

HELPING THE HOMELESS COMMUNITY OF TORONTO SINCE 1985

ANNA- ME- RES

2022 ANNUAL REPORT

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NA- ME- RES



MISSION

Through a culture-based approach that addresses the holistic needs of its clients, Na-Me-Res' (Native Men's Residence) mission is to provide temporary, transitional and permanent housing to Indigenous men experiencing homelessness in Toronto while providing outreach and support services to the broader Indigenous homeless population.

VISION

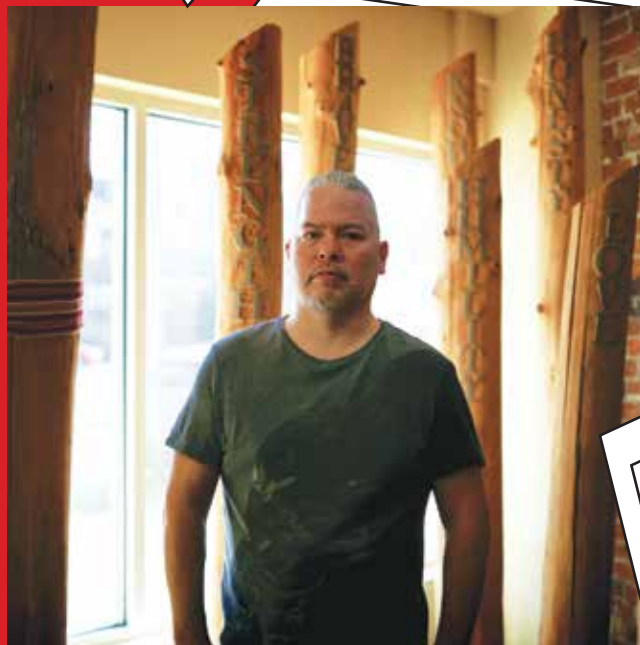
Na-Me-Res ensures that Indigenous people experiencing homelessness have access to a continuum of culturally appropriate supports that will assist them in securing stable, safe and affordable housing while helping them to achieve their personal goals and aspirations.

VALUES

Na-Me-Res is a community organization with proven practices in integrated culturally relevant social service delivery. Na-Me-Res strives to support a caring, compassionate and safe environment that addresses the physical, mental, emotional and spiritual needs of its clients. It also provides opportunities for them to develop the skills, knowledge and confidence required to lead healthy and self-determined lives.

Dave

WELLNESS JOURNEY



Dave is Ojibway and was born in Sault Ste. Marie.

When he was five years old, a fire killed his two brothers, and his sister died in a car accident. His mom moved with him to Toronto. They lived in Regent Park, and he went to St. Paul's School. He started causing trouble and was often in jail.

When he was 21, he had his first son. He turned his life around, started his own business, and stayed out of jail for 11 years. After going through a divorce, he turned back to drugs and alcohol. Things went downhill, and he is now just picking up the pieces.

Dave heard about Na-Me-Res when he was incarcerated. He applied and was accepted but

only lasted three weeks. He returned to jail. Five years later, he was welcomed back and is now in transitional housing at Sagatay.

"If you don't dig deep, it's not going to work," says Dave. "I just started caring. I was tired of letting my kids down. It is so good for Indigenous men to have. I am so grateful for the opportunity."

Dave has always worked in construction and works today building custom office furniture.

His goals are to hold down the same job, find a place to live, stay clean, stay happy and never give up.



A MESSAGE FROM THE

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Ahneen friends,

It has been another interesting year at Na-Me-Res. Again, during this pandemic I am pleased to share that Na-Me-Res has always been open to offer in-person services to people experiencing homelessness. I have a great deal of respect and gratitude for all the Na-Me-Res staff, who came to work during the pandemic to help support our clients.

I am delighted to share with you that Na-Me-Res is growing: we are a couple of years away from opening our new Low Barrier Shelter, which is located at 67 Adelaide Street East. Na-Me-Res also has two new affordable housing projects at various stages of development, and when these two housing projects are completed, it will bring 29 units of deeply affordable housing for Indigenous men.

Na-Me-Res, along with Seventh Generation Midwives and Well Living House, is still helping to operate Auduzhe Mino Nesewinong, which is an Indigenous COVID testing and vaccination centre. The staff there are very friendly and experts in all things COVID. I truly appreciate their guidance in helping community members navigate issues around COVID-19.

Last fiscal year, Na-Me-Res provided services to a total of 424 individuals and was able to help house a total of 68 individuals. The cure to homelessness is not a complex issue at all: homelessness could end tomorrow if there was enough affordable housing available for everyone experiencing homelessness.

I would like to offer my gratitude to our hardworking staff, volunteers and funders. I also want to express my thanks to the Na-Me-Res Circle of Directors for providing good governance and oversight.

Miigwetch,

Steve Teekens

STEVE TEEKENS
Executive Director
Native Men's Residence

Allan

WELLNESS JOURNEY



Allan is Cree and a member of the wolf clan.

He is from the Attawapiskat First Nation in northern Ontario. He grew up in Cochrane, living in and out of foster care. He is a survivor of sexual abuse and started drinking at age 14. His high school years were a mixture of good grades and escalating addictions. By the time Allan was 18, he was living on the streets.

At 20, he went to live with his mother, got a job, and then his own place. He then relapsed, lost his home, and ended up living in the woods. Allan hit rock bottom last year after finding himself in the hospital in Thunder Bay. The issue was serious, the withdrawal was intense, and he called his brother for help. His brother got him a one-way ticket to go live with him, and told him about Na-Me-Res. He was accepted and

has stayed clean and sober. He is now living at Sagatay, taking programs to learn skills and self-care. He is re-learning about his culture with drumming, smudging, the garden, the plants, the circles and the sacred fire.

“Na-Me-Res has been giving me strength, hope and self-esteem. I wouldn’t change anything about what I am going through now.”

Allan is now taking the Community and Health Care Worker program with Anishnawbe Health Toronto. He is learning about community training and working in the food bank kitchen. His goal is to go to college and become a social worker, to give back to the community and to return home to Attawapiskat First Nation.



A MESSAGE FROM THE

PRESIDENT

Aaniin-Boozhoo, friends and relatives:

It is my honour and privilege to bring you kind greetings on behalf of the Circle of Directors, management and staff of Native Men's Residence. I am so proud to be a part of this heart-centred, Indigenous organization that provides important, direct supports, services and housing to our grandfathers, fathers, uncles, nephews and brothers across Ishpaadinaa (Tkaronto).

While I am so very proud of the work of Na-Me-Res and clients that we serve, there are times we are reminded of the work that still needs to be done.

As I sit down to write this, I am taking part in a small community meeting doing some good work on behalf of our peoples. Just a few minutes earlier, I witnessed a young man helping himself to a bottle of water set out for our meeting participants. He wasn't part of our contingent but I could see he was an Anishinaabe. As I went about my business at our gathering's lunch service, I saw him huddle over by the fruit and dessert table helping himself to a few items, stashing them in his backpack.

At first, I chuckled, thinking that this man might have lost his way in the hotel and thought that the food was gratis to all guests. But thinking back, he was likely not a hotel guest, but somebody who was thirsty, and at least at that moment, was hungry and needing food.

I harken back to the adage that there are times when we need to walk a mile in another's moccasins.

I believe we all need to do more, as a society, to listen and be responsive to the everyday needs of the people we serve. The people in need are indeed our relatives – niikaanisidoog. We would never allow our grandparents, parents, siblings and cousins to be without these most basic of human needs.

Whether it's a need for shelter, or the need for a good meal and a hot cup of tea, Na-Me-Res was established to help meet these needs. These needs are also served by the many wrap-around services provided at Na-Me-Res including housing supports, the Mino Kaanjigoowin program, Apaenmowineen program and cultural program. We have also been working to expand on our services including to provide a new harm reduction shelter with a managed alcohol program, and new deeply affordable housing options.

In recent years, Na-Me-Res has teamed up with some visionary community partners to establish Auduzhe Mino Nesewinong (Place of Healthy Breathing), a COVID-19 testing centre and vaccination centre. We have shown a tremendous ability to adapt and deliver much-needed services to our relatives.

