

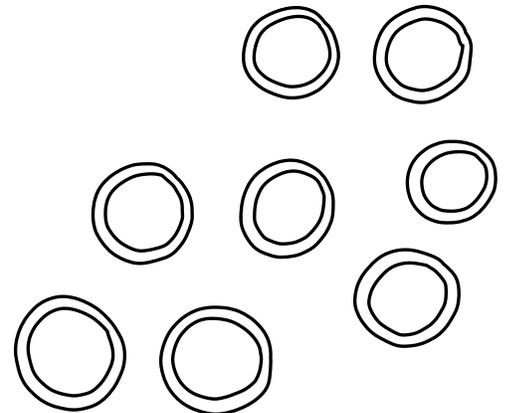
2021/2022  
**Annual  
Report**

 LGBT youthline

# Our Mission

**LGBT YouthLine is a 2SLGBTQ+ youth-led organization that affirms and supports the experiences of youth (29 and under) across Ontario. We do this by:**

- Providing anonymous peer support and referrals
- Training youth to provide support to other youth
- Providing resources so youth can make informed decisions



## Land Acknowledgement

LGBT YouthLine works in the place often referred to as Ontario, which continues to be colonized land, and is home to many Indigenous communities. Our head office is located in Tkaronto (Toronto), which is the territory of the Wendat and Petun First Nations, the Seneca, and most recently, the Mississaugas of the Credit River. Today, the meeting place of Tkaronto remains home to many Indigenous peoples across Turtle Island. YouthLine works in this context and on this territory with a continued commitment towards Indigenous solidarity.

All Character Illustrations by @JasmineDrawing

# Table of Contents

Letter from the ED & Co-Chairs .....	4
Peer Support Helpline .....	5
Youth Leadership Programs .....	9
Provincial Youth Ambassador Program (PYAP) .....	10
YouthOrganize.....	12
Outreach and Partnerships.....	13
Celebrating Youth.....	18
Our Infrastructure Keeps Growing .....	20
Learning, Grounding, Growing .....	21
Looking Forward .....	23
Who Supported Us .....	24
Financials .....	26
Our Team.....	27



THEY TOOK THE TIME TO LISTEN TO ME AND GIVE ME A NICE, THOUGHT-OUT RESPONSE TO MY VERY DIFFICULT SITUATION. I FELT LIKE I COULD UNRAVEL WHAT WAS GOING ON IN MY LIFE AND FIND A CLEARER ANSWER. MORE THAN ALL THE MENTAL HEALTH WORKERS I TALKED WITH BEFORE. THANK YOU VERY MU(H)!" (SERVICE USER)



# Letter from the Board Co-Chairs

**LGBT YouthLine's work is centred on providing affirming peer support to youth across Ontario. As we continue to manage the ongoing effects and aftermath of the pandemic, the past year required us to be flexible and creative as we support youth, support each other, and build cultures of care.**

Thanks to the deep commitment of community members, partners, donors, and friends, YouthLine has continued to see growth in our dedicated staff and volunteer teams. It is only because of these incredible teams that 2SLGBTQ+ youth continue to have a reliable access to the HelpLine when they most need it and have opportunities to build community with our innovative leadership programs. From new podcasts developed by the Provincial Youth Ambassador Program to new e-Learning modules for our teams, we continue to find new ways of providing support and resources to 2SLGBTQ+ youth, including reimagining how best to meet the needs of HelpLine callers. This growth has called on us to consider how we can sustainably, mindfully, and holistically provide support to everyone that YouthLine touches.

As of the summer of 2022 we have had internal leadership changes with **Berkha Gupta**, YouthLine's Executive Director for the last six years, beginning a one-year leave of absence. The Board recognizes the incredible work and leadership of Berkha and fully supports them in this decision. We are immensely grateful for the many ways they have shown up for this organization.

We have also welcomed **Philip Wong** (back) to YouthLine as our Interim Executive Director. Philip has been a phone line volunteer and was previously the Executive Director, and we are excited about his return to lead us into our 30th year. Welcoming him back has served as a great reminder of the incredible community YouthLine has developed in our almost three decades of work.

We want to take this opportunity to thank everyone who has been part of YouthLine's work and growth this past year – our dedicated staff and volunteers for showing up every day, and our supporters, partners, and donors for their efforts in supporting 2SLGBTQ+ youth. **Most importantly, we want to thank the youth we interact with every day; you remind us all that in order for us to live in a world where everybody is celebrated and supported, we each have a responsibility to provide support and ask for it when needed.**

With care,

*Juan Luis Garrido*

*Natalie Elisha*

**Juan Luis Garrido and Natalie Elisha**  
Co-Chairs, Board of Directors

# Peer Support HelpLine

This year has been full of significant changes for our Peer Support HelpLine program. Last year saw us adapting our service to run virtually, expanding our volunteer pool to youth from across the province, and developing an entirely new training for our phone volunteers.

This year gave us the chance to regroup. We have been laying the groundwork to increase the capacity of the HelpLine and grow it into a more sustainable service.

In the summer of 2021, we ran a training cohort almost double the size of our usual cohorts, welcoming 25 new chat & text volunteers to the lines! By adding more volunteers than usual at one time, we were able to quickly increase our capacity and keep up with increased demand for the HelpLine's services. We also continue to expand the locations of our volunteer pool, with 28% of our volunteers located outside of the GTA.

To keep up with the growth of our HelpLine, we restructured our staffing model, moving towards a coordinator model with each staff dedicated to a specialized area.

