

2011/2012 Annual Report



*The Place ...
For New Beginnings*



MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

On behalf of the Board of Directors, Management, Staff, and most important the youth we serve, we would like to present you to the Saskatoon Downtown Youth Centre Inc./EGADZ 2011/2012 Annual Report. Through the dedication, commitment and hard work of EGADZ staff, board of directors, funders, and so many business and private individuals, we are able to offer hard to serve youth an opportunity for personal growth and a place to feel safe. Often, in an economic boom disadvantaged youth get left in the background as society is moving forward at such a fast pace. It is our role as advocates, educators, and support persons, to ensure they have the same opportunity and have the ability to share in the prosperity of this great province.

It is our role to continue to be involved in the community through presentations and tours to schools, service clubs, government and non-government agencies, private donors, so they can be educated on the impact of the economic boom, and possible solutions that can be created and maintained for disadvantaged youth.

We need to thank The Government of Canada, The Province of Saskatchewan, The City of Saskatoon, Corporate and Private Donors, as without this support EGADZ would not be able to carry out the important work needed to move youth along to independence. This year the report is focused on the importance of making the investments towards the future of our children and sharing in the successes as a Province.

Our Vision, Values and Mission Statement is as follows:

Vision

The Saskatoon Downtown Youth Centre Inc.-EGADZ is a community based interagency organization that provides resources and actively supports services that empower "hard to serve" youth to help themselves reach their full potential. The Saskatoon Downtown Youth Centre Inc.-EGADZ provides a safe acceptable place for "hard to serve" youth with links to their families, with support of the community. The Saskatoon Downtown Youth Centre Inc.-EGADZ believes in having youth involved in expressing their needs and determining services they require in order to meet them is paramount.

Values

- We value youth and their potential including their right to be heard and to self-determination.
- We value a holistic approach to seeking harmony and balance in the lives of individuals.
- We value community support and assistance in addressing the needs of "hard to serve" youth.
- We believe in basic human rights and equality rights regardless of race, religion, gender, ability, age, and socio-cultural status.
- We value staff, volunteers, and board members.
- We believe in respect for others, property, and the environment.

Mission Statement

Our mission is to encourage "hard to serve" youth in the city of Saskatoon to make choices that improve their quality of life through the provision of direct services and an inter-agency approach.

Please feel free to visit our website at **www.egadz.ca** to more information on the structure and services we provide.





DROP-IN CENTRE 2011/12

The Main Floor area at EGADZ is the hub of activity where the youth come and hang out outside of school hours, but behind the scenes it is much more. For many of our youth, it is the place where they begin to build relationships with staff and gain the confidence to start accessing supports. Through this approach it will help build the foundation for real and positive change in their lives. The Drop –In Centre is a safe, supported environment where the youth can participate in activities, get to know the staff, meet friends, or just have somewhere positive to be. Emergency services are also provided during the day as needed.

The EGADZ Drop-In functions as the place for youth where they can hang out and be themselves. All activities at EGADZ are based on youth's input, interests and needs. Our main goal is to provide a safe environment where the youth can drop in and hang out, and balance that with giving them information, support, and positive opportunities that allow them to grow as individuals. Most of the Programs within EGADZ are located around the Drop In area where the youth hang out. Youth have a chance to see and get to understand the benefits of our Programs and the staff who facilitate them. This increases the opportunities for the youth to successfully access programs, as well as contributes to the program's success.

The Drop-In program is part of the continuum and utilizes the following:

The Main Floor is a large open space with many recreational activities available for youth which includes:

- Tables and chairs, games and cards.
- A foosball table, pool table, comfortable furniture and a stereo system.
- T.V.'s for movies or video games for youth to enjoy.
- Industry Canada funded Community Access Program where youth can utilize computers and surf the net through high speed connections.
- A large parking lot is located on the north side of the building and is used for outside activities such as basketball, sidewalk games, artwork and large gatherings in the summer.
- A large space downstairs the youth use for floor hockey, archery, self defense, dance, yoga, ceremonies.
- A multitude of sports equipment is available for activities; bikes, rollerblades, ball equipment, sledding.
- Posters and calendars of events and happenings, in addition to youth artwork, decorate the walls throughout the building.

The Youth Centre has a kitchen on the main floor which is coordinated by the youth workers and a kitchen support worker. The kitchen is utilized by all the various programs throughout EGADZ. Another main function of the kitchen is to provide a nutritious meal every day at 5pm for the youth. In 2011/2012, the EGADZ supper program provided 5601 meals. This translates to an average of 17 kids per day, as well as approximately 1327 snacks. The youth are expected to contribute by assisting with clean-up; however, many of the youth have begun to attend regularly to assist with meal preparation on a volunteer basis. For many of the youth this is their main source of nutrition in any given day.

This past year has shown that youth are in need of supports throughout the day and there is increasing demand for the youth workers to advocate and assist the youth outside of the Centre. Many of the youth who access the Centre face various barriers that prevent them from regularly attending appointments, getting into school, attending court and justice appointments, seeking medical help, or having a trusted person to help them through crisis situations. The youth workers are often the people that these youth reach out to for help. This past year the youth workers assisted youth with advocacy and support outside of the Centre 492 times.

Once a relationship is formed at the Drop-In Centre it allows the youth a chance to become comfortable with the youth workers, who can then engage in one-on-one counseling, advocacy and referrals to programs and resources within EGADZ and also the community. Some of the needs of this population addressed regularly are food, housing, education, mental health, physical health, advocacy, and lack of recreation opportunities.

DROP-IN SERVICES

Advocacy – 136

Referrals – 25

(Income Security, Legal Aid, Child Advocate, Addictions, other EGADZ programs are just a few examples)

Housing Assistance – 98

One on One – 159

Bus Passes earned – 18

(Youth can work hours for bus passes, for example, working in the clothing depot, scrubbing walls/floors, breaking boxes, etc)

Clothing Depot – 523

Condoms – 104

Emergency Baby Supplies – 288

Emergency Food Packs – 255

Employment Services – 128

(example; resume writing, classified use, transportation, encouragement and conflict resolution)

First Aid – 51

Furniture/House wares - 245

Income Tax Assistance – 26

Laundry – 85

Personal Hygiene – 332

Information – 196

Medical Appointments - 104

Transportation – 618

Case Conference – 13

Case Planning – 181

Court Advocacy and Support – 68

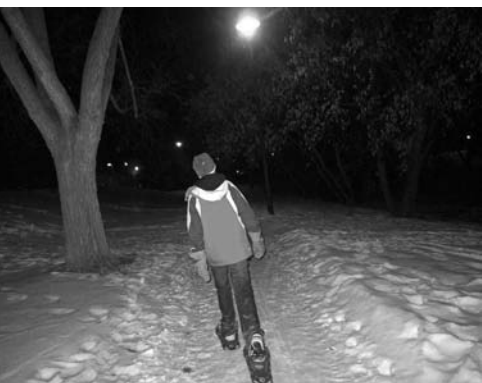
Crisis Counseling – 71

AGE OF CONTACTS 2011/12

Age group	# of contacts
5 & Under	571
6-11	107
12-13	517
14-15	1657
16-17	4254
18-19	2554
20 & Up	1321
Total	10981

DROP-IN ATTENDANCE 2011/12

Month	Attendance	Daily Average
April	809	31
May	856	33
June	973	37
July	879	34
August	871	32
September	914	35
October	1121	43
November	1042	40
December	909	36
January	842	32
February	814	33
March	951	35
Total	10981	35



HIGHLIGHTS IN 2011/12

For the past couple years, EGADZ has had the luxury of a camp at one of our Saskatchewan lakes. Thanks to a private funder, the youth get to spend time at the lake, participating in numerous summer activities, from kayaking and baseball, to fire building and camping, away from the pressures of the city. This spot is situated on 5 acres with camp sites, a cookhouse, and ball diamonds. This is very valuable to the youth and is a highlight of their summer.

Thanks to the generosity of Canadian Tire, the youth had access to season tickets to the Blades again this year. These have become a favorite outing of the youth and they are really starting to take an interest in the Blades as a team.

One of our youth workers has donated blood for years. One day one of the youth was asking questions about why and how. That youth decided to learn what it was like to be a blood donor. Since this event there are now a group of five girls that donate blood on a regular basis.

The EGADZ Christmas Party on December 20th, which was an invite only party for Youth who regularly attend EGADZ. The party started with a meal, and then followed up with games, where they could earn tickets which they used to bid on auction items or have the opportunity to buy gifts for loved ones. The auction store added an air of fun and excitement to the evening. Santa came and every Youth received a gift and a stocking. The next night was an opportunity for the youth to bring their parents and families to join them in a meal provided by the Friendship Inn. There were 112 Youth who attend the party and receive a gift. There was additionally another support for families/community that was attended by 158 people.

Through the generous support of the YWCA and YMCA, EGADZ was able to provide Y-passes to youth that afforded them access to the gym, pool and weight room at these facilities. This year, 176 passes were provided.

EGADZ has been able to register and support youth in organized sports through the financial assistance of Canadian Tire's Jump Start Program. Such funding generously covers registration costs and essential equipment and gear. EGADZ staff support the youth in these endeavors by providing transportation to and from events that lends encouragement they may not get elsewhere. During the past year EGADZ was able to start a project on Saturdays that exposed youth to organized sporting opportunities in the community. For ten weeks staff took two groups of youth out to different activities each Saturday that assisted 68 youth to participate in organized sport and recreation activities in 2011/12.