In the coming weeks, Na-Me-Res will be working towards a new Strategic Plan that will inevitably see a further expansion of services, improving the existing services we deliver, and providing our relatives with those basic needs and supports they need to achieve their fullest potential. For that, we are so grateful to all of our partners, our hard-working staff, management and directors of Native Men's Residence. You are the ones who are providing these much-needed supports to our relatives in need.

Chi-miigwetch (a big thank you).

Bob Goulais

BOB GOULAIS

**President, Circle of Directors
Native Men's Residence**

Cameron

WELLNESS JOURNEY



Cameron's Ojibway name is Zoongide, which means strong heart.

He was forced to leave his family at a young age due to intergenerational trauma. He moved from Winnipeg to Toronto and found himself on the streets. After only a few days, by the hand of fate, a man named Byron walked by him, stopped, and asked if he was Indigenous. Cameron replied yes, and Byron, who had an extra token, took him to Na-Ma-Res on the streetcar.

Staying at the shelter opened his mind and readied his heart for forgiveness. He was able to find a new way of seeing and truly connect with his culture - for the first time.

"They opened the door, and I just walked through it. I was ready to understand."

Taking the programs has helped him gain independence and money management skills. Sitting in the circle and hearing other people's stories made him realize he was not alone. It helped Cameron decide what he wanted to do. Music has become his passion and his calling.

Today Cameron has a young family with four kids and is following his path as a hip-hop artist. You can find him on YouTube as Damian Krypt.

BRIEF HISTORY

2004

Outreach Services expanded to include Mobile Housing, a service for people living on the streets.

2003

Increased capacity of Na-Me-Res Men's Shelter from 26 to 63 beds.

2002

Opened Tumivut Youth Shelter. Outreach Services expanded to include Shelter Access, a shelter-to-shelter transportation service for people living on the street.

2001

Outreach Services expanded to include Gimme Shelter, a case-management service for people living on the street.

1995

Outreach Services began with Street Help, a harm-reduction service for people living on the street.

1989

Became member of the United Way of Greater Toronto.

1985

Opened 26-bed shelter for Indigenous men without a place to live.

1983

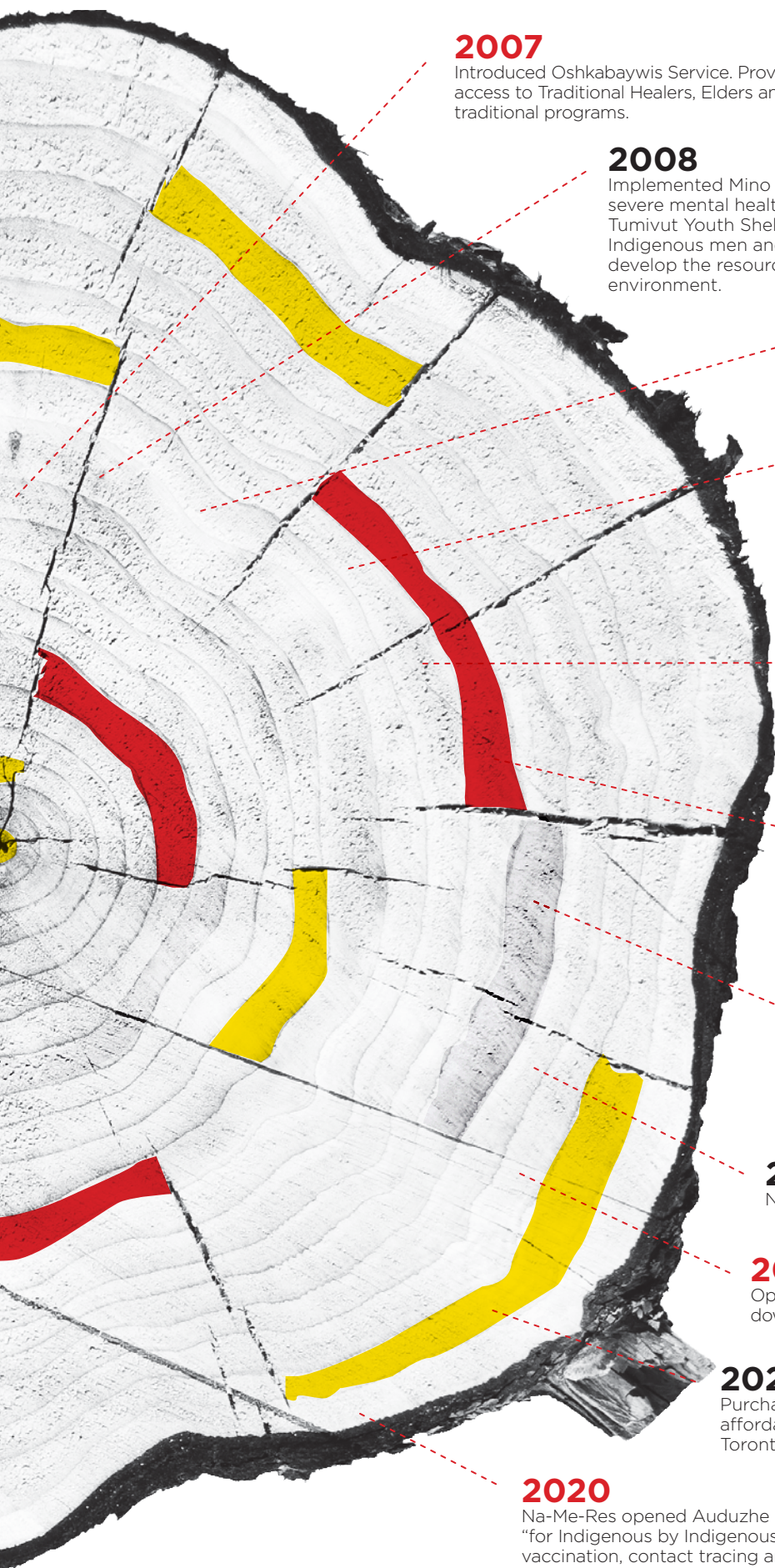
Circle of Directors formally established and incorporated Na-Me-Res as non-profit charitable organization.

1980

The Ontario Native Women's Association (ONWA) expressed concern about the number of Indigenous men in Toronto who had nowhere to live. ONWA conducted a study that indicated 66 per cent of Indigenous men surveyed had no permanent address. A need for emergency shelter was identified.

2005

Introduced Aftercare, a service that helps maintain housing for those previously living on the street.



2007

Introduced Oshkabaywis Service. Provides client access to Traditional Healers, Elders and other traditional programs.

2008

Implemented Mino Kaanjigoowin for individuals with severe mental health and addiction issues. Converted Tumivut Youth Shelter into a transitional service for Indigenous men and male youth. Assists participants to develop the resources to succeed in the broader urban environment.

2009

Sagatay, the new transitional housing service, opened and welcomed its first residents.

2010

Delivery of Apaenmowineen, a life-skills training program for residents of Sagatay. Delivery of on-site psychiatric services for Mino Kaanjigoowin. Secured funding from Federal Infrastructure Stimulus Fund and City of Toronto-HPI to renew the Men's Residence.

2011

Introduced Ngim Kowa Njichaag (Reclaiming My Spirit) Program to help clients reclaim their culture, identity, role and responsibilities through culture-based services in a safe and healing environment.

2012

Secured funding from Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation, RRAP (Residential Rehabilitation Assistance Program) and Miziwe Biik Development Corporation to complete an affordable housing project.

2013

Received funding to offer Elder Outreach. Elders accompany Outreach Workers to offer culturally appropriate support to Indigenous people on the streets. New elevator and laundry facilities installed at 14 Vaughan Road.

2015

Na-Me-Res Men's Shelter expanded to 71 beds.

2019

Opened new affordable housing, with 16 units, in the downtown core.

2020

Purchased property on Coxwell that provides 20 units of deeply affordable housing. Entered into a long-term lease with the City of Toronto for nine units of deeply affordable housing on Carlton.

