



Date: APRIL 2018
Event Name: Christmas in November 2017
CHARITY UPDATE - Foundry Kelowna

Kelowna Corporate Branch's 4th annual signature fundraiser "Christmas in November" has definitely found its stride and has entered the "Galas not to be missed" category in Kelowna.

Each year a charity is selected and the FUNdraising begins. Our 2017 event raised \$70,000 in total with \$50,000 went directly to "Foundry", an innovative integrated wellness center where youth aged 12 to 24 to find hope, help and the support they need under one roof. Our donation was one component of a large fundraising initiative supported by multiple donors from our area raising millions to get this project off the ground.

In April 2018 a team of representatives from our office attended the Foundry Progress Update which provided a snap shot of their first six months in operation. The "panel style" presentation included reps from The Canadian Mental Health Association, Foundry, our local School District and a mom who has 2 children suffering from mental illness. The panel provided great insight into the impact that this innovative program has created and some impressive stats (see below). The most impactful statement provided by the mom accessing services was that Foundry "is a bucket of awesome" and that it has saved 2 lives and a marriage.

It was a proud moment to know our contribution played a small part of this blossoming success story. From September opening until March 31st:

- 900 Youth visited Foundry
- 2,793 total visits to all services
- 65% accessed services for the first time
- 12 to 15 youth accessed walk-in counseling each day
- 46% are 19 to 24
- 31% are 16 to 18
- 23% are 12 to 15
- The top 4 services sectors being accessed are
 - 30% Mental health
 - 21% Walk in Clinic
 - 18% Physical health
 - 11% Substance Use

Foundry continues to fundraise and is starting some really progressive initiatives working towards a mobile unit.

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