



Windsor Essex Child/Youth Advocacy Centre



NEWSLETTER



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Kids should **ONLY** have to tell their story **ONCE!**

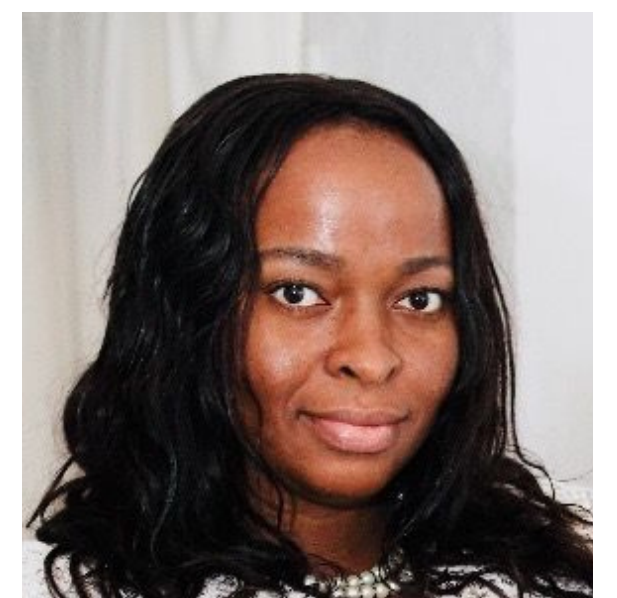
We would like to take the time to celebrate our newest partnerships with the following agencies:

- Violence Against Women Coordinating Committee (VAWCCWE)
- St Clair College (BASJ Degree Program)
- Windsor Essex Counter Exploitation Network (WECEN)
- Lasalle Quilter's Guild
- Art Windsor Essex

Welcome our new staff/student!!



Alison Completed her Child and Youth Care diploma at St. Clair College in 2022 and is now completing her BSW placement at WECYAC.



Nadine completed her Early Childhood Education and Social Service Worker diplomas and joined WECYAC in October 2024 as our newest Advocate.

Join us on Social Media



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Events

Take Back The Night



University of Windsor Alumni



The phrase, “Take Back the Night,” honors the historic 1970s stand of those who first advocated for the essential right of women to walk alone at night without fear of being raped, harassed, or otherwise harmed.

Today, we recognize that sexual violence and harassment can happen at any time, in any place, to anyone.

Our Advocates, Catherine and Alison, spoke with BSW and MSW students about the services we provide in Windsor-Essex.

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Department of Justice
Canada

Ministère de la Justice
Canada

Ontario
Trillium
Foundation



Fondation
Trillium
de l'Ontario



Proud Funded Partner of:

United Way
Centraide
Windsor-Essex County

Mission:

A community-based response focused on supporting victims of child/youth abuse through investigative and collaborative excellence.

Truth and Reconciliation Day 2024

Windsor-Essex is the traditional land of the Three Fires Confederacy of First Nations, comprised of the Ojibway, Odawa, and the Potawatomie Peoples. Orange Shirt Day occurs in early fall as this was the time of year when Indigenous children were forcefully removed from their families to attend residential schools, run by the Canadian Government and the Catholic Church.



Orange Shirt Day is also recognized as Truth and Reconciliation Day. On this day, we reflect and honour those who attended residential schools and had their culture stripped away from them. Wearing orange is a starting point in to showing solidarity with Indigenous people.



Join us on Social Media



Our Vision

A safe, responsive environment providing advocacy and healing to children/youth victims of abuse.

Events

LOCAL COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS FAIR

Our Advocates attended the Local Community Organizations Fair organized by the Ontario Association of Social Workers and the University of Windsor. It was an amazing opportunity to connect with the community and other organizations!



JORDAN'S PRINCIPLE WINDSOR OFFICE GRAND OPENING

A new Jordan's Principle office has opened in Windsor at 1495 Tecumseh Road West beside the Southwestern Ontario Aboriginal Health Access Centre. At this office, their coordinators work with clients to help fill out the applications and are able to fast-track access to the proper funding for their clients!

