



CREATING THE WAY FORWARD

2022-23 ANNUAL IMPACT REPORT





ON THE COVER:

 **THE STRENGTH OF A MAN BY ISAAC MIIRO**



⚡ This vibrant art piece depicts a man's head in different colours, intertwining to express the complexity and diversity of his thoughts and emotions.

African ancestral land acknowledgement

May we always remember those who have gone before us. May we be inspired by their vision and their valour. May their lives continuously remind us that service is more important than success, that people are more important than possessions, and that principle is more important than power. May whatever we do be shaped and moulded by respect, integrity, humility, clarity of purpose, compassion, and commitment. May our children and our children's children carry forth with pride the nobility of the histories that are represented here and the various traditions that are represented in this circle. We dedicate our lives to making this world better and more beautiful.

WRITTEN BY NENE KWASI KAFELE

Indigenous land acknowledgement

Eva's acknowledges that we are on the traditional territory of many nations, including the Mississaugas of the Credit, the Anishnabeg, the Chippewa, the Haudenosaunee and the Wendat peoples and is now home to many diverse First Nations, Inuit and Métis peoples.

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Visit evas.ca/ar-2023 to access our Digital Annual Impact Report.

FROM OUR BOARD CHAIR AND EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Dear friends and supporters:

We are excited to welcome you to our retrospective on the 2022–23 fiscal year.

Embracing our roots

Eva's was founded on the principles of perseverance, strength, compassion, and the unwavering belief that every young person deserves a chance to thrive. This year, as we embark on the next phase of our journey and celebrate the 30th anniversary of our first shelter site, Eva's Place, we draw inspiration from our founder, Eva Smith, and her Jamaican roots. Acknowledging our organization's cultural foundation is an essential step towards doing the work and decolonizing the structures that guide our initiatives.

Recognizing youth creativity and leadership

Throughout this report, we're honoured to showcase artwork crafted by several talented

young people connected to Eva's. We extend our gratitude to the youth for their exceptional contributions to this initiative. We hope you enjoy their beautiful work.

Strategic vision for the future

Our commitment to bold, honest, proactive, and knowledgeable action has never been more evident than in our new three-year strategic plan. We are shaping our future endeavours through our updated mission, vision, values, and four strategic priorities.

 *To learn more, visit [page 6](#).*

Centring Black youth

Our first and foundational strategic priority is Centring Black Youth. Eva's is committed to fostering an inclusive and equitable environment for all youth. We are putting the infrastructure in place to serve some of the most vulnerable in society: Black youth experiencing homelessness with all their intersecting identities. In doing so,




we can ensure our programs and services will benefit all who need them, regardless of race or background.

This strategic direction will inform all aspects of our work, guiding our content, processes, and outcomes. We are dedicated to engaging in extensive capacity building within our organization to ensure that our efforts are inclusive and deeply impactful.

Adapting to changing demographics

As we witness the global impact of war, human rights abuses, and environmental disasters, we are seeing an increasing number of youth who identify as refugees or refugee claimants seeking support from Eva's upon their arrival in Canada. This emerging trend demands our attention and commitment to delivering relevant and timely support to these individuals.

 *For more information on our changing demographics, please refer to the results of our latest youth survey on **pages 12 & 13**.*

A future filled with optimism

Launching of our strategic plan marks the beginning of a transformative era for Eva's, and we are energized and excited to put our strategic priorities into action.

We extend our deepest gratitude to each of you for your continued support. Together, we can build on the strong foundation laid by Eva Smith and ensure that every young person can soar to new heights.

With gratitude and determination,


Aisha Francis

Aisha Francis
Chair of the Board
of Directors

Louise Smith

Louise Smith
Executive Director
Eva's Initiatives for
Homeless Youth



 Aisha Francis



 Louise Smith



EVA'S

STRATEGIC PLAN

Through our new three-year strategic plan, we are stepping boldly into our identity as a Black youth-focused organization. We will centre the needs of Black youth at all intersections of their identities to cultivate a community that creates anti-racist and social justice solutions to youth homelessness. We will continue to serve all youth who walk through our doors.

Vision:

Strong and diverse Black youth live in thriving communities with a safe place to call home, with the supports, respect, equity, engagement, and community belonging they need to flourish.

Mission:

Inspiring and valuing youth leadership, we centre the needs of Black youth at all the intersections of their identities to cultivate a community that creates anti-racist and social justice solutions to youth homelessness.

Values:

We are a proud Black legacy organization founded by Eva Smith. Eva's centres the intersectional needs of the youth we serve.

