

ANNUAL REPORT

2022
2023



fernienyouth 
caring beyond reason.



VISION, MISSION, VALUES

VISION:

Our youth flourish and contribute to safer communities for a lifetime.

Mission:

Guided by compassion and hope, we serve youth in and at risk of being in conflict with the law on a journey towards reintegration and purposeful living.

Values:

Respect, Integrity, Compassion, and Excellence

AT A GLANCE



Our Island Road **Open Custody** program allows teens to fix their mistakes and successfully return to their communities.



To see young people succeed, they must have a reliable place to call home. The **Transition House** program provides a safe, caring environment with personalized plans for young men who may have slipped through the cracks.



Fernie Works is our **employment readiness** program that combines training and education with hands-on paid work experience that youth need to become contributing members of society.



Community Reintegration programming prevents recidivism by creating healthy ties between the community and the youth. Community Access Program, Toronto Youth Equity Strategy, and Youth Transition Services are all examples of pivotal programming that encourage young people to positively contribute to society.



LETTER FROM THE CEO

Dear stakeholders and supporters,

I am delighted to present Fernie Youth Services' Annual Report for the fiscal year 2022-23, a year marked by resilience, growth, and transformative impact. As we reflect on the challenges and triumphs of the past year, it is evident that Fernie Youth Services has not only persevered but thrived in our mission to empower and uplift the youth we serve.

The post-pandemic landscape brought about unprecedented changes, and it is with great pride that we share the remarkable strides our organization has taken in response to the evolving needs of our community. The demand for our programs and services has surged, a testament to the vital role we play in supporting the holistic development of our youth. It is heartening to witness the unwavering trust placed in us by families, partners and the community.

I am thrilled to announce a groundbreaking development for Fernie Works. Through a strategic partnership with the Ministry of Labour, Immigration, Training, and Skills Development of Ontario, we are poised to enhance youth employment opportunities. This collaboration not only underscores our commitment to innovative solutions but also reinforces our dedication to fostering the next generation of skilled and empowered individuals.

At the heart of our achievements is our exceptional staff team, who embody our ethos of "Caring Beyond Reason" in every interaction and endeavor. Their tireless dedication, compassion, and expertise have been the driving force behind our impactful outcomes. Their unwavering commitment to our youth and the community has laid the foundation for our success, enabling us to make a tangible difference in the lives of those we serve.

Amidst the challenges, we have witnessed lives being transformed, aspirations being realized, and futures being redefined. These heartwarming stories underscore the significance of our work and fortify our resolve to continually innovate and elevate our programs to greater heights.

As we embark on the upcoming year, I invite you to join us in celebrating the resilience and accomplishments of Fernie Youth Services. Your unwavering support fuels our determination to continue making a positive impact in the lives of our youth, ensuring they thrive regardless of the circumstances they face.

***Thank you for being an integral part of our journey.
Together, we are forging pathways to brighter futures.***

Warm regards,

A handwritten signature in orange ink, appearing to read "Jeff Johnson". The signature is stylized and fluid.

Jeff Johnson
CEO, Fernie Youth Services

OUR IMPACT



100% of youth in the Fernie Works program graduated with full-time employment or registration to post-secondary



With a full house all year, every Transition House resident participated in meaningful daily programming that launches their adult life toward success



202 Community Access Program rides were completed, taking each youth to important appointments that were mostly delayed due to covid-19



102 Reintegration Fund requests were approved to purchase clothing and other items youth need to succeed as law-abiding citizens



Roughly 300 youth accessed Fernie's programs last year to support them with housing, community reintegration, employment, and overall success

**NEARLY
25,000
YOUTH**

in Canada are charged with a crime every year. Without intervention, half of them will re-offend, getting closer and closer to adulthood. Help us break the cycle before they lose their childhood completely.

WILLIAM'S STORY

One of the best parts of our work is hearing from our youth and their family years after they graduate from a Fernie program with updates on their newest successes.

William* joined the transition house a few years ago. He had his ups and downs with substance use and decision-making but always wanted to do the right thing.

Today, his mom tells us that William is doing amazing. He became a trades apprentice and

is putting in the hours and hard work to reach his goals and protect his future. He lives with his girlfriend and their two dogs and attends a substance use support group to keep him on this path. William's mom describes him today as organized, kind, thoughtful, considerate, and actively making and carrying out plans.

To Fernie, William's mom says,

"I really feel that the time he spent with you was huge in helping him make this transition...you guys laid the groundwork and gave him the skills he needed to turn his life around when he was ready to do so."

*Name has been changed for privacy reasons

KAREEM'S STORY

Kareem* went from the youth to the adult system just 10 days after he turned 18.