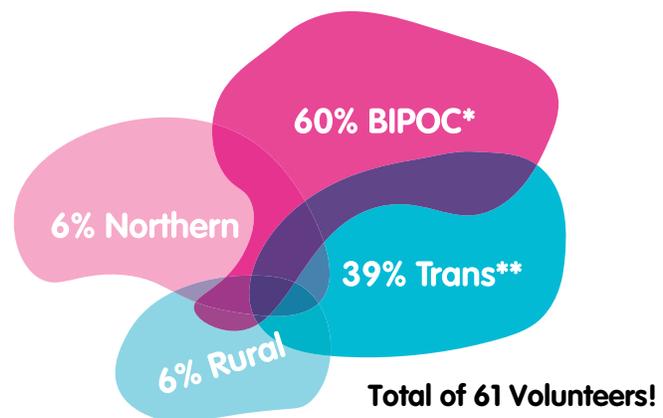
## Volunteer Data

Toronto:  
**56%**

GTA (Excluding Toronto):  
**16%**

Outside of the GTA:  
**28%**

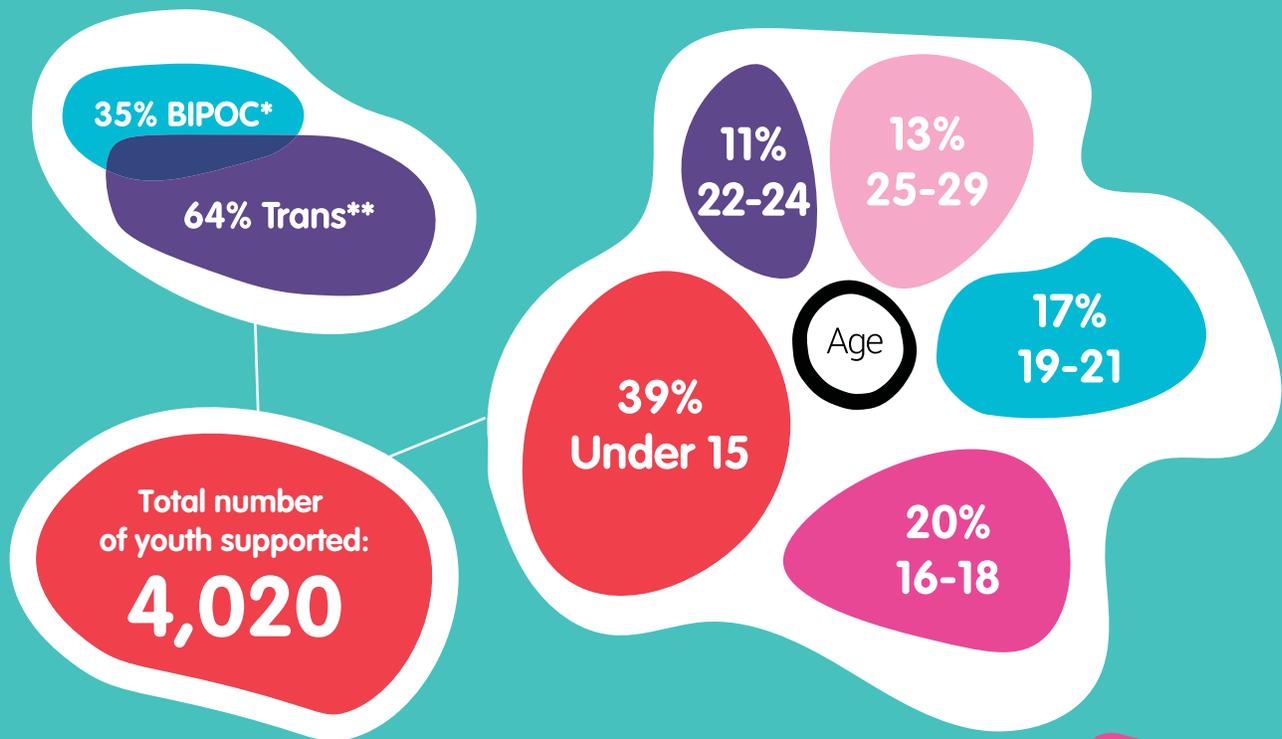
After reaching over **4,000 unique contacts** with youth this year, this preparatory work on the HelpLine feels timely. The number of youth we were able to support increased by **25%** compared to the last year.



\* Black, Indigenous, Youth of Colour

\*\* Includes Trans, Non-Binary, Gender Non-Conforming, GenderFluid, and Questioning youth

# Who We Supported in 2021/2022



I DON'T REALLY HAVE ANY QUEER PPL IN MY LIFE I CAN GO TO SO THIS (HAT REALLY HELPED ME SORT OUT MY FEELINGS! I APPRECIATE EVERYTHING THAT UVE DONE 4 ME." (SERVICE USER)

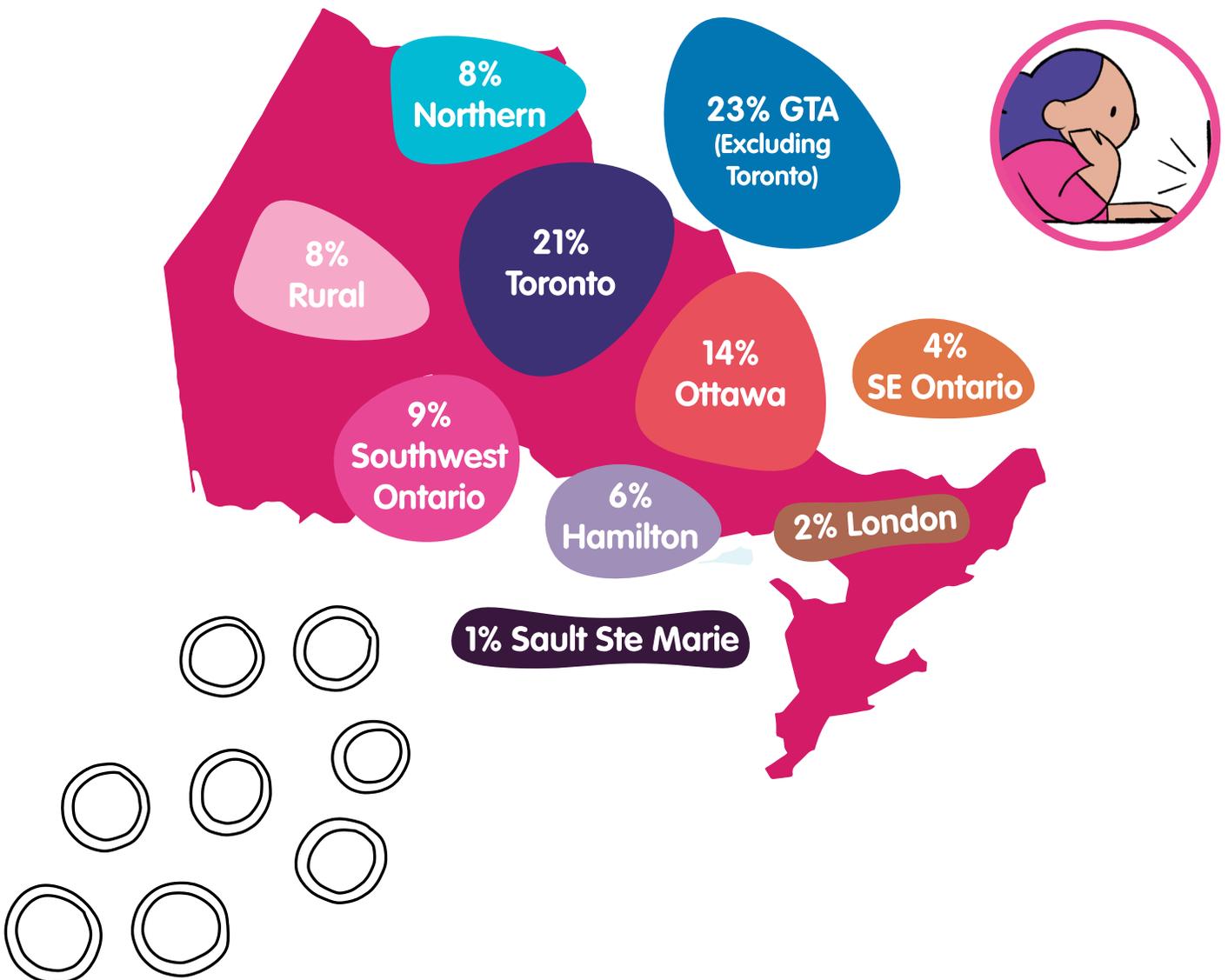
\* Black, Indigenous, Youth of Colour

\*\* Includes Trans, Non-Binary, Gender Non-Conforming, GenderFluid, and Questioning youth

# Top Issues Discussed



# Location of Youth



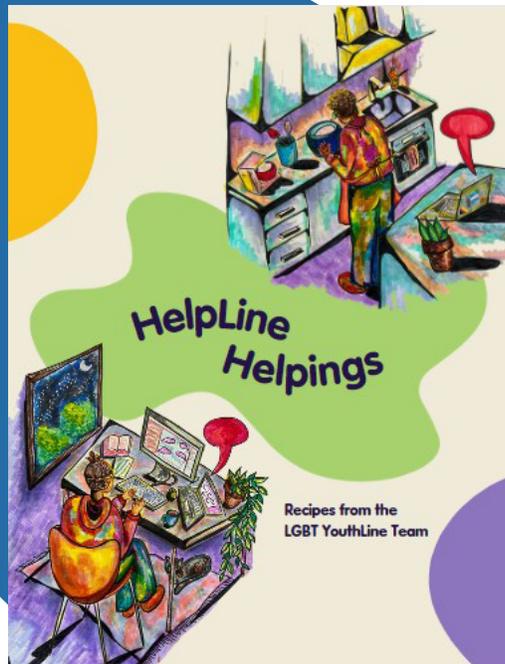
# Revamping our Volunteer Training

Improving and expanding the training experience for our HelpLine volunteers was an important step for us this year, and that process started with choosing a Learning Management System (LMS): an online platform on which to host our trainings. Since all our volunteers are youth, we prioritized the selection of an engaging and interactive LMS. Ultimately, **Auzmor** won due to the range of features it offered, such as an accessible user experience, options for interactive content, and user report generation.