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES FOR 2024 – 2027

- 1 Centring Black Youth
- 2 Innovation in our Program Evolution
- 3 Build the House Stronger
- 4 Deliver Evidence-based Thought Leadership and Action



To learn more, visit:
stratplan.evas.ca



⚡ This is an Afri-futurist self-portrait of myself as an elder, featuring a background grid reminiscent of the “My Life in Weeks” poster. The squares in this piece are intentionally not fully shaded in or filled in a linear sequence. This represents the non-linear experience of time and the complexity within a week, including the emptiness, creativity, and monotony one can feel. The glasses symbolize being shaded/hidden from collective hypnosis and amnesia that can develop from a long life. As an elder, I aim to protect my memories and my vision of life's unseen treasures while also aging with style.

HONOURING AN ENDURING

LEGACY

OF CHALLENGING SYSTEMS OF OPPRESSION

Eva's Initiatives for Homeless Youth has a rich history that began in 1989 when our organization was founded by Eva Smith under the original name, North York Emergency Home for Youth.

Eva, a Jamaican immigrant, activist, and Black community leader, brought attention to the often-hidden issue of youth homelessness. Eva showed tenacity and perseverance in highlighting the problem to decision-makers and rallying supporters to act. Eva's advocacy underscored the fact that adult shelters were ill-equipped to provide the specialized support that young people needed to avoid chronic homelessness.

Continuing the legacy

Although Eva passed away in 1993, her indomitable spirit continued to inspire our organization. In 1994, just one year after her passing, Eva's Place, our first physical shelter for young people, opened. In 2001, our organization's name

changed to Eva's Initiatives for Homeless Youth, in honour of our visionary founder.

Impact and services today

Today, Eva's serves hundreds of young people every year, providing a holistic combination of safe shelter and housing, counselling, training, and life skills programs.

Eva Smith's legacy embodies the values of compassion, perseverance, and advocacy, and her dedication to supporting Toronto's youth remains at the heart of Eva's Initiatives for Homeless Youth today. Through her vision and commitment, she has left an enduring mark on our organization and the lives of countless young people.

▽ Eva Smith



“What hurt one of us, hurt all of us.”

— Eva Smith, Founder of Eva's Initiatives for Homeless Youth



Scan the QR code to learn more about Eva Smith.

FOSTERING CREATIVE EXPRESSION AT EVA'S THROUGH ART

Eva's annual report highlights a remarkable collaboration with some of the talented young people engaged in our programs and services. With support from a dedicated mentorship team, youth were given the opportunity to express themselves through various mediums, such as painting, photography, illustration, graphic design, and poetry.

From delving into a project brief to engaging in an on-site creative workshop and receiving real-time feedback, this initiative provided a platform for the youth to hone their professional skills, paving the way for their future creative endeavours.

The selected youth artists featured in this report will receive an honorarium and a printed copy of the report for their portfolios. Thank you to all who participated in this exciting project.

“I love how this project allowed me to be creative, gain exposure, and make connections.”

— Sadiq, a youth participant



You can find the pieces on these pages:

- 1** *The Strength of a Man* by Isaac Miiro
- 8** *The Black Elder* by Elisabeth Clarke
- 14** *New Goals* by Ashanti Meshia Morgan
- 18** *Emotional Odyssey* by Emriel Macauley
- 26** *Flourish* by Tamile Weekes
- 32** *Risen* by Arlington Leonardo Munro II



