their lives. We hope that with time and the support of the wider donor community, many more young persons at risk can be afforded a chance to utilize these tools and stride towards a brighter future.

23 youth lived at residences last year, 5 moved back home with their families



Supportive Transitional Apartments for Youth (STAY)

Over the past year, the Supportive Transitional Apartments for Youth (S.T.A.Y.) program has made a significant impact by serving 12 young people who were either homeless or at risk of homelessness on their journey towards becoming independent. Eight of these twelve youth have transitioned out of the program with significant successes include living independently while working full-time, attending post-secondary education and building stronger connections with their family members. While youth can typically stay in the program for 12 months, the average length of stay for this group was 9 months. Currently, the S.T.A.Y. program continues to operate with 100% occupancy.

Over the past year, the mentorship offered to the youth at S.T.A.Y. has increased significantly with the addition of daily overnight support and a full-time day mentor. Notable successes of youth within the program include the youth becoming more adaptable and resilient through setting and achieving their personal goals. These goals are unique to each individual and often include: self-care, counselling, employment, education, volunteering, family reintegration and financial independence. The youth served through S.T.A.Y. this year have also benefitted from building life-skills in: cooking, cleaning, grocery shopping, budgeting, paying rent and managing living expenses, filing taxes, accessing community resources such as health care support, getting around on transit and other essential experiences of daily life.

“Made me feel like the street wasn’t all I had... showed me a new path.”

The HOPE program is a new addition this year to the many supports offered by 360°kids. In collaboration with the York Regional Police and the York Region Children’s Aid Society, the program offers affordable housing and mentorship to young women who are survivors of human trafficking. The HOPE program has served 3 young women to date with one having already transitioned successfully into independent living. Since leaving the program, she has been supporting herself with full-time employment; a success she attributes to the help she received in improving her resume while a part of HOPE. She also described appreciating the stability and comfort of the program and is proud of how independent she has become. When asked if she was satisfied with the overall support she received in the program she responded: “Yes I am!! Made me feel like the Street wasn’t all I had... Showed me a new path.”

Another one of these young people who is nearly halfway through her stay in the HOPE program, shares her story about how her life is changing for the better.

“The HOPE program has given me a shelter and provided me with an apartment with low rent and counselling. The benefits of the HOPE program include support for getting to long distance appointments and encouragement during these important appointments that have an impact on my life. It is also helpful to have day time and overnight mentors to help me when I feel very stressed and overwhelmed with my life matters. Through positive mentorship, goal setting and eating healthy I have lost weight. My health continues to improve because of this weight loss and the support I have been given by professionals to obtain new medication. I have also decreased my anxiety which affects me on a daily basis. I also have improved my sleep patterns which encourages the healthy lifestyle that I am striving for. My health has improved because of 360°kids’ support and I feel more secure and safe. During the rest of my time here I want to focus on my goals to get a job as a cashier, study business management, and continue to look after myself to improve my health while saving money.”

-Shamona

12 youth stayed in transitional apartments last year

100% occupancy



Individual and Family Counselling

The counselling department continues to be extremely busy providing useful, ethical, client centered support for any child or youth who is an active participant of any of our 360°kids programs. All referrals to the counselling resource are done interdepartmentally. 77% of clients who have used the counselling resource attribute their improved emotional well-being and improved life and coping skills as a result of the work done within the therapeutic setting. **This year, counselling provided service to 160 children and youth.** 30 of the clients served were under the age of 12, while the remaining

Success Story:

"I came from Haiti in 2012. When I first came to Canada, I did not know English and needed a lot of support to begin my life in a new country. Even though I lived with my extended family, I still felt isolated, lost and very vulnerable. Counselling has been extremely helpful for me. I feel safe and secure knowing that I have someone I could trust and confide in without feeling like I am being judged or looked down upon. My counsellor was able to advocate for me and secure housing for me when my family situation broke down. My counsellor was also able to talk to me about my family situation and taught me strategies on how to reconcile and move forward. Counselling has changed my life in many ways. I am more confident, I make more positive decisions, and most importantly, I feel like I have a voice and like I am being heard by someone."

were youth between the ages of 12-24. Clients were served using group therapeutic workshops, as well as individual sessions, with the communities of Markham and Richmond Hill accounting for 86% of the clients served.

Additionally, the department has been providing a placement opportunity for Master's level counselling/social work students since 2013. The placement experiences have proven to be a rewarding experience for the counselling department staff, clients and the students themselves.

**160 children and youth
counselled last year**

30 were under the age of 12

**Markham and Richmond Hill
account for 86% of clients served**

"Counselling has changed my life in many ways. I am more confident, I make more positive decisions, and most importantly, I feel like I have a voice and like I am being heard by someone."

Housing Support

The Youth Housing and Support Worker helps youth aged 16-26 throughout York Region. She assists clients in transitioning from one location to another, conducting housing searches, negotiating with landlords, assisting with government applications, providing community referrals and information on shelters and other similar housing programs for youth, as well as conducting the intake process for our Residential Programs.

