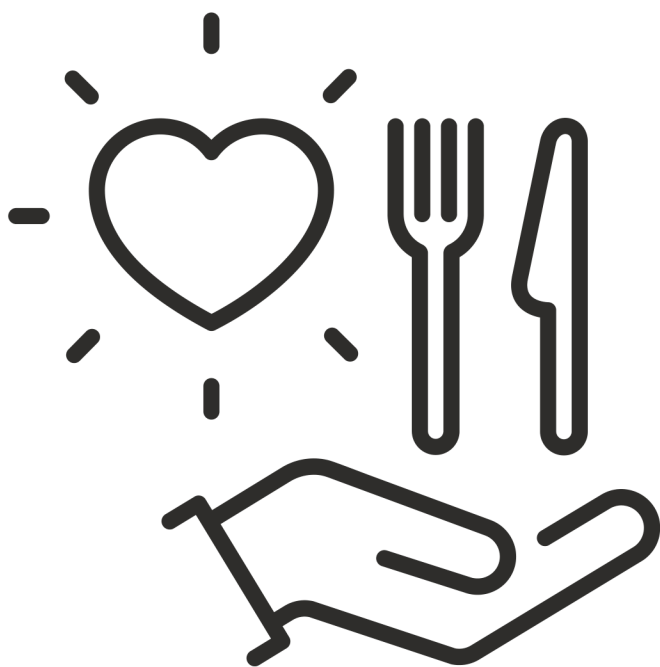




2023/2024 MORNING DROP-IN REPORT



- Where it started
- Accomplishments
- How it's growing

Prepared by

Kristal Jones

Made possible by the
generous support of:



United Way
Peterborough & District

Letter from the Program Coordinator



My name is Kristal Jones-Craighead (she/her) and I am a Social Service Worker with the Elizabeth Fry Society of Peterborough. I have had the privilege of coordinating the Morning Community Drop-In Program since its inception in January 2023. The Morning Community Drop-In was born out of the compassion, resilience and resourcefulness of the Nogojiwanong/Peterborough community. Outreach workers from the Elizabeth Fry Society of Peterborough, One City Peterborough, the former One Roof Community Center and Peterborough Aids Resource Network responded to a gap in services aimed at supporting those experiencing barriers related to housing and food insecurity. This program was made possible through the generous support of the United Way Peterborough and District Innovation Fund, the Peterborough Family Health Team, as well as the tireless efforts of incredible volunteers and dedicated placement students.

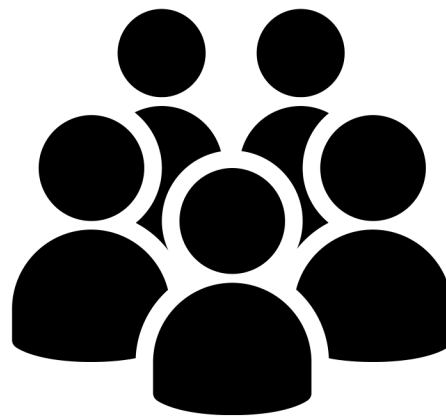
The Morning Community Drop-in is a place where community members can gather, share a light breakfast, enjoy a cup of coffee, access a community clothing cupboard, washrooms and showers, connect with housing outreach workers, access harm reduction supplies, participate in community programs and have the occasional dance party. This program supports community members from all walks of life. We have had guests as young as one week old and as experienced as 83 walk through our doors. Some of our guests are veterans, some are seniors, some are families, some are youth, some come because they enjoy the space, others because they have no place to go. All are welcome, everyone belongs.

This program was hosted by One Roof Community Center at 99 Brock Street for its first eleven months. It was staffed by workers from EFRY and PARN, with clothing and survival gear stored off site and provided by One City Peterborough. One Roof Community Center closed its doors November 30th, 2023 and One City Peterborough launched their Day Program at Trinity Community Center December 1st, 2023. With the hard work and guidance of Drop-In Program Coordinator Cheyenne Buck, Morning Drop-in was welcomed into the new location on Reid Street.

As we have grown, so have our community partnerships. In November of 2023, Peterborough Action for Tiny Homes reached out in the hopes of creating programming for their Ready for Home Project. This is when the Community Clothing Hub was born. This program takes place at the PATH site on Lansdowne Street. Here we collect, wash, process and distribute donated clothing, hygiene items, blankets and survival gear to organizations supporting our unhoused neighbors. Clothing is provided to the Drop-in programs, the Bridge modular homes, 360 Clinic, PARN, Street Level Advocacy and Tweak Easy. Volunteers from PATH support the operations of this program alongside participants who have lived experience with homelessness. Together, they attend the site weekly to process donations, to work collaboratively with the support of placement students to reach a self identified SMART goals and to enjoy meals and activities.

