



807 Using the arts to grow: Building creative programs into your organization

Sara Dell'Oso
Jeanine Anderson
Virginia Carroll



Presentation Overview

- (1) Short description of NHC
- (2) Underlying themes of the arts programs, description of different art programs
- (3) Outcomes and impacts on the lives of residents



Who we are: Nepean Housing Corporation (NHC)

NHC is committed to providing safe,
secure and affordable rental housing as
the foundation of a healthy community.

559 Market / RGI homes

Mixed portfolio, singles, families,
children & seniors

Many families are in receipt of
assistance / benefits or working poor



2

Focus of Community Development

Tenant Retention/Intervention

Community Programming



3

Community Development History

2004 : Formalized CD program

2004- 2008: Funded by various grant funding programs

2007: Service Manager approves permanent funding

2011: Increased funding from City of Ottawa Housing Branch for portable supports.

2011: Bridging Creative Minds...



4

Community Development Model

The CD Model:

Promotes active and representative participation

Encourages community members to meaningfully influence decisions that affect them

At NHC, our goal is to assist residents to access services beyond housing in order to build capacity and improve the well-being of our housing communities.



5

Community Development Model Continued...

Working within this model, NHC:

- provides programs for residents (seniors, adults, youth and children)
- undertook Community Needs Assessments (2008 & 2012) to identify residents' ongoing and evolving needs
- Need for community driven programs and engagement was identified as a primary goal



6

Principles of NHC CD Initiatives

Our Community Development Initiatives are:

- Community-driven (based on needs assessment)
- Accessible to the community and free of charge
- Responsive to residents' self-identified needs and interests



7

Sample of CD Programming

Youth Club	I Love Hockey
Girls Group	Income Tax Clinics
Homework Club	First Aid
Nepean Lifeskills Initiative	Self Defence
You Can Training	Living a Healthy Life with Chronic Conditions
High Five Training	Children's Village Camps
Adult Yoga	Children's Art Program
First Aid CPR	Bridging Creative Minds Program
Hip Hop Dancing	



8

Results:

- Meeting a need that residents cannot otherwise have met in the greater community
- Promote positive skill development
- Building Social Capital: Adding to community cohesion and trust-building , community safety, youth engagement & community health
- Enable collaborative efforts
- Nurture community networks, support innovative thinking and action; engage artists and creative thinking in the community
- Opportunities to enrich the quality of daily life.



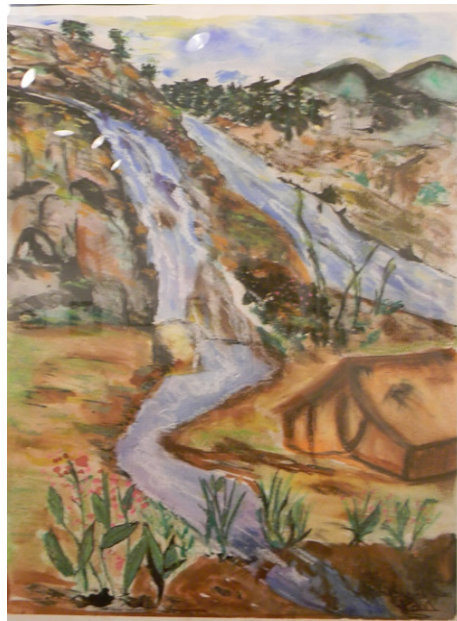
9

Bridging Creative Minds



Photo's









Jeanine Anderson

Art Instructor-
Bridging Creative Minds



18

Virginia Carroll

Participant-
Bridging Creative Minds
Art Classes



19