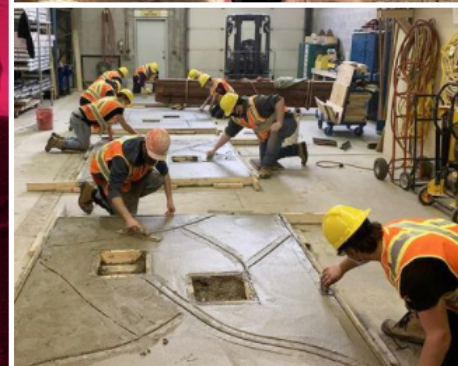


# 2022-2027 CITY OF HAMILTON YOUTH STRATEGY REPORT



Hamilton

# MESSAGE

## FROM THE HAMONTYOUTH STEERING COMMITTEE

Youth voice, engagement and leadership are central pillars of a strong community. It takes a strategic approach to ensure that youth are included in a meaningful way. Conversations about issues of civic importance need a venue where youth voice is heard and respected. Engaging with youth who have a wide variety of lived experiences requires a targeted commitment by the community and can result in numerous benefits.

The Youth Steering Committee was created almost four years ago and has provided many rewarding experiences for youth. We love that we get to meet as a diverse group of youth from across the city, learn and unlearn together, and help create that venue for youth voices to be heard. It is exciting to see our network grow, work collaboratively with city staff to identify successes and challenges and create opportunities for youth to participate in the process. We are grateful to have been actively involved at all stages in the development of the Youth Strategy. The engagement results highlight many things youth enjoy and appreciate about living in Hamilton and they also show what the city can improve on from a youth's perspective. It has been a lot of hard work, and we are so proud to be a part of the creation of Hamilton's first Youth Strategy.

We are excited for the next steps and to continue our collaboration with city staff and agency partners in helping to make Hamilton the best place to raise a child and age successfully.

### Maryam Akhtar

Former member of HWDSB Student  
Senate YSC Member since 2018



### Lillian Guy

Director of Operations Model City  
Hall YSC Member since 2021



On behalf of the membership of the Youth Steering Committee

# MESSAGE

## FROM THE MAYOR

The City of Hamilton is committed to be the best place to raise a child and age successfully. A key part of that is ensuring our youth have the necessary supports to develop in a positive and healthy way.

While we work to make our city the most youth friendly it can be, it is crucial that we include the voices of the very youth we are serving. They bring fresh ideas, and new perspectives to issues and being involved in the process gives them the opportunity to develop skills as they move forward in life.

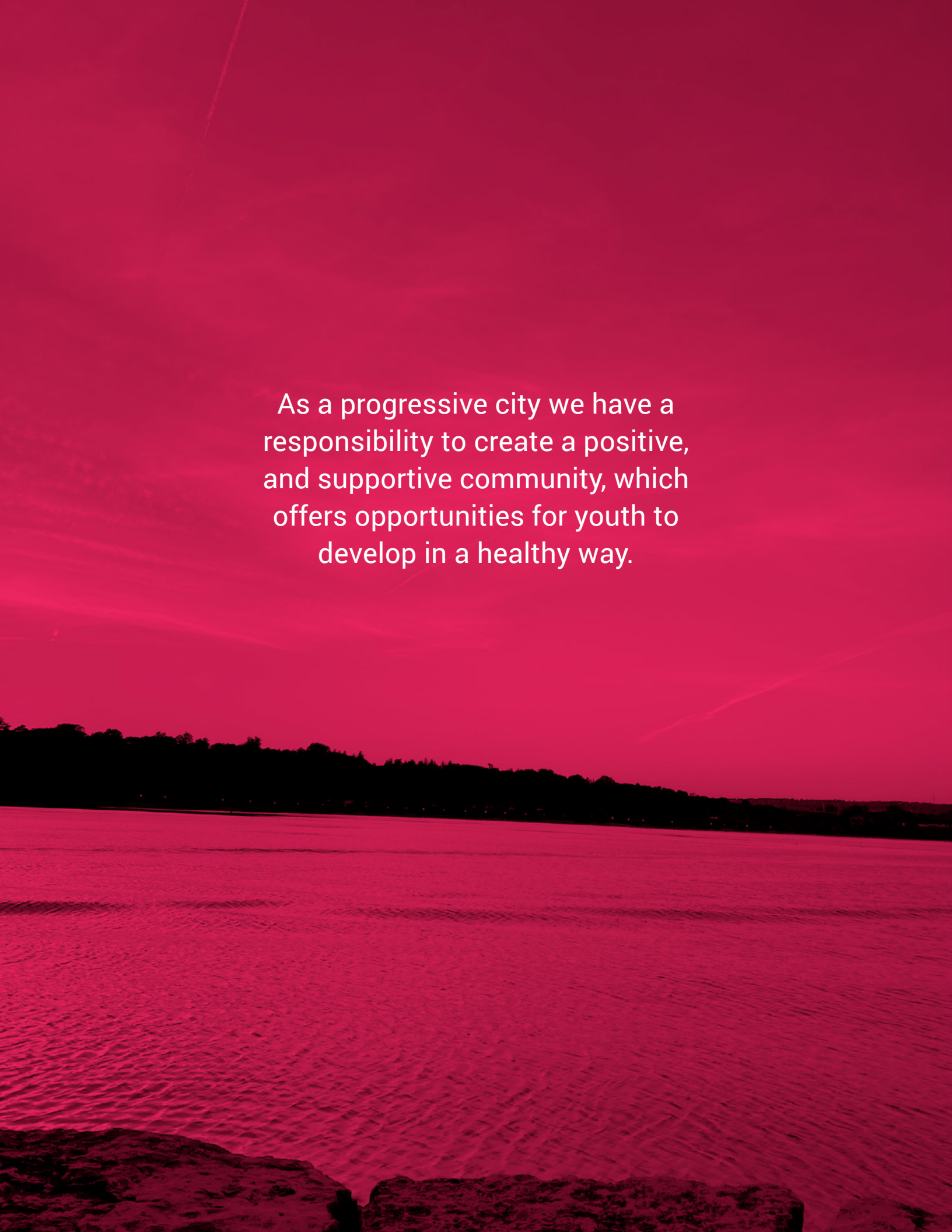
Our first youth strategy acts as a foundational piece to that work. The strategy maps out a plan for how youth voices are informing the priorities. It also makes certain that youth continue to be a part of the process moving forward.

