



fcj youth
network

bestie book



The Summer Edition -
Summer 2022

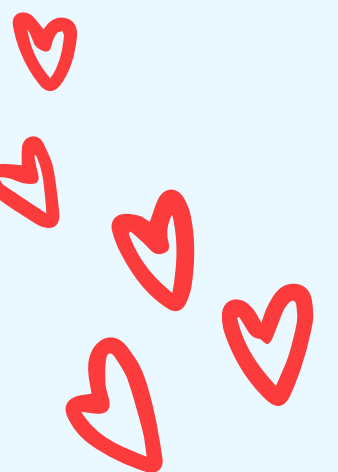


Words of Love

Summer 2022 has been quite an eventful one

We were finally able to host our Youth Network completely in-person again; and it has been an extremely gratifying experience to meet and connect with each of you on a much deeper personal level. We are glad that you are able to join us in sharing each others happy and difficult moments, all of our successes and new ideas, as well as creating of many new memories and friendships. The FCJ Youth Network always strives to be a Brave Space that is welcoming to all Youth, and all of you have been instrumental in carrying forth that core value. HOME IS HERE when we are all together!! Enjoy a look back at the many activities, outings, campaigning, and fun events we we were a part of this summer!!

~ Victoria & Stefan





This is the place to make your voice heard!

The Bestie Book is a space to amplify the voices of all migrant youth. So we want to hear from you! Send us your pictures, recipes, poems, stories - everything and everyone is welcome! Reach out to us any way, any day!



**This next portion of the bestie book is written
by YOU!**

**Thank you to those who sent us your
contributions.**

**If you missed it, no worries, get in touch! We're
always looking for contributions for our next
bestie book publication!**



FCJ Refugee Centre

Walking With Uprooted People

THE YOUTH ALLIANCE AGAINST
HUMAN TRAFFICKING PRESENTS

THE STAY AWAKE CAMPAIGN

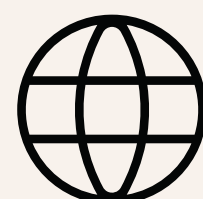


A social media campaign that aims to increase
awareness about the intersectionality of
precarious migrant youth and Human Trafficking

#StayAwakeCampaign



@fcjyouthnetwork



fcjrefugeecentre.org



In Chains by Gricel

El arquitecto de tu vida eres solamente tú,

No dejas que nada te influya.

Del pasado de aprende

El presente se vive

Y el futuro se visualiza.

