



**Canadian Mental  
Health Association**  
Windsor-Essex County

*Community well-being is our sole focus.*



#### **MESSAGE FROM THE CEO**

It's hard to believe we are close to the end of another year. We have much to be grateful for at CMHA-WECEB. At a time when there is an increasing need for community-based mental health services, I'm proud of our team, including our community partners, and the work they do every day.

Over the last year, there have been numerous highlights that demonstrate CMHA-WECEB's commitment to excellence in community mental health services. This includes achieving a perfect score and Exemplary Status with Accreditation Canada highlighting the quality of our programs, which would not be possible without our professional staff. In partnership with CMHA Ontario, our Bereavement Program was asked to share and further develop resources that can be used by branches throughout Ontario for the public and clinicians.



The Youth Wellness Hub ([youthhubyyqg.com](http://youthhubyyqg.com)) moved to its permanent location at 215 Eugenie Avenue and celebrated the grand opening of the Solcz Family Foundation location in November. This one-stop shop for youth aged 12 to 25 experiencing a mental health issue is a "gamechanger" for Windsor-Essex County. As the lead agency for our region's High Priority Community Funding, we continue to work closely with Ontario Health West, Windsor Regional Hospital, Windsor Essex County Health Unit, Erie Shores HealthCare, Migrant Worker Community Program, Windsor Essex Community Health Care, City of Windsor, and Community Support Centre of Essex County to serve our most marginalized populations in Windsor-Essex County with medical, including dental, and mental health and addiction supports. This year the Mobile Medical Unit has expanded their sites to include Pelee Island.

We are most thankful for the numerous individuals, businesses and organizations who have continued to support CMHA-WECB over the last year. With a challenging economy, and an increasing number of individuals accessing our services, your support is more important than ever. Our Bereavement Program, Client Assistance Fund, Mental Health Education and the Wellness & Recovery College are reliant on community support for sustainability.

With the holiday season upon us, we were excited to launch our annual Light the Way campaign on November 22 with a live AM800 CKLW remote broadcast at Devonshire Mall. The CMHA display will be at the mall until December 3. The campaign continues until the end of the year. As part of Light the Way, be sure to also check out our online silent auction, Load the Sleigh at [www.lightthewayyyqg.com](http://www.lightthewayyyqg.com) where you will find many fantastic items and great gift ideas (running from Dec. 1-12)!

The 15<sup>th</sup> annual Candlelight Vigil in remembrance of children who have died will be held on Sunday, December 10 at the Fogolar Furlan Club at 6:30 p.m. Please share event details found [here](#) with anyone who you think may be interested.

On behalf of all of us at CMHA-WECB we wish you a Merry Christmas, Happy Holidays, and a Healthy and Joyous New Year!

All the best,

*Luciano Carlone*

Interim Chief Executive Officer

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### It's Giving Tuesday!

It's Giving Tuesday - a day that encourages individuals to give back and support non-profit organizations in any way that they can. As a not-for-profit agency, CMHA-WECB needs your help in reaching our **\$50,000 fundraising goal** in support of our Light the Way campaign. This campaign funds two important programs here at CMHA-WECB: our [Bereavement Program](#) and [Client Assistance Fund](#). Click the links to

learn more about these valued programs.

### How can you help?

Learn about volunteering opportunities [here](#).

Make a donation [here](#).

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### Youth Wellness Hub, Solcz Family Foundation Site Celebrates Grand Opening

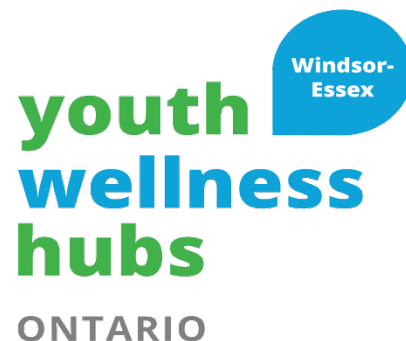
After years of planning and fundraising, the Youth Wellness Hub, Solcz Family Foundation site celebrated its grand opening on November 10.

The development of the site has been a labour of love for youth and community partners. This renovated 10,000 square foot space is youth-friendly and youth-informed. It includes themed therapy spaces, a teaching kitchen, art and activity spaces.

Youth aged 12-25 can access mental health and addiction services, along with physical health supports and many skills and well-being groups. The Hub is open Monday-Friday from 1-7 pm. There are no wait times or barriers to services.

Since opening in a temporary location in March 2022, over 600 youth have accessed services more than 3,000 times. Youth Wellness Hubs Ontario includes a network of 22 local sites.

"Youth and families have been telling us for years they want a one-stop model whereby youth can access multiple services under one roof and not have to repeat their story to multiple providers. We are delighted to have a Youth Wellness Hub in our community and in less than 2



years have been able to develop the Hub and renovate a dynamic space," says Kim Willis, Director, Communications & Mental Health Promotion, CMHA-WECB.

A fundraising campaign was launched in November 2022 with a goal of \$5 million. \$2.3 million has been raised to date, including a \$1 million donation from the Solcz Family Foundation. These funds have supported the renovations of the space, additional staff and program supplies.

Several community partners including: Maryvale, Hotel-Dieu Grace Healthcare, Windsor Essex Community Health Care, New Beginnings, The Bridge and the United Way provide staff and /or supports as part of the Youth Wellness Hubs model.

For more information about the Youth Wellness Hub, or to find out how you can help, visit [www.youthhubbygg.com](http://www.youthhubbygg.com).





## UPCOMING EVENTS



**15th Annual Candlelight Service**

**December 10, 2023**

Fogolar Furlan Club

[Click for more info](#)



**Load the Sleigh Online Auction**

**December 1-12, 2023**

Online Auction

[Details here!](#)

WE'VE PARTNERED WITH  
**ANNA'S**  
GARDEN, HOME & WELLNESS

During the Winter season you will be able to support the *Canadian Mental Health Association* through our fundraiser by shopping seasonal items online or in-store:

Winter Planters / Holiday Plants / Wreaths & more



**Anna's Flowers**

**Now until December 8, 2023**

[View details here!](#)



**Light the Way**

**Now until December 31, 2023**

Lend your support.

[Donate today!](#)

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# Thank You to Our Sponsors



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## Canadian Mental Health Association Windsor-Essex County Branch

Main Office:  
Monday - Friday: 8:30am - 4:30pm



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