# ProjectBe

In 2020 the Youth Cabinet of the Government of Canada Workplace Charitable Campaign (GCWCC) focused its fundraising and awareness efforts on homelessness, mental health and addictions issues among youth, and support for Indigenous causes. A total of $1,521,225 was raised in the National Capital Region and reinvested in Ottawa and the Outaouais through United Way Ottawa and Centraide Outaouais, with the latter receiving a generous share of $317,003.13.

You will find here a list of investments in the three priority areas in the Outaouais, along with an overview of the programs supported by Project Be through Centraide Outaouais.

# Youth Mental Health and Addiction

The GCWCC's Youth Cabinet Project provided $135,541.47 to youth centres in the Outaouais to address mental health and addiction issues. Each youth centre was also allocated an additional $5,000 for the coming year to address mental health issues exacerbated by seclusion during the COVID-19 pandemic.

These centres offer auxiliary living environments outside of school and home for teenagers. They employ qualified personnel who play the role of significant adults in whom teens can easily confide.

With a total investment of $265,190, Centraide Outaouais supports 11 youth centres that manage 29 service points throughout the region, reaching some 4,776 young people through various activities:

* Gardens and community meals
* Psychosocial assistance and active listening
* Outreach (street work)
* Awareness-raising workshops on responsible drug use
* Culture, sports, and arts
* Special events and outings
* Homework help
* Emergency accommodations
* Promotion of active citizenship and volunteerism
* And much more!

# Fighting Homelessness

The GCWCC Youth Cabinet Project Be contributed $94,338.61 to the fight against homelessness in the Outaouais through the Gîte Ami, an emergency shelter located in the heart of the Hull district of Gatineau.

In addition to providing emergency accommodations for homeless people, the Gîte Ami offers residency plans to users to accompany them on their journey to permanent housing.

Last year, the Gîte Ami helped a total of 628 people—497 men and 131 women—by ensuring they had a safe place to sleep. In addition to 21,489 nightly stays, the organization served 50,156 meals over the period.

# Support for Indigenous Causes

The GCWCC Youth Cabinet contributed $87,123.05 to support Indigenous causes. Since no Centraide Outaouais-supported agency is directly involved in this area, a call for projects will be issued in the fall to ensure these funds contribute effectively to change.

During the summer of 2021, the social development team at Centraide Outaouais will deepen its understanding of the realities and issues facing Indigenous peoples in the Outaouais. Based on the information gathered over the summer, an initial assessment of existing organizations and programs will then be conducted before issuing the call for projects. Finally, a review committee will be established to evaluate applications and award funds.

Our sincere thanks to the generous donors of the GCWCC Youth Cabinet. Thanks to your donations, community organizations in the Outaouais were able to provide continued support to youth, homeless people, and Indigenous people.