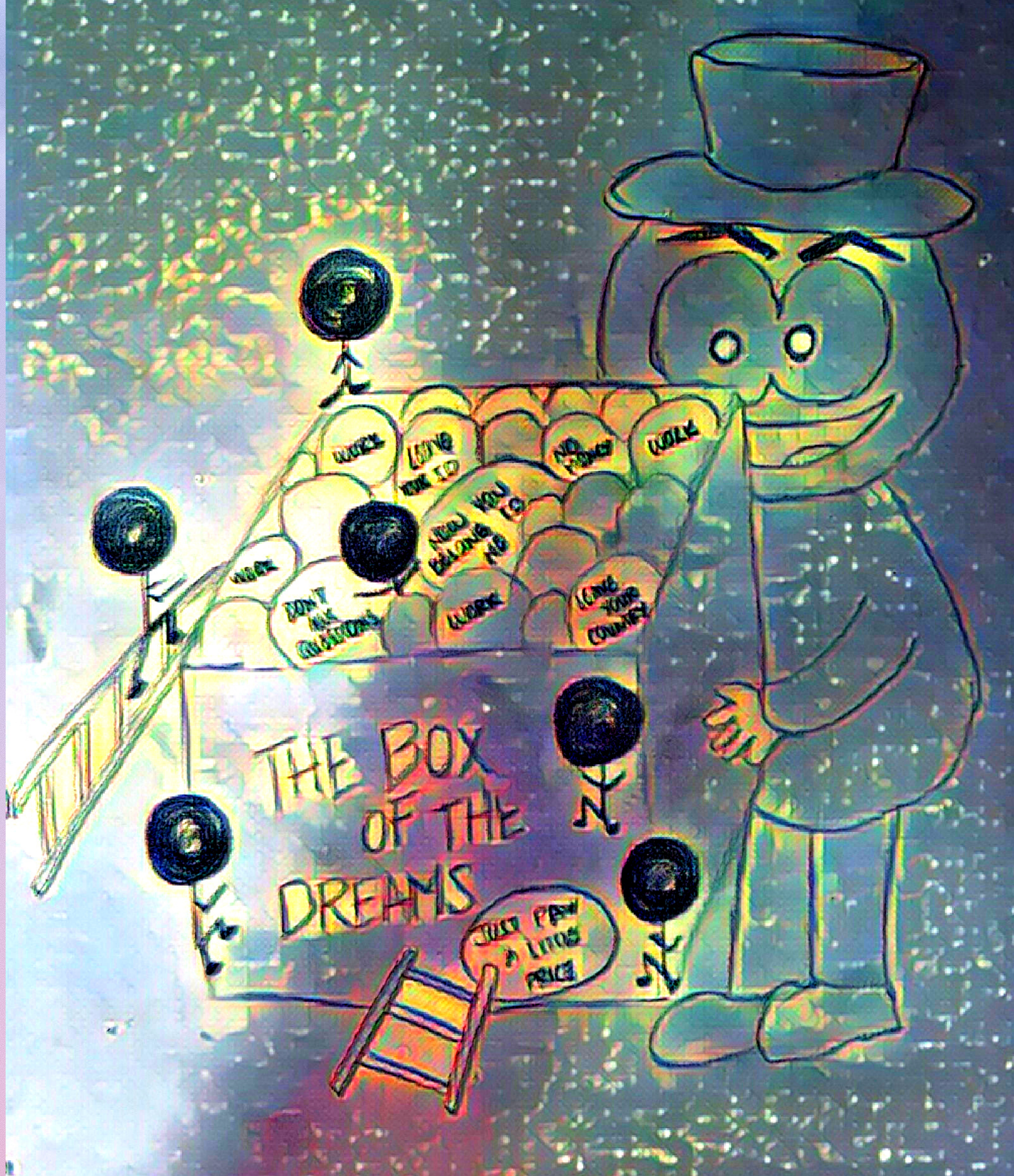
Es difícil cambiar el mundo,

Pero podemos comenzar cambiando

Nuestra forma de pensar.



- Gricel





The Box of Dreams



BY SOFIA



Mi nombre es Manuela, soy colombiana y actualmente tengo 21 años. Llegué hace poco más de un año a Canadá y ha sido una de las experiencias más retadoras de mi vida. Durante los primeros meses me sentía sin rumbo, no tenía ni idea de qué iba hacer en un país donde estaba sola, no sabía cómo era la cultura, el sistema de salud, la educación y mucho menos podía comunicarme en inglés.

Había días que sólo me sentaba a llorar porque no entendía nada y por el contrario hablar con más personas en mi misma situación me generaba frustración, tristeza y desesperanza, pero luego conocí FCJ, donde encontré información verdadera, recibí orientación, me acogieron y siempre fueron muy amables conmigo. Así como muchas personas que llegan a este país fui víctima de la mala información y el mal corazón de muchas personas, pero eso no fue impedimento para seguir adelante y seguir en busca de mis sueños.

Los invito a todos a buscar siempre información en personas o comunidades que estén informadas y así evitar pasar un mal momento en un país que sin duda alguna está abierto a brindar esperanza a miles de personas.



