



KEEPING YOUTH CONNECTED

YEAR 1

The Ottawa Coalition of Community Houses and the Ottawa Community Housing Foundation gratefully acknowledge the financial support of the Ontario Trillium Foundation



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Keeping Youth Connected offers at risk adolescent youth place-based, barrier-free programming during critical after school hours.

Community Houses have successfully implemented the KYC program in 15 of Ottawa’s social housing neighbourhoods.

KYC has bridged programming and resources for 12-15 year old youth to keep them positively connected in their community and provide them with skills and support to foster their development.

OBJECTIVES	WHAT DID WE DO	HOW WELL DID WE DO IT
Increase the number of adolescents who face barriers to participation become/remain connected to their community	Implemented a total of 4,560 hours of programming in 15 social housing communities Engaged 391 adolescents Made 12,092 contacts with adolescents in the 2016-2017 school year	84% of adolescents surveys reported feeling more connected to their community
Adolescents have increased emotional and social skills	Delivered 1,140 hours of social recreational programming; 570 hours of life skills development activities; 2,280 hours of academic support	91% of adolescents could identify a problem and propose solutions, 91% could analyze conflict situations and make decisions on how to resolve them, 88% could identify a personal obstacle and set a goal
Adolescents have increased leadership skills	Delivered 570 hours of Leadership development activities	93% of adolescents reported learning a new leadership skill
Adolescents have stronger adult relationships	84 parents participated in parenting workshops 42 staff participated in an orientation that emphasized the importance of mentorship in programming	Of adolescents surveyed, 61% of participants reported improving a relationship with a parent, 95% developed a positive relationship with a Community House staff

2016-2017 HIGHLIGHTS

Animation Workshops

Introduction to animation and film production workshops were delivered in the Keeping Youth Connected programs over the winter/spring in partnership with MASC and Animation Ottawa. KYC participants made short animated films about positive things in their neighbourhoods. In June, the youth and their parents were invited to a screening at the ByTowne Theatre that showcased their animated films.



Parent Workshops

The most popular workshop offered was Parenting Your Teen Just got Easier: Knowing what to say, what to do and how to connect with your teen can be hard to figure out. This lively two hour workshop introduced parents to 6 principles for parenting teens that aims to make parenting easier and more effective.

By increasing the skills of parents and building their confidence, youth ultimately benefit. A partnership was built with Family Services of Ottawa to provide engaging and appropriate parenting workshops.



Social Recreation

Delivering a fun program gets kids involved. Using social recreation, the KYC program was able to turn fun into learning and confidence building opportunities. Whether it was by offering cooking, Jiu-Jitsu classes, coding, art lessons, drumming, or basketball the participants developed skills and built positive relationships with their peers and Community House staff.

Overwhelmingly, the participants reported field trips as their favourite activity. There were trips to the Escape Room, the movies, Parliament Hill, laser tag, Sky Zone, Ottawa Redblacks games, and the Mosaic Garden. These opportunities foster team building and provide experiences the youth may not have had.

KYC

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391

Youth registered in
Keeping Youth Connected



37%

In year 1, KYC connected with 37% of youth aged
12-15 years of age living in Community House
neighbourhoods



90%

Of the total youth registered live in
OCH neighbourhoods

French
41%



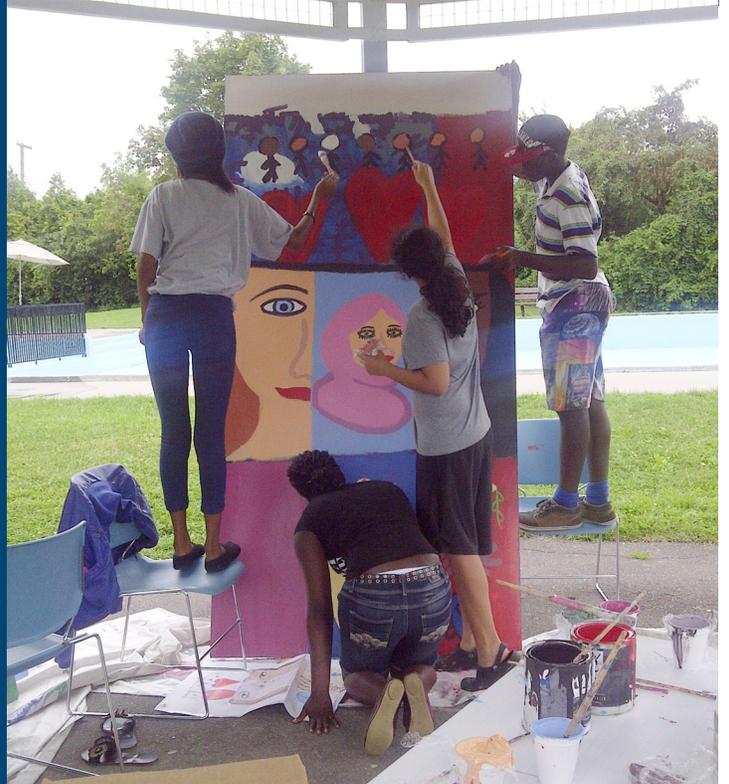
English
59%

Female
43%



Male
57%

Data collected from OCH Community Demographic Reports
and Community House records



Keeping Youth Connected supports youth in the following Community Houses:

- Banff Avenue Community House
- Blair Court Community House
- Britannia Woods Community House
- Caldwell Family Centre
- Carson's Community House
- Confederation Court Community House
- Foster Farm Family House
- Debra Dynes Family House
- Lowertown Good Neighbours Community House
- Michele Heights Community House
- Morrison Gardens Community House
- Pinecrest Terrace Community House
- Rochester Heights Community House
- Russell Heights Community House
- Winthrop Court Community House

For more information, please contact csw@ottawacommunityhouses.com