They are helping bridge a barrier many Indigenous families have struggled with.



Southwest Ontario
Aboriginal Health
Access Centre



Join us on Social Media

 WECYAC  @we_cyac  @we_cyac



WINDSOR ESSEX COMMUNITY FOUNDATION READ TO RISE BOOK GRANT

WECYAC Launches “Read to Rise” Program with \$11,000 Grant from WindsorEssex Community Foundation



On November 4th, 2024, the Windsor-Essex Child/Youth Advocacy Centre (WECYAC) proudly received an \$11,000 Community Impact Grant from the WindsorEssex Community Foundation (WECF) to launch its “Read to Rise” program. This special event was hosted at the Windsor Club and highlighted the creation of six new funds as well as celebrated six new Community Impact Grant recipients, including the Community Support Centre of Essex County, Feeding Windsor-Essex, Habitat for Humanity, Transportation Museum and Heritage Village, and the Windsor International Film Festival (WIFF).

About the Read to Rise Program

The “Read to Rise” program is designed to provide age-appropriate books to children and youth who are victims/witnesses of crime and abuse in the Windsor-Essex County. While many literacy programs exist within the community, none are specifically tailored to the unique needs of children and youth recovering from trauma. Through direct feedback from children/youth and their families and conversations with professionals, WECYAC identified a gap: the need for resources that blend literacy with trauma recovery.

This program addresses that need by offering books that not only entertain but also serve as trauma recovery tools. The stories and characters provide comfort, foster self confidence, and help children process their emotions in a safe and relatable way, supporting them on their journey toward healing.



This program will benefit children/youth in Windsor-Essex in the short and long term.

Through the “Read to Rise” program, WECYAC aims to

- Provide comfort and distraction- books offer a safe escape and a sense of normalcy for children facing challenging circumstances
- Encourage emotional exploration through stories and relatable characters that will empower children to process their emotions and experiences constructively
- Ensure equitable access - every child, regardless of socioeconomic status, can access resources that inspire healing and growth

