



Connected People.  
Compassionate Communities.  
Philanthropic Future.

Impact  
Report  
2019

## YPI is made possible by our generous supporters across Canada

National Partner



Lead National Supporter



National Partner



Regional Partners



R. Howard Webster Foundation  
Fondation R. Howard Webster



Special thanks to YPI's participating independent schools for sharing the cost of their local grant with us!

## Awards





Dear Friends,

2018/19 was a big reminder to all of us, all over the world, that teenagers really care about what counts. And they care right now.

We see it every time we visit a YPI school. In 2018/19, thanks to our incredible community of educators, charities, and funders, we worked with 109 high schools across Canada to give 20,000 students the power, money, and responsibility to stand up for social issues that matter right now, and to award over half a million dollars in unrestricted grants to local charities providing immediate services, and contributing to systemic change.

What we've learned, and what we've measured, is how powerful young people are when you listen to them as real stakeholders in real issues in real time. When they have an opportunity to be ethical, not theoretical: they rise to the challenge. They teach their classmates, their parents, and their friends about big issues, like housing, discrimination, accessibility, employment, mental health, domestic violence, and hunger. Their visit with charity staff is like flipping on a switch. They become outspoken in their appreciation of our work, and of an entire sector they barely knew existed. They tell us they didn't know so many people cared, and that it makes them really proud of their community. They want to know what is being done right now, and what they can do to help.

We're in this together.

Teenagers are showing us that compassion, connection, and community are needed for a philanthropic future.

Thank you for being on this journey with us.



Holly McLellan  
Executive Director  
Youth and Philanthropy Initiative Canada



[YPI staff team](#) at a training by the Ontario Human Rights Commission

Heartfelt gratitude to our [2018/19 Board of Directors and Advisors](#):

Dr. Julie Toskan, MSM, OMC (Chair), Charles Achampong (Vice Chair), Rebecca Burrows (Secretary), Brenda Hogan (Treasurer), Hon. Myra Freeman, CM, ONS, MSM, Vince Pileggi, Stephen Steele, Noelle Sargeant, Chris Adjei-Bediako, Abir Shamim, Wei Wang (Advisor), Kristin Shearer (Advisor)



# ypi is an idea.

That grant-making can be inclusive and transformative for communities and young people.

# ypi is a program.

Where youth, schools, charities, and funders work together to support social services through grants & public awareness.

# ypi is a platform.

For motivating, deepening, and scaling meaningful interactions between people & the social purpose sector.





# A few highlights from 2018/2019

- Thanks to our incredible national and regional supporters, we grew the program by 10% in 2018/19, and added space for 2,000 more students.
- We worked with the team at Grantbook to launch a modernized, mobile-friendly and accessible website at [www.goypi.org](http://www.goypi.org)
- Et mais oui! Finalement! Thanks to our friends at Fondation du Grand Montréal, we now offer YPI's full curriculum, support resources, and website en français!
- In April 2019, as part of our commitment to supporting our growing number of francophone teachers, students, and charities, we welcomed our fifth team member, Mickaël Tirilly, Agent de programme principal (Senior Program Officer)
- Together with our Lead National Supporter TD Bank, and our regional partner, Hamilton Community Foundation, we piloted two special initiatives to direct more attention and funding for our YPI Finalist charities. In 2018/19, an extra \$27,400 was donated to 28 charities that were represented by YPI students at Finals in Toronto and Hamilton.
- YPI staff presented at multiple conferences and speaking engagements including: YouthREX, OHASSTA, Calgary City Teachers Conference, Philanthropic Foundations Canada, Nonprofit Technology Conference, Association of Fundraising Professionals, and Community Foundations of Canada
- We welcomed two youth (18-30) to our Board of Directors, including a YPI program alumnus
- YPI Canada was chosen as a client case study for Harvard Summer School's "Creativity and Organizational Success" management course in summer 2019
- We welcomed eight new funding partners across Canada, thank you for your support!
- YPI published our 2019-2024 Strategic Plan
- And of course, we personally visited 78 of the 109 schools, led 48 workshops, and ran a multi-award-winning program that connected over 160,000 people across the country!



Liked by sneh\_de and others

**hollymcjelly** The @ypi-cares team was stoked to spend time with our two newly elected directors, Chris and Abir, for orientation and lunch at the office yesterday! 😊 Welcome to the YPI Canada team, Chris and Abir!

# What We're Seeing

- **Student outcomes across all categories (cognitive, social, emotional) were stronger in 2018/19 compared to the previous year**

We have been taking a data-informed approach to identifying and providing targeted support to participating schools that need it most. Using this approach, we are working with teachers to develop best practices and strengthen learning outcomes for their students. We have also invested in our staff capacity to allow us to provide more hands on support.

- **Registered charities across the country are feeling the strain of scarce resources and the rising social deficit**

Demand for charitable services continues to increase, while donation rates are dropping across the country ([ImagineCanada](#)). Canada's social service charities make up 23% of organizations, they receive just 11% of the revenue ([CanadaHelps](#)). Charities winning YPI grants are increasingly reporting the need to apply at least a portion of this funding to keeping existing programs/services running.

- **Charities participate in YPI for the youth engagement over the potential for funding**

While competition for social services funding is high, the goals that motivate charity participation in YPI have not changed. Organizations are still motivated primarily by the desire to engage with younger generations and to raise awareness for their work and the social issues they confront; with the possibility to secure a grant or recruit new volunteers landing as lower priorities. In survey responses, charities spoke to the need to engage youth as active citizens and to involve them in the work of the social purpose sector if we are to ensure our communities remain thoughtful and generous.

- **We need to invest in supporting YPI's participating charities to have the best possible experience in the program**

While charities consistently report significant benefits from participating in YPI, 16% of survey respondents in 2018/19 were unsure if they would recommend participation to another charity. In July 2019, YPI worked with a team of Harvard students to dive into this challenge, and conducted interviews with key respondents. The major take-aways were: to help schools and charities to better coordinate the students' site visit requests, to build closer relationships directly with participating charities and to better report to participating charities the impacts they are contributing to.

