

ROBYN HOLMES

CHELSEA ANDERSON

HARNESSING CURRENT TRENDS AND YOUTH VOICES

A tale of program development



THE FOLLOWING PRESENTATION IS RATED

RL

Real Life

Real Life

RL

H

HONEST

SF

SOLUTION-FOCUSED


G

A GOOD TIME

Search program....

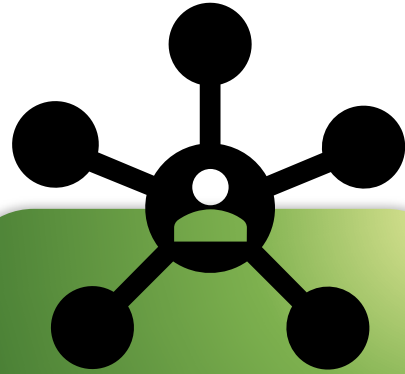


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Menu 



Local
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Gaps



Voices

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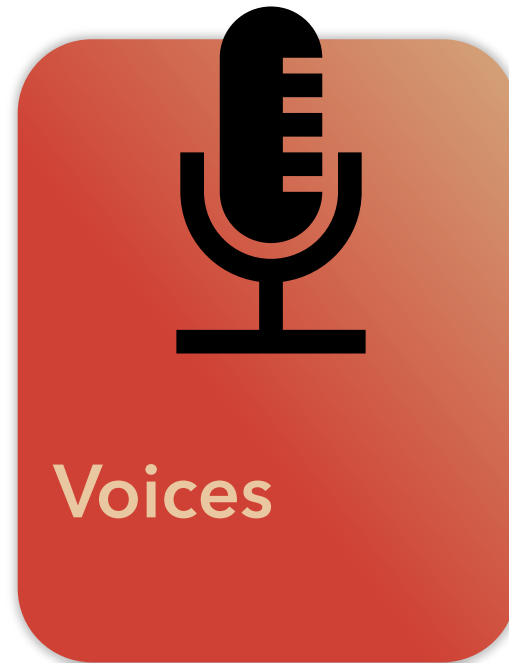
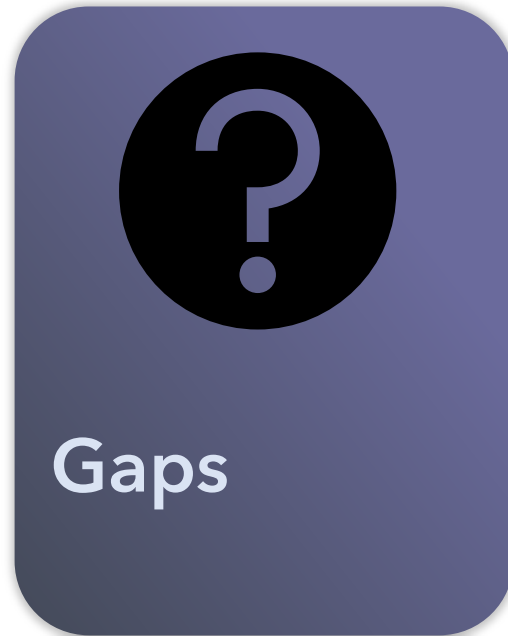
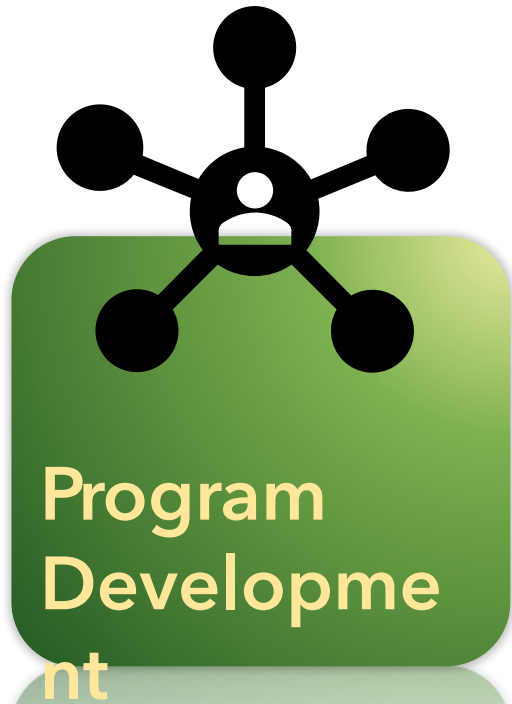
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Local

Community of Leeds & Grenville

-rural Eastern Ontario

-3,382 km²

-population of 104,000 (2021 census)