Join us on Social Media

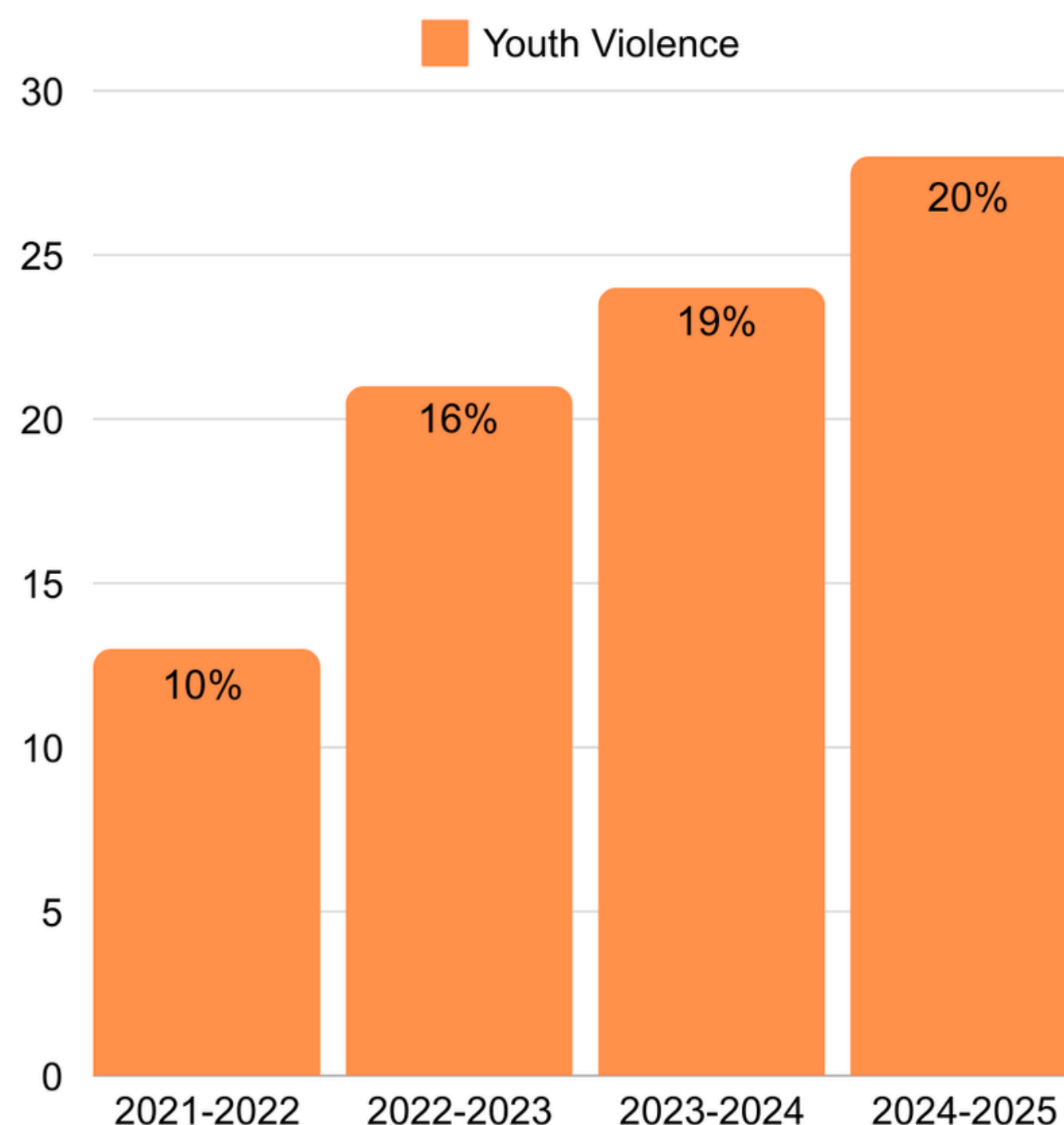
Peer to Peer Violence in Windsor Essex County

Reported peer on peer violence and abuse has been increasing in Windsor-Essex. In 2023, there were 135 youth charged with criminal offences, compared to 96 in 2022, showing the increase of youth crime in Windsor (Molner, 2024).

According to the Survey of Safety in Public and Private Spaces, more than 45% of teenagers, an equal number of males and females, who have reported being in relationships between the ages of 15-17, have experienced some form of violence or abuse at the hands of their partner (Sutton & Burczykca, 2024).

Youth who live in lower socioeconomic status (SES) are more likely to be involved in peer-on-peer violence compared to youth growing up in a higher SES (Jackson, et al., 2013).

Girls are nine times more likely to experience dating violence compared to boys in the same age range (WECHU, 2024).



According to our own statistics, peer on peer violence has increased from approximately 10% of our cases in 2021 to 20% of cases in 2024.

Peer to Peer Violence in Windsor Essex County

Warning signs (Victim):

- Physical signs of injury
- Indecisiveness; allowing partner to make all decisions for them
- Changes in mood or personality when partner is near
- Emotional outbursts
- Isolation by partner

Warning signs (Perpetrator):

- Extreme jealousy
- A controlling partner
- Belief in rigid sex roles
- Unpredictable mood swings
- Isolates partner from friends and family
- Uses force
- Threatens violence



A pattern of controlling behaviors that one partner uses to get power over the other it includes:

1. Any kind of physical violence or threat of physical violence to get control.
2. Emotional or mental abuse, such as playing mind games, making a person feel crazy, being yelled at, constantly being put down or criticized.
3. Sexual abuse, including making their partner do something they don't want to do, refusing to have safe sex or making their partner feel guilty about themselves sexually.