



COMMUNITY SERVICES

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Tri-Cities Youth Services Annual Program Report 2022-23

About us

Our Youth Services provide an integrated network of outreach services that are tailored to meet the unique strengths, needs and circumstances of each youth (12-19 years of age) and family referred.

These services are provided to youth and their families residing in the Tri-Cities (Coquitlam, Port Coquitlam, Port Moody), Anmore and Belcarra. We have been providing these services, funded by the Ministry of Children and Family Development (MCFD) since 2004.

Although this report is organized to reflect the variety of services we offer, it is important to recognize that our teams deliver services in a fully integrated manner.

The aim of the services we provide varies according to each youth's individual goals, but common areas of focus include reconnecting with family, working on emotional and personal wellbeing, complying with court orders, improving individual and life skills, accessing stable housing, finding employment, engaging in school and connecting with other community resources and supports.

Who we served...

Profile	2022-23	2021-22	2020-21	2019-20	2018-19	2017-18
# of cases ¹	332	372	466	441	445	366
# of youth served	274	320	384	325	331	270
% young women	54	51	46	47	48	47
% young men	39	43	51	49	49	48
% self-identified as transgender	7	6	4	4	3	5
% self-identified as Indigenous	24	24	26	17	19	20
Average age when cases were opened	16	15	16	15	15	15
Average # of days in program by discharged cases (N = # of discharged cases)	272 (N=187)	338 (N= 210)	237 (N=246)	234 (N=262)	206 (N=195)	233 (N=205)
Average monthly caseload	151	158	247	183	160	153
Average # of days on the waitlist by	55	43	50	24	48	38

¹ # of cases is greater than the # of youth because some youth received multiple services or were re-referred.

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opened cases (N = # of opened cases)	(N=207)	(N= 183)	(N=228)	(N=274)	(N=231)	(N=244)
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The number of youth we served was less this year than last, but we continued to have several youth participate in multiple programs at once. It is not uncommon for our participants to receive support from our youth workers and counsellors as well as, where applicable, additional supports offered through our residential and school programs. The decrease in referral numbers has been attributed, in part, to the ongoing staffing challenges faced by MCFD. Discussions with the MCFD leadership team have illuminated the fact they are struggling to keep up with the demand for support services currently needed in Tri Cities. As expected, their reduced capacity to do intakes and home visits has resulted in the decrease in referrals. The time spent in our programming this past year was similar to last year, with the average service duration being 9 months long.

The youth we serve continue to have a variety of needs at intake, including issues relating to youth justice involvement, mental health issues (i.e., anxiety, depression and/or suicidal ideation) and diagnoses such as FASD and ADHD. Youth may also access our programs with a history of trauma, learning difficulties and family dysfunction. Many youth do not have stable home environments and may be 'in care' and/or on Youth Agreements. Most youth are struggling with school and some don't attend at all. They usually have few, if any, job skills and have difficulty finding or maintaining employment. Historically, youth 'in care' have also faced the challenge of aging out in a system that offers them limited resources once they have turned 19. Fortunately, the government has approved MCFD's proposal to improve supports for youth transitioning out of government care and has already begun to implement new programs and services. One benefit we have already seen from this is MCFD's willingness to extend services with us beyond the age of 19.

Wait times for our programs have remained consistent with previous years and certain files, such as Youth Agreement and Youth Justice files, continue to be prioritized regardless of intake date and this in accordance with MCFD direction.

How we did...service delivery

Youth Development

Our **Youth Development Services** are provided one-to-one on an outreach basis in the community. Our workers support youth to reconnect to educational programs, to be successful in school, and to graduate. They assist youth to access employment programs and/or secure jobs. They encourage youth to participate in social and recreational activities in the community and create opportunities for youth to participate in events that provide positive and mutual peer support, and that address their issues of concern.

