

South London Neighbourhood Resource Centre Information Sheet

Background

Mission:

Empower and enrich the neighbourhood in an inclusive environment.

Vision:

Providing opportunities that engage and empower residents to achieve their personal potential and healthy quality of life.

Our Values:

Welcoming, Strong, Resilient, Diverse, Collaborative, Creative, Responsive

Location:

South London Neighbourhood Resource Centre main office is located in the South London Community Centre at 1119 Jalna Blvd.

Northwest London Resource Centre main location is located at 27A-1225 Wonderland Rd N.

Geographic Area Served:

The resource centre reaches from Westminster to White Oaks on to Westmount and ends at Medway reaching to Fox Hollow on the north. This area encompasses the work of SLNRC and NWLRC as well as the Neighbourhood Resource association of Westminster Park (NRAWP). Through Family Centre Westminster we also support Glen Cairn, and old south.

History:

In 1987 the Community Council of White Oaks raised enough funds to sponsor the building of a community resource centre for the residents of South London. Initially the site offered English language classes, early year programs and youth programs. In December of 1995 the Ministry of Community and Social Services (COMSOC) terminated its funding of neighbourhood resource centres in the province. The termination of financial support precipitated a complete change of all core services.

Between the 1995 funding cut and 1997, in an attempt to maintain some of the programming that had been developed in the South London community, the Community Council of White Oaks secured minimal funding. In April of 1997 the council received Venture Funding through the United Way for a part-time Youth Support Worker. Again, in April of 1998 the United Way supported the council by offering Venture Funding to fill the position of Community Development Co-ordinator. With both core positions receiving part-time funding the Community Council of White Oaks was able to begin rebuilding community programs.

As the geographical boundaries expanded and the needs of the community increased it soon became obvious that the Community Council of White Oaks was unable to continue to be effective in programming for the changing community. At this point it was evident that the Community Council of White Oaks needed additional help in supporting the at-risk families of South London, and that an increased capacity was required in the social service programming. In 1989 the community members and Community Council of White Oaks began to realize that for the South London area to continue to support at-risk residents in an inclusive manner the resource centre needed to be a separate charity from the Community Council of White Oaks. This shift in approach and service delivery required the resource centre to obtain charitable status and focus solely on supporting local residents who are deemed at-risk

and isolated based on barriers in their lives and community. The resource center began separating from the Community Council of White Oaks in November of 1998 when area residents met together to plan the formation of a new organization called the South London Neighbourhood Resource Centre.

Achievements

The creation of South London Neighbourhood Resource Centre precipitated the following events:

- **June 1999** Community Development Programs began including garden programs, collective kitchens, recruitment of new board, adult drop-in programs, community clean ups- First CORE funding through City of London.
- **February 2000** South London Neighbourhood Resource Centre became incorporated
- **June 2000** the South London Neighbourhood Resource Centre hosted a public meeting to establish a constitution
- **September 2000** the South London Neighbourhood Resource Centre - Board of Directors assumed the responsibility of all community projects which were previously managed by the Community Council of White Oaks
- **February 2001** Locking Hands Not Fists funding secured for 3 years
- **April 2001** Became a member agency of the United Way
- **April 2001** Youth Support Worker position received CORE funding through the City of London
- **May 2001** Received funding for Youth Service Canada Project – one year
- **February 2002** Pursuit of charitable status through Revenue Canada began
- **August 2003** Received funding for Breaking the Barriers of Isolation- 3 years
- **September 2003** Received Charitable Status through Revenue Canada
- **February 2004** Received partnered funding from London Community Foundation to begin the Youth Council of Westminster- ongoing
- **March 2004** Received funding for Skills Linc from HRDC-Neighbourhoods United in South London- 15 months
- **May 2004** Completion of the Strategic Delivery of Services Plan
- **September 2004** Received funding for Community Bridges –Youth Outreach to newcomers- one year
- **March 2005** Received funding for Community Bridges-Adult Outreach to Isolated Adults and seniors-one year
- **January 2006** Received stable CORE funding for volunteer services for isolated residents and newcomer (youth/seniors)-Empowerment through Volunteering
- **September 2006** Received funding through the City of London/Public Health Agency of Canada for Families First CAPC and Families First Preschool Drop-ins.
- **March 2007** Received stable CORE funding for Executive Director, Community Development, Youth Support Services, Volunteer Services for Adult & Youth.
- **November 2007** Received funding from Citizenship and Immigration to roll out Settlement Services in south London. ISAP & JSW Services.
- **November 2008** Received funding from Citizenship and Immigration to roll out Settlement Services in south London. Library Settlement Partnership.
- **Sept 2009** Received funding for Urban Priority Highschool Fund-5 years
- **February 2010** Received funding from Citizenship and Immigration to roll out Settlement Services in Schools (SWIS-London).
- **August 2012** Accepted Co-lead role with the White Oaks Family Centre
- **February 2013** Received funding for White Oaks Family Centre Facilitator-Community Development lead with residents.-one year
- **May 2015** Doors open to the White Oaks Family Centre- SLNRC ED is the co-lead
- **July 2015** SLCC opens its doors after renovations. Settlement services finally in proper space

