

FCJ REFUGEE CENTRE ANNUAL REPORT 2015



FCJ Refugee Centre
Walking with Uprooted People



FCJ Refugee Centre serves refugees and others at risk due to their immigration status, and welcomes anyone asking for advice, counsel and support regarding these issues. We address systemic issues that newly arrived refugee claimants face in Canada including lack of resources, marginalization, and discrimination. Countless people are touched by our services. Some become residents at one of the houses, and use our refugee settlement services, while some only use the Centre's refugee protection services. For all these people we advocate in any way necessary: assistance with paperwork, translation and interpretation, accompaniment, referral to immigration lawyers connected to our organization, orientation to local social services, skills development, and counselling to support a healthy and positive start to life in Canada. Still others are guided and informed by our popular education programme, which encompasses training, seminars, workshops, and publications.

MISSION AND MANDATE

FCJ Refugee Centre helps up-rooted people overcome the challenges of rebuilding their lives in Canadian society. With an open door approach, the Centre offers an integrated model of refugee protection, settlement services and education, including shelter for women and their children.

The FCJ Refugee Centre has a mandate to assist refugees and other uprooted people in re-establishing their lives and integrating into Canadian society by:

- Offering inclusive and timely counseling and support, including interpretation, referral to legal assistance, employment training, programs on Canadian culture and life, and other educational workshops
- Providing temporary shelter for women and children
- Collaborating with relevant organizations to deliver popular education about the protection of the human rights and dignity of up-rooted people

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Dear friends,

Thanks to our donors and supporters, we are grateful to have been able to keep walking with uprooted people during 2015. Our refugee and migrant support work continues to help people to have a permanent future in Canada. The FCJ Youth Program is a positive space for young people to flourish. Through our temporary residences, we kept the door open by providing a safe place to stay for uprooted women and their children. Our Primary Care Clinic is growing and has been recognised and supported by the Inner City Health Associates (ICHA). We reinforced the dialogue around forced labor/human trafficking and how it affects members of the LGBTQ+ and young populations. Updating migrant/refugee communities and agencies on the frequent immigration changes is imperative in our daily work as we help peers to navigate through the systemic adversities of the system. Providing support to anyone who comes to our office is just part of our DNA. Thank you again.

The trend of exclusion during 2015 was alarming but hope reappeared near the end of the year. In terms of the exclusion, the stability, safety and protection of migrants residing in Canada decreased through the year. Many of our peer newcomers find themselves in limbo, some facing detention and deportation, others facing long delays in the processing of their applications.

The darkness started changing to hope with the commitment of the new government to bring 25,000 Syrian refugees to Canada. The idea to extend this overseas refugee openness to the inland situation was getting stronger and our Centre started to work on a regularization proposal for our uprooted peers living in Canada without immigration status. As we worked on this project, some sunshine appeared. We received two positive Supreme Court decisions affecting migrants and refugees in Canada: 1) that it is not a crime to help refugees to find safety in Canada and 2) The rejection of a rigid and narrow interpretation of the humanitarian and compassionate concept.

“A calm comes after every storm”; through the year despite the many storms we faced, we managed to navigate and keep advocating for uprooted people, trying to move humanity closer to justice. If we keep doing that together we will manage to see the “sunshine” after every storm.

Thanks

Loly Rico
Co-Director,
FCJ Refugee Centre

Francisco Rico
Co-Director,
FCJ Refugee Centre

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SETTLEMENT PROGRAM

One of the core services FCJ Refugee Centre provides is temporary shelter to women and children. Throughout the year we welcomed 40 residents in our 3 houses and provided them with basic settlement services: where to shop, how to use public transit, make a legal aid application, apply for a work/study permit, support with counselling, apply to Ontario Works, job search, etc.