Profile	2022-23	2021-22	2020-21	2019-20	2018-19	2017-18
# of cases	108	95	113	119	127	128
# of youth served	105	94	109	113	125	128
% young women	49	45	52	57	48	44
% young men	35	42	42	38	49	50
% self-identified as transgender	16	13	6	5	3	6
% self-identified as Indigenous	27	24	19	11	17	25
Average age when cases were opened	15	15	16	15	15	14
Average # of days in program by discharged cases (N = # of discharged cases)	202 (N=55)	311 (N=60)	184 (N=71)	189 (N=79)	197 (N=82)	232 (N=74)
Average # of days on the waitlist by opened cases (N = # of opened cases)	30 (N=73)	33 (N=53)	33 (N=72)	21 (N=74)	37 (N=85)	54 (N=93)

Youth Agreements

Our workers assist young people on Youth Agreements to meet their identified goals, including securing safe and stable housing, participating in educational programs and/or meaningful employment, managing their day-to-day responsibilities successfully, and connecting to resources and supports.

Profile	2022-23	2021-22	2020-21
# of cases	13	12	11
# of youth served	13	12	11
% young women	62	67	82
% young men	31	25	18
% self-identified as transgender	8	8	-
% self-identified as Indigenous	62	42	36
Average age when cases were opened	17	17	17
Average # of days in the program by discharged cases (N = # of discharged cases)	355 (N=4)	522 (N=6)	235 (N=5)
Average # of cases per month	7	7	5

North Fraser Youth Outreach Services

The North Fraser Youth Outreach Program (NFYO) was implemented in 2017 and is intended to meet the needs of high-risk youth across the entire North Fraser Service Delivery area. It is a collaborative effort between PLEA, Purpose Society and St. Leonard's to provide a coordinated response in reaching out to these youth in their communities. One innovative component with this Program is the increased flexibility for agency staff to work together and share resources across geographic areas. Youth Workers can travel across the North Fraser Region and into other Metro Vancouver communities to connect with youth on their caseloads and/or to attend relevant case management meetings in order to provide comprehensive and uninterrupted services to youth.

NFO Tri-Cities

Profile	2022-23	2021-22	2020-21
# of cases	4	6	8
# of youth served	4	6	8
% young women	50	33	38
% young men	50	67	63
% self-identified as transgender	-	-	-
% self-identified as Indigenous	50	-	-
Average age when cases were opened	16	16	16
Average # of cases per month	2	5	5
Average # of days in program by discharged cases (N = # of discharged cases)	907 (N=3)	388 (N=3)	285 (N=4)
Average # of days on the waitlist by opened cases (N = # of opened cases)	28 (N=1)	26 (N=2)	18 (N=3)

NFO Aboriginal

Profile	2022-23	2021-22	2020-21
# of cases	5	7	5.5
# of youth served	5	7	5.5
% young women	80	50	36
% young men	20	50	64
% self-identified as transgender	-	-	-
% self-identified as Indigenous	100	100	100
Average age when cases were opened	15	15	15
Average # of cases per month	3	5	7
Average # of days in program by discharged cases (N = # of discharged cases)	260 (N=4)	248 (N=13)	141 (N=7)
Average # of days on the waitlist by opened cases (N = # of opened cases)	40 (N=4)	21 (N=10)	17 (N=6)

*numbers are based on combined data from TC and RM - the number for “# of cases and # of youth served” is split in half with Ridge Meadows

Youth Justice

Our **Intensive Support and Supervision Program (ISSP)** is a community-based one-to-one service for youth who are medium to high risk and have been sentenced to a court order. The program is an alternative to custody. Our workers provide intensive support and supervision, which complements the case management and supervision provided by the referring Probation Officer. In some cases, Extrajudicial Sanctions (EJS) are recommended for youth instead of the Intensive Support and Supervision Program. The EJS Program is a means to divert young persons charged, away from formal criminal proceedings and into a program of rehabilitation. The EJS Program is a community-based intervention intended to reduce and/or eliminate the associated labelling of young people involved with the legal system. It is also a means through which these youth are given an opportunity to make appropriate amends for their illegal conduct. Probation Officers can refer these youth to our Voluntary ISSP Program.