2020

Na-Me-Res opened Auduzhe Mino Nesewinong (Place of Healthy Breathing) as a "for Indigenous by Indigenous response" for culturally safe COVID-19 testing, vaccination, contact tracing and follow-up services.



NA-ME-RES

POW WOW



Na-Me-Res (Native Men's Residence) annual Traditional Pow Wow is held yearly in the month of June in recognition of National Indigenous Peoples' Day. The pow wow this year was on Saturday, June 18. The event is free and open to the public. The pow wow featured traditional dancing, drumming, traditional feast, giveaway, dignitaries from the community, information booths, and First Nations and Métis crafters from across Ontario. The day started with the sunrise ceremony held at Fort York. John Laforme was the Traditional Teacher who presided over the ceremony, where participants gave thanks to the Creator for the wonderful day where Na-Me-Res was able to celebrate National Indigenous Day with friends, colleagues and the community. This year the sunrise ceremony had 22 participants show up to start their day off giving thanks for life.

The grand entry started right at 12 noon sharp. Our Arena Director was Earl Oegema. The dancers were led off with our male and female head dancers, John Hupfield and Deanne Hupfield.

Immediately after the Grand Entry Song, everyone stood for the flag song. The purpose of the flag song is to honour our veterans who went to war. After the flag song, the flags were posted one by one.

Elder Gary Sault, our pow wow Elder, offered an invocation and special blessing through a prayer and song to start the pow wow off in a good way.

Na-Me-Res Executive Director Steve Teekens started off welcoming the public to the Na-Me-Res 20th pow wow. He acknowledged the financial support of Heritage Canada and gave an overview of the Na-Me-Res programs and services, then thanked all of the Na-Me-Res Pow Wow sponsors, partners, staff and volunteers.

MP Carolyn Bennett then gave some opening remarks, followed by City Counsellor Joe Mihevc.

In total, two drums set up to share their songs, and 103 dancers registered, of whom 59 were adults, 37 were youth ages 6-18 years old, and seven were tiny tots under six years old. After speaking to Fort York and Na-Me-Res staff and volunteers, it was generally agreed the audience in attendance exceeded 15,000 people throughout the day.

The Na-Me-Res pow wow was also an opportunity for Indigenous community members and their families to access a COVID-19 vaccine from the pop-up vaccine clinic provided by Auduzhe Mino Nesewinong, which is an Indigenous COVID-19 vaccination and COVID testing centre.

Everyone who attended the pow wow seemed to have a good time. Many of the pow wow organizers were thanked multiple times by some of the people who attended. At the end of the pow wow, there was a feast: everyone who wanted to eat received a plate of food. We are pleased that there was enough food for everyone.

Na-Me-Res would like to say chi-miigwetch to Fort York and Heritage Canada for supporting the Na-Me-Res pow wow.

Architectural drawing for the new affordable housing set in Toronto.



AFFORDABLE HOUSING

Na-Me-Res (Native Men's Residence) Affordable housing

For the last 11 years Na-Me-Res has been providing deeply affordable housing for Indigenous men in Toronto. Na-Me-Res has a track record of acquiring properties and converting them into attractive affordable housing for our clients.

Our affordable housing projects are intended to help address the acute need for more deeply affordable housing in Toronto. Na-Me-Res operates a total of 38 affordable housing units. We hope to add another 29 units of affordable housing in the next year or so when our new housing projects come online. The projects will assist with housing single Indigenous males, some with mobility issues.

O'Gitchidaa Mushkiki Wigwam (OMW)

O'Gitchidaa Mushkiki Wigwam (OMW) is the affordable housing units located in Parkdale; when translated into the English language it loosely means the Warriors Medicine

House. Na-Me-Res owns the two houses, both of which opened in September 2012.

Na-Me-Res clients can transition to OMW as tenants. When clients transition to OMW, workers are in place to help ensure a successful tenancy. Workers offer suggestions on ways to effectively deal with budgeting, conflict resolution and other housing aftercare matters.

Kinew Poonii Waahkiiganaan - Golden Eagle Landing

Kinew Poonii Waahkiiganaan is a 16-unit affordable housing building located in the Cabbage-town area of Toronto which opened in June of 2019. The first floor of the building has accessible units for tenants who may have accessibility or mobility issues. We are pleased that through this housing we are empowering some formerly homeless Indigenous men with a real opportunity to grow roots and create positive opportunities for themselves.

Affordable housing projects in the works

Na-Me-Res purchased a 6,631 square-foot plot of land in the east side of Toronto in October 2020. The project will involve demolition of the existing single-story structure and site preparation for development. A total of 20 affordable units will be provided on-site: a mixture of bachelor, one-bedroom units and four barrier-free one-bedroom units.

Na-Me-Res has been selected to be the operator of another affordable housing project. This project is in the preliminary stages. This affordable housing project will have a combination of bachelor and one-bedroom units for a total of nine units of affordable housing. The location of this housing project is in the downtown east side of Toronto.

Luke

WELLNESS JOURNEY



Luke is Ojibway from the Delaware Nation of the Thames.

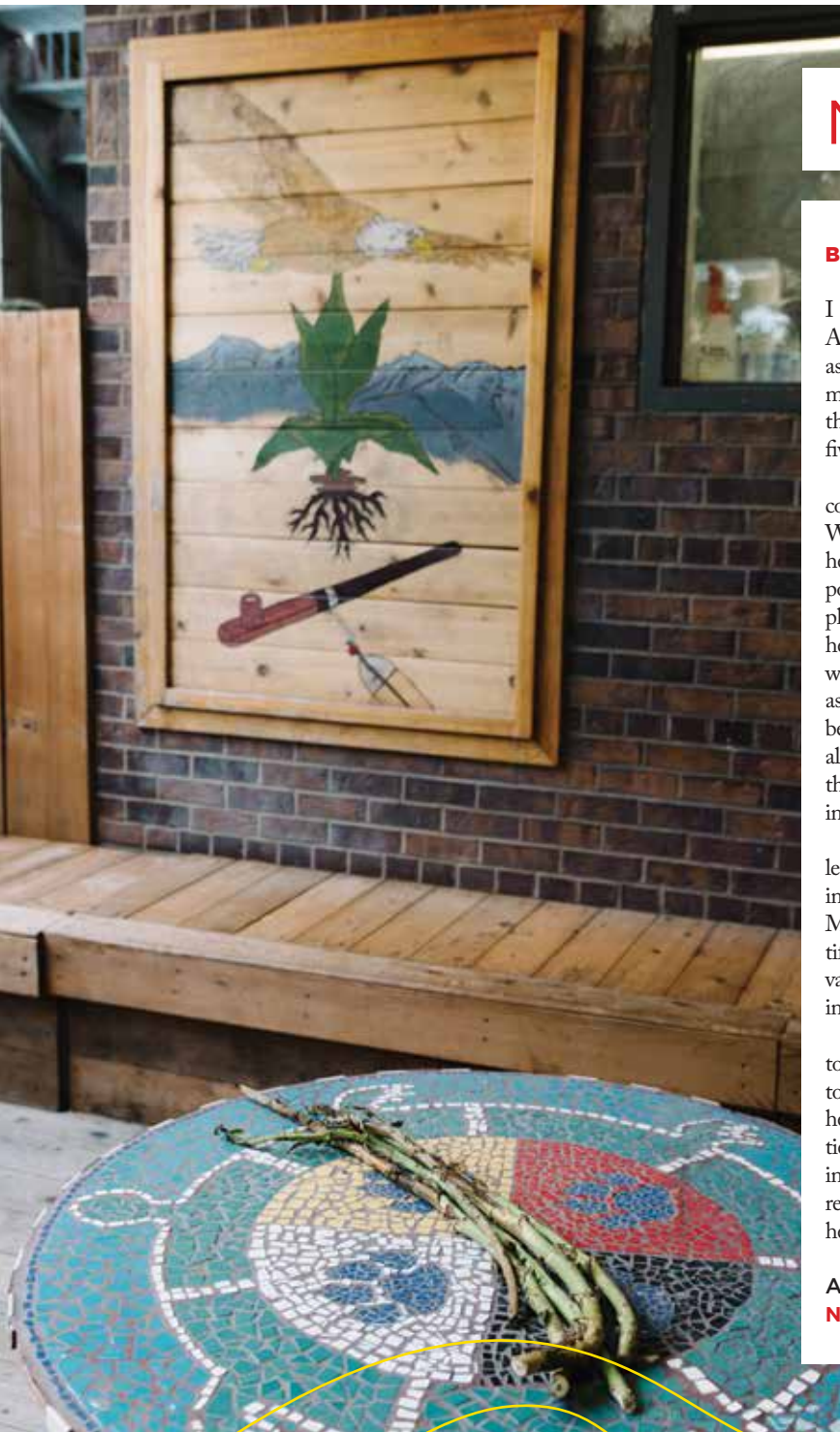
After growing up with six brothers and his father, he was sent to prison as a young man. A six-year sentence turned to 13 and then to 16 until, 33 years later, he was released. A lifetime of incarceration. A lifetime of institutionalization.

