



# LIDLAW FOUNDATION

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## ANNUAL REPORT 2013

LIDLAW  
FOUNDATION

**ANNUAL  
REPORT  
2013**



## President's Remarks

The Laidlaw Foundation is about creating opportunity for youth. The highlight of 2013 was a strategic planning process that involved consultations with all our stakeholders – youth, partners, staff. They helped us set a plan targeted at partnering with young people and making systemic change. I can safely predict that in 2014 this page will be a report on the results of our first year of experience with the new plan and the many many people involved. 2013 is unusual for Laidlaw because the highlight involves two special people: Nathan Gilbert and Jehad Aliweiwi – both committed to youth and both Executive Directors of our Foundation.

Nathan retired in 2013 after 31 years leading the Laidlaw Foundation. He has long been a passionate advocate for youth, particularly youth in care, in both his professional and personal life. If Laidlaw is about opportunity for youth, it long had an executive director who lived that philosophy as an Executive Director, as a parent, and for many, as a friend. We not only wish him well, but, as we will formally announce at our Annual General Meeting, the Foundation will recognize Nathan's commitment to youth by creating youth fellowships named in his honour. In this way, he will continue to be a part of our strategic plan for years to come.

In December 2013, the Board hired Jehad as Nathan's successor. Jehad comes to Laidlaw from Thorncliffe Neighbourhood Services, an organization he ran and grew for 9 years. One of the reference checks I performed was memorable: John, this referee said, people with money go to Jehad to get things done. This sentiment echoed what the Board was seeing in the interview process: a commitment to youth and community, together with a passion for operational excellence that get things done. Well, that's good, because we are not naming anything after Jehad until he gets lots of things done. And that will be the story of 2014 and beyond.

I want to thank the people who made the transition year possible. A change in leadership is not an easy time for staff members. Wanda, Violetta, Ana, Denis and Susan have the Board's thanks for keeping us moving and granting through the year. Our granting partners have also stood by us through this period and we appreciate your commitment. We are looking forward to partnering with you to implement our strategic plan.

Strategic planning and leadership change are demanding business for boards and I thank the members of our board for seeing it through from beginning to end. Yes, I said end. Now, we implement. On to 2014!

John Fox  
*President*

## Youth Organizing Program

In 2012, our strategic plan that put young people and youth-led community change at the centre of all the Foundation's work came to an end. As we moved into 2013 and the development of our next strategic plan, it very quickly became apparent that the Foundation's commitment to young people and supporting youth-led and youth-driven community change was deepening. For close to 15 years, the Foundation has supported youth-led groups through various incarnations of funding programs. What we continue to see are young people with real and innovative strategies that address systemic issues that shape the lives of their peers, families and communities. In local, often immediate ways, youth-led groups are modelling what inclusive and accessible education, social service, training/employment, health and justice systems can be. At the core of the Foundations 2014-2018 strategic plan is a continued commitment to supporting youth-led community change and a renewed focus on investing in research, policy and advocacy.

### 2013 Funding Updates:

In 2013, 17 youth-led groups were funded. Many of the projects focused on creating exchanges of ideas and experiences between different communities of young people. These included efforts to build connections between young people in Toronto and young people in rural Northern communities through community arts; efforts to connect young people from newcomer communities with Indigenous youth through dialogue focused on reconciliation; enabling young people's lived experiences to be shared through conversations about their health; raising awareness of the experiences of young people with disabilities who are facing mental health challenges; and strategies to promote greater understanding of complex and personal experiences with sexual health. Inclusive and accessible education was a central aspect of several projects. These projects focused on ways to support young people who are not thriving in the formal education system, to reconnect to their education in empowering ways. You can read a brief description of each YO grantee at the end of this report.

Ana Skinner



## Youth Social Infrastructure Program

The Youth Social Infrastructure Program (YSI) strategy funds infrastructure to support the work of youth organizers (funded by the Youth Organizing Program). The YSI also acts as a learning partner with young people and institutions to identify and implement deliberate support for the development and sustainability of social infrastructure. In 2013, we continued to explore, share and expand our reach through collaborative efforts with grassroots and institutional partners. Grants were allocated to Manifesto Community Arts, Frontline Partners with Youth Network (FPYN), ArtReach Toronto, Tides Canada Initiatives - The Base, the Youth Social Infrastructure Collaborative with a new northern hub in Algoma, the ArtDada data visualization project and Sketch. A brief description of these initiatives is at the end of this report.