Profile	2022-23	2021-22	2020-21
# of cases	17	16	11
# of youth served	16	16	10
% young women	34	47	18
% young men	76	53	82
% self-identified as transgender	-	-	-
% self-identified as Indigenous	6	13	55
Average age when cases were opened	16	16	16
Average # of days in the program by discharged cases (N = # of discharged cases)	334 (N=7)	402 (N=9)	199 (N=5)

The number of ISSP referrals has held steady the past couple years. As a rule, police are not laying charges as often and Crown is considering alternative measures (such as extrajudicial sanctions) more often. Furthermore, legislative changes have resulted in a move towards implementing the least restrictive sentence and conditions necessary to hold the youth accountable. Another contributing factor is presenting youth who have addictions and or mental health as the primary issue (as opposed to serious criminal offending). It is clearly indicated in the Youth Criminal Justice Act that youth shouldn't be criminalized for social issues, so in these cases Probation Officers will access resources other than ISSP.

Our **Community Work Service Program** includes developing, in consultation with probation officers, reconciliatory placements for youth to complete their Community Work Service hours. A range of placements with not-for-profit organizations is maintained that provide meaningful experiences for youth, enhance their sense of contribution to the community and engage the community in assisting them. We assess the suitability of placements for youth, and support and monitor the completion of their service hours. Community Work Service Referrals continued to see a slight decrease this past year but that is understandable considering the trends in Youth Justice noted above.

Profile	2022-23	2021-22	2020-21
# of cases	16	17	22
# of youth served	15	14	21
% young women	19	27	18
% young men	81	73	82
% self-identified as transgender	-	-	-
% self-identified as Indigenous	-	7	9
Average age when cases were opened	16	17	16
Average # of days in the program by discharged cases (N = # of discharged cases)	138 (N=13)	84 (N=12)	127 (N=20)
Average # of cases per month	5	5	7
Community Work Service hours completed	210.5	184	228.25

School Program

GOAL (Goal Orientated Alternative Learning) is an alternate school program provided through a partnership between School District #43, MCFD and PLEA. Our staff members work alongside School District #43 staff to provide support services to youth who are referred to the program by various stakeholders. The program includes academic curriculum, life skills, recreational activities and work experience through our Yardworks Program.

Profile	2022-23	2021-22	2020-21
# of cases	30	33	40
# of youth served	30	32	40
% young women	33	33	28
% young men	63	64	70
% self-identified as transgender	3	3	3
% self-identified as Indigenous	27	27	15
Average age when cases were opened	15	16	16
Average # of days in the program by discharged cases (N = # of discharged cases)	448 (N=13)	484 (N=12)	471 (N=22)
# of cases with probation officers attached	7/30	4/33	11/40

Our GOAL Youth Workers provide comprehensive support services to the youth by engaging them individually and in groups, where appropriate, to accomplish their goals. They help students in securing detox programs and safe houses, support students in attending their professional appointments (i.e., with probation officers, social workers, counsellors, doctors, dentists and to AA meetings), and offer support when youth struggle with a variety of issues. GOAL Youth Workers also support the students in doing volunteer hours and/or completing court-ordered community work service hours. They support youth in participating at the annual Enchantment Project, the bi-annual Clothing Drive, and they frequently take youth to the SHARE Food Bank.

GOALS's **Yardworks** initiative allows students to participate in a venture that provides them with valuable work experience and skills required to enter the workforce. Under the close supervision of our workers, the students provide customers with a variety of services, including junk removal, lawn care and garden maintenance. Students are paid an hourly wage and additional earned revenue is utilized to purchase and maintain equipment. This initiative has not been utilized as frequently as in earlier years due to the nature of the youth being referred to the GOAL Program. Historically, referred youth have demonstrated the capacity and motivation to work but the last several

years have seen an influx of youth with mental health concerns and presenting behaviors not readily compatible with employment.