He participated in the Na-Me-Res Native Inmate Liaison Officer (NILO) outreach program. It was from there that he found his way to Na-Me-Res. He was accepted into the transitional Sagatay residence, programs and classes. After two short stays, followed by a successful addiction treatment program in

Ottawa, Lucas was welcomed back to Sagatay for a third stay. This time has been different. He was ready. He is 19 months sober and has turned a corner.

"You stumble, you get up, and you get help. I've got my spirit back. Luke is back."

Every day he smudges, journals and prays. He used to think it was a sign of weakness to be open and to talk. That is no more, as the rest of the guys will attest. He has come a long way and is now preparing to find a new job and a permanent home.



NURSING SERVICES

Boozhoo (Hello), my name is Allysha.

I started as the nurse at Na-Me-Res (Native Men's Residence) in April 2022. The shelter had been without a nurse for several months, as the previous nurse, Pat, had retired earlier in 2021. Although Pat is missed dearly by many of the residents, I was welcomed warmly and there was a very positive response that there would be a nurse on-site five days a week!

When I describe my role as nurse at Na-Me-Res, the first thing that comes to mind is being a helper. I find that each day looks different. Whether it's responding to cuts, bumps and bruises, lending an ear, or helping them navigate a complex healthcare system, I try to be a helpful point of contact for the residents. I connect the residents with our family physician, Dr. Sapping, or Dr. Toni for short, to address their physical health needs, and for their mental health needs, I connect the residents with our long-time psychiatrist, Dr. Hershler, or Dr. Abby. I also work as a case manager for residents with complex health needs, whether this be due to developmental delays, complex comorbidities, advanced age or all of the above. I connect with their interdisciplinary care team to help them address their health in a holistic manner and plan for their future in a way that best suits their needs.

Due to the pandemic, health care has been more problem-based and less preventative in nature, and therefore we have started health screening for the residents with the nurse practitioner, Emina at Auduzhe Mino Nesewinong. Based on their age and possible exposures, we identify their risk and screen them for illnesses such as (but not limited to) various forms of cancers, kidney and liver disease, sexually transmitted infections, and keeping their vaccines up to date.

I have created a nursing intake assessment that moving forward I plan to do with all residents. This will allow us to create individualized plans to address their health needs in a way that keeps them involved in their health care. Another thing I look forward to is health promotion activities, as I hear this has been appreciated by the residents in prior years. All in all, it has been a successful transition back to having a nurse on-site regularly, and I truly believe it has had a positive impact on the overall health of the residents.

ALLYSHA
Nurse

Moe

WELLNESS JOURNEY



Moe is Ojibway and a member of the bear clan.

He grew up in Toronto. When he was six and a half, his father was murdered, and he learned he was adopted. He had no idea he was an orphan. He spent the rest of his childhood in CAS care, living in six foster homes while suffering from abuse. When he was old enough, Moe hit the streets.

He was in a dark place while mourning the death of his mother. One late night, the Na-Me-Res outreach van appeared and brought him to the shelter. He sobered up a while and started talking with the elders – little by little. He learned to smudge and began taking sweats.

“I didn’t know where home was. I was an orphan and didn’t know. I had no sense of family or what it was supposed to be. I am really grateful for Na-Me-Re; it has helped me a lot.”

Moe has been living in his own place in Eto-bicoke for the last 16 years. It is a quiet home away from any trouble. To this day, Na-Me-Res provides a sense of purpose and spirituality. He smudges daily, has his feathers, and participates in rain dance ceremonies.

The cycle has been broken. Now his greatest hope is to meet his adult children, who he had to give up as a young man.

PROGRAMS & SERVICES

In 1985,

Na-Me-Res began offering emergency shelter to Indigenous men who were without a place to live. Since then a greater understanding of the underlying causes of Indigenous homelessness has emerged. As an Indigenous organization, Na-Me-Res strives to meet the physical, mental, spiritual and emotional needs of all clients by providing them access to its multi-disciplinary care team, which includes traditional Elders and Teachers, Case Managers, Counsellors, Client Care Workers, Street Outreach Workers, Housing Support Workers, Aftercare Workers, Registered Nurse (RN), Psychiatrist, Medical Doctor (MD), Oshkabaywis (spiritual helpers), Life Skills Co-ordinator and other community-service providers as identified. Based on a culturally responsive, strengths-based case management approach to client care, these programs include:

Sagatay

(A New Beginning)

26 Vaughan Road

Sagatay is a safe and supportive learning and housing environment with 20 beds for Indigenous men. Programs offered provide residents with the opportunity to develop the skills required to succeed in the broader urban environment as strong, self-confident Indigenous men.

Apaenmowineen

(Having Confidence In Myself)

This three- to six-month life-skills program is offered in a safe and supportive learning environment at Sagatay. Workshops include, but are not limited to: Ojibway and Cree language classes, healthy living, drumming, literacy, community gardening, sharing circles, financial literacy, creative writing, traditional teachings, photography, addictions programming and employability workshops.

The Men's Residence

14 Vaughan Road

Clients who are homeless are provided with temporary shelter, assistance and support to secure housing appropriate to their needs. To meet the increasing number of Indigenous men who come to Toronto for a better life, the residence has grown since 1985 from a 26- to a 71-bed residence; however, during this pandemic we had to reduce our beds to 44 to accommodate social distancing.

Ngim Kowa Njichaag

(Reclaiming My Spirit)

The goal of the Ngim Kowa Njichaag program is to assist all Na-Me-Res clients in claiming



their culture, identity, role and responsibilities through the delivery of culture-based services within a safe, healing environment.

Mino Kaanjigoowin

(Changing My Direction In Life)

Through this program, clients challenged with severe mental illness and addiction issues are provided with intensive case management to meet their particular needs. As with all Na-Me-Res programs, the goal of Mino Kaanjigoowin is to assist clients in securing and maintaining housing appropriate to their needs with follow-up services once housed.

Outreach and Mobile Housing

This provides Indigenous-specific outreach services using a mobile approach that includes Van Outreach Workers, Mobile Housing Workers and Elders. They engage with male and female Indigenous homeless clients who may be active substance users to secure housing, develop crisis plans, and provide services and referrals to assist clients to develop a greater sense of cultural awareness. The Elder outreach component has an Elder who can greet and offer traditional and cultural ceremonies that can be performed where clients are found,

creating a spiritual, cultural and traditional connection lost to Indigenous people through the colonization process. The service provides teachings and ceremonies that focus on Indigenous customs, values and traditional practices while recognizing and respecting the distinctiveness among our Indigenous cultures.

Indigenous Outreach & Support Services

20A Vaughan Road

This service is provided to people living on the streets and in temporary shelters, providing them with support and assistance as they transition from homelessness to successfully housed to self-sufficiency. To ensure clients remain successfully housed, an Indigenous-specific case management service called Aftercare is provided for each client enrolled. Our goals are to manage issues that arise once housed. These issues can include the need for a primary healthcare provider, ID clinics, neighbourhood meal sites, food banks and walk-in clinics.

