

CELEBRATING
30
YEARS THE
DOOR
4 **PORTAL**

YOUTH CENTRE JEUNESSE



Happy
New Year
2025!

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News

A Year of Highlights: The Door Youth Centre 2024

The Door Youth Centre had an extraordinary 2024, marked by numerous highlights that underscored its commitment to engaging youth, fostering creativity, and building a strong sense of community. Throughout the year, the centre delivered a rich array of programs and events tailored to meet the diverse needs of its members, ensuring a safe and inclusive environment for all.

Engaging Programs and Activities

Each month brought opportunities for youth to participate in life skills workshops, art sessions, cultural celebrations, Girls' Nights, sports, and educational initiatives like Career Days and mental health workshops. These activities were designed not only to entertain but also to empower youth by providing valuable skills and experiences.

The Black Youth Leadership initiative, sponsored by the Michelle Jean Foundation, and the Young Chefs program, funded by the City of Ottawa, were among the standout programs. These initiatives equipped participants with practical skills and encouraged personal growth and empowerment, leaving a lasting impact on their lives.

Emphasis on Inclusivity and Diversity

Inclusivity remained at the heart of The Door's mission. The centre celebrated diversity through cultural events and meaningful discussions on essential topics, such as mental health and leadership. Youth found a welcoming and supportive space to express themselves and learn from one another, fostering a deeper sense of belonging.

Community Engagement and Celebrations

Community engagement was a cornerstone of the year, highlighted by successful events like the 30th-anniversary celebration, The 13th Annual International Dinner, and collaborations with local organizations. These events strengthened bonds among members and showcased the centre's vital role as a hub for both youth and the broader community.

Field trips sponsored by the Ottawa Community Foundation added to the memorable experiences, with visits to Saunders Farm and Flying Squirrel offering excitement and opportunities for connection. Themed celebrations, including Black History Month events and the festive Christmas dinner, brought joy and unity to all who attended.

By the Numbers: A Snapshot of 2024

- **Youth Participation:** A total of 276 youth attended The Door in 2024, logging 5,233 visits—an average of 22 visits per night. Among them, 182 were new members, and 100% of surveyed participants reported making new friends.
- **Volunteer Contributions:** The centre benefitted from the dedication of 123 volunteers (82 adults and 41 youth), who collectively contributed 5,381 hours of service.
- **Programs and Workshops:** Youth spent 388 hours in the homework room and participated in 125 hours of music lessons. Workshops offering life skills saw an impressive 96% satisfaction rate among surveyed participants. Cooking lessons accounted for 28 hours, while 25 youth took part in community and fundraising events.
- **Support Provided:** An incredible 9,730 meals and snacks were served throughout the year, underscoring The Door's commitment to meeting the basic needs of its members.
- **Fundraising:** The centre and its supporters organized 28 successful fundraising events and campaigns, ensuring the sustainability of its programs.

Looking Ahead

As The Door Youth Centre reflects on the successes of 2024, it remains steadfast in its mission to support and empower youth. With a strong foundation built on inclusivity, community, and personal growth, the centre looks forward to continuing its impactful work in the years to come.



What an Amazing Start to the New Year!

Justin Gunderson, founder of the Hip Hop Food Drive (@bringyaehgame), has been uniting communities across Canada to support local food banks, with a special focus on helping youth in need during these challenging times.

We want to express our heartfelt gratitude for the incredible donation of food and clothing! Your contributions will have a lasting impact on the members of The Door Youth Centre and will be put to great use.

A huge thank you to Justin and to everyone who donated—your generosity and commitment are truly making a difference in our community.



This Month At The Door Youth Centre

2025 THE DOOR JANUARY CALENDAR

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FUN FRIDAY
<p>6</p> <p>Welcome Back! Christmas Decor Takedown</p>	<p>7</p> <p>Bring Out Your Creativity Pool tournament</p>	<p>8</p> <p>Music with Armaan Craft Stress Toy Activity with Hayley</p>	<p>9</p> <p>Group Games How to deal with winter Depression Info Session with Susan</p>	<p>10</p> <p>Multicultural Young Chefs</p>
<p>13</p> <p>Studying and goal setting activity Crochet with Alejandra</p>	<p>14</p> <p>Bring Out Your Creativity with Jordan Danger Bingo Night</p>	<p>15</p> <p>Music with Armaan National Bagel Day</p>	<p>16</p> <p>Back to school - Talking Circle with Eva</p>	<p>17</p> <p>Multicultural Young Chefs</p>
<p>20</p> <p>Martin Luther King Day Activity Crochet with Alejandra</p>	<p>21</p> <p>Bring Out Your Creativity with Jordan Danger Spelling Bee</p>	<p>22</p> <p>Bell Let's Talk Day- Mental Health Workshop with Emilie Music Lessons with Armaan</p>	<p>23</p> <p>National Handwriting Day Activity Tech Tips with Joe</p>	<p>24</p> <p>Multicultural Young Chefs</p>
<p>27</p> <p>Study Help Activity Career Day and Pizza Night/ Crochet with Alejandra</p>	<p>28</p> <p>Bring Out Your Creativity with Jordan Danger</p>	<p>29</p> <p>Music with Armaan Lunar New year. Decorate the centre and special Asian Dinner</p>	<p>30</p> <p>Girl's Day</p>	<p>31</p> <p>Multicultural Young Chef Birthday Celebration</p>

W Workshop
I Info Session
★ Life Skills Activity

The Door Youth Centre: Homework Help Services for Youth Members

Are you looking for a way to help your youth thrive in school and build confidence in their

studies? The Door Youth Centre's Homework Help Program is here to support their academic journey! Designed specifically for young learners, this program offers expert guidance in a wide range of subjects in a fun, welcoming, and encouraging environment. Running from 4 PM to 8 PM, our Homework Help sessions give your youth the tools they need to succeed. Whether they need help tackling math problems, improving their language skills, or exploring their creativity, our dedicated team of staff and volunteers is ready to assist.