As many of our residents were accepted as refugees, the second step was to assist them in their transition to securing permanent affordable housing. Through the Housing and Job Search program, we help clients to find a place where to live (temporary, transitional and permanent housing). At the same time we supported them with orientation for job searching, interviews and resumes. The program was implemented since the beginning of 2015. Through the year we supported about 60 newcomers. Anyeli Estrada was coordinating these services with clients every Wednesday 11:00 am to 3:00 pm.

As part of the settlement program we implemented informative sessions for residents at FCJ Refugee Centre. We offered three rounds of life-skills workshops for our residents at the refugee homes. We have successfully completed 15 life skills workshops in the last year with the participation of

our residents as well as newly arrived clients. We had a total of 107 participants who attended the informative sessions. During every meeting we provided snacks, transportation fares and child minding.

The residents of the Transitional Houses had an exciting summer with a field trip every week to different interesting places to encourage the residents to discover Toronto and enjoy the warm summer time.

We also made progress this year with our Green Light Programs, which offered the FCJ Transitional Houses the opportunity to participate in the program for Economized Energy. Now all the Houses are illuminated with energy-saving light-bulbs. Thanks to Green Light for enabling the FCJ Houses to contribute to the reduction of Global warming.

Second Harvest program is another important component of the Settlement program. FCJ Refugee Centre is one of the many community agencies benefitting from the support of Second Harvest. Thanks to Second Harvest we are able to provide food to our residents every Thursday. Supplies were delivered to residents and were also available for non-residents at the FCJ Centre. Through the year we received about 50 visits from Second Harvest.





In Spring 2015 the FCJ Refugee Centre ran a number of projects. The Centre was delighted to conduct its first community garden project, thanks to TD Friends of the Environment. With the help of our funder, we were able to grow vegetables such as tomatoes, cucumbers, kale, green onions, and much more in organic garden beds right in our own backyard! It was a long process to clear the backyard, build raised beds and transplant the vegetable plants, but it was made possible by volunteers and the women who call our shelters home. The garden not only has provided vegetables, but provided a space for these women to socialize and share an experience with other newcomer women. Workshops conducted, as seen in the photo, also taught them about important environmental subjects such as composting, which they can bring forward in their new lives in Canada. Special thanks to Young Urban Farmers for running the workshops.

Another spring program that was held was the Tax Clinic which ran on Tuesdays and Fridays from March to May. The service is for individuals and families with low income who are unable to complete their own tax returns. They started with a training provided by Revenue Canada to be ready for Tax declaration time. The two volunteers were committed to coming every week to see clients looking for this service.

Finally, FCJ Refugee Centre wants to thank The CP24 CHUM Christmas Wish for allowing us to distribute toys to children during the holiday season. We also want to thank the Brave Bear Project for donating 150 stuffed animals for refugee children. The toys were collected through donations from the children. The Brave Bear Project's mission is to empower children with the ability to give comfort and support to less fortunate children of war, illness, and/or poverty, through the donation of a personalized teddy bear.



PRIMARY CARE CLINIC

For three years the FCJ Refugee Centre Primary Care Clinic has been providing basic health care to the precarious immigration population. Though the refugee health cuts have now been restored, we continue to provide our limited health care access as there are more in our community than the previously insured population. Thanks to the funding and continuous support provided by the Inner City Health Associates (ICHA) & City of Toronto Employment Services, the primary care clinic continues to grow as our scope of work and network extends further.

In the past year, the number of our clinic days increased. Currently we have two clinics a week run by three rotating doctors, Dr. Ritika Goel, Dr. Susan Woolhouse & Dr. Naheed Dosani; a nurse and a primary care clinic co-ordinator. We see approximately 40 patients a week. Our health team assesses the needs of the patients and treats each situation accordingly. This may include regular check-ups and diagnostic tests; preventative care; limited duration medications; physical examination reports; referrals to other specialist, midwives, community health centres and others.