Indigenous Housing Aftercare

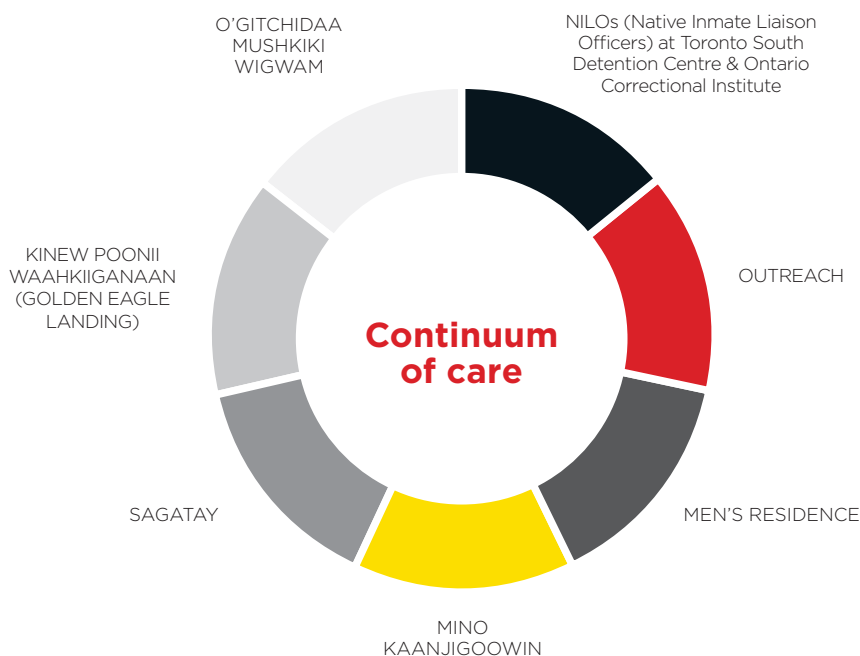
This service provides follow-up supports to newly housed individuals who have been referred from the Streets to Homes program.

Three Aftercare workers provide case management supports that address a wide range of presenting issues including eviction prevention, housing maintenance, mental and physical health, community integration, spiritual needs and support. The overall goal of the project is to support homeless individuals to effectively transition into housing and build their stability by addressing all elements of their health and well-being using an Indigenous approach.

Big-eya-waah-anduyaun

(A lot of people going home)

This project has four High Needs Workers and one Moderate Needs Worker. The High Needs Workers use intensive case management to support Indigenous clients who are newly housed and at risk of losing their housing. The Moderate Needs Follow-up Worker works with clients housed through the Na-Me-Res emergency shelter program. All follow-up workers provide case management support that addresses the clients' spiritual, physical, mental and emotional needs. This includes housing eviction prevention, housing maintenance and community integration.



CREE & OJIBWAY LANGUAGE CLASSES

Cree Language Classes

At Sagatay, the Cree language classes have been taught by Jimmy Dick for a little over six years. In addition to learning the Cree language, participants also get to know the history and culture of the Cree people. Jimmy also teaches songs in the language and facilitates story telling. The residents really enjoy the classes that Jimmy teaches.

Nishnaabemowin Classes

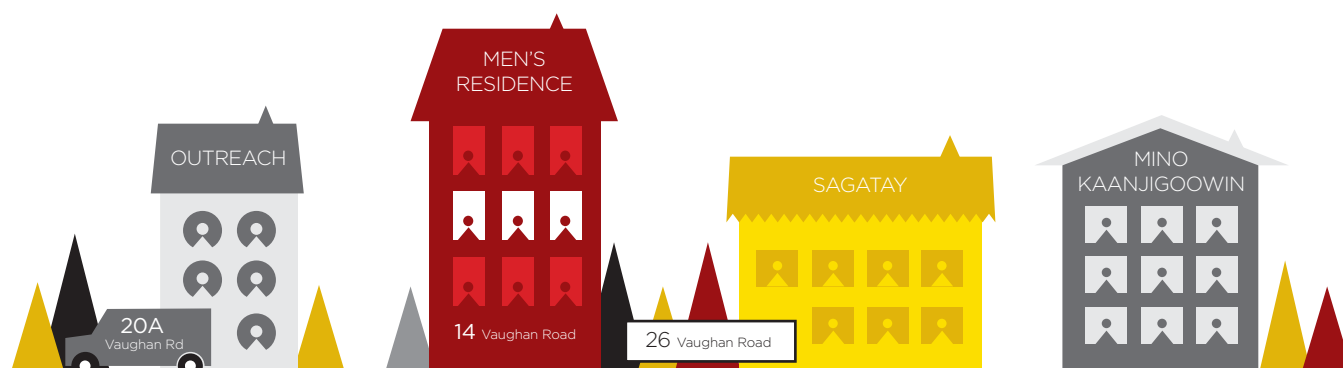
John Roy teaches Nishnaabemowin (Language, Culture, Spirituality etc.) to clients, which brings pride to the students, knowing that they can read and speak Nishnaabemowin within a few hours. The students learn the vowels and consonants using the double letter writing system.

The language teaches our culture and history, and how we relate to all creation.

Elders/Ancestors have said the voice of the land is in our Language. There are words that imitate sounds, like Koo Koo Koo (Owl). Also at times the words will tell you what some of the medicinal plants do etc...there are teachings that are within the words. It is a privilege to share some of those teachings that honour our Ancestors, who were once not allowed to speak our language.

ANNUAL SHELTER STATISTICS

April 1, 2021 - March 31, 2022



OUTREACH AND MOBILE HOUSING

148 Total Served

8 Youth
133 Adult
7 Senior

78 Indigenous
70 Non-Indigenous

22 Total Housed

MEN'S RESIDENCE

208 Total Served

8 Youth
182 Adult
18 Senior

102 Indigenous
106 Non-Indigenous

30 Total Housed

SAGATAY

48 Total Served

0 Youth
48 Adult
0 Senior

48 Indigenous
0 Non-Indigenous

13 Total Housed

MINO KAAJIGOOWIN

20 Total Served

0 Youth
19 Adult
1 Senior

20 Indigenous
0 Non-Indigenous

3 Total Housed

TOTALS

424 Total Served

16 Youth
382 Adult
26 Senior

248 Indigenous
176 Non-Indigenous

68 Total Housed

John

WELLNESS JOURNEY



John grew up on Manitoulin Island.

As a young man, he moved to Toronto and lived in a foster home. He only spoke Ojibway at the time. After some time, he moved back home as his mother finally got a house to get all her children back. In returning home, he felt like an outsider. He was always getting into trouble and went back to the city.

As a young man, he would go back and forth from jail with short stays. When released, he had no family and nowhere to go. Tired of a life of struggle, he got a job in construction. With no home, he slept in the park. John learned about Na-Me-Res and called every day to get into the shelter. When he was accepted, it was a turning point.

“It was the cultural and spiritual aspect. That is what got me. It was real. It is a way of life. It isn’t just on Sundays.”

He started requesting teachings, and it helped a lot. He would occasionally fall off the wagon but had his own place. He was asked to return to the circles and teach others to speak Ojibway. After leaving to attend Lakehead and Fleming College, he returned to volunteer with Outreach. He was hired to work the front desk and has stayed on ever since. Twenty-two years later, he is a senior staff member and still teaches the language classes.

“All the teachings, I share it now. I noticed a lot of people had lost the simple teachings. I have been gifted by the Elders.”

67 ADELAIDE

THE FUTURE SITE OF
THE NEW NA-ME-RES SHELTER



67 Adelaide St. E. is the site of the new Na-Me-Res Low Barrier Shelter. It will operate as a 75-bed shelter serving single Indigenous men. The site is owned by the City of Toronto.

Services within the shelter will include access to food, rest, clothing, toiletries, hygiene products and other items. The shelter will also include on-site health care, housing supports, employment counselling and skill development, and culturally informed social services, including a Managed Alcohol Program (MAP). Managed Alcohol Programs are designed for individuals whose alcohol dependence has contributed to their home-

lessness. At this location, Na-Me-Res will host the first Indigenous MAP in Ontario.

For many of these individuals, abstinence programs have not worked. Managed Alcohol Programs allow clients to safely consume controlled amounts of alcohol under staff supervision. This approach has been adopted in over 20 programs across Canada, with research demonstrating reduced harms and increased social, financial, legal, employment and housing success.