- Manuela



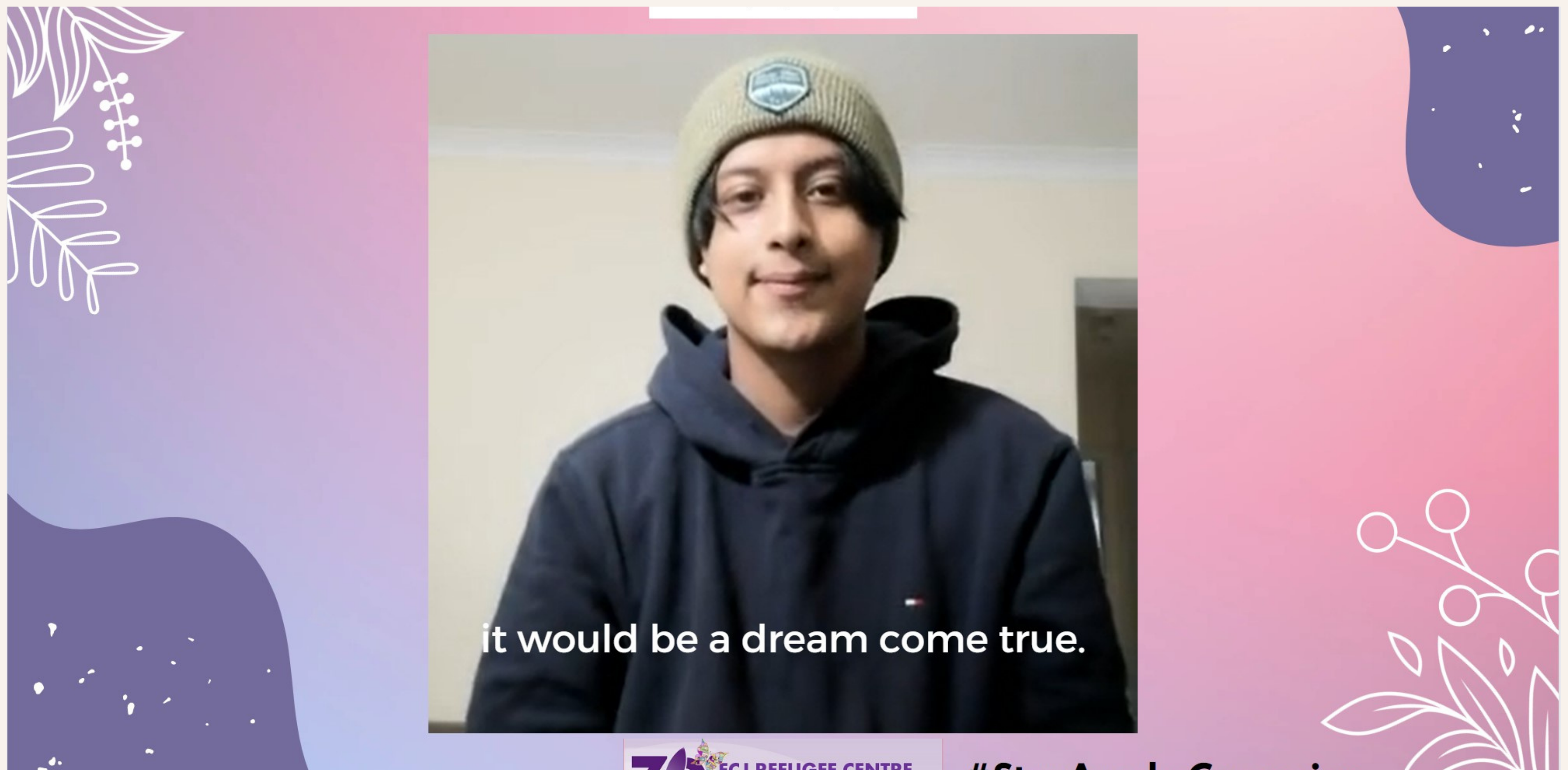
Very home

My name is Johan, I am 20 years old and I was born in Peru. I arrived in Canada in June 2022, and I can say that I did not imagine being in a country where I can feel safe at my young age.

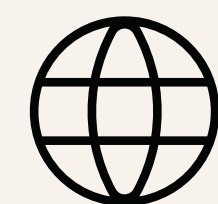
Arriving in Canada was like starting from scratch, or rather being reborn. At first it was difficult, because I thought it would not be easy to adapt to this new life, but I had the joy of meeting people who showed me that there are more people in my situation and that they can adapt to this new lifestyle.

FCJ is the acronym for this program that offered me the help and confidence I needed to understand what I had to do with my life, both in formal education, as well as in independent training. In addition, they also show us how to show solidarity with people who need it in difficult circumstances.

