

The link between affordable housing, hunger and development, especially in our children, is connected to the level of income of individuals and families



In order for a community as a whole to prosper it is necessary to break down the barriers that contribute to the increasing disparity of life situations within our society

Priorities & Gaps in Services

What our residents say

- ✚ Lack of children's recreational programming
- ✚ Lack of youth recreational, Social & employment programming
- ✚ Extended hours of the Community House
- ✚ Adult programs
- ✚ Employment programs

What House Coordinators have identified

- ✚ Full time child/youth workers working in the Community Houses
- ✚ Full time coordination of Community Houses
- ✚ Operating costs
- ✚ Administrative assistance
- ✚ Support for the Coalition

It is always easier, cheaper & more compassionate to prevent problems before they occur than to develop solutions after the fact

The Ottawa Coalition of Community Houses



A

Community Report Card 2004

This project was made possible by the United Way of Ottawa



Community Houses



An essential & distinct service

Building Strong Communities

- Community Driven
- Accessible
- A 1st point of contact
- A wide variety of programs & services
- Referrals & ongoing support
- Creative partnerships & leverage

Our Communities

- 66% of households support their families with some form of Govt. assistance
- 68% single parent families
- 66% under 25yrs
- Multiculturally diverse populations
- Over 50% of families do not have English as a first language
- 53% of residents have lived less than 5yrs in their communities

Poverty

Isolation

Lack of mobility

The struggle to meet basic needs on a daily basis

Difficulty to access programs and services outside of the community

Unfamiliarity with resources & how to access them

Cultural and language adjustments

Working Together

Community members are experts in their needs, hopes & dreams of their community...

- 80% of residents access their Community House
- 50% on a weekly basis
- 20% daily
- 78% of households believe that Community Houses are important to the quality of life in their communities.

...it can be beneficial to act together to achieve results & all community members have skills knowledge & abilities to contribute