As the needs and capacity of the community and the agencies within evolve, so does our program. We are grateful for the opportunity to innovate in ways that allow us to meet people where they are at, providing essential and often life saving support for some of our most vulnerable neighbors. This program is a testament to the adage that we truly are stronger together. As our gracious hosts at One City say "Together we flourish". It has been a pleasure and privilege to learn, grow and flourish in community with all who do this work and share this space.

Morning Drop-In By the Numbers



Total Days

428



Total Hours

1,382



Quietest Day

14 guests



Busiest Day

72 guests



Average Day

46 guests

“Trinity Community Centre is driven by the collective belief that everyone belongs, and is deserving of community, connection and support - this is not work to be done alone.

The morning drop-in program provided by Elizabeth Fry highlights how a collaborative approach can effectively address service gaps, and help meet the needs of those we support. Through strategic partnerships, open communication and adaptability, the program has significantly broadened access to vital resources, and increased staff capacity to build meaningful connections with those accessing service, supporting their overall safety and well-being.” - Auden Palmer (they, them) One City, Director of Outreach Service

Community Programs



→ Housing Outreach
(available 1 day/wk)

Accessed approx. 260 times

→ Birth Certificate
Fee Waiver Program

25 individuals served

→ Service Navigation

**Approximately 9
individuals/daily**

→ Expressive Arts

16 Participants

→ Picture Day

30 Participants

→ Bail Supervision

**Support with reporting 4-5
monthly**

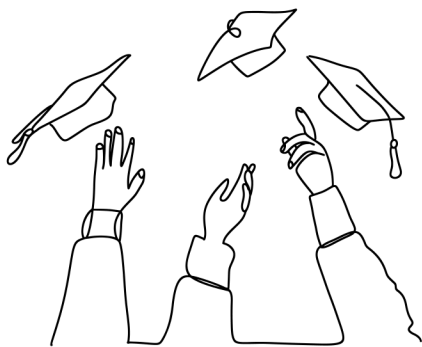
Placement Students



Total Placement Students: 25

"As a placement student, I've learned a lot during my shifts at the Morning Drop-In. I was able to get a glimpse of what is like to do frontline work in the field and make meaningful connections with both staff and service users. It has been an overall significant experience for me as I've went beyond my comfort zone, and it has allowed me to develop my interpersonal skills and expand my awareness of what service users go through in different aspects of their lives."

- Juliene "Yen" Concepcion (she/her)
Placement Student
Fleming College



"I always look forward to going to Trinity Community Center on Tuesdays and Thursdays. I'd say the Morning Drop-In program is a great initiative to support community members to have access with [breakfast] food, clothing, harm reduction supplies, and temporary shelter for the day. Over the short period of time I have worked with the staff, volunteers, and community members, I have grown to understand more the importance of meeting individuals' physiological needs for them to be able to grow and prosper as human beings. Having access to food is vital for the community members to start off their day and be able to survive and continue thriving. It is a humbling experience to be supported in this endeavor and act of service to our community members."

-Jemima Abuan
Community Programs Placement Student
Fleming College

Volunteers

Total number of Volunteers: 12



Contributions

This program would not be possible without the hardwork and commitment of our wonderful volunteers. They support drop-in by providing support with coffee, dishes, food preparation, meal service, community clothing cupboard, advocacy and so much more!

“ I enjoy volunteering at Morning Drop-in. I like helping others, this place has helped me alot. The people are great, it keeps me out of trouble and it gives me something to do. Never a dull moment around here!”

-Wayne, Coffee
Master/Community Member

FUN-FACT:

Wayne has served about
One-Zillion
cups of coffee



- Over **348** bags collected
- Approx. **7,960** lbs redirected from landfills
- **6** Participants
- **7** Agencies served

- **2** Certifications
- **1** Power and Privilege Training
- **16** Meals shared
- **1** Very fun holiday party

“The RFH program at PATH has had a significant impact on our organization and community over its almost six months of operation. It continues to be a privilege work in partnership with our program participants, SSFC placement students and of course, Kristal Jones, our Elizabeth Fry program coordinator. We really value the work we do together as we contribute to helping keep our unhoused and insecurely housed neighbours to stay safer and warmer over the winter. Some of the benefits we have all experienced include but are not limited to:

- Helping our volunteers form relationships and community with the RFH clothing hub participants
- Developing working relationships with the agencies the program serves (i.e. PARN, One City)
- Helping the community become familiar with PATH as we work toward building our sleeping cabin community
- Providing an opportunity for the Peterborough community to see the difference they can make as they contribute to keeping people safe and warm
- Just enjoying the feeling of community that comes with working together to make a difference

As well, we highly value the contributions of the RFH participants as they work in the clothing hub to process the extraordinary amount of clothes that have come in, been processed and gone back out to community agencies who distribute them. We feel honoured to work side by side with them. It is great to see the smiles on all of our faces, born from the great feeling of making a difference in this community we are developing.” **Bev Assnick, PATH Board Member**

“I really enjoy being up at the PATH Ready for Home Community Clothing Hub Program. It is a fun experience and it is giving me experience. I am excited that I get to do my Safe Food Handler’s Training. I have never done it before. I have goals of using this certification to get a job in a kirchen and to volunteer with One City at Trinity Church.”