A big thank you to all who participated, and a special thank you to the young people who worked alongside the City of Hamilton as part of the youth steering committee.



**Mayor Fred Eisenberger**





As a progressive city we have a responsibility to create a positive, and supportive community, which offers opportunities for youth to develop in a healthy way.

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2022-2027 CITY OF HAMILTON

# YOUTH STRATEGY REPORT



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# HAM YOUTH YOUTH



# 1. PROJECT SUMMARY

**We are pleased to present the first City of Hamilton Youth Strategy.**

Established in 2007, the Hamilton Youth Advisory Committee (HYAC) served as an official Advisory Committee of Council. HYAC disbanded in 2017 and Council directed staff to look at different models for the City to engage with youth. In 2018, staff began extensive engagement with youth, city staff, parents, and agency partners. The purpose of this work was to understand the priorities of youth and how to best engage them moving forward. This strategy will help to address many of the issues brought forward by the community and encompass solutions in collaboration with youth. This 5-year strategy will inform, guide and build awareness about our youth while encompassing their voice as part of the process.

Youth, parents and youth serving agency partners have all contributed to informing this work. Staff were prepared to present these findings in the spring of 2020 however the impacts of COVID-19 delayed this work. Staff and the Youth Steering Committee recommended that re-engaging with youth, parents and agency partners to review the priorities of 2018. The goal of the re-engagement was to confirm if the 2018 priorities were still relevant or did new priorities emerge due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

According to the 2016 Census, youth 15-29 make up 19.5% of Hamilton's population. Young people play a crucial role in city building. The voices of youth keep the city moving forward with fresh ideas, and new perspectives. As a progressive city we have a responsibility to create a positive, and supportive community, which offers opportunities for youth to develop in a healthy way.

## **HAMILTON'S YOUTH STRATEGY FEATURES:**

- The most important issues for youth 14-29
- An implementation plan for next steps
- Recommendations on the best ways to connect, consult, and collaborate with youth

A Youth Steering Committee was created to enable staff to collaborate and embed the youth voice into this strategy. The steering committee meets regularly and since its inception, 61 youth have participated in its monthly meetings. Currently, there are 21 youth on the committee.

The collaboration with the Youth Steering Committee led to the creation of a new youth dedicated brand, HamOntYouth and a youth dedicated Instagram page called @HamOntYouth was developed. This provides a youth friendly platform to connect as identified by our members. Youth Steering Committee members collaborate with staff on content and social media campaigns featured on the page. The Youth Steering Committee provides input and advice on the engagement process.

A newly formed integrated staff team was also created to support this important work. This team includes a youth dedicated Ontario Works Case Manager, Xperience Annex Navigator, Project Manager of Strategic Youth Initiatives and two Learning, Earning and Parenting/Youth Coordinators. This staff team also includes four part-time Youth Engagers that are hired on 6-month contracts to engage peer to peer and represent youth at various City tables. The staff team creates a monthly newsletter that goes out to agency partners, to inform them of youth events and initiatives that support youth in Hamilton.

The methodology used to inform the Youth Strategy included surveys and focus groups. In total, 1,043 youth surveys, 196 agency partner surveys, and 177 parent surveys were completed in the 2018 and 2021 engagement process. There were 583 total participants in our focus groups.

While there are similarities in the priorities identified during the 2018 and 2021 engagement, the order of importance did shift, and new priorities emerged. The following priority themes were identified:

- **Accessing Mental Health and Addiction Supports**
  - Opportunities to improve access to mental health support, alcohol and substance use among youth.
- **Accessing Safe and Affordable Housing**
  - Opportunities to improve affordability of housing.
  - Opportunities to improve supports to youth who are homeless or at-risk of homelessness.
- **Accessing Employment and Training**
  - Opportunities to improve access to sustainable job opportunities and post-secondary training.
- **Enhance Safety and a Sense of Inclusion**
  - Opportunities to improve the fostering of more cultural awareness.
  - Continue community conversations on how to address guns, gangs and violence.
- **Enhance Youth Engagement & Leadership**
  - Opportunities to improve youth voice in city planning and decision making.
  - Continue to connect youth to services.