One of the main focuses of staff for 2011/2012 has been education and the importance of appropriate placement as a large part of the formula for youth retention. Staff assisted 192 youth with school related challenges. This included assisting with registration, working on behavioral challenges, transportation to school, school supplies, alarm clocks and advocacy within the school. As an incentive for attending and working at school a monthly draw was held for youth appropriate items. A "Wall of Dreams" was constructed as a visual means for youth to understand the importance of education in relation to employment/career opportunities which translated to income/lifestyle opportunities.

OUTCOMES OF 2011/12

A testimonial from a new mother, who is 16 year old, has recently left a bad situation with a boyfriend and is now in a My Home.

"EGADZ has helped me stay out of trouble, through the years that I have come here, helped me through my family problems and helped and supported me to stop doing drugs and drinking. EGADZ staff members have helped guide me through a bad relationship, to get out. The staff listened to me when I needed someone to talk to, and then gave me advice in my life that will help me in the long term. EGADZ is a safe place for me to spend my evenings, they encourage us youth to stay in school and let us know when they are proud of us, when so many of us don't have that support at home."

Another example is a young man (17 years old) that was trying to hold down a job but didn't have a home, he was couch surfing when possible but sleeping in parks and backyards for the

most part. He stopped in one day and before long he was coming regularly to do laundry for work, have something to eat and lunch for the next day. He did his taxes with the help of the floor staff and at that time we assisted with a referral to the Quint Youth Lodge for housing.

"EGADZ has helped me by assisting me to get my ID, and if I need anything, or need someone to talk to there's always someone to talk to and assist me. There are always things to do, like activities and going to camps!"

One 16 year old girl has just newly started accessing EGADZ through attending with a friend that trusts staff. She is homeless at the moment and is being taken advantage of by older guys to carry out inappropriate actions on a regular basis. Staff have just started talking to her about what the consequence are for her in her life. She is now attending EGADZ and is interacting with staff and youth. The more she attends EGADZ, the less often she's out on the street getting into trouble. Staff are assisting on her homeless issues and she has started asking for advice and seems to understand the need for better choices.

"I've been coming to EGADZ for almost 8 years. Growing up, like some I didn't come from the greatest background. But coming to EGADZ for half my life has changed the way I look on my life. At times I would find myself in unpleasant situations, and realizing I had the care and loving support of EGADZ, I went to them to help me guide my way through some of life's hard choices. EGADZ is like my home away from home. I will always love EGADZ for all the support and guidance they gave me."

A 17 year old male that has ongoing issues with alcohol finally decided to enter a Treatment Program with the combined support of the EGADZ School Support program and Drop-In staff. This for him was a huge and scary first step that was encouraged and supported. As a means for something positive, staff suggested drama as a great way for him to use some of his charisma and talent. He became involved with a group and starred in his first play this year in front of hundreds of people including his largest fan base of 6 EGADZ staff members.

One of the regular youth brought a 15 year old female friend to the Centre who was having conflict at home, she was upset, scared and didn't know what to do. As a result of some intervention and collaboration with other program staff she was referred, accepted and is now living in one the My Home residential housing program.

One of the youth workers had a long time youth come to them because he had been sexually assaulted as a child and was now starting to take out his anger on his girlfriend. He knew that taking it out on his girlfriend wasn't a good thing and that the assault as a child was linked his behavior. The youth worker referred him to the Sexual Assault Centre and since then is working with a Counselor.

JOE'S AND JOSIE'S GARAGE

EGADZ Youth Centre has utilized funding from the Department of Canadian Heritage, through the Aboriginal People's Program, to enhance connections and alternatives for youth over the past 10 years through the Joe's Garage project. The Joe's Garage project has proven to be very successful for the young male participants. This year the project was expanded to include the Josie's Garage girls group.

It is important to understand the nature of EGADZ Youth Centre and the target population who access and utilize its services, programs/projects as this will lend towards a better understanding of the purpose and design of the Joe's & Josie's Garage project. The youth who attend EGADZ are a mix of those who have a good home life with supportive and caring parent(s), to the majority, whose lives are more readily entrench in harmful street lifestyles that include dysfunctional families, no support, addictions issues, homelessness, justice issues (thefts, gangs, physical violence, etc.) and for many the overwhelming feeling of just not fitting in and continually not being accepted by anyone anywhere.

The Joe's & Josie's Garage project seeks to assist and support our youth in creating opportunities and experiences that they themselves have a direct involvement in so that it will create positive growth and change for themselves. This involves learning and understanding





about leadership through hands on experiences. The Joe's & Josie's Garage project approach seeks to genuinely engage youth by affording them the opportunity to develop their own project and participate in their community. Joe's & Josie's Garage is designed and activities are planned by the youth who participate in the project based on their needs and interests but within the guidelines of the project. Peer Mentors are utilized to assist the program staff in promoting activities, organizing activities/events and encouraging others to bring forth their input to their program. Participants must keep in mind that the project focus is Aboriginal activities and events that promote healthy, mental, physical, cultural/spiritual growth.

Through implementing a methodology of exposing the youth to a culturally focused combination of fun activities, events, and workshops that seek to address a number of issues and factors that are most often negative in nature, they can overcome these issues through their direct participation. This in turn offers the youth valuable tools that they can effectively utilize to address their individual issues and needs.

HIGHLIGHTS IN 2011/2012

- In 2011/2012 EGADZ hosted a Round Dance with 17 youth who volunteer to set up, make food and assist with the event. The Round Dance event was quite successful and very well attended, more importantly was proud it was to see the Youth helping and taking ownership of the dance.
- There have been approximately 300 Youth who have participated in a variety of cultural activities and events this past year. Some of these cultural activities and events include cultural camps, pow wows, sweats and drumming sessions. Without the Joe's and Josie's Garage project many of the youth would not have had the opportunity to gain the insight about their culture and experience it firsthand.
- Winning over a 13 year old male to make a commitment of participating in activities and cultural events over the influence of his friends to go drinking instead.
- One 17 year old female had a chance meeting with some of her family that she didn't even know she had at a Pow-Wow she attended with the group. She was able to spend some time and connect with them during the event and she now has a family connection that was absent prior to this event.
- The project affords youth opportunities, support and encouragement they may not have ever had. Some of these activities include: camping, kayaking, and waterskiing to camping in a tent. Through the Joe's and Josie's Garage Project, Youth are provided exposure and opportunity to experience many of these things for the first time.
- An interesting experience was had by youth who attended a Cultural Camp where there was a Horse Dance ceremony. Three youth participants were involved in story telling with the Elder, participated in a Sweat Lodge, assisted in serving at the Feast and gathering sweet grass. The youth were impressed by the number of different Tribes represented from across Canada and the United States.
- EGADZ participated in a Missing Aboriginal Women's Vigil. Staff and Youth made signs for the event. One male Youth also encouraged other guys to attend and support the event.
- An expectation for the Youth to attend Round Dances is that they must do the research to find out when and where the next one will be so that everyone can attend as a group. This creates ownership and enhances the overall experience for youth.
- A Feast and Round Dance was held at EGADZ and hosted by the youth saw more than 300 people in attendance with singers coming from Saskatchewan, Alberta, and as far away as Arizona. Youth who participated in the culture camps and cultural/ceremonial activities all year provided the planning and participation for the event. The experience gained by the youth showed in a sign of growth, confidence, leadership and cultural identity. The youth were excellent ambassadors for themselves and the Centre.
- Another highlight of year was at the Winter camp was when one youth decided to sleep in a shelter he made using branches from trees he found on the ground. As the weekend progressed he took great care of the dog sled team and made a fire using only a flint. The guides were so impressed with him that the nicknamed him "Mad Trapper."

OUTCOMES OF 2011/12

This past year there were 135 youth who participate approximately 1200 times in the Joe's and Josie's Garage activities. This included participation in approximately 50 cultural events, approximately 20 workshops on healthy lifestyle choices and approximately 250 activities aimed at physical fitness and positive recreation.

One 17 year old youth made the decision to be more proactive in our program, after recently moving back to the city where he found himself drinking or doing drugs on a daily basis. During one outing he opened up to staff and said he said he could've gone drinking again that night, but this sounded like more fun. He's been coming to a number of activities ever since. He attends the Drop-In almost every day and has refrained from being under the influence. He's now attending school while working on finding a job and a place to live.

Another outcome is that of a 17 year old female who was very withdrawn when she started coming to EGADZ. Through staff engagement and her willingness to garner trust in staff, she was encouraged and supported to come participate in activities. Over time she began to speak about her family life and future plans. She has reached out and made new friends through engaging in activities of the program. She had never experienced the benefit of a Sweat as she never felt comfortable enough to attempt an important part of her Culture. In offering support and encouragement she felt comfortable to experience a Sweat and now attends regularly.

One of the boys who continue to be an active participant, would come to the Round Dances in the community and local Reserves, but usually just sat back and observed. With encouragement from some of the youth, he danced a few songs and also sat with the drummers while they drummed. The announcer and singers congratulated him and sang him an Honor song for his birthday. He now attends the Sweat Lodges regularly and helps the Elder with the preparation of the drums and assists with the choice of the music involved in the ceremony. He's has become very good at Mentoring newcomers to feel comfortable in Cultural ceremonies. His role has changed from that of an observer to now being an Ambassador.

TEEN PARENTING PROGRAM 2011/12

The Teen Parenting Program continues to be supported through Health Canada – Community Action program for Children (CAPC).

The Teen Parenting Program exists as a needed program within EGADZ to support Teen Parents. The program offers support to expectant and young parents as well as their children in a variety of ways which includes; individual and group sessions, educational, outreach services, medical and crisis services. The structure of the program allows for both formal and informal support on a drop-in basis. For those who are interested in participating they can be accommodated in formal programming such as parenting groups and the summer recreational component.