Just like the other parts of our organization we approach health through a holistic approach, considering other factors like social elements & past encounters that contribute to the patient's overall well-being. That is where our Counselling and Psychiatric services play a role, with both treatment and writing assessment reports. Although Dr. Ailar Ansarian ran the Psychiatric clinic twice a month for almost a year, we are currently transitioning to a new Psychiatrist.



Our networks have also increased over the past year which further improves our services. We were approved by Toronto Public Health to receive vaccines, and are grateful to ICHA to be equipped with a purpose-built vaccination fridge. Other relations involve the Gamma Dynacare lab pick-up service and sharp disposals coordinated with GIC Medical disposal.

Overall speaking our clinic has shown tremendous improvements over the past year. This is a result of hard work put forth by our wonderful team of health care providers and volunteers.

"It is a privilege to be part of the clinic team as we seek to serve and support those who come to the clinic. Their stories are often heart-breaking but the welcome and acceptance they experience at the Centre and in the clinic give them hope. "

- Sister Ann FCJ

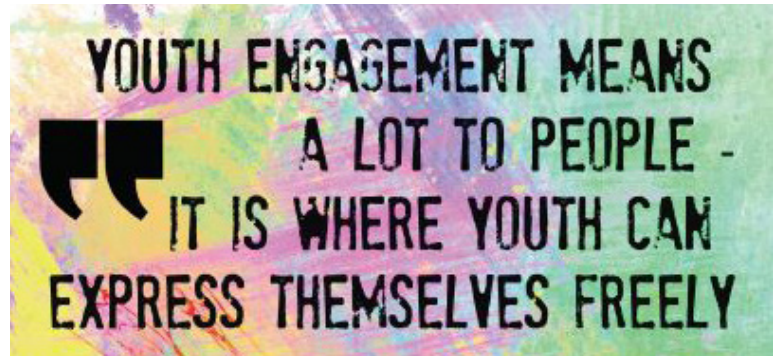
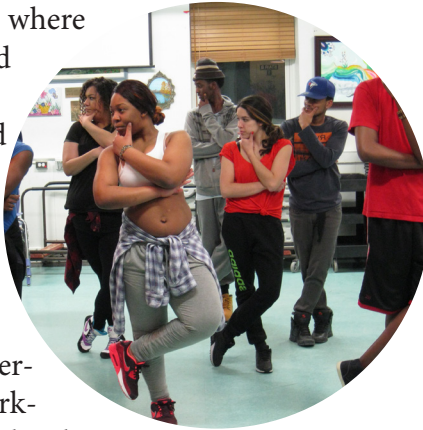


YOUTH NETWORK

The FCJ Youth Network continued to grow in 2015, welcoming new members from around the world. The group was incredibly active and had a very productive year, working on several projects, holding events and raising awareness about important issues.

DANCE PROGRAM

In 2015, the FCJ Youth Network started the second year of our dance program, Dance Steps-Life Skills, which became a completely youth-lead and youth-decided program. We continued to shape an artistic space where newcomer youth could build community, challenge barriers, and share our experiences through dance. Generously funded by the City of Toronto, this project allowed us to hold several youth-led dance workshops, spanning several styles.



FROM YOUTH TO YOU

Funded by the Laidlaw Foundation, members of the FCJ Youth Network undertook a year-long project to create a toolkit to promote meaningful youth engagement for groups across the GTA working with newcomer youth. The project allowed us to talk to several youth groups and youth workers throughout Toronto, to identify gaps, respond to emerging issues and promote promising practices across sectors.

The toolkit was developed from a growing need for youth, and particularly newcomer and precarious migrant youth, to feel more valued and included in various services that they access in the City of Toronto. The new resource prioritizes newcomer youth voices in fostering promising practices and addressing the less visible challenges faced by diverse newcomer youth populations.

The toolkit also outlines the FCJ Youth Network's current model of youth-engagement and youth leadership. Through this tool we want to encourage other newcomer youth serving organizations to duplicate this model to have more community centered youth engagement policies and practices.