Two of our Peer Support staff, **Sierra & Caleb**, shifted roles to lead the creation of our new online training model. With both internal and external support, content for e-learning modules is well underway this year.

## HelpLine Helpings: Recipes from the LGBT YouthLine Team

Snacking during HelpLine shifts has always been a cherished part of YouthLine's culture and lore, dating back to our extensive snack request list from when we had a physical Service Room. As a volunteer appreciation gift and an effort to regain some of that connection, we created YouthLine's first crowd-sourced cookbook! Volunteers and staff were encouraged to contribute their favourite meals and snacks, and some wrote stories about what these dishes meant to them. We also enlisted the work of volunteers **Pri** for original illustrations and **Jyn** for overall design.



# Youth Leadership Programs



## Provincial Youth Ambassador Program

By LGBT YouthLine

Having to remain an entirely virtual program, the model for PYAP changed again in two ways. First, we adjusted the staffing model to two full-time coordinators. Second, we introduced two streams of the program: Build Better and Healing Spaces.

While there were challenges in the recruitment and retention of Youth Ambassadors (YAs) as 2SLGBTQ+ youth continued to navigate the ongoing effects of the pandemic, the YAs participated in their streams to develop skills and create projects based on building better futures for 2SLGBTQ+ youth.

Total applications: **98**

Total YAs accepted: **22**

Indigenous Youth:  
4

Black Youth:  
7

POC Youth:  
8

Trans Youth:  
15

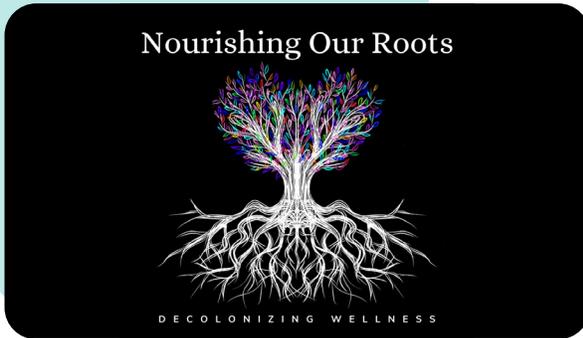
“

THEY WERE REALLY HELPFUL AND REALLY SHOWED THAT THEY WERE LISTENING TO ALL MY WORRIES AND EVERYTHING I TYPED. WHEN I SAY EVERYTHING, I MEAN EVERYTHING. THEY KEPT EVERYTHING IN MIND WHEN THEY WERE MESSAGING ME AND I FELT UNDERSTOOD.” (SERVICE USER)

## PYAP Projects

### Podcasts Series

Part of PYAP’s Build Better stream was interpreting what a better future can be for 2SLGBTQ+ youth. To explore this vision, YAs worked with PYAP staff to launch two podcasts:



**Nourishing Our Roots** dived into holistic approaches to decolonizing wellness and self-care, and the critical role that healing plays in a better future for 2SQTBIPOC communities.

#### Nourishing Our Roots Credits:

**Ashiana Ismail, Grace Guillame**

Creators & Hosts

**Grace Guillame**

Music

**Tahmina Giasi**

Logo art

**kumari giles**

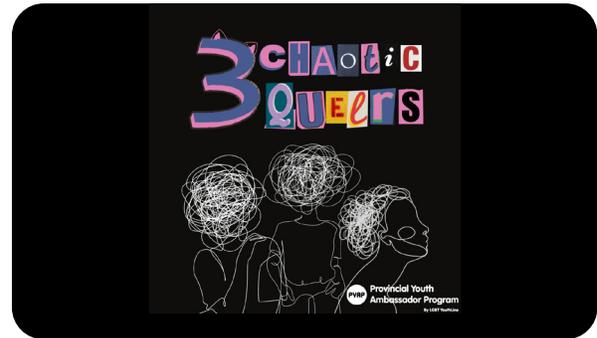
Production support & Creative Mentor

**Umang Antariksh Sagar**

Audio Editor

**Destiny**

Logistics support



**3 Chaotic Queers** focused on their current observations of the world as a whole and how they envisioned things changing when moving forward towards a better future for all 2SLGBTQ+ youth.

#### 3 Chaotic Queers Credits:

**Nicole, Rabia, Sydney**

Creators & Hosts

**Nicole and Umang**

Audio technicians

**Rabia, Sydney, Saadia**

Promotions team

**Sydney, Umang, Cameo**

Transcription

**kumari giles**

Production support and Creative Mentor:

**Katrina**

Logistics support



CLICK HERE TO OPEN SPOTIFY  
TO LISTEN TO OUR PODCASTS!



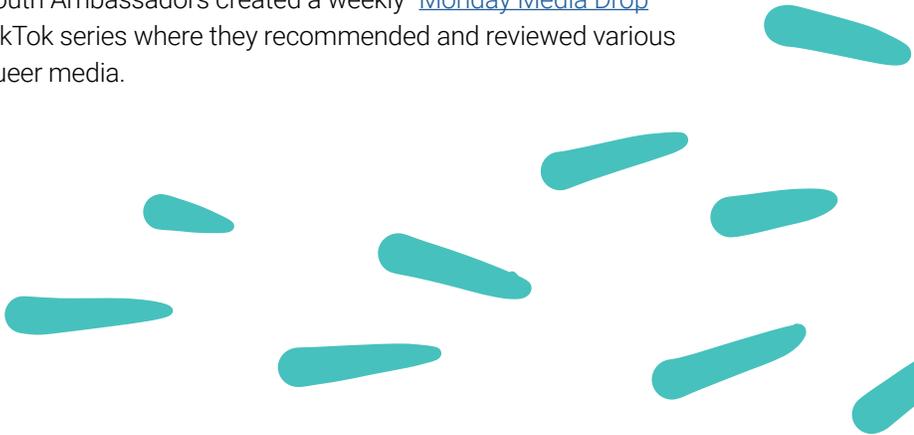
Unicorn design by SJ Graphics | saidjiddawy.com



Visit our TikTok!

### TikTok: Monday Media Drops!

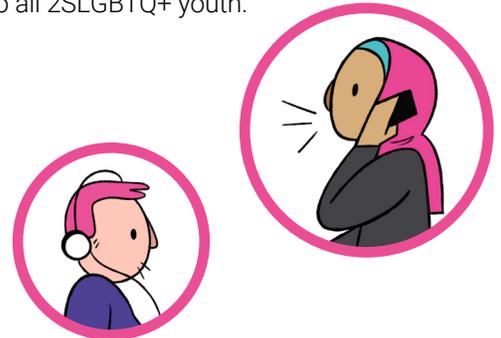
Youth Ambassadors created a weekly “Monday Media Drop” TikTok series where they recommended and reviewed various queer media.



Visit the Zine!

### Affirm, Honour, Express Zine

The Affirm, Honour, and Express Zine was created to highlight the many ways that 2SLGBTQ+ youth affirm, honour, and express their individual identities when they do not feel safe to be out. Submissions to the zine were open to all 2SLGBTQ+ youth.



Visit the Zine!

### Healing Spaces & Healing Spaces Zine

Healing Spaces were born out of a need for Black and Indigenous 2SLGBTQ+ youth to have spaces where they could celebrate their cultural heritages and traditions. These spaces involved skill shares, wellness activities, and the collaborative creation of the Healing Spaces Zine.