The new Na-Me-Res shelter will accommodate residents who have dogs. Designated rooms will be equipped with dog crates, and there will be a dog cleaning area and a pet

relief area on the rooftop space. For respect and safety of the other residents, Na-Me-Res reserves the right to restrict the number of pets permitted into the shelter. Na-Me-Res also endeavours to create partnerships to ensure resident pets' medical needs are met.

It is expected that during the day the shelter will have a contingency of support staff of about 20 persons whereas overnight staffing will be around 12 persons. The shelter will be staffed 24 hours a day.

The project involves renovation of an existing three-storey building, constructed about 1949, to convert the building to a shelter to accommodate 75 shelter users plus staff.

Chris

WELLNESS JOURNEY



Chris is Anishnaabe/Ojibway and originally from Wiikwemikoong Unceded Territory, with ties to M'Chigeeng/West Bay and Sagamok Anishnawbek.

Parts of his family are residential school survivors. Another part is chiefs and warriors. His mother wanted to get her family into a new environment and moved to Peterborough when Chris was a young child.

At an early age, Chris fell in love with hockey. It was everything to him. As he got older, it became too expensive for his mother, who was a single parent and at times struggled with alcoholism. Chris had to stop playing. He lost focus, grew angry, and without strong guidance, dropped out of high school. This was followed by more choices that led to a dark place. It got to the point where he was sent to live in a youth shelter. Not long after, Chris was dealing drugs, got caught, and was incarcerated for a short while. It was the best thing to happen. With no desire to return to prison or that lifestyle, he started to clean up and rehabilitate himself.

He was able to reconnect with his culture through pow wow, singing, dancing and building community. This new way of life opened Chris

up to possibilities. He always had an interest in acting and storytelling. He made a plan and was accepted into the Centre for Indigenous Theatre in Toronto. He then went on to the prestigious National Theatre School of Canada in Montreal. After six years in school, moving back to Ontario with no money and nowhere to stay, he was accepted into Na-Me-Res. He graduated to Sagatay and then to permanent housing.

"They gave me hope and a welcoming home. The language classes, the drumming, the pow wow, the life skills classes. It is more than a place to stay. You are given the tools, the discipline and cultural connection to live a better life. It's like your North Star."

Today Chris is in his first year of the Birmingham Conservatory at the Stratford Festival. He hopes to stay with The Festival and pursue storytelling on their stages, as well as writing and sharing his own stories.



AUDUZHE MINO NESEWINONG

("PLACE OF HEALTHY BREATHING")

In October 2020, Native Men's Residence (Na-Me-Res) opened up Auduzhe Mino Nesewinong (Place of Healthy Breathing) as a culturally safe COVID-19 testing, vaccination and contact tracing site for First Nations, Inuit and Métis (FNIM) community members. "For Us, By Us, Nothing About Us Without Us" was the vision put together by Na-Me-Res and partner agencies Well Living House and Seventh Generation Midwives Toronto. When the pandemic started, taking care of the Indigenous community was paramount, and the gaps in service needed to be bridged in a way that provided culturally safe care for our First Nation, Inuit and Métis people of Tkaronto. Having accurate and comprehensive tracking of how COVID-19 was affecting the FNIM was a main concern in regard to having an appropriate public health disease response. Thus, the We Count COVID-19 Research Project was born. The over-arching goal for the We Count COVID-19 Project is to work in partnership with local FNIM health and social service providers to rapidly de-

sign, implement, evaluate and share an Indigenous community-led COVID-19 case management and contact tracing program.

Auduzhe Mino NeseWINong has had many successes including the recruitment and retention of Indigenous clinical, administrative and office staff personnel. The initiation of outreach COVID-19 vaccination has improved by starting our At-Home Vaccine program, which is provided to FNIM community members. This program was created to reduce barriers in accessing vaccination services. In addition to our COVID-19 testing, Auduzhe offers wraparound care, by providing clinical support from Auduzhe Nurses and Nurse Practitioners, groceries to those affected by COVID-19, and transportation supports, which have been critical to cover gaps in the current healthcare system. This created much-needed access for FNIM community members that would have otherwise not been possible.

Since its inception, Auduzhe has vaccinated over 9000 FNIM community members in Tkaronto. While the clinic primarily offers its services at 22 Vaughan Road, Auduzhe participated in the Na-Me-Res Pow Wow on June 18 at Fort York, where 46 FNIM community members were vaccinated. The mobility and flexibility of Auduzhe staff has also provided an opportunity to be involved in Indigenous youth services through the Es-hkiniigjik Naandwechigegamig (ENAGB) youth organization. The vaccination clinic is brought to East and West locations twice a month so Indigenous youth and their families who have questions regarding vaccines can be answered by knowledgeable staff and can be vaccinated as well if they wish.

Other outreach services have included setting up information tables and booths at various events and locations around the GTA to increase awareness of services offered through Auduzhe. One of the locations was at Allan Gardens, where an Indigenous weekly drum circle would congregate and the We Count COVID project questionnaires could be filled out by community members for those who wanted to support the project. These outreach events increase visibility and awareness of much-needed support in the FNIM community.

The services at Auduzhe keep relevant within the current COVID-19 context by adjusting hours and adding new COVID-19 vaccines. These include providing fourth doses (second booster), third dose

KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

April 1, 2021 - March 31, 2022



AUDUZHE AND PARTNER CLINICS



6982
ADULTS 12+

300
KIDS 5-11

HOME VISIT VACCINATIONS



233

215
ADULTS 12+

18
KIDS 5-11

TOTAL NUMBER OF VACCINES

7515

7197
ADULTS 12+

318
KIDS 5-11

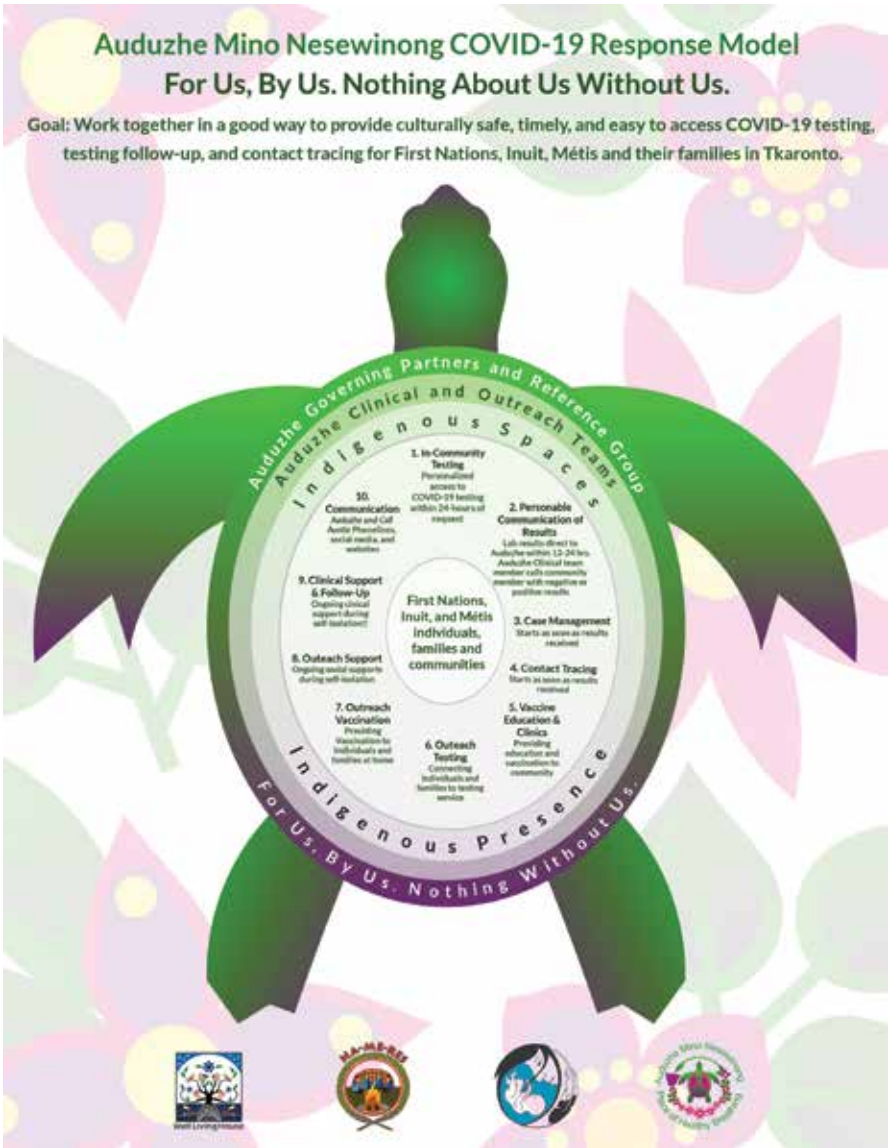
TOTAL NUMBER OF COVID-19 TESTS

1183

(first booster for those aged 12-17), under five years old vaccine and Novavax vaccine. Novavax is a traditional vaccine and uses small pieces of a protein to teach our immune system to make antibodies that recognize and fight COVID-19. Having Novavax available for FNIM community members is yet another way that Auduzhe has been able to bridge gaps in accessibility and provide vaccination options for FNIM community members. Recently the province announced that vaccination for children under five years of age will be available and Auduzhe has al-

ready received numerous calls from FNIM community members who will be bringing their children in to be vaccinated.

Auduzhe Mino NeseWINong continues to be an integral part of supporting the Indigenous community in the fight against COVID-19 through providing wraparound support and accessibility for our most vulnerable. The staff are friendly, knowledgeable, and proud to be a part of this important work. Our entire Auduzhe team looks forward to continuing to support the FNIM community in Tkaronto.





MASHKIKII;AKI'ING (MEDICINE EARTH)

MEDICINE WHEEL GARDEN

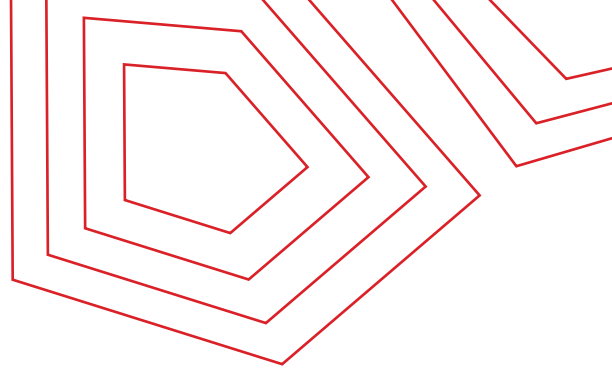


Na-Me-Res has been actively involved in the stewardship of a beautiful garden in Hillcrest Park since 2003. Coincidentally, Mashkikii;aki'ing (Medicine Earth) Medicine Wheel Garden is Toronto's first Indigenous community garden.

The gardening experience for our residents and staff has been a very positive learning experience. Nurturing the garden and watching seedlings grow to be mature plants that are harvested is a fulfilling teaching and healing experience. Not only do our staff and residents work with the soil and grow Indigenous plants, they also harvest them, and learn to make teas and salves as well as about the medicinal properties of the plants. Additionally, some of the plants grown in the garden are some of our sacred medicines.

Working in the garden has been a wonderful way for our Sagatay and Na-Me-Res residents to connect with Mother Earth and learn to grow, nurture and harvest medicinal and sacred plants. We are grateful for the partnership we have with the Stop Community Centre in sharing their space and for working alongside our guys to help them learn about planting.





ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Donors

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Unity Health Network
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City of Toronto


Homelessness Prevention Program
Housing Help Within Shelters
Reaching Home

Provincial Government

Ministry of the Solicitor General

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Correctional Services Canada
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Chi-miigwetch to our donors and funders.
They provide us with the financial resources
we need to deliver our programs and services.



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Aboriginal Shelters of Ontario
Alexandra Park Neighbourhood
Learning Centre
Anishnawbe Health Diabetes
Education Team
Art Gallery of Ontario
Book Club For Inmates
Canadian Mental Health Association
(Opening Doors Project)
Cobs Bread
Community Resources & Initiatives,
Natalie Zlodre
Costco
Daily Bread Food Bank
DineSafe - Toronto Public Health -
City of Toronto
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Furniture Bank
Inner City Health Associates -
Dr. Hershler, Dr. Sapping, Dr. Shoush
Mainstay Housing
Not Far From the Tree
Ontario Arts Council
Petroglyphs Provincial Park
Royal Ontario Museum

They gave me hope and a welcoming home. The language classes, the drumming, the pow wow, the life skills classes. It is more than a place to stay. You are given the tools, the discipline, and cultural connection to live a better life. It's like your North Star."

— CHRIS

Seventh Generation Midwives Toronto
Social Enterprise Development Innovations
(SEDI)
St. Michael and All Angels Church
Street-to-Trail
Sunnybrook Hospital
The STOP Community Food Centre
Toronto Aboriginal Support Services
Council (TASSC)
Toronto Hostel Training Centre -
Life on Track Sessions
Toronto Public Health
Toronto Writers Collective
Unity Health Toronto

University Health Network
University of Toronto, Faculty of Medicine,
Faculty of Nursing, Athletics, Pharmacy
University of Toronto, Woodsworth College
(Transitional Year Program)
Vance Latchford
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Well Living House- St. Michael's Hospital
Centre for Wise Practices in Indigenous
Health - Women's College Hospital

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Alex Jacobs
Jimmy Dick

SE-RES - NE- - NA- - NE- - FE- - T

Outreach



Current employees

Ansah, Prince
Bach, Brian M
Bates, Donna
Beaucage, Shane
Belleau, Keihlah
Bentz, Chris
Bertrand, Allysha
Bobiwash, Allen
Boyer, Devon
Buttar, Pavan
Cecchetto, Andrew
Chinoda, Matifadza
Cho, Hyunjin
Cicansky, Sabrina
Dart, Herbert
Debassige, Nancy
Gaudet, Gabe
Hasan, Sibtain
Hashie, Verna
Hill, Paige

Hookimawillillene, Andy
Jardin, Erwin
Jourdain, Samantha
King, Janice
Kropf, Roxanne
LaBrecque, Albert
MacDonald, Morris
McComb, Andrew
Misquadis, Ray
Namgyal, Thonyon
Obazee, Charles
O'Selmo, Clive
Parker, Richard
Peltier, Caledja
Pitawanakwat, Steven
Powless, Kristine
Quewezence, Roxanne
Ramadhan, Halokhan
Rebortura, Michele
Roy, Clarence

Roy, Jane
Roy, John
Sanchez, Tarah
Saxena, Kaspar
Seegers, James
Shirt, Sarafina
Skura, William
Tambo, Aisha
Teekens, Steve
Timmins, James
Topcagic, Ermina
Valentine, Jean
Walmsley, Tim
Wangkhan, Lobsang
Williams, Paul
Wilson, Cleon
Woodcock, Dennis
Yoon, Ted

Former employees

Bavcevic, Ivica
Brunette, Rickey
DeCorte, Christopher
Dokis, Markus
Fraser, Sherrie
Freeman, Justin
Harris, Frances
Horsley, Samantha
Jack, Lawrence
Jacko, Dustin
Jardin, Mackintosh
Joseph, Ginette
Keeshig, Mallory
Luckman, Jileesa
Marche, Shawn
Nicolas, Maquanay
Osawamick, Amsay
Peters Ackroyd, Reva
Robinson, Alicia
Smith, Dakotah

Stephens, Patricia
Thomasson, Jena
Uthasri, Somporn (Lucy)

Auduzhe Mino Nesewinong



Men's Shelter



“ A chi-miigwetch goes out to all our staff, former and current, for their contribution to the work of Na-Me-Res in delivering quality services to Indigenous people experiencing homelessness through a culture-based approach addressing clients’ mental, physical, emotional and spiritual needs.”



