



ANNUAL REPORT 2016 - 2017





OUR VISION

The Weston community is a place of peace and wholeness, where children and youth experience safety and true value. The Frontlines organization is dedicated to bringing the best out of every member of the community that it serves.

OUR MISSION

Frontlines addresses the pressing needs of Weston's children and youth. We foster and restore wellness and respect among our diverse neighbours by building relationships and providing programs that address the whole child.

OUR VALUES

RELATIONSHIPS We believe that Relationships enable us to address the deeper needs of our children, youth and their families and are based on our Christian principles, demonstrating grace and promoting mercy.	WHOLESOME We believe that serving the whole child means meeting the spiritual, emotional, intellectual and physical needs of each child and youth	DEVELOPMENT We are committed to community development through constructive engagement and empowering members of the community to further the needs of our youth, women and others
STEWARDSHIP We believe that stewardship means that we are committed to managing all financial and other resources (including partnerships faithfully, ethically and with integrity).	RESPONSIVE We believe responsiveness is central to meeting the needs of our community. We commit to being sensitive, aware and responsive to the needs of our children and youth; having the eyes to see opportunities to serve.	JUSTICE We embrace and promote justice as well as reconciliation to create harmony in our community and bring justice to the lives of our children and youth.

www.Frontlines.to



DARLENE LUCAS
Board Chair

As I reflect on the work of the Board, I am reminded of how fortunate I am to work with such amazing individuals with a wide range of skills and abilities. We have a common vision, "To make a difference in the Weston Community and beyond". The team shows admirable dedication to be in dialogue, to listen and express opinions freely. It's because of the countless hours and contributions of the Board that Frontlines can accomplish so much today, and plan boldly for more successes.

Frontlines has a new Executive Director, Stachen Frederick. Many of you had been following our leadership transition over the last couple of years. Stachen has over 15 years of experience in community and program development, nationally and internationally. She is setting a clear and bold vision for the future of Frontlines and has proven her dedication by working with the Board to create a brighter future.

After 10 years, Diana Stapleton stepped down as Board Chair, in September 2016. I am grateful for Diana's leadership and contributions to Frontlines, leaving a tremendous legacy and a strong foundation that I am privileged to build upon. She is an asset to the Weston community and reminds many of us that one person can make a BIG difference in their community.

The last couple of years have been a time of reflection and transition. We are appreciative of everyone's ongoing support and encouragement in making this transition a positive one. Our success is the community's success. With the ongoing support of our donors, politicians, partners, the Board, staff and volunteers, Frontlines is ready for the challenges and achievements ahead.

As we move forward, we are thrilled to share the wonderful work happening at Frontlines and are excited about the future. Together we are strengthening our community with amazing people like you! Let's stay in touch.

Message From The **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

STACHEN FREDERICK



2016 brought significant changes in the operations of Frontlines, which had been without an Executive Director for a couple of months before I assumed the position on July 4th. It was the first day of camp with 75 kids, 12 summer student staff and 2 full time staff, excluding me. It was evident that Frontlines' strength lies in its people. I received wonderful introductions from participants, donors, partners and others who strengthen the work of Frontlines.

A number of key priorities were clear as I took on this role. There was a need to diversify our financial revenues. We rely heavily on individual donor contributions to carry out our operations with occasional grants. Relationship building is an integral part in supporting our financial growth. I had the pleasure of connecting with past funders and was thankful in developing new relationships with Royal Bank and Loyalty One. They came on board as funders in 2016.

With new funding, we were able to continue our culinary program for youth (18-29) and to increase the number of participants in our after-school programs (6-12) from 15 to 30 daily. Our growth is also attributed to the great partners that we have in this community: Urban Arts, Youth Winning Youth, CR Marchant and many more.

A special thank-you to Weston Park Baptist Church for the use of their space for our March and Summer Camp for children (ages 6-17). And a big shout out to Progress Place through Weston Mount Dennis Community Place Hub for allowing us to utilize space to run programs for youth (13-17), because there is a huge need in the community to engage youth in this age group.

Youth violence was on a rise last year, with over 6 shootings in Weston, in the span of one month. We are on the frontlines to change that. There are so many needs in this community and Frontlines is committed to address the pressing needs. We are dedicated to improving the present and future circumstances of children and youth of Weston and the surrounding neighbourhoods. We are truly on the frontlines of the change we want to see today and in the future.