- Johan



@fcjyouthnetwork



fcjrefugeecentre.org

Hello my name is Dennis. I've been residing in Canada for 3 months. I have positive and negative experiences. The negative is that it has been a complicated journey for me, regarding my living situation, language barriers and many other things. Positive because I'm trying to do better as a person in what I'm doing and trying to do. To work on myself because things have been complicated, but it's important to try and do better. My goals in Canada are to finish school and possibly in the future to work. A dream that I have in Canada is to have a life, have my own home, and in the future, if my family can come, it would be a dream come true.

Mixed Feelings

I came alone to this beautiful country that opened its doors, and hopefully they let me stay in. I'm really grateful with life because I could feel FREEDOM in my skin since the time I arrived in this country. For example, as a woman, I could walk alone with no harassment on the streets.

However, there are some things I disagree about in the Canadian System, and the simple reason is because of its bureaucracy and the hypocritical treatment they have with immigrants and refugee people, even though they say they are an "inclusive" country, I can see they're not. There's subtle racism and xenophobia treatment they have with immigrants, but not if you are white-cis-heterosexual-men, obviously right?

In this country, I have no legal papers with me more than a white-almost-useless-paper that is useless to get an ID, that they don't want to give me, in the country I LIVE IN. And sadly, that tells me a lot about this government, who gives a damn for the immigrants, even though Canada is Canada because of us.

I was just a girl... a girl with dark skin, puffy hair, and an accent. I looked at my reflection in the mirror, and asked why...

Why cant my hair blow in the wind. What I grew up watching in the movies was now in front of me, and I wondered why... why can't I be as beautiful as them. But I was just a girl who never knew the beauty and value she carried in her skin.

I was just a girl, who traveled 8,145 miles for better life, better education, and a new place to call home. In a crowd of hundreds, you pretended not to see me. You sat next to me, yet never knew me.

But I was just a girl, who loved movies like you, who loved games like you, who wanted to be included just like you.

I watched and watched my heart always had more than what my mouth was willing to share.



A decorative border composed of various geometric shapes including hexagons, diamonds, and triangles in colors like yellow, orange, grey, and teal, arranged in a circular pattern around the central text.