- **Feb 2016** established 3 year strategic plan for SLNRC
- **Feb 2016** partnered with WIL employment services for employment services at SLCC
- **April 2016** IRCC funded to support Syrian newcomers
- **May 2016** Appointed Lead agency for the Westminster Family Centre-Doors open May 2017
- **June 2016** partnered with RBC Centre for at risk children and families to support moderate to severe mental health care for immigrant and refugees at the SLCC
- **August 2016** Lead agency for the Hello Neighbour- integration program for new Syrian families in 9 London Neighbourhoods
- **October 2017** Northwest London Resource Centre began discussion on joining South London to create administrative efficiencies
- **October 2018** NWLRC & SLNRC passed new by-laws to formally bind NWLRC and SLNRC into one administration system.
- **January 2019** SLNRC secured funding to provide EarlyOn services through Family Centre Westminster and within the catchment area of family Centre Westminster
- **Feb 2020**-SLNRC & NWLRC set new strategic plans
- **April 2020** NWLRC secured IRCC Settlement funding
- **April 2020** COVID closed doors-SLNRC moved food bank to NWLRC.
- **May 2020** NWLRC & SLNRC food cupboard grew from 100 individuals a month to 1,000 individuals, Breakfast bags launched at 450 bags a week.
- **March 2021** SLNRC expanded Westmount Settlement office from 500 square feet to 3,292 square feet
- **May 2021** SLNRC at (1119 Jalna Blvd) will launch as the London Food Banks neighbourhood site

The South London Neighbourhood Resource Centre empowers and enriches the neighbourhood in an inclusive environment. South London Neighbourhood Resource Centre has created a seamless transition for NWLRC to bring all administration functions to SLNRC. As of April 2021 NWLRC we reestablished accounting systems directly in line with their banking system now that they are a sound financial system. However, payroll will continue under SLNRC for its efficiencies it creates. We have also reset NWLRC in a neighbourhood resource centre format that would function in the north west part of London.

The South London Neighbourhood Resource Centre is a vital connection between many agencies and community residents. Currently the South London Neighbourhood Resource Centre provides a variety of services including being an information network to other organizations and the greater community. Our expertise is in supporting high-risk families with children under the age of 6, Youth Services, Volunteer Services, Basic needs Services and Newcomer Settlement Services. Our approach is with a community development lens that empowers residents to actively participate in the strengthening of their home life and community living. All of our services are tied to a Community Development approach that allows the community to participate in the development and delivery of the services.

Future Plans

The South London Neighbourhood Resource Centre has 74 employees (12 employees represent NWLRC however are formally under SLNRC payroll) the agency manages programs in White Oaks, Westminster, and Westmount. Now through NWLRC we support West London, Medway, Hyde Park and Fox Hollow. We are located at

1. South London Community Centre 1119 Jalna Blvd (main site),
2. Westminster Optimist Centre 650 Osgoode Drive, (NRAWP site)
3. St. Francis Catholic School 680 Osgoode Drive, (Family Centre Westminster site)
4. 38 area school, (White Oaks, Westmount –SWIS workers)

5. Southdale London Housing Complex 977 Southdale road, (Educational Enhancement Project)
6. Westmount Mall 785 Wonderland Road South (Settlement offices)
7. Sherwood Forest Mall 1225 Wonderland Rd N (Northwest London Resource Centre site)
8. Jalna Branch Library 1119 Jalna Blvd (Settlement Staff)
9. Bostwick Library 501 Southdale Road W (Settlement Staff)

With our services now across 1/3 of the city we are also in demand for our emergency food resources. For us to be able to meet that demand we need to make sure our spaces are accessible and our supplies are secured. Our current growing concern is the space at Sherwood Forest Mall. The mall wants us to move into a different space that is a blank open warehouse. We have no resources to transform this into a viable working space. We have been asked to move by June 2021 at the latest.

How Can You Help?

The South London Neighbourhood Resource Centre is looking for area residents that are interested in joining the South London Neighbourhood Resource Centre team by:

- Bringing your family and or friends to programs or events hosted virtually or in person by the South London Neighbourhood Resource Centre
- Volunteering with one of our 3 Neighbourhood Resource Centre's
- Joining the Board of Directors of the South London Neighbourhood Resource Centre

If you are interested in more program information or volunteering with South London Neighbourhood Resource Centre either come to the office at South London Community Centre, 1119 Jalna Blvd or call 686-8600. As for Heather Molen-Volunteer Co-ordinator. 686-8600 ext 7396

If you are interested in joining the Board of Directors

We ask that interested candidates review the following skills that would be helpful to the future development of the South London Neighbourhood Resource Centre.

- A keen interest in serving the culturally diverse community
- A keen interest in further developing and enhancing community resources
- Participate in speaking engagements on behalf of the organization to potential funders
- Knowledge or interest in a volunteer supported organization
- Knowledge or interest in a community based and community supported resource centre
- Experience on other community boards and fundraising experience are assets

Objectives for the Board of Directors

- To review & understand the current operations of the South London Neighbourhood Resource Centre and the Northwest London Resource Centre
- To embrace the values, mission and vision of the SLNRC & NWLRC
- To support the implementation of the Strategic Plans for SLNRC & NWLRC
- To generate community involvement through the recruitment and development of a Board of directors, volunteers, & community partners
- To provide the community with accessible and inclusive programming that directly impacts the issues of poverty, advances education, increases recreation, provides child minding and other services related to the environmental, cultural and mental health needs
- To raise funds through special events, corporate sponsorship/partnerships, funding and grant applications with the help of the Executive Director
- To increase the number of community members accessing the South London Neighbourhood Resource Centre/Northwest London Resource Centre and its programs by maintaining quality

- programs that meet the community needs and continue to establish a high profile in London.
- To assist where possible a community development approach that plans globally and delivers services locally.

Board of Director's Terms of Reference

1. The Board of Directors will be responsible to oversee the operations of the South London Neighbourhood Resource Centre/Northwest London Resource Centre and maintain the policies and procedures of the South London Neighbourhood Resource Centre.
2. The Board will be managed through the implementation of the South London Neighbourhood Resource Centre bi-laws
3. The Board members will be available for monthly meetings excluding (July & August). Unless special meeting is called.

Interested persons should contact the South London Neighbourhood Resource Centre office to set up a meeting time to discuss your interest in the board of directors

Contact person:
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