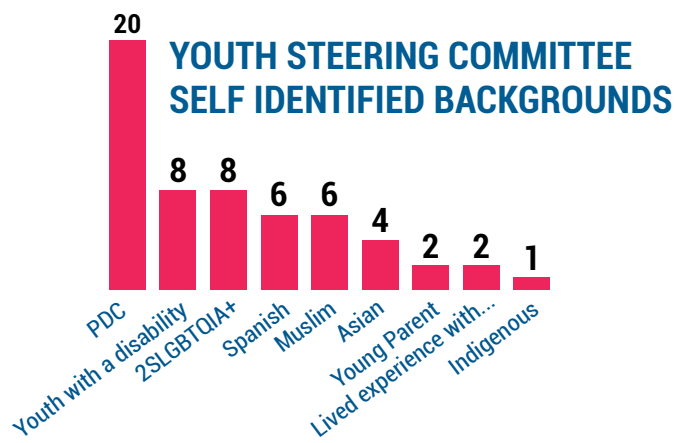
This report will summarize the findings from the re-engagement and include recommendations for addressing the priorities that were identified through the process.



## 2. YOUTH STEERING COMMITTEE

The Youth Steering Committee is designed to be easily accessible to youth who live, work, or play in Hamilton. All youth are welcome to participate and there are no minimum attendance requirements to maintain membership. The meetings are a safe space for youth to share their opinion, to learn and to have fun. The Youth Steering Committee allows City staff and youth to collaborate on:

1. Effective techniques and locations to connect, consult and collaborate.
2. Help make evidence-based recommendations on youth initiatives.
3. Collaborate with City staff on creating youth friendly city and community initiatives
4. Identify projects that would make Hamilton a more youth-friendly city.



Youth Steering Committee Meeting – July 2018

Currently the Youth Steering Committee has 21 members who meet monthly. They contribute to the ongoing development of the strategy and collaborate with other City departments.

Some examples of how the Youth Steering Committee supported this work include:

1. Creating the HamOntYouth Brand
2. COVID-19 Youth Campaigns
3. Voter Experience Project
4. Bayfront Industrial Strategy Youth Focus Groups
5. Bell Let's Talk Day
6. HSR Re(Engage)
7. Celebrating National Youth Week

Moving forward, staff will continue to collaborate with the Youth Steering Committee on identified priorities and designing an evaluation.

### 3. HAMONTYOUTH

**JOIN US  
TODAY BY**

**becoming a follower of  
[@HamOntYouth](#)**



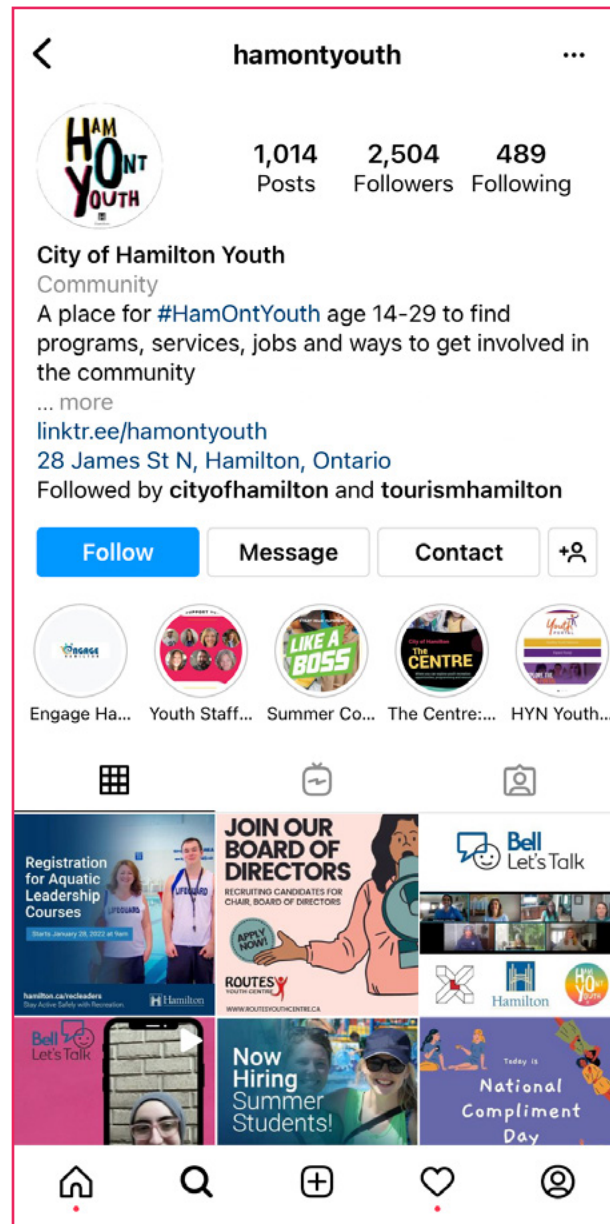
Youth Steering Committee members identified an Instagram as the best platform to share information with youth. To support the development of this online channel, it was suggested that a youth dedicated brand be created. City staff consulted with the City’s Communications Section who supported the concept of a youth dedicated brand. This brand also supports youth strategy promotional materials, is youth friendly and gives an identity to youth in the City.

