



Scarborough Centre for Healthy Communities receives significant grants from Ontario Trillium Foundation

Ontario Trillium Fund awards SCHC \$148,800 in grants toward community development projects

Scarborough Centre for Healthy Communities (SCHC) hosted a grant

recognition event on Friday September 06, 2019 highlighting the Ontario Trillium Foundation's \$148,800 contribution towards two major areas of the organization's community development outreach programs: the Lawrence East Partnership Program (LEPP) and a brand new food truck for its various food programs. The event took place at Toronto Community Housing at 4175 Lawrence Ave E., the location that houses LEPP.

Our own Christine Hewitt, the LEPP Program Manager, guided us through the program which included speeches from The Hon. John McKay (MP), Mitzie Hunter (MPP) and executives from both the OTC and SCHC. They highlighted the positive impact these grants will have on the Scarborough community. **"Today is extra special as we are celebrating the Ontario Trillium Foundation grant to this community, a very important community in Scarborough."** stated MPP Mitzie Hunter.

Two SCHC clients, Joey A. and Arjun T. also gave their touching stories of how SCHC's community initiatives helped them in their time of need. Joey spoke about his unexpected experience with the SCHC Food Bank which helped him when he was at his worst financially. **"I was poor and hungry and I finally went [to the SCHC food bank] and I was impressed. I was greeted openly, with respect and given food. I went home that day and I cried as I did not know that there were people out there that cared"** Joey stated as he elaborated on his first encounter with SCHC's food bank.



Arjun similarly spoke about how the LEPP resident engagement program, headed by Ayzha MacLean, our LEPP Community Animator helped him to better his life through training in leadership skills, team building, as well as one-to-one mentorship.

SCHC's LEPP program is a collaborative community- based program using an inter-disciplinary model of care to offer residents holistic support and services including mental health case management, housing help, peer support, independent living supports and other outreach activities. The grant for this program has helped employ our LEPP Community Animator who has already made a significant impact on the residents.

SCHC has a number of food programs with 40,000 visits to the food market annually while through its hot lunch and café program, 1,600 meals are served per year to Scarborough residents. The food truck, owned and run by SCHC, is the main form of food delivery.



SCHC is truly grateful to the Ontario Trillium Foundation for these grants and have already started to reap benefits from this significant investment.

Have a look at our feature in the Toronto Mirror!

<https://www.toronto.com/news-story/9587860-hope-hasn-t-died-at-scarborough-s-infamous-4175-lawrence-ave-e/>