### **Harry E Foster Foundation Grant Reporting 2024-2025**



# **Item:** Red's Place Lunch Subsidy:

At Red's Place Diner, we believe that a meal is more than just food on a plate; it's an experience that brings people together. Our achievements are measured not only by the quality of our dishes but also by the vibrant community we've cultivated around our tables. Every visit to Red's Place is an opportunity to connect, share stories, and create memories with friends and family.

Central to our success is the invaluable support from the Harry E. Foster Foundation. Your commitment has been instrumental in transforming our vision into reality. Through their partnership, we have expanded our outreach and deepened our ties within the community, ensuring that everyone who walks through our doors feels like part of the Red's Place family.

<u>Changes to the Project</u>: There were no changes to the program.

**Changes to budget:** There were no changes to the budget.

#### The number of people benefiting from the request:

Regarding community support and inclusivity, Red's Diner stands out as a cornerstone for those attending QVSS. An impressive 90% of the individuals utilizing QVSS services also engage with Red's Diner in some capacity, making it clear that this establishment plays a vital role in their daily lives. Most of the 108 developmentally challenged individuals who benefit from QVSS's offerings find comfort and connection at Red's.

### **Item: Annual Test & Repairs:**



Ensuring the safety and efficiency of Reds Place Diner is not just a responsibility—it's an imperative. Regular equipment inspections are crucial in maintaining high standards that everyone at QVSS relies on, especially during breaks when people gather to relax and recharge. In essence, regular equipment checks are more than just routine—they're a commitment to excellence at Reds Place Diner. Embracing this practice solidifies our dedication to providing a secure and pleasant atmosphere for all who enter our doors.

We have a robust system prioritizing safety and performance thanks to the Harry E Foundation.

<u>Changes to the project</u>: There were no changes to the project. QVSS had a comprehensive Trinity Fire & Security inspection and found no deficiencies.

**Changes to budget:** There were no changes to the budget.

<u>The number of people benefiting from the request:</u> Ensuring the safety and well-being of everyone involved with QVSS is our top priority, and regular inspections play a crucial role in achieving this goal. With 108 individuals facing developmental challenges and 12 dedicated staff members relying on QVSS services, we cannot overlook any safety aspect. Trusting in these measures means trusting a safer future for all at QVSS.

#### **Item- Program Cost Assistance**

QVSS does not wish to let cost be a barrier to personal growth. Participants are eager to embrace the chance to develop themselves and take advantage of our accessible and affordable offerings thanks to the Harry E. Foster Foundation's help.

Our cost-reduced programs offer opportunities for personal development, whether learning a new skill, discovering a hidden talent, or simply gaining confidence through participation.

**Changes to the project**: There were no changes to the project.

<u>Changes to budget:</u> There were no changes to the budget.

#### The number of people benefiting from the request:

With 108 people already benefiting from our programs, I'm thrilled to report that nearly 95% of participants have opted for services with fees attached. This strong engagement highlights the value and impact of what we offer.



### Item- Laptop & Tablets





The pandemic has shown us that while physical presence is irreplaceable, digital connections can be compelling in keeping our social fabric intact. In addition to, undeniably reshaping our understanding of connection, revealing that while nothing can truly replace the warmth of a physical presence, digital connections have proven to be a powerful tool in maintaining our social fabric. Video calls, virtual gatherings, and online communities have become essential to the QVSS community. Thank you for helping us to share experiences, celebrate milestones, and support each other through additional technology.

<u>Changes to the project</u>: There were no changes to the project.

<u>Changes to budget:</u> There were no changes to the budget.

## The number of people benefiting from the request:

It's truly remarkable how much we've evolved over the past three years. As we reflect on our journey, we're proud to share that nearly 80% of the people attending QVSS now use our facility's computers, laptops, or tablets. This shift is a testament to the changing landscape of technology and its profound impact on our daily lives.

With 108 individuals currently utilizing QVSS services, your trust in us makes us genuinely humbled. Your faith in our ability to serve you drives us to improve and innovate continuously.

### **Item:** Red's Place Diner Table and Chairs

Thank you for investing in Red's Place diner tables and chairs. This decision has proven transformative for QVSS, revitalizing the ambiance while addressing practical needs. This new furniture not only elevates the space's aesthetic appeal, creating a more inviting atmosphere, but it also serves a crucial functional purpose. The previous tables and chairs had seen better days, showing signs of wear that detracted from the overall dining experience.

Changes to the project: There were no changes to the project.

**Changes to budget:** There were no changes to the budget.

The number of people benefiting from the request: Red's Diner emerges as an undeniable favourite place among the QVSS participants. The numbers speak for themselves—nearly 100% of the 108 attendees chose to enjoy their meals at Red's.

Recognition of the Foundation for funding: We (QVSS) are grateful for the Harry E. Foster Foundation and its years of support, and we share our good fortune with Facebook, QVSS's webpage, our AGM, and Inquinte News.



### **Item- Program Supplies**



When individuals have access to the right tools and supplies, they can explore new hobbies, develop skills, and connect with others with similar interests.

Our carefully curated supplies are designed to meet diverse needs and accommodate all program choices, ensuring everyone can find something that resonates with them. Whether it's art supplies for budding painters, sports equipment for fitness enthusiasts, or crafting kits for creative minds, our offerings cater to various interests.

Thank you.