- **A growing number and diversity of funders are joining YPI to support participatory youth grantmaking**

There is a growing conversation around the dynamics of power and privilege within the philanthropic sector, leading many funding organizations to reflect on their practices and to consider ways to democratize decision-making and shift power back to communities. Participatory processes like YPI are gaining attention as an effective way to make grantmaking more democratic, and we are thrilled to welcome progressive funders seeking to share power in this way with young people.





YOUTH AND  
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# Strategic Plan 2019-2024



## Vision

Canada's young people are included, empowered, and engaged in creating more compassionate and connected communities where they live, and a more philanthropic future for all.

## Mission

YPI Canada is growing connected, compassionate communities through our inclusive, multi-award-winning approach to youth-led participatory grant-making. By 2024, our goal is to grant \$1M annually to charities decided by 40,000 engaged and empowered youth, and to connect 350,000 Canadians each year around caring for social causes in their communities.

**Our value proposition: High-impact social investment for funders. Proven, one-of-a-kind program for schools. Next gen engagement for local charities.**

Increase funding, diversify revenue sources, and build a sustainable YPI granting model.

Deepen YPI's impact on youth and schools. Expand enrolment to new communities.

Increase YPI's value for participating charities. Leverage YPI for lasting community impact.

## Strategic Priorities

**PHILANTHROPY:** We aspire to be a strategic, high-impact partner for the philanthropic community.

Deliver excellent stewardship that maximizes impacts for funders, charities, and youth

Provide YPI as a strategic service for regional grant-makers, and a best in class SROI for national funders

Communicate YPI's leadership in participatory grant-making, and our role in addressing the social deficit

**EDUCATION:** We will steward award-winning program quality for high schools and youth, and invest in continuous improvement.

Support YPI educators to integrate best practices

Collaborate with peer organizations to enrich YPI's content, resources, and training opportunities

Monitoring, evaluation, learning, and improvement

Communicate YPI's impact on the education sector

**CHARITIES:** We strive to be a champion of local charities chosen by youth, and a collaborative, valued partner in support of their communities.

Build closer relationships with participating charities and local social sector networks. Understand needs, and leverage our resources to create more value.

Collaborate with local networks to connect YPI alumni to next steps for community engagement

Communicate impact created by charities and youth

**Organizational goals:** We commit to being a great place to work and to volunteer, and an active contributor to Canada's social purpose sector. We will maintain best practices in board governance, human resources, financial accountability and transparency, and fundraising. We will invest in our digital data infrastructure and communications tools. Robust monitoring and evaluation will be integral to continued improvement and sharing.

# How **ypi** achieves its results

We maximize **local public awareness** and support for charities.

We create the conditions for **authentic youth civic engagement**.

We contribute to systemic change by **developing compassionate systems thinkers**.



## Strong partnerships with schools

YPI's in-demand, fully-resourced educational project enriches school culture and satisfies a wide range of mandated curriculum objectives across the country. YPI staff and resources support schools and educators to embed YPI as a core experience for their students.



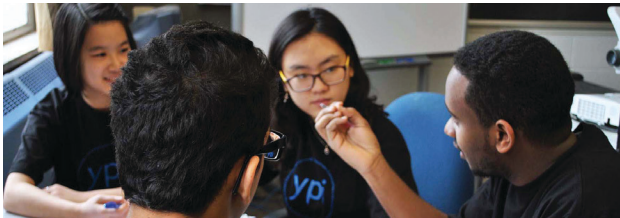
## Transformative site visits

YPI's charity site visits provide youth with an inimitable experience of empathy and personal development. Often cited as a pivotal moment in their lives, youth build relationships with professionals, volunteers and clients, and connect to the issues impacting their communities.



## Responsibility and decision-making

YPI prepares youth to make informed choices about their communities, and then respects their decisions. They decide which issues and charities are meaningful to them, then deliver thousands of presentations, teaching their family and school community about important social issues. Youth-majority judging panels select grant recipients.



## Value for local charities

YPI strengthens the social sector with significant grants, and by building bridges between people and charities. Charities engage with youth who become advocates for their cause, each student teaches 8-9 people on average. 90% will recommend charities to people in need of help.



## Critical skills development for students

YPI combines classroom learning and real community experience to develop core competencies in students, such as confidence, teamwork, leadership, presentation, communication, research and problem-solving skills.



## Monitoring, evaluation, and innovation

YPI's robust evaluation system monitors program quality, and tracks our progress across key outcomes. We invest in staff, ideas, and collaborations to accelerate and extend our impact at the local, national and international scales.





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# 2018-2019 National Impact

In 2018-19

19,756

**Students** built life-long skills and interest in civic engagement

By challenging youth to research and **advocate for local charities** for a chance to win a \$5000 grant, YPI **engages students** within their community to develop **skills in teamwork, communication & critical thinking**. What do people in a student's local community really need?

**YPI empowers them to find out for themselves.**

The data in this report is based on

6,024 **Post-program student surveys**

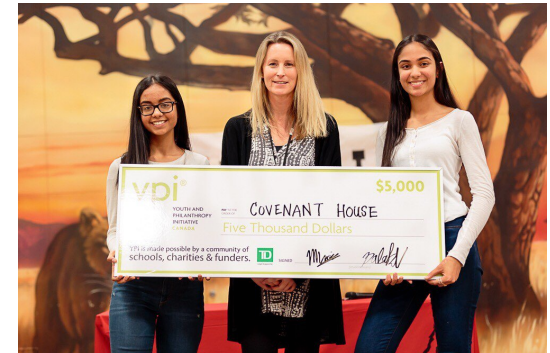
109 **Teacher surveys**

225 **Participating charity surveys**

90 **Grantee surveys**

\*YPI collects both pre-program and post-program survey data from students to evaluate outcomes. YPI collects pre-program data every three years; the pre-program data shown in this report was collected in the 2017-2018 year.