As we continue to grow, we encourage you to find ways of getting involved with us. We are excited and look forward to sharing all the great things that happen in 2017, including our sold out 30th Anniversary dinner with the theme, "Sowing Seeds of Greatness", as well as our new programs such as our "Don't Front" Boys Mentoring Programs and our "Frontliner's" Basketball Program.

We encourage you to call, email, visit our new website at Frontlines.to and check us out on social media. Your encouragement and support is sincerely appreciated.

We look forward to Sowing Seeds of Greatness in the community.

HISTORY

The Frontlines Organisation



FROM THEN TO NOW

30 YEARS OF SERVICE

In September 1987, Frontlines opened its doors to children and youth in Weston, offering them a safe place to "hang out" away from the streets.

The first Director and Founder of this community centre was Tim Huff who saw a need and approached the Weston Park Baptist Church and Youth For Christ (Youth Unlimited Toronto) to partner in establishing the drop-in centre.

An avid musician, Tim was able to use music to engage the youth in the initial stages. From since then, Frontlines has been known in the community as a safe place – a haven – for children and youth, and a place that welcomes everyone. This became the hallmark of Frontlines.

Serving The Community Since 1987

When Frontlines was established in 1987, it was for the purpose of offering children and youth a secure and nurturing place to grow. Frontlines derives its name from its founder, Tim Huff, who felt that workers in the social service sector were very much like soldiers, working in battles; working on the frontlines. Tim Huff saw a need to address the various needs and battles of young people in Weston. and approached the Weston Park Baptist Church and Youth For Christ (Youth Unlimited Toronto) to partner in establishing the drop-in centre. From since then, Frontlines has been known in the community as a safe place – a haven – for children and youth, and a place that welcomes everyone. This became the hallmark of Frontlines.

Started as a drop-in centre that focused primarily on music, Frontlines has grown by offering a variety of programs to hundreds of children and youth from Weston and surrounding neighborhoods. Our programs and services range from homework clubs to employment programs; all in a quest to make the lives of our participants better and; the community safer.

At Frontlines, we value each and every child, youth, parent, staff, volunteers, donors and all other stakeholders. We believe in community and stay true to our core guiding principles.

As we embark on 30 years of service in the community, we seek to sow seeds of greatness and excellence in all that we do.

Frontlines is located at 1844 Weston Road. Most of our programs for children(6-12) and young adults (18-29) are held in this space. The space is shared with the Weston Area Emergency Support (WAES) food bank which provides assistance for many of the families that participate in our programs. The property is owned the Weston Park Baptist Church. A satellite location is at 1765 Weston Road, thanks to the support of Weston Mount Dennis Community Place Hub. Here were are able to engage more with youths 13-17.



OUR TEAM

STAFF



STACHEN FREDERICK
Executive Director

Stachen Frederick has over 15 years of experience. She was Director of Youth and Employment at the YMCA. She has done consultancy work for Jane and Finch Family and Community Centre, AIDS Committee of Toronto, and Gateway for New Canadians. She also runs BrAIDS for AIDS.



MATTHEW REID
Senior Program Coordinator

Matthew Reid started at Frontlines in November 2015. Prior to this position, he was involved with event planning, entrepreneurship and consulting services. What he likes most about Frontlines is changing the lives of children and youth, as it gives them a sense of belonging.



NOELLA CHARLES
Culinary Training & Catering Manager

Noella Charles joined Frontlines in February, 2017. She had worked in Ottawa as a Culinary Instructor at Supperworks, in Toronto at Hope House-Falstaff as Culinary Manager, and at Mississauga Convention Centre. She is the CEO of Ella Charles Cuisine and a culinary contributor to National Post.



JESSICA AMOAKO
Junior Program Coordinator

Jessica started at Frontlines in February 2017. She had worked as a camp counsellor, health promoter, and customer service representative. She was a participant in the Serve for Youth program, and has executed workshops on sexual health, volunteer work, leadership and capacity building.



