North for Youth: A Summary

Recapping the work done to date and discussing next steps

Outline

- Our Story
- OTF Requirements
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- Community Outreach Efforts
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- ▶ It Takes a Village
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Our Story

- Throughout 2013, NWCYR conducted numerous consultations with local service providers and community members to better understand the needs of local youth
- There was a need for youth engagement efforts to improve youth well-being and reduce substance misuse in Northern Wellington
- In February, 2015, a Community Forum was held to identify priorities:
 - ► Increase awareness of opportunities/programs/services
 - Increase collaboration and youth engagement by establishing a Youth Action Council
 - ► Increase accessibility of programs
 - ► Increase opportunities for community interaction
 - ► Ensure momentum continues by forming a "Glue Group"

OTF Requirements

Impact Indicator Type	Impact Indicator(s)	Indicator Target(s)	Targets Met and Surpassed
Result Indicator	# of unified, shared or integrated systems to better serve communities	8	- Mapleton YAC - WN YAC -Minto YAC -YAC Adult Allies -YECOP -Rural Youth Homelessness -Intentional Self-Harm PAG -Happy Healthy Families -Towards Common Ground -Youth/Employer Engagement -Rural Engaged
Outcome Indicator	#of new organizational, program or membership models that respond to community issues	1	-North for Youth -Truth About Youth

Annual Initiatives

- ► Leaf Clean Up
- NorthernWellington YouthConnections Day







► Recruitment Fair

► Grad Attire Swap

►Youth Week







Food Skills Workshops

Safe TALK Workshop

Teen Video Contest on Distracted Driving

Pass it on: Wellington Heights students teach Victoria Cross students about healthy snack choices

UNT FOREST - Students at Vic-Cross Public School took part in a kills program last week in an effort sourage healthier snack choices. ents from Wellington Heights' knowledge of the Canada Food and portion sizes to teach students Grade 1 through 8 how to create a e, delicious and healthy snack dur-

program was a joint effort between Wellington Heights Secondary ol's Raising Healthy Children class, thy Happy Families and the North ealthy Happy Families were con

ed about the snack choices that lo outh are making, and asked us for Raising Healthy Children class HSS "They felt that the message



The WHSS students spent the prior and easy to create, as well as work on different skills based on the age of the class they were working with.

"For example, the recipes that in-

roudly shows off the lice of watermelon pizza he made on Nov. 23 as part of the food skills program that oss Public School. MIKE WILSON

the older kids, while the younger kids were ven recipes that in-

watermelon topped with blueberries, ba-

and eating them, they think it's cool and they want to do it themselves," she said. last Wednesday was Mrs. Eurig's Grade 3 class, who made watermelon pizza slices. The recipe saw a pie-shaped piece of

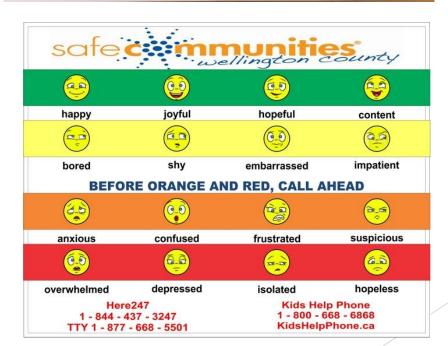
Lopes-Walker. "And easy to make!" Many of the students shared Lopes Walker's opinion of the snack, and said they would make it at home if given the

she felt the message was getting through PHOTO BY to the VCPS students.

"I think it is," she said. "Hopefully the step up and tell their parents that they these healthy snacks. It depends they are more likely to buy it."

Melissa Brace, also a WHSS student nunicate the message.

"The kids seeing us make these snacks "It's good for us to pass this on to the





Ongoing Initiatives

- Truth About Youth Program
- ► Youth Engagement Community of Practice







Youth Action Councils









Community Outreach Efforts

- Youth Job Connection Program- Agilec
- Young & Parenting Program- CRC
- Social Equity, Civics, Raising Healthy Kids, Alt Ed Classes-WHSS
- Student Council, Interact Club, Horticulture, Centre Peel- Norwell
- Youth Options
- Palmerston Public with Mayor Bridge
- Victoria Cross with Mayor Lennox
- Wellington North & Minto Safe Communities
- Drayton Youth Centre
- Upper Deck
- Interviews with 88.7, Mount Forest Mirror, Wellington Advertiser, Community News, Confederate



Research Projects

- ► Rural Transportation Options
- ► Program Sustainability Practices
- Youth Harm Reduction- Northern Wellington Focus
- Rural Youth Homelessness-Wellington County Focus

New Youth Recognition Efforts

- ► YAC: Young Citizen of the Year Award
- ► Mapleton YAC: Youth of the Year Awards
- ► Minto YAC: MYAC Bursary
- North for Youth: Youth Week Acknowledgements



How a CYRW supports communities

- Develops connections between schools, municipalities, businesses and social services
- Facilitates intergenerational opportunities
- Supports youth in finding their place in the community, develop a sense of belonging
- Increasing the number of professional development and networking opportunities offered locally to youth service providers (instead of having to go to the city)
- Working collaboratively in community: bringing community members and service providers together to work side-by-side
- Creates a positive and inclusive environment for youth
- Offers outlets for youth that promote a sense of unity, belonging, support and connection
- Bridges the gap between youth and the community
- CONNECTIONS, CONNECTIONS, CONNECTIONS

It Takes a Village









Mount Forest

Family Health Team























Association canadienne pour la santé mentale Waterloo Wellington

Upper Grand

Family Health Team



Ontario Trillium **Foundation**



Fondation Trillium de l'Ontario Relève du gouvernement de l'Ontario.





Looking ahead...

- ➤ Youth Unemployment & Entrepreneurship
 - Skill development training and workshops
- Experiential Volunteering
- ► Mental Health & Wellness- Outlets
- ► Young Caregivers
- ▶ Developing New Inclusive & Accessible Youth Programs
- Youth Spaces
- ► Online youth hub/website



Recommendations

- Continue to support your local Youth Action Council
 - Consult with them on municipal projects, get their feedback, and implement it
- Continue to designate at least one staff member to act as a liaison for youth initiatives
- Invite Community Youth Resiliency Worker to provide recommendations for strategic goals and plans for youth services and/or identify gaps/barriers to service and ways to address these
- Provide financial and in-kind support to continue the Community Youth Resiliency Worker position
 - > \$5,000.00
 - Office space as needed; in order to better serve youth in all 3 municipalities

Questions

Comments

Suggestions