[Read More About YPI's Evaluation Framework](#)



*"I think that this YPI project was such an amazing opportunity for us to learn and educate not just our fellow students but also our teachers on the social issues we have here in our community. I got to learn so many things, like how these people behind the charities are basically the backbone of our community. I hope our school can do this project again next year to continue spreading awareness about the social issues in our community. And as a student who participated in the YPI experience, I would like to thank YPI for presenting this project to us and giving us such an amazing learning opportunity."*

– YPI student, Grade 10, 2018/19

Howe Sound Secondary School, Squamish, BC



***"One of the best experiences I ever had. I learned a lot throughout this process, it was a sad, emotional, and sensitive project, which taught me a lot of lessons about others and my community."***

**YPI Student, Vancouver BC**



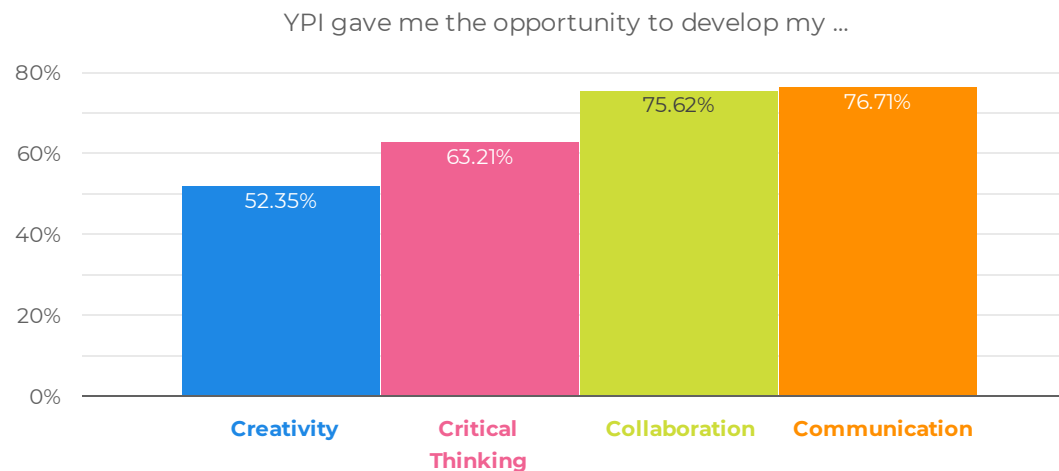
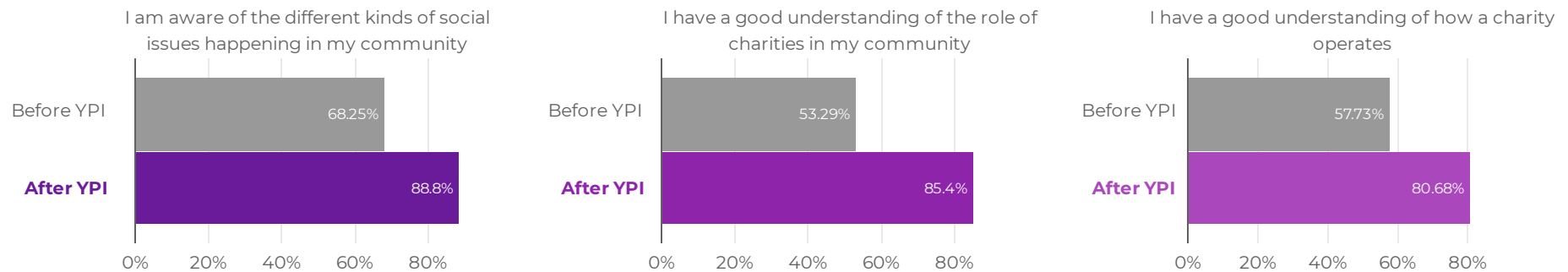
# Impact on Student Development **ypi**<sup>®</sup>

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At YPI, we measure cognitive, emotional, and social outcomes among participating youth through annual pre- and post-program surveys with students. It is our goal that youth develop the skills, character, and knowledge that are required for more compassionate communities and for meaningful civic engagement.

## Knowledge & Skills Development

The following data relates to the knowledge & skills that students developed through YPI. Here we've reported the percentage of students who agreed or strongly agreed with the following statements:



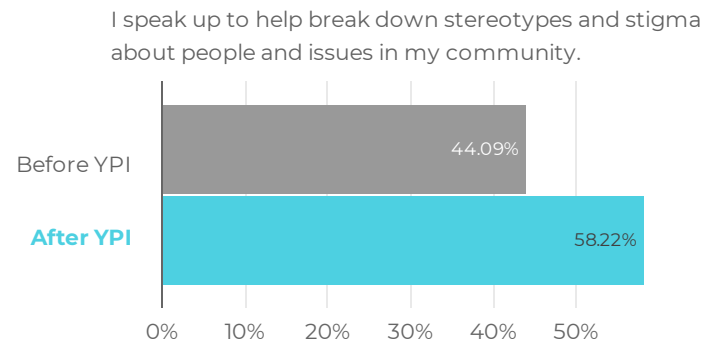
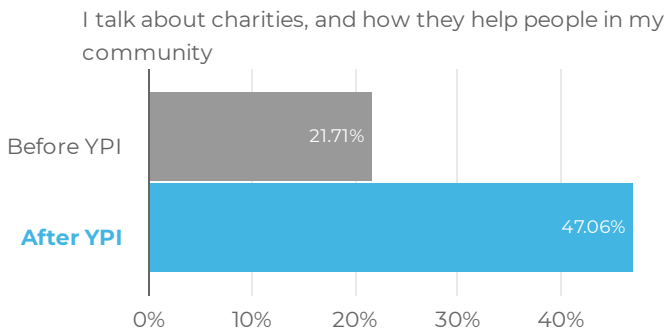
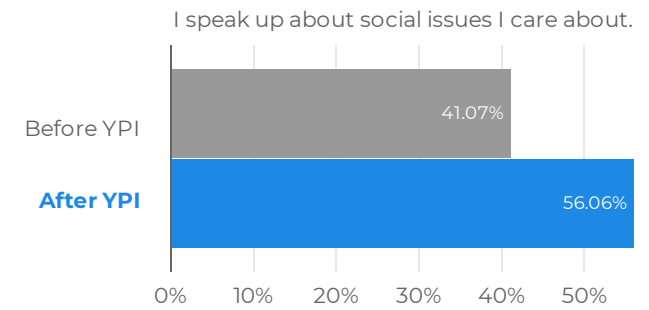
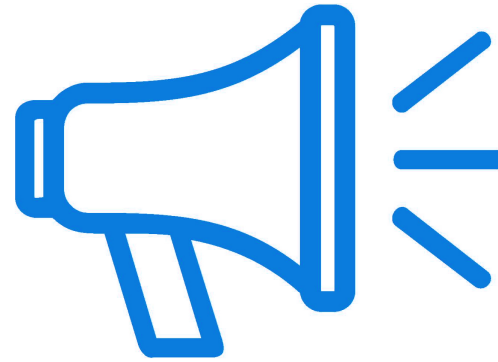
# 71%