FCJ Youth Network Special Moments

FAMILY DINNERS



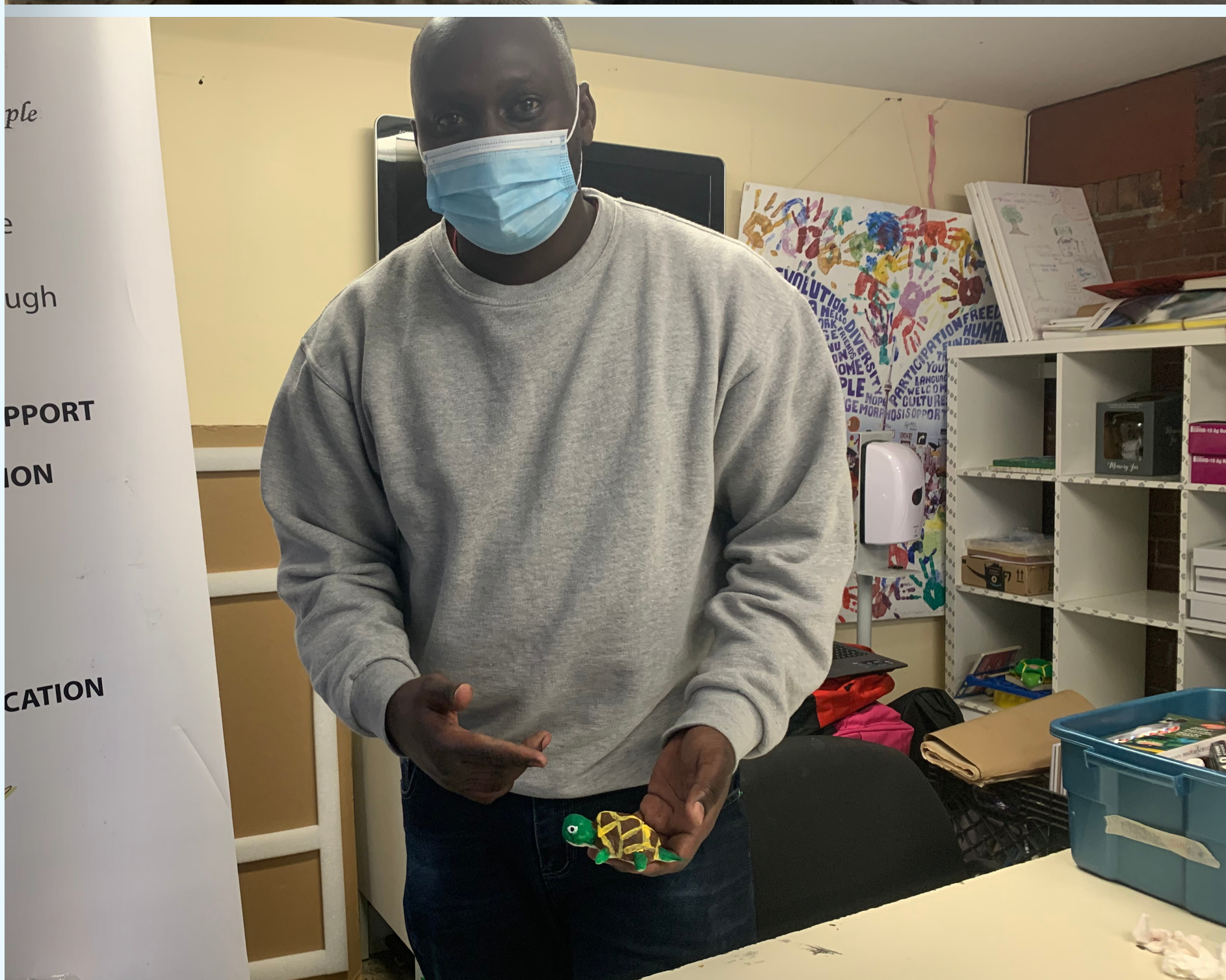
SANCTUARY
NORTH



OCCAD
ART
GALLERY



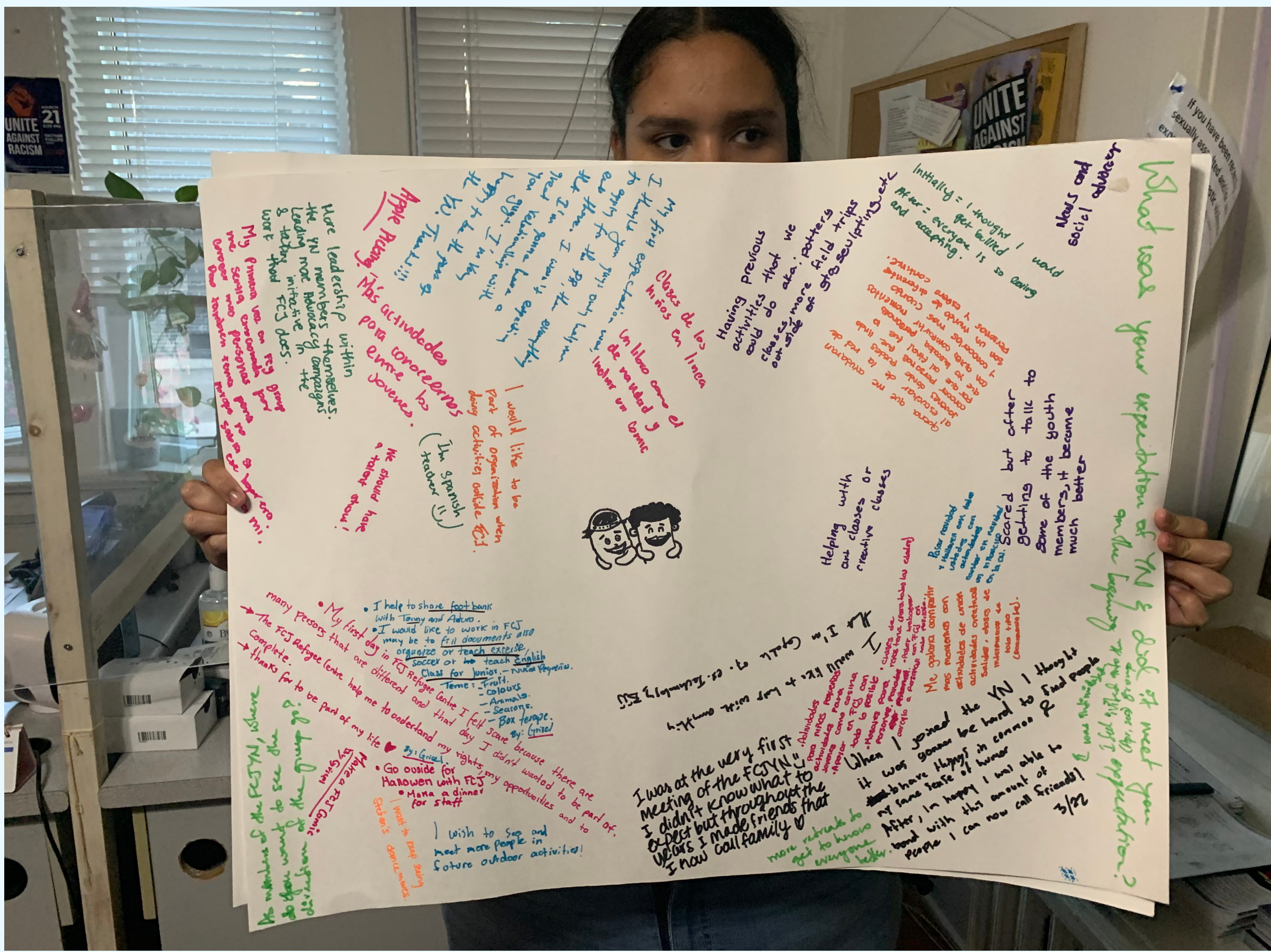
ARTS & CRAFTS



GARDENING