Counselling

Our Tri Cities Clinical Counselling services have been the bedrock and inspiration for the larger Clinical Counselling service as it exists now. Counselling services have worked closely along-side MCFD and CYMH for over sixteen years providing progressive, adaptive services to the community. We have focused on therapies for those participants who have the largest barriers to accessing services and we accept all challenges that come our way. We have devoted the bulk of our focus on family systems therapies that scaffold the attachment bonds of the family system. Family systems and attachment principles underpin all family preservation therapies that we offer. We believe that when possible, a systems and attachment approach, regardless of living situation can serve to best support our youth and parents so that they might have sustainable and long-lasting positive outcomes. PLEA Clinical Counselling endeavours to create stable and healthy attachment bonds that strengthen the cohesion and resiliency of family systems in our communities. We are committed to making lasting relational changes that families can take with them throughout the life span.

Youth Counselling Services

Profile	2022-23	2021-22	2020-21
# of cases	35	30	55
# of youth	32	30	54
% young women	66	62	38
% young men	31	34	58
% self-identified as transgender	3	3	4
% self-identified as Indigenous	20	17	16
Average age when cases were opened	16	16	16
Average # of days in program by discharged cases (N = # of discharged cases)	139 (N=19)	277 (N=23)	168 (N=43)

Parent Support Counselling Services

Profile	2022-23	2021-22	2020-21
# of cases	14	6	15
# of youth / families	13	6	14
% young women	64	33	40
% young men	36	50	47
% self-identified as transgender	-	17	13
% self-identified as Indigenous	29	17	7
Average age when cases were opened	22	14	14
Average # of days in program by discharged cases (N = # of discharged cases)	37 (N=7)	468 (N=5)	262 (N=11)

Parent-Teen Mediation Services

Profile	2022-23	2021-22	2020-21
# of cases	8	10	10
# of youth / families	8	10	10
% young women	38	70	70
% young men	50	20	30
% self-identified as transgender	13	10	-
% self-identified as Indigenous	25	50	40
Average age when cases were opened	20	15	15
Average # of days in program by discharged cases (N = # of discharged cases)	280 (N=5)	211 (N=7)	360 (N=4)

Family Counselling Services

Profile	2022-23	2021-22	2020-21
# of cases	44	61	64
# of youth	44	59	62
% young women	64	54	56
% young men	32	41	41
% self-identified as transgender	5	5	3
% self-identified as Indigenous	11	11	9
Average age when cases were opened	16	15	15
Average # of days in program by discharged cases (N = # of discharged cases)	270 (N=25)	275 (N=40)	229 (N=38)

Solution-Focused Counselling Services

Profile	2022-23	2021-22	2020-21
# of cases	1	2	1
# of youth	1	1	1
% young women	100	100	100
% young men	-	-	-
% self-identified as transgender	-	-	-
% self-identified as Indigenous	-	-	100
Average age when cases were opened	13	15	17

Safe Care Supports

Onyx provides voluntary support services to young people who are, or are at risk of, being sexually exploited with the objective of assisting youth in leaving sexually exploitive situations and relationships. We provide an immediate response to the youth who contact us and work with them to access the practical support and resources they need, including health services, a safe place to live, detox or treatment for substance misuse and one-to-one support. Youth may access our services through self-referral, MCFD, the police or any other youth serving agencies. We have been providing these services since March 2006.

Profile	2022-23	2021-22	2020-21
# of cases	10	9	7
# of youth	10	9	7
% young women	90	100	86
% young men	-	-	-
% self-identified as transgender	10	-	14
% self-identified as Indigenous	20	-	14
Average age when cases were opened	15	15	15
Average # of days in program by discharged cases (N = number of discharged cases)	379 (N=7)	276 (N=5)	248 (N=2)

KidStart Mentoring Program and KidStart Community

KidStart is an MCFD funded volunteer mentoring program for youth aged 13 – 18 facing challenges at home, school, in the community and or with transitioning to independence. We recruit, screen and support adult volunteers to mentor these young people, all of whom are referred to us by a social worker or probation officer.

Three years ago we saw the exciting reinstatement of our KidStart 6-12 Program (KidStart Community). Services for kids aged 6-12 have long been lacking in the Tri Cities and bringing this program back to fruition has helped to fill an important gap in service.