The Healing Space Zine was created to prioritize 2SLGBTQ+ Black and Indigenous youth who have faced increased isolation due to the pandemic. Through these Healing Spaces, we helped reconnect participants to their culture and heritage while decolonizing gender and sexuality. The pieces created for this zine are reflective of participants’ healing journeys, dreams, and hopes for a decolonized future.



In the Fall of 2021, YouthOrganize (YO) staff realized that the cohort model was not sustainable for the program. Recruitment and retention were a challenge throughout the program due to staffing changes, leadership shifts, and difficult timelines. This led to the YouthOrganize team putting the program’s model on pause and, in collaboration with the eight members of Cohort 2, turning the cohort into a Steering Committee to address the challenges YO was facing.

Based on the direction from the Steering Committee and QTBIPOC sauga – a grassroots gathering based in Peel – YouthOrganize held **Listening Sessions** for 2SQTBIPOC folks in the Peel and Halton regions. During these sessions, a total of 34 community members came together to discuss QTBIPOC community in their regions and provide guidance for future YO programming.

While it has been a year of change for YouthOrganize, the Listening Sessions and new structure have given fresh direction for the program. This time has allowed for reflection and consultation with community to work together to meet the needs expressed by youth in the Peel and Halton regions.



THIS IS THE FIRST SPACE I'VE FELT CONNECTED TO QTBIPOC IN PEEL, SO THANK YOU FOR THIS."

**62%** of participants named they do not have any QTBIPOC spaces in their region that they have a connection to.

**75%** of participants named that the pandemic has had a negative effect on their connection to community.

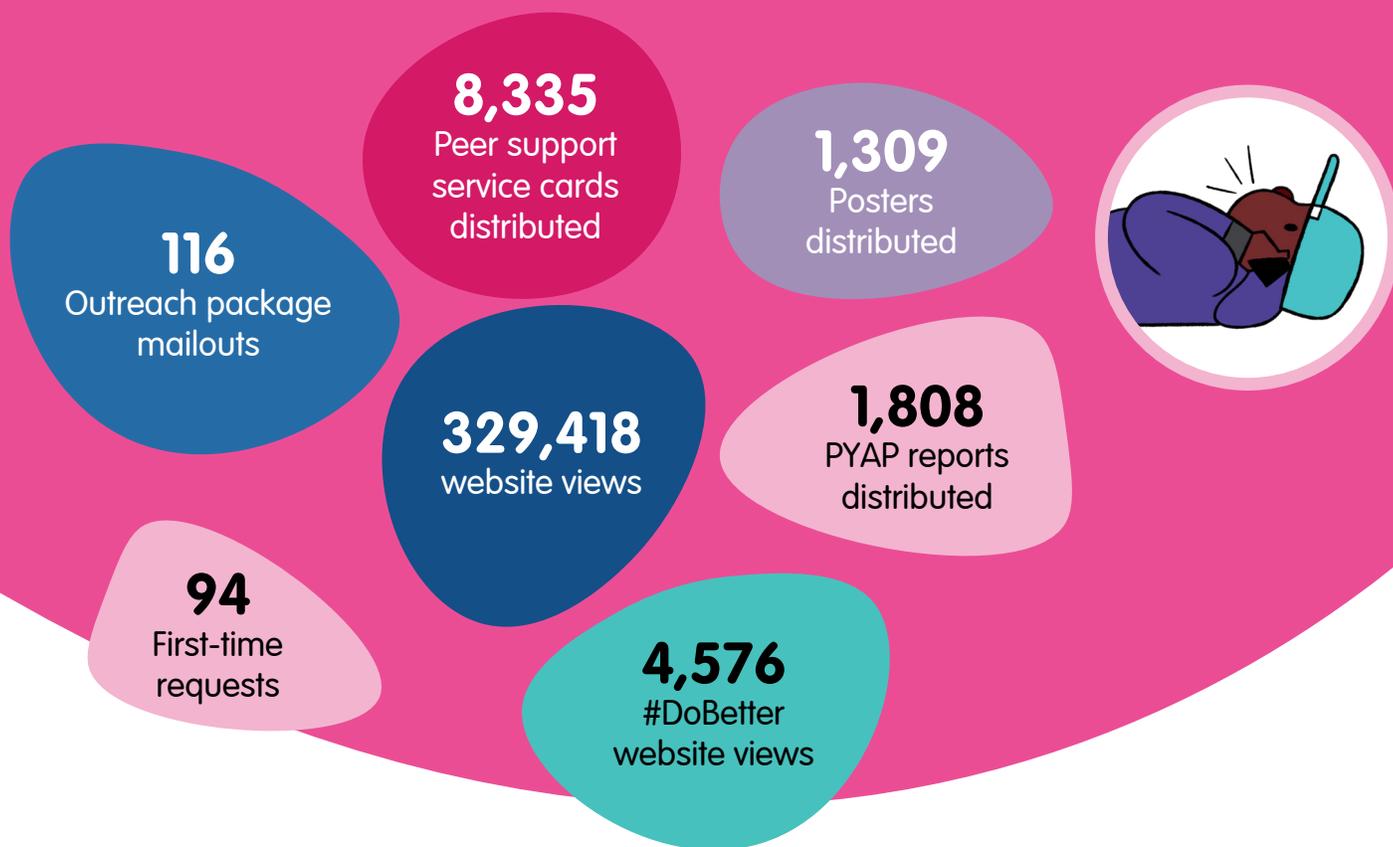
## What's Next for YouthOrganize?

YouthOrganize, in collaboration with QTBIPOC sauga, is bringing together 2SLGBTQ+ youth in the Peel and Halton regions to host 2SLGBTQ+ programming, strengthen leadership skills, and build community. Guided by a Youth Advisory Committee (YAC), YouthOrganize will host various arts-based workshop series and drop-in spaces that will be offered for free in Peel and Halton for 2SLGBTQ+ youth to attend. Throughout all programming, we will be working towards the development of an anthology comprised of a collection of creative pieces from 2SLGBTQ+ youth.

# Outreach and Partnerships

Throughout the year, staff connected with over 50 community organizations, youth groups, and collectives to virtually deliver presentations, speak on panels or conferences, and share resources and supports for 2SLGBTQ+ youth.

**We created and delivered over 15 #DoBetter presentations to organizations throughout the province, highlighting specific recommendations that were most applicable to their organization.**