**of students** report that they believe they will use the skills they developed through YPI in the future

# Social Development

The following data relates to the pro-social attitudes and behaviours that students developed through YPI. Here we've reported the percentage of students who agreed or strongly agreed with the following statements:

This year, students delivered **3,955 presentations**, and taught **139,811 people** about the local impact of social issues, and the work of frontline charities.



**"This experience has changed the way I think about life completely. I have become a lot more grateful for the things that I have."**  
YPI Student, Toronto, ON

**"If I ever know someone who is struggling with a mental health illness, I will recommend this charity to them."**  
YPI Student, Victoria BC



***"We plan on continue volunteering after we are done our YPI project. We want to do this because this issue is very close to home and very important to us. Some people are uneducated and uncomfortable about this topic and we want to raise awareness and spread what we've learned."***

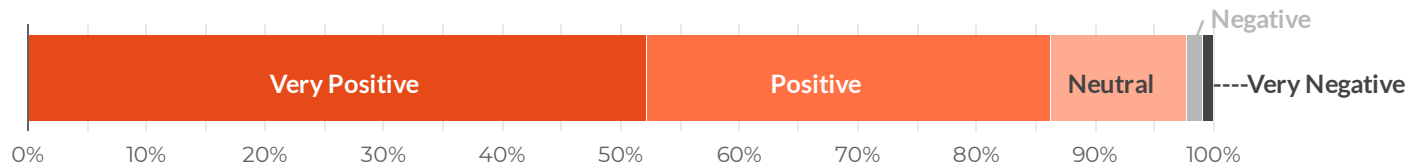
YPI Student, Longueuil QC (on the topic of LGBTQ+ inclusion)



# Student Engagement with Charities

Direct engagement with charity staff and/or volunteers is a key pillar of the YPI program. These responses relate to their experiences visiting those charities, and engaging firsthand with social issues.

Students overwhelmingly report having a positive experience when visiting local charities.



**42%**  
of students said "Yes" or "Likely" when asked if they would **stay involved** with the charity they visited

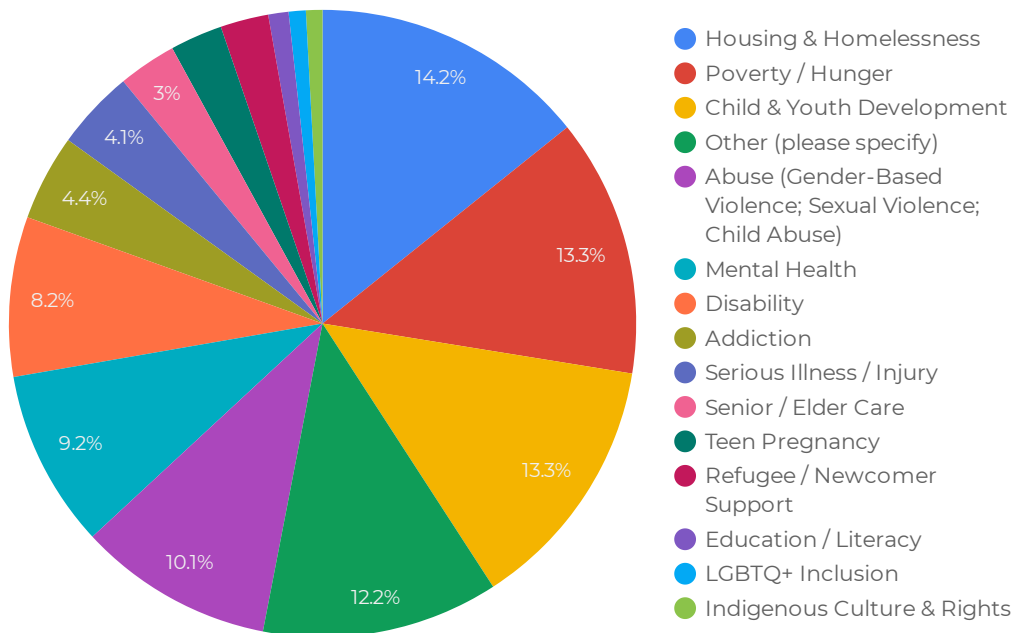
**"I loved the atmosphere and vibe when I was at the [charity], I felt like I was a part of the family. "**

YPI Student, Whitby ON

**"I plan on continuing to support the charity as a volunteer, and in the future becoming more involved as a board member! "**