What began as an experiment in emergence and innovation, the YSI Collaborative <http://www.youthsi.org/index.html> gained growing momentum by expanding its provincial reach and core team membership. The Collaborative seeks to amplify and accelerate the innovative youth organizing & community change work happening across the province. Groups and individuals who have networked with the YSI Collaborative identify it as central to the work of measuring the collective impact of the youth organizing sector in Ontario. Now, after 4-years, Collaborative members have begun to identify significant shifts in how they manage their programming, organizational structures, governance, and how they engage their stakeholders in decision-making. By demonstrating different ways of working together through the YSI collaborative, the YSI members have begun to work and think differently, and to see the possibilities of participatory leadership. 2013 saw the collaborative starting to embed a developmental evaluation framework into its operations that will allow them to identify and share the impact of their initiatives.

In 2013 we continued to support Shared Administrative Platforms that provide administrative support and an organizational home to initiatives that would otherwise be unincorporated. Beyond financial and administrative support, many Shared Platforms offer training, mentorship and other supports to these initiatives. Shared Platforms enable groups to organize around societal concerns without having to divert energy and resources into setting up a separate organization. The platform model broadens the reach and potential impact that groups can have in the communities they work in because they leverage the expertise of community leaders, increase resident participation and access to the expertise of organizations offering the administrative support.

## NATHAN GILBERT



In 1982 Nick Laidlaw hired 30 year old Nathan Gilbert, a graduate of the University of Toronto's Faculty of Social Work. Nick and Nathan developed a professional partnership into a caring friendship until Nick's death in 1990. In his 31 year span, Nathan continued Nick's pioneering work in transforming this private family foundation into a public interest one.

Nathan was instrumental in the development and administration of many programs for which the Foundation became well known and respected: in the performing arts field, the Foundation became instrumental in the creation of a canon of new works that reflected

Canadians to themselves and Nathan was a fixture in theatres throughout the city and the Province seeing much of the work that was funded over a period of 25 years; children at risk were always a preoccupation for the Foundation and personally for Nathan who had a huge compassion for children in care and was concerned about the environmental impacts on children's health. Over the years he developed extensive national and regional networks in the policy, research and practice fields of the Foundation's focus areas.

Nathan oversaw many educational initiatives during his tenure and was also committed to incubating projects that shared Foundation interests and values such as the Sustainability Network and ArtReach Toronto.