At its heart KidStart is a prevention and diversion program. Its aim is to help youth who are at-risk make good choices under challenging circumstances. Our volunteer mentors develop supportive relationships with the young person they are assigned to, serve as consistent and positive role models in their lives and provide them with opportunities to connect to the community and experience success and achievement. We believe the best way for these important relationships to develop is for participants and their mentors to spend time together regularly (about once a week for about 3 hours), and for this time to be spent simply having fun. KidStart relationships last at least one year, with many remaining active for much longer.

KidStart Mentoring (ages 13-18)

Profile	2022-23	2021-22	2020-21
# of cases	14	22	19
# of youth	14	20	19
% young women	79	73	68
% young men	21	27	26
% self-identified as transgender	-	-	5
% self-identified as Indigenous	29	27	26
Average age when cases were opened	14	14	14
Average # of days in program by discharged case (N = of discharged cases)	509 (N=5)	762 (N=13)	365 (N=6)
Total # of volunteer hours	239.5	399	999.5
Average # of days wait for a mentor (N = number of opened cases)	198 (N=5)	214 (N=9)	267 (N=5)
Average monthly caseload	8	11	15

% of relationships lasting for more than 1 year	66	59	68
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KidStart Community (ages 6-12)

Profile	2022-23	2021-22	2020-21
# of cases	13	13	8
# of youth	13	13	8
% young women	77	77	75
% young men	23	23	25
% self-identified as transgender	-	-	-
% self-identified as Indigenous	31	24	25
Average age when cases were opened	10	10	11
Average # of days in program by discharged case (N = of discharged cases)	359 (N=5)	468 (N=6)	274 (N=2)
Total # of volunteer hours	480.75	266.50	176.25
Average # of days wait for a mentor (N = number of opened cases)	164 (N=6)	231 (N=7)	273 (N=4)
Average monthly caseload	9	7	6
% of relationships lasting for more than 1 year	80	38	25

Community Capacity Development

Community Capacity Development includes initiatives that promote youth development interests among employers, other youth serving agencies and members of the community at large. We build and maintain relationships in the community to better serve the participants with whom we work. We foster relationships across the community including positive connections with schools, community agencies and resources, law enforcement, local businesses, municipal officials, financial institutions, and event organizers. By attending various meetings, events, workshops, and gatherings, we stay connected to the community, respond to trends and shifts in demographics, and help promote the overall strengths-based work that PLEA provides across our service region.

How we did...against last year's goals

- I. **Add new learning topics to our Lifeskills 101 Program and continue to deliver this programming to Youth.** One of our Youth Workers created a new module “Financial Literacy”, this past year and this was offered alongside “Duty to Report”, “Finding Employment”, “Looking for Housing”, “Residential and Tenancy Guidelines” and “Cooking and Nutrition”. All these modules were facilitated by the Tri Cities Youth Workers and were delivered in the Summer 2022.
- II. **Ascertain learning needs for Tri Cities Service Providers and organize and present applicable Professional Development Workshop for PLEA staff and other service providers.** No Professional Development Workshops were developed but Tri Cities Program Manager presented PLEA Programming to the following Community Committees: Mental Health Task Force (SD43 Initiative intended to address gaps in mental health services for Tri Cities Youth); Community Building Committee and Tri Cities Youth Services Committee. In addition to that, the Tri Cities Coordinator attended a career fair in Sept 2022.

