

QUYC

JUNE 2024

Committee for Innovative Thinking for Youth Inc.



2023 Annual Report

It is with great pride and gratitude to present our 2023 annual report. This year has been a remarkable journey filled with significant milestones, growth, and meaningful impact on the lives of the youth we serve. 2023 was a year unlike any other, with record high youth visits and needs. With the increase in needs, came increase in funding to provide the necessary supports for our youth members. As an organization that prides ourselves as a youth-led centre, we ensure our youth and their families are able to receive the supports they both deserve and need.

In 2023, we saw a record high number of youth visits in our 12 years of operation, with that number being 3,194 visits – this is an increase of 33% from 2022 and an increase of 68% from 2021. Youth visits were not the only record we had, we also served a record high of: the amount of meals and snacks served – 8,423, the number of 1 on 1 mentorships – 1,632, and the number of registered youth – 288.

With the increase in demand, we were fortunate enough to receive a variety of funding to meet the demand – we received funding from United Way HPE, City of Quinte West, United Way Simcoe and Muskoka, Ted Rogers, Canadian Red Cross, Hastings County, Alva Foundation, Ontario Trillium Fund, Kay Stafford Memorial Fund and Walmart Canada. Without these funders, our organization would not have been able to meet the current demand and keep our centre open. With these funds, we were able to introduce 2 new programs – Mental Wellness and Let's Flourish.

Without our community supports and our local funders, the QWYC would not be where we are today, supporting over 280 youth. We cannot thank them enough for their generosity and for believing in our mission and values. We are proud to work with an organization that makes youth the priority and for having a Board of Directors dedicated to ensuring the youth of Quinte West have a voice within their community. We cannot wait to see what the future holds for us.

"Our youth is the future and it is a bright one with your support"



About Committee for Innovative Thinking for Youth

Quinte West Youth Centre officially opened in the fall of 2011. Our initial purpose for coming together was to develop strategies to respond to a number of issues facing youth in Quinte West. We were aware that our cooperation, sharing of resources, expertise and coordination would lead to greater accessibility, visibility and success for all youth in the community. We recognized youth in our community needed a place to come for recreational and pro-social leisure activities, but also needed a place to be able to come for resources and supports. QWYC was formed under C.I.T.Y. and C.I.T.Y. began looking at the creation of the centre to provide youth a place of their own; where, programs and activities, are youth driven for youth. QWYC has staff on at all times with a variety of background with the commonality of wanting to support youth in our community. QWYC is overseen by a Board of Directors with the goal to continue finding supports to provide to our youth.

Our Mission

A safe, inclusive and welcoming space dedicated to empowering the youth of Quinte West while providing opportunities for growth within each youth through need-based programming.

Our Vision and Values

All youth will be happy, healthy contributing members of our community.

Youth-focused and inclusive; caring and compassionate, accountable and transparent





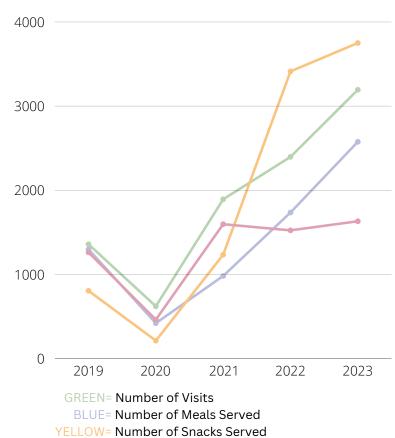
STATISTICS for 2023

QWYC had 288 members dedicated to attending QWYC. We had:

- Welcomed 3,194 youth visits
- Served 2,576 meals and 3,750 snacks
- Had 59 new youth members

Since 2011, we had:

- Welcomed 29,027 youth visits
- Provided 45,047 meals and snacks
- Supported 641 youth
- Currently have 288 registered youth with 353 youth who have 'graduated' from our program



PINK= Number of One-on-One Mentorships



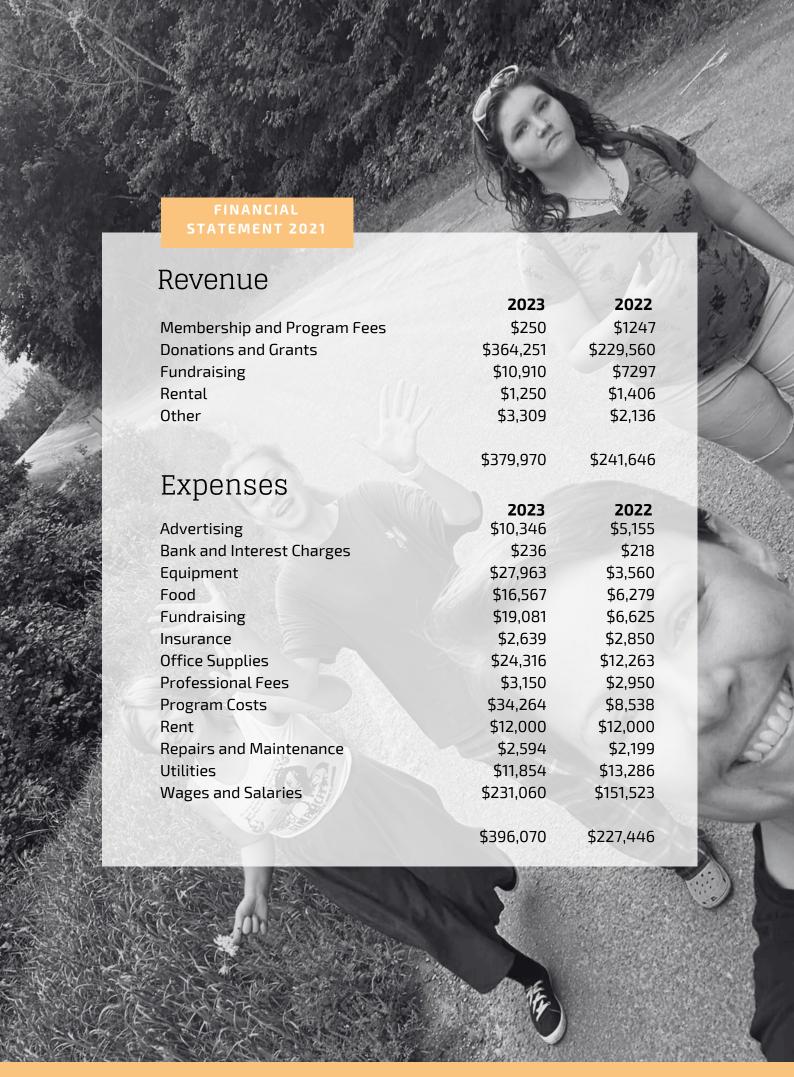
Projects of 2023

Renovations

- Home Depot Team Build
 - Renovated our front foyer, including new flooring, lighting, and paint.
- Bridge to Hope Update
 - Renovated our basement bathroom to include a shower.

Programming

- New program, Let's Flourish, was developed and facilitated to teach youth to be resilient.
- What's Cooking continues to be our most popular program.
- A new questionnaire went out at the end of 2023, requesting information about program needs and wants from our youth New programming is being developed based off of this information.





Contact

Say hello to our team of experts!

Executive Director Jessica Coolen

Program Coordinator Amanda Richardson

Child & Youth Worker Gabriel Roseboom

Child & Youth Worker Tanisha Bishop

Fundraiser & Donor Relations Specialist Hailey Borden