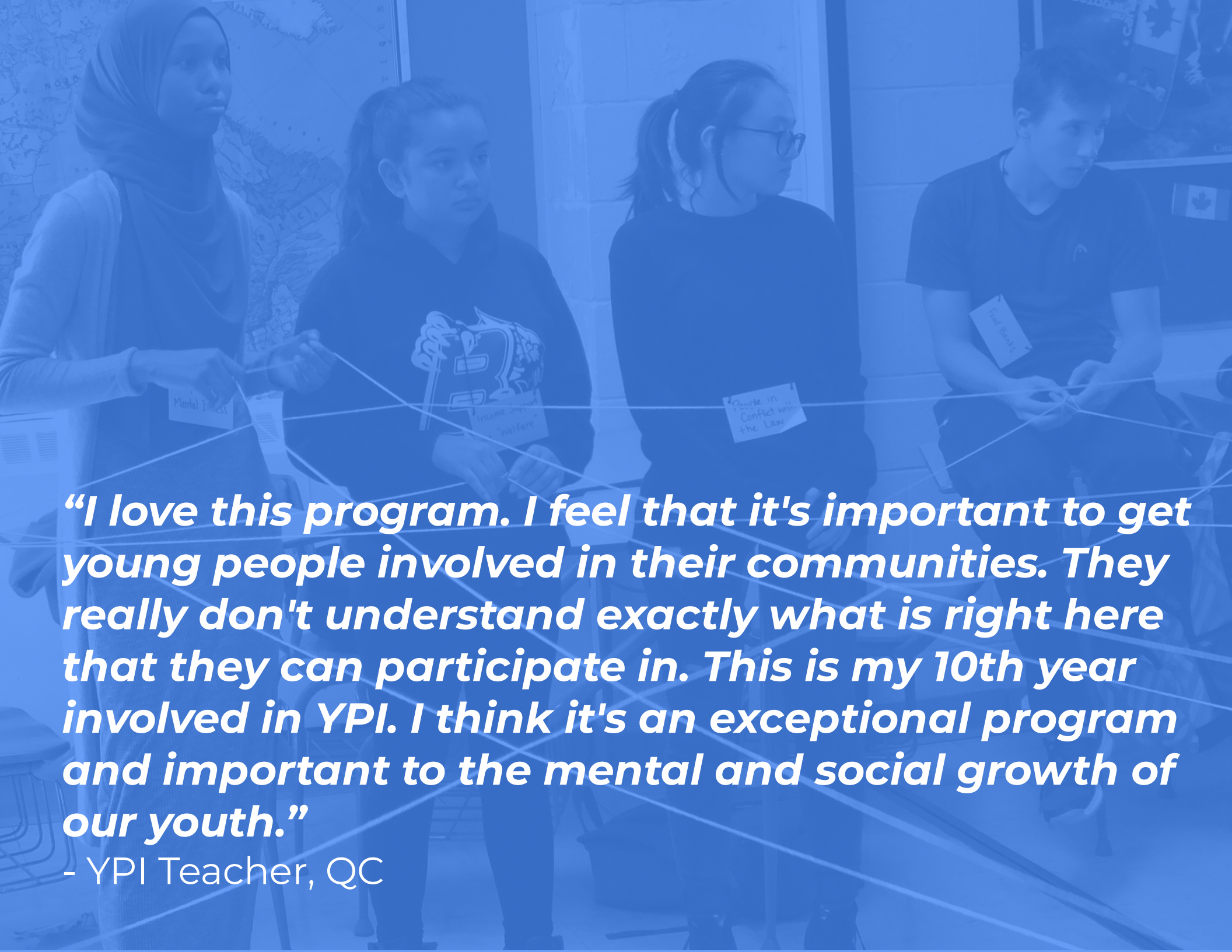
YPI Student, Kitchener ON

Students engaged around a broad range of social issues



YPI students join staff and volunteers at Footprints 4 Autism.



A blue-tinted photograph of four young people (three girls and one boy) standing in a room, participating in an activity. They are holding white string that is crisscrossing the frame. Each person has a small white card attached to the string. The cards have handwritten text: 'Mental Health', 'Income Support & Welfare', 'People in Conflict with the Law', and 'Food Banks'. The background shows a wall with a map and a Canadian flag.

***“I love this program. I feel that it's important to get young people involved in their communities. They really don't understand exactly what is right here that they can participate in. This is my 10th year involved in YPI. I think it's an exceptional program and important to the mental and social growth of our youth.”***

***- YPI Teacher, QC***



# Value for Participating Schools

**545 Teachers** were supported to enrich their curriculum with a unique project

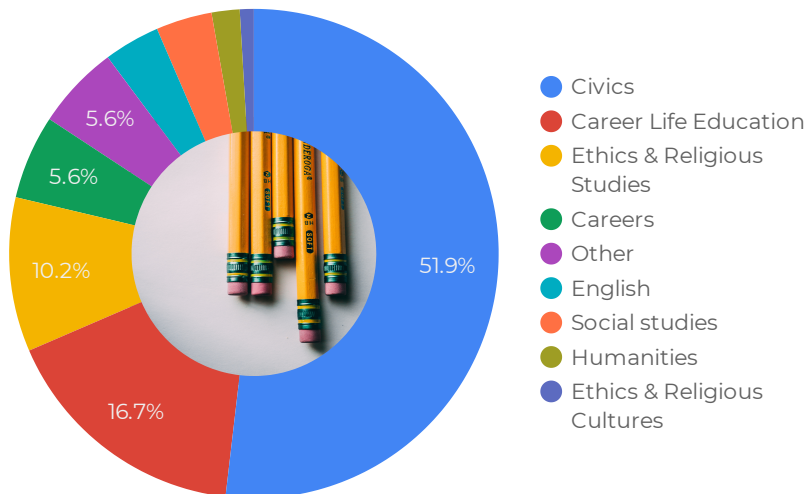
*"Thank you for creating this opportunity for youth, and for making it so easy and engaging for teachers to implement. It really matters and the impact will last a lifetime for many of these students."*  
- YPI Teacher, ON

YPI engages students to gain skills and understanding through an **extended inquiry process**, which is structured around **complex, authentic questions** and carefully designed outcomes and tasks. Through YPI, students participate in **Project-Based Learning (PBL)**, a student-led approach to education focused on the investigation of **real-world problems**.