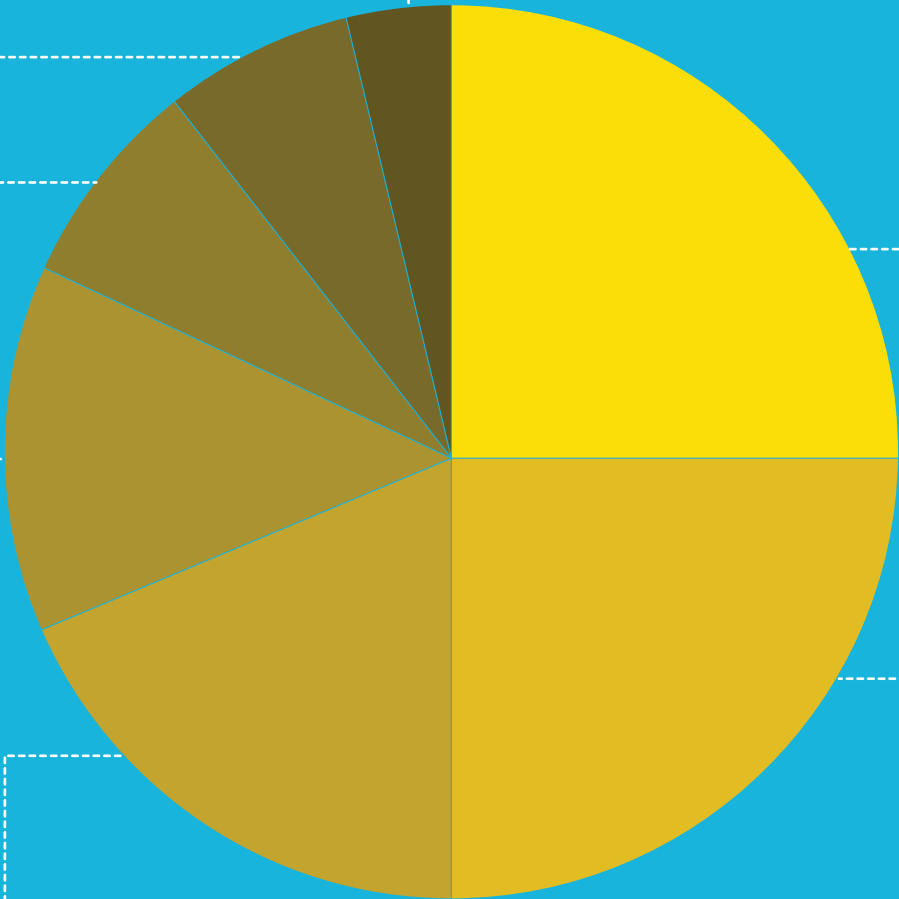
In 1999, to mark the Foundation's 50th anniversary, Nathan co-edited, *Making Change: Fifty Years of the Laidlaw Foundation* (ECW Press: 2001), a record of the foundation's work and the impact it has had on social, cultural and environmental causes. It is also a testament to Nathan's institutional memory, a trait that many of his colleagues admire in him.

During his last 7 years he led the Foundation to focus its resources on building the capacities of ethno-racially diverse young people through youth engagement in community leadership in civic affairs and institutional governance.

Nathan has never wavered from his core values of diversity, transparency, respect, intergenerational reciprocity and inclusion. He is a passionate advocate for young people and their role in society as contributors and change makers. We wish him well in the future.

# FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

## EXPENDITURES 2013



Youth Organizing	648,590
Youth Social Infrastructure	657,500
Director's Initiatives	3,717
Donor Designated	69,000
Communications	112,327
Program Development	221,246
Administration	388,830
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2,101,210</b>



## Board of Directors 2013

Liban Abokor  
Jen Apgar  
Derek Ballantyne  
Andrew Bedeau  
John Fox  
Michael Greisz  
Jessica Hammell  
Ravi Jain  
Hanifa Kassam  
Shannon Litzenberger  
Brenda Pipitone  
Lyon Smith

## Finance Audit Committee

Andrew Bedeau  
John Fox  
Ken Gibson  
Michael Griesz  
Paul Nagpal  
Robert Smith

## Youth Social Infrastructure

Dev Aujla  
Michael Greisz  
Hanifa Kassam  
Jen Apgar  
Liban Abokor  
Leslie Wright  
Heather Laird  
Victor Beausoleil  
Robin Sutherland  
Ravi Jain  
Helena Shimeles

## Youth Organizing

Liban Abokor  
Elle Alconcel  
Derek Ballantyne  
Victor Beausoleil  
Tsering Dolma  
John Fox  
Jessica Hammell  
Ravi Jain  
Anique Jordan  
Amber Morley  
Helana Shimeles  
Lyon Smith  
Robin Sutherland  
Amaree Watkis  
Asha Yusaf

## Investment Committee

Derek Ballantyne  
Andrew Bedeau  
Steve Dorey  
John Fox  
Jessica Hammell  
Heather Hunter  
Edward Kwan  
Paul Nagpal

## Staff

Susan Brand  
Nathan Gilbert (to August 2013)  
Violetta Ilkiw  
Denis Lefebvre  
Wanda Prochazka  
Ana Skinner



**LIST OF ALL  
FUNDED  
INITIATIVES  
2013**

## BOARD INITIATIVES

### **Beautiful City - Toronto Arts Council**

[www.beautifulcity.ca/bcbfpetition.asp](http://www.beautifulcity.ca/bcbfpetition.asp)

*Beautiful City* - Manifesto Community Projects Inc.