WEDNESDAY



FUN HISTORY



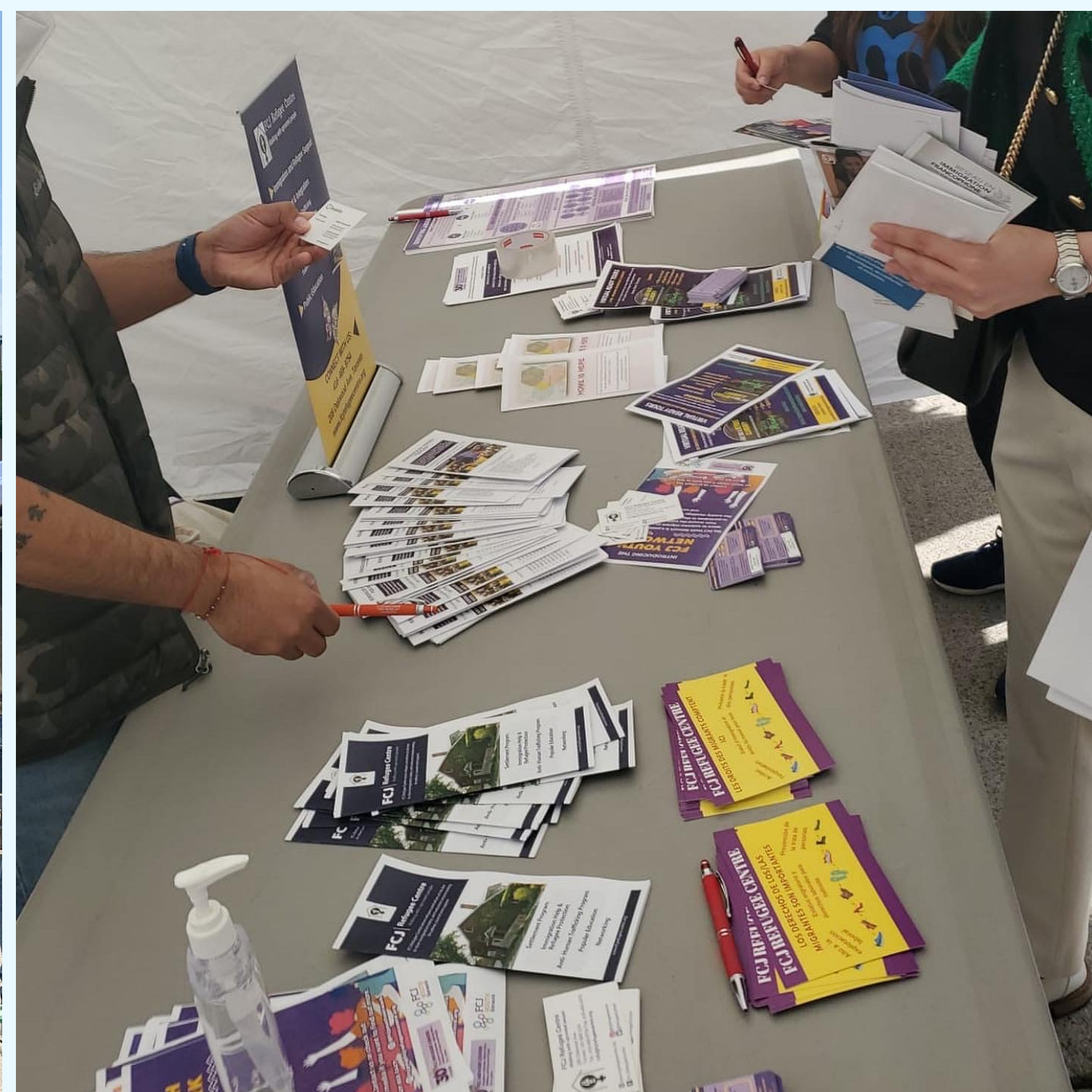


Volunteer

Words of thanks

With things opening back up, there have been many volunteer opportunities for the FCJ Youth Network. We cannot express how grateful we truly are for all of your willingness and effort in supporting the FCJ Refugee Centre. It is because of all your hard work, we are able to continue walking with uprooted people.