SVETLAN AORTSEVA
Administrative Assistant

Lana Ortseva joined Frontlines in January, 2017. She graduated from University of Toronto with focus on Criminology, Social and Legal Studies, Environmental Management, and Linguistics. She also finished a H&R Block tax course and was a part of an environmental project at university.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

CHAIR

Darlene Lucas

MEMBERS

Roy Wellington

Carol Latimer

Matthew Eubank

Chris VanDooren

Susanne Hunter

Joyce Nyhof Young

Bill Taylor

Abraham Ogbasase

Our Board of Directors, which we refer to as our Partnership Team, sets the strategic direction for our centre. They willingly give of their time, setting policies and engaging in activities with the staff to raise the profile of Frontlines.

Programs & Services



FOR YOUTH 6-12

The Journey

Frontlines offers a program from children 6-12 in which they are taught about personal development through story telling and testimonials.

TGIF Drop-Ins

Frontlines is the place to be on Fridays. Participants are free to come in, kick-back and relax while listening to music, playing games or just catching up with friends.

Summer, March & New Year Camps

Frontlines offers a number of camps throughout the year. Some of our camps are specialized including our dance and basketball camps and the age range vary from 6-12 and 13-18. This year, we had about 75 kids weekly in our summer camp; 25 kids in our New Year and March Break program.

Homework Club

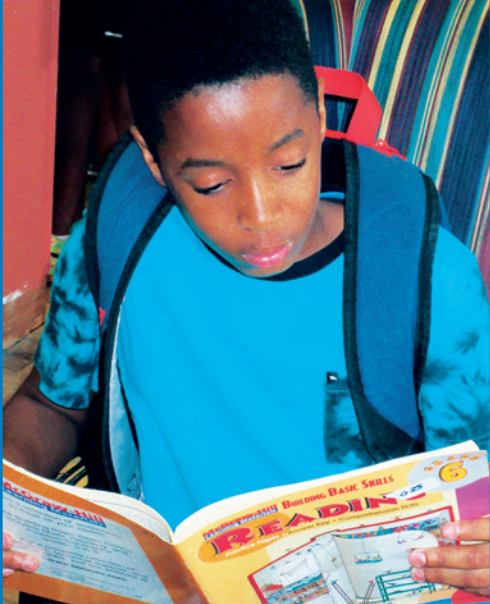
Frontlines provides extra homework help to children ages 6-12. With the help of staff and community volunteers, the children are engaged and encouraged to succeed academically.

So You Think You Can Cook

Once a week, children ages 6-12 are taught basic cooking and nutrition skills. This is one of our most popular programs at Frontlines.

"Youth violence was on a rise last year, with over 6 shootings in Weston, in the span of one month. We are on the frontlines to change that."





YOUTH 13-15

Guitar Hero

Our music program helps young individuals (13-15) explore and discover the properties of sound through singing, moving, speech, playing instruments, listening, and manipulating sounds in various ways.

We currently have more programs for youth from 2016 to now, please visit www.frontlines.to



YOUTH 18 PLUS

Catering Careers/Frontburners

Frontlines offers a free 8 weeks, culinary skills training program for youth ages 18-29. The program involves hands-on experience in the kitchen, baking, cooking, menu planning, and budgeting. Upon completion, students receive Safe Food Handler's certificate, Smart Serve, etc. Catering Careers work with employment agencies to help students build a resume, work on interview skills and finally place them in jobs in the food service industry. See full story of the Culinary Program on page 8.

Job Searching Support

Frontlines provides participants (16+) with a wide variety of employment support on a case by case. We work alongside our community partners to do so.

NUMBERS TO HIGHLIGHT

We serve about 300 kids yearly. We provide over 40,000 meals yearly and we are open 5 days a week with the occasional weekends.

Testimonial And Thank You

From One Parent Online

"A big thank you to all the staff of frontlines for helping my son throughout the past years with his homework and assignments. You made us proud of him. Thank you from the very bottom of my heart."

A Very Proud Mom



The Culinary Program



This program is an 8 week culinary training program for youth (18-29) who face barriers to employment. Many participants of the program have little or no post-secondary education or have dropped out of high school. Our program is therefore designed to support various educational levels and learning styles with a curriculum that provides hands on training and in class teaching. A variety of educational tools are used to support student's learning such as auto visual, field trips, guest speakers and role playing

In each cohort, 8-10 participants gain job ready skills to work in the ever-growing food service sector. Students participate in workshops pertaining to the food service industry; attend field trips and hear from leading experts. Participants put into practice what they learnt in the classroom through hands on experience in the kitchen. Upon completion, youth receive food handling certification, smart serve and other training.