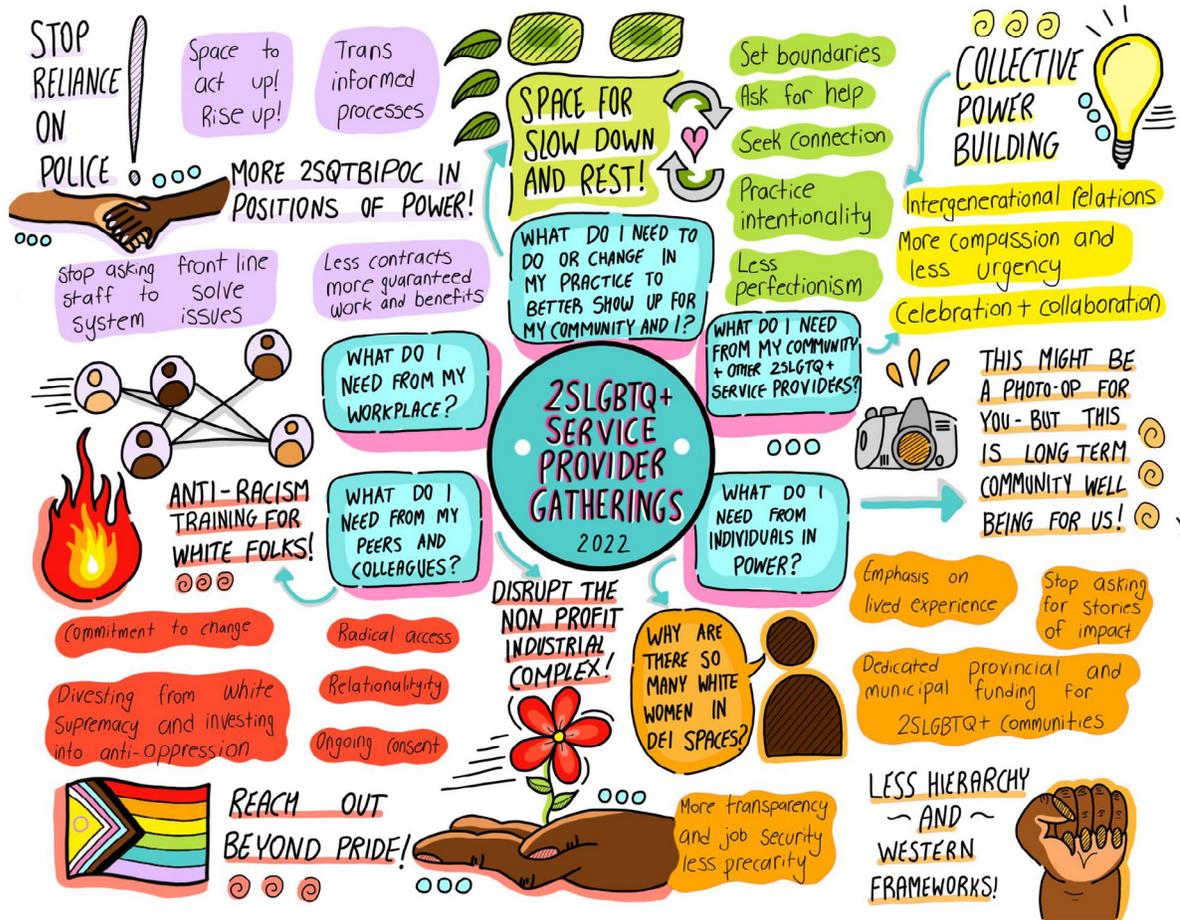


## Partnerships

**Reconnecting your Spirit:** In collaboration with M'Wikwedong Building Gender Diverse Communities, we hosted a second cohort of "Reconnecting your Spirit," a program exclusively for Two-Spirit, Indigiqueer, and LGBTQ+ Indigenous youth who live in Ontario. The program brought together youth and Elders to build bundles, tell stories, and connect in an online environment.

**Asking about Gender:** In collaboration with YouthRex, we created and launched "[Asking about Gender: A Toolkit for Youth Workers](#)" in an online webinar with over 400 attendees! The toolkit breaks down five assumptions about gender and provides youth workers with an example of an inclusive gender menu. A secondary webinar is being planned for the upcoming year, which will be exclusively open to youth-sector funders.

# Service Provider Gatherings



Graphic Facilitation by [Harmeet Rehal](#)

In early 2022, YouthLine hosted three “Gatherings” for 2SLGBTQ+ service providers who support 2SLGBTQ+ youth. The dream of the Gatherings came after the province-wide launch of our PYAP Needs Assessment in 2020, where we connected with dozens of other 2SLGBTQ+ service providers who all discussed their feelings around isolation, systemic violence, and burnout. These experiences were echoed in 2021 after our online launch for the Do Better report.

Northern, Rural, Small Towns & Reserves Gathering

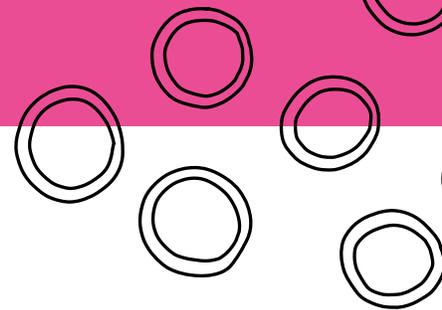
Trans, Two Spirit, Non-Binary & Gender Diverse Gathering

Black, Indigenous, & People of Colour Gathering

“

BEING PART OF THIS SPACE WAS A JOY AND A PRIVILEGE. MY WORK GOING FORWARD WILL BE TO FULLY UNDERSTAND THAT I WAS PART OF IT AND THAT IT COULD NOT HAVE BEEN HOW IT WAS WITHOUT ME, OR ANY OF US. IF I LOVED THE GATHERING IN ALL OF ITS FULLNESS, I AM ALSO CALLED TO LOVE ALL OF MYSELF.”

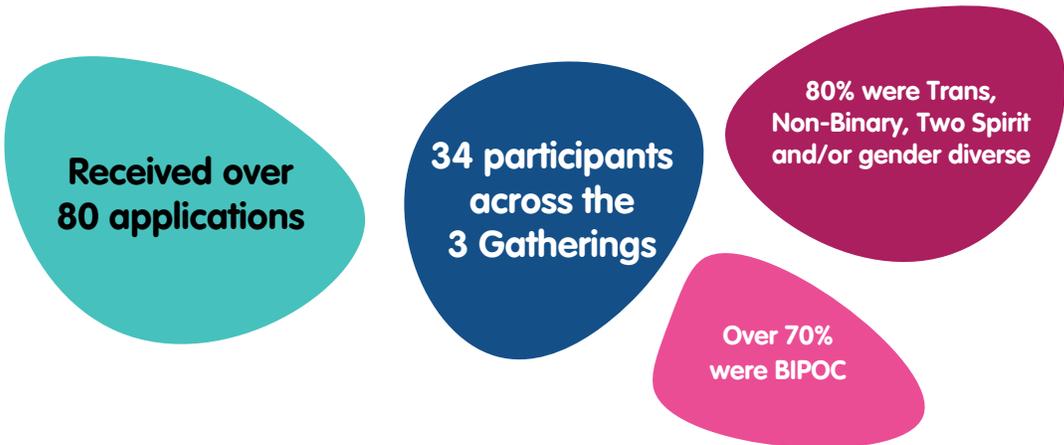
(NORTHERN, RURAL, SMALL TOWNS AND RESERVES GATHERING PARTICIPANT)



The Service Provider Gatherings were four-day, online opportunities for 2SLGBTQ+ service providers who support 2SLGBTQ+ youth to come together and build connections and community. Outside of the typical networking model, the Gatherings provided intentional space to center relationships, community, and (re-)imagined futures, as well as engage in deeper conversations around systemic challenges.