The Teen Parenting Program offers parenting groups twice a week in the evening in addition to regular community outings, sometimes as a family activity and other times as an activity that is parent focused.

The Teen Parenting Coordinator is available to assist/support young Parents on an individual basis when needed. The outreach services of the Teen Parenting program has increased due to the unique needs of the target population. The Teen Parent program continues to make available; diapers and formula on an emergency basis and personal hygiene. The infant/toddler clothing depot is available to young Parents who wish to access it. Information and resource services are provided on an individual or group basis. Parents were provided information, referrals, advocacy and support as individuals and small group sessions throughout the year.

The Teen Parenting Program offers 3 different approaches through group sessions. The "Nobody's Perfect" Parenting Certificate Program, information sessions relevant to the young parents, and group sessions that provide opportunities for the young families to work on attachment and bonding through activities and interactions.

The "Nobody's Perfect" Parenting Certificate Program is composed of 8 mandatory sessions to be completed by the Parent(s) in order to obtain the certificate. This Program explores a wide variety of topics such areas as: prevention of child injury, child mental health and prevention of



childhood obesity. Program staff provide flexibility to work with the young Parent(s) in order to successfully participate and complete the program. Consideration and flexibility was provided for some of the participants as a result of scheduling conflict with other appointments, childcare and transportation is made available to all participants. The “Nobody’s Perfect” Program was facilitated three times throughout 2011/12. There were a total of 12 Teen Parents that successfully completed and received their “Nobody’s Perfect” Certificate.

Throughout 2011/12 Teen Parent(s) were provided various information sessions through group format on topics that were relevant to the participants. The approach offered a more comfortable setting that afforded the Teen Parents a forum to ask questions and discuss topics relevance and value to them. Some examples of topics discussed were; Traditional Parenting, Parents Rights, Fetal Alcohol Syndrome Disorder, Cold/Flu information, Baby Car Seat Safety, Nutrition on a Budget, and Domestic Violence.

The Parenting Program also offered “attachment and bonding” type of activities with the “Summer Fun for Families”. This component offered activities such as family picnics, parent/toddler swims, Fun Factory, Spray Park visits, Halloween, Valentine’s Day, and Easter Parties in which the Parents and Children experienced positive interactions that created forever memories.

TEEN PARENTING STATISTICS 2011/12

In 2011/12 the Teen Parenting Program was accessed for support and services approximately 1171 times.

In 2011/12 the Teen Parenting Program directly supported the pregnancy of 12 young Mothers through to the birth of their babies.

The follow supports accessed include:

Number of Times Parents Participated in Group Sessions	536
Number of Times Children were provided Group Childcare	222
Snacks	357
Bus Tickets	273
Rides	20
Baby Clothing	55
Pampers	75
Formula	123
Personal Hygiene	48
Pregnancy Tests	9
Education Related	4
Home Visits	7
Long Distance Calls	22
Summer Fun For Families	76
Food Packs	9
Condoms	3
Baby Supplies	25

HIGHLIGHTS IN 2011/12

- As part of the Domestic Violence Module, Parents participated in setting up a wall poster for the EGADZ Round Dance. They cut out hands in the colors of the medicine wheel and asked people to sign the hands as their show of support to stop violence against women. They also made friendship bracelets in the medicine wheel colors and passed them out as a sign of friendship respect and support to all the visiting women who attended the Round Dance. The Parents were very proud of their work and valued that they were recognized for their contribution at the Round Dance.
- The Teen Parents discussed and made goals for themselves in 2011/12 that place emphasis on creating better family life for their families. One Teen Parent made her main goal of completing and graduating grade 12 for herself and her child. As a result of her hard work, dedication and support she completed grade 12 and is now attending McKay

Career Training.

- The Nutrition module was set up in four sessions and provided Parents insight to planning a meal, budget, shop and prepare the meal. Parent(s) learned to plan based on a budget so as to understand they could not get extravagant with their spending. Everyone had a sense of pride in the fact that they planned, cooked the meal and that there were leftovers available for another snack/meal.
- A Baby shower for three expecting Mothers was held in October that included the traditional games, fellowship and gifts which lent to the whole pregnancy/parenting experience that all new Mothers have.
- There were 20 Teen Mothers who accessed CPR Training and obtained their CPR Certificates through the Teen Parenting Program.

SCHOOL SUPPORT PROGRAM 2011/12

The School Support Program is designed to assist youth that are experiencing an array of difficulties that are barriers to acquiring or maintaining an educational placement. Many live in unstructured family environments with high levels of social-economic disadvantages. As a result, many of these young people demonstrate negative responses stemming often from dysfunctional home and parenting environments, to issues such as truancy, substance abuse, gang involvement, homelessness, criminalized behaviors, as well as mental/emotional/and physical health concerns. All of which are significant factors that impact their education.

Program staff support youth in every aspect of their lives. Staff seeks to provide youth with support for legal issues by transporting and attending court/lawyer's appointments, and probation reporting. Making visits and calls to the home/school, providing in school crisis interventions/suspensions. Other supports may include; wake up calls, transportation to school, parent visits, and one-on-ones with youth, case conferences, contacting workers involved with youth, providing community referrals such as Mental Health and Addiction Services, detoxification or treatment, and personal counseling.

The School Support program is financially supported through the Ministry of Corrections Public Safety and Policing and is able to accommodate twelve youth between the ages of 12 and 17 throughout the year.

Youth continue to be involved in program during extended school breaks and the summer months. The summer portion of the program provides structured programming that includes life skills, field trips, recreation, community awareness, physical education and camping. This approach provides consistency and structure in their lives that has proven to be beneficial upon return to the next school year.

SCHOOL SUPPORT STATISTICS 2011/12

Youth Carried Over from Previous Year – 4

Total Referrals – 64

Total Intakes – 56

Males Referred - 39

Females Referred – 25

Youth Repeated for the Year – 13

Home/Parent Contacts – 1225

One on One's/Crisis Interventions – 40

Contact Worker/Case Conferences – 393

Lunches – 300

Treatment Referral – 1

Recreation Hours – 762

Life Skills Hours – 156

Volunteer Hours – 20.5

Field Trip/Cultural Hours – 49

Physical Education Hours – 354



HIGHLIGHTS IN 2011/12

During the summer of 2011 there were 18 individual youth who remained involved with the School Support program. They were offered and supported positive and healthy recreational activities and a camping trip. The approach offers consistency and structure in a young person's life that has demonstrated to be beneficial upon their return to school. Of the 18 individual youth there were 13 who re-entered an educational placement in the fall.

Through 2011/12 there were 63 youth provided assistance and support to attend and maintaining their educational placements.

Youth were provided 574 breakfasts before they were dropped off at school throughout 2011/12, this was made possible through funding from the Child Hunger and Education Program.

Youth are pick up each day by staff, this lends to ensuring they have breakfast, opportunity to forge relationships with staff and ensure they get to their educational placement. In 2011/12 there were 1011 transports to educational facilities.

School Support staff had 124 contacts with educational facilities/programs to support, advocate or assist with Youth issues as a means to seek a solution to the matter at hand.

OUTCOME OF 2011/2012

There is many a struggle that come not only for staff but for the youth we serve. Some would think that it would not be hard to receive an education but truly the obstacles that are put in place for so many of our youth are near impossible to persevere through even if they have the skills and drive to accomplish them.

One such story would be of a young man who is 15 years old and trying to get his education. He is a capable youth with intelligence, drive, desire and determination but half way through his battle that was stripped of him.

He grows up in a home with an alcoholic father who tries his best to be a father but is unaware of how his drinking affects his family. This youth has been in and out of school for the past two years, been in trouble with the law. Just before the end of the school year he was taken off role because he went to jail for two weeks, he was six weeks from writing his final exams. He received no credits for the school year. He then chooses to attend the summer credit recovery program so he could start the new year with at least one credit.

In a heated argument with his father the police were called and he was put back in jail for breaching his probation. He was unable to finish his school credit given the time he had to be in jail. This young man started school in September, however, in October he was asked to leave because of a verbal outburst towards one of the other students. Because of that outburst he was denied placement in any other school.

He spent over a month in the Day Program where staff advocated for him to be placed in a satellite school. This was not easy as he was "red flagged" in both school systems but because of his age and the determination of staff to advocate for him the education system finally agreed for him to go half time.

While he was there he pushed through a math class to prove he was able and wanted to be in a regular class room setting. Given his ability and determination he was moved onto a public high school associated with the satellite placement. He was able to acquire four high school credits for the year. During this time he went to treatment to not only deal with his personal addiction issues, but also his co-dependency issues related to his father's drinking. He has been involved in drama outside of school and was in a play presented to the public. He is registered for a summer drama class and is looking for a job.

If this youth was not given the chance to have people advocate for him there is no doubt he

would not have given up and not returned to school or made the accomplishments he has today. He still battles with his life circumstances but holds onto the positives to keep him on track.

DAY SUPPORT PROGRAM 2011/12

The Day Support Program is an intervention program for youth who have lost their whole or partial existing educational placement. These youth require an alternative avenue to stabilize as a means to re-integrate into an appropriate educational placement. The program offers a monthly schedule with consistent components for each day of the week (Monday through Friday). The components are comprised of community volunteer/ service placements, educational, field trips (educational/recreational), life skills, and physical activities. The program operates throughout the summer where participants are able to acquire skills training/ work experience through a Work Education program. The main objectives of the program is to stabilize and assist the young person to obtain and reintegrate back into an appropriate educational placement.