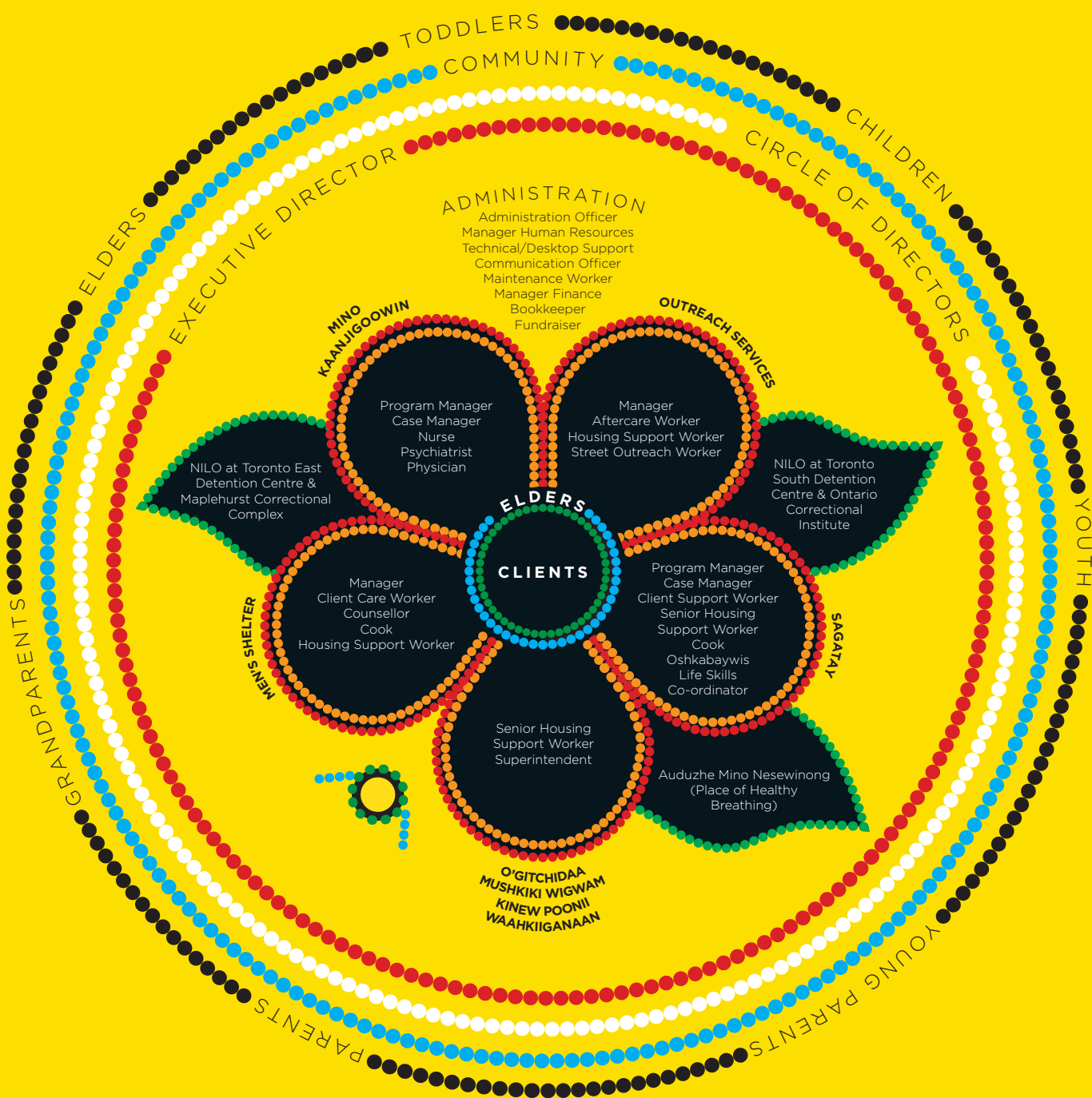
GOVERNANCE

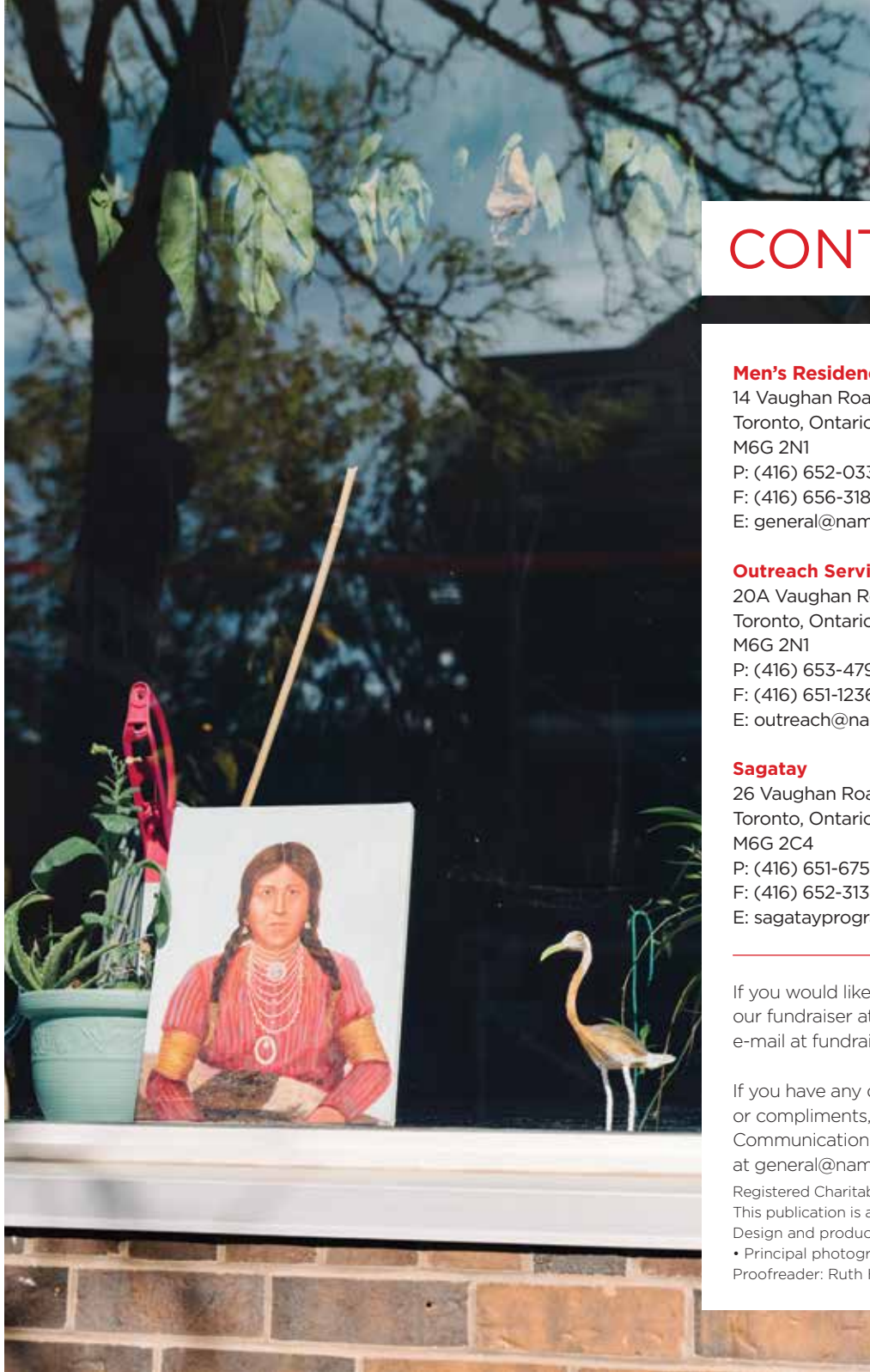
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If you would like to contribute, please contact our fundraiser at (416) 651-6750 ext. 2233 or e-mail at fundraising@nameres.org

If you have any questions, concerns or compliments, please contact our Communication Officer by e-mail at general@nameres.org

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provide a caring,
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and safe
environment
as well as
opportunities
to develop the
skills, knowledge
and confidence
required to lead
healthy and self-
determined lives.



Native Men's Residence