WHO WE SERVE

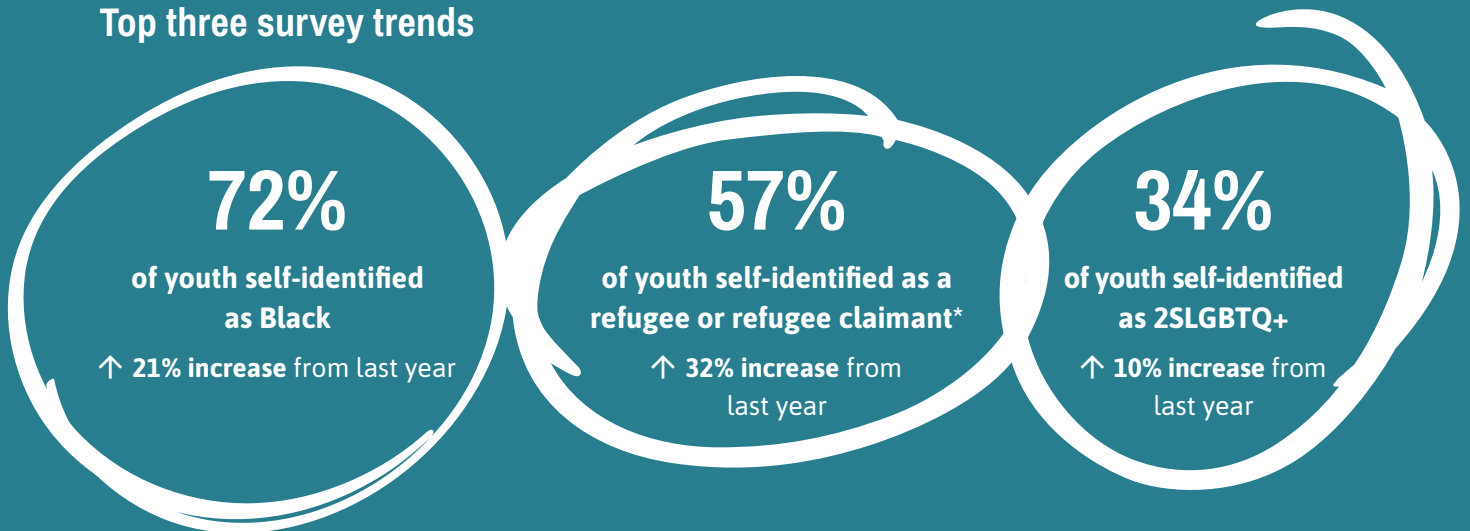
About the survey

This is a moment-in-time snapshot of the youth seeking our services. 120 youth completed the survey, covering our emergency shelters (Place and Satellite Hotel) and transitional housing site (Phoenix). The survey does not capture YOUTH Belong participants, where 100% self-identify as Black.

In November 2023, the Eva's team conducted our second annual youth survey to deepen our understanding of the demographics of those we support, ensuring our services align with their evolving needs.

The 2023 survey results underscore a significant increase in the number of Black, newcomer, and 2SLGBTQ+ youth seeking assistance from Eva's.

Top three survey trends



* A refugee is an individual compelled to leave their homeland due to persecution, war, or violence. A refugee claimant is someone within Canada who seeks protection by making a claim for refugee status.

Increased challenges for youth with intersecting identities

Issues such as racism, discrimination, homophobia, and transphobia intersect, significantly impacting youth with multiple identities.

Of the youth who self-identified as **2SLGBTQ+**

80%

also self-identified as **Black**

Building a New Life

An increasing number of newcomers are coming to Canada, seeking shelter from war, violence, persecution, human rights abuses, and environmental disasters.

Of the youth at Eva's who self-identified as a **refugee** or **refugee claimant**:

88%

also self-identified as **Black**

68%

also self-identified as **2SLGBTQ+**



⚡ *The sitter inspired this piece. I aimed to capture a moment in the subject's safe space, the kitchen. I followed them as they prepared dinner, witnessing the care and time devoted to creating a dish. The photo captures them looking out the window, reflecting on the warmth of their home. When looking at this piece, I hope you feel hope, safety, and warmth.*

REFUGEE YOUTH HAVE UNIQUE NEEDS

Eva's Satellite has undergone a transformation in recent years.

According to Senior Site Manager, Monique Thompson, Canada's first harm reduction shelter for youth has been called upon to almost exclusively support refugees or asylum seekers since the summer of 2022.

"For a lot of our youth, their first stop after getting off the plane is Eva's Satellite. They simply have nowhere else to go. Some are as young as 17 or 18 and may be fleeing persecution or forced marriages. They are leaving everything behind and starting from scratch."

Today, almost 90% of youth at Eva's Satellite self-identify as a refugee or refugee claimant. Within that group, 68% self-identify as 2SLGBTQ+ and 91% self-identify as Black.

Monique says the majority are from East Africa and notes that their needs are different from Satellite's previous residents.

"Newcomer youth are focused on immigration status and getting a work permit. Our case workers have learned how to apply for legal aid, find trusted lawyers, and navigate work permits and other newcomer documentation to provide the right support," said Monique.

Staff at Satellite have partnered with clothing banks, found a food vendor that specializes in Afri- and Caribbean food, and created connections with newcomer services, including interpreters, to help complete work permits and immigration documents.

Youth are also turning to each other for help. "Peer support is very powerful. They can learn a lot from others who have gone through the same steps. They're great at supporting each other," said Monique.

Once youth receive work permits, a housing worker helps guide them through living independently. Monique says that most newcomers are eager to move out of the shelter and often secure housing with a peer they met at Eva's.



Senior Site Manager,
Monique Thompson

"They're really open to learning and taking part in Canadian traditions and they just want to be able to stay here and be contributing members of society."



THANK YOU TO OUR DONOR COMMUNITY

Learn, Take Action, and Lead with Eva's


Our donor engagement activities and events offer supporters a hands-on opportunity to connect with our mission. By joining us on-site or at events, participants gain insight into our work and experience the direct impact of their support.

Donors and volunteers not only play an important role in supporting youth but also learn more about our anti-oppression and systems work.