Beautiful City is an alliance of youth-led organizations, organizations and individuals working towards a charge paid by billboard advertisers through an annual license fee. Revenues from this fee would be dedicated to art in the public sphere in Toronto, with a priority on marginalized communities and youth arts. This project supports outreach activities and the convening of a Town Hall meeting and Art Jam, an event that includes City Councilors making art with young artists; local youth performances; and updates on the BCBF process and the status of the campaign. \$5,000

## YOUTH ORGANIZING

### **Ability Online Support Network**

[www.abilityonline.org](http://www.abilityonline.org)

*Healthy Minds*

Healthy Minds is a youth-led initiative that is working to increase awareness of different barriers young people with disabilities face in accessing mental health services. This project involves developing an interactive online platform that focuses on mental health and its impact on disability. It creates a space for youth with disabilities to talk about their issues as a first step in dealing with mental health challenges. It will also engage service providers and parents in developing supports for youth facing both physical and mental health challenges. \$24,900

### **Amadeusz - Albion Neighbourhood Services**

[amadeusz.ca/](http://amadeusz.ca/)

*Look at My Life Project: Ain't Goin' Back* - Amadeusz

Amadeusz provides education and life skills programs for remanded youth residing in Toronto's detention centres. The goal of Look at my life Project is to support these young people in obtaining their GED or Ontario Secondary School Diploma and to explore and prepare for post-secondary schooling. Amadeusz offers mentorship and tutoring supports, evaluates, researches and advocates for increased supports for remanded youth. Over the next three years, Amadeusz will continue to provide educational supports; develop partnerships to enhance post-release supports; continue to evaluate and research; and enhance its overall organizational capacity.

Multi-year Support: 2011: \$50,000; 2012: \$50,000; 2013: \$50,000

### **Outburst! - Barbara Schlifer Commemorative Clinic**

[outburstm.tumblr.com/](http://outburstm.tumblr.com/)

*Outburst! Young Muslim Women Program*

Outburst! is a movement of young Muslim women and girls in Toronto who are breaking silence and speaking out about violence. This project focuses on arts & community based research regarding violence against women in Muslim communities. This project trains young Muslim women to develop and conduct community based research about the safety concerns of young Muslim women in Toronto. \$24,900

### **YAAACE - Black Creek Community Health Centre**

<http://yaaace.com/>

*YAAACE Social Inclusion Strategy* -

Youth Association for Academics Athletics and Character Education

The Youth Association for Academics Athletics and Character Education (YAAACE) is a youth-led organization based in Jane and Finch, Toronto, with a mandate to create a culture of high academic achievement and social and civic responsibility among its members. The initiative helps bridge the gap between young people North and South of Finch. Through a comprehensive wrap around support model that includes after-school programs, weekend academies, summer programming, ongoing mentorship and recreational activities, this project enables mentors to support students who are traditionally marginalized and are currently showing signs of social and academic attrition. \$24,900



### **Canadian Roots Exchange**

[www.canadianroots.ca](http://www.canadianroots.ca)

#### *Canadian Roots Exchange*

The Canadian Roots Exchange (CRE) is a youth-led group that promotes reconciliation through education and dialogue to foster a wide understanding of Canada's rich indigenous history. CRE activities are co-led by Indigenous and non-Indigenous youth. This project supports a team of 6 youth from the GTA, comprised of 3 youth from Indigenous and 3 youth from non-Indigenous backgrounds, to facilitate a series of youth-led workshops and interactive activities. \$23,050

### **Nu Steel - Centre[3] for Print and Media Arts**

[www.centre3.com](http://www.centre3.com)

#### *Nu Steel - Nu Steel*

Nu Steel is a youth-led artist collective based in Hamilton. Members of the group have not experienced success in a traditional school setting and are working together to create opportunities for youth to gain access to experiential learning. This project creates a platform for youth to: challenge youth stereotypes; showcase local youth talent; offer an outlet for emotional challenges; connect people through shared interests; and promote youth groups/programs through the development of a magazine. \$24,900

### **Charlie's Free Wheels**

[www.charliesfreewheels.ca](http://www.charliesfreewheels.ca)

