

Formerly St. Christopher House

CONTACT:

Reception 416-532-4828 info@westnh.org www.westnh.org

ADMINISTRATION: 588 Queen Street West 2nd floor Toronto, ON Canada M6J 1E3

Fax 416-504-3047

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Supporter of West Neighbourhood House

Dear Supporter,

I ask you to join me in donating to the community work of West Neighbourhood House.

As the volunteer President of the Board of Directors of the House, I can assure you that donations made by you and me are used efficiently for effective results -- in both <u>personal change</u> for low-income individuals as well as social change for our whole community.

Impacts to date:

Last year, West Neighbourhood House supported over 14,000 people in their times of transition (such as unemployment) or crises (such as violent relationships). We also supported personal change with multiple opportunities for diverse individuals to learn and practice new skills (such as brain health exercises).

In addition, West Neighbourhood House participated in local community-building through initiatives such as:

- Youth Committee democracy pop-ups
- Build a Better Bloor Dufferin Residents' group

- Neighbours Helping Neighbours seniors project
- the Parkdale People's Economy

In these social change initiatives, we assist people to use their existing strengths as contributions to the broader community.

For more detailed results of the past, please check out www.westnh.org/about-us/annual-reports-and-audited-financial-statements.

Looking ahead:

West Neighbourhood House has been thinking about what we have learned from the past to prepare for the future. Our new Strategic Plan builds on our experience to test new solutions for lasting social change.

Strategic Priority #1: Innovate and design our programs to achieve the best possible outcomes for people we serve.



Community social services need research and development, just as much as any other sector, to solve stubbornly hard problems. We have seen the potential of investing in innovation. Everyone has an interest in achieving this success. Your financial support is an investment with us to navigate the uncertain futures of our communities and society.

Strategic Priority #2: Pursue new uses of West Neighbourhood House properties for community benefit.

West Neighbourhood House believes strongly in the need for community control over assets such as property owned by non-profits. At the same time, we need to maximize the value of our properties for community benefit. Specifically, we are examining the feasibility of redeveloping our large property at Dundas and Ossington for both our continued community programming and affordable housing.

Strategic Priority #3 Transform the role of the "neighbourhood house"

We all feel the changes underway in our communities and society. We see how technology has "disrupted" the labour market in many ways from small businesses to large automotive companies. We see increased concentration of wealth, a polarized public, and unsettling effects from other economic or environmental changes.

West Neighbourhood House is exploring how we can continue to be relevant and supportive of people who are most vulnerable to harm from these changes. At the same time, we want to be ready to take advantage of new opportunities, especially with technology.

In closing, I ask for your support as West Neighbourhood House prepares to meet the emerging challenges of the future. Please send your financial contribution to support the community of diverse people served by West Neighbourhood House.

Sincerely,

Earl Miller President

p.s. You can contribute to a better community with a donation to West Neighbourhood House today! You can use the prepaid postage envelope provided or donate online through www.westnh.org/donate.