Executive Director May 2017 Report

# Key Messages

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* Hiring process underway for Development Coordinator and Finance Coordinator part-time contracts. Expect to announce winning candidates by Friday, May 26
* Annual Report draft is complete, just awaiting audited Financials.
* AGM is scheduled for June 26th upstairs at the Smith Falls community centre. See invite in your board package and please share widely with your networks.
* OPP Platoon visits resulted in some minor changes to procedures and will likely see a climb in the numbers over time
* A lot of my time this past month was spent on prepping audit files, year-end and interviewing/hiring processes

**Community Relationships**

* **OPP** Platoon visits went extremely well and we learned a great deal from each other, including what some of the prevailing myths were related to our program. Here are the summary notes:
* Members of OPP are **NOT required to attend** the community justice forum if they divert an offender to our program
* If the offender or the offense are more serious/complex, our Program Coordinator, Sheri Halladay, may contact you to see if you are willing to participate in the forum- there is NO obligation to participate.
* IF you are going to participate in a community justice forum, you will NOT be asked “How do you feel about what happened?”  We will now ask “How were you impacted?” so you can talk about the impact on your work since you are on duty.
* If you are participating in a community justice forum, we will ask you to speak first then you’re done and back to your regular duties. Your participation will likely be no more than **15-20 minutes**.
* Members of OPP **DO still get credit/recognition** within the detachment for the arrest if they divert an offender to our program
* Sheri will send all sanction agreements the offender is required to fulfil in order for the charges to remain diverted to Constable Brown and he will update your system so the Disposition of Charges will show what the offender has to do so you have a record of it.
* When the file is closed and we inform the Crown, we will also cc the officer involved so you know what happened and if/when the offender successfully completed the program or if they failed and the Crown will then be laying charges (very rare).
* Our facilitators are highly trained in trauma-informed care, supporting victims and have a high capacity to handle “sexting” and other consent-related offenses.
* Even if you don’t have grounds to lay a charge but you’d like something to happen with the offender, you can still refer them to our program.
* We accept referrals for youth **AND** adults of any age
* Referral forms and process  have not changed at all
* **Housing Coalition:** As it turns out, we are a great fit with this initiative in 2 key areas: supporting Tenant-Landlord Relations (through Building Supportive Communities Program) and local stats show all of our homeless youth return to the family home and need programming to help them and their families reconnect (could connect with either BE STRONG or Building Strong Communities). We will be pursuing our involvement along these 2 streams moving forward.
* **The last of our Webinars for this season will be tomorrow (Wed, May 24) and the next season will start up again in the Fall.** We have found this to be a very successful initiative that not only built our internal capacity, it also fostered some wonderful connections with other organizations in Lanark, Leeds and Grenville.

**Programs:**

* We are actively recruiting new volunteers for Court Diversion, BE STRONG and the CARD (Community Action Resource Development Team)
* We are on-target to achieve the 5,000 target for the BE STRONG Project that we need by June 30
* We are preparing to say a sad farewell to Jordan as she is expecting to complete her placement hours by Friday, June 9th. We will be having a good-bye lunch in her honour on that Friday and invite all board members to join us. Location TBD

**Other:**

* Our lease concludes at the end of May and FCSLLG has informed me this building will likely go up for sale in the next year, as such they are going month-to-month and not offering a new lease. They predict the new owner will be a “well-known” property group that hosts community hubs and would likely want to still rent to us, though they cannot guarantee that. The month-to-month arrangement actually works well for us we we would need more space if we end up hiring a 6th staff person to coordinate the Building Restorative Communities Program if funding comes through for that.