#### *Charlie's FreeWheels*

Charlie's FreeWheels is a youth-led organization that began in 2008 in memory of a young cycling enthusiast named Charles Prinsep, who was killed on a cross-continental bike tour in 2007. It provides training and supports for young people in Regent Park in Toronto. This project supports youth-led civic engagement efforts related to active transportation in Toronto and creates opportunities for young people to identify creative solutions to safe, accessible streets for cycling in the city. \$24,900

### **Kapisanan Philippine Centre**

[www.kapisanancentre.com](http://www.kapisanancentre.com)

#### *Operating 2012*

Kapisanan Philippine Centre is a youth-led, arts-based community organization that creates space for Filipino-Canadian youth to reclaim and explore the heart of their culture and better integrate their collective identity. It provides a safe meeting place and platform for Filipino youth to come together and share experiences, explore their identities through participation in the arts, develop their leadership skills and explore their culture on their own terms. Over the next three years, Kapisanan will expand its programming reach within Filipino youth communities across Toronto, develop annual community research events and increase its overall sustainability.

Multi-year support: 2011: \$49,040; 2012: \$39,040; 2013: \$29,040

### **Seeds for Justice - Kawartha World Issues Centre (KWIC)**

<http://www.kwic.info/node/26>

#### *Seeds for Justice - SEEDS for Justice*

Seeds for Justice is a youth-led group that focuses on promoting social and environmental justice in Peterborough. This project supports local youth in developing the capacity and skills to address the issues that matter to them. It supports the development of a collective of trained youth facilitators who will design and lead capacity and skills building workshops and strengthen the local network of youth to promote broader youth engagement in the community. \$22,700

### **Artists for Recreating Opportunities - Nia Centre for the Arts**

[www.niacentre.org/#!programming-afro/cljw](http://www.niacentre.org/#!programming-afro/cljw)

#### *Nia Centre for The Arts*

AFRO (Artists for Recreating Opportunities) is a youth-led artist collective based in Toronto working to unify and enrich the Afro-Diasporic community through the arts. This project engages and empowers young people to create spaces and platforms to educate each other about identity, leadership, arts engagement and anti-oppression. It includes professional development workshops, mentorship, capacity building and leadership opportunities. In addition, AFRO youth will share best practices with other youth-led and youth serving organizations and community spaces. \$21,370



**ProjectFREEDOM**

[www.projectfreedom.ca/](http://www.projectfreedom.ca/)

*Project Freedom*

ProjectFREEDOM is a youth-led group based in the Dorset Park community of Toronto that aims to build socio-political and economic literacy of youth through music and the arts. This project is an educational music program that engages youth in a social dialogue and self-expression as they contribute their experiences, ideas and social solutions in a creative and artistic way. In addition, this project engages youth in leadership skills development. \$17,620

**The Remix Project**

[www.theremixproject.ca](http://www.theremixproject.ca)

**The Remix Project: Sustained**

The Remix Project supports young people from disadvantaged, marginalized and underserved communities in Toronto to develop careers in urban culture industries and/or further their formal education. Over the next three years, Remix will continue to develop and implement its programming; create opportunities for its alumni to develop their portfolios and access meaningful employment; and become more financially sustainable by implementing social enterprise strategies to diversify its funding.

Multi-year support: 2012: \$50,000; 2013: \$50,000; 2014: \$50,000

**CUE - Sketch**

[www.sketch.ca](http://www.sketch.ca)

*CUE*

CUE is a radical, youth-led arts initiative dedicated to mentoring, supporting and providing arts project creation opportunities for marginalized young artists in Toronto. Over the next three years, CUE will continue to support and mentor young artists through its programming; increase opportunities for youth leadership within its operations; outreach and form community partnerships; and strengthen its overall operating structures.

