

2005 Community Development and Investment Fund Projects

Projects and Agencies	Project Descriptions with Actual Numbers Served
Abuse and Violence Counselling Services - Family Services York Region	Subsidized counselling services to address the effects of abuse and violence for 89 low-income York Region residents, including clients receiving social assistance.
After School Programs - York Professional Care and Education	Drop in after school programs for children 6 to 12 years of age, three days per week in four Housing York Inc. social housing sites. Provides a safe and positive, environment promoting positive social, emotional and physical development. Over 240 children of 190 families attended programs.
Agency Re-location Support - Rose of Sharon Services for Young Mothers	To assist Rose of Sharon to re-locate to a facility that allowed the agency to offer improved facilities and better service to its clients. Initial results indicate that because of the new spacious and more prominent location the agency has been serving a larger number of clients, and also expanded the range of support programs and services offered to the public.
Anti-bullying and Peer Mentoring Project - Youth Assisting Youth	A project that aimed to expand the services of Youth Assisting Youth in York Region, with particular attention to low-income, at-risk and newcomer youth aged 6 – 15 through providing up to 35 peer mentoring arrangements, after school group mentoring programs, and special events.
Book Nooks - Georgina Public Library	Extension service of the Georgina Public Library provided lending, story time programs, library resource and referral information in 4 Georgina locations to promote early literacy with marginalized/at-risk families and providing access to community resources. 360 books have been put into circulation and 130 books have been borrowed. Over 30 families have participated in story time programs for 2005.
Breakfast Program - Thornhill United Church	Contribution to the breakfast programs operating in two Thornhill elementary schools. The project was directed to approximately 60 children, providing healthy breakfasts in a family social setting.
Capacity Building to Improve Children's Mental Health Inclusionary Practices and Services for Chinese Families in York Region - Toronto Chinese Community Services	A partnership project with Blue Hills Child and Family Centre that facilitated the access to mainstream mental health services for almost 100 Chinese families and their children.
Child Care Enhancement - Licensed Child Care Providers	Assisted child care providers expand their services to include children with exceptional and significant special needs.
Community Housing Support Worker Program Expansion 1) Transitional and Supportive Housing Services 2) Pathways for Children, Youth and Families of York Region 3) Canadian Mental Health Association (CMHA)	Found permanent housing for approximately 50 homeless families and over 200 individuals. 1) Transitional and Supportive Housing Services helped them make the transition from emergency shelter and the domiciliary hostel to permanent housing. 2) Pathways Home Base focused on assisting the youth that access their services, and 3) CMHA served clients with mental health issues.
Community Resource Worker - Newmarket Youth Centre	Implemented a Community Youth Resource Worker program in the Town of Newmarket to build network and referral services for 100 youth.
Comprehensive Literacy - Community Alliance for York Region Education (CAYRE)	Initiative supporting a series of 4 early literacy workshops for approximately 270 Early Childhood Educators and ECE students in York Region working with children 4 to 6 years of age. A resource book is provided to each child care program attending the workshops.
Consumers as Evaluators - York Support Services Network	Trained a group of 19 consumers of mental health services in evaluation methods. The clients of four York Region mental health service agencies were surveyed and a client satisfaction evaluation model was developed for sharing with other community agencies.
Early Child Development & Parenting Supports - All Our Kids (AOK) Early Child Development and Parenting Programs	Over 2,500 parents/child givers and almost 4,000 children (up to 6 years) attended programs that provided learning opportunities and resources that promote healthy child development, attachment and readiness for school and life.
Early Intervention for Blind & Visually Impaired Children - Canadian National Institute for the Blind	Provided one to one Early Intervention services to over 80 blind or visually impaired children and their families.