Participants identified the following key takeaways from their sessions:

- ✓ The eye-opening realization that youth homelessness is often hidden in Toronto. In addition to living in shelters and encampments, young people are couch surfing and sleeping in cars and vacant buildings.
- ✓ The significance of equipping young people experiencing homelessness with essential life skills, such as financial knowledge, so they can thrive as they move on from the shelter system.
- ✓ Feeling empowered to pass on the empathy and understanding they gained during their sessions to their friends and family.

Thank you to all the individuals, corporations, foundations, and community partners who have supported our work this year.

 To learn more about the impact of your donations, visit [Our Financials](#) on [page 28](#).





EVA'S GOLF CLASSIC: A DECADE OF IMPACT

September 2023 marked the 10th anniversary of Eva's Golf Classic at the prestigious Glen Abbey Golf Course.

The event brought together leaders from the construction and real estate sectors, alongside foursomes made up of corporations, foundations, and community groups. Together, they enjoyed a remarkable day of golf, culminating in raising over \$280,000 in support of Eva's.

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to our dedicated volunteer committee, generous sponsors, and enthusiastic event participants.

Save the date for September 17, 2024, and join us in continuing to make a meaningful difference in the lives of young people at Eva's.



To learn more about our donor engagement opportunities and ways to support Eva's, email donate@evas.ca.



⚡ With each stroke, I wanted to capture the essence of living with ADHD and anxiety, where thoughts swirl in a kaleidoscope of colors. The erratic composition mirrors the unpredictable nature of these conditions. Yet, within the chaos lies a sense of familiarity and understanding. This piece offers a glimpse into the normalized chaos of my world.

HEALING TOGETHER: WELLNESS WEDNESDAYS HELP NEWCOMERS MAKE MEANINGFUL CONNECTIONS

During the fall of 2023, Eva's collaborated with partners CAFCAN, The Hub, Metrac, Sesheme, and Working Women to co-host Wellness Wednesday sessions in Scarborough. These sessions aimed to provide support for women residing in churches and shelters who arrived in Toronto as refugees and refugee claimants.

As Eva's focuses on intentionally supporting Black youth, this initiative presented an opportunity for us to address a pressing issue directly affecting the Black community. Many individuals facing this crisis are young people, and our commitment is to assist them with their specific needs.

The refugee crisis vividly demonstrates the impact of anti-Black racism on our community, particularly evident in the lack of housing and support for newcomers to Canada, predominantly from Africa.

Women are at the forefront of this crisis, and the Wellness Wednesday sessions served as a platform for them to heal and process, surrounded by community support.

These sessions provided an opportunity for women to contemplate their next steps in integrating into Canadian society. Their aspirations extend beyond relying on shelters and government assistance; they aim to build independent and stable lives in Canada. Additionally, this presented a chance for the young people associated with Eva's to contribute to this community through volunteer opportunities.

A heartfelt thank you to all who supported Wellness Wednesdays and the refugees and asylum seekers residing in Toronto churches by generously donating much-needed items. Your support is truly appreciated.



IT'S (STILL) ABOUT
MORE THAN JUST THE
NUMBERS

We served less youth last year. You might think this is a good news story, but it's not.



Emergency shelters have become longer-term housing stopgaps

As Toronto grapples with an affordable housing and cost-of-living crisis, youth experiencing homelessness are finding themselves stuck in the shelter system despite their strong desire and skills to transition to independence.

While we observed a decrease in the number of youth served at Eva's in 2022–23, this trend does not signify reduced need. We have increased our bed count, yet our shelters operate at full capacity each night, and youth are staying with us longer.

Young people are facing significant challenges as they navigate systemic issues beyond their control, keeping them in the city's shelters longer.

Addressing individual and systemic needs goes beyond numbers

Amidst these challenges, we are committed to supporting youth with both their individual and systemic needs. With the introduction of our Youth Journey Map (see page 24 for more), our focus moves towards more meaningful outcomes and less on outputs. We are prioritizing deep, sustainable work rooted in an Africentric approach.

Our goal is not merely to move youth through our programs but to take the time to address their specific individual needs. As the need persists, so does our dedication to making a lasting impact.

465 youth found shelter and safety at Eva's this year:

140

at Place

83

at YOUth Belong

70

at Eva's Phoenix

172

at Satellite

Of the young people at Eva's:

109

found housing


79

received follow-up supports after leaving Eva's

Learning: In 2022–23, we increased our bed count from 181 to over 200. Our sites are full every night, and the youth's average length of stay continues to grow.

For example, one of our emergency shelter sites' average length of stay went up from three to eight months last year.

The lack of affordable housing, higher cost of living, and lack of access to work permits for newcomers in our spaces all significantly impact youth's ability to access and sustain their independence.

 To learn more about the demographics of the youth accessing our services, visit [page 13](#).