We are incredibly grateful for all of the support we received over the course of this project as we could not have done it without the generous

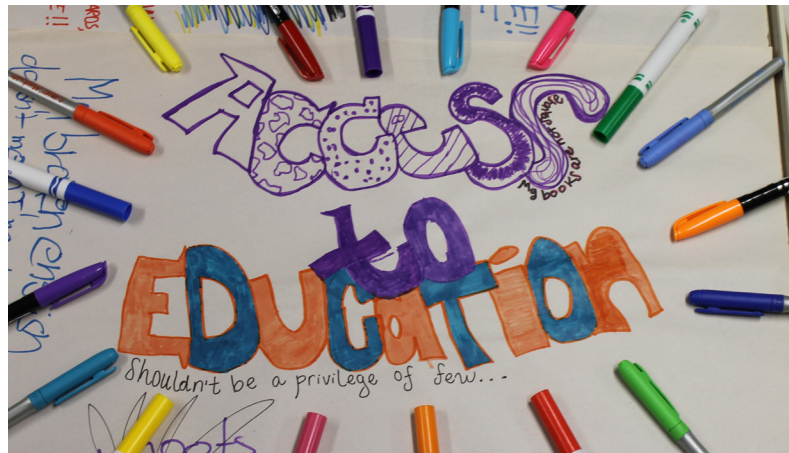
support of the Laidlaw Foundation, our allies and community partners. The Toolkit is available at FCJ Refugee Centre website.

ACCESS TO EDUCATION FOR PRECARIOUS MIGRANT YOUTH

Access to education has stood out as one of the most challenging barriers for newcomer youth in Canada, as newcomer youth continue to face insurmountable barriers in achieving an equitable participation in Ontario schools. To respond to this, we continued to run several programs, including Uprooted U – a free school for youth who cannot access post-secondary education; and Uprooted U Junior – free classes for elementary and high-school aged children. In addition to these successful programs, the group undertook the Uprooted Education report (also funded by the Laidlaw Foundation), a participatory research project to highlight many challenges precarious status migrant youth were facing in Ontario high schools. The report was developed over the course of the year, and published in early 2016. The report attempts to detail these experiences through five salient themes, and offer insight into promising practices and possibilities to ignite change.

UPROOTED U JR

Due to the challenges many families are facing registering kids at school, the FCJ Refugee Centre started a youth-led program that helps them adjust to the Canadian school system. The program aims to help individuals catch up to their assumed grade and helps students practice English and Math. Since the summer, we have held more than 50 classes supporting 10 children through the year.



IMMIGRATION SERVICES AND REFUGEE PROTECTION

Every Monday and Thursday we provide free orientation on any immigration issues: sponsorship, Humanitarian and Compassionate application, work permit, refugee protection, visa renewal, etc. Through 2015 we provided orientation to more than 100 new clients. Through the Newcomer Settlement Program we improved services for vulnerable newcomer populations experiencing multiple barriers. Thanks to the support of Ministry of Citizenship and Immigration, we continue to provide a variety of services to vulnerable newcomers including orientation, settlement support, counselling, and referrals to appropriate services.

FCJ Refugee Centre has been experiencing an increase in refugee claimants, mainly from Central America. Countries such as El Salvador, Honduras and Guatemala are now producing a massive wave of people fleeing from violence, lack of protection from the authorities, and extreme poverty caused by forced displacement and dispossession. Another group of refugees arriving at the Centre are mostly youths from Africa; most of them find themselves living alone in shelters and desperately waiting for their immigration cases to be decided.



In the last period of the year we have had referrals, especially from shelters looking for help to deal with clients that were fleeing domestic violence and were facing sponsorship breakdown.

We have been advocating against the conditional residence in the sponsorship process because women affected by this rule find themselves trapped in abusive relationships, facing not only the challenges of being newcomers, but also forced to be in silence and threatened of losing their status if that relation is broken.