Youth are supported through daily contact with staff who provide wake up calls, breakfast/ lunch, transportation, parent/home visits, one on one with Youth, regular contact with Youth Workers involved with Youth, attend case conferences and medical support. Staff offer referral services for Youth with other appropriate Service Providers as requested by Youth, this includes areas such as Mental Health and Addiction Services, detoxification or treatment and personal counseling.

The Day Support Program is supported through the Ministry of Corrections Public Safety and Policing and is able to accommodate 12 Youth.

During the summer months the program shifts to recreational activities that expose youth to positive alternatives that they may seek to gravitate to and continue on with. The summer components of the program provided Youth with support, structure and stability that lends towards a more successful transition for them when re-entering an appropriate educational placement for the new school year.

Youth involved with the Day Support Program are provided part time employment with a partnership and the support of Saskatoon Curbside Recycling. Youth receive exposure to the work environment where they are provided hands on training.

The Day Support Program has introduced youth to the concept of doing for other as opportunities gain insight to selflessness through "Random Acts of Kindness". Once a month youth plan out what they will do to try and make someone else's life a little bit brighter. Random Acts included; shoveling people walks, handing out flowers to strangers, purchasing breakfast for a stranger and plugging an expired parking meter.

DAY SUPPORT PROGRAM STATISTICS 2011/12

Youth Carried Over from Previous Year – 13

Total Referrals – 109

Total Intakes – 87

Males Referred – 70

Females Referred – 39

Youth Repeated for the Year – 20

Home/Parent Contacts – 853

Transportation – 907

Lunches – 1441

Contact Workers/Case Conference – 796

Treatment Referral – 4

One on One's – 7

Life Skills Hours – 894.5

Volunteer Hours – 432.5

Field Trip/Cultural Hours – 413.5

Recreation Hours – 3361





Education Study Hours – 344.5
Physical Education Hours – 871
Pregnant – 2
Employment Education Component Hours – 342

HIGHLIGHTS IN 2011/12

2011/12 saw 66% of the youth utilizing the Day Support Program were re-integrate back into an appropriate educational placement and 68% were transferred into the School Support Program for continued support while starting school.

During the summer of 2011 there were 14 youth who participated in the Employment component where they received training, experience and pay for their work and time. The Employment component offers youth exposure and experience in the work force that they can utilize to springboard to other employment opportunities.

The summer component provided youth with a variety of activities and experiences through sporting recreation, fieldtrips, swimming, bowling and a camping trip all of which lends towards creating positive experiences, memories and the understanding that the world and life have amazing experiences and opportunities for everyone.

There were 9 youth who returned to an appropriate educational placement for the 2011/12 school year.

Throughout 2011/12 there were 724 breakfasts made available for youth, this was made possible through the financial support of the Child Hunger and Education Program.

The Day Support Program is thankful for its Community Partners in 2011/12; Sherbrooke Community Centre, Mental Health & Addictions Services Outreach Services, Cosmo Civic Center, and Saskatoon Curbside Recycling (SCR). The Day Support Program appreciated partnering with Saskatoon Curbside Recycling at the Saskatoon Wake Ride 2011 (this event was held to raise money for inner city youth sporting activities). Staff and youth attended the event over the weekend where they collected recyclable containers and emptied recycle bins at the event.

OUTCOME FOR 2011/2012

Being a fifteen year old comes with normal life frustrations, add challenges such as; poverty, addictions, and negative family structure, life can sometimes seem impossible. One youth found it within himself to try and overcome these issues. The youth spent the summer involved with the Day Support Program – Employment component. This youth struggled with a lack of attendance at school, however, when he was given the opportunity to work he learned and proved to himself that he could do well. His logic was to save the money earned to help his Dad move out of the area they were living, for safety reasons. His dream did not happen, the incentive of wanting better for himself has continued beyond the summer months. The exposure, experience and support saw him find the inner pride of doing a job and doing it well, this youth returned back to school. Through the experience of the Day Support Program – Employment component he learned that education is important in finding long term suitable employment.

The Day Support Program – Employment component summer had another male youth who was not allowed to live at home and existed through couch surfing trying to find a safe place to live. Through the instability of his life this youth still came to work every day and eagerly participated. Eventually, he was able to live with his older Sister who is a single Mother living on a limited income. As an appreciation and understanding of his Sisters support of him, every payday he would ask for staff to take him grocery shopping so he could contribute for the household.

CHALLENGES FOR DAY SUPPORT PROGRAM

Sometimes when looking at the big picture of things it is hard to find were the all the positives lay. So, you have to look back and go through the year to be reminded of all the little battles

that are won. It is so very hard to put into words the struggles that are overcome and the day to day obstacles faced by the youth. Some days the highlight is that a youth comes to program after not seeing them for days and find out they have not gotten into trouble or hurt in some way the night before. Other days the highlights are youth who come back to visit and share what they have or are doing as their way to say thank you. A quote written by a past youth on a photocopied report card "I came back to thank you for being so supportive throughout my most difficult years, you've been a key part of my success".

SUMMER CREDIT RECOVERY PROJECT 2011/2012

The Summer Credit Project is a new initiative for the 2011/12 fiscal year. Participants were youth from the School Support and Day Support Programs that were offered opportunity to take part in continuing their education through the summer months. The purpose is to afford youth an avenue to catch up if they were unable to finish a credit during the school year.

A number of the youth who participated in project were in a situation where they have partly finished certain classes and were not going to be able to receive a credit for the work done through their school. In previous cases the youth would have to re-take the same class the following year. The efforts of the students work and progress warranted the development of a Credit Recovery Project as an alternative means for youth to continue towards completing/receiving a credit. A teacher was hired for the summer to oversee the project. Students could take English, Math or a Native studies course and receive a high school credit based on the completion of the subject materials. The Credit Recovery Project was designed to accommodate morning and afternoon classes.

HIGHLIGHTS IN 2011/12

There were 9 youth who participated in the Credit Recovery Project that saw four credits obtained.

There were 2 youth who finished credits that they started at their previous schools.

There were 2 youth who started a new credit class for the summer and achieved credit for that class.

There was 1 youth that started a credit with the Credit Recovery Project and was able to finish the credit in the new school year.

All 9 youth from the Credit Recovery Project returned to school in the fall, 8 months later, 5 of those youth remain enrolled in their school placement.

OUTCOMES FOR 2011/12

At the start of the Credit Recovery Project all the youth choose to attend half days, by the next month 3 of the Youth were determined to obtain a credit that they attended full days for duration of the summer, 2 of them succeeded.

One youth demonstrated such a drive to succeed, she attended school for the whole year, however as a result of family issues she missed a large portion of her classes and was unable to write final exams that resulted in no credit for the work she had done. She wanted to finish a credit, however she wanted to remain in the Employment component half time to assist her Mother pay bills. This 15 year old youth spent her summer attending the Credit Recovery Project, working with the Day Support – Employment Project and acquiring a learners driving license. At the end of summer she had not only accomplished those goals, she additionally set up a bank account and revised her resume with the experience she acquired from the Day Support Program – Employment components. One month later she obtained part time employment at a local restaurant. To date this young woman is still attending school, working at the same job and driving her own car she has bought with the money earned.

CREDIT RECOVERY PROJECT STATISTICS 2011/12

Transportation – 40

Breakfasts – 18

Contact with Worker/Case Conference – 30

Home/Parent Contacts – 39

FIRST AVENUE CAMPUS (FAC) 2011/12

First Avenue Campus was created through a partnership with the Saskatoon Public Schools and the Greater Saskatoon Catholic Schools, the Ministry of Corrections, Public Safety and Policing, the Ministry of Education and EGADZ Youth Centre. Program funding has been provided through an Education in Custody Grant.

First Avenue Campus is a half day alternative classroom that is staffed with a Special Education Teacher and an Outreach Support Worker. The classroom provides a continuum of services to meet the complex needs of youth involved in the Justice System to provide seamless transition from custody to a quality appropriate educational program. This is accomplished through teaching a variety of skills including social, literacy, and mathematics in a comfortable educational setting. Each student is provided an individualized curriculum that best prepares them for future education experiences. First Avenue Campus seeks to collaborate with past school or future school of youth to acquire work that can be carried forward to their next placement. First Avenue Campus is a short term transitional placement to be utilized as a stepping stone to next placement.

The youth that come to be involved with First Avenue Campus face a multitude of factors; substance abuse, gang involvement, homelessness, criminalized behaviors as well as mental/emotional/and physical health concerns all of which become barriers to school and community engagement.

FIRST AVENUE CAMPUS STATISTICS 2011/12

Number of Students as of March 31/12 – 22

Females – 9

Males – 13

Presently in class – 5

Presently on role – 5

Transportation – 226

Breakfasts – 306

Lunches – 3

One on One's – 4

Contact with Worker/Case Conference – 178

Home/Parent Contacts – 406

Treatment Placements – 3

HIGHLIGHTS IN 2011/12

There were 3 youth who attended First Avenue Campus that were referred to treatment all of which continued with school work while at the facility. Upon their return, 2 youth transitioned into another educational placement.

In the 2011/12 school year there were 10 youth who transitioned into other educational placements of those 6 are still in school at the time of this report – May, 2012.

OUTCOME OF 2011/12

A youth who became involved in the First Avenue Campus had originally wanted to attend a public high school but was unable to register as a result of mistaken identity. This youth happened to have the same name as another youth who was obviously deemed unsuited to attend school. Unfortunately for him, the school system was under the impression that he was someone he was not. He was able to attend school at First Ave Campus where he attended each day with a positive attitude and worked hard. Through support and advocacy his situation was sorted out and he was able to return to another school placement to carry over the work he had started.