In working with the youth at Eva's, we focus on ensuring that when they move on from us, they are not in a situation where they must choose between affording rent or food.

Evolving employment supports

Of the youth in our Youth Succeeding in Employment Program:

50

youth received employment supports

31

youth gained employment through the program and/or Eva's Print Shop

Learning: Our federal contract to deliver the Youth Succeeding in Employment Program (YSEP) ended in November 2023. We will continue to provide employment supports, focusing on addressing the unique challenges Black youth face with flexibility. Employment supports are offered not only through one-on-one, individualized case management but also through connecting youth to community resources.

Last year, we also partnered with Reimagine Labs to explore how to re-envision our employment services strategy to address the distinct needs of Black youth and newcomers. This work is helping us reshape how employment supports will be offered at Eva's.



Strong outcomes continue in YOUth Belong, our transitional housing program supporting Black youth

14

young people moved into independent housing

83

young people received rent subsidies

12

months, average length of stay

Learning: We saw an 8% increase in the number of youth transitioning to independent housing compared with 2021–22, which highlights the impactful efforts of our YOUth Belong and follow-up support teams. This increase also speaks to the impact of youth receiving rent subsidies.

As we face the housing affordability and cost of living crises keeping youth in our shelters and transitional housing programs longer, the YOUth Belong team has been able to make strong gains in helping youth move to independence.

Eva's YOUth Belong program provides tailored services recognizing the diversity of Black youth's experiences. The program prioritizes building partnerships with Black role models and fostering community connections across the GTA to create a safe, relatable environment for youth. Emphasizing financial literacy training and tenant rights through Rent Smart Training, we are working with youth to help them build the skills to thrive and potentially become homeowners.

Eva's Print Shop sees growth in program participants

36

youth participated in Eva's Graphic Communications and Print Training Program (JPEG)

82%

increase in Print Shop sales year-over-year

Learning: Eva's Print Shop is a full-service digital printer that offers training opportunities and valuable work experience in the graphic and print sectors for youth experiencing or at risk of homelessness. Profits are reinvested into providing shelter, food, and health and well-being support for the youth at Eva's.

During 2022–23, the number of youth participating in the JPEG Program increased by 33%, while the number of program graduates rose by 24%.



🔗 [Eva's Print Shop](#)

INTRODUCING EVA'S YOUTH JOURNEY MAP

At Eva's, we recognize systemic barriers like anti-Black racism significantly impact the lives of the young people we support. Our Youth Journey Map (YJM) serves as an Africentric blueprint for designing and implementing programs and services for Black youth.

In supporting Black youth experiencing homelessness, we can ensure our programs and services will be beneficial to all who need them, regardless of race or background.

Featuring principles like Nia (Purpose), Ujamaa (Cooperative Economics), and Kujichagulia (Self-determination), the YJM centres the youth's cultural heritage and individual challenges, empowering them as authorities in their own lives.

Breaking down systemic barriers and building community

By addressing how anti-Black racism and discrimination affect the social determinants of health, our model aims to dismantle barriers and empower young people to thrive. The YJM ensures our support is intentional and culturally responsive, guiding youth toward stability, housing, and independence. It acts as a tool for continuous evaluation and improvement, allowing us to remain attuned to the evolving needs of Black youth in Toronto.

Navigating life's challenges

"Young people desire agency over their futures, to make decisions for themselves. This model nurtures them while giving them the space to make mistakes," says Shequita Thompson-Reid,



Senior Director of Equity at Eva's. "Indigenous, Black, racialized, and 2SLGBTQ+ youth have had to grow up so fast and haven't had the room to make mistakes. In this model, they can do so in a safe environment while learning to navigate systemic oppressions."

The YJM supports Black youth in navigating the complexities of life with purpose and a network of resources. Shequita sums it up: "Eva's is the catalyst to building and broadening the young people's sense of community. Through our work together, they will build a strong sense of independence and support that will help them thrive for years to come."

"Our objective is to provide intentional, culturally responsive support for Black youth, facilitating their journey towards stability, housing, and independence."

— Shequita Thompson-Reid, Senior Director of Equity at Eva's

HOUSING SUPPORT IS SPRINGBOARD FOR SUCCESS

Reno was doing everything right.

He was the first to arrive at rental open houses. He'd have the first and last months' rent ready and all the information required. It wasn't enough.

"People would turn me down as soon as they saw me. Being a young Black man trying to find housing was very difficult. I felt very defeated," he said.

His time at Eva's changed everything, including the way he responded to systemic racism. From the moment he walked through the doors, he felt free to be himself and grow into the person he knew he could be.

"The life skills I learned, and the housing support I received at Eva's left an imprint. It's stuff I still use to this day: learning how to get and stay out of debt and save money, learning my rights as a tenant... I didn't know any of these things," he said.