The HamOntYouth brand and guidelines were created by a member of the Committee and have been utilized across all promotional materials. Moving forward, this brand can be used by other City departments when planning youth initiatives.

The HamOntYouth Instagram page currently has over 2,500 followers. It highlights youth opportunities, services, programs, and achievements.

The Social Media Committee works with City staff to support @HamOntYouth. This sub-committee of the Youth Steering Committee has the following objectives:

1. Provide advice on effective promotion for community initiatives.
2. Determine @HamOntYouth social media campaigns, i.e. Vaccine Confidence for Youth, Black History Month.
3. Set target goals for number of followers, reach, and interactions.



ENVIRONMENTAL SCAN

# HAM HO<sup>NT</sup> YOUTH



## 1. WHAT WE KNOW ABOUT YOUTH



**104,565**  
RESIDENTS AGE 15-29  
(Census Data 2016)

**861**

PATIENTS SEEN BY  
Hamilton Health Sciences  
Mental Health Outpatient  
Services Hamilton  
(2020 Mental Health Outpatient)



**25% of 338**  
INDIVIDUALS SURVEYED  
WERE YOUTH AGE 16-30  
EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS  
(2018 Point in Time Count  
Homeless Survey)

**9.9%**

YOUTH UNEMPLOYMENT RATE  
AS OF NOVEMBER 15, 2021  
(Workforce Planning Hamilton)



**39**  
NUMBER OF YOUTH COUNCILS  
AND COMMITTEES IDENTIFIED  
IN YOUTH STRATEGY  
ENVIRONMENTAL SCAN

**344**

YOUTH 12-17  
INVOLVED IN VIOLENT CRIMES  
(2020 Youth Crime Report -  
Hamilton Police)



### Top 3 things

YOUTH RANKED THAT THEY LOVED  
ABOUT HAMILTON

- Parks, Trails and Waterfalls
- Sports and Recreation
- Multi-Cultural Festival and Events



## 2. WHAT RESEARCH DID WE DO?

To help inform the strategy, a literature review was completed. This was conducted to give staff a better understanding of how other municipalities and government agencies work with youth.

### Youth Engagement Best Practices

- Reviewed Hamilton's Public Engagement Charter
- As identified by "**Roger Hart's Ladder to Youth Participation**"<sup>1</sup> shared decision making with adults is best practice. City staff implemented this model by working alongside 61 individual youth with the Youth Steering Committee. This best practice informs the recommendation for continuing the Youth Steering Committee as an engagement advisory committee.
- Parks and Recreation Ontario: **Positive Youth Development Training**<sup>2</sup> states that the most effective way to engage youth is "Peer to Peer".
- The Federation of Canadian Municipalities "**Youth Engagement Handbook**"<sup>3</sup> identifies best practices for local government to connect youth to public service. It recommends having a Youth Advisory Council to give youth a better understanding on how local government works while developing their skills for future careers.
- Reviewed **Ontario Stepping Up Strategic Framework for Youth**<sup>4</sup>, **Canada's National Youth Policy**<sup>5</sup> and 10 Municipal Youth Strategies to understand how to collaborate with youth on civic issues.
- Reviewed "**Hamilton Millennials and Community Belonging – Preliminary findings from the 2017 Hamilton Millennial Survey**"<sup>6</sup> to inform precarious employment within Millennials

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<sup>1</sup> Hart, R. A. (1992). Children's Participation: from tokenism to citizenship. Florence: UNICEF International Child Development Centre.

<sup>2</sup> Parks and Recreation Ontario. (2014). Positive Youth Development Training. Toronto, Ontario: Parks and Recreation Ontario.

<sup>3</sup> Federation of Canadian Municipalities. (2016). –Youth Engagement Handbook [https://data.fcm.ca/documents/reports/FCM/Municipal\\_Youth\\_Engagement\\_Handbook\\_EN.pdf](https://data.fcm.ca/documents/reports/FCM/Municipal_Youth_Engagement_Handbook_EN.pdf).

Retrieved from [www.fcm.ca](http://www.fcm.ca): [https://data.fcm.ca/documents/reports/FCM/Municipal\\_Youth\\_Engagement\\_Handbook\\_EN.pdf](https://data.fcm.ca/documents/reports/FCM/Municipal_Youth_Engagement_Handbook_EN.pdf)

<sup>4</sup> Province of Ontario (2014). Stepping Up – A Strategic Framework to Help Ontario's Youth Succeed

<http://www.children.gov.on.ca/htdocs/English/documents/youthopportunities/steppingup/steppingup.pdf>

Retrieved from [www.gov.on.ca](http://www.gov.on.ca)

<http://www.children.gov.on.ca/htdocs/English/documents/youthopportunities/steppingup/steppingup.pdf>

