

# ANNUAL REPORT 2015/2016





# Table of Contents:

President's / Executive Director's Report Our Mission, Vision, Values Tropicana Effect Strategic Plan

## **PROGRAM REPORTS:**

- Culturally Appr
- Tropicana Empl
- Youth & Educat
- Tropicana Dayc
  PreSchool & Int
- Youth & Recrea
- The Lab, Formal
- Jobs For Youth
- Food & Toy Dri

#### HUMAN RESOURCES:

- Organizational
- Board of Direct
- Board Committ
- Management S
- Placement Stud
- Volunteers

#### FINANCIAL REPORTS:

- Treasurer's Rep
- Resource Devel
- Funders, Dono

opriate Counselling	
loyment Services (TEC)	
tion	
are Centres, fant / Toddler	
ntion	
lly ProTech Media Centre	
ive & Donors	
Chart	
ors	
ees	
itaff	
lents	
ort	
lopment	
ors & Sponsors	

30

# **PRESIDENT'S / EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S** REPORT





t has been another rewarding year at Tropicana Community Services Organization. We celebrated our 35th anniversary on March 26, 2015. This fiscal year has been a year of looking back on our proud history while working through changes, challenges and opportunities. In recognition of our many years of service we launched our newly redesigned website in April and produced a video which showcased a few of our clients, volunteers, Board Members, staff and stakeholders whom over the years demonstrated their ongoing support and appreciation for Tropicana and what it brings to the community. In this Annual Report, we highlight the strides we have made in 2015-2016 that are key to our mission.

#### Contributing to the community

We launched a new fundraiser entitled Uplifting Spirits which provided a change to our historical gala event. It was an evening that featured food, entertainment and spirits showcasing the flavours of the Caribbean. The success of last year has prompted us to make this an annual event. As one patron stated, "The gala was great, but THIS is Tropicana."

Tropicana was honoured to participate in the Pan Am/Para Pan Am Games Torch relay event. We were asked to be stewards of the entertainment and on July 9, 2015, we spent the day at Christie Pits Park awaiting the torch. Camp Tropicana kids set the mood for the day by singing the national anthem in both official languages. We followed up with the Afrosoul duo, Amai Kuda and Y Josephine, Children and Youth Dance Theatre and the reggae group, The Steady Rebels. When Michael "Pinball" Clemens brought the torch into the site, he stated how pleased he was to be among

#### "his friends" from Tropicana.

The highly successful and effective Jobs for Youth program came to an end. Tropicana developed the program in 2005 and was the facilitator in Toronto for 10 years. We were also instrumental in expanding the program to other cities across Ontario, providing training and mentoring. During its run, we placed over 10,000 youth in jobs and averaged a 96% completion rate. The program has been replaced by Youth Job Connection and is being run by several agencies across the GTA.

In November, Tropicana held its inaugural Donor Appreciation Event, Making the Difference and allowed donors to "experience" first hand and see how their support is helping the organization. Guests assumed the role of a participant and received services in aid of their issue.

In December, we were thrilled to see the and procedures. From a Staff perspective, **An eye to our future** completion of the gym as well as outfitting several of the program rooms, thanks to a capital grant from the Ontario Trillium Foundation.

10 years with the Lastly, after organization, Leonardo Comentan resigned as Director, Finance and Administration. His tenure at Tropicana allowed the agency to have impeccable financial records. We were pleased to welcome Sri Ramachandran who has taken over the post to continue the agency's fiscal integrity.

Stronger governance, strong organization In 2015-2016 we continued our strategic Board recruitment and were pleased to welcome to our Board, Lennox Parkins, MBA, PMP, CPA, CMA, a Senior Finance and Project Management Professional with Atlantic Packaging Products. We also began to review our operational policies



the organizational policies as related to Human Resources, AODA (Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act), Social Media and Conflict of Interest have been updated to meet current realities and workplace requirements. A new Procurement Policy has been introduced where we will be doing a review of the coming year. current organizational procedures. And as policies and procedures of Tropicana for the upcoming year, this will be done in conjunction with the continued leadership of our Executive Director.

We continue to proactively work on a succession plan for both the Board and the organization. It is our goal to deliver clearer direction and measureable outcomes to guide the organization over the coming years.

While recent changes to the funding systems for the United Way Toronto and the Ontario Trillium Foundations were announced, we steeled ourselves and underwent a rigorous application and registration process and are hoping to be successful in our funding endeavours for

the board continues to navigate the At Tropicana we celebrate our history. With great foundations established by Robert K. Brown, and the dedication and hard work of our many employees, management team and Board of Directors, our future is bright. Thank you, without you, there is no Tropicana Community Services.

**JENNY GUMBS** 

- President

- Executive Director

# **OUR MISSION, VISION & VALUES**

# The Tropicana Effect...

# Mission:

Tropicana Community Services, a Toronto-based multi-service organization, provides all youth, newcomers, people of Black and Caribbean heritage and others in need with opportunities and alternatives that lead to success and positive life choices. Our mission is achieved through culturally appropriate programs such as counselling, child care, educational and employment services and youth development.

# Vision:

Communities in which all individuals have equal access to opportunities to reach their goals.

# Core Values:

## Integrity

Our integrity is never compromised. Our success is a reflection of our diverse, dedicated and skilled staff and volunteers who take pride in their work. They conduct themselves in a manner that is in line with our belief of making a positive contribution to our society.

## Respect for the Individual

Our commitment to excellent service demands that we show consideration for the individual and that we be courteous, fair and sensitive in our dealings with each client, staff member and volunteer.

## Culturally Appropriate Service

We ensure all clients receive culturally appropriate service, in keeping with our commitment to respect for the individual.

## Social Responsibility

Our conduct is pursued in a manner that is socially responsible and earns respect for our many contributions to society. We are committed to improving the success of the programs and to be responsive to the community we serve.

# **Guiding Principles:**

#### **Competence** and Excellence

The organization demands competence and excellence in all aspects of our operations so that our programs and services achieve the desired results and make efficient use of our resources.

#### **Collaboration and Partnership**

We work in collaboration and partnership with community members and agencies to ensure our programs and services reflect the needs of the community and to make the most cost-effective use of the community's resources.

#### **Innovative Programming** and Funding

We develop innovative programs and generate funding to enable us to be responsive to our clients' needs.

#### **Day Care**

"The daycare is a fantastic place for my son. They are very encouraging and a great help. The daycare and teachers are doing a good job with the students, as I can see when my son learns something new. My child enjoys the daycare and looks forward to coming everyday to see his teachers and friends. He loves to make his Lego creations. I would recommend this daycare to anyone who is looking for an involved place where their child can grow."

#### **Sister 2 Sister**

C. stated that she enjoyed the program because she got the opportunity to meet new friends, engage in conversations that helped her to develop herself. She enjoyed the activities and workshops she participated in. She also appreciated the support she got from the girls. She left the program feeling accomplished. She said that she built relationships with the girls outside of the program.

#### YouthSTART

"As for the changes I have seen in Malachi, they have been nice and steady. He is starting to speak when he is angry instead of shutting down; his overall attitude has changed drastically from "I can't, I won't" to "I will try, I can". He's starting to come out of his depressed shell and walks a little taller. I thank both you and Michael for your time, patience, understanding and teaching ability. Malachi loooooved attending."