THIS GATHERING HAS BEEN A MUCH NEEDED GLIMPSE OF THE SUN, OF WARMTH AND POSSIBILITY FOR A FUTURE WHERE YOUTH ARE SUPPORTED IN ALL ASPECTS OF THEIR LIVES AND THE WILDFLOWERS GROW FAR AND WIDE. I FEEL LESS ALONE NOW, BECAUSE OF YOU." (TRANS GATHERING PARTICIPANT)

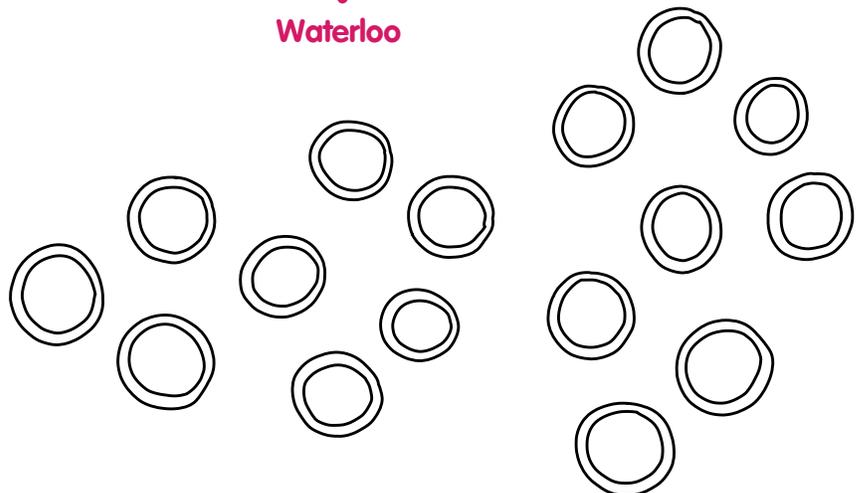


BEING ABLE TO SPEAK FREELY AND OPENLY, FEELING SPACE TO BE MY FULL, AUTHENTIC SELF, WAS WHAT MY HEART NEEDED. I FELT SAFE AND SUPPORTED WITH YOU, ABLE TO SPEAK WITHOUT FEAR OF BEING TOO MUCH, TOO LOUD, TOO MYSELF. CONNECTION IS EVERYTHING TO ME, AND I AM SO GRATEFUL FOR THE MEANINGFUL CONNECTIONS I WAS ABLE TO CREATE DURING OUR TIME TOGETHER." (BIPOC GATHERING PARTICIPANT)

# Outreach & Communications Assistants

Through the modified Canada Summer Jobs (CSJ) program, we received funding for 17 assistant positions throughout Ontario. Eight youth completed their positions in the summer and nine youth completed them in the fall. In total, there were four Digital Communications Assistants and thirteen Community Engagement Assistants.

## The assistants joined us from:



## Mapping Research Project

**In the fall, seven assistants worked on a collaborative community mapping research project to capture a snapshot of the realities of supports available to 2SLGBTQ+ youth in different regions across Ontario.**

The students compiled 1075 resources and organizations. Out of these, only 114 had 2SLGBTQ+ specific programming. After analyzing the data, they presented their findings and provided recommendations for ways we can move forward in continuing our learning about provincial needs and strengthening our provincial mandate.

**This research is being used to:**

- Update our Resource and Referral Databases
- Identify priority regions for outreach across programs
- Inform our new training model to ensure it increases understanding of provincial context across the organization

## Resource & Referrals

**Another group of students focused on updating our resource and referral vetting process, reviewing resources, and building new systems and tools to strengthen our referral processes.**

## Climate Despair resource

**One assistant prioritized sharing thoughts, experiences, and feelings across the team in regard to climate change once we realized how many of us were feeling anxiety about the Earth.** We wanted to unpack the term “climate despair” and offer some resources to support 2SLGBTQ+ youth. The research led to the creation of a [Climate Despair resource](#).



## Trans Awareness Week

**Thanks to our small but mighty Digital Communications team, we were able to run more social media campaigns over the year and strengthen our presence during significant time periods for 2SLGBTQ+ youth.**

During Trans Awareness Week, our team posted four resources across our social media accounts. A resource on [What Not to Say to Trans People](#) quickly became our all-time, most liked post on Instagram!

## #DoBetter Toolkit

**Assistants began working on a toolkit for the #DoBetter report, which includes everything needed to present our #DoBetter recommendations, including a slide show, talking points, FAQs, and presentation tips.** The Toolkit will be used by future Youth Ambassadors, who will be delivering presentations about the report.

## Presentations & Outreach

**One group of CSJ students facilitated 10 presentations about YouthLine to organizations who provide services for 2SLGBTQ+ youth.**

# Celebrating Youth

## Pride 2021: #Dare2Imagine Once Again

With another Pride season during the pandemic characterized by social distancing, we took the opportunity to bring back our theme of #Dare2Imagine, as we dared to imagine joyful futures for 2SLGBTQ+ youth.

This year, we saw an increase in third-party donations, namely from small businesses. Folks sold everything from apparel to art pieces, from homemade jewelry to home goods, with portion-of-sales or even entire profits being donated to YouthLine. Heartened by everyone who was donating to us, we made sure to share their fundraisers on our social media accounts.

A large donation also came in from sales of Roots' Pride collection. We received the opportunity for YouthLine staff to model the clothing, which was featured on the Roots website!

With this immense support from organizations big and small, we reached our fundraising goal of \$50,000!

To thank our donors, we sent postcards that we commissioned from Ojibwe illustrator Shawn Howe, who created a design weaving together Indigenous and 2SLGBTQ+ joy, resistance, resiliency, and community.



## Holiday 2021: 2SLGBTQ+ Joy

**The holidays should be a time of joy and celebration, but can often be isolating and difficult for 2SLGBTQ+ youth. Add to that the conditions of the ongoing pandemic across the province, leading to increased feelings of disconnect and loneliness.**

To support connection during the holidays, we focused on small moments of 2SLGBTQ+ joy. On our social media pages, we shared moments of joy sent in by our staff, Board members, and volunteers.

We also commissioned Maddie Wijiishimotaw-Tagwanibisan (they/them), owner of Western Sky Designs, to create our holiday card. The card was offered to YouthLine volunteers, staff, and Board members, as well as donors.



“Zaagi’idiwag: they love each other. I believe moments of queer joy can be found all around us; in all places and spaces where we are able to authentically and comfortably love ourselves and our kin in the many and diverse ways that our spirits were meant to.”

- Maddie Wijiishimotaw-Tagwanibisan

## Black History Month

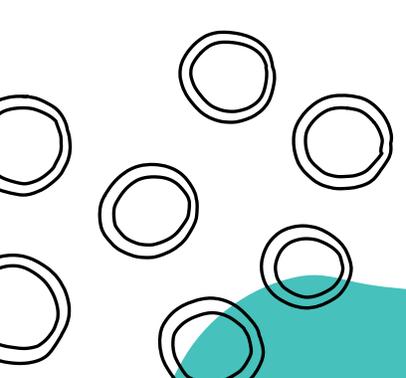
**During February, we made an offering to Black 2SLGBTQ+ youth in Ontario for gift cards to go towards a meal. Coming together to eat food is one way to build community, which we hoped to provide through this offering.**



We know that Black 2SLGBTQ+ youth continue to be impacted at higher proportions during a time of increased isolation when in-person gatherings could not safely take place.

We offered the gift cards to the first 100 youth to sign up, and within just a few hours we reached our goal!

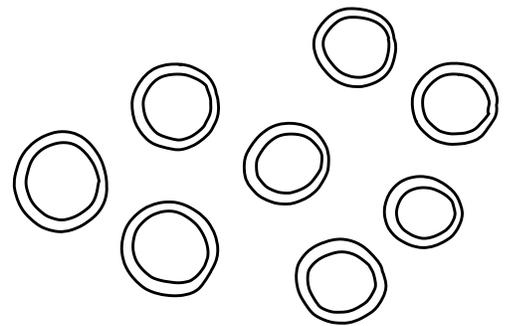
We also commissioned terra, a Black youth artist, to create a design affirming Black 2SLGBTQ+ youth, which we offered in the form of a postcard.



# Our Infrastructure Keeps Growing!

**As YouthLine continues to grow, so does the need to support our staff and volunteers. Our Operations team is stronger than ever before, with three permanent staff members and multiple assistants supporting the team throughout the year.**

In the 2021-2022 year, there was an increased focus on improving our infrastructure. We completed a Human Resources Audit, and are in the final stages of a Technology Audit. Both of these audits highlighted strengths and areas of improvements in our policies, processes, and procedures at YouthLine. The Operations team strives to provide insightful and meaningful resources to our staff, and will continue to adapt to the changing landscape of our organization.