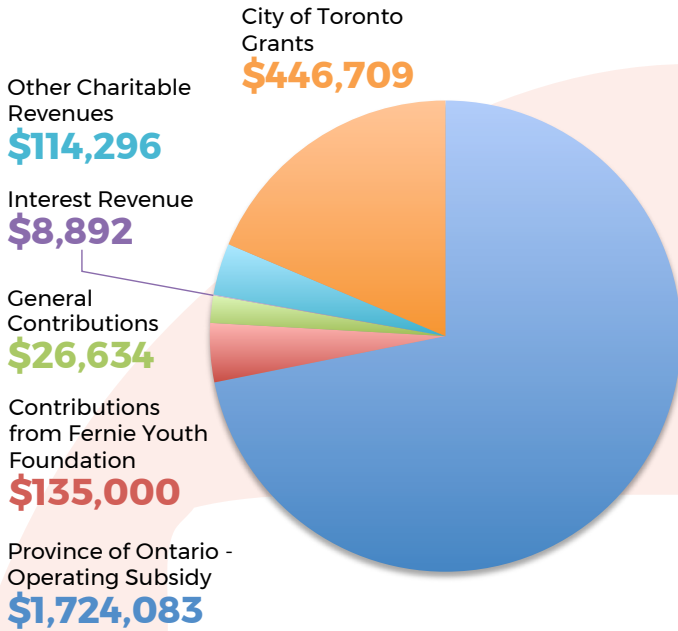
After 6 months in the Transition House and excelling in the Fernie Works employment program, Kareem is a confident, career-driven man.

Read Kareem's full story and more successes like his at fernienyouth.ca

*Name has been changed for privacy reasons

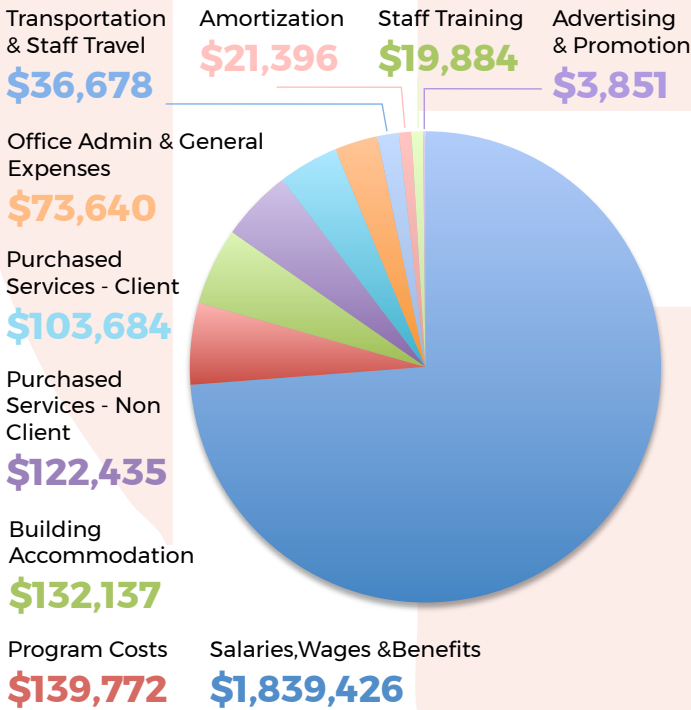
FINANCIALS

2022-23 REVENUE



TOTAL REVENUE
\$2,455,614

2022-23 EXPENDITURES



TOTAL EXPENDITURES
\$2,492,902

OUR PARTNERS: THANK YOU FOR CARING BEYOND REASON.

GOVERNMENT

Ministry of Children, Community, and Social Services

Employment and Social Development Canada

City of Toronto

MAJOR DONORS

Telus Friendly Future Foundation

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Rob Anderson

Augustine Arputhamani

Darlene Gablenz

Steve Howlett

Justin Taylor



GATHERING AGAIN

After two long years of “virtual” and “distanced” Fernie was ecstatic to gather and celebrate the history of Fernie and the future of our youth.

George Fernie Day marked 58 years since George Fernie sparked a Caring Beyond Reason attitude and an organization founded in his name and mission. Fernie’s team of leadership and frontline heroes gathered to celebrate how far we have come and how resilient the team and youth were through an unprecedented pandemic.

In February 2023, the **Coldest Night of the Year walkathon** was a hit! With teams from RBC, the Rotary Club, Enterprise, the Lions Club and so many more, Fernie raised over \$20,000 for youth programming! With a kind speech from City Councilor and Toronto’s Deputy Mayor, Jennifer McKelvie, everyone was excited to walk and celebrate our youth.

LAUNCHING: Beat Builders and Fernie Works 2.0

Thanks to funding from Telus Friendly Future Foundation, we launched a brand new music therapy program in April 2023. **Beat Builders** will change the way young people access and view mental health and music production with a culturally aware and appealing therapy option. Stay tuned for more details and success stories of youth taking control of their mental health and artistic expression.

With new support from the Ministry of Labour, Fernie's employment readiness program which has **helped hundreds of youth** find meaningful employment opportunities is expanding to year-round content for more than 4-times the number of clients! Stay updated through social media and e-newsletters by signing up at ferniefyouth.ca/connect.

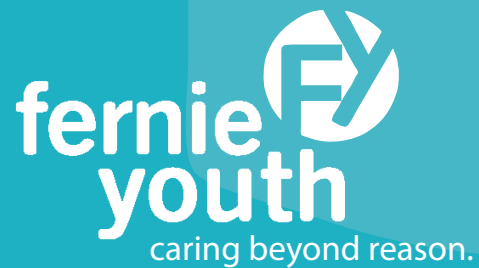


Be a champion of hope.

Donate today at fernienyouth.ca

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