-Joanna Parent of YouthSTART Participant

#### **Camp Tropicana**

"The best part of this entire camp is the showcase for the parents and caregivers at the end of the program. This is where the students show what they have done for the summer. I've enjoyed mini skits, plays and showcasing of new talents especially the dance routine. It was well coordinated. Since that summer of 2008 my daughter has requested to go back to this camp every year. She is even interested in becoming a camp counselor when she is too old to be a participant. I would recommend Camp Tropicana to any parent who is looking for a fun and educational environment for their child. The location is great, the staff are friendly and the activities are entertaining; All the great qualities of a great camp."

-O. Caleb Parent of Camp Tropicana Participant

#### **Defy Your Label**

"I think the girls club has changed me a lot now because I'm not so shy anymore and I've made a lot of new friends. We done so much fun things together, we laugh and made jokes. When I was alone I know I have supporting friends and staffs that were there for me. Tropicana also help me to become a young women leader and help build my self-esteem. I thank everyone for being there for me. Thank you to the Tropicana Team."



-Mother of Child in Care

#### -C. Sister 2 Sister Participant

-Defy Your Label Participant

#### **START for Life**

"I did not come here by choice. It was an obligation I had to fulfill. Yet I feel appreciative [that] the events, which were not great, lead me here since it has changed the way I look at things, the way I communicate with people, practicing taking a deep breath and a step back before I open my mouth or make certain actions. I told my cousin today it was graduation and she asked me if I had learned anything. I have. Just to be a better person, because of the things we learned. I am at a point in my life where I am transitioning into an adult because, I just turned 25 and by taking the [START] course it helped me become a better person. I enjoyed meeting everybody and listening to everyone's stories. We always had a chance to go over what we went through [during] the past week and some were funny or not so funny. It was great to hear how others are dealing and coping with life. I am thankful that we got this opportunity to do it."

-C.S. START for Life Participant

#### **Family Counselling**

A family unit (mother and father) was referred to Tropicana by child welfare and their lawyer for strategies to enhance their capacity to parent. When they first began the process, the couple indicated that they were apprehensive about counseling. They however, continued. After several sessions they indicated that, as a result of participating in the sessions, they were able to (1) gain insights into the impact that their substance abuse and physical abuse had on their daughter and (2) clearly understand why their child was placed in foster care. Although their daughter has not been returned to their care, the parents indicated that they are using the tools and strategies acquired from the sessions to develop a cohesive relationship with their daughter and have begun to engage in activities during the supervised visits with their daughter which will hopefully build trust in their relationship."...we think you have the right demeanor/personality to be doing the job you are doing...We wanted to say, thanks a million for all the help you offered to us, you are an awesome person. Don't ever change..."

-Family Unit Counselling Participants

#### Man Up

N.B. is an 18 year old young man that has professed that he gained valuable life skills and leadership through his experiences with the programs offered to him at Tropicana. Nathaniel credits the Man Up program for helping him with his decision making skills, he says "When I get angry, I breathe and think about the anger management skills Man Up has taught me". Nathaniel is a common face at the SYRC, and he enjoys hanging out in what he calls "a friendly environment". The programs at Tropicana have made it easy for him to be social, while making him new friends in his community. Nathaniel credits Tropicana for being the main reason he is knowledgeable of community events and he understands that he can rely on our staff to help him with diverse issues that may arise."

-Nathaniel Man Up Participant

# **STRATEGIC PLAN** 2013 - 2017

#### I. HEALTHY COMMUNITIES:

Tropicana Community Services defines a healthy community as one in which all members have the opportunity to realize their full potential. This encompasses physical, mental and social wellbeing through educational and economic prospects, fulfilling family life and social inclusion.

Strategic Initiative:

- Continued support for programs that provide opportunities for Employment or self-employment; youth engagement; alleviation of family violence
- Education outcomes improvement
- Program leadership and partnership roles

### **II. AGENCY SELF SUFFICIENCY:**

Tropicana Community Services strives toward self-sufficiency and diversification of funding sources to allow for self-direction to meet the mission.

Strategic Initiative:

- Strategic performance management
- Fund/Income generation
- Short and long term indicators identification
- Succession planning

**III. COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP:** 

Tropicana Community Services seeks to develop social capital and community leadership skills that are recognized by mainstream in order to influence decision-making that positively affects the communities it serves.

Strategic Initiative:

- Outcome focused program evaluation
- Brand growth
- Organizational visibility







# Program Reports

# Culturally Appropriate Counselling By Cathy Providence

#### Department Summary:

The Culturally Appropriate Counselling program provided a variety of services to assist individuals and families in reaching their fullest potential. Activities were client-centred and designed to aid the personal development of program participants. Where possible, we encouraged involvement in group interactions to enhance social networks, facilitate a wide breath of knowledge exchange while strengthening capacity and resiliency. Over the past year, the program continued to evolve in response to the needs of clients resulting in the emergence of an eclectic and creative program base. The program solicited volunteers, many of which were clients, to augment the effort to deliver the best service possible.

#### **Programs Include:**

• Individual & Family Counselling: included crisis support, short-term goal-focused and long-term clinical sessions to improve emotional well-being.

• VAW (violence against women) Counselling: assisted women who identify as having been sexually, physically, or emotionally abused by their partners, or significant others in addition to children exposed to abuse. Services included crisis support, sexual assault counselling, short to long-term goal-focused counselling, safety planning, information & referral and groups.

• Transitional Housing & Support: provided information, safety-planning, referral, accompaniment and facilitation of the process for women to escape domestic violence by securing independent housing.

• START for Life – skills training (Success through Aggression Replacement Training): provided instruction through reflective discussions, role modeling and demonstrations to enable participants to strengthen positive social skills, anger control and moral reasoning.

• Women Empowering Women Support Network: series of group activities provided peer support to women (18+) to develop leadership skills through coaching to become session facilitators.

#### **Client Success Story:**

My name is Letisha. I am a single mother with 3 children that has been a client with Tropicana for a couple of years now. I heard about Tropicana through a friend that was in an abusive relationship and Tropicana had helped her get out of. I had suffered a lot emotionally due to mistake I felt I had made when I was younger. I was 16 when I first had my eldest daughter and at 25 I had 3 children. It hasn't been an easy road knowing I had to go back to school and take care of 3 children alone. All my family lives on the next side of the city, so support was really only on weekends. I am happy I made the decision to move to Scarborough and finding out about Tropicana. I had so much experience with such good people I would never expect I would be able to do this. A lot of the experience was through Tropicana. I got hired at a day care centre and that was a good experience. The powerful words from workers and clients help me to be able to push myself to do better. I'm not working now but I have started up a family business for my children, and myself through my dad which is called S.R.S. BODY CARE PRODUCTS. S.R.S. stands for my children's names I have shown it to couple of staff at Tropicana that was very proud of me. It really made me feel good knowing someone is proud of my work that I'm trying out. I have a lot of faith in God and I feel he placed me with Tropicana for a reason. Tropicana needs to be all over the city, just to know you can go somewhere to get help...It really helps. I am very grateful and appreciate everything they have done for *me from the bottom of my heart.* 

-Letisha, Transitional Housing & Support client

#### Department Highlights/Successes:

- START for Life skills training facilitated its 34th series with its 584th participant.
- Membership and diversity of sessions mushroomed in the 11 years of the Women Empowering Women Support Network (WEWSN). Workshops and skills training sessions included:
  - cooking on a budget
  - sewing
  - arts/crafts for social enterprise job search
  - computer literacy
  - physical/emotional health (e.g. diabetes prevention, grief management, self-esteem, yoga, conflict-resolution and community excursions).
- The agency's 13th annual International Women's Day hosted 92 participants WEWSN



# Further feedback related to learning included:

- "We don't need to have a male figure in our lives to make decisions for us"
- "Now I know more about myself through the leadership and social skills program"
- "How to combat being shy or jealous"
- "How to express my inner feelings and evaluate myself regardless of how others feel about me"
- "I learned that even though people may all be from different walks of life, we must all learn to be kind to each other"



- "Talking about feelings creates better communication.
   Self-awareness helps you become a good leader."
- "How to find yourself through other objects. Bowling gets you excited, active and meeting new people."