At Eva's, Reno learned life skills and earned as many licences as he could, including one in security. Meanwhile, Eva's staff helped him overcome housing barriers.

"Staff members would come to viewings with me to see the conditions of where I was going to move into and help me advocate for my rights

as a tenant. They encouraged me not to give up, to keep going," he said.

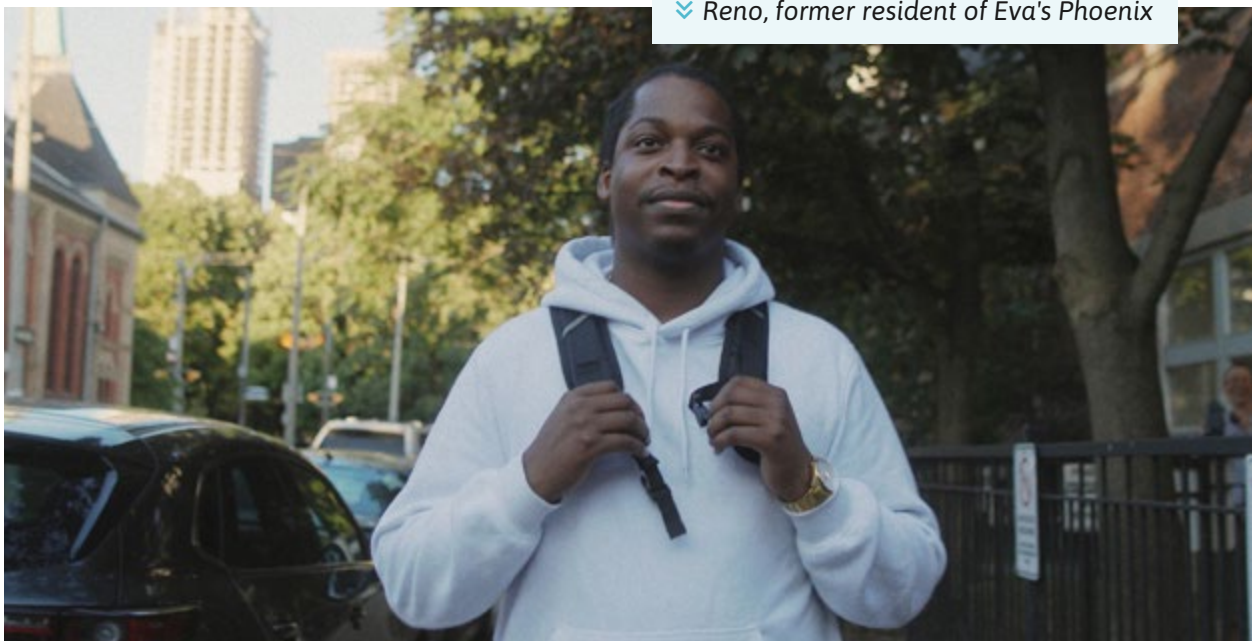
"Them wanting to experience what I was experiencing, that was motivation in itself. They see you, they work with you, and they want you to succeed."

In time, Reno got his first full-time role at a hospital in security. Within 18 months, he was promoted to supervisor. Today, he lives independently and is pursuing his passion for music, acting, and modelling.

He's proud of the person he is.

"I'm not ashamed of my story because it's what made me who I am today. I never gave up."

✦ Reno, former resident of Eva's Phoenix





⚡ I created this piece inspired by the growth process of flowers, reflecting our journey of evolution as individuals. Just as flowers face dark, rainy days and bright, clear ones, we, too, experience ups and downs, constantly evolving. I arrived at Eva's with an incomplete piece of artwork, and with the help of my peers and mentors, I was able to unleash my creativity. This piece showcases how persistence and self-belief can lead to creating something beautiful and unexpected.



BUILDING COMMUNITY IMPACT: EVA'S THRIVING PARTNERSHIPS

At Eva's, community lies at the heart of our mission. Guided by our founder Eva Smith's belief that "a community problem should have a community solution," we continue to develop partnerships to meet the unique needs of the young people we support.

In 2022–23, we expanded our community outreach, enhancing health and wellness programming through strategic partnerships on harm reduction and recreation with: Across Boundaries, Black CAP, FoodShare, Heron Park Community Centre, Kennedy House, MAAT Youth Innovation and Cultural Centre, Syme Woolner Neighbourhood and Family Centre, and Yonge Street Mission.



Employment Services and Development

Eva's fostered connections with diverse partners, bringing industry knowledge and personal experiences to the youth in our employment program.

We are engaging local and culturally relevant employers and networks (BBPA Black Business and Professional Association, ACBN Afro Caribbean Business Network, CBCC Canadian Black Chamber of Commerce, etc.) to identify competencies and supports for entry-level employees.



