

Acorn2Oak

By:

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Sheridan College

**Agency
Information**



Acorn2Oak

**1224 Dundas St E Unit 25,
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Dundas & Dixie**

**(905) 566-2359
www.acorn2oak.ca**

Practicum Description



Acorn2Oak

“The Acorn2Oak Agency is a Registered Charity/Not-For Profit Organization that is positively impacting lives and communities in the Greater Toronto Area for over twenty years through its holistic frontline approach to servicing the community. They cater to youth, young adults, seniors and families through a wide range of programs geared towards providing solutions, support, and transformed lives”. (Acorn2Oak, 2023)

Acorn2Oak offers the opportunity to students to apply Social Service helping skills theory while working with clients with emphasis in anti-oppressive practice.

Students are encouraged to interact with clients one-on-one and in group settings.

At Acorn2Oak student’s initiatives are welcome and valued. It is a great place to create and implement new programs.

Overview



Acorn2Oak

Mission: “To transform lives and help people to find a way forward in complex situations impacting children, youth, families, seniors, and individuals for a successful and peaceful life”. (*Acorn2Oak, 2023*)

Vision: “Helping people through services, education, intervention, mediation, employment, and wellness support.” (*Acorn2Oak, 2023*)

Values:

“Integrity, Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, Collaboration, Excellence” (*Acorn2Oak, 2023*)

**Community
Supported**



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**YOUTH
CHILDREN
NEWCOMERS
SENIORS
FAMILIES**

Key Programs



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- **Justice Program**
- **Food Security**
- **Counselling**
- **Newcomers Services**
- **Seniors Wellness**
- **Youth Sports and Recreation**
- **After Prison Care**
- **Homeless warming center (Coming soon)**

Key Responsibilities



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- **Client intake process**
 - **Create intake notes**
 - **Support administration tasks**
- **Prepare and execute Community events**
- **Plan and execute fundraising campaigns**
- **Create and implement programs for the communities we support**
 - **Create Social Media content**
 - **Research**

Key Responsibilities



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- **Create Social Media material**
- **Reach out to other agencies and organization in the area to build collaboration connections**
 - **Attend staff meetings**
 - **Grant application participation**
- **Create presentations about relevant topics to the community**

Knowledge and Skills



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- **Clear understanding of Social Work helping skills**
- **Advocacy**
- **Clients Intersectionality awareness**
- **Excellent communication skills**
- **Research skills**
- **Group facilitation knowledge**
- **Self-awareness**
- **Teamwork**
- **Emotional intelligence**
- **Problem solving**
- **Organizational skills**

Professional Development



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- **Developing an Intake systems for all clients**
- **Service Mapping Research**
- **Fundraising Event (planning and execution)**
- **Implementation of Free Clothing Market (By weekly program)**
- **Seniors Event (planning and execution)**
- **Holiday Community Event (planning and execution)**
- **Volunteer Appreciation Event (planning and execution)**
- **Agency Social Media content creation**
- **Young offenders research project**

Professional Development



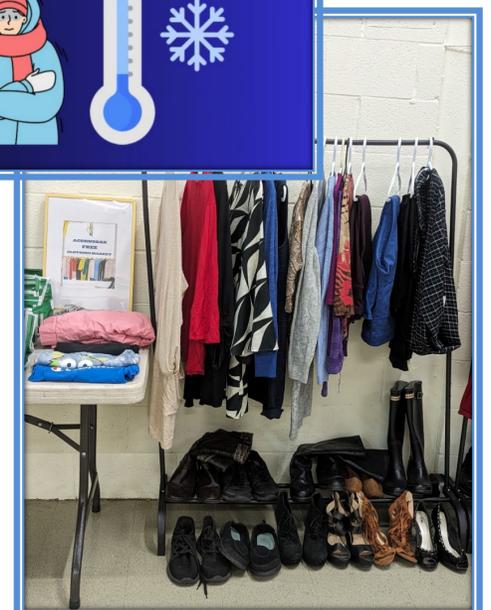
Acorn2Oak

FREE CLOTHING MARKET



Winter Clothing Drive

As the winter chill sets in, we invite you to make a positive impact on the lives of those less fortunate. Many individuals are facing the harsh realities of winter without adequate clothing to keep them warm.



Professional Development



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SENIORS EVENT



Professional Development



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HOLIDAY COMMUNITY EVENT



Images: Christmas Blessing Market (2023). www.acorn2oak.ca

Professional Development



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Young Offenders Research Project



Youth & The Justice System

By: Clara Peña



Overview of Youth at “Risk” and Youth Offending



- Juvenile delinquency has **multiple components**, which are important to consider.
- Youth Deviant Behavior: Actions that go **against social norms, laws, or expectations**.
- The majority of youth in Canada will transition normally into adulthood.
- However, some of them will be exposed to **adverse factors that hurt their overall development**



Factors that MAY contribute to Youth Delinquency



FAMILY STRUCTURE: 16% of families in Canada are headed by single parents. The percentage goes higher for minority groups like Aboriginal and Black communities. (Canada, 2022)

INCOME: As per Statistics Canada (2022), 9.5% of children under 18 years old live in low-income families. Most of these families are lone-parent families (more often



Factors that MAY contribute to Youth Delinquency



EMPLOYMENT: 15% of youth between the ages of 15 and 24 are unemployed, the highest rate among all ages (Canada, 2022)

VICTIMIZATION: 1,111 children are victims of violence for every 100,000. (Canada, 2022) In most cases, they are assaulted by a family member or someone they know. Numbers are higher in minority communities.



Factors that MAY contribute to Youth Delinquency



MENTAL HEALTH: 10 - 20% of Canadians are affected by mental illness/disorders. Between the ages of 12 - 19, over three million are at risk of depression in Canada. In Canada only 1 in 5 youth that require mental health services receive them. Suicide is the second leading cause of death among youth and young adults (15-34 years). (Canada, 2020-2021)



Factors that MAY contribute to Youth Delinquency



FAMILY-AT-RISK: Children who live in care (there has been a transfer of custody/guardianship). 48% of youth in open custody or open detention families have a history of child welfare. (Canada, 2022)

5% of children are affected by paternal incarceration. They are 3 times more likely to experience conflict with the law.



References

Acorn2Oak.(2023). <https://acorn2oak.ca/>