- III. **Connect more Indigenous Youth to existing cultural resources, events, and programs as well as to Cultural Advisors in the community.** This past year our workers connected youth to Aboriginal Child and Youth Mental Health Outreach Workers and Spirit of the Children. Our Tri Cities Workers also participated in several Indigenous events, many of which their Indigenous youth also had a chance to attend, such as: “We Stand with You Through Reconciliation”, National Indigenous People’s Day”, “Canoe Ceremony” and “Orange Shirt Day” at Memorial Peace Park in Maple Ridge. In addition to that, one worker took his youth to a Powwow at the PNE and two workers connected their youth to Charles Lafferty, PLEA Knowledge Keeper. We also have 2 youth workers sitting on the PLEA Indigenous Matters Committee and they relay information regarding all Indigenous cultural events and matters to the team.
- IV. **Identify gaps in service and secure sufficient funding for program growth and expansion opportunities.** We are excited to announce that PLEA Tri Cities was recently approved as a host agency for a Local Youth in Care Network! These locals are designed to support youth in and from care and becoming a host agency affords us access to an additional \$4000 per year to support these youth in the areas of life skill development and recreational activities. We are beyond thrilled with this opportunity and are brainstorming activity ideas with our youth that we can implement once the funding is initiated in April 2023.
- V. **Initiate and reinvigorate community partnerships so that comprehensive programming can be delivered throughout Tri Cities** Many community partnerships and relationships were initiated and nurtured this past year in Tri Cities. Our Tri Cities Coordinator participated in the following Community Committees: Middle Childhood Matters; Tri-Cities Local Immigration Partnership (TCLIP); Anti-Racism Advisory Committee and Community Volunteer Connections. Our Tri Cities Program Manager was also involved in many partnerships and collaborative conversations this past year. In May 2022 she partnered with SD43 to hold an in-person Resource Fair for Community Agencies. She also connected with City of Port Coquitlam Youth Coordinator to discuss partnership ideas and presented PLEA Programming for the SD43 Mental Health Task Force. In Sept 2022 she met with SD43 Coordinator of Community Connections & Healthy Living to consult regarding concerns the school district is experiencing with a certain population of youth and her ideas around mitigating these concerns. In January 2023 Tri Cities Program Manager initiated conversations with MCFD Director of Operations regarding the possible implementation of a Family Resource Worker in Tri Cities. Lastly, the Tri Cities Team, in conjunction with 5 SD43 Youth Workers planned for and implemented the 14th Annual Enchantment Project in March 2023. This year’s project saw 40 young people outfitted with gowns and shoes for their upcoming graduation and an additional 20 outfitted with tuxedo rentals.

Other selected accomplishments...

There were many great accomplishments this past year in Tri Cities! Some of the activities and events they engaged youth in this past year were:

- Reinstatement of weekly in-person LGBT Gen Out Group
- Implementation of weekly “Youth Group Night”
- In Summer 2022 we implemented the first season of our “Summer Hiking Program”

- In March 2023 approved as a host agency for a “Local Youth in Care Network Program” – this additional \$4000 per year in funding will allow us to further support any youth in and from care, in the areas of life skill development and recreational activities.
- Tri Cities hosted its annual Youth Holiday Party - eleven youth showed up for a beautiful buffet dinner generously donated by Christine’s Catering, followed by a gift exchange, a hot chocolate station and an exuberant round of the Saran Wrap Ball game.
- Connected youth to additional supports and resources as needed (ie CYMH, PLEA Counselling)
- Supported youth in applying for Agreements with Young Adults Program
- Held a “Sensory Box Workshop” where youth worked together to create sensory boxes they could use as a strategy moving forward to mitigate their anxiety, depression and self-harming behaviors.
- We consulted with SHARE regarding upcoming Community Housing opportunities, as well as participated in preliminary conversations regarding upcoming implementation of the Foundry Tri Cities
- TC Youth Worker applied for and received a \$1700 grant from Van City to go towards Youth Cook Nights as well as the Annual Youth Holiday celebration noted above.
- Received a standing invitation from Tri Cities Soroptimists for our youth to attend their monthly “Warm Place” – an event held on the first Thursday of every month where young women can come to enjoy a home cooked meal and then “shop” for clothes that have been donated to the event.
- In collaboration with Tri Cities Soroptimists, arranged for any remaining “Warm Place” clothing donations to be passed on to the TC office so our youth have access to them.

Selected story²...