Due to this situation, the Humanitarian and Compassionate cases are one of the pillars of our work at this moment. Through this application, uprooted people without status may find a way to be regularised, especially when initial attempts through sponsorship, refugee claims and more have failed.

"My experience with FCJ as a client has been one of the best parts of my new life in Canada. When I first came to Canada everything was uncertain for me. I did not know where to go and what to do. It was FCJ that took my hand and helped me through my difficult times. FCJ is not only a refugee Centre, but a family; everyone here treats you as well as one can imagine. I appreciate their assistance regarding my studies, work and housing. Thank you FCJ for the unconditional love and support."

- Nooria S., Client

A lot of our clients are facing hardship when their lives have been left on hold. Many of them are part of what we call LEGACY CASES. Refugee claimants whose cases were under the old system, before the refugee reform in 2012, have been waiting long periods of time for their hearing date to be set. These are families, some of them



with children that are finishing High School, and due to their precarious status, they cannot attend College or University because once they present their non-status, they are classified as International Students and as a result, tuitions are extremely expensive and not reachable. This is but one of many complications that honest, hardworking families must go through as a result of their limbo status.

Another category is the BACKLOG CASES.

These are refugee claimants that were rejected and through the Appeal or Judicial Review, their cases were sent back to the Refugee Protection Division. This also happens when their refugee hearing has been postponed. If a client is found to be in this situation, their only hope is that the new government will hire more decision-makers and get the chance of finally getting a letter with a scheduled date for a refugee hearing.

As the Centre reaches a milestone in its first 25 years of commitment with refugees, we are set on bringing up new ideas to fix the many issues the current system has. We are working in collaboration with partner organizations to present to the government a new proposal that will hopefully help many migrants and refugees in Canada who are stuck in various forms of immigration status limbo.

NSP

FCJ Refugee Centre continues to deliver services to precarious migrant populations living in Toronto through the Precarious Migrant Support Program. The program is funded by the Newcomer Settlement Program under the Target and Innovative Settlement and Integration Services Stream of Ontario’s Ministry of Citizenship, Immigration and International Trade. This project targets refugee claimants, international students, and temporary workers, understanding that these groups face

SERVICES AT FCJ REFUGEE CENTRE IN NUMBERS		
Refugee Process	Other immigration services: H&C. sponsorships, invitation letters, work permits, LAO, etc.	Settlement services: OW, housing, translations, interpretation
856	2489	1635

additional barriers and may have increased vulnerabilities as a result of recent federal changes (including changes to the refugee determination process, the temporary foreign worker program and the introduction of Express Entry Program).

Services delivered through this program include: legal aid applications; referrals to lawyers (depending on the need of the case); assistance in finding safe and sustainable housing; assistance with employment related issues; applications for identification; providing information and orientation about rights, and possible avenues to access those rights; support getting into school, and any other school-related issues; and referrals to appropriate and timely health and mental health services. This unique service delivery response reflects the ongoing changes to Canadian immigration and refugee systems, and strives to improve the facilitation of the provision of wrap-around services through improved linkages with other services.



POPULAR EDUCATION

The FCJ Refugee Centre provided more than 100 workshops across Ontario. Some of the training we are implementing include the Breaking Barriers, Gaining Access, Newcomer Settlement Program, Human Trafficking, Immigration changes, etc. We offered these workshops as a commitment to our social justice and championing the rights of the vulnerable populations.

Refugee Help in Refugee Hands

Frequent and ongoing changes in the immigration and refugee systems have been impacting the settlement sector, starting in 2012 with the implementation of the new refugee system. Since then, immigration has been announcing and implementing additional changes like the Canadian Express Entry Program (implemented in January 2015), the Citizenship Act (changed twice), limits to Permanent Residence applications made by live-in caregivers, Changes under the Faster Removal of Foreign Criminals Act, the Cancellation of Assisted Voluntary Returns Program by CBSA, CIC Changes for Exclusion Affecting Refugees, Changes to the Definition of a “Dependent Child”, and many more. We have seen a greater need for settlement sector workers and community members to be better versed in these changes and understand how these changes affect the people they work with along their diverse immigration trajectories.