# **Tropicana Employment Centre**

By Nimo Abulkadir Jama

As an Employment Ontario delivery agency, we work with both job seekers and employers to achieve their employment -related goals. Over the years, our employment counsellors and job developers have supported thousands of clients looking for work and assisted employers in finding suitable candidates. We help our clients to secure employment, get training, and upgrade their skills. Tropicana Employment Centre provides free job posting, recruiting, screening and coaching services.

Tropicana Employment Centre continues to develop new partnerships in the community and build strong relationships with local businesses in an effort to enhance employment prospects for our clients. We open doors for youth by helping them explore new avenues, whether it be training in a specific trade or becoming an apprentice, returning to school for a high school diploma or enrolling in a post -secondary program. Older displaced workers are given the opportunity to retrain and pursue a second career.

#### **Programs Include:**

Employment Service is a year-round program for unemployed individuals. Program participants receive access to the agency resource centre services including training workshops, employment counselling, job placements, job trials, training support, and job maintenance support.

Youth Job Connection (both year round and summer) provides paid pre -employment training to promote job -readiness, job matching supports for participants and hiring incentives for employers, mentorship services, and education and work transitions supports.

Youth Job Link provides youth, including students, with: career exploration services to increase their knowledge of career options and job search assistance; career management services to improve their readiness for the labour market and their ability to foresee, anticipate and adapt to labour market change; job search, readiness and matching assistance to connect them with employers offering job opportunities, including summer jobs.

Retail Career Pathway, PEAK Basics **Program** provides youth with a four week training program, industry recognized certification, a job placement, employment counselling and job maintenance support.

netWORKS program provides youth with

the opportunity to expand their professional network, and connects them to professional mentors in their industry.

#### Pre-apprenticeship Program Autobody Damage Collison Repairer

The Pre-Apprenticeship project is designed to help 20 young people between the ages of 18 and 30 years old register as apprentices in

## **Client Success Story:**

I was told about Tropicana Employment Centre (TEC) by my sister because they assisted in helping her find employment. Tropicana [initially] helped me gain employment at a warehouse...where I worked for a few months. After a

year of unemployment due to custody issues, I was able to go to Tropicana and they were able to get me an interview at a restaurant. This was very important to me due to the fact that I was dealing with severe depression at this time. I was able to get that job and was able to work there for about nine months. I went back to TEC and met with my [employment] counsellor and she suggested the Career and Work Counsellor program at George Brown [College] because she thought that I would be a good fit for it. At that time I wasn't sure about that program and I was looking to get into Social Work at the time. After additional encouragement from my employment counsellor, I went to the information session [and was] in love with the program and I decided that I would get myself together and do the program the following year which I did. In 2012 both my father and my good friend passed away but I was still able to finish the program and graduate. [After graduation] I was offered positions at two organizations in my field.

Michael - Employment Client

# **Department Highlights:**

#### **Employment Services**

- 1460 clients were served through Employment Services 418 clients were placed through our Job Development and Placement Support 70% of our clients are employed at exit 92% of clients reported that they were satisfied with our services 16% of our clients returned to client or received training

- 1994 clients attended workshops

#### Summer Jobs Services

## **Client Information/Demographics**

GENDER			
	Male	Female	
Employment Services	680 (47%)	778 (53%)	
Youth Job Connection	91 (51%)	89 (49%)	
Summer Jobs Services	346 (47%)	390 (53%)	





the Auto Body and Collision Damage

Repair trade. The program includes 6

weeks of employability skills training (in-

cluding academic upgrading), followed by

12 weeks of Level 1 training at Centennial

Upon successful completion of the Level 1

training, participants will begin a 12- week

paid work placement and register with the

Ministry of Training, Colleges and

Universities as an apprentice. As part of

the training at Centennial College, program

participants will also be introduced to the

Automotive Service Technician as a

Canada-Ontario Job Grant provides an

opportunity for employers to invest in their

workforce, with help from the government.

The job grant provides direct financial

support to individual employers who wish

to purchase training for their employees. It

is available to small, medium and large

businesses with a plan to deliver short-term

training to existing and new employees.

College.

secondary trade.

Served 1429 students and of which, 737 receive summer jobs placements 1074 students attended our workshops

GE			
	15 - 18	19+	
	78 (5%)	1382 (95%)	
	31 (17%)	149 (83%)	
	391 (53%)	340 (47%)	

# Youth & Education

By Bernadette Hood

#### DEPARTMENT SUMMARY:

The Youth & Education department focuses on the all-round development of children and youth through a variety of programming. Family involvement and support are encouraged for all programs.

### **PROGRAMS INCLUDE:**

**Increase Your Success Tutorial Program** assists students from Grades 1- 12 who are experiencing difficulty in Mathematics and Language Arts.

**Chess** is widely known for its ability to sharpen thinking and enhance analytical skills. Open to children and adults.

**Steelpan** Take this opportunity to learn to play the only musical instrument discovered in the 20th Century in Trinidad & Tobago – Made from the oil drum. Open to ages 9 and up.

**YouthSTART** is an innovative program geared to reducing aggressive tendencies in children aged 9 to 13. It teaches pro-social skills and gives youth the tools to maintain self-control, increase self-esteem and work through conflicts.

**Defy Your Label** is a program designed to support the growth of girls (8 - 13 years) by inspiring and encouraging them to defy the negative labels, stereotypes and expectations placed on them and promote healthy self-esteem and self-respect. The main components of the program are self-identity, resiliency, conflict resolution, cultural education, social skills, active and healthy living, homework help and experiential learning.

**March Break Camp:** Children ages 6 - 11 years old have a safe space to have fun and engage in exciting activities and trips during March Break. Activities include sports, arts & crafts, games, digital media arts, life skills, cooking, and more.

**Camp Tropicana** (summer camp): Campers 5-14 years of age have a safe space for six weeks to have fun and engage in exciting

activities and trips. Drumming, dance, spoken word, dance, photography, sports & recreation, social and technical skill development and a variety of trips make this the best place to be. Parents' Night is a showcase of the learning and skill development of campers.

**School Programming:** This is a combination of YouthSTART and Defy Your Label programs used to address issues that have been identified by the teachers and principals in the schools. These issues include bullying, social skills, leadership skills, self-esteem and respect.

YMCA Youth Exchange: This is an opportunity for youth ages 12 - 17 to explore Canada, meet new friends, and get involved in community projects. Groups get to go to a completely different part of the country and stay in a host community for 5 days. It's a chance to discover new places and people, as well as, share and discover your own community.