Multi-year support: 2012: \$50,000; 2013: \$49,500; 2014: \$49,500

**StandOut***StandOut*

Standout is a youth-led group for young women in Regent Park to develop leadership skills and get involved in community development. The group provides a safe and comfortable space for young women where they can acquire knowledge, gain new skills, and also give back to the community. Over the next year, young women will participate in leadership development training and Muay Thai kickboxing, supporting them to be more involved in their communities and to access recreational activities. \$9,060

**Stolen from Africa**

[www.stolenfromafrica.com](http://www.stolenfromafrica.com)

*SavingOurSelves (SOS)*

Stolen From Africa (SFA)/Volé d'Afrique, is a youth-led organization that seeks to promote cultural and historical awareness through education and the arts. SFA is made up of a diverse group of young people from various racial backgrounds who are inspired by the effects of colonialism with aspirations of connecting and learning from communities across Canada and world-wide. This project provides a series of multi-media and cross-cultural arts development retreats for youth and students who are marginalized by mainstream education in Toronto. \$24,200

**Students for a Free Tibet Canada**

[www.studentsforafreetibet.org/](http://www.studentsforafreetibet.org/)

*Students for a Free Tibet*

Students for a Free Tibet (SFT) is a group of passionate and active young people, most of whom are new Canadians based in South Parkdale in Toronto. Through the 'Young Canadian Leaders for Tibet' project, SFT inspires Tibetan youth to take greater interest in civics and engage in all levels of governance in Canada. This project involves leadership training and interactive workshops on the functioning of various levels of Canadian government and provides youth participants the opportunity to expand their network and to engage in meaningful dialogue about social and political issues affecting their community. \$24,900



### **F-You: The Forgiveness Project - The Remix Project**

[www.whatisfyou.wordpress.com/about/](http://www.whatisfyou.wordpress.com/about/)

#### *F-You: The Forgiveness Project*

F-You: The Forgiveness Project is a youth-run initiative that explores the theme of forgiveness through conversation, panels and story-telling. This project creates a platform for a diverse group of people to share insights into often unspoken aspects of sex and sexuality including living with HIV and STDs, sexual assault and sex addiction. Through this project, young people in Toronto develop tools and insights into the lived experiences of other youth. \$23,200

### **Thinking Rock Community Arts**

#### *Thinking Rock Community Arts*

Thinking Rock Community Arts is a youth-led community arts organization based in rural Northern Ontario that connects Toronto-based youth artists with rural youth artists to cross-pollinate ideas, resources, networks and tools to strengthen youth organizing in Toronto and Northern Ontario. This project brings together youth artist facilitators to work collaboratively to plan and facilitate a week of youth-led multidisciplinary art-making activities leading to a public presentation and community celebration. \$13,1000

### **Thornccliffe Emerging ARTivists**

[www.stepsinitiative.com/projects/emerging-artist-program/](http://www.stepsinitiative.com/projects/emerging-artist-program/)

#### *Thornccliffe Youth Reclamation Project*

STEP's Thornccliffe Emerging ARTivists is a youth-led group based in Toronto's Thornccliffe Park community. This project supports an arts-based leadership program that promotes positive changes in Thornccliffe Park through the creation of several youth-led public art projects and ongoing arts workshops. This project will continue to develop partnerships with community groups, local politicians, businesses and professional artists to support public space reclamation in the neighborhood. \$20,000

### **Lost Lyrics - Tides Canada Initiatives Society**

[www.lostlyrics.ca](http://www.lostlyrics.ca)

#### *Investing in Imagination: Mobilizing our Communities*

Lost Lyrics is a mobile and innovative learning community that empowers young people to create a bridge between the streets and the classroom. It uses Hip Hop culture to explore self-identity and the complexities surrounding young people in stigmatized communities. Over the next three years, Lost Lyrics will continue to deliver its programming; focus on developing research, evaluation and documentation strategies; and strengthen its internal operations.

Multi-year support: 2012: \$48,720; 2013: \$47,900; 2014: \$47,900

### **The Reading Partnership - Tides Canada Initiatives Society**

[www.readingpartnership.com/](http://www.readingpartnership.com/)

#### *The Base - The Reading Partnership Initiative*

The Reading Partnership for Parents (RPP) is a youth-led group focused on raising the literacy levels of children living in priority neighbourhoods in Toronto by building the capacity of parents to teach their children to read. This project will support RPP to expand its programs to reach new neighbourhoods and community sites and enhance its partnerships for program delivery. \$24,900

### **Success Beyond Limits - York University Faculty Association Foundation**

[www.successsbl.com/](http://www.successsbl.com/)