Thanks to the support of UNIFOR we updated our manual Refugee Help in Refugee Hands, which includes the current information related to the immigration and refugee process. In addition, FCJ Refugee Centre has been fostering greater dialogue around these changes. We have worked closely with community members and partners to update our training materials to reflect the new changes, and make sure this information is disseminated in a timely and appropriate manner to agencies and communities.

READY TOUR AND RAD INFO-SESSION

After the launching of the Refugee Appeal Division (RAD) info-sessions and the Ready Tour, both programs became very successful and helpful for the community. The programs are hosted by the Coalition of Service Providers for Refugee Claimants in Southern Ontario in partnership with the Immigration and Refugee Board (IRB) – Refugee Protection Division (RPD).

Throughout the year with an average of two sessions per month, we organized 21 Ready Tours. During the same period of time we organized 15 RAD info-sessions (an average of one per month).

The Ready Tour sessions had a total of 239 participants: 177 refugee claimants and 59 observers. Many of the refugee claimants received interpretation support in the following languages: Amharic, French,

WORKSHOPS 2015		
MONTH	#	PARTICIPATION
JANUARY	8	140
FEBRUARY	10	121
MARCH	11	207
APRIL	12	434
MAY	11	257
JUNE	11	220
JULY	5	79
AUGUST	6	98
SEPTEMBER	5	162
OCTOBER	11	364
NOVEMBER	9	207
DECEMBER	2	20
TOTAL	101	2,309

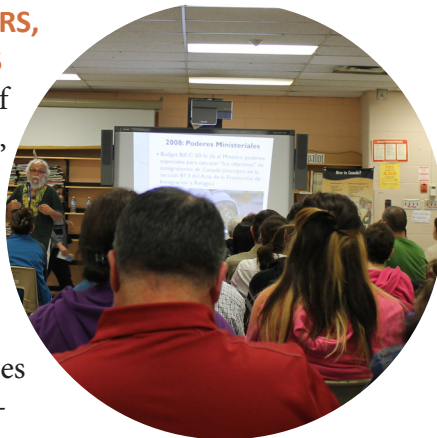
"Thank you very much for the Ready Tour... it was an amazing experience and really helpful to get more ideas about the hearing procedure. It makes it easier for people to understand what's going on on the hearing day and the gentleman who was doing the presentation was very professional and answered all kind of questions that could help people in many ways. Thank you very much again and we really appreciate it."

- Anonymous

Spanish, Persian, Swahili, Mandarin, Nepali, Tigrinya and Turkish. On the other hand, for the RAD we had a total of 96 participants: 8 appellants, 4 refugee claimants and 84 observers. Within the observers we had front line workers from different organizations like Davenport-Perth Neighbourhood, YWCA, Sistering, a Women's Place, Sojourn House, Covenant House, Halton Multicultural Council, and YWCA. We also had a great deal of volunteers from agencies, researchers as well as placement students. The implementation of such programs were made possible thanks to the support of the Law Foundation of Ontario.

BREAKING BARRIERS, GAINING ACCESS

With the support of the City of Toronto, the FCJ Refugee Centre successfully implemented the Breaking Barriers training program for agencies and frontline workers in Toronto to serve non-status and precarious migrant populations.



Throughout 2015 we provided the Breaking Barriers training to city staff of Shelter Support and Housing Administration, Libraries, Toronto Public Health, and other divisions of the city. The trainings were an excellent tool to create awareness and better inform undocumented individuals of helpful city services. The Presentations

incorporated the voice of the community to identify ways to improve access and service delivery for precarious migrant and non-status individuals - many of whom are continually facing barriers and challenges in accessing services, including trafficked persons.