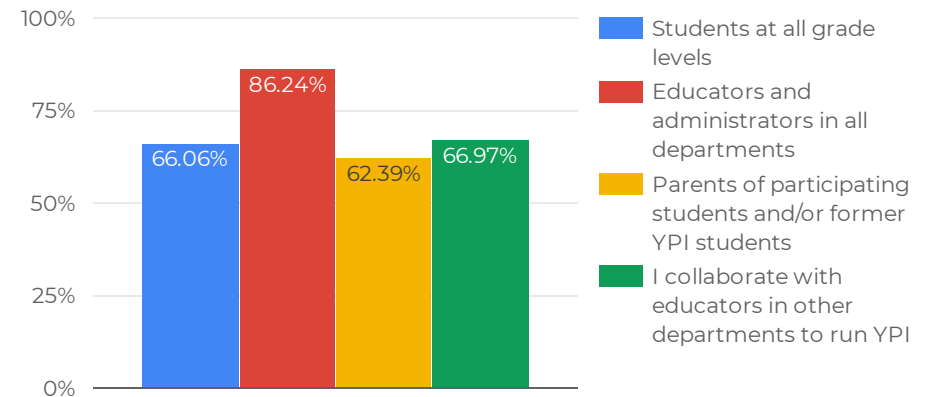
[Read More About YPI's Approach to Learning](#)

## Courses Where YPI was Implemented

YPI delivers on key curriculum expectations and mandated learning outcomes in many curricular programs. YPI is a flexible and versatile program, with elements that cut across curricular lines, making it an opportunity for inter-departmental collaboration between educators.




## YPI is widely known about and valued by...



"Some of my friends in Grade 8 were wondering what YPI is and so I told them, so they could prepare in advance. All of them are already looking forward to participating in it in Grade 9."  
YPI Student, Calgary AB





***"It is of great value and experience for both the charity and the youth walking through the process. This also allows for a great way to grow relationships between the organization, community, more importantly youth and their community. This also opens their minds to consider charitable work in their futures. "***

Participating Charity, BC



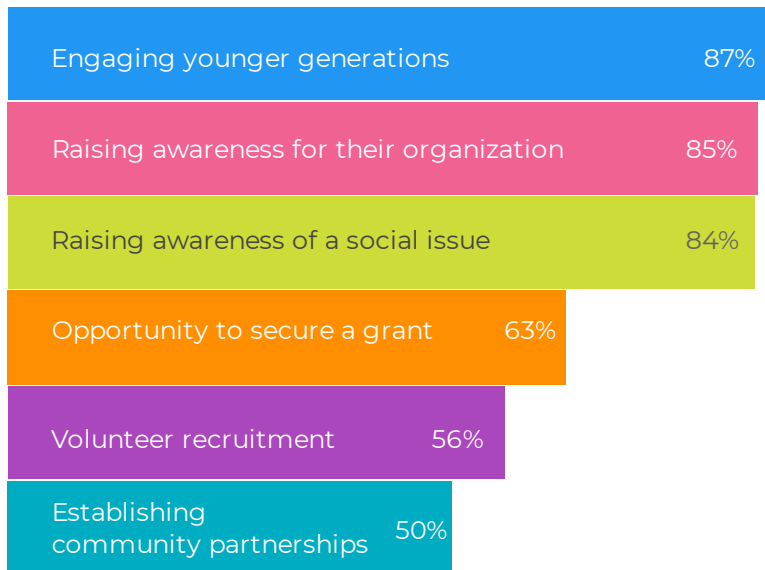
# Impact on Charities

Students  
researched  
more than

**1,675**  
**charities**

For many students, YPI visits are the first direct contact they will have with the charitable sector. Throughout the YPI process, students develop a better understanding of the size and scope of Canada's nonprofit sector, which has a significant effect on the ways they think and talk about the work of charities. The awareness raised by young people through their presentations is one of the key benefits charities cite to working with student teams, as well as strengthening relationships and drawing new supporters to their organizations.

## Top Reasons Charities Participate in YPI



*"It's a privilege to work with young people as much to have the chance to educate them as to see our organization through their eyes."*

QC

- Participating Charity,

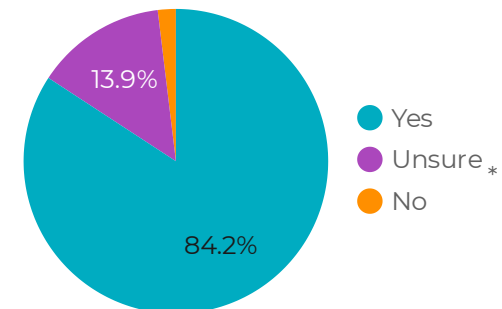


Students from Windermere Community School visit MOSAIC, a charity which provides settlement, employment and counselling services in Greater Vancouver.

*"YPI not only gives back to the community through meaningful grants, it motivates youth to play a role in the city where they live and educate themselves about the services available, and how they can support them. All of this strengthens our community overall."*

- Participating Charity, ON

## Would you recommend participating in YPI?



\*Many respondents provided feedback reflecting that there is a time commitment to participating in YPI, which may not be within the capacity of every organization.