Social Enterprise Collaboration

Eva's Print Shop delivered entrepreneurial skills development workshops at the CEE Centre for Young Black Professionals, fostering employment development and networking connections.

These partnerships enrich our support services and embody our commitment to creating a robust and inclusive community for the youth we serve at Eva's.

OUR FINANCIALS

We are creating anti-racist and social justice solutions to youth homelessness.

Streamlined fundraising and increased revenue

After closing the 2021–22 fiscal year with a \$2M deficit, we saw significant improvements in our financial standing in 2022–23, ending the year with a planned deficit of \$100k.

The smaller deficit can be attributed to the following factors:

- ✓ A steady increase in our fundraising revenues year-over-year.
- ✓ Streamlining processes and improving efficiencies to reduce fundraising expenses.
- ✓ The City of Toronto approved an increase in funding for City-funded youth services. This adjustment helped bridge the revenue gap at Eva's Place and Phoenix sites.

How to read this year's statements

We've adjusted our financial reporting for the 2022–23 fiscal year to provide a clearer breakdown of support services and administrative costs while maintaining the same revenue categories. This year, under Government revenue, we've included all government funding sources, including site and program-specific support.

More support for youth programs due to administrative cost reduction

We are pleased to report that administrative costs have decreased this fiscal year. Prior-year investments in our administrative and equity work resulted in significant steps forward for the organization, allowing more fundraising dollars to be spent on programs.

This year, we're seeing increased funding allocated towards mission-focused work through investments in our youth and interdependent living programs. We have focused on embedding anti-Black racism principles and launching the Youth Journey Map as key priorities as part of our commitment to deliver equitable and inclusive services for the youth we serve.

YOUth Belong increases capacity

The City of Toronto increased our funding contract for YOUth Belong effective April 1, 2023, expanding our capacity from 50 to 65 beds. Our expenses increased accordingly, compared to the previous year when transitions temporarily paused move-ins.

Cents to the cause

We're thrilled to share the incredible impact of your support. In the past year, our administration and fundraising expenses totalled \$2.65 million, comprising only 21% of our total revenue. This efficiency means that for every dollar invested in Eva's, 79 cents go directly towards mission-focused expenses, driving meaningful change and transforming lives in our community. Your donation isn't just a contribution; it's a powerful investment in creating a brighter future for those we serve. Thank you for being a vital part of our mission.

Planning for the future

Eva's financial strength demonstrates mission fulfillment, responsible financial management, and long-term sustainability planning.



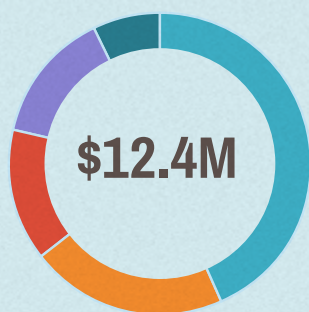
For Eva's full, audited financial statements, visit evas.ca/about-us/publications.

30%

Donors provided 30% of our total revenue, and the charts below include a breakdown of the donation streams received.

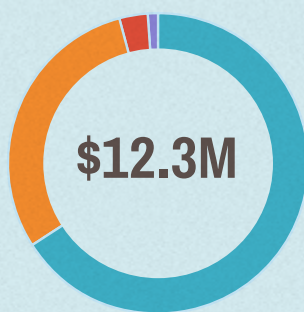
We are incredibly grateful to our donors for their support of anti-racist solutions to youth homelessness. Your contributions are integral to our work.

Expenses



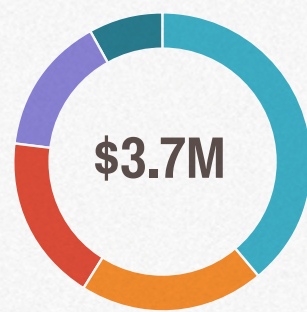
- 43% Shelter Services (Place, Phoenix, and Satellite)
- 21% Youth Programs
- 14% Administration
- 14% Interdependent Living (YOUth Belong)
- 7% Fundraising

Revenue

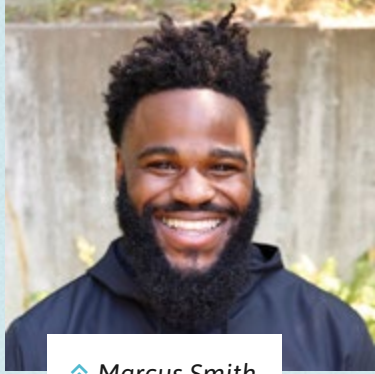


- 66% Government funding (Including Toronto Shelter and Support Services)
- 30% Donations, fundraising and grants
- 3% Eva's Print Shop Sales
- 1% Investment Income + Other

Sources of Donations



- 39% Foundations and Grants
- 20% Individual Giving (including Major Gifts)
- 18% Corporate
- 15% Community and Third-Party Events
- 8% Special events (Eva's Golf Classic)



⤴ Marcus Smith

A MESSAGE FROM MARCUS SMITH: STEPPING INTO TOMORROW'S PROMISE

As the grandson of Eva Smith, I am honoured and thrilled to share with you the exciting developments within our organization. Eva's legacy has always been a guiding light in my life, and it is with immense pride that I continue the incredible work she started.