//

I'M FOREVER GRATEFUL FOR MY TIME AT YOUTHLINE AS A VOLUNTEER. Y'ALL ARE TRULY AN AMAZING ORGANIZATION FOR SERVICE USERS AND VOLUNTEERS. KEEP DOING WHAT YOU'RE DOING! :) (VOLUNTEER)

# Learning, Grounding, Growing

YouthLine received funding from the City of Toronto to run a multi-week workshop series aimed to provide practical mental health support skills to 2SLGBTQ+ youth.

There were two series called “Train-the-Trainer,” where HelpLine volunteers learned how to teach other youth the basics of our Active Listening model.

**There were also four series targeted at specific groups of youth living in Toronto:**

- Ages 12-18
- BIPOC
- Sick and Disabled
- Trans and Gender Diverse

Each workshop focused on a specific approach or tool that youth could use to support themselves or peers. Topics included: body-based and somatic tools, setting boundaries, arts-based skills, and active listening skills (taught by our HelpLine volunteers!). A total of 65 youth participated throughout the workshops.



**Thank you**

The Learning, Grounding, Growing project would not have been possible without our amazing project lead, Gavrel Feldman, and a whole team of skilled and amazing workshop facilitators, artists, and content developers. They brought our workshop series and our lovely new tools to life! Special thanks to the City of Toronto whose funding made this project possible.

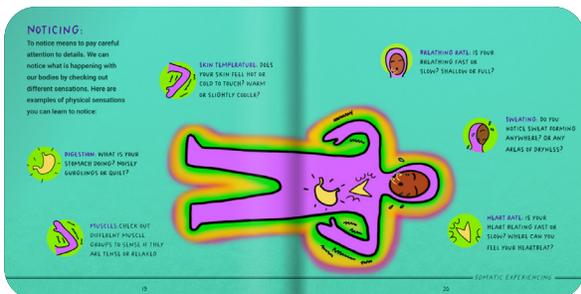
“

THE WORKSHOP SERIES MADE ME LEARN TO VALUE MYSELF MORE. IN THE PAST I’VE STRUGGLED WITH PUTTING THE NEEDS OF OTHERS BEFORE MY OWN, BUT I AM LEARNING TO BUILD A HEALTHY RELATIONSHIP WITH BEING MY OWN PERSON.”

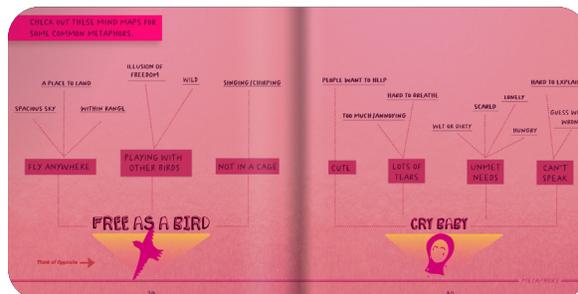
(WORKSHOP PARTICIPANT)

# Practical Tools for 2SLGBTQ+ Youth

Knowing that we wanted to reach even more youth, we developed three mental health tools as part of the Learning, Grounding, Growing project.



The [Somatic Experiencing Zine](#) guides readers through the process of noticing and describing feelings in their bodies. The aim is to establish new ways of relating to oneself, and to find balance and calm after talking about difficult emotions. Connecting with one's body, and learning how emotions are connected to physical sensations, is one way to practice self-care.



The [Metaphors Zine](#) guides readers through the process of labelling and exploring their emotions, so that they can feel more comfortable talking about them with other people. Metaphors are an accessible way to talk about emotions for visual thinkers, and they help to explore emotions without causing overwhelm.

Writer: Ronnie Ali / @leavesonastream  
 Illustrator: Alejandra Higuera / @ale\_higuerat  
 Designer: Magda Arturo / @magda\_arturo\_936traveler



The [Boundaries Are Beautiful](#) video was produced by LGBT YouthLine and Leaves On A Stream. It explains how it is important to share boundaries because they let other people know how to be with us respectfully. Boundaries take the guesswork out of relationships; when we can talk about boundaries, we can find the safety we need to engage our relationships in a healthy way.

Writer: Ronnie Ali / @leavesonastream  
 Visual Design and Animation: Alejandra Higuera (@ale\_higuerat)  
 ASL Translation: Sage Lovell / Deaf Spectrum (@deaf.spectrum / @color.me.bai)  
 Creative Producer: Gavrel Feldman  
 LGBT YouthLine Creative Team: Minna Frederick and Saadia Khan  
 Music: fishdinner

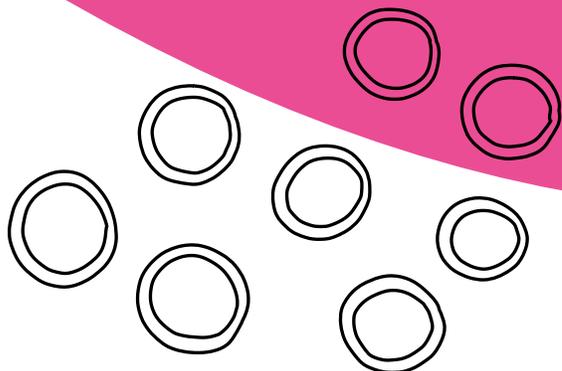
# Looking Forward

Through the decades, YouthLine has grown to be a place where 2SLGBTQ+ youth across Ontario can find support and a space to build their own sense of community.

As we near our 30th year of service, we continue to evolve. A few highlights of the 2022-2023 year include:

- **Growing our digital resiliency in our operations** and outreach to further our commitment to having staff, volunteer, and service user representation throughout Ontario through projects like an expanded e-Learning training curriculum, a modernized digital media strategy and an enhanced new website.
- **Launching our next podcast series** made by and for 2SLGBTQ+ youth as part of the Provincial Youth Ambassador Program.
- **Completing a comprehensive organizational review** to assess our structure in relation to organizational, staff, and board responsibilities, and identifying opportunities for improvement. This assessment will guide our next stages of growth and inform our next strategic plan.
- **Strengthening our infrastructure** to support our growth by expanding our program, finance, operations, and fundraising capacity.

Our success is deeply rooted in youth leadership and in partnership with adults. Thousands of volunteers, donors, staff, alumni, and community partners have ensured our ongoing growth and impact. **Thank you for your investment in our work and belief in our mission to affirm and support the experiences of 2SLGBTQ+ youth across Ontario.**



THIS IS A DONATION FROM... , WHO IS A 9-YEAR-OLD NON BINARY PERSON LIVING IN VANCOUVER. THEY HAVE SAVED THIS MONEY FROM THEIR ALLOWANCE AND WANTED TO DONATE IT TO AN ORGANIZATION DOING WORK WITH TRANS PEOPLE. WE HOPE IT HELPS YOU DO YOUR GOOD WORK." (DONOR)

# Who Supported Us

Very special thanks to our 85 Monthly Donors who provide us with a reliable stream of funding throughout the year.

Thanks for being our BFF!



## Third-Party Fundraisers

Third-Party Fundraisers offer a fun way for individuals, groups, and organizations to show your love and raise funds for us. This year, we saw an increase in the number of Third-Party Fundraisers. Thank you to everyone who supported us – **we loved to see all your creativity!**

Alison Schulthies

BELLA LOVELEE BEADS

Cheerfully Made

dragnerz

DJ Blush

Eli Clark

Globally Local

The Greater Good Shop

Hello Creations And Design

Its, Ands, or Buttons

ImpoliteOwl Design

Jessica Emslie

LXRandCO, inc.