LOCAL RESEARCH

-Point in Time Count completed September 2021

-By Name List established 2022


-Community safety and wellbeing report



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Gaps



Voices



Solutions

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Program Development

CORE PROGRAM

- Established as a result of youth suicide
- Initially served as system navigation and crisis response for youth at local high school
- Provides basic needs items, referrals and accompaniment to community appointments


HOUSING PROGRAM

- Established as a result of identified community need
- 2014 - single apartment (1 bed) 2022 - four apartments (6 beds)

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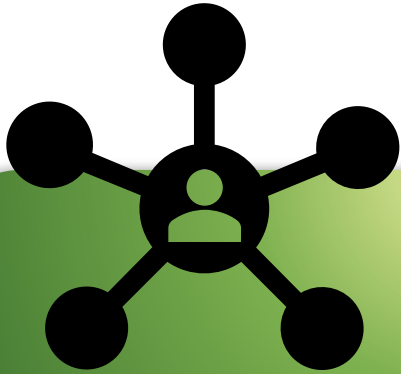


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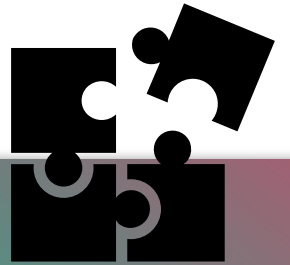
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Gaps



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Gaps

Challenges associated with rural program delivery including but not limited to:


- Limited shelter space (no youth shelter)
- Lack of local residential addictions treatment
- Housing inventory ~ Post-COVID inventory decline
- Geographic service area
- Housing First Model
- Front-line staff
- Discrepancies between funder /initiative goals and community needs
- Responsivity vs. Reactivity



Search program...



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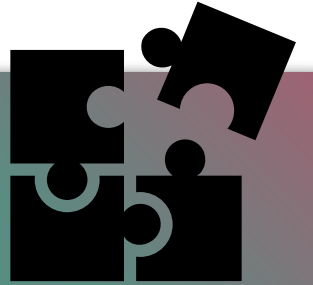
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Gaps



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Voice

Clients sharing

- **S** Multi-generational homelessness
- Systemic trauma
- Definition of "home"
- Child welfare transitions

"I just want to go home"

-21 year old male calling from treatment

"Living in my car is better than where I used to be"

-17 year old female

"The river is getting too cold to shower in"

-16 year old male


"I just want to live in my tent"

-18 year old female

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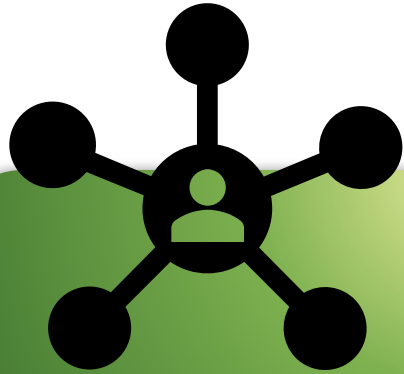


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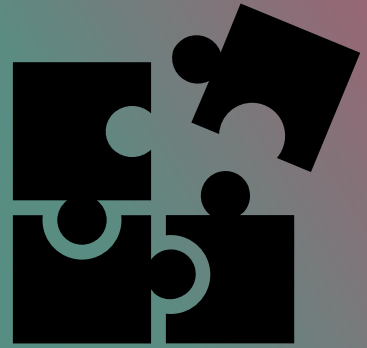
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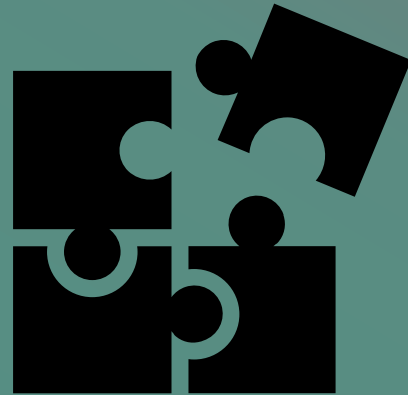
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Solutions



Harnessing information for strategic development

- Traditional on the ground outreach
- Relationship building
- Diversification of revenue
- Political awareness
- Human resources and staff priority
- Presence on multi-sectoral community tables
- Establishment of platforms for youth to share their voices

THE FUTURE IS LOOKING BRIGHT.....

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CAST

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Directors
Production

AS HERSELF
AS HERSELF
CONNECT YOUTH TEAM
OUR YOUTH
UNITED WAY OF LEEDS & GRENVILLE
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REACHING HOME
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