# Impact on Communities

**109** grants awarded to charities

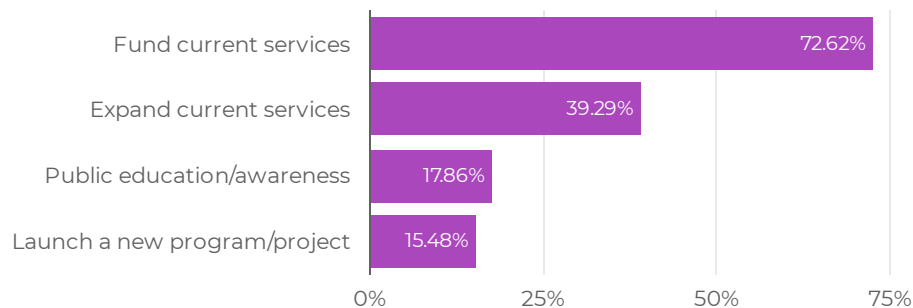
**\$545,000\*** in grant funding awarded to social service charities

**49,050** People impacted by charities who received YPI grants

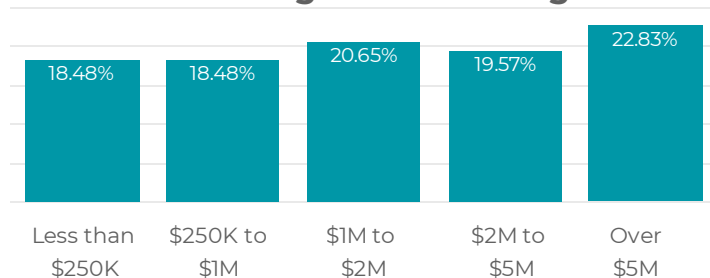
In a challenging fundraising environment, charities who received YPI grants report that the funding represented a very valuable and immediate relief to their operations. Because the funding is unrestricted, grantees were able to apply the grant to the area of greatest immediate need. For the majority of organizations this means funding for current programs or services, but YPI grants have also been used by many grantees to expand services, pilot new programming, or do community outreach they would not otherwise have been able to do.

[View All the 2018-2019 Grant Recipients\\*](#)

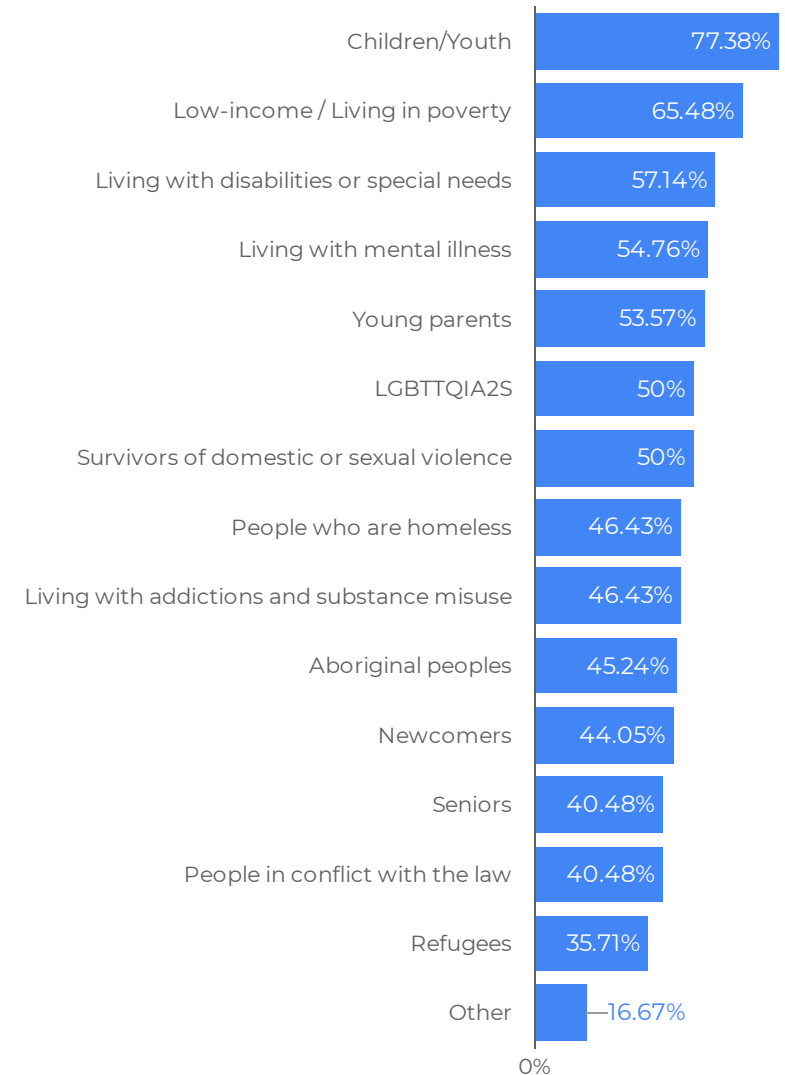
## How grant funding was used



## Grantees were distributed evenly across all sizes of organization budgets



## Population groups served by YPI grant funding



\*A total of \$552,000 was donated in grants in 2018/2019, with \$7,500 in extra funding awarded to finalist organizations through YPI.

***"This grant will help us fund our 24 hr respite service, for families living with a severely disabled child. It allows the families to take a break, recharge their batteries, to better welcome their child in a more relaxed environment. 5 000 \$ will allow us to offer approximately 30 days (including nights) of respite stays."***

- Fondation Centre Philou, Montreal QC

***"This YPI grant will cover the cost of our drop-in breakfast for 10 full weeks. We host the breakfast 6 days a week and it is open to anyone in need in the neighbourhood. It allows us to not only feed 30-40 people each day but, given that many who attend do so regularly, it allows us to check on how they are doing and provide additional services that they may require. It also provides a place to gather and sense of community for those who are struggling."***

- The Scott Mission, Toronto ON

***"The grant will allow 25 families to move from abusive homes to a safe location, with their belongings in secure storage. "***

- Shelter Movers, Toronto



# Case Study: TD Connected Communities Branch Engagement Program

Earlier this spring, employees from 41 branches of TD Bank Group, YPI's lead national supporter were invited to attend 16 YPI Finals as part of the TD – YPI Connected Communities Branch Engagement Program 2019. At the YPI Finals, branch managers and staff learned about local charities and social issues that were researched by YPI students through 80 presentations at 16 schools. The employees found out about great places to volunteer, and make an even greater impact in their communities by making their own branch level donations to 22 charities.

Since 2005, TD Bank group has worked with YPI to connect over 300,000 high school students to the people, social issues, and local charities of their communities, and to ask them to stand up for what matters in their neighbourhoods. Today, TD is YPI's lead national supporter and a leading funder of inclusive, community-based participatory grant-making worldwide, having granted millions to local charities based on the decisions of empowered youth.