One youth who arrived in Saskatoon from his reserve started school and found that it was too intimidating and did not return after attending for 3 days. He was offered to attend First Avenue Campus where he attended each day and gained the confidence he needed to successfully transition to a school placement. Once a week he comes to visit and shares

with staff how he is attending, working hard and learning, which is confirmed by his teacher who tells us he has yet to have a grade below 65%. As a result of the approach taken and opportunity provided with this youth through First Avenue Campus and the Day Support Program this youth has been able to succeed where he otherwise would have most likely became part of a negative statistic.

MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR OF HOUSING AND OUTREACH SERVICES

This past year has been another very exciting time for Housing and Outreach Services at EGADZ. Our housing has been able to add 2 new support components for our youth named Parent Support Outreach and Action to Employment.

Another exciting event is the construction of a new Baby Steps home as well as Mah's Place. With the strong support of Wally and Colleen Mah of Northridge Developments, Government of Saskatchewan, Government of Canada, and community supports, we have been able to secure funding for the replacement of Baby Steps as well as the creation of a new home for the successful parents and children in the program. The new Baby Steps is equipped with living quarters for mothers whose children have been apprehended at birth. This will enable the mother and child to bond in the early stages of birth within a safe environment. Colleen and Wally Mah have also contributed a substantial personal donation toward Mah's Place which is an affordable home for the mothers whose children are being returned to their care, but need safe and stable housing. The location of Mah's place is next door to Baby Steps and will benefit all parties involved as the mother's will have easy access to staff supports. This enables the growth of the program to include education and employment of parents in Baby Steps.

THE MY HOME (HOUSING)

The "My Home" is a safe environment that is based on a youth centered model with the main focus of the program centered on the youth having ownership in the home, all youth must be a part of their own case plan, education, employment, becoming functioning citizens in the community and someday moving into their own independent living situations.

The My Homes are a place where "youth" can reside for an undetermined period of time as they acquire the necessary skills and confidence needed so once they make the transition, it will be long term with the skills they have acquired.

The My Homes are separated into four categories under the Youth Centered Residential Services; Peer Homes (female), Structured Independent (female), female Staffed Homes and a male Staffed Home. Michael's Place also operates under the Youth Centered Model of Care.

PEER HOME STATISTICS

From April 2011– March 2012 we have had 42 youth and 8 babies at the Peer Homes.

HIGHLIGHTS OF PEER HOMES

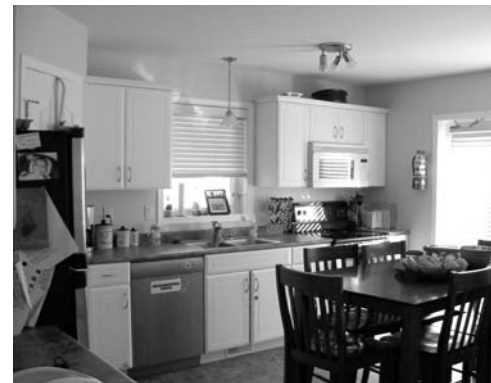
Transferred to Staffed Home re: Mental Health/Behavioral – 7
Transferred to Staffed Home re: Parental Services Agreement – 2
Transitioned to Supported Independent Living – 5
Youth transitioned back with family – 3
Employed – 10
Healthy babies born – 1
Placed in intense stabilization/custody – 0

STRUCTURED INDEPENDENT LIVING STATISTICS

From April 2011 – March 2012 we have placed 24 adults and 14 children at the 2 Structured Independent Living homes.

HIGHLIGHTS OF STRUCTURED INDEPENDENT LIVING

Healthy babies born – 5
Transitioned into Independent Living – 6





All of the young adults have participated in ongoing education

STAFFED HOUSING STATISTICS (FEMALE)

From April 2011 – March 2012 we have placed 68 youth and 15 babies at the female staffed homes.

OUTCOMES OF STAFFED HOUSING (FEMALE)

Transitioned back to family – 10
 Transferred to low risk home – 5
 Placed in Intense Stabilization – 7
 Healthy babies born – 7
 Employed – 5

STAFFED HOUSING (MALE) STATISTICS

From April 2011 - March 2012 we have placed 13 youth at the male staffed home

OUTCOMES OF (MALE) STAFFED HOUSING

Transitioned back to family – 0
 Employed – 6
 Placed in Intense Stabilization/Custody – 3
 Transitioned into Independent Living/Assisted Independent Living – 2

HIGHLIGHTS OF MY HOMES

In 2011/2012 the My Homes gave hope and safe housing to 129 separate individuals and 37 of their children. Out of the 129 individuals, 31 had been sexually exploited via the internet or on our city streets.

- This year we were fortunate to be able to transition 13 of our youth back with family.
- 15 of our youth had an 80% or over average in school and on the honor role.
- All of our youth attended school or day program.
- The majority of our youth have transitioned from a stabilization day program into mainstream schools.
- 7 of our youth will graduate grade 12 at the end of June
- 3 of our Supported Independent women entered a Trade School
- 4 of the mothers came into the program under a Parental Services Agreement, they have completed their agreements and maintain full guardianship of their children

POSITIVE OUTCOMES

S. M. is a long term ward who is a compassionate and empathetic youth who thrives for family connections but is cautious of her biological parents (has not visited them at all) - she has also been hurt by her last foster family as well. She has recently realized the damaging effects on her mental health and is working with Dr. Quinn, Child and Youth Psychiatrist. Her academics are very strong and she is on track now for full credits. She holds herself to a higher standard and wishes to attend post-secondary after a year of work/travel. She has recently realized the positive impact The My Homes has had on her life and the potential The My Homes has to continue to help her build her life. S. has joined piano lessons as of recent and has also had her first job experience. Her independence and confidence has grown and because of that has moved from a Staffed home into a mentored home recently.

E. S. came to us as a result of a foster home breakdown. She was emotionally unstable and extremely inverted. She is now taking an art therapy course and taking daily medication to address her mental health. She is working on re-establishing healthy relationships with her family. She will be graduating high school this year and takes a full class load. Her next academic goal is to attend Secondary Education and become a Vet Technician. She has also retained employment.

K.Q. is enrolled in full classes and maintaining a job. He comes from a fragmented family and as of recent, has lost his mother who was entrenched in street life and his father has been

diagnosed with cancer. He has become a father and works with our Parent Outreach and Teen Parent worker as he is eager to learn healthy parenting. He is proactively working on a life of sobriety.

C. W. came to us as a referral in regards to a Parental Services Agreement. The Ministry was concerned that this youth may not be equipped to parent her child as the baby's needs were not being properly met and the youth appeared disinterested. After careful observation, it was determined that the youth was severely depressed and suffering from postpartum depression. She has started to address her post birth emotional issues by working with a postpartum counselor and she is actively working with our Teen Parent Outreach. She has a drastically improved outlook on life and is displaying this by meeting all of her child's needs appropriately and she is also consistently attending school now. C.W. also had addiction issues as well and is now leading a clean and healthy lifestyle.

C.C. is a youth who was born with a blood borne illness which will be life-long. She is now consistently maintaining her physical health by making her medical appointments. She was a habitual runner before moving to My Home and now she is consistently home and is attending school. C.C. will be transitioning to her biological father's home in under a month.

K.M. is a long term ward with many issues such as abandonment, addiction, depression, has a child who is also apprehended, no school placement, habitual running and inappropriate housing. Since moving into the My Homes she is now working consistently with an Addiction and Mental health worker, attending AA and NA meetings, and is now able to make healthy choices and deal with her emotions other than drinking.

K has learned how to problem solve by communicating with the staff and the other youth and vocalizing how she is feeling in order to better her life. K is attending high school and is committed to her home as she has not had any unapproved nights out.

K had her daughter apprehended when she was three months old and the father was given custody. Eventually it was discovered that the child was not safe living with the father. K stepped up to the plate and took on the challenge of full time mom. She now has custody of her daughter and is taking the appropriate programs to build on her parenting skills and maintain a healthy relationship with her daughter (parenting classes, budgeting classes).

D. G. is a youth that had lived in the My Homes for many years. This youth came from a family that is extremely entrenched in the "street" lifestyle. Her life was riddled with issues such as exploitation, addiction and other trauma. D worked hard at focusing on changing her life as she was pregnant with her first child. She successfully gave birth to a healthy baby and made it her focus to raise her child in a positive and healthy environment. She attended parenting classes regularly, counseling and had many meetings with an Elder. She was successful in engaging in school and achieving many awards. Once she turned 18 she received insurance money and moved independently.

M. N. is a youth that first moved in the My Homes in January 2011. During her stay with us she completed a course at a local college and acquired a full time job. After completing her hairdressing course, her struggle with addictions continued, and during this time she moved out from our program in May 2011. After moving out M. realized how her addiction was affecting her life and made the decision to attend treatment at the Calder Center in Saskatoon.

M. completed treatment in August of 2011 and has remained sober since. M. then moved in with her grandmother who is sixty eight years old. She continued to maintain her full time job in hair dressing.

In mid-October 2011 M. found out that she had stage three stomach Cancer. M. then had to stop working at her job as she was too sick and had to be spending a lot of time at the hospital going for Cancer treatment. M. relied on her grandmother for support but her grandmother could not provide appropriate support and was overwhelmed. M.'s mother passed away from Cancer in 2005 when she was a little girl and her father tried to be a support, but ever since her mother died her relationship with her father became mentally abusive. As a result of needing more support M. moved back into the My Homes December, 2011.