Partnering with employment agencies, students learn about workplace interview training, resume building and other employability skills. Staff from Frontlines as well as from partner agencies, find various employment opportunities for youth. Businesses that have hired youth from our program have commented on the quality of our training. For example, one of the restaurant owners who has worked with us stated, hiring, training and maintaining good staff is a continual challenge in the hospitality industry.

Through the training at Frontlines, we have been able to hire youth who come with an understanding of what it takes to work in the culinary field. We have participants who have stayed at our establishment for the past two years.

Our Participant Testimonials Shed Light On The Success Of The Program

"The culinary program is the best program I attended ever. It taught me beneficial knowledge that I need in my future in my workplace and at home"

"The workshop on Friday is so amazing and so beneficial. It helped me know my strengths and help me become a better me by helping me to be confident going for a job interview. I learned how to manage my time and come on time because of the class rules."

NUMBERS TO HIGHLIGHT

- 50,000 meals served
- 5 catering opportunities serving 200 people
- 45 participants
- 88 %employed

We would like to thank RBC foundation for coming on board with this program.

Our Partners

The Cornerstone for our Success

Frontlines feels privileged to have formed strong relationships with partners to help transform our community. We believe that partnerships allow us to draw on the expertise and extended resources to better serve the Weston community, resulting in more children and youth served.

The Weston Area Emergency Support food bank provides food for a growing number of families in Weston-Mt. Dennis. It shares the space at 1844 Weston Road with Frontlines. We would like to thank members of the Weston Service Providers Network such as Progress Place, Learning Enrichment Foundation, Yorktown and many others.

Along with our core partners, our elected representatives, Councillor Frances Nunziata, MPP Laura Albanese and MP Ahmed Hussein, are also very supportive of Frontlines and the programs we offer to the children and youth of Weston. In addition, we work closely with other community and service organizations in and around Weston/Mt Dennis including UrbanArts, York West Active Living Centre, Unison, COSTI, Weston Lions Club, the various Rotary Clubs and the Police Community Liaison Committee.

We also have strong relationships with the business communities in and around Weston including the Weston BIA, the Eglinton Hills BIA, Go Transit/ Metrolinx, Shoppers Drug Mart, Cruickshank Motors, Ward Funeral Home and Squibbs, among other generous supporters.

FUNDERS & DONORS

We acknowledge the generous support we have received over the years that has kept our doors opened. From the many individuals who regularly give to help us meet our operational expenses, to the funders of our many programs who afford us the stability that ensures a meaningful relationship with our participants.

We therefore thank the many individuals, organizations, foundations, elected officials and businesses whose continuing commitment and support make our work possible.

A large portion of our funding comes from individuals, some of whom make monthly contributions, and we can't express enough our appreciation of these faithful donors. Many of you support our various fundraising efforts, especially our BIG Breakfast events and Annual Dinner hosted at different locations in Weston. We sincerely thank you.



RBC Foundation



HOME TRUST



Ontario



Little Caesars



TORONTO



DILLON
CONSULTING



WESTON PARK
BAPTIST CHURCH



WARD
FUNERAL HOMES



AFROGLOBAL
TELEVISION

LoyaltyOne



URBANARTS
ENGAGING YOUTH THROUGH THE ARTS



the co-operators



FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

CASH FLOWS

AS AT DECEMBER 31, 2016-4

OPERATING ACTIVITIES	2016	2015
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over expenses	(\$46,835)	\$11,604
Items not involving cash:		
Amortization	-	-
TOTAL	(\$46,835)	\$11,604
Net change in non-cash working capital:	(\$1,304)	\$20,118
Accounts receivable	\$4,814	(\$15,030)
HST receivable	(\$767)	-
Prepaid expenses	(\$27)	\$1,716
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	\$18,719	\$11,281
Deferred revenue	\$25,400	\$26,257
FINANCING ACTIVITIES	-	-
NET INCREASE (DECREASE) IN CASH	(\$25,400)	\$26,257
CASH - BEGINNING	\$158,628	\$132,371
CASH - ENDING	\$133,228	\$158,628
CONSISTING OF:	\$133,228	\$158,628
Cash	-	-
Short-term investments	\$133,228	\$158,628

CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES

AS AT DECEMBER 31, 2016-2

	Opening Balance	Revenue	Expenses	Transfers	Closing Balance
General Fund	\$150,394	\$233,373	\$280,208	-	\$103,559
PRIOR YEAR TOTAL FUNDS	\$138,790	\$273,211	\$261,607	-	\$150,394

Liquidity risk relates to the risk Weston will encounter difficulties meeting obligations associated with financial liabilities. The financial liabilities on its balance sheet consist of accounts payable and a mortgage payable. Management closely monitors cash flow requirements to ensure that it has sufficient cash on demand to meet operational and financial obligations.