#### *Success Beyond Limits*

Success Beyond Limits is a youth empowerment and mentorship organization based in the Jane and Finch community of Toronto that supports educational attainment and transitions to high school. It provides programming and supports that improve educational outcomes, expand possibilities and support youth along their individual paths to success. This project supports succession planning and leadership development within Success Beyond Limits' team. \$24,950



**FRESH Collective - Youth Action Network**

[fresh.youthactionnetwork.org](http://fresh.youthactionnetwork.org)

*FRESH Collective - The FRESH Collective*

The FRESH collective is a group of young people that have all experienced homelessness and chaotic drug use. FRESH is committed to making it easier for street-involved youth interested in stabilizing their lives to receive the supports they need to do so. Along with promoting and supporting the use of existing treatment options, FRESH connects recovering youth with appropriate social, educational and vocational opportunities. Over the next three years, the FRESH Collective will continue to develop peer-based programs, deepen partnerships to create stable housing opportunities for young people and strengthen overall organizational capacity.

Multi-year support: 2011: \$50,000; 2012: \$50,000; 2013: \$50,000

## YOUTH SOCIAL INFRASTRUCTURE

**CatalystsX**

[www.catalystsx.ca/2013/](http://www.catalystsx.ca/2013/)

*CoPilot Hive Network Model*

CatalystsX focuses on recognizing, supporting, and enabling a critical group: young change agents who enable other changemakers in their communities – it calls them CoPilots. The model aims to build a regionally-focused, nationally-connected network of CoPilots equipped with the supports, tools, and resources they need to amplify the impact of changemakers they enable through a focus on “Hacking Self & Hacking Systems” (personal and systems transformation) - the critical ingredients of holistic, meaningful, and sustainable impact. The model has been developed through review of a wide range of existing offerings and over 150 conversations with players in the impact ecosystem from coast to coast. \$80,000

**YSI Collaborative - Children's Mental Health Ontario**

<http://www.youthsi.org/>

*YSI Collaborative*

The Youth Social Infrastructure (YSI) Collaborative is rooting a Northern Hub in Algoma and continuing its Developmental Evaluation work. It is building a social infrastructure online and through stakeholder gatherings. Emphasis is placed on coordinating an effective, flexible and organic core team to continue prototyping the model for what is needed to amplify and accelerate conditions for youth-led organizing in Ontario. \$80,000

**Artdata - Children's Peace Theatre**

<http://lazarentertainment.com/artdata/>

*Artdata Pilot Project Phase II*

The goal of the Artdata project is to create a data visualization using information culled from not-for-profit youth arts groups supported by the Laidlaw Foundation and other funders. The approach is to overlay various data sets from the sector in an interactive way that reveals fresh narrative stories about urban youth and the arts, a sector that is thriving in the City of Toronto. \$12,500

**Grassroots Youth Collaborative**

[www.grassrootsyouth.org](http://www.grassrootsyouth.org)

*Lawson Project: Grassroots Youth Collaborative and GET Schooled*

This is an exit grant from the Lawson Foundation, administered by the Laidlaw Foundation, to support the Grassroots Youth Collaborative's strategic planning and implementation process and the startup of the GET Schooled collaborative initiative. \$151,000



**Manifesto Community Projects Inc.**

[www.themanifesto.ca](http://www.themanifesto.ca)

*Manifesto Community Projects*

Manifesto Community Projects is a non-profit grassroots organization that works to unite, energize, support and celebrate Toronto's vibrant and diverse music and arts community, and find innovative ways of working together towards common goals. Manifesto aims to provide a platform and the resources needed to advance the growth of the arts as a tool for positive change on the individual, community and city level (reaching across the GTA, Canada and in recent years, further afield, such as Manifesto Jamaica). Manifesto focuses on youth and has its origins in hip hop culture, harking back to the roots of hip hop that was full of expression, creativity and had the potential to be transformative. Manifesto's newly revised mission statement is to: Unite, inspire and empower diverse communities of young people through arts and culture. It completed a strategic planning process in 2012, that will carry them into the next 5 years. As a result of the planning process, a revised organizational structure and programming plan are being implemented in 2013. Manifesto will focus on organizational development as it creates the structures and policies to carry a maturing organization. Manifesto has also been developing a social enterprise stream to ensure a sustained and strong non-profit. \$80,000