In December M. found out that the Cancer had spread and had reached stage four and will



never go into remission.

Through all of this M has kept a positive outlook on life and has goals of returning to school to become a Youth Worker. She is also writing a book to help young people like herself who are dealing with a terminal illness.

We have had many successes for our youth this year ranging from attending school daily, to many youth that have honor roll averages, and receiving multiple academic awards. Many of our youth are employed in the community while continuing their education at the same time.

We also had a huge turnout at the Wilson homes this summer with youth participating in the landscaping of the homes.

The youth at the My Homes have started 2 teams for the Relay of Life to support our youth M.N. and others like her, in their fight with cancer. They have picked captains and are brainstorming team names such as, "The Melanoma Mashers", "Pink Flamingo's" and "The Cancer Crushers".

NEW TO THE MY HOMES FOR 2011/12 ACTION TO EMPLOYMENT

The Action to Employment Program is possible because of the partnership between Saskatoon Downtown Youth Centre Inc. – EGADZ and the Saskatoon Health Region – Mental Health and Addiction Services. It aims to teach youth how to apply themselves in order to achieve their goals. Many youth want to save for a car, prepare for independence, and some just want extra spending money. By instilling basic employment skills, Action to Employment hopes to provide youth with the ability to live independent lives.

Hunting for a job can be a daunting task. Many youth have never written a resume or cover letter before and some don't know where to look in order to find a job. Youth who are interested in employment approach Action to Employment. An assessment is done where youth are asked to come up with long term and short term goals and to think about how a job can help with those goals. Past work experience is outlined and youth will define the type of work they are interested in. If they lack the appropriate identification, steps are taken to deal with this.

Youth can then begin to work on a resume and cover letter. Advice is given on spelling, grammar, and proper formatting. They are guided through the process and end up with a quality resume to give to employers. When they are taken out to look for jobs youth learn how to present themselves, what to say, and who to talk to. Many employers will only accept online applications so youth are given the chance to create online profiles and apply through specific websites. When a youth finally gets an interview there is already a feeling of accomplishment. Now they have to face the employer and try to sell themselves as an employee. Mock interviews are set up where youth are asked typical interview questions and confidence is built up to ease nervousness.

Support carries through into employment as well. If a youth needs a bank account, assistance is given for this. Transportation is given daily to ensure youth can get to and from work on time. If there are issues at the work place, youth are given advice in order to deal with the situation appropriately. They receive constant feedback and encouragement in maintaining a good relationship with their employer.

Youth are guided through the process straight from the start. Assistance is given wherever youth feel they need it. Action to Employment provides the necessary guidance needed to get the youth on the right track to becoming independent. They learn that when effort is put into something they will reap positive benefits. Support follows through into employment and is ongoing.

ACTION TO EMPLOYMENT STATISTICS

Assistance With
Getting SIN card – 6
Young Worker Readiness Certificate – 1
Opening bank account – 1
Resume advice – 34
Completed resumes – 28
Cover letters – 6
Online resumes – 9
Resumes handed out – 400
Call backs – 8
Mock Interviews – 8
Interviews – 15
Transportation – 141

EMPLOYMENT

Action to Employment strives to give youth the best possible chance of finding employment. Wherever possible youth are given work opportunities within the Saskatoon Downtown Youth Centre Inc. This past year youth had the chance to be involved in maintenance and new builds of My Homes properties. They were taught to do many things like building a deck or fence. Many youth were given their first opportunity to learn the proper care in using tools and operating machinery such as a lawn mower and hedge trimmers. It was great to see the youth involved in building two new My Homes properties, some of which are now living in those homes.

Saskatoon Downtown Youth Centre Inc. had one youth working at the youth Centre as a receptionist. She learned many things such as proper telephone etiquette, organizing files and Human Relations. The money she earned went toward supporting her child with things like toys and clothes. Another youth has been hired as the My Homes Hairstylist. She is a stylist by trade but due to personal reasons cannot work a full time job. She is able to schedule appointments with other youth in the My Homes and work at a pace that is good for her. She hopes to attend SIAST in September and this is an opportunity for her to save money for that. 18 total work opportunities were provided. Employment lengths are broken down as follows;

Over 40 hours	4
8 – 39 hours	3
Less than 8 hours	11

A total of \$8599.50 was paid out for the work youth did within the Saskatoon Downtown Youth Centre Inc.

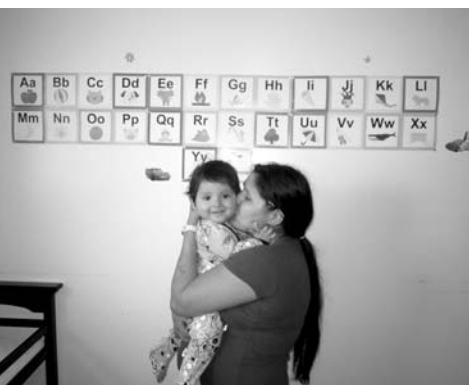
Another part of Action to Employment is to partner with local businesses in order to create work opportunities within the community for our youth. This partnership includes a one month trial period for the youth to gain experience and support from an employer who is willing to mentor and train the youth in real work experience. Action to Employment pays the youth's wage during this period. If the youth is a good fit for the business the employer may offer them long term employment.

So far Action to Employment has been able to assist 7 youth in gaining employment through partnerships. These partnerships include Canadian Tire - Preston Crossing, EE Burrito's, and the Saskatoon Truck Centre.

Youth worked;	
Less than 1 month	6
1 - 3 months	0
3-6 months	1
Over 6 months	0

One youth is still employed at Canadian Tire and has expressed interest in staying there for a





while. A total of \$959.81 was paid out to all the youth

When given the opportunity many youth were able to learn the necessary tasks. Some youth reached minor financial goals. And a few youth expressed that these opportunities have given them a better idea of what they wanted to do in the future in regards to employment. All youth involved in the program have taken away valuable skills that will carry forward into their adult life. Action to Employment is an incredible resource for these youth in their growth towards independence.

BABY STEPS

Baby Steps is a partnership between Saskatoon Downtown Youth Centre Inc.- EGADZ, Ministry of Social Services, Saskatoon Health Region - Mental Health and Addiction Services, and various community agencies. Baby Steps opened its doors in April of 2010 and has been full ever since. We have 5 beds plus one emergency bed available for children zero to five years old. In 2011 we have had 6 mothers participate in the program, and 3 of those mothers are still currently in Baby Steps. In 2011 we have had 9 children live at Baby Steps and currently have 5 children residing at the home, with one in transition to live at Baby Steps.

Baby Steps is an innovative project that allows mothers to be part of their own case plan. Allowing the mothers to be part of the case plan empowers them to be successful. This voluntary program allows the mother to be accountable for her own successes and failures. They must be willing to learn and participate in programming for them to be successful.

Baby Steps focuses on major issues that hinder mothers from parenting their children. By providing them with safe stable housing, supports to deal with addictions, their personal issues and community supports are what make this program successful. Baby Steps partners with community supports such as Mental Health and Addictions Services, Family Service Saskatoon, EGADZ Street Outreach Program, the Teen Parenting Program, as well as numerous school and community supports.

Weekly case conferences with mothers and all supports involved are intended to strengthen their abilities, as well as find a sense of empowerment in their lives by including education and employment as a requirement of the Baby Steps program. Baby Steps provides support and the necessities to help the mother be successful in their plans, as each mother case plan is individualized for greater success. Case conferences are held to measure progress as well as deal with issues which hinder the mothers from being successful.

Baby Steps provides an opportunity for mothers to bond with their children, and the children have a safe nurturing environment to grow up in. It also includes an encouraging supportive place for the mothers to learn positive parenting with their children. The mothers are welcome at the home 24 hours a day and are encouraged to visit as much as possible. We have had 3 mothers in the program with newborns that have taken the opportunity to be with their newborns 24 hours a day for breastfeeding purposes, as well as encouraging the bond between the mother and child.

The success of Baby Steps can be measured in various ways. One important factor in the measurement of success is the time spent at Baby Steps with their child/children. The ultimate success that we strive for is independent living for the mothers and children to be in a safe and healthy environment. Other successful outcomes would be placing the children with healthy family members that are willing to care for the child/children or long term placement of the child/children by the Ministry of Social Services. The measure of success is truly on the well-being of the child/children and their right to live in a safe, stable and nurturing environment.

OUTCOMES FOR BABY STEPS 2011/2012

All 3 of the mothers in the program have all gained unsupervised visit with their children. Currently we have one mother that has been in the program for 5 months and has gained privileges such as unsupervised evening and weekend visits with her son at Michael's place. Her prior attempts of parenting her son lasted no more than two months before relapsing and returning to her high risk lifestyle.

We believe that her ability to visit her child on a regular basis with various supports has been the fundamental reasons for staying so committed to her son. This mother is currently enrolled in the Early Childhood Education program through the Saskatoon Skills and Trade center, and will be graduating April 5, 2012. She is enrolled at Kelsey where she will be working towards here Grade 12 education, and then plans to go into nursing.

She has gone from supervised visits to unsupervised evening and weekend visits with her son in less than 5 months. Her visits will increase as her progress continues, which will then lead her to transition into our new more independent home called Mah's place, which will open in July, 2012.

Not only has this mother made vast progress with her relationship with her son but has also worked on herself which is a huge stepping stone for her. Her personal development and strive for education is above and beyond what we hoped for in this program. All of these components will help her to become a healthy contributing member of our community.