Aggression Replacement Training (ART Basic Training) is the foundation of YouthSTART and START for Life programs. Once a year training is offered to Tropicana staff and members of the general public. Facilitators Rosaline Preudhomme and Leonard Dunston from Institute of the Black World lead the program.

#### **SUCCESS STORIES:**

#### Tutoring:

"What I like about this program is that it is on the weekend which I wouldn't usually be able to get [homework] help on. So, if I was to get an assignment on Friday, to do over the weekend, this program is there to help me complete my assignment. I also like the discussions at the end of class because it allows everyone to participate and contribute to the topic."

-A.P. Gr. 9 Tutoring Participant

#### YouthSTART:

"Since Izaiah has been going to the program, I have noticed a huge change in the way he interacts with people and deals with situations. Words cannot express how thankful I am for your program. It has helped Izaiah a great deal. It's the only program that he has attended that he actually looked forward to coming to. Thank you very much for all you all have done for him."

> -Bonnie, Parent of YouthSTART Participant

# Aggression Replacement Training (ART Basic Training)

"As a participant at the ART training, I have gained an appreciation for the great contribution of Tropicana in the wider community. They have become a voice for those who are voiceless. This program is a new beginning for numerous persons who need a fresh start. Thanks Tropicana for a new beginning. One Love."

-Participant

#### **Department Highlights:**

#### Increase Your Success Tutorial Program Model Enhancement Project

Tropicana Community Services is currently working with 3rd Sector Network Inc. to provide an eLearning platform for the Increase Your Success Tutorial Program. This enhanced blended model will give students and parents round-the-clock access to assistance and tutors will be able to monitor students' activity, progress and give feedback. The platform is set for testing in May 2016 and be available for the 2016-17 academic year.



# **Tropicana Daycare Centres** By Susan Sedgley / Olive McKenzie

Tropicana Day Care Centres formerly known as Children of Tomorrow Day Care Centres, offer child care services for infant, toddler, pre-school and school-aged children in a safe and caring environment for children in the community. We provide the children meaningful activities that provide them with the opportunity to develop new skills in a warm, nurturing and supportive multicultural setting. The children learn about different cultures through celebrating Diwali, Chinese New Year, Kwanza, Eid al-Fitre, Black History and Canada Day.

#### **Programs Offered:**

1. The Infant/Toddler centre for children 0-30 months old, offers a play based program. Through a variety of activities, the children practice new skills in all domains within a developmentally appropriate way. Literacy goals are also set to guide children through language development.

2. The centre has an active Pre-School room for 16 children aged 2. Well-Being – Every child is developing a sense of self, health and 2.5 to 3.8. The Pre-School children continue to gain independent skills while being introduced to some basic academic concepts. Through carefully planned curriculum, children learn a variety of 3. Engagement – Every child is an active and engaged learner who skills such as pre-writing and reading, alphabet recognition and sounds, colors shapes, and numbers.

3. Extended day before and after school care for 20 Junior and Senior Kindergarten children aged 4 and 5. The kindergarten children continue to develop valuable academic skills to prepare them for school, with a strong focus on literacy.

4. Before school, lunch supervision and after school program for 30 School-Age children in grades 1- 5. The school age children have breakfast, snacks, homework assistance and just plain fun participating in many activities. The children can relax and know they are in a safe and caring place.



The centres embrace the Ministry of Education's "How Does Learning Happen?" Ontario's Pedagogy for the Early Years. Our programs are organized around the four foundations of How Does Learning Happen.

- 1. Belonging Every child has a sense of belonging when he or she is connected to others and contributes to their world.
- well-being.

explores the world with body, mind and senses.

4. Expression – Every child is a capable communicator who expresses himself or herself in many ways.

# **Highlights and Fun Time During the Year**

- Infant/Toddler centre will be moving to McCowan Rd Junior P.S. (September 2016)
- 6 placement students volunteered at the Infant/Toddler centre for a total of 809 hours
- Zoo to You 30 small animals and reptiles visited the centre (Pre- School and School aged)
- Kids and parents annual Christmas Party
- Halloween Partv
- Library Days
- Attending a movie set to watch a YTV show being filmed and meeting the stars.

- Ripley's Aquarium
- Cousin Molly came to the centre and led an old fashioned sing along
- Dental Hygienist came to check our teeth
- Yoga Class
- Community Splash Pads
- Mad Science
- Cooking Class
- Bead Jewelry Making

# This Is What Our Kids Are Saying About Their Childcare...





66 I like to play with my friends and have fun. We like to dress up and be moms, dads, brothers and sisters. -Dondria (3 yrs)

-Jamario (3 yrs)

<sup>66</sup> I like to play with the magnets, paint and draw. I like to sing to the music with the karaoke microphone.<sup>99</sup> -Aaryan (3 yrs)

> 66 My favorite thing to do is play soccer outside. -Jyrell (10 yrs)

> > 66 T like to play Cards. 99 -Dewey (10 yrs)

66 I like to play chess after school. I'm really good.?? -Jayman (9 yrs)

66 ] like to play in the dramatic centre.?? -Brianna L (9 yrs)

66 I like to play with the space station because I want to be an astronaut. 99 -Jayden G.(5 yrs)

66 I like to play with toys and my friends Lexi and Ayesha. We read books. -Savannah (4yrs)

66 I like to play with the lego with Dominic. 97 -Casey (4yrs)

66 I like to learn my ABC's, write in my journal, do science and find dinosaur bones. -Jayden L (5yrs)

We are a reliable safe support system for parents who are in school

TROPICANA Annual Report

# Youth & Recreation By Cameal Johnson

The Youth and Recreation Department, formally Scarborough Youth Resource Centre (SYRC) provides like skills and leadership programming that caters to the needs of young people. In addition to offering a creative outlet for youth, the department facilitates a number of programs that range from recreation to assistance with job placements.

- Our life skills program includes the Man Up and Sister 2 Sister programs which are geared towards 14- to 18-yearold male and female adolescents, respectively. The program generally addresses the lack of social skills, and the mental development of adolescence. Through these programs, young people are continuously empowered, mentored and encouraged to express themselves in leadership roles. Overall these programs provide the tools needed for our young people to have a better understanding of life and what they need in order to become successful contributing citizens.

- Our physical and recreation programming includes programming for children ages 6 to 13, youth ages 14-18, adults 18+, and seniors 65+. The focus of our recreation programming is to foster healthy and active lifestyles amongst the individuals we serve.

- Our employment program, Tropicana LYVE (Leading Youth to Valuable Employment) provides work experiences for young people ages 15 to 30 that face multiple barriers to employment.

#### **Programs Include:**

Man Up, a community-based educational program, provides a safe environment in which males aged 14 - 18 can discuss topics and express themselves, leading to a positive change in their behaviour and attitudes.

Sister 2 Sister enables young women aged 14-18 to participate in activities, healthy discussions surrounding current issues and workshops that will engage young

females to explore what it means to grow up in today's society.

**Tropicana JOY** (Just Older Youth) is a program for adults 55 plus who are engaged in social, recreational and learning activities which promotes physical and mental health.

Run Jump Throw (RJT) in partnership with Athletics Ontario is a safe, fun and valuable physical experience program for children ages 6 to 11.



Drum Artz, delivered in partnership with Drum Artz Canada, is a drumming program where children and youth ages 7 to 17 will have fun building their music skills with learning how to play traditional Brazilian drumming style.