**Sketch**

[www.sketch.ca](http://www.sketch.ca)

*The Green Room - Infrastructure for Youth Organizing in the Arts*

SKETCH is a community-arts space that creates opportunities for marginally housed and homeless people ages 15-29, to engage in the arts in a cross-disciplinary studio environment or in the community. SKETCH has successfully created an environment where young people can debate, collaborate, explore their talents, dream and figure out ways to impact their communities. SKETCH continues to create relevant and accessible social infrastructure to support youth organizing in the arts, among young people who live with many barriers including homelessness, street involvement, stigma and marginalization. All infrastructure, all support and all the organizing is based in community arts practice. \$85,000

**ArtReach Toronto - Tides Canada Initiatives Society**

<http://www.artreachtoronto.ca/>

*ArtReach - GOAL Workshop Series*

ArtReach Toronto is a project of Tides Canada Initiatives, and provides funding to support arts initiatives in Toronto that encompass both quality arts opportunities & meaningful youth engagement. ArtReach combines project-based grants with technical assistance aimed at building the capacity of individual grantees and arts organizations. ArtReach provides capacity building initiatives that aim to strengthen the community of youth and young artists working towards social change in Toronto. The Grassroots Organizing and Leadership (GOAL) Youth Capacity Building workshop series aims to empower youth by providing them with the skills, resources, networks and opportunities that will support them in achieving their goals. Laidlaw Foundation partners with ArtReach to deliver the GOAL workshop series. \$10,000

**ArtReach Toronto - Tides Canada Initiatives Society**

<http://www.artreachtoronto.ca/>

*ArtReach Toronto*

ArtReach Toronto supports local art initiatives that engage excluded youth. It provides funding to support arts initiatives in Toronto that encompass both quality arts opportunities and meaningful youth engagement. Approximately 90% of the projects supported by ArtReach are youth-led in nature. Using a high engagement approach to grant making, ArtReach Toronto combines project-based grants with technical assistance aimed at building the capacity of individual grantees and arts organizations for accountability. In addition, ArtReach provides capacity building initiatives that aim to strengthen the community of youth and young artists working towards social change in Toronto. ArtReach Toronto is a project of Tides Canada Initiatives Society \$80,000

**The Base - Tides Canada Initiatives Society**

[www.tidescanada.org](http://www.tidescanada.org)

*The Base 2.1*

The Base is a project of Tides Canada Initiatives (TCI) that has become an established "platform within a platform", working as a shared platform intermediary for a group of five initiatives founded by young people. This extension to the pilot program will increase capacity building supports, identify standards and best practices and test process improvements. Activities will be carried out in the context of TCI's established shared administrative platform, together with other shared platform providers and social sector catalysts invested in youth, leadership and change making. \$80,000



**Frontline Partners With Youth - Tides Canada Initiatives Society**

[www.tidescanada.org](http://www.tidescanada.org)

*FPYN's Evolution*

FPYN is a cross-sectoral, city-wide network of people working directly with youth. FPYN formed in 2005 because people working with youth were overwhelmed with suffering, grief and unrecognized trauma and burnout. FPYN's mission is to create a better city-wide atmosphere for youth and with youth. As people who work directly with youth, FPYN sees the systemic barriers they face and are determined to take them on. In 2013 FPYN will implement its strategic plan, embark on new fundraising activities, develop storytelling techniques to get the word out to a broader public, further its policy work and build a stronger online platform. \$75,000

**Youth Social Infrastructure - Youth Action Network**

<http://www.youthsi.org/>

[www.youthactionnetwork.org](http://www.youthactionnetwork.org)

*Youth Social Infrastructure*

The Youth Social Infrastructure (YSI) Collaborative is building a social infrastructure online and through stakeholder gatherings. Emphasis is placed on coordinating an effective, flexible and organic core team to continue prototyping the model for what is needed to amplify and accelerate conditions for youth-led organizing in Ontario. The Youth Action Network (YAN) is a youth-led, national charity, committed to strengthening youth engagement through education, resource development and supporting grassroots youth-led efforts. \$75,000





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