Success Story:

Youth J.M. learned about 360°kids when he was 16 years old and was left on his own when his family moved to the US, leaving young J.M. behind. Shortly after that time J.M. applied and was accepted to our residential program in Markham, where he lived safely and supported for just over one year.

J.M. accessed the housing worker 6 months after he had been discharged from his extended stay in the home. He had been transient in the past and he found himself returning to that way of life as that was the way he knew how to survive. J.M. had utilized all of his resources as he wasn't able to financially support himself and he had now outstayed his 4 months at the limited youth shelters in York Region. Along the way there have been times where choices (as past behaviours can be hard to break) have affected opportunities and lessons have had to be learned. The housing worker has continued to support J.M. through goal setting, budgeting assistance and ongoing case management, aiding in the process to obtain Ontario Works funding, until he was able to obtain independent housing.

Over the past 6 months since becoming successfully housed, with continued assistance from the housing worker J.M. has obtained and retained full time employment for over 5 months. He has also successfully completed his high school diploma and is now able to recognize his bright future.

J.M. has thanked 360°kids and the housing worker for the continuous support and the large effect they have had on his life.

Total number of youth assisted by the housing worker:
146

Total number of support services accessed by housing clients: **1013**

Total number of housing searches performed: **168**

Total number of youth who obtained housing: **36**

Total number of referrals made (shelters/addictions):
192

SHOWING THE NUMBERS



Almost **5,000**
clients served last year

1,117 kids
used our drop-in centres

50% of youth
in our Base 4 Success
program maintained
employment beyond
the program.

283 youth participated in
life skills groups

Provided housing to
3 female
victims exiting human
trafficking situations

1,299 number of parents/caregivers that
participated in children's programs



35 youth stayed with us in
our residential homes and
transitional apartments

Recruited 116 employers and secured
296 employment placements for youth

271 days average length
of stay in our
residential program

94%
of youth who
report improved
life and
social skills

142
youth accepted in
our After School
Jobs Program



56 youth joined
our Base 4 Success
Employment program


428 youth
and **116**
families were
supported
by our street
outreach team

1,575
children attended our
early years children's
programs

Staff Making A Difference: **Tiffany Boswell**



360°kids is proud of the staff team we have that helps kids out of crisis. Our staff work every day to improve the lives of homeless and at-risk children and youth. This passion for people follows them into their personal lives, outside of their duties and roles here at 360°kids.

Tiffany Boswell is a great example of this. She has a passion and love for people. 360°kids has been lucky enough to have Tiffany work for us for 3 years, starting as a Youth Outreach Worker and is currently Team Lead for the Outreach Programs, as well as, the Aftercare and Transitional Support Program. Her role includes

managing the day-to-day operations and expansion of these two programs, support and supervise the frontline staff, and overseeing the service delivered to the youth in our care. She is an excellent example of how our staff team, although young, is fierce and mighty.

When we asked Tiffany “why do you love what you do?” she simply and confidently responded, “I love what I do because I believe in the work, and I believe in youth. That is, despite circumstances outside one’s control, or poor choices made, with the right support youth can not only make it out of crisis, but thrive.” She knows that to have a successful community, it’s our duty to ensure the upcoming generation has the tools to help build their own independence and leadership. It’s our duty to ensure that every kid knows they matter.

“I love what I do because I believe in the work, and I believe in youth.”

Not only is Tiffany a major asset to the 360°kids team, she dedicates her personal time to helping others as well. When Tiffany was asked why she chose to give back she responded, “I wouldn’t say that I do things solely to help “give back” but I take opportunities that help me learn more about resilience, survival, community, compassion, faith, hope, and love in spaces different from my own life.” For the last six years, Tiffany has been volunteering at the Caribbean Children’s Foundation, where she has taken yearly trips to Jamaica to visit an orphanage in Spanish Town (one of Jamaica’s highly impoverished and crime-ridden cities). Last year, herself and 2 other 360°kids staff travelled to Jamaica to organize programming for the kids. She has also supported efforts in Haiti after the 2010 earthquake, working with orphaned children, an experience she will “humbly remember forever”.

Tiffany, and the rest of our amazing 150 employees, are the ones truly behind 360°kids ensuring that Every Kid Matters. The dedication they not only put into their work but their commitment to others as a way of life, is the reason our kids not only survive but thrive.



Volunteer of the Year:

Mary Haffey



Mary Haffey is a name that has been synonymous with 360°kids for the past 15 years.

When you meet Mary, you will know why. Mary is known around the office as a caring, gentle,

lovely woman who is very dedicated and passionate about our organization and helping those in need.

That's probably why Mary started her career in life as a registered nurse, and then a Certified Occupational Health Nurse.

Mary came to 360°kids more than 15 years ago as a Board volunteer after serving as the Board Chair for the United Way of York Region and wanting to do more for her community. She was introduced to 360°kids (or Pathways for Children Youth and Families of York Region) which at the time, provided only our youth residential services and Family Resource Centre programs in Markham. Throughout the years, Mary has seen the organization continue to expand programming and offer new services into other parts of the Region of York. Mary has dedicated the last 15 years to 360°kids serving 12 years on our Board of Directors, including roles as the Board Chair and Past Chair as well as other numerous committees, giving her time, and expertise as our organization grew. Today she continues to volunteer her time with us as a member of our Governance Committee, Every Kid Matters Gala Committee, and is always willing to roll up her sleeves and lend a hand when asked.