Jane was referred to our Program when she was 6 months away from aging out of care. Her worker was able to support her in finding housing, facilitating the logistics of the move and obtaining items for her new home. Jane was also successful in completing her grade 12 at CAFE Alternate School and she graduated in June 2022. Her worker then supported Jane in exploring post secondary options at Douglas College and Jane began attending classes in September 2022. Lastly, Jane’s worker supported her in successfully applying to the “Dream Fund” so she could receive funding to cover driving lessons. At the time of discharge Jane was living independently, enrolled in post-secondary and had received her “N” level driver’s licence.

Biggest challenges...

The provision of PLEA services in Tri Cities is not without its challenges, one of the biggest being the highly complex needs of our participants. Youth and families are frequently referred to our programs with a multitude of presenting issues such as substance misuse, mental health and intimate partner violence. The shortage of resources and frequent lack of coordination between service providers further diminishes our ability to respond appropriately to these presenting needs. Another challenge is the ongoing issue with housing supply and affordability. This is one of the leading issues across Canada and for our youth living in the lower mainland these issues are amplified. Not only is more housing needed, but more housing *options* are required if we are to ever meet the complex housing needs of our youth. Short term shelters as well as housing dedicated to supporting youth on Youth Agreements, would both serve to address a notable gap in accessible housing in our community. Lastly, a significant challenge in Tri Cities the past couple of years has been a direct result of staffing shortages at MCFD. The lack of Social Workers and lack of experience among newer Social Workers makes it difficult to support youth to the best of our abilities.

^{2 2} Names have been changed to protect client privacy and confidentiality.

Our team...staffing³



Our team...learning undertaken

Extensive training was undertaken by staff members this past year:

- All Workers completed the Renting it Right certificate.
- All Workers took Harm Reduction training.
- All Workers completed Mantd and First Aid recertification.
- All Workers completed "Autism: Strategies for Self-regulation".
- All Workers Regulation Strategies for Children and Youth in Crisis
- All Workers took "Strategies for supporting Youth with FASD"
- All Workers took "Disordered Eating" training
- 1 Worker completed a Youth Probation Course through Justice Institute of BC
- 3 Workers took the Youth Justice ISSP training.
- 1 Worker took Teaching Youth with Special Needs.
- 1 Worker took Demystifying Prescribed Medications for Treating Psychosis and Substance Use Disorders
- 1 Worker Completed her Masters of Social Work
- 4 Workers took "Combined Forces Special Enforcement Unit's End Gang Life" training

³ # of human beings as opposed to FTEs as per March 31st, 2020

Our team...relationships, committees and community engagement

Tri-Cities staff participated in several PLEA Committees this past year including Culture, Diversity and Accessibility, Joint Health and Safety and Indigenous Matters. Staff also participated in the following community committees: the Enchantment Committee; Tri-Cities Community Youth Table; Tri-Cities Planning Committee and the Mental Health Task Force. In addition, our Coordinator of Volunteers and Community Development participates in the Middle Childhood Matters Committee, the Tri-Cities Local Immigration Partnership (TCLIP): Anti-Racism Advisory Committee and Community Volunteer Connections

Our involvement on community committees assists us in maintaining an active and positive presence at tables where youth issues are discussed. PLEA is seen as a knowledgeable contributor and has built valuable community relationships with partnering community agencies including SHARE Family and Community Services, S.U.C.C.E.S.S., Act II Child and Family Services, Port Coquitlam Parks and Recreation, Tri-Cities East Neighbourhood Centre, West Coast Family Resources Society, School District #43, Tri-City Transitions Society, Tri-Cities Child and Youth Mental Health and Youth Access. In addition to the above, PLEA is a member of the Tri Cities Co-operative.

Next year's goals...

- I. Continue to deliver the Lifeskills 101 Program to our youth.
- II. Ascertain learning needs for Tri Cities Service Providers and organize and present applicable Professional Development Workshops for PLEA staff and other service providers.
- III. Connect more Indigenous Youth to existing cultural resources, events, and programs as well as to Cultural Advisors in the community.
- IV. In collaboration with MCFD, implement a new Family Support Worker position to address this long-standing gap in Tri Cities

For more information...

Contact Jodi Mason, Program Manager at 604-708-2652 or email jmason@plea.bc.ca