PETER W. HOGG

I have audited the accompanying financial statements of Weston Frontlines Centre, which comprise the statement of financial position as at December 31, 2016 and the statements of changes in fund balances, operations and changes in fund balances, and cash flows for the year then ended and a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information.

MANAGEMENT'S RESPONSIBILITY

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations and for such internal control as it determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

AUDITORS' RESPONSIBILITY

My responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on my audit. I conducted my audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards. Those standards require that I comply with ethical requirements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgement, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatements of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in order to design



AUDITORS' REPORT

audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements. I believe that the audit evidence I have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my audit opinion.

BASIS FOR QUALIFIED OPINION

In common with many charitable organizations, the organization derives income from contributions the completeness of which is not susceptible to satisfactory audit verification. Accordingly, my verification of this income was limited to the amounts recorded in the records of the organization and I was not able to determine whether any adjustments might be necessary to contributions, excess of income over expenditures, current assets and net assets.

QUALIFIED OPINION

In my opinion, except for the possible effects of the matter described in the Basis for Qualified Opinion paragraph, these financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Weston Frontlines Centre as at December 31, 2016 and the results of its operations and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations.

Sincerely,

Peter W. Hogg
Chartered Accountant

OPERATIONS & CHANGES IN FUND BALANCE AS AT DECEMBER 31, 2016-3

REVENUE	2016	2015
Contributions	\$136,655	\$156,031
Government Grants (Note 4)	\$96,468	\$106,434
Other	\$250	\$1000
Recovery of prior period HST rebate	-	\$9,746
TOTAL	\$233,373	273,211
EXPENSES		
Wages and Benefits	\$183,299	\$141,218
Programs	\$41,870	\$74,076
Office and general	\$33,982	\$18,887
Professional fees	\$11,554	\$10,999
Utilities	\$7,890	\$9,468
Building costs	\$1,613	\$5,041
Vehicle costs	-	\$1918
TOTAL	\$280,208	\$261,607
EXCESS (DEFICIENCY) OF REVENUE OVER EXPENSES	(\$46,835)	\$11,604
BALANCE - BEGINNING	\$150,394	\$138,790
BALANCE - ENDING	\$103,559	\$150,394

FINANCIAL POSITION AS AT DECEMBER 31, 2016 -1

ASSETS	2016	2015
General Fund	\$ 133,228	\$ 158,628
Cash and short term investments	\$1,304	-
Accounts receivable	\$10,216	\$15,030
HST receivable	\$767	-
Prepaid	\$145,515	\$173,658
LIABILITIES		
General Fund	\$11,956	\$11,983
Current	\$30,000	\$11,281
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	\$41,956	\$23,264
Deferred revenue		
FUND BALANCES	\$103,559	\$150,394
General Fund	\$145,515	\$173,658

The organization received a total \$96,468 (2015 - \$106,434) in government grants of which \$40,193 (2015 - \$18,034) was from the Government of Canada, \$45,600 (2015 - \$78,400) was from the Government of Ontario and \$10,675 (2015 - \$10,000) was from the City of Toronto. These grants were to help offset salary and program costs

FAIR VALUE

The carrying value of cash, accounts receivable and accounts payable and accrued liabilities approximate their fair value due to the relatively short periods to maturity of the instruments.



*“We are truly
on the Frontlines.
As we continue to grow,
we encourage you to
find ways of getting
involved with us.”*

Stachen Frederick
Executive Director

30
*Years Of
Service*

www.frontlines.to

STEWARDSHIP

JUSTICE

RECONCILIATION

RELATIONSHIPS

WAYS TO DONATE

Visit us at www.frontlines.to/donate
Text “Donate” to 416-244-7017

CONTACT US

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