Early Years Outreach - Rose of Sharon Services for Young Mothers	A project that introduced over 60 young mothers and 75 children to early years programs. The project also worked with LEAP and Ontario Works regional staff to support young parents and create region-wide opportunities for young mothers in community-based early years programs.
Expansion of Rainbows Program in York Region - RAINBOWS Canada	To expand RAINBOWS network of support services to children who have become at risk due to tragic family loss by adding 16 additional RAINBOW sites. Approximately 400 additional children will benefit from this project.
Families and Schools Together - Family Services York Region	A series of professionally supported family meetings to enhance parent-child interactions, empower parents, and build a supportive community for parents, to ensure that at risk children of these families succeed at home, at school and in the community. Over 20 families (95 individuals) participated in 2005.
Family Resource Centre - Jewish Family and Child Services	The enhancement project provided services and supported families who are new immigrants to Canada from Israel, and families with children with a special need. This initiative introduced 7 new supports aimed at strengthening families by enhancing outreach and responsiveness to families in York Region. Over 500 families and almost 1,000 children benefited from these supports.
Fee Assistance to Support Low Income Families with Child Care Costs - Licensed Child Care Providers	Fee assistance for child care services for over 40 children of 34 eligible low-income families. This funding helped support parental employment.
Feeding Assessment Clinic - Markham Stouffville Hospital and York Region Early Intervention Services	Provided prompt assessments of the feeding difficulties of 26 infants and pre-schoolers who exhibit developmental difficulties.
First Steps - A Transition Program for Women - JVS Toronto	This program helped over 70 women develop life and employability skills as a first step towards employment. In addition, individualized Return to Work action plans were completed for 46 participants to facilitate their return to work and employment readiness.
Focus on Fathers - Catholic Community Services of York Region	Program expanded to provide family relations courses to fathers from various cultural groups and the Young Parents program was offered to new parents of any age. The workshops, conducted across the Region and facilitated by experienced professionals, provided opportunities for over 180 fathers and 34 young parents to improve their parenting and family relations, and to augment interpersonal skills.
Food Drive Program Support - York Region Food Network	Supported an emergency project that provided food security through seven food bank locations to over 2,800 families and 3,000 children of York Region. York Region funding was used to obtain 40% more value in items provided to recipients, over and above the York Region contribution.
Food For Learning - York Region Food for Learning	Supported the provision of school nutritional programs that provide daily nutritious meals, snacks and emergency lunches to an average of 75,000 students from 40 York Region schools. The project logged over 108,000 community volunteer hours in 2005.
Georgina Multi-Sector Group - Learning Centre for Georgina	Support to the Georgina Multi-sector Group (newly renamed Linking Georgina) for a project to design a co-ordinated service delivery system that would address needs of families and children in Georgina without overlap and duplication.
Health and Safety funding for Child Care Centres - Licensed Child Care Providers	To support the stabilization of York Region's child care system and promote healthy and safe child care environment. Health and Safety deficiencies were addressed at 12 child care programs.
Home Base Youth Drop-in Centre Project - Pathways for Children, Youth and Families of York Region	Supported services provided by the Home Base Drop In Centre which included provision of basic needs, counselling, employment services and community resource referrals to more than 950 at-risk and homeless youth and had over 5,350 youth visits.
Community Development - Canadian Mental Health Association of York Region	Defined and analysed resources and needs in three social housing developments. Built community partnerships and facilitated participation by the residents. This project had a beneficial impact in communities such as Glenwood Mews, Mulock Village and Brayfield Manor.
Housing Help Centre - Citizens for Affordable Housing	Funding to maintain and update a walk-in and on-line housing registry that served nearly 4,500 clients and landlords directly. Of those which secured housing, many remained housed after 3 months. The Centre's web site received over 92,000 hits during the year.

Housing Outreach Program for Young Parents - Rose of Sharon Services for Young Mothers	Housing outreach program to support 46 young parents to secure housing and provided supports such as food, clothing and baby supplies to almost 500 individuals along with referrals to other community supports.
Income Enhancement Pilot Project - York Region Social Assistance Division	The Income Enhancement Pilot Project provided supports to Ontario Works participants with earnings to enhance their earning potential through a Peer Support Model where clients could discuss practical strategies towards being fully employed. Sessions were held for participants in each Social Assistance office.
Inn from the Cold	A Newmarket located winter drop-in site that provided food, clothing and emergency shelter over the winter months.
Making a Change Together - Job Developer Project - York Region Neighbourhood Services	The creation of a Job Developer position was added to support the TESS project and was responsible to plan and facilitate outreach to potential employers and community agencies for internationally trained residents of York Region. This initiative created employment opportunities for 23 recent immigrants in occupations which closely related to their training, education and experience.
Markham Tamil Recreation Centre - Canadian Tamil Youth Development Centre	Supported the provision of a youth drop-in, recreation and support service in Markham for at-risk Tamil youth which served 85 youth and 8 families.
Multi-lingual Access Program - Jewish Family and Child Services	Recruited and trained 17 volunteers to assist new immigrants with translation, completion of forms, accompaniment to appointments, preparation for employment and introductions to community members. Volunteers assisted over 350 clients in accessing resources for housing, social assistance, child care and other services.
Northridge Salvation Army Day Camp - Salvation Army	An eight-week day summer camp program which provided a unique learning opportunity including skill development to children from low income families in the Newmarket and Aurora areas. 50 children per week and more than 400 participated over the summer.
Out of the Cold (South) - Temple Har Zion, St. Luke's Catholic Church, Jaffari As-Sadiq Islamic School; Thornhill United Church	Four sites located in the South end of York Region, providing food, clothing and emergency shelter over the winter months.
PLAY (Positive Leisure Activities for Children and Youth) - 9 area municipal Parks, Recreation and Culture Departments	Access to seasonal recreation programs offered by local municipal recreation departments to children 4 to 12 years of age of families receiving Ontario Works or Rent Geared to Income or Child Care Fee Assistance under LICO. More than 800 children from 572 families participated.
Positive Parenting Program - Kinark Child & Family Services	Triple P (positive parenting program) is a multi level parenting and family support strategy aimed at preventing severe behavioural, emotional and developmental problems in children by enhancing knowledge in parents. More than 75 individuals from 34 community agencies were trained to deliver the program.
Pre-Employment Partnership Training Initiative - Training Renewal Foundation	The Pre-Employment Partnership Project identified key employment opportunity sectors in York Region and developed employment networks and related job readiness training courses. As a result, Ontario Works participants completed sector skill training in Forklift, Office Coffee and Vending, or Construction Craft Worker training programs.
Project Match'em Big Brothers/Big Sisters of York Region	Expedited the intake process for matching 328 vulnerable, at-risk children with caring adult volunteer mentors. The average processing time required from inquiry to <i>match ready</i> is less than three months for both adult volunteers and children.
School Social Worker - Jewish Family and Child Services	This project filled a gap in community social work services by providing a range of supports to families of children attending two newly opened public elementary schools in Vaughan. The project offered on-site services of consultation, prevention and treatment to an estimated 10 families including more than 100 children.
Social Assistance Outreach Case Co-ordinator - York Region Social Assistance Division	This pilot project provided support to 46 individuals and families that included almost 80 children, who have been discharged from shelter programs and need to re-establish themselves in the community or need to maintain themselves in the community to prevent entry into a shelter.
Some Assembly Required - Learning Disabilities Association	Provided students with identified learning disabilities in grades 6 - 9 the opportunity to benefit academically and vocationally, learn and discuss disabilities, study skills, employment and strategies for success and making choices.
Summer Day Camp - 9 area municipal Parks, Recreation and Culture Departments	Over 160 children 4-12 years of age from families residing in social housing participated in summer camp offered by the local municipal recreation departments.