#### Tropicana LYVE (Leading Youth to

Valuable Employment), funded by Service Canada, is a wage subsidy program designed to assist unemployed youth between the ages of 15-30 obtain full time meaningful employment, improve their employability skills and to facilitate their successful integration into the current labour market.

#### **DEPARTMENT HIGHLIGHTS**

In May 2015, Scarborough Youth

Resource Centre (SYRC) relocated to Tropicana's head office after 20 years at Scarborough Town Centre. With the move came a new department name, Youth and Recreation and new programming. In addition to youth programming, children and adults can find programs that are recreation and arts based.

#### **NEW PARTNERSHIPS INCLUDE:**

• Athletics Ontario and Flying Angels Track and Field Club for RJT program

Drum Artz Canada for Drum Artz program

• As a Community Partner with Canadian Tire JumpStart Charities, financial aid was provided to families in need and it covered RJT registration fees.

• Funding support for the Man Up program, came courtesy of Mondelez Canada international

#### **TESTIMONIALS:**

*The Man Up program has really helped me with real life problems* and it helps when we have discussions and everyone shares, that way you can relate to their stories which helps make connections that start conversations to making new friends.

The Man Up program has also taught me how to portray myself as a person out to the public especially because I am a young black youth. *The program leaders Jase, Trevoy and Nate are the best leaders ever* and they also keep it 100, that's what I like about them.

- Shaquan White, Man Up Participant

*My daughter Ciyana has been attending Tropicana's Run Jump* Throw program for about a month now and she's in love with the program. At first she was nervous, scared and worried about not fitting in and not liking the program. Within the first three weeks of attending the program, her attitude has changed. I have seen it help build her self-esteem, confidence and having an understanding of being active leads into a healthier life style. The coaches encourage team work and for the kids to work hard and never give up, everybody's a winner at the end of the day. I recommend the program to family and friends with kids because my daughter had a great experience.

- Rochelle, Parent of RJT Participant.



# The Lab By Ainsworth Slowly

Formerly known as Protech Media Centre, The Lab is Tropicana's in-house digital media centre that offers youth, adults and seniors programming to develop basic computer skills to advanced video production through the Adobe suite of software. This past year, The Lab partnered interdepartmentally and with external organizations to produce a variety of programming that allowed a range of clients to accomplish both personal and professional goals. Through long-standing partnerships and newly developed ones with skilled professionals, The Lab's programming was diverse and impactful for all that participated.

#### Highlights of The Lab for 2015 include:

- Social Enterprise Project Development
- Variation of Workshops:
- Business Plan and Entrepreneurial Prep
- Website Development
- Video Production and Editing
- Digital Photography
- IT Security

#### • Variety of Partnerships

- Anansi Tek Club development of an African history app for mobile devices
- Business in the Streets youth (16-34) receive peer counselling from commerce students, recent graduates and young professionals

#### **Testimonials:**

"Hello, my name is Maalik Williams and I really enjoyed coming to Tropicana Community Centre to learn how to edit videos using Adobe Premier Pro CC. Not only was the software easy to use, but also the teacher [Tropicana staff] was extremely helpful. He also seemed to have a lot of experience in the software, and could help understand the software when I was having problems."

> -Maalik Williams, Youth Participant **Digital Producer Project**

"Hi, my name is Malachi and... I really liked coming here [Tropicana Community Services] to learn how to edit video for future use. The program we used to learn this was "Adobe Premiere Pro CC" it was fun and easy. The teacher [Tropicana staff] seemed to have a lot of experience and explained it in a matter that it was easy and fun to understand. I hope to come to any future classes similar to this one".

> -Malachi Williams, Digital Producer Project Participant



# Jobs for Youth

In 2005, Tropicana Community Services was approached by the Ministry of Children and Youth Services to develop and implement a program for youth 15 - 18, seeking their first job. With minimal parameters given, we embarked on the type of project that excited us - to develop from scratch an innovative and effective program that would ensure that youth would be successful in gaining and maintaining employment.

#### 10 years later...

The 2015 Jobs for Youth Summer Experience (JFY) program in Toronto was delivered from 14 offices within the citv's designated priority

communities. Although the program was impacted by usual challenges that occurred in the various communities, the outcome still showed overall success. Youth who faced multiple barriers to employment were able to overcome some of these barriers with

support from the Job for Youth staff and many were able to save enough money to aid with their back to school expenses. Staff worked tirelessly to ensure the well-being and success of the youth and also the success of the Jobs for Youth program. Most of the employers also gave tremendous support to the youth to ensure that they gained meaningful and extensive work experience.

The unwavering demand for the program was evident as a total of 3,582 youth applied to the program. One thousand and seventy eight (1,078) youth were placed with 387 employers and 1,044 (97%) completed their placements. And 165 youth were offered continued employment.

This summer, one highlight of the Jobs for Youth summer program was the involvement in the 2015 Pan/Parapan American Games. Over thirty (30) youth were afforded the opportunity to

TARGE<sup>1</sup> Placement Comple 80% emplo

participate in the Games as part of Ontario's Legacy Strategy. These youth supported Games-related initiatives with the Native Canadian Centre-The Aboriginal Pavilion and the City of Toronto.

#### **Goodbye JFY**

After 10 years of an amazing program, the Jobs for Youth program has come to an end. The Ontario government has decided to replace it with Youth Job Connection – Summer which begins in April, 2016.

JFY statistics are as follows:

• Over 10,000 youth placed in their first job

• Over 10% retained employment after the summer

PROGRAM STATISTICS:		
г	OUTCOME	
-1,020	1,078 - 5.6% over target	
n – <b>80%</b>	96.8%	
oyer satisfaction	<b>100%</b> employer satisfaction of those responding	

• Over 500 employers assisted and about 300 returned for more than 3 years

• Partnerships were maintained with approximately 20 other social service agencies that provided space for the implementation of the program across Toronto

 Over 200 young people gained valuable employment experience as staff in the program

#### **Testimonials**

"Participant M", a 15 year old male and recent immigrant to Canada, experienced several barriers in obtaining employment. This made him frustrated with the system. When he applied to the program, "Participant M" was humble and open to any type of em

ployment – he just wanted to work. He was placed at a summer camp and excelled in his role there. Not only did he earn funds, he gained the employment experience that other employers were not willing to provide him. "Participant M" also gained a reference to help secure future employment.

M.N. was living in a youth shelter when he applied to the program. As the program progressed, the youth began to struggle with mental health issues. He was discharged from the shelter as a result of his behaviour and was sleeping on the street outside coffee shops and donation bins.

M.N. was referred to the youth support worker and was able to access the care and resources that were necessary. These included doctors and housing support.

> M.N. completed his placement and received a reference from his employer

Participant A.S struggled with a very unsightly and uncomfortable case of eczema on her neck. This made her very self-conscious which

resulted in her being withdrawn. She did not want to participate in activities with others and was hesitant to attend training and work because of what people would think. The youth had a passion for fashion but she felt that people would be judgemental and unkind and that she would not excel in retail.

She completed pre-employment training and was placed in a retail environment. The youth worker leaders provided support and encouragement to A.S. which increased her self- esteem and helped her to excel at her placement.

The employer commented about her diligence and positive attitude which made her beam. Due to her outstanding performance the employer (The Gap) offered her permanent part- time employment one week prior to the end of the program.