COALITION OF SERVICE PROVIDERS

The Coalition of Service Providers for Refugee Claimants continued working through 2015. Now it includes more than 20 organizations across Ontario serving refugee claimants and other precarious migrant populations. The Coalition has been a platform to discuss different issues affecting precarious migrants. Throughout the year, available housing became one of the main challenges among the coalition members and other organizations in general. One of the main barriers agencies are facing is the lack of space in shelters across Toronto. Clients struggle between language barriers, racism, and economic disparity. This situation causes discrimination in the Canadian housing market and they end up in emergency housing (temporary housing, shelters, etc.) Once the clients are served with emergency housing alternatives, it is very hard for them to have access to the housing market because the barriers are still there: a combination of low income, rental housing is expensive, discrimination from landlords. In general the language barriers, racism, and economic disparity status prevent people from accessing legitimate housing options. This leads the sector into a vicious cycle that causes the shelters and temporary houses to remain full. It has been a permanent challenge to find a place for clients. The support of the City of Toronto has been a key to keeping the discussion open.

The incorporation of the Toronto Refugee Affairs Council (TRAC) discussions among the coalition meetings was an excellent experience. It provided a well-established foundation within the coalition, strengthening the Toronto Chapter. Through the TRAC the Coalition is able to identify an appro-



priate and holistic housing response for detained populations.

With diverse membership, this coalition has proven to be an important platform to share knowledge and make appropriate referrals for newcomer clients who are in precarious housing situations, or to those whose immigration status is intersecting with other areas of their life to aggravate existing vulnerabilities.

Since the beginning of the year, we have made presentations, inviting other agencies to join this effort, and raising awareness about housing, social issues, access to health care, immigration and education faced by service providers across Ontario. We have been doing an average of one presentation/meeting per month, allowing us to not only promote the coalition, but share important knowledge about the changing landscape faced by precarious migrant communities, and how this affects the access to safe and sustainable housing.

ANTI-HUMAN TRAFFICKING

The anti-human trafficking project continues to combat human trafficking on a local, provincial and national level.

On a local level, the project is in its 4th year of coordinating the Toronto Counter Human Trafficking Network. In the past year, 15 people have joined

bringing our total membership up to 85. The Network met on a quarterly basis and during the meetings the members discussed the need to work with youth to raise awareness. As a result, a subcommittee was struck to develop a strategy to provide presentations in the secondary school system. The group is currently working on a facilitator's guide and resources for the youth project. For internationally trafficked persons, they have the option of applying for a temporary resident permit with Citizenship and Immigration Canada. The clients that choose to make an application have been assisted by our staff. This includes completion of the application, preparation for the interview at immigration and escorting them to all their immigration appointments. All of the clients that we assisted received their temporary resident status.

We have provided training to numerous organizations who are likely to interact with trafficked persons. The workshops were held for Romero House, St. John the Compassionate Mission, Black-CAP – Black Coalition for AIDS Prevention, LAMP Community Health Centre, Covenant House, Syme Woolner/Weston King Neighbourhood and Family Centre, John Howard Society Reintegration Centre, Toronto Council Fire Native Cultural Centre, Haven on the Queensway. We also provided workshops at Seneca and Centennial College in the social service worker and human rights diploma programs.

We gratefully acknowledge the funding we received from the City of Toronto CSI grant to coordinate the Network and promote the response model. We participated in numerous meetings organized by the City's Human Trafficking Working Group. We collaborated with the Faith Alliance to End Human Trafficking to raise public awareness of the issues during the Pan Am and Parapan games. The Alliance organized an outdoor art exhibit based on the acronym of the United Nations Global Initiative to Fight Trafficking (UNGIFT). The GIFT Box is a large walk-in piece of public art. On the outside, it is advertising for a great job that involves travel, good wages and on the inside, the walls are lined with

stories of how people living in Toronto had been exploited from within Canada. It also provided an overview of human trafficking including definitions and statistics. It is designed to symbolize the way in which traffickers deceive people and how a trafficked person may feel trapped (boxed in). The exhibit was staffed by volunteers that would invite passersby to enter the exhibit. The Centre provided training for approximately 125 volunteers. They also handed out postcards addressed to Ontario's Premier, Kathleen Wynne, asking her to develop a Provincial Action Plan to combat human trafficking. Over 1,000 visited the exhibit. The 4,000 postcards were submitted to the Premier's office. As a result, we met with the Premier.