**Changes to the project**: There were no changes to the project.

**Changes to budget:** There were no changes to the budget.

# The number of people benefiting from the request:

Currently, 108 individuals benefit from QVSS services, and we've observed that nearly 80% of participants opts for programs or services that come with fees. Understanding the importance of accessibility, we're thrilled to announce that we can now provide these recreational activities at reduced or no cost.

This development enhances our commitment to supporting our community and ensures everyone can enjoy enriching experiences without financial barriers.

#### **Item- Social Scene**

By giving participants something to look forward to each month, we aim to enhance their



overall well-being and sense of belonging. These events allow them to socialize, make new friends, and create lasting memories at the agency and in the community. It is such great fun!

<u>Changes to the project</u>: There were no changes to the project.

<u>Changes to budget:</u> There were no changes to the budget.

#### The number of people benefiting from the request:

Currently, 108 individuals are actively utilizing QVSS services. I'm thrilled to inform you that everyone will participate in the upcoming special outings and events organized by our dedicated Social Scene Committee. These events are designed to provide enriching experiences and foster a sense of community among all participants.

This commitment to full participation highlights the enthusiasm and engagement within our community, making it a fantastic opportunity for everyone involved.



### **Item-DJ Room**

Positive feedback from our QVSS audience can be incredibly empowering for our DJ enthusiasts. Each cheer or nod of approval reinforces the participant's belief in their abilities, gradually building their self-esteem. Over time, these small victories accumulate into a robust sense of self-confidence that extends beyond the DJ booth into other areas of life. Thank you for helping us create a new and authentic environment for the ultimate experience.

<u>Changes to the project</u>: There were no changes to the project.

**Changes to budget:** There were no changes to the budget.

# The number of people benefiting from the request:

Currently, we have an incredible lineup of 10 talented DJs in-house. This program has quickly become a favourite among our younger clients, with many eager to join and showcase their musical talents. Our unique setup allows the music curated by our DJs to be pumped throughout the entire building, creating an energetic atmosphere for everyone, with 108 participants enjoying our very own radio station.

Recognition of the Foundation for providing the funding: At QVSS, we believe in the power of community and the importance of sharing our successes with those who have supported us along the way. We're committed to keeping people informed and engaged through multiple platforms, including Facebook, the Annual General Meeting (AGM), and the Inquinte news.

We're eagerly awaiting the arrival of several essential items we've ordered, which are crucial for launching our transformation project. Once everything is in place and the makeover is complete, we can share the exciting results with you by sending along some pictures. In the meantime, here's a sneak peek at some of our recent purchases that will contribute to this unique project: Each item has been carefully selected to ensure that our DJ room looks fantastic and functions perfectly for all those creative sessions ahead.









# **Item- Vinyl Folding Chairs**

Incorporating foldable vinyl chairs into our yoga practice significantly enhances flexibility and stability, making them indispensable tools for practitioners of all levels. These versatile chairs provide the perfect support needed to explore a broader range of poses safely and comfortably for all participants. Thank you.

**Changes to the project**: There were no changes to the project.

<u>Changes to budget:</u> There were no changes to the budget.

#### The number of people benefiting from the request:

While currently, only eight people are participating in our yoga sessions, it's important to note that these chairs are incredibly versatile and can be easily transported between different program areas. With around 108 individuals utilizing QVSS services, these chairs would serve more than just the yoga class. Their adaptability means they could be seamlessly integrated into various activities, effectively benefiting 80-90% of our participants.





#### **Item- Mobile TV Stand**

Investing in a portable TV stand is an innovative, cost-effective solution for maximizing entertainment and learning opportunities at QVSS without purchasing additional televisions. By opting for a mobile TV stand, staff can easily transport a single television between various program areas, ensuring that every participant has access to high-quality visual content wherever they are.

**Changes to the project**: There were no changes to the project.

**Changes to budget:** There were no changes to the budget.

### The number of people benefiting from the request:

Given its mobility, the cart can be seamlessly moved across all the programs we offer, ensuring that it can be readily available wherever there is a need for AV equipment. With 108 individuals currently utilizing QVSS services, this equipment has the potential to benefit 85% of our program participants.



#### **Item- Program Chairs**

Over the years, the chairs at our facility have become worn and outdated, gradually losing their ability to provide the comfort and support our community deserves. As we reflect on the importance of creating a welcoming and comfortable environment, it becomes clear that updating these essential pieces of furniture is not just a luxury but a necessity. Thank you. We could not have done this without you.

**Changes to the project**: There were no changes to the project.

<u>Changes to budget:</u> There were no changes to the budget.

#### The number of people benefiting from the request:

Currently, only 12 participants are enrolled in our social media program, but the potential of our chairs extends far beyond this single class. These chairs are incredibly versatile and can be easily transported between different program areas, allowing us to maximize their use across various activities. With 108 individuals utilizing QVSS services, these chairs could benefit a substantial portion of our community. Their adaptability means they could seamlessly support multiple activities, potentially benefiting 80-90% of our participants. Imagine the possibilities for enhancing comfort and engagement across various programs!

Recognition of the Foundation for providing the funding: At QVSS, we believe in the power of community and the importance of sharing our successes with those who have supported us along the way. We're committed to keeping people informed and engaged through multiple platforms, including Facebook, the Annual General Meeting (AGM), and the Inquinte news.

Before! After!

