



newcomer women's
SERVICES TORONTO

ANNUAL REPORT

2016 - 2017

Thank You to Our Funders

Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada

Human Resources Development Canada

Ministry of Advanced Education and Skills Development

Ministry of Citizenship and Immigration

Metcalf Foundation

Ontario Women's Directorate, Province of Ontario

Toronto Public Health, City of Toronto

Service Canada

Ontario Arts Council

CHUM Foundation

Community Service Partnerships, City of Toronto

Toronto Employment and Social Services, City of Toronto

Justice Canada

Community One Foundation



English Language Program

The English Language Program (ELP) assists newcomer women to improve their English skills in Listening, Speaking, Reading and Writing. It has been funded by Immigration, Refugee and Citizenship Canada (IRCC) since 1992 with on-site child minding service.



4 classes cover the Canadian Language Benchmark 1-7.



370 newcomer women improve their English communication skills through ELP.



38 children were enrolled in the on-site child minding service.



Spelling Bee Competition

We hosted our first Spelling Bee Competition at Danforth/Coxwell library on November 7, 2016. Twenty spellers selected from the ELP classes competed for gold, silver and bronze medals.



Client Stories

"I'm from Afghanistan. I came here because my husband sponsored me. When I first came here so difficult for me because I went outside I was scared. At first I couldn't speak English at all. I didn't like going out and talking to people or I didn't like going for shopping but fortunately and I'm thankful this organization and I found out about this school from my husband. I like this school because this school and teachers helped you adapt to life in Canada. Now I got used to life here because I have improved a lot. I want study more for childcare courses and for I good job."

- S. Oria Khil

Settlement Services

683

newcomers were connected to supports that take care of their immigration and daily needs, such as where to find a family doctor, how to fill out a form, how to enroll their children in schools and more.

1325

newcomer women got educated on important information about Ontario and how to access local services through settlement related workshops and group sessions.

56

newcomers graduated from accredited Food Handling courses.

30

newcomer women stay active through exercises in Zumba class.



Partnership with Second Harvest

Thanks to our community partner Second Harvest, a total of 23,940 pounds of food (valued at \$59,850) were distributed to 270 recently arrived immigrants and their families.



Client Stories

"I'm very happy to share my experience with Newcomer Women's Services Toronto (NEW). People at NEW are friendly, educated, and kind hearted. They patiently helped me, and welcomed foreigners. Thus, I feel Canadians are so warm and nice! Canada is such a great country to live in."

- M. Tai

"I am writing to share my appreciation for the great help and support I received from NEW. Your remarkable professional courtesy and guidance allowed me to move forward in my professional endeavors and help me feel a sense of belonging in my community. I would like to express my heartfelt thanks for your help."

- A. Nsour



Employment Services

For the past year, our employment program assisted 303 job seekers, 72% secured employment. Over 100 youth received employment training or support from NEW. In partnership with Toronto Employment and Social Services, our Self Employment through sewing program served 60 women, 76% succeeded in establishing their own business.



460 job seekers received employment support and training through NEW.



218 job seekers secured employment



45 Sewlt alumni succeeded in establishing their own business.





International Women's Day Networking Potluck

We celebrated International Women's Day with 60 members and volunteers at the IWD Celebration Potluck. Our members were invited to bring families and friends to come together, sharing homemade potluck dishes and showing supports for ending violence against women within immigrant and refugee communities. Special guest Aline Morales performed with her percussion troupe, Baque de Bamba at the event.



SheSpeaks 3: Women, Power and Change Conference

We hosted the SheSpeaks 3 Conference at CSI Annex in July, 2016. Over 50 like-minded women, girls and trans folk came together for a full-day of inspirational talks, panel discussions and sharing ideas on social justice and econo.



Girls Night Out Smoke Free Leadership Camp

Over 20 newcomer girls developed media-campaign skills and fostered a sense of positive body image at the Girls Night Out! Smoke-Free Leadership Camp. They engaged in various health promotion activities during this five-day March Break camp, such as spoken word poetry, creative art advocacy and Wen-do Women's Self-Defence classes.

ReShaped & Relmagedined Girls Fashion Job Search Camp

20 youth participated in the Girls Fashion Job Search Camp - where they took the opportunity to explore the ways fashion can be used to stop racism, homophobia and gender violence; they also gained skills they need to create their own fashion brand for social change, and toured OCAD and met OCAD professors and mentors.



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her Wendo Women's Self-
Defense course.
Congratulations!
-Arij

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Arij