Baby Step has a mother that has been in the program for over a year now. She will be transitioning all 3 of her children back into her care over the next 3 months. At the end of the 3 months we plan for her to live independently with her 3 children in one of our homes, to allow her to still feel supported but still have her independence. Michael's place has been her home for over a year and it the place she calls home. This mother is proof that with hard work and dedication anything is possible. When she entered this program all three of her children were in the process of being made long term wards of the government due to addictions issues, unhealthy relationships and parenting problems. With the empowerment of Baby Steps, she will be the first mom to graduate from the Program.

Our Third mother that is currently in the program has been with us for nine months. She came to us with grade six education and is currently enrolled in the Early Childhood Education program, which she will graduate in 2012. She will be attending SCORE after she graduates from her ECE program, to help her work towards her grade twelve education.

She cares independently for her youngest son 5 days a week and with continued progress will soon have him in her care full time. We plan to transition her into to our second stage housing Mah's place, where she will live independently with her two sons. She has overcome so many obstacles because of this program and as a result of her success she will be transitioning her older son into Baby Steps, from foster care. Her tenacious dedication to her new born baby has pushed her to a turning point in her life, where she left her high risk street life behind and became an incredible loving mother to her two sons. The success of the program is evident when talking to the mother's that have been successful in the program. They appreciate all the programming and hard work they have gone through to be at this point in their lives. This mom has told us time and time again that she wouldn't be caring for her sons if it wasn't for our program. We believe that it was an opportunity that she took and dedicated herself to the program and succeed because of it.

NEW FOR MY HOMES AND BABY STEPS 2011/12 PARENT SUPPORT OUTREACH WORKERS

Additional Outreach Services for our My Home and Baby Steps mothers has been created by adding two Parent Outreach Workers. This component was fully functioning in October, 2011.

The Parent Support Outreach workers are in place to assist our young moms with fine tuning their parenting skills when and where needed, in the home and in the community.

They work hand in hand with our Baby Steps team, our My Home team and community agencies to ensure that our young parents are receiving ultimate coaching and guidance.

Parent Support staff do home visits daily where they observe and interact with moms and their children while helping them address any concerns they may have regarding parenting.

Parent Support staff transport moms and children to and from outings, educational classes, doctor appointments and other important appointments they may have.

Parent Support staff works at connecting with numerous organizations as well as connecting moms to resources throughout the community such as budgeting classes, Pediatricians, Postpartum groups, Postpartum Counselling, Food Nutritionist, and many other agencies to

help our moms get the most out of resources available to them.

Parent Support staff take moms and their children on outings regularly to assist and coach moms with their children's behaviours in the community. When doing so, Staff chooses free or low cost recreation that is fun and interesting so moms know what is affordable in the community such as, mothers and children swimming, free family photo shoots, free pictures with Santa, WBYL Round dance, WBYL Christmas Party, Free Movies at Broadway theatre with \$2 concession, and much more.

PARENT SUPPORT STATISTICS 2011/12

Families being served – 14
In home support/coaching – 417
Doctor Appointments – 28
Case Conferences – 40
Transports to appointments – 288
Recreation/Community Coaching – 96
Car Seat Clinics – 5
Other – 24
Agency Referrals –
Oasis Program – 6
Post-Partum Counseling – 4
Nutritionist/Cooking class – 6
Anger Management – 2
Other – 1



STREET OUTREACH PROGRAM

The Street Outreach program works to create a safe environment for those leading or at risk of leading a "High Risk Lifestyle." Starting in September of 1993 the Outreach program has been going out into the community to provide services to people.

Street Outreach takes their services to the streets seven nights a week in the outreach van, as well as most afternoons, to connect with the community. Street Outreach provides immediate assistance with nutrition, clothing, condoms, personal hygiene supplies, referrals or just someone to talk to. Outreach also provides emergency assistance with baby supplies such as formula and diapers.

Street Outreach provides follow up assistance during the day's from the hours of 9:30 am – 5:30pm on an individual basis. Outreach provides advocacy and support for individuals with Court, housing, education, appointments and Crisis Counseling.

Street Outreach continues to provide support and services with addictions counseling and referrals to treatment. Street Outreach continues to assist with support throughout treatment and recovery.

Street Outreach has built trusting relationships with members in the community. For many of our clients we provide a stable and consistent support system in their lives.

STREET OUTREACH STATISTICS 2011/12

Age Group	Night Streets	Day Streets	Day Contacts	Total
1-3 years	197	4	76	277
4-6 years	47	40	25	112
7-11 years	77	145	4	226
12 years	46	0	3	57
13 years	12	0	3	12
14 years	18	3	19	46
15 years	43	6	21	64
16 years	177	6	94	277
17 years	221	2	162	385
18 years	276	7	174	497
19 years	221	3	214	398
20 years	211	3	174	62
21 years	170	5	65	240
22 & over	5418	117	1049	1952
Total	7134	341	1952	9427

The statistics provided above include number of contacts with those classified as street youth and sex trade combined. Of the 9427 contacts made, 143 were individuals that were pregnant at the time.

SEX TRADE STATISTIC 2011/12

Age	Active	Possible	In-Active	Deceased (excluding those inactive or deceased)	Total
11 & under	0	0	0	0	0
12 years	0	0	0	0	0
13 years	0	0	0	0	0
14 years	0	0	0	0	0
15 years	0	0	0	0	0
16 years	0	2	0	0	2
17 years	0	0	0	0	0
18 years	0	2	0	0	2
19 years	2	4	1	0	7
20 years	1	2	0	0	3
21 years	6	4	0	0	10
22 + years	55	2	7	10	57
Total	184	29	8	10	213

Street Outreach staff encountered 15 new active members of the sex trade and 5 possibly active individuals involved in the sex trade for 2011/12.

STREET OUTREACH SERVICES 2011/12

Service	Night streets	Day Streets	Day Contacts	Total
Nutrition	4180	244	27	4231
Condoms	825	9	10	835
Information	29	0	6	35
Clothing	320	10	14	344
Emergency Baby Supplies	838	4	55	897
Personal Hygiene	357	2	28	387
First Aid	11	2	9	22
Home Visits	1852	12	168	2032
Hospital Visits	39	0	6	45
Court Support and Advocacy	0	0	72	72
Telephone Contact	408	25	446	879
Crisis Counseling	87	3	42	132
Medical Appointments	10	0	112	122
Violent John Reports	7	0	0	7
Abused or Beaten	2	0	0	2
Transportation	892	21	1002	1915
Emergency Food Packs	65	0	8	73
Moving assistance	2	0	6	10
Individuals Receiving Bus Tickets	28	0	19	47
Case Conferences	0	0	78	78
Employment Assistance	0	0	6	6
Education Assistance	16	0	15	31
Christmas Gifts	24	0	0	24
Emergency Housing	15	0	13	28
Agency Referrals	82	2	31	101

COURT WORK

EGADZ staff continues to establish credibility and a positive reputation with the courts. Staff attends youth Provincial Court and Adult Provincial court when clients ask for assistance. Staff works through their charges, helping them understand the court process and how to follow through on court orders and/or alternative measures programming. In 2011/2012 staff assisted 72 persons in court.

ADDICTIONS COUNSELLING AND TREATMENT

In 2011/2012 Outreach continued to support individuals work through their addiction issues. In total 22 individuals were referred to various detox and treatment facilities. Outreach provides assistance with immediate crisis counseling, as well as contact information for addictions services. Outreach also provides referrals to detox and treatment facilities. Throughout the treatment process outreach assists with personal hygiene and after care planning. When assisting individuals into treatment cultural consideration and user friendly programs are taken into account.

NUTRITION

Providing healthy snacks for the community is one of the many tools outreach staff utilizes on a daily basis in an effort to create new relationships with those on the street, as well as continue building with those already involved with our programming. Day streets and night streets allow staff to give out beverages, fruit, sandwiches and occasionally other snacks when available. As a result outreach can provide advocacy work and case planning that may result in positive changes for those we work with. The nature of the work outreach staff does require a trusting relationship between staff and those served. Through community support we are able to provide nutrition and other emergency services. CHEP Good Food Inc. provides the majority of nutrition EGADZ distributes, in combination with personal donations, church groups and small businesses.

The total number of contacts receiving food through the Street outreach program during 2011/2012 was 4231

YOUTH ALERTS

Outreach staff had a total of 8 missing youth reported to them by parents, guardians and other concerned persons in the 2011/12 year. Awareness regarding these youth alerts continues to grow, as EGADZ staff assist in gathering and sharing the information provided and hopefully locating the missing youth successfully.

HIGH RISK HOMICIDE REGISTRY

The High Risk Homicide Registry (H.R.H.R) is a voluntary self-descriptive form that is utilized by EGADZ for individuals involved in the sex trade. The purpose of the HRHR is to record, on a voluntary basis, personal information on each person engaged in the sex trade. In the event of an unidentified homicide, the information document can be unsealed and used to assist in identifying the deceased or to provide valuable information for a criminal investigation into a death. There are a total of 100 individuals listed to date.

CHRISTMAS 2011

EGADZ staff continued their annual Christmas drive on December 22nd 2011. Members of the community who have developed strong relationships with EGADZ .received personalized stockings and gifts as a result of the generosity of Canadian Tire and various community donations. Outreach also gave one family a food and gift hamper.

