

You can make a difference in the lives of Toronto's underserved youth

Donate generously to For Youth Initiative today! <http://foryouth.ca/donate/>

Young people living in Toronto's priority neighbourhoods are often confronted with multiple barriers to achieving their full potential.

Their vibrant and diverse communities often lack access to key community services, youth-friendly space or recreational facilities. Limited social support, experiences of violence, poverty, isolation, or challenges associated with being new to Canada can lead to young people's **exclusion from full and meaningful participation in society.**

Responding to the needs of our community

For Youth Initiative (FYI) serves youth aged 13-29 in the priority neighbourhood of Weston-Mount Dennis and surrounding communities of West-end Toronto. **FYI offers a safe space for structured recreational, culture & media arts, female-specific and newcomer settlement programs** that seek to develop transferable life skills and provide leadership opportunities to the nearly **450 young people** we serve each year.

Growth in challenging economic times

Changing priorities of funding to social programs and reductions in available public resources make it **difficult to sustain impactful programs like Victory! Magazine that promote education, literacy, and academic achievement motivation to 90 young people since 2008.**

Victory! Magazine introduces youth to the publishing industry and new skills development in writing, editing, photography, layout design and publishing of a 32-page magazine. Staff support youth outside of weekly editorial meetings to work on achieving short and long-term goals related to employment and education.

Program participants have developed critical thinking skills, increased knowledge of community and social issues, and build stronger more positive identities through this program. Victory! Magazine will end with Issue 7, to be released December 2011.



Victory! Magazine Team

"I hope that we can secure funding to launch Victory! TV for our community to see what young people are doing to better ourselves and make a difference in our neighbourhood."

D.G. Victory! Magazine participant

Your generous gift brings us one step closer to launch youth-driven programs like Victory! TV, creating a safe space that gives voice to young people where they can explore their identity, express themselves and their concerns of how broader social issues impact their lives and the lives of their community, and learn new skills through the use of digital media to further enhance their educational and vocational achievement.

Please help us meet the pressing needs of the youth who turn to us for support.

Donate today at: <http://foryouth.ca/donate/>