<sup>5</sup> Government of Canada (2020). Canada's Youth Policy

<https://www.canada.ca/content/dam/y-j/documents/YP-ENG.pdf>

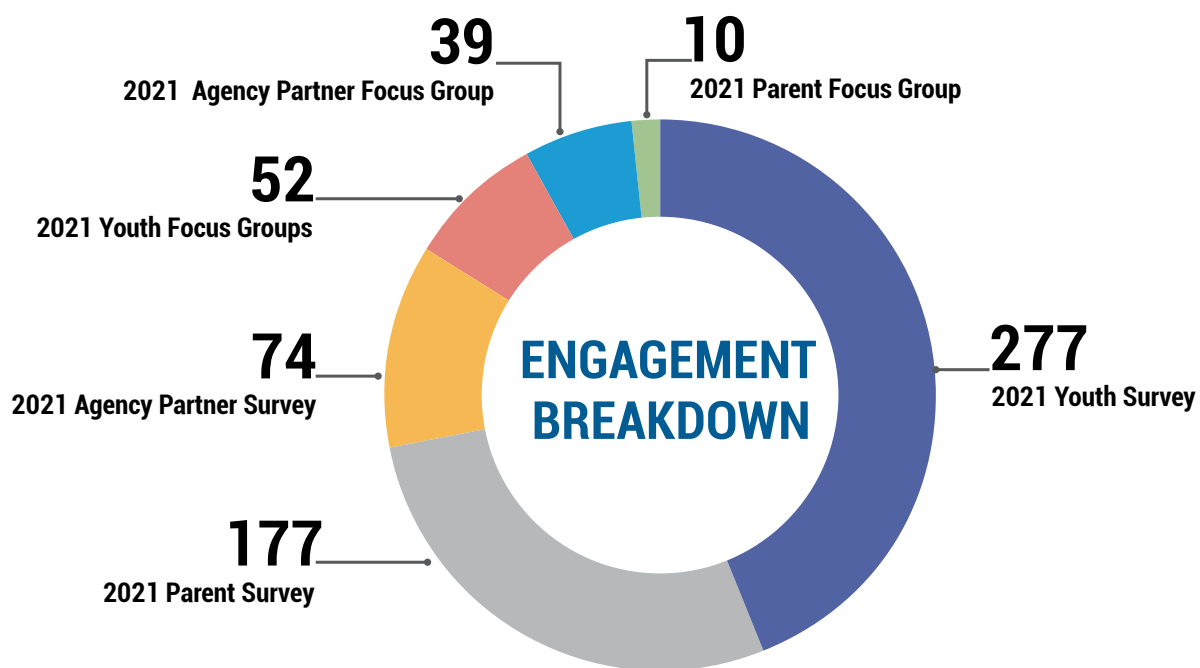
Retrieved from [www.canada.ca](http://www.canada.ca)

<https://www.canada.ca/content/dam/y-j/documents/YP-ENG.pdf>

<sup>6</sup> Martin, Jeffrey (2017) Hamilton Millennials and Community Belonging: Preliminary findings from the 2017 Hamilton Millennial Survey – Hamilton Community Foundation

### 3. WHAT ENGAGEMENT DID WE DO?

As part of the 2021 youth re-engagement, surveys and focus groups were developed to collect feedback from youth, parents and community stakeholders about youth-related issues in Hamilton. The engagement collected some information about what people love about Hamilton, how they like to receive information and challenges faced by youth, parents and agency partners. In total, 629 youth, parents, and agency partners participated in the process.



The 2021 Youth Re-engagement Survey Summary can be found as **Appendix “B” to Report CES15056(d)**.

There were 74 youth serving agency partners that were engaged. These 74 agencies offer more than 900 programs for youth 14-29. Services are provided to a range of different populations including 2SLGBTQIA+, Indigenous, Black, Newcomer and those needing mental health supports. For more information on youth-serving agency partners programs and services, see **Appendix “D” to Report CES15056(d)** – Agency Partners Programs and Services.

## 4. WHAT WE LEARNED ABOUT YOUTH ENGAGEMENT

### Benefits to Engagement

- Peer-to-peer engagement allows youth to be more comfortable, which leads to open and honest dialogue.
- Youth want to engage their peers and to be engaged by their peers.
- Offering youth leadership opportunities builds confidence, new interests, helps them develop skills, enables career exploration and assists in enhancing resume.
- Using youth-friendly language provides greater appeal to young people when promoting programs, services and promotional materials.
- Ease of access to committees, hosting either virtual or in-person allows young people to participate when their schedule permits.
- The Youth Steering Committee provides an opportunity for them to collaborate with internal departments on youth-targeted events and initiatives.
- Youth learn from staff and staff learn from youth.

### Barriers to Engagement

- Young people have many responsibilities including school, work, self-care, family responsibilities and extracurricular activities.
- Many times, youth are expected to lend their talents for free, and lack the tools needed to engage peer-to-peer.
- A generational gap in how technology is used exists. e.g. Youth prefer text and service providers favour email.
- The size of the city creates an obstacle for accessing youth services.
- Large turnover rates in staff supporting youth can lead to fragmented relationships and having to tell their stories multiple times.
- Virtual burn-out due to COVID-19.
- Not everyone has access to the technology or the digital literacy skills needed to engage virtually.



## 5. PRIORITIES FOR YOUTH 14-29 IN HAMILTON

Engagement in 2018 and re-engagement in 2021 left staff with two sets of priorities. Per best practice, the priorities were reviewed by both the Youth Steering Committee and the Staff Steering Committee. As a result, a new set of top five priorities are being recommended for implementation.

The top five priority themes in the 2018 engagement were: access to mental health and addiction, youth services predominantly found in the downtown core, coordination of promotion for programs and services, lack of transit for rural and suburban youth and cost of living to high for youth.