When asked "Why" she's been so dedicated to our organization over the years, her response was: "As a single mom of 2 boys I can really relate to the important work of 360°kids. Raising two boys, I really wished I had access to some of the existing resources that 360°kids now offers when my own boys were growing up. As a mother, I realize the tremendous benefit that an organization like 360°kids can have on youth." Over the years, hearing all of the success stories of young people overcoming adversity and challenges in life at such a young age, is inspiring and gratifying for her and why she continues to volunteer and invest in the great work of 360°kids.

"As a mother, I realize the tremendous benefit that an organization like 360°kids can have on youth."

We are pleased to be able to recognize Mary Haffey as 360°kids' Volunteer of the Year and thank her for ensuring *Every Kid Matters!*



Thank You To
Our Amazing
Volunteers
and Donors



THANK YOU

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 TD Wealth Management
 Terri Rosales
 The Home Depot Of Canada
 The Home Depot Canada Foundation
 The Lawson Foundation



Christine Walterhouse Birthday Bash

Village Chrysler Dodge Jeep Ltd.
 Westjet Canada
 Whole Foods Market Unionville
 York Region District School Board
 Zubin and Delila Jussawalla

Third Party Events

Christine Walterhouse Birthday Bash
 The Big Guy Classic Golf Tournament
 Country Toy Tea
 BILD - York Chapter Golf Tournament
 Rosemary Fusca

360°kids thanks our many donors and supporters for their generous contributions. Every effort has been made to recognize individuals, corporations, and foundations whose donations of \$1,000 or more were made between April 1, 2014 and March 31, 2015. Please accept our apologies should any errors or omissions have incurred.

**Together with your support
 we can ensure Every Kid
 Matters!**

Leadership – Board of Directors

(Ending March 31, 2015)

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Vice President Finance
Alcohol Countermeasure Systems Inc.

Mark Zeidenberg, Vice Chair
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Inter-world Paper Overseas Ltd.

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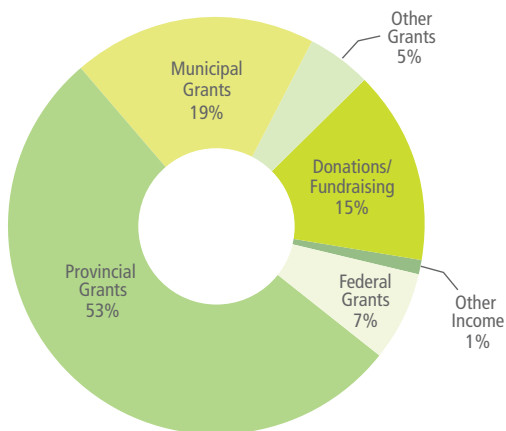
Tracy Williams
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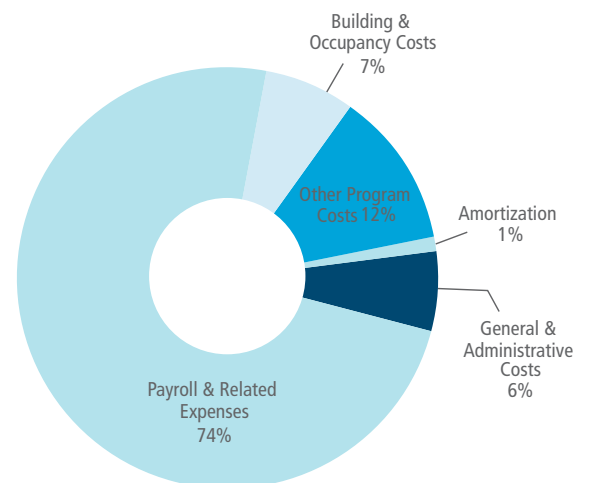
Financial Snapshot Revenues 2014/2015

	<u>2014/2015</u>	<u>2013/2014</u>
Federal Grants	271,132	328,887
Provincial Grants	2,044,777	1,743,423
Municipal Grants	735,033	660,717
Other Grants	188,342	367,127
Donations/Fundraising	598,073	426,217
Other Income	56,823	44,954
Total Revenues	3,894,180	3,571,325



Financial Snapshot Expenses 2014/2015

	<u>2014/2015</u>	<u>2013/2014</u>
Payroll and Related Expenses	2,823,076	2,411,714
Building & Occupancy Costs	251,115	235,119
Other Program Costs	447,876	516,633
Amortization	40,180	28,135
General & Administrative Costs	242,419	255,574
Total Expenditures	3,804,666	3,447,175





Mission:

To help isolated and vulnerable children, youth and families in our community, to overcome adversity and crisis and to move to a state of safety, stability and well-being.

Vision:

Creating communities where every kid matters, and feels safe, supported and loved.

Values:

Compassion, Integrity, Accountability



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