Matthew McKechnie

Minn Basil

The Moon and Two Stars

Murphy's Farm Market & Bakery

My Weekend is Booked

Oak St Designs

Roots Corporation

The Savvy Eventer

Skin Amity

Sparkle Collective

Starbucks Future's Gate Partners +  
Community SterlingSilva.ca

Tenacious Sweets

Tinderbox

Wreath Flippers

Yohomo

We are grateful for all of the individuals and families who donate to us. Thank you for your support as we continued to navigate another year of the pandemic. Your generosity reminds us that in times of need, our community is here for us and 2SLG-BTQ+ youth!

We are not naming our individual donors as many chose to remain anonymous or not be publicly acknowledged for their contributions. Our donors are an important part of our community and support network, that make it possible for us to continue to be here 28 years later.

**We cannot do this work without you so THANK YOU for supporting our work.**

## Constantine Yorkville Run '21

The Constantine Yorkville Run is a 5K event that takes place in Toronto in support of various charities. Participants collect donations from their communities and networks for a specific charity. This year was the first time we participated as one of the charities. Thank you to everyone who fundraised for us during this event – we collected \$,2554 last year!

Thank you also to all the individuals who hosted Birthdays and other events on Facebook – these funds contributed

**\$6,971 last year!**



THANK YOU FOR EVERYTHING YOU DO TO KEEP OUR YOUTH SAFE AND SUPPORTED. DONATING ON BEHALF OF MY FRIEND'S BIRTHDAY. THEY ASKED FOR DONATIONS TO ORGANIZATIONS THAT WERE SPECIAL TO US AS A GIFT. THANK YOU FOR THE AMAZING WORK YOU DO." (DoNoR)

### Group Donations

#### \$10,000+

Dawn Tattle Family Foundation  
Greenrock Charitable Trust  
Green Sanderson Foundation  
Kindred Foundation  
Scotiustrust

#### \$5,000 to \$9,999

Jays Care Foundation  
Tegan and Sara Foundation

#### \$2,501 to \$4,999

Foresters Financial

#### \$1,000-\$2,500

Blockthrough Inc.  
CMAH2018 Inc.  
Daddy O Doughnuts & British Baked Goods  
Dejero Labs Inc.  
Guru Animation Studio Ltd.  
Red Nucleus  
Sim

#### \$500-\$999

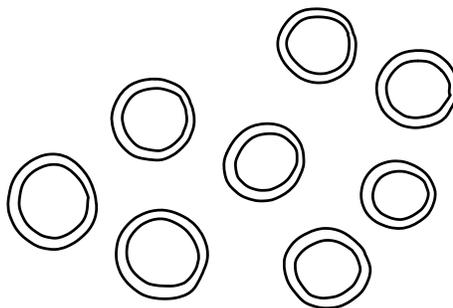
Children's Aid Society of Toronto  
Eclipsys Solutions Inc.  
Ingenuity Development Inc.  
INVIVO  
JELD-WEN of Canada  
LexIntegra  
Lowidt Foundation  
Umbrella Mental Health Network

#### \$250-\$499

Access Planning Ltd.  
DAS Legal Protection Inc.  
New Haven Mortgage Corporation  
Stong College Student Government  
Wealthsimple

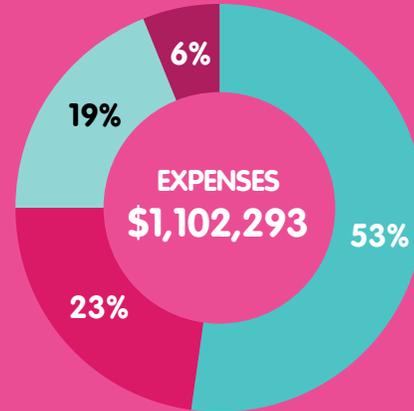
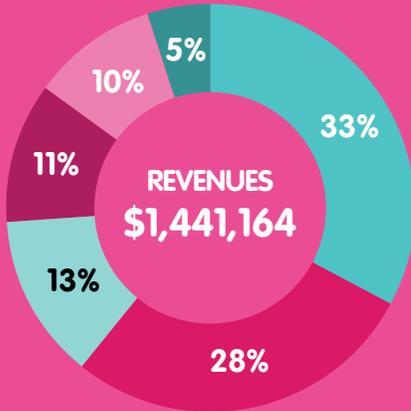
#### Under \$250

Centretown Community Health Centre  
DareArts  
Finest Values & Savings Ottawa  
THE GOOD CHALLENGE  
Infrastructure Ontario  
Jobber  
Kingston Central Ambulance Communications Center  
mamaraderie  
Oasis Adaptogens  
Pride Toronto  
Publicis Canada  
Rubin Thomlinson  
Sadie & June  
SALT + COMPANY INC  
SOUL FUEL Fitness  
Starbucks  
String Theory Shop  
Sustainable Collective  
WildBrain  
Youngs Insurance Brokers Inc.



THE SUPPORT YOU PROVIDE TO LGBTQ YOUTH WILL HAVE A RIPPLE EFFECT FOR THEIR ENTIRE LIVES. THANK YOU FOR THE IMPORTANT WORK THAT YOU DO!" (DoNoR)

# Financial Summary



● Donations & Fundraising:	\$474,466
● Federal Grants:	\$399,420
● Provincial Funding:	\$189,252
● Corporate & Foundation Grants:	\$165,681
● Employment Grants:	\$137,840
● City Funding:	\$74,505

● Program-related Salaries:	\$580,653
● Admin, Finance & Governance:	\$250,046
● Provincial Project:	\$208,871
● Programs & Volunteers:	\$62,723

## Our Funders



Funded by the Government of Canada under the Canada Service Corps program



# Our Team

Our confidentiality policies don't allow us to list all of our wonderful volunteers publicly, but we want to acknowledge the dedication and commitment of our Peer Support HelpLine volunteers, Youth Ambassadors, YouthOrganize volunteers, and committee volunteers.

The work we do would not be possible without your incredible individual and collective efforts. Thank you!

## Staff Team:

### Anika Tabovaradan

Coordinator, Resources & Referrals  
Toronto

### Ayan Ali

Coordinator, Peer Support  
Ottawa

### Berkha Gupta

Executive Director (on leave)  
Mississauga

### Caleb Wesley

Coordinator, Online Learning  
Toronto

### Cameo Ferguson

Coordinator, YouthOrganize  
Thunder Bay

### Charlie Dazé

Coordinator, Podcasts & Digital Media  
Ottawa

### Dean Bere

Coordinator, Volunteer Engagement  
Toronto

### Hayley Moody

Manager, Provincial Engagement  
Owen Sound

### Katrina Moffit-Pleasance

Coordinator, Outreach & Engagement  
North Bay

### Minna Frederick

Manager, Peer Support  
Toronto

### Philip Wong

Interim Executive Director  
Toronto

### Rabia Choudhary

Coordinator, YouthOrganize  
Mississauga

### Ren Lee

Administrative Assistant  
Toronto

### Shivanie Mahabir

Operations Manager  
Brampton

### Sierra Savedra

Training Specialist  
Toronto

### Tyler Chartrand

Finance Manager  
Toronto

### Vale Warren

Operations Coordinator  
Toronto

## Past Staff:

### Destiny Pitters

### Gabriel Marie Bacani

### Jack Lewis

### Krissia Valiente

### Sreya Roy

### Saadia Khan

### 4 Digital Communications Assistants

### 13 Community Engagement Assistants

## Board of Directors:

### Juan Garrido

Co-Chair

### Natalie Elisha

Co-Chair

### Cherise Titus

Treasurer

### David Yang

Secretary

### Nathan Gibson

### Tamara Sylvester

## Outbound Board Members:

### Aus Bahadur

Co-Chair

### Cheyenne Diaz

### Muhammad Ahsan

### Sylvan Tang

Treasurer

### Yara Kodershah



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