# Food & Toy Drive

Every year Tropicana extends a hand to those in need during the Christmas season. Through the generous contributions of our donors and sponsors we were able to support 89 families during this time of the year.

• A total of 329 people were supported through the drive and they received a combination gift cards, food hampers, toys, personal hygiene products and clothing.

• Five donors sponsored 10 families, three of the sponsors were individuals while two were community and office groups.

• Donations received for the annual drive totaled \$2,485.

Below are some sentiments shared by Toy and Food drive recipients:

• "Thank you so much for this wonderful gift. I don't have a family here, receiving this gift shows that I am appreciated and that someone cares."

- "We are immigrants with no close relatives here in Toronto. All of the kids' grandparents are gone. Being the recipient of this kind and gentle generosity makes us feel at home. Thank you so much."
- "Thank you so very much. It is a blessing to know that people care about others and their struggles."
- "This year has been an extremely difficult year for my family. Thank you very much for your generosity this holiday season."













# Board of Directors





JENNY GUMBS President

CARMEN JAMES-HENRY Immediate Past President



ALICE BHYAT Secretary



Director



**ASTLEY THOMPSON** Director





PAULA MORRISON Vice-President



CHARLES CHAMBERS Treasurer



LENNOX PARKINS Treasurer



EARVIN VENZANT Jr. Director



THORA ESPINET Director



ESRICK QUINTYN Director



JENNIFER VASSELL Director



JOANNE SEWELL Director



TIANA KNIGHT Youth Rep.



SHARON SHELTON Executive Director



# **Board Commitees**

#### Audit & Finance

Charles Chambers (Chair) Lennox Parkins (Chair) Keith Patterson Ron Blackman Carl Veecock Carol Comissiong Cheryl Blondell-King Sri Ramachandran

The purpose of the Audit and Finance Committee is to assist the Board in maintaining the financial integrity of Tropicana and to ensure that the Organization is operating with fiscal responsibility in accordance with external audit requirements and internal controls.

#### Fundraising

**Paula Morrison** (Chair) Carmen James Henry Newton Vanriel Autherene Adamson Heather Douglas

The Fundraising Committee is responsible to the Board of Directors of Tropicana Community Services to oversee, monitor and evaluate the efforts of Tropicana Community Services to develop philanthropic revenue that ensures the organization's financial ability to carry out its mission.

#### **Program Planning**

Cheryl Blondell-King (Chair) Astley Thompson Thora Espinet Alice Bhyat Esrick Quintyn

Tropicana Community Services has established an advisory committee for each program to ensure that the programs meet the needs of the community and are current, relevant, maintain best practices and have high organizational impact. The Committee provides advice on the need for new programs and participates in their development and monitors the evaluation of all programs and services. Advisory committees have been established for each of Tropicana's core programming areas: TEC, Day Care, Youth & Recreation, Youth & Education and Counselling.

#### **PR & Membership**

Paula Morrison (Chair) Krysta Celestine Stacey Callender Heather Douglas

The committee is mandated to provide recommendations and assist with the implementation of public relations and membership initiatives as well as to promote the visibility and awareness of Tropicana.

#### **Human Resources**

Jennifer Vassell (Chair) Astley Thompson Jewel Celestine Anne-Marie Tseretopoulos Tracey Kalimeris Esrick Quintyn Joyce Blackman

The purpose of the Human Resources Committee is to provide professional human resources advice and information and work with the Executive Director and the Management Team at Tropicana to ensure that the work environment at Tropicana serves to foster an atmosphere where staff are engaged, motivated and effective in the delivery of services to clients.

#### **Governance &** Nominating

Joanne Sewell (Chair) Paula Morrison Carmen James Henry

The purpose of the Governance and Nominating Committee is to serve as an advisory committee to the Board of Directors of Tropicana Community Services Organization (the Board) to monitor and evaluate Tropicana's corporate governance system, to make recommendations to the Board on the effectiveness of the Board and its members and to identify candidates and nominees to be recommended to serve on the Board.



# Management Staff

SRI RAMACHANDRAN, Director

HEATHER DOUGLAS, Manager - Community Relations & Resource Development

CATHY PROVIDENCE, Manager - Culturally Appropriate Counselling

**OLIVE MCKENZIE**, Supervisor Tropicana Daycare Centre - Infant/Toddler

SUSAN SEDGLEY, Supervisor Tropicana Daycare Centre - Pre-School/School Age

SHARON SHELTON - Executive Director

NIMO ABDULKADIR JAMA, Director - Tropicana Employment Centre

- Finance & Administration

**CAMEAL JOHNSON**, *Manager* - Youth & Recreation

**BERNADETTE HOOD**, *Manager* - Youth & Education

# **Placement Students**

Youth & Recreation		Counselling		Dr. Oilver	Abtai
Simone Grant	Durham College	Kennisha Archer	Ryerson University	Rick	Ache
Makayla Cassells	George Brown College	Tishawana Ashman	George Brown College	Renette	Agaro
Simone Seelochan	George Brown College	Shelley Hill	George Brown College	Bibi Toni-Ann	Ali Allen
Mary Felix	Lakehead University	Ikuo Kaway	York University	Mathias	Ambr
		Wenli Li	Evergreen College	Norman	Ambr
		Jaime Lively	George Brown College	David	Amo
<b>Tropicana Daycare</b> Infant /Toddler		Chantal Nelson	University of Toronto	Blane Florette	Asrat Bacch
Negat Abdelgader	Centennial College	Kathryn Pierre	University of Toronto	Melvin	Bejo
Asmahan Athman	Centennial College	Monica Vythilingam	University of Toronto	Mavis Sutanne	Benn Bent
Hyejin Na	Centennial College	Tyshelle Williams	George Brown College	Meha	Bhuy
Ayanna Shockness	Centennial College	Shaoqing Xu	University of Toronto	Merinda	Bian
Marie St. Lauture	Centennial College			Kimberly Nathaniel	Brool Brow
Odette Tshoungamjiby	Boreal College			Noreen	Caller
		Youth & Education		Denise	Camp
		Erica Francis	Ryerson University	Lauren	Camp
Pre-School/School Age				Sumei	Chen
Fauzia Khalize	Seneca College			Nuri Ka-Mya	Choi Clark

# Long Term Service Awardees 2016

#### 5 Years

Srividya Krishman Amanda Punit

#### 10 Years

Suad Dualeh Cameal Johnson **Renette Malale** Mathiwathanie Rajakesary Berhe-Atsede Zeru

#### 15 Years

Sonia Brown Janis Lam Stacey Virgo Zulekha Yusuf

#### 20 Years

Hazel Smart

#### **25 Years**

Joycelyn Blackman Sandra Hunter Sylvia Waldron

# Volunteers

Dr. Oilver	Abtan
Rick	Acheampong
Renette	Agard
Bibi	Ali
Toni-Ann	Allen
Mathias	Ambrose
Norman	Ambrose
David	Amow
Blane	Asrat
Florette	Bacchus-Haynes
Melvin	Вејо
Mavis	Benn
Sutanne	Bent
Meha	Bhuyan
Merinda	Bian
Kimberly	Brooks
Nathaniel	Brown
Noreen	Callender
Denise	Campbell
Lauren	Campbell
Sumei	Chen
Nuri	Choi
Ка-Муа	Clarke
lvy	Cockburn
Noreen	D'Andrade
Ingrid	Daniel
Jesse	David
Camille	DeFreitas
Eardley	DeFreitas
Elmosa	DeFreitas
Rookmanie	Dindyal
Richard	Edwards
Dessie	Fanfair
Vanessa	Fanrose
Andrew	Gemon
Stella	George
Clyde	Gill
Jenetha	Gill
Marjorie	Girdharry
Sylvia	Godeau
Tai-shon	Gooding Spence
Tracey	Grant