OUTCOMES OF STREET OUTREACH

Street Outreach had a 30 year old client who had difficulty finding stable housing, struggled with addictions and family issues, and her son was apprehended into care. During this year the woman completed treatment. Found stable and long-term housing outside of the core neighborhood. She has regained custody of her son. Became pregnant and remained clean throughout her pregnancy leading to a healthy baby girl. Street Outreach continues to support

her with maintaining a healthy lifestyle

Street Outreach assisted a 37 year old woman who was addicted to cocaine and working as an escort. This woman was diagnosed with Breast Cancer in the spring of 2011. In the last year Outreach has supported her with taking her to doctor's appointments and providing her with moral support, she is now in remission. While going through her fight with cancer she decided to quit escorting and quit using drugs. This woman has been clean for 3 months now, she continues going to NA meetings and participating in cultural events and ceremonies.

Street Outreach helped an 18 year single mother complete her grade 12 in January. She then went on to enroll into the Saskatoon Business College in the Medical Office Assistant course. She also continues taking parenting classes at EGADZ and is living a positive healthy lifestyle.

Street Outreach had a 22 year old single female who had three children in the care of the Ministry of Social Services. She had found and maintained suitable housing and regained custody of her children. She became pregnant with a fourth child and maintained a healthy lifestyle throughout her pregnancy and attended her doctor appointments regularly. She gave birth to a healthy baby girl and is currently raising her four children independently and continues to provide for her family. She continues to maintain and utilize her community supports.

Street Outreach had a 16 year old single female who became pregnant in the summer and chose to continue school in the fall. She maintained a healthy lifestyle throughout her pregnancy and attended all of her pre-natal medical appointments. She continued to attend school on a regular basis throughout her pregnancy, until she gave birth to a healthy baby girl. She is currently raising her daughter with the support of her family and has maintained stable housing. She plans to return to school to finish her high school education. She continues to maintain contact with her community supports.

MICHAEL'S PLACE

Michael's Place can accommodate up to three women whose children are in the Baby Steps Program. In 2011/2012, four mothers participated in the Baby Steps program while residing at Michael's Place. Three of these mothers are currently residing there.

The women in this program are working toward regaining custody of their children.

The women in the Baby Step's program take part in weekly case conferences with a team of community supports in case planning for their individual needs. Outreach helps the women with transportation for appointments, employment and visits at Baby Steps. Outreach also assists with activities such as grocery shopping and preparing healthy meals on a budget. Outreach Workers participate in a weekly positive lifestyle activity with the women in the program.

SERVICE TO MICHAEL'S

Transports	756
Case Conferences	130
Court Support	5
Activities	36
Overnight Visits	110
Education Support	5
Employment Support	3
Treatment Support	5
Medical Appointments	44
Home Visits	7

OPERATION HELP

Operation Help is a partnership between the Saskatoon City Police, Adult Addiction Services – Mental Health Outreach, Ministry of Social Services, EGADZ, and the services of an Elder. All of these community organizations works together to provide immediate services to individuals



caught up in the sex trade in Saskatoon. The circle takes place at the police station during an undercover operation. The circle provides support to any individual, not limited to age or gender, looking to exit the lifestyle. Individuals are given 60 days to work with Operation Help, and if the client has made an attempt to improve their lifestyle, then the charges are withdrawn.

Operation Help is responsible for providing community support to those involved in the sex trade. Individuals receive immediate support and guidance in order to efficiently utilize the community resources available. Operation Help empowers individuals to have the opportunity to develop their own case plan and establish a support system in order to successfully exit the sex trade.

On a day to day basis, we are faced with multiple barriers with our clients. These include but not limited to: housing, medical (physical/mental/addictions), food, clothing, abuse issues, legal (criminal and family courts), education, and trust issues. Many have never known any life but street life. They are youth exploited through the sex trade or adults who began working in the sex trade by being exploited as youth.

A majority of clients who do enter the support circle upon arrest are working to support themselves, addiction issues, and to provide for their children, etc. There are often a multitude of issues and 60 days just scratches the surface. Some clients are not successful in having their charges stayed, but are aware we are ready to help when they are ready to make positive changes. Many of these individuals choose to work with Operation Help for extended periods of time.

THE OPERATION HELP PROGRAM IS ACCESSIBLE TO 226 CLIENTS (AS OF MARCH 31, 2012):

4 are aged 18 and under;
 43 are between 19-24;
 80 are between 25-29; and
 99 are 30 and older
 225 clients are female
 1 client is male
 23 Operation Help clients are deceased.

OPERATION HELP STINGS

April 2011
 One OH Sting held:
 • 2 new, 3 returning

June 2011
 One OH Sting held:
 • 2 new, 1 returning

September 2011
 One OH Sting held:
 • 3 new, two returning

October 2011
 One OH Sting held:
 • 3 new

November 2011
 Two OH Stings held:
 • 2 new, 2 returning

February 2012
 One OH Sting held:
 • 2 new, 2 returning

March 2012
 One OH Sting held:
 • 4 new, 2 returning

DIRECT SERVICES

Aboriginal contacts	2336
Baby Supplies	21
Bus Tickets	395
Case Conference	35
Clothing	39
Court Support	203
Crisis Counseling	26
Education	19
Food Packs	24
Home Visits	98
Hospital Visits	35
Larson House Visits	24
Medical	87
Personal Hygiene	48
Phone Contacts	882
Probation Contacts	9
Snacks	144
Street Contacts	136
Transports	339
Treatment Visits	8
Visual Contacts	1159

DIRECT REFERRALS

Addiction Services	28
AIDS Saskatoon	10
Bridging Program	1
Calder	1
Cree Nations	5
Domestic Violence	2
Elizabeth Fry	8
Family Legal Aid	1
Food Bank	10
Healthy Mother, Healthy Baby	5
Income Assistance	3
Infinity House	1
Interval House	1
Larson House	20
Larson House Support Visits	24
Legal Aid	30
MACSI Center Saskatoon	13
Michael's Place	1
Mobile Crisis	2
Mumford House	5
My Home	3
Parent Aid	2
Pleasant Hill Place	1
Prince Albert Detox	3
RCMP	2
Saskatoon City Police	7
Slim Thorpe	1
Westside Community Clinic	34
YWCA Crisis Shelter and Housing	1

OUTCOMES FOR OPERATION HELP 2011/12

During this year, 5 females had their solicitation charges stayed; this is a progression from the previous year. This is a huge accomplishment for each of these ladies as they were able to overcome huge barriers in their lives. To date, there are 18 females that we know of, who have exited the street lifestyle all together

S.H. started taking care of her prenatal needs and started taking anti-viral medication. She moved into supportive housing with her youngest baby and has been parenting him since birth. Her other child, who is 3 years old is transitioning into the Baby Steps program, he was going to be a permanent ward of the Ministry. She maintains regular visits with him and he now calls her mom. S.H. has completed the domestic violence course and is attending school at the Saskatoon Skills and Trade Centre for a certificate in Early Childhood Development. She also is registered to further her education after completing the course. S.H. continues to work on her addiction issues and attends N.A. meetings regularly.

D.D. went to treatment at Cree Nations and returned to a placement at the My Homes where she still resides. She took care of her prenatal needs and connected with Healthy Mother, Healthy Baby. D.D. attended Royal West where she was working on her high school credits. D.D. is now raising her baby with support from the My Homes and other community supports. She continues to try and live a positive healthy lifestyle.

L.D. became connected with Operation Help when she was 5 months pregnant. She went to Prince Albert detox as well as Larson House. From Larson, L.D. went to Calder Treatment Centre. After completing treatment, she was placed at Infinity House where she is raising her baby. While there she is connected with a Parent Aid and attending Parenting Classes. L.D. has also dealt with all of her court matters. She has also been clean since completing treatment. She was successful in having her 213 charge withdrawn

M.P. was 17 years of age when coming through the circle. She was sent to secure detox and then after was placed in the My Homes. She obtained positive strong relationships with some of the EGADZ staff. She started attending an employment training program in the summer as well as connected with an addictions worker. She was also connected with West Side Community Clinic for her health issues.

J.L. started connecting with West Side Community Clinic and was admitted to the hospital where she started receiving her chemo treatment. She was moved into Calder while still receiving chemo treatment. She then moved to the reserve with her mother and was successful in withdrawing her 213 charge.

D.E. found stable housing for herself and her growing family. She also gained employment at Prairieland Park in the catering department. D.E. also went back to SIAST enrolled in the culinary program. She continues to maintain sobriety and a healthy lifestyle.

T.A. left her abusive boyfriend and found a stable place to live and got on Social Assistance. She attends Oasis, Walking the Journey, as well as the MACSI Day program. She has a strong connection with both Operation Help and the VICE unit. She no longer works the streets daily and continues to work on her addiction issues.

CONTINUED CHALLENGES OF OPERATION HELP

Housing still remains to be an issue over the last number of years. Treatment and detox seem to be becoming bigger challenges. There are substantial waiting lists for both detox and treatment. It is also nearly impossible to go straight from detox to a treatment facility. With the dramatic increase in HIV cases in the province, it is a challenge to book appointments with the Infectious Disease Doctors as sometimes the appointments are booked months in advance.

DAY OF MOURNING – REMEMBERING THE VICTIMS OF THE SEX TRADE

This year was the 12th Annual Day of Mourning. This event is coordinated by the EGADZ Youth Committee, with the guidance of Operation Help. His Honour Lieutenant Governor of Saskatchewan, Dr. Gordon L. Barnhart attended this event again and plans to attend the 13th Annual Day of Mourning as a spectator as he will no longer be in office. Many respected Elders and Dignitaries attended this event as well. According the guestbook, over 190 people attended the 12th Annual Day of Mourning.