***"The presentations were all so amazing and informative. I was able to learn more of the charities I know about of already and the ones I've never heard of before. I was really impressed by how passionate all of the students are about the charities."***

- TD Staff Participant



Ada Swierszcz, Good Foot Support Services and  
Josh Kew, TD Branch Manager



Vinyse Barber, Red Door Shelter and Aingeal Salas, TD Branch Manager

***"So proud of the students' amazing community work. I am thrilled to represent TD/YPI and saw so much work being done by our next generation across the country. Way to go!"***

- TD Staff Participant



# Case Study: Women4Change Grant 2019

***“This is such a good example of how young people can make such a huge difference in their community. By their actions, by their learning and by their voice, and just to be a partner in that is thrilling!”***

*- Sheree Meredith, Advisor, Philanthropic Services  
Hamilton Community Foundation (HCF)*



From left: Sharon Charters (HCF), Sheree Meredith (HCF and lead for the Women4Change Giving Circle), Alyssa Lai (Member of Women4Change Giving Circle), Amran Hassan Adam and Mariam Siyad (Secondary students in Hamilton), and Lily Lumsden (Senior Regional Manager of Employment, Education and Immigrant Services -YMCA Hamilton).

In June 2019, YPI collaborated with the Women4Change Giving Circle at the Hamilton Community Foundation to identify youth insights and recommendations into Hamilton area charities, to help their members decide where to make a donation. Six frontline Hamilton-area charities working to improve the lives of women and girls were selected by members of the giving circle for six Women4Change Grants. All six organizations were selected and researched by local high school students as part of YPI at five participating Hamilton Wentworth District high schools.

One of the recipients, the Newcomer Youth Centre of YMCA Hamilton/Burlington/Brantford, represented by two Hamilton grade 10 students Mariam Siyad and Amran Hassan Adam, hosted a special celebration and grant announcement at their office on 29th October, 2019. With their donation, the Newcomer Centre plans to host a special conference in spring 2020 for young women and girls, inviting local women leaders from the health, business and social services sectors to speak on the topic of careers and overcoming barriers to success.

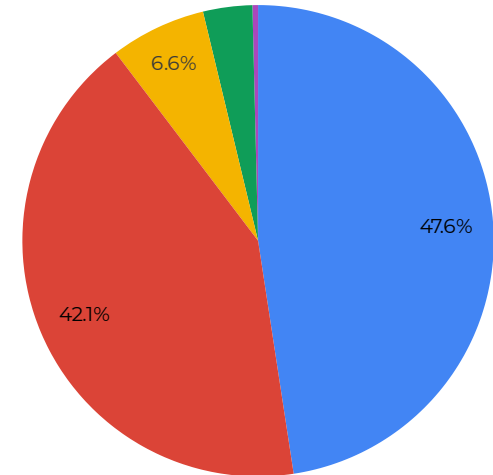
**Reading a digital copy of this report? [Click the photo or this link](#) to jump to a blog post and video from the event!**

# Financials 2018-2019

## Revenue

|                                  |           |
|----------------------------------|-----------|
| Corporate Foundations            | \$507,500 |
| Family Foundations               | \$448,903 |
| Community Foundations            | \$70,000  |
| Independent School Grantshares   | \$36,000  |
| Other (Individuals and interest) | \$4,091   |

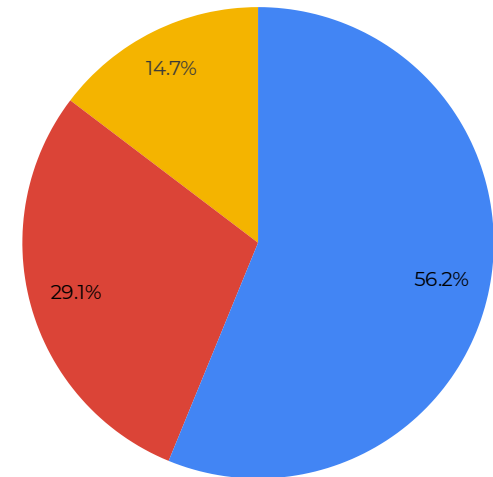
Total \$1,066,494



## Expenses

|                     |             |
|---------------------|-------------|
| Grants to charities | \$552,500 * |
| Charitable program  | \$286,436   |
| Administrative **   | \$144,269   |

Total \$983,205



\*Each YPI grant is \$5,000. Independent schools share the cost of their school's grant. In 2018/19, one school provided their \$2500 donation directly to the winning charity. An additional \$27,400 was donated to finalist charities in 2018/19, \$7,500 of which was directed through YPI.

\*\*Includes administration and fundraising related salaries

A full copy of YPI Canada's audited financial statements is available at [www.goyypi.org](http://www.goyypi.org).



YPI was created in 2002 by the Toskan Casale Foundation, and has been recognized as a best practice in the emergent field of youth philanthropy worldwide.

**2008 Outstanding Foundation Award**

*Association of Fundraising Professionals, Toronto Chapter*

**2010 Canadian Best Practice in Civic Education**

*The Institute for Canadian Citizenship*

**2011 Premier's Award for Philanthropy in Education**

*Government of Ontario*

**2014 June Callwood Outstanding Achievement Award**

*Government of Ontario*

**2014 Ontario Medal for Good Citizenship (OMGC)**

*for YPI Founder and President, Julie Toskan-Casale*

**2015 Honorary Doctorate in Civil Law, Saint Mary's University, Halifax**

*for Julie Toskan-Casale*

**2015 Youth Giving Advisory Member, Foundation Center**

**2016 Meritorious Service Medal (Civilian), Governor General of**

*Canada for Julie Toskan-Casale*

**2016 "Small Foundations, Outsized Impact" YPI a case study in a research paper on systems-level change**

**2017 "Genius: 100 Visions of the Future", Albert Einstein Foundation**

*Julie Toskan-Casale selected for 3D book*



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