Triona	Greaves	Amanda	Punit
Daniella	Hamilton-Johnson	Cory	Quartarone
Madison	Hammond	Brandan	Quesnel
Meaghan	Hannigan	Sureka	Rasiah
Veda	Hasnoo	Sigrid	Ray
Ashley	Henery	Monina	Reeves
Trevor	Hills	Selwyn	Rouse
Rebecca	Holder	Joseph	Rouse
Grace	Норе	Nicholas	Rudolfo
Juliana	Hoyte	Robin	Rudolfo
Esther	Hutchinson	Amanda	Samad
Andrew	lfeanyi	Mavis	Semper Benn
Alysaa	Isaac	Janet	Serioux
Marlon	Isaac	Ingrid	Shaban
Andrew	lsiguzo	Julian	Shelton
Carol	Jameison	Hector	Smith
Jessica	Johnson	Akimha	Smith
Len	Jones	Beulah	Stewart
Lui	Joseph	Sebastian	Sukhai
Bibi	Lachhan	Akeem	Surgeon
Josette	Leader	Patricia	Taylor
Lily	Li	Imani	Toney
Ziijan	Liang	Karen	Toney
Esther	Llewellyn	Carl	Veecock
Hazel	Lord	Renesha	Waldron
Phyllis	Marcanio	Mahkei	Walters
Jaelon	McKenzie	Ryan	Williams
Kirk	Meihado	Trevoy	Williams
Sabrina	Morgan	Jalen	Wilson
Melinda	Munding	Althea	Worrel
ingrid	Murphy	Cindy	Wynne
Fay	Neil	Elvoseta	Wynter
Vanessa	Parodi	Omari	Young
Ashisha	Persaud		
Alex	Persaud		
Andy	Persaud		
Laleeth	Philip	1	
Lystra	Pierre	200	enk
Cindy	Pollard	T	Yain
Charles	Providence	Vol	inteens!
Joshua	Providence		acens!
Patricia	Providence		



# **Clients Served By Gender** 2015-16:





# Clients Served By Age 2015-16:











# Financial Reports

# Treasurer's Report

Fiscal Year ended, March 31, 2016. By Lennox Parkins, MBA, PMP, CMA, CPA., Treasurer

> Tropicana continued to operate in a fiscally prudent manner during the year. This fiscal result was achieved by the management and staff carefully monitoring the revenue sources and matching the program expenditures, accordingly. The completion of Phase II of the building included the gym, the furnishing of the program rooms and kitchen facilities, were accomplished within the budget.

Total Revenue declined by \$700k which mainly resulted from a net reduction of \$1.3 million due to the end of the Jobs for Youth program, offset by an increase of \$500k in new programs at A.Y.C.E. (re-branded during the year as Tropicana Employment Center (TEC)). Accordingly, expenditures in the Restricted programs were reduced by \$700k.

The year ended in a modest surplus of \$40k, which is consistent with the prior year's 2015 surplus of \$46k.

Cash and term deposits increased substantially from \$299k in 2015 to \$1.2 million in 2016, mainly due to improved working capital management (\$225k), the timing of funding disbursements from the Ministry of Training Colleges and Universities (MTCU) and expenditures for the Youth Jobs Connection (YJC) program (\$570k).

The Financial oversight management had two transitions. Charles Chambers' term expired as Treasurer and Chair of the Audit and Finance Committee. Leonardo Comentan retired in December, 2015 after 10 years as Director of Finance and Administration. Thank you Charles and Leo for your outstanding contributions to the financial stewardship of Tropicana. My special appreciation to the Audit and Finance Committee who provided much support, guidance and direction during these changes that made the transitions smooth and seamless.

A special thank you to our staff, the Executive Director, Sharon Shelton and the new Director of Finance and Administration, Sri Ramachandran, for their continued hard work, due diligence and expertise in completing another financially successful year for Tropicana.

# **Resource Development**

By Autherene Adamson

In addition to federal and provincial funding, Tropicana relies on the generosity of individuals, institutions, foundations and corporations to fund its programs and make the Tropicana Effect possible.

## **Funding Priority**

The 2015-2016 funding priority was our Youth and Recreation department, which provides mentorship, life skills training, and free or low cost recreational programs for children, youth and seniors. Programs include Man Up, Sister 2 Sister, Tropicana LYVE, Run Jump Throw and Tropicana JOY.

#### Special Events

JCA - Tropicana Walk Good Fundraiser On Sunday May 3, 2015, Tropicana took part in the Jamaican Canadian Association's 33rd annual Walk Good fundraiser. Tropicana staff and volunteers walked, ran and jogged, and together raised over \$1,300.

## **1st Annual Uplifting Spirits Event**

On Thursday June 4, 2015, over 200 friends, donors and supporters joined us for our 1st annual Uplifting Spirits fundraising event at our Centre of Excellence in Scarborough. This unique tasting event was hosted by Itah Sadu and featured DJ Dave Campbell. Guests were provided with a taste of the Caribbean, including the finest rums, liqueurs, non-alcoholic cocktails, and cuisine. In addition to the tasting and networking, the evening also included a silent auction, youth programs presentation, live auction and the Tropicana steel orchestra. The event raised over \$25,000 for our youth programs and services, while showcasing our new Centre of Excellence and the impact of our community work.

#### **Donor Appreciation Event**

On Thursday November 19, 2015, from 6:30 pm to 9:00 pm, Tropicana hosted "Making The Difference", an evening to celebrate friends of Tropicana. This appreciation event gave our donors an opportunity to see their dollars in action. Guests enjoyed great music, food and drink, wandered through our 'home', met our volunteers and staff and saw first-hand the programs and services that their donations support.

# FUNDERS 2015/2016

- 1. Children's Services Toronto
- 2. City of Toronto Community & Neighbourhood Services
- 3. Human Resources Skills Development, Canada/Employment 8. The Ontario Trillium Foundation & Social Development, Canada
- 4. Ministry of Children & Youth Services
- 5. Ministry of Citizenship & Immigration

- 6. Ministry of Community & Social Services
- 7. Ministry of Training, Colleges, & Universities
- **TO2015 Organizing Committee**
- 10. Toronto Star Fresh Air Fund
- 11. United Way of Toronto & York Region

# DONORS 2014/2015

#### **CAPITAL CAMPAIGN**

#### Donors (up to \$499)

Blackman, Jovcelvn Chambers, Charles Comentan, Leonardo George, Stella Harcharan, Dennison Hope, David Morrison, Paula