FCJ Refugee Centre



FCJ STREET PARTY

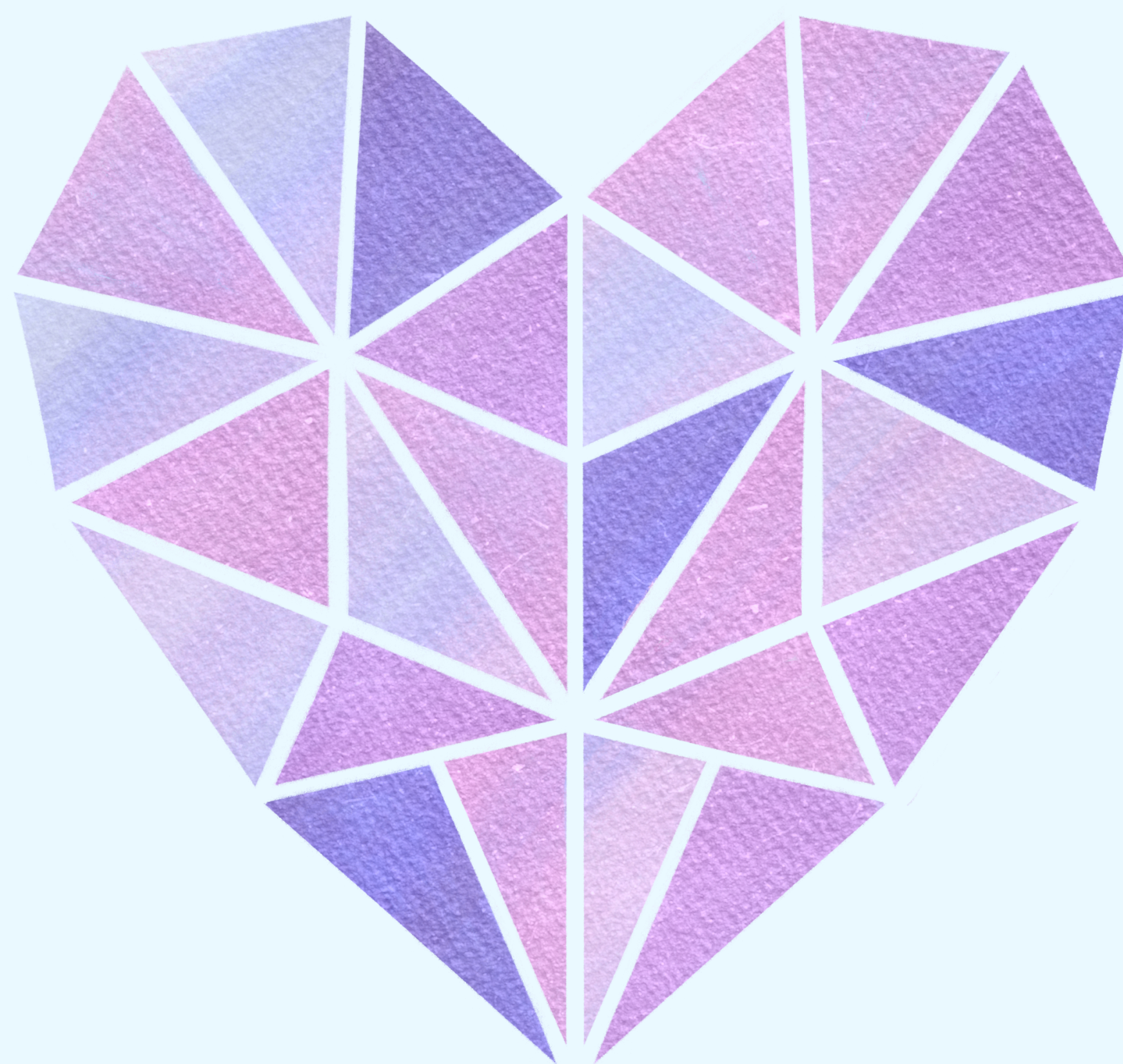
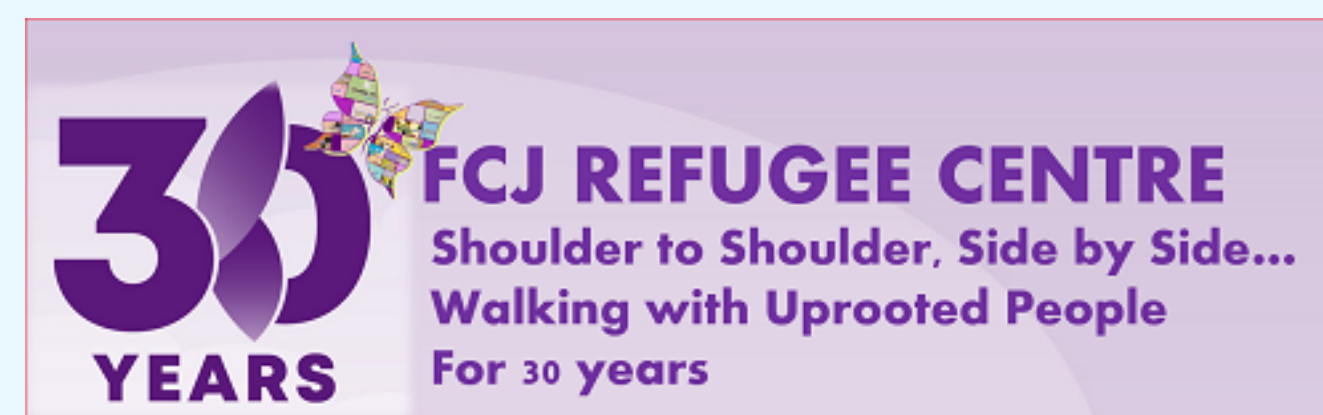


Latino Festivals



REPORT CARD





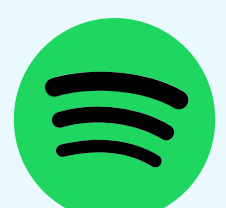
with love.



437-833-2427



@fcjyouthnetwork



home is here