

Pathways to Possibility
Celebrating Youth and Families



2025-2026

New Path Youth and Family Services
Annual General Meeting Report

CEO and Board Chair Report



Jim Harris

Chief Executive Officer

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jim Harris".



Laura Kloosterman

Board Chair

A stylized handwritten signature in black ink.



Our reflection on the past year begins with a meaningful milestone, our 25th anniversary. This moment provided an opportunity to honour the vision and determination of those who established New Path, the strength of our partnerships, and the dedication of the staff and volunteers who continue to bring our mission to life.

As we look ahead, this year's theme, Pathways to Possibility, reflects our purpose. Each day, we work to create safe, supportive, and meaningful pathways that help young people and families move forward, achieve their goals, and realize their potential.

We extend our sincere appreciation to our staff. Your professionalism and compassion are felt in every interaction. You bring both expertise and humanity to your work, support one another, and keep young people and families at the centre of every decision.

We also thank our Board of Directors for your steady leadership and guidance, and our funders, donors, and community partners for your continued investment in this work. Together, we strengthen the network of care and expand what is possible for those we serve.

This year marks the completion of our 2022-2026 Strategic Plan. In the months ahead, we will begin shaping our next plan, engaging partners, listening to lived experience, and responding to emerging needs.

As we move forward, our focus remains clear:

- Continuing to prioritize quality, compassion, and staff wellbeing
- Strengthening partnerships across our communities
- Advocating for the resources young people and families deserve
- Finding new and innovative ways to reach people earlier and coordinate care more effectively

To everyone here, we thank you. Whether you have been part of New Path for many years or are newly connected, your involvement matters.

As we mark 25 years and look ahead, we invite you to continue walking with us, opening doors, building bridges, and expanding Pathways to Possibility for the young people and families we serve.

With gratitude,

Jim and Laura

Who We Are



New Path Youth and Family Services (New Path) offers a range of free and accredited mental health services for children, youth, families and caregivers in English and en français across Simcoe County.

Counselling support is offered by appointment, in-person, by phone or online and can be made up to two weeks ahead of time and often, on the same day.

Book an appointment on our website: www.newpath.ca or by calling: 705-725-7656

We will work with you to answer your questions, guide you through the services that are available, and match you with support that best meets your needs.

Because Mental Health Can't Wait

Our Vision, Mission and Values



Vision

Healthy, thriving and connected communities that support personal growth and well-being.

Mission

Through leadership and partnerships, we ensure that children and youth have integrated, accessible, and inclusive mental health services when and where they need them.

Values

Our values are the guiding principles that shape everything we do. They inspire us to create a supportive, inclusive, and nurturing environment for those we serve and those we work with.



Compassion



Adaptability



Inclusivity



Engagement



Quality



Collaboration

Celebrating our commUNITY Artists

This year, we once again partnered with the MacLaren Art Centre to offer the commUNITY Art Project. This series of free, hands-on creative workshops were designed to bring youth and families together in an activity to support mental wellness through the power of art.

Throughout this report, you will discover this artwork which reflects participant's unique interpretations of hope, growth, and wellness, with the colour green as the central theme.

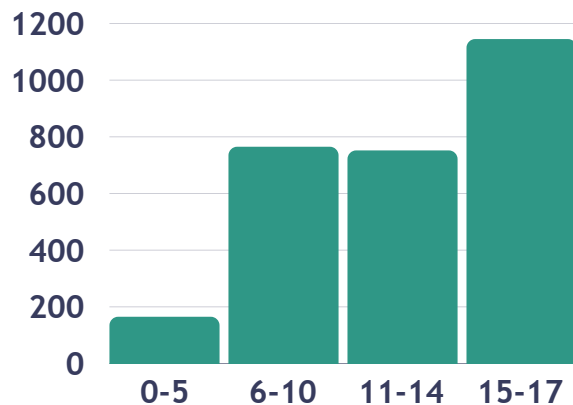


We are so grateful to Heljar and Karen Hansen of