Charting a bold course

Our new strategic plan has me excited. We're not just talking about it; we're actively backing Black youth with a level of intentionality that's both refreshing and impactful. It's a profound tribute to my grandmother's vision—a commitment to bold and vibrant action that mirrors her spirit.

Celebrating 30 years: A legacy unmatched

As we honoured the 30th anniversary of my grandmother's passing in December 2023 and the 30th anniversary of Eva's Place in April 2024, it has been a time of reflection and celebration. Three decades of unwavering support and impact, and a legacy that continues to grow.

Recognition on a national stage

One of the most powerful moments of the last year took place when MP Michael Coteau acknowledged Eva's contributions in the House of Commons. This recognition underscores the national significance of Eva's work and the lasting impression she left on our community.

Accepting the torch with confidence

As I step into the role of Honourary Board Member, succeeding my esteemed grandfather, Ed Smith, optimism abounds. We're not merely talking about change; we're actively infusing new energy into the essence of Eva's Initiatives.

I extend my heartfelt gratitude for your ongoing support. Together, let's forge a future that echoes the passion and commitment that Eva's Initiatives has represented for over three decades.

Warm regards,

Marcus Smith

Marcus Smith
Honourary Board Member,
Eva's Initiatives for Homeless Youth



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

This listing reflects our membership as of September 30, 2023.



For an updated listing of our Board of Directors, visit evas.ca/about-us/board-of-directors.

BOARD MEMBERS

Aisha Francis, Board Chair,
Director of Development and Communications, CEE Centre for Young Black Professionals

Jessica Hardy-Henry, Vice Chair & Chair, Nominations & Governance Committee,
Legal Counsel, Office of the General Counsel and Board Secretariat at Toronto Metropolitan University

Brian Baah, Nominations & Governance Committee,
Engagement Manager, Google

Rick Headrick, Nominations & Governance Committee,
President, Capital Group Canada

Yasmin Kassam, Nominations & Governance Committee,
Manager, Strategy, Ontario Health

Ogenna Maduekwe, Finance Committee, Associate Vice-President, Equality Fund

Stephen Redding, Treasurer,
Managing Director, Corporate Banking, CIBC

Michelle Wagner, Finance Committee, Director, Finance and Operations, Institute of Financial Services Education

David E. Witkowski, Secretary,
Lawyer, Torkin Manes LLP

Mariana Catz, SVP and Chief Innovation Officer,
Kids Help Phone

Theresa Donkor, Associate Lawyer, Rudnicki & Company

Nicoda Foster, Managing Director, University of Toronto

Peter Kalamvokis,
Managing Director, TD Bank

Jayan McPherson,
Principal Consultant, JM Consulting Inc.

HONOURARY BOARD MEMBERS

Ed Smith & Edeva Smith

EX-OFFICIO

Louise Smith, Executive Director

RETIRED 2022-23 YEAR


Thank you so much to the board members who retired in the 2022-23 fiscal year:

Louisa Benedicto, Executive Committee, Vice President, Hays Specialist Recruitment Canada

Nadine Watson, Nominations & Governance Committee,
Employment Lawyer, McDonald HR Law

Bethel Woldemichael, Past Chair Nominations & Governance Committee,
Consultant, Equity & Human Rights, City of Toronto

ON THE BACK COVER:

 **RISEN BY ARLINGTON LEONARDO MUNRO II**

*Fallen, appeased from persecution
who will protect us
make them crown, deny our
success and acknowledge
Perception guarded by human
refuse
a poisonous devil, ever quickly
ever quietly.
for our greatest hope is messy
for the lonely
for the humiliated
Risen.*

Fallen, absconded from prosecution
who will protect us

make them crown, deny our
success and acknowledge

Perception guided by human
nature

a poisonous dart, we quickly
ever quietly.

for our greatest hope is very
for the lonely
for the humiliated
seen.

Eva's Initiatives for Homeless Youth

60 Brant Street, Toronto, ON M5V 3G9

416-977-4497 | communications@evas.ca

Charitable Registration Number:

13223 9013 RR0001

    [evas.ca](https://www.evas.ca)



Eva's was recognized by Charity Intelligence as one of the Top 100 rated charities in Canada



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