The Toronto Counter Human Trafficking Helpline was launched during the UNGIFT exhibition. The helpline is operated by one of our member partners, the Toronto Rape Crisis Centre. Telephone assistance is now available 24/7 providing information and referral to trafficked persons or people reporting a tip of suspected human trafficking. As an incentive we received good news: The Sisters of St. Joseph awarded the project another grant to continue our work in promoting the response model and to pilot our helpline. This has been a very exciting year, as Loly Rico, FCJ Refugee Centre Co-director, received the Icon of Empowerment Award at the Annual Fashions for Passion Gala for her work in Toronto to combat human trafficking.

On a provincial level, FCJ staff are participating in a series of community consultations coordinated

by the Ontario Women's Directorate, the Ministry of Correctional Services and the Ministry Responsible for Women's Issues.



We also delivered workshops on human trafficking at provincial conferences including the Ontario Council for Agencies Serving Agencies (OCA-SI), the Ontario Youth Justice Network and the Summer Institute on Human Trafficking – Lakehead University.

On a national level, we were part of a panel discussion on services models to assist trafficked persons at the national consultation of the Canadian Women's Foundation. Loly is also a part of the foundations grants committee for human trafficking.

The Centre has continued its membership with the Canadian Council for Refugees (CCR) Steering Committee against Human Trafficking. The committee has developed an assessment toolkit for service providers working with trafficked persons. The toolkit was presented to CCR members at their recent national consultation. At this consultation, FCJ staff also took part on a panel providing an overview of the temporary resident program for internationally trafficked persons to participants across Canada.





2015 part of FCJ Staff, Volunteers and Students.

Thank you for your support!

FCJ Refugee Centre's work is made possible by the generous support of foundations, businesses, religious groups and churches, government agencies, community groups, labour unions, and individuals, plus those who wish to remain anonymous. We thank you for joining us in our journey to improve the lives of newly arrived immigrants and their families.

"I thank FCJ for giving me the opportunity to volunteer in such a rewarding place and for letting me be part of this unique family. As a newcomer myself, I have experienced the difficulties that come with acclimating to a new country. I know how challenging it is to find a job and to meet the requirements in a new job market. Supporting newcomers through the Job Search program is a great experience for me."

- Anyeli Estrada-Nava

"I got to know FCJ Refugee Centre from the CCR meeting in August 2014. I am doing my summer placement job as a Settlement Support Worker in the FCJ Refugee Centre. I work in different fields and it's such a wonderful experience working with the all the staff here in FCJ."

- Haydar Ahmed

FCJ REFUGEE CENTRE**STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS AND NET ASSETS****YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2015**

	2015	2014
Revenues		
Donations		
Individual donations	\$ 20,181	\$ 24,985
Religious organizations (<i>note 7</i>)	90,300	124,520
Foundations	258,069	159,135
Government grants	248,154	242,663
Rent	69,383	57,133
Other	5,539	20,498
	691,626	628,934
Expenses		
Legal program	117,014	103,634
Popular education	71,018	96,505
Settlement program	222,483	174,243
Research and development	4,516	26,410
Administration	227,553	221,082
	642,584	621,874
Excess of revenues over expenses for the year	49,042	7,060
Deficiency - at beginning of year	(9,807)	(16,867)
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over expenses at end of year	\$ 39,235	\$ (9,807)

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