

CONNECTIONS



Connecting with our Community

As spring makes way for summer, we've somehow reached the halfway point of 2022. The colder months felt long and harsh and the sunshine ushered in through our beautiful spring weather has uplifted not only our moods but spirits as well.



Participatory Budgeting Project

Introducing, for the first time, the Participatory Budgeting project, which lets our Member Agencies determine the best way to use the budget that is allocated for this project. This opportunity engages the community in the decision-making process, upholding our value of Access and Inclusion, and ensures that our efforts truly meet our members' needs.



Did You Know



Between *January to June 2022*, NYH has made a total of **3639** deliveries, that is an average of **606** deliveries per month.

We deliver to a variety of community partners, from food banks and agencies to child care programs to benefit the community at large.

Over three months, three separate sessions were held for NYH Member Agencies to participate in. The first session was for brainstorming all the ways the funds could be used to strengthen their program and support their community

members. The second session was an exercise in identifying and agreeing on the ideas that would go on the ballot. The third session happened at our AGM, where member agencies had the opportunity to vote, via ranked ballot, for their preferred initiative.

In the end, the votes went towards directing the funds towards the Member Agency Grants. These grants will make an impact best suited to each Member Agency, from purchasing culturally appropriate food to grocery gift cards, diapers or household goods, new equipment, fridges or freezers, staffing support or otherwise. We are looking forward to seeing the good these purchases will do for the community.



CNOY

On February 26, over 100 participants joined our virtual walk for The Coldest Night of The Year. Even though the event ran virtually, participants still came together to support this initiative by doing their own outdoor walks. We raised over \$32,000 to support food programs, helping bring food and hope to those experiencing food insecurity in the community. Looking forward to seeing you at Coldest Night of the Year on February 25, 2023!

Thank you for making a difference!



Seniors' Month

Did you know that seniors are the fastest growing demographic among our clients? Statistics Canada's latest census report indicates that there are 2.6 million people age 65 and older, making up 19% of Ontario's population. There are 477,000 people aged 65 and older in Toronto, accounting for 17% of the total population of the city. In fact, we currently have more seniors than children 14 and under in the country. With our population aging steadily, more resources are necessary to keep older adults in the community healthy and informed.

We launched the [Golden Age Series](#) to ensure that older adults in the community are able to access information that is relevant and important for them to live happily and healthily. The series included experts from a wide range of fields, from pharmacists



to personal trainers to banking experts, to guide and answer questions that older adults may have. Being able to provide these talks to older adults in our communities gives them more knowledge on how to spend their golden years in the healthiest, happiest, and most reassuring way possible.

50/50

A way to support programs and services for older adults is our 50/50 Raffle. Congratulations to our winner **ticket number NYH-4730621** for winning \$2,430! Thank you for supporting North York Harvest's Agency Network Empowerment Fund. This fund enables our community members build a sustainable future, one that builds capacity and extends beyond emergency food support for your community.

The next 50/50 raffle will happen in July, keep your eyes on our social media or at [50/50 Raffle](#) for your chance to win and help the community!



The Schulich Foundation

Community support sustains our services. Their contributions are always impactful to the community, providing more resources to community members in need. The Schulich Foundation has been a supporter since 1994, and, in response to the increasing number of people experiencing food insecurity, they have increased their support accordingly. By leading a match initiative, they also play a leadership role in the community, encouraging more people to support their community and the people living in it.

This initiative helped fundraise \$430,000, and we are very excited to see the impact of on our community that these funds will create. Thank you to The Schulich Foundation for supporting us and encouraging others to join in your efforts.

Lester B. Pearson Elementary School Food Drive

Thank you to Lester B. Pearson Elementary School for hosting a food drive! We are always happy to see young people giving back to the community.



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Registered Charity No. 11906 2495 RR001