As part of the 2021 re-engagement process, mental health and employment remain high priority areas. The issues of homelessness, affordable housing, addiction supports and fostering safety have emerged as the top five priority themes. While the 2018 priorities are still important, they are no longer within the top five.

For a full breakdown of data see **Appendix B to Report CES15056(d) - 2021 Youth Re-Engagement Summary**

The emergence of virtual programs and services have made travel around the community less of a priority for youth. No matter where they are in the city, they can access needed services online. While online services provide convenience, there is still a need for in person programming and services.

2021 TOP 5 PRIORITY THEMES	
1	Access to Mental Health and Addiction Supports
2	Access to Employment and Training
3	Access to Safe and Affordable Housing
4	Enhance Safety and Sense of Inclusion
5	Enhance Youth Engagement and Leadership



National Youth Policy Consultation

RECOMMENDATIONS TO  
ADDRESS IDENTIFIED PRIORITIES

# HAM YOUTH



## 1. IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

As a result of the environmental scan, the top five priority themes were identified. Objectives and key stakeholders are attached to each priority theme to help inform the implementation process. This implementation plan is dependent on collective ownership across the community. It will require youth, parents, City staff, and agency partners working collaboratively to address the priority themes.

Collaboration is a key component for success moving forward, as we are stronger together. Establishing these structures allows for specific priority themes to be discussed, implemented and monitored.

The following action items will assist in the implementation of all the priority themes:

1. Continue the development of the Youth Steering Committee
2. Continue the Staff Steering Committee to ensure cross departmental collaboration
3. Organize an Agency Partner Steering Committee
4. Extend and continue the role of the Youth Engager
5. Promote and build capacity for the City of Hamilton Youth Team
6. Design an evaluation framework
7. Complete an annual progress report



Fatima and Daughter -  
National Youth Week Campaign

## 2. ADDRESSING PRIORITY THEMES

### a. Accessing Mental Health and Addiction Supports

- **92%** of total respondents indicated improved access to mental health supports was needed
- **85%** of total respondents indicated the need to increase access to addiction supports

### b. Accessing Employment and Training

- **85%** of total respondents indicated a need to increase employment opportunities for youth
- **77%** indicated a need for improved wages for entry-level jobs
- **82%** of respondents indicated a need for improved access to financial supports or subsidized training for post-secondary education

### c. Access to safe and affordable housing

- **90%** of respondents indicated a need to increase supports to youth who are homeless or at-risk of homelessness
- **88%** of respondents indicating a need to increase access to safe and affordable housing

### d. Enhance safety and a sense of inclusion

- **70%** of respondents indicated a need to foster more cultural awareness and sensitivity in the community
- **345** youth aged 12-17 were involved in violent crimes in 2020

### e. Youth Engagement and Leadership

- **79%** of respondents indicated the need to increase opportunities for youth to voice their ideas and opinions
- **77%** of respondents indicated the need for increased opportunities for youth to participate in decision – making

**For full data report see Appendix B to Report CES15056(d))**

## 2a. Accessing Mental Health and Addictions Supports



### OBJECTIVES

<b>1</b>	Improve access to mental health supports
<b>2</b>	Increase supports for youth drug and alcohol use
<b>3</b>	Prevent youth drug and alcohol abuse

### KEY STAKEHOLDERS

<b>1</b>	Youth Mental Health and Substance Use Organizations	<b>5</b>	Public Health Nurses in School
<b>2</b>	Youth 14-29 with lived experience of mental health and addiction challenges	<b>6</b>	School Boards
<b>3</b>	Hamilton Drug Strategy	<b>7</b>	Health Care Providers
<b>4</b>	Public Health	<b>8</b>	Office of the General Manager, Healthy and Safe Communities Department

### Next Steps:

- Youth staff team will continue to sit on Hamilton Drug Strategy Prevention Committee.
- Bring youth to the table to collaborate with staff and provide input.
- Engage youth to identify barriers and challenges to accessing mental health, drug and alcohol supports.
- Identify new programs and existing initiatives that can be enhanced to help youth accessing mental health and substance use support.
- Identify successful models for preventing drug and alcohol use in youth.
- Collaborate with key stakeholders.

## 2b. Accessing Employment and Training

### OBJECTIVES



1	Increase employment opportunities for youth
2	Improve wages of entry-level jobs
3	Improve access to financial supports for post-secondary education and training

### KEY STAKEHOLDERS

1	Youth 14-29	7	YouthCan Collaborative
2	Challenge 2025	8	Youth Employment Network
3	Skills Development Flagship	9	Planning and Economic Development
4	Ontario Works	10	Hamilton Business Centre
5	Post -secondary Institutions	11	Employment Ontario Agencies
6	School Boards	12	Hamilton Fire Department

### Next Steps:

- Identify barriers and challenges to youth 14-29 accessing employment in Hamilton.
- Identify training needs of youth 14-29 in Hamilton.
- Identify new programs and existing initiatives that can be enhanced to help youth 14-29 access employment and training opportunities.
- Identify successful models, and policies to incentivize for businesses entry level jobs for youth under 29.
- Collaborate with key stakeholders.