-Terry Drummond, PATH RFH Participant

PATH'S

READY FOR HOME PROGRAM

COMMUNITY CLOTHING HUB
AND SUPPLY DEPOT



OBJECTIVES

PATH's Ready for Home program aims to create measurable support for community members coping with barriers to housing. Participants work collaboratively with frontline workers, placement students and community members to facilitate a Community Clothing and Essential Items Hub, while building skills and accessing support with programming and service navigation. Our focus is to collect, repair and process donated clothing to distribute to offsite organizations that support our unhoused neighbours.

BENEFITS

- Doing tasks provides a meaningful way to contribute and a space to do activities together that create a strong community
- Access to clean, dry, weather appropriate clothing can mitigate serious/fatal health complications and save lives
- Participants receive personal support through EFRY's placement student facilitated Peer Assisted Learning Support Program (PAL)

THE PROCESS

1. Collect Donations

The response from the Peterborough community to contribute through donations of all kinds has been tremendous! Donations are received at 385 Lansdowne by request/appointment.

2. Clean, Repair and Repurpose Items

Participants and community volunteers join together to clean, repair and package items. Where possible, we bring in experts to teach sewing, mending and other applicable skills.

3. Collaborate with Charities and Groups

Clothing is NOT available directly from PATH's Lansdowne location. Items are distributed through other street-level organizations that foster collaboration between local groups and charities.

4. Build Community and Learn Skills

Students, participants and volunteers are invited to join in an array of classes, skill-sharing and community building activities.

AT A GLANCE

- READY FOR HOME runs weekly on Wednesdays from 10am-4pm.
- Donations can be received at 385 Lansdowne St by request/appointment.
- Clothing is cleaned and repaired on site in a collective effort.
- A meal, snacks and gift cards (as available) are included as part of the program experience for participants.
- Items are packaged and distributed to street level charities and organizations.



SUPPORT FROM ELIZABETH FRY

Participants are selected through EFRY with input from PATH.

To start, 6-10 participants will be invited as we build community.

TO CONTRIBUTE OR FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION CONTACT:

pathRFH@gmail.com

Employee Spotlight



Meraj Alam

Floor Supervisor

Working as a morning drop-in staff member for EFry has been a gratifying experience. Our team takes pride in offering community members a nutritious breakfast, featuring a variety of options such as muffins, cereal, eggs with sausage, waffles, yogurt with berries, and more.

Under Kristal's exceptional coordination, I have had the opportunity to learn and grow significantly. There is nothing quite like the satisfaction of receiving heartfelt feedback from individuals who express how their day has been brightened by our breakfast offerings. It is truly rewarding to hear their appreciation for the nourishment we provide.

Meals Served

19,688



Harm Reduction

Accessed 5x daily



Josh Burnette

Floor Supervisor

"The Trinity morning drop-in program is a vital service for many people in this city. It provides a social space and food for those that can't otherwise afford these things. This is of great benefit to Peterborough as there aren't many resources of this kind here. I have personally seen it improve many people's lives, sometimes in a simple and immediate way with food and belonging, but also in longer-term ways, by being connected with support from organizations like One City, Elizabeth Fry, PARN, and others.

The drop-in program has provided valuable resources for many members of our community, and it has done so consistently and dependably. Many people rely on it regularly as a place of belonging and support. Peterborough needs this service and more like it."

Clothing Cupboard

Accessed 2,100x



Naloxone Training

50+



Love for Morning Drop-In



“Drop in has connected me with individuals who normally would not connect with an agency outside of drop in. It opens the door for connection to services and connections to the individuals. There is no stigma that they need to be any other way but themselves to access this service or meet with a worker. Connection with individuals who face barriers is important as there needs to be a trust that they are safe with you so they can talk. Even if they don't take advantage of our services at drop in right away as they see you more and more, we become familiar to them, someone saying hello with a smile maybe the only friendly comment they get all day and we all deserve love and kindness every day.”

Mashkiki Aawe Niimi Boozi Asin
Kwe/She/Her
Cultural Liaison Coordinator
Elizabeth Fry Society of
Peterborough



“The connections I made with peers and community members who are living rough while working the morning Drop-in service were irreplaceable. When I began this position, I was new to the field and just finishing my Social Service Worker diploma. I learned more valuable lessons about harm reduction, meeting people where they're at, and advocacy working here than I did in all my schooling. The staff truly do anything they possibly can to support these folks and it was extremely impactful on the way I conduct the work I do now in the field.”

Jill Whitmore
She/Her
Bridges Housing Case Manager



Food insecurity has become more common over the past few years and having advocated for a morning drop in with food has been a great asset in our community ! Our community friends rely on this each morning as it has been consistent- thank you for support us and our friends !

Lindy Jones
She/Her
Outreach Worker, PARN