Each day focuses on different subjects, ensuring your youth gets tailored help:

- On Mondays, they can dive into Spanish, French, English, and Art.
- Tuesdays offer a mix of French, Arabic, English, Math, Sciences, Art, and even Computer Programming.
- Wednesdays provide well-rounded support in French, English, History, Art, Math, and Sciences.
- Thursdays emphasize Computer Programming alongside help in French, Art, History, and English.
- Fridays bring the week to a close with comprehensive support in English, Sciences, Art, History, Spanish, French, and Math.

Spaces fill quickly, so sessions are on a first-come, first-served basis, with the option to sign up ahead of time for guaranteed assistance.

This program is more than just homework help; it's an opportunity for your youth to build skills, boost confidence, and succeed academically in a positive and engaging space. Invest in their future today by joining The Door Youth Centre's Homework Help Program—because every young person deserves the tools to succeed.

you can do it!

A+

THE DOOR YOUTH CENTRE

HOMEWORK HELP

4-8 PM, FIRST COME FIRST SERVE, OR SIGNUP AHEAD OF TIME

MONDAY SPANISH, FRENCH, ENGLISH & ART	TUESDAY FRENCH, ARABIC, ENGLISH, MATH, SCIENCES, ART & COMPUTER PROGRAMMING
WEDNESDAY FRENCH, ENGLISH, ART, HISTORY, MATH AND SCIENCES	THURSDAY COMPUTER PROGRAMMING, FRENCH, ART, HISTORY & ENGLISH
FRIDAY ENGLISH, SCIENCES, ART, HISTORY, SPANISH, FRENCH & MATH	

Multicultural Young Chefs at The Door Youth Centre

This year, we are bringing back Young Chefs with a twist. Proudly sponsored this year by The Ottawa Food Bank, The Door will be hosting weekly Multicultural Young Chefs sessions.

Every Friday, The Door Youth Centre becomes a hub of cultural exchange and culinary discovery through our "Multicultural Young Chefs" program. This unique initiative invites youth to explore the world through food, as they prepare and enjoy dishes from diverse cultures. The program also features special guests from different multicultural backgrounds who teach kids their unique recipes and share the stories behind them

Participants learn new recipes while delving into the history and identity of various cuisines. By understanding the cultural significance of the dishes they create, young chefs gain a deeper appreciation for the traditions and stories that shape our world. This program not only builds practical cooking skills but also fosters a sense of community, curiosity, and respect for cultural diversity. It's a delicious way to bring people together and celebrate the rich tapestry of identities within our community.



Ottawa Food Bank
La Banque d'Alimentation d'Ottawa

**To All Our Donors and Supporters A Heartfelt Thank You
for Your Generosity!**

Throughout the Month of Giving in December 2024, The Door Youth Centre was overwhelmed by the outpouring of kindness and support from our incredible community.

Thanks to your generosity, we raised an impressive **\$4,500** to support our programs and initiatives for youth!

In addition to your financial contributions, various acts of kindness carried out by friends of the Centre in honor of this campaign.

We are truly grateful for your continued belief in our mission to empower and uplift young people. Your donations will go a long way in providing resources, workshops, and opportunities for youth to thrive.

From the bottom of our hearts, thank you for being part of this journey. Together, we are building a brighter future for our community's youth!



A Special Thank You to Chrome Divas of Ottawa, Ontario

At The Door Youth Centre, we are constantly inspired by the incredible generosity and support of our community. Today, we want to extend our deepest gratitude to a cherished partner: Chrome Divas of Ottawa, Ontario.

For years, Chrome Divas have been more than just a name—they have been a cornerstone of support, standing by our side and championing our mission to empower the youth of our community. Their unwavering commitment to making a difference has had a profound impact on countless young lives.

Through their generosity, Chrome Divas have contributed to programs that provide critical

resources, mentorship, and growth opportunities. Whether it's funding for educational initiatives, support for extracurricular activities, or simply ensuring our doors remain open, their contributions have helped us create a safe and nurturing environment where young people can thrive.

But their impact goes beyond financial support. Chrome Divas have shown what it means to be true community leaders. Their passion, dedication, and belief in the potential of our youth inspire everyone around them. They remind us all that when we come together, we can create brighter futures and stronger communities.

On behalf of everyone at The Door Youth Centre and the young people whose lives you've touched, thank you, Chrome Divas. Your kindness and dedication do not go unnoticed, and your legacy of giving will be felt for generations to come. Here's to many more years of partnership, growth, and making a difference—together.



Winter/Fall Wish List

We appreciate your support and generosity

Here is our fall and winter wish list:

- Hygiene products like body soaps, lotion,

WINTER CLOTHING DONATION



THE ITEM YOU CAN DONATE



GLOVES



BOOTS



SCARF



JACKET

Donate your used clothes that are suitable for the youth.
Thank you!

deodorant, and toothbrushes.

- Men/boys winter jackets (S, M, L, and XL)
- Women/Girls winter jackets (S, M, and L)
- Winter Boots for girls and boys (sizes 7-10 and 9-14)
- Gloves and scarfs
- Backpacks

For more information on how to donate email [Program Coordinator](#)



Get In Touch



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