Supports and Training to the Informal Childcare Providers - York Professional Care and Education	Child Care Training Program delivered to informal home child care providers to enhance the quality of private home care provided in York Region. Almost 350 child care providers were trained to Level 1 and of these 245 completed Level 2.
Sutton Multi-Service Centre - York Region Housing Services Division	Funding additions to the renovations at the Sutton Youth Multi-Service Centre to better facilitate access to the facility for people with disabilities.
Sutton Multi-Service Centre - Start-up funding - Salvation Army	Furnishing, equipment and staffing start up and training for the Sutton Multi-Service Centre to ensure it is ready to open to clients early in 2006.
Swim to Survive Pilot Program - 9 area municipal Parks, Recreation and Culture Departments	Pilot project providing training to survive an unexpected fall into water. Schools with a high population of low income families and/or recent immigrants were recommended by the Public and Catholic school boards. By the end of the program, over 2,200 York Region grade 3 students participated.
Targeted Employment Support Services (TESS) - York Region Neighbourhood Services	The TESS Project filled a gap in service to enable 205 recent immigrants to receive accreditation supports who would not otherwise be eligible for these services through HRSDC. Over 50% of clients served by TESS were Ontario Works recipients.
Telephone Warm-line - Lance Krasman Memorial Centre for Community Mental Health	Peer support telephone "Warm Line." Support and information service to over 1,600 callers with mental health issues, and/or supports to their family members and friends within York Region.
Volunteer Incentive Program - York Region Social Assistance Division	The Volunteer Incentive Program provided incentives and supports to Ontario Works participants volunteering in community and non-profit agencies. This program allowed on average 100 participants per month to build new skills and gain experience thereby increasing their job readiness and employment prospects.
Winter Needs - various community service agencies in York Region	Assistance to 16 community agencies with emergency supplies for meeting the needs of their homeless and at-risk clients during winter. The goal of the initiative is to enhance services and infrastructure of community agencies in York Region.
York Region Abuse Program - Abuse Program of York Region	Supported the provision of sexual assault trauma assessments and treatments to children who have experienced sexual abuse/trauma and their families. The project also delivered supportive caregiver group sessions to clients, and also recruited, trained and supervised 3 intern therapists.
York Region Child Status Report - Human Services Planning Coalition	Support for the production and distribution of the Human Service Planning Coalition's report - 'Our Children: A Preliminary Status Report on York Region's Children'.
York Region Street Outreach Van - Loft/Crosslinks, York Region Community Services and Housing and Health Services Departments	Provided Mobile Outreach to almost 1,600 homeless individuals in York Region with services such as emotional support, crisis intervention, and therapeutic counselling, basic necessities (such as food, blankets, clothing), and access to information and referral to other community services.
York Region Welcome Centre - York Region Neighbourhood Services	Supported the establishment of a Regional Welcome Centre which includes the collection and assessment of community data, compilation of information on resources and potential support sources, and developed an implementation plan. The Centre will provide access to employment supports for immigrants.
Youth Summer Camp - Salvation Army	One week outdoor residential camp near Algonquin Park for youth 13 - 16 years of age who reside in social housing sites. Program focuses on orientation, problem solving, trust, risk/personal challenge and transference. Over 60 youth attended camp.