## 2c. Access to Safe and Affordable Housing

OBJECTIVES	
1	Improve youth access to safe and affordable housing
2	Increase supports for youth who are homeless or at-risk of homelessness

KEY STAKEHOLDERS			
1	Youth with lived experience of homelessness	6	Street Youth Planning Collaborative
2	Housing Services Division	7	Emergency Shelters and Drop-Ins
3	Housing Help Centre	8	Ontario Works
4	Subsidized Housing Providers	9	Landlords
5	Office of the General Manager, Healthy and Safe Communities Department	10	Hamilton Fire Department

### Next Steps:

- **Housing**
  - Identify the number of youth specific housing units.
  - Identify the barriers youth 14-29 face accessing safe and affordable housing.
  - Explore successful models to provide youth access to safe and affordable housing.
- **Homelessness**
  - Youth Staff team to continue to sit on the Street Youth Planning Collaborative.
  - Understand what causes youth to become homeless here in Hamilton.
  - Understand what challenges youth face in shelters.
  - Explore successful models, initiatives that could be enhanced for supporting youth who are homeless or at-risk of homelessness.
  - Support the youth response to the Point in Time Connection Homelessness Survey.
- **Collaborate with key stakeholders**

## 2d. Enhance Safety and a Sense of Inclusion

OBJECTIVES	
1	Foster more cultural awareness and sensitivity in the community
2	Decrease youth involved with crimes associated to guns, gangs and violence
3	Mobilize community to collaborate on prevention of youth violence



KEY STAKEHOLDERS			
1	Black, Indigenous, People of Color (BIPOC) and Racialized Youth 14-29	11	Hamilton Fire Department
2	Youth 14-29 with a disability	12	Child Protection Services
3	Youth 14-29 who have experience in the justice system	13	City of Hamilton <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◦ Government and Community Relations</li> <li>◦ HIPC (Hamilton Immigration Partnership Council)</li> <li>◦ Office of the General Manager, Healthy and Safe Communities Department</li> <li>◦ Strategic Partnerships and Communications Division</li> <li>◦ 2SLGBTQIA+ Advisory Committee</li> <li>◦ Indigenous Relations Team</li> </ul>
4	2SLGBTQIA+ Youth 14-29		
5	Indigenous Youth 14-29		
6	Queer and Trans Youth Collaborative		
7	Hamilton Centre for Civic Inclusion		
8	Street Youth Planning Collaborative		
9	School Boards		
10	Hamilton Police Services		



## Next Steps:

- **Collaborate with staff from Community Safety and Well Being Plan on Youth Guns, Gangs and Violence**
  - Engage key stakeholders and youth 14-29 with lived experience to understand why youth are involved with guns, gangs and violence.
  - Identify models that have been successful in prevention of youth violence.
  - Identify models that have been successful in supporting youth exiting gangs.
- **Collaborate with staff from Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Strategy**
  - Engaging with youth from the BIPOC, racialized, Indigenous, 2SLGBTQIA+ and disabled communities.
  - Identify barriers, challenges facing youth from these communities.
  - Create a list of training resources for youth serving staff to participate in.
  - Identify models that have been successful in creating more inclusive communities for youth.
- **Collaborate with key stakeholders**



## 2e. Enhance Youth Engagement and Leadership Opportunities

### OBJECTIVES



1	Increase opportunities for youth to voice their ideas and opinions
2	Increase opportunities for youth to participate in decision making
3	Increase opportunities for youth to develop leadership skills

### KEY STAKEHOLDERS

1	All youth 14-29	5	Elections Office
2	HamOntYouth Steering Committee	6	School Boards
3	Model City Hall	7	City of Hamilton Recreation
4	City Manager's Office – Community Initiatives	8	Youth Serving Agency Partners

### Next Steps:

- Encourage and recruit youth to Youth Steering Committee.
- Provide leadership training for Youth Steering Committee.
- Host an Annual Youth Summit to engage with youth and partners.
- Use HamOntYouth brand for all corporate youth initiatives
- Enhance and promote youth initiatives encouraging youth voice such as Model City Hall and CityLab.
- Collaborate with City staff and agency partners on youth programs and initiatives requiring a youth voice.



