

AUGUST 2025 MONTHLY

Newsletter



Community Service Hub

This month marked significant growth for our Community Service Hub, with 73 individuals accessing services compared to 60 last month. Our hub continues to focus on a client-centered approach, empowering clients to achieve small, meaningful goals as they work towards stability. Every step forward is a positive step.

The hub provides comprehensive support services, including:

- Paramedic services (monthly visits and on-call availability)
- Psychotherapy sessions (multiple times monthly)
- Ontario Works navigator visits (as needed)
- Elizabeth Fry Society bail supervision (weekly)

More than just a service provider, our hub serves as a safe space where clients can rest at ease, share meals, socialize, and work on achieving important personal goals. Whether reconnecting with family, accessing Ontario Works or ODSP, seeking employment, finding housing, or making crucial phone calls to lawyers and caseworkers, clients receive the support they need.

Most importantly, the hub provides a welcoming environment where individuals can be themselves and connect with compassionate volunteers about their daily experiences and challenges.

SOUP KITCHEN

Our community soup kitchen continued to provide warm, nutritious meals this month with two successful service days:

August 13th

We served a hearty shepherd's pie accompanied by fresh buns and fruit for dessert. Clients enjoyed their choice of coffee, tea, juice, or water alongside their meal. We were pleased to serve 32 community members.

August 27th

The menu featured hamburger soup with a choice of egg salad or ham sandwiches, plus fresh fruit and sweet treats for dessert. Beverages included the usual selection of coffee, tea, water, and juice. This service day welcomed 35 clients.

Our soup kitchen remains committed to providing not just nourishing meals, but a welcoming space where community members can gather and connect over good food.

DELIVERABLES

16 naloxone kits	40 pairs of socks
6 blankets	1 pair of mitts
1 hat	First aid supplies
Hygiene products	

These deliverables help ensure our clients have access to life-saving resources, warmth, and basic necessities for health and dignity.

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OUTREACH SUPPORT

Our outreach team remained actively engaged in the community this month, providing critical support services that extend far beyond our hub's walls.

We responded to multiple crisis calls and conducted apartment visits focused on housing retention, helping clients maintain stable living situations during challenging times.

We provided rides and support for essential appointments, including court appearances, medical appointments, and visits to detox centers or hospitals, ensuring transportation barriers don't prevent access to crucial services.

Weather conditions prompted us to adjust operating hours, opening early or staying late when needed. Our team also conducted visits to encampments as required, ensuring our most vulnerable community members have access to resources.

We responded to referral calls from the OPP and other community organizations, demonstrating the collaborative approach that makes our services more effective and connects individuals with appropriate support quickly.

Crisis Intervention and Recovery

We welcomed a new client experiencing a mental health crisis who courageously reached out for help during a psychosis episode. Our crisis management team immediately jumped into action and accompanied them to North Bay Regional Health Centre for assessment, which resulted in their admission for necessary treatment. Two dedicated volunteers remained by their side throughout the entire 9-hour process, ensuring they felt supported until they were safely settled. Following their detox and mental health treatment, this client has made remarkable progress. They have successfully reconnected with their family and is doing extremely well.

Crisis Intervention and Recovery

Another client approached us ready to break free from addiction, expressing they were tired of their current lifestyle and finally prepared to take the next crucial step. We are incredibly proud to share that this individual has been admitted to a treatment program and will remain there until a longer-term center becomes available.

These stories remind us why our work matters. Each person who walks through our doors brings their own strength and potential—sometimes they just need the right support and encouragement to unlock it.



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This month, we're pausing our usual spotlight on volunteers to honor someone whose impact continues to guide our mission. August is Overdose Awareness Month, and it marks one year since we lost Jody, a beloved client, father, and friend.

Jody's journey was not easy, but he met it with unwavering courage and a heart full of love. He was fiercely devoted to his children & pups and carried a deep compassion for others walking through pain. His laughter, determination, and empathy touched everyone who knew him.

Jody's story reminds us that behind every struggle is a person worthy of dignity, connection, and hope. His absence is felt deeply, but his memory fuels our purpose. We honor him not just in words, but in action, in every life we support, in every stigma we challenge, and in every moment we choose compassion over judgment.

Jody, you are missed. You are loved. And you will never be forgotten.