#### Donors (\$500-\$4,999) Dewaal, Ken Fearon, Gervan Kina. Cecil Shelton, Sharon

## **UPLIFTING SPIRITS 2015**

**Donors** (up to \$499)

Bhyat, Alice Campbell, Joanne Chambers, Charles Chong, David Comentan, Leonardo Consulate General of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago Cyrrus-Gibbons, Celeana Daniel. Henrietta De Gannes. Sheila Dewal, Derrick Dewal. Pat Dunston, Leonard Farinha. Alice Farinha. Claudia Grant. Janet D. Holness, Greg Hood. Bernadette Jamaica Tourist Board James-Henry, Carmen Jeffery, Rowley Lee, Chin

Lloyd, Tracey Macaulav, Bodun P. Grant Consultant Inc. Padmore Assam, Ann Peterkin. Cecil Pouvat. Desmond Preudhomme, Rosaline Rodriguez, Gloria Rosenberg, Charles (Hilditch Architect) Rosenberg, Karen Sadu. Itah Salooiee. Zubeida Sealey, Ken Sewell, Joanne Shelton, Sharon Simpson, Maureen Small, Robert (Legacy Enterprises) Smith. Joan Sue, Paul Thomas, Barry N. Tial, Charmaine Tial. Marcus Tracedata Services Inc Whiting, Sandra Williams, Christine Wilson, Lance

Donors

(\$500-\$4,999) Gloudon. Patricia Rouse, Selwyn Jackson, Denise Herrera Sealey, Kenneth

## **DONORS IN KIND:**

Agard, Renette Amethyst Wine Agency Inc. Art Gallery of Ontario Asha Leaf Tea Campari America Caribev Inc Consul General of Antigua & Barbuda Corby Spirit and Wine Limited Dawkins, Ettie Delta Chelsea Toronto

First Fridays Grace Foods Granger Digital Grant. Ian Gumbs, Jenny Jav's Jewellerv Mitra Hot Yoga MLSE Mysteriously Yours Dinner Theatre Rum Cake Delight Sarah's Art Expressions Scarborough Town Centre Select Wine Merchants Sewell, Joanne Shelton, Sharon Sheridan Nurseries St Vincent & The Grenadines Tourist Office **TEVA** Canada Van Houtte Coffee Services Variety Village Willmott, Zara Woodman Wines and Spirits

## **Uplifting Spirits**

- Sponsors Lyon & Butler Insurance Brokers Ltd. DASD Contracting Inc The Co-operators **TD Bank Group** Caribbean Airlines

#### Robert K. Brown Scholarship Fund

(up to \$499) Brown, Jean Heron. Deanna The Avenue Lounge

**Janine Williams** Scholarship Fund (up to \$499) Ling, Kamla

Donors (\$500-\$4,999) Williams, Ashworth and Delrose

#### DONATIONS GENERAL

#### (up to \$499)

813561 Ontario Limited Alfred, Marguerite Alleyne, Noreen U. Benton, Deborah Bermudian Canadian Relief Association Inc. Bhyat, Alice Blondell-King, Cheryl Carrington, Marilyn Chambers, Charles Chen, Nicolas Crann-Morris, Tameika Dennis, Astley Dias, Dianne Drayton, Shirley Dunston, Leonard Espinet, Thora H. Estrada, Quintin Evans, Siobhon Gabriel, Lenore J. Gazo, Frank J. Gill, Jenetha Gloudon, Patricia Goring, Jeremy Hanif. Nadira Harcharan, Dennison Harnett, Margaret Harris, Samuel Jamaican Canadian Association James-Henry, Carmen Jekosz, Roksana John Howard Society of Toronto Linh, Eric Tri Vinh Lintott, Ian Luongo, Chris Mair, Alicia McKenzie, Robert Morrison, Neville G. Morrison, Paula Patel, Aejaz

Patrick. Leslie (\$5000-\$9.999) Preudhomme, Gloria Rosaline Enterprise Holdings Foundation The Rainbow Foundation Quan Chan, Heather Rawlins, Coleridge Rose, Alison Rosenberg, Charles **Donations in Kind - Others** Angus Glen Golf Club Rouse, Joseph SATEC @W.A. Porter C.I. Student Beyond at Risk Community Organization Activity Fee Brown, Melany Sawh, Hemdat Sewell, Joanne **Frontier College** Shelton, Paul Impak & Rhythm D. Shelton, Sharon Kids Upfront Simmons, Janine Larro, Norma Small, Robert Brown Mondelez Canada Smith. Winsome Red Lobster Snug Harbour Seafood Bar & Grill St Onge, Jane Elizabeth Thompson, Astley **Tim Hortons** Thamil Poonka School & Daycare Walmart Centre Walker, Erin **Making the Difference** Wisdom, Jimmv **Donor Event** 

#### (\$500-\$4,999)

Davis. Earl **Deloitte & Touche Foundation** Canada Fearon, Gervan George Brown College Hamilton District AutoBody Repair Association Inc. Harris, Amah John Howard Society of Toronto Keystone Automotive Industries ON Inc Lyon & Butler Ins. Brokers Ltd. Massiah, Diana Nicholson, Joan **RBC Royal Bank** SATEC @ W.A. Porter C.I. Student Activity Fee Scarborough Town Orthodontics Shoppers Drug Mart Life Foundation Tranquility Alumni Association of Canada

Sponsor Nursing and Homemakers, Inc.

#### FOOD DRIVE DONORS (up to \$499)

Callender, Michael Chambers. Charles Collins, Erma Diaz, Myrna Harper, Andrew Linh, Eric Tri Vinh Massiah. Diana McLennon. Derrick McPherson, Denika Molligan, Worrell Padmore Assam. Ann Rawlins, Coleridge Reesor. Debbie Shelton, Sharon Tranquility Alumni Association of Canada

#### (\$500-\$4,999)

Chum Charitable Foundation The Harrison-Queen's College Alumni Association

#### **Donations in Kind**

Ambrose, Norma & Mathias Bridgewater, Leila & Hubert Brown, Melany Buck Consultants Lt. Xerox Co. D'Andrade, Noreen Daniel, Ingrid DeFreitas, Elmosa & Eardley Gill, Jenetha Grant, Maureen & Alfred Lewellyn, Esther L Milestone Christian Ministries Sears Canada Inc. Springer, Roselyn & Samuel Stewart, Beulah The Caribbean Event The Sunshine Girls Tsung Tsin (Hakka) Association of Ontario Canada

#### **Sponsors**

Faustin, Gwyneth Grant, Tracey North of 50 Paabor, Alexandra Singh, Jennifer



# The Year in Pictures







- 961





**Tropicana Community Services**, a Toronto-based multi-service organization and United Way member agency, provides youth, newcomers, people of Black and Caribbean heritage and others in need with opportunities and alternatives that lead to success and positive life choices.

The dedication and diligence of staff and volunteers enables Tropicana to deliver much-needed programs and services. Our services include counselling, youth programs, educational and employment services, daycare, and community programs.

# www\_tropicanacommunity\_org

## Tel: 416.439.9009



Tropicana Employment Centre:

505 Consumers Rd.,Suite102 North York, ON M2J 4V8

416.491.7000 Fax 416.491.4669

### Main Office: 1385 Huntingwood Drive Scarborough, ON M1S 3J1

416 **•** 439 **•** 9009 Fax 416.439.2414 Tropicana Daycare Centre Preschool /School-age: 431 McCowan Road Scarborough, ON M1J 1J1 416.261.9893 Fax 416.261.6236

## Tropicana Daycare Centre

400 McCowan Road Scarborough, ON M1J1J 416.269.7093 Fax 416.269.4874