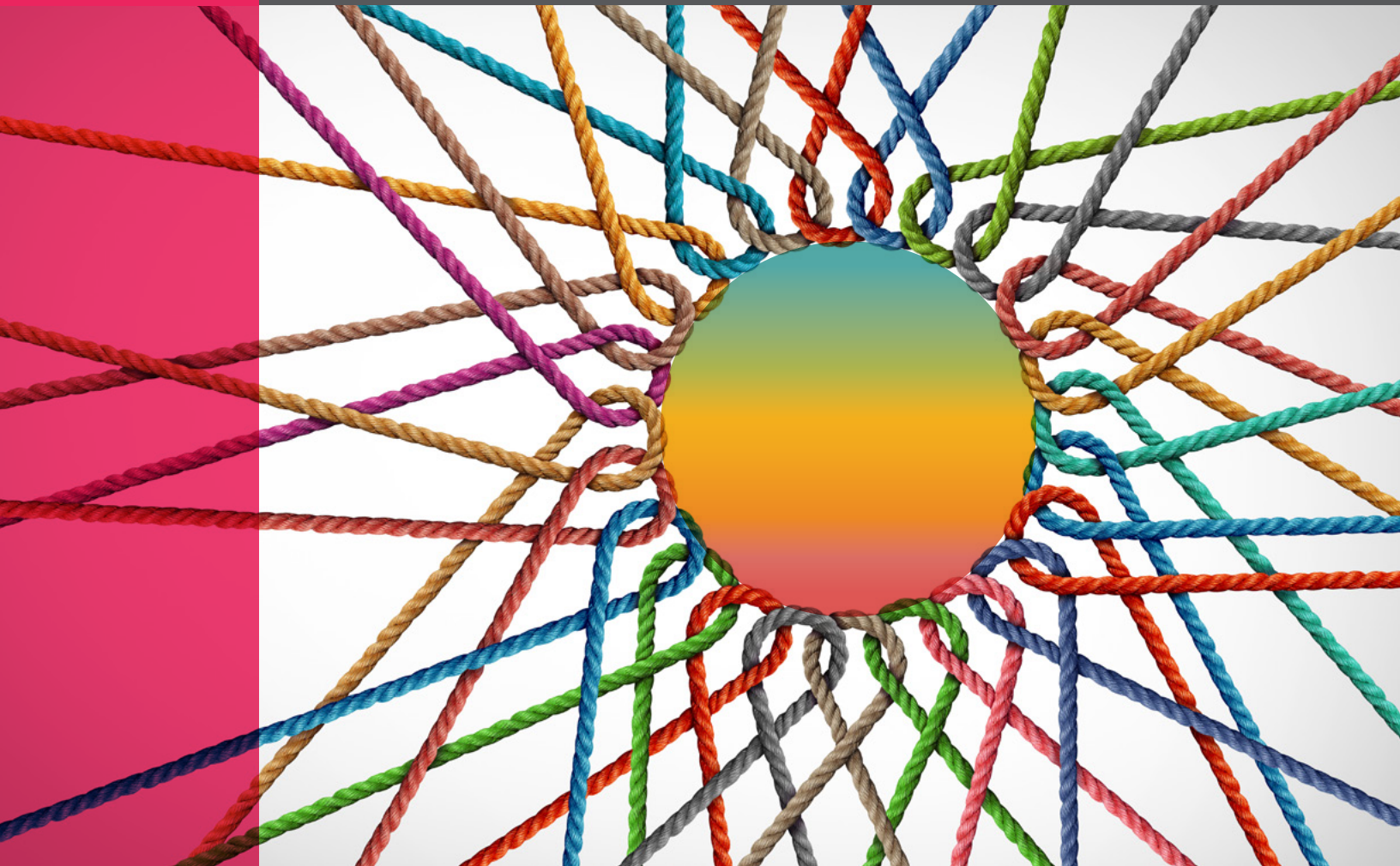
Youth Engagers - Engaging at Library - Jan. 2020



Youth Engagers - 2019

CONCLUSION

# HAM HO<sup>NT</sup> YOUTH



## CONCLUSION

It has been an exciting journey to create Hamilton's first youth strategy. Working with our Youth Steering Committee has helped members build confidence, spark new interests, develop skills while also enhancing their resumes. The City of Hamilton Youth Team embraces their ideas and appreciates their contributions to ensure we are taking a youth friendly approach. Youth learn from staff and staff learn from the youth.

We look forward to working with all youth, parents, youth serving agencies and community partners as we develop the implementation work plan and evaluation framework. We committed to completing an annual progress report back to Council and the community.

“IT TAKES A VILLAGE  
TO RAISE A CHILD”

SPECIAL THANKS

# HAM HO<sup>NT</sup> YOUTH



**THANK YOU TO ALL THOSE YOUTH STEERING COMMITTEE MEMBERS AND ADULT ALLIES WHO HELPED DEVELOP THIS STRATEGY**

**Youth Members**

Amr Abdel-Latiff	Tyler Fournier	Ilecia Martins
Abdullah Abdi	Jaden Fraser	TJ McGibbon
Asefe Adbodunrin	Cam Galindo	Cassandra Mead
Maryam Akhtar	Yusuf Garaad	Megan Miller
Zahra Akhtar	Melissa Graham	Faisal Mohammed
Patrice Aldave	Lillian Guy	Nicola Munarolo
Linda Al-Johani	Timothy Hewitson	Eli Nolet
Nuha Al-Sakkaf	Landon Hewitt	Andrew Pidsadny
Ashik Ashik	Karrissa Horan- LaRoche	Jorge Polo
Jimeca Atkinson	Fartun Hussein	Hale Poole
Jenna Azzam	James Hutton	Avery Rogan
Raghad Azzam	Josh Kiena	Amy Smith
Stephanie Bertolo	Aaron Kuhnen	Laura Torres
Mymoon Bhuiyan	Latisha Laing	Ryan Tse
Sheldon Combs	Michelle Leach	Leah Yaromich
Amanda Crocker	Lydia Loo	Jenny Zhao
Hector Diaz-Sanchez	Alexa Luckie	Alyssa Zinley
Marvel Ekwuribe	Ryan Luong	
Jessica Fitchett	Radu Lupascu	

**Adult Allies**

Nadia Badke	Erin Goetz	Michelle Williams
Sonya Baldwin	Irene Heffernan	Jesse Williamson
Brenda Bax	Paul Johnson	Louisa Wong
Rob Brown	Jo-Anne Kirkwood	
Jessica Chase	Grace Mater	
Christopher Cutler	Heather McCully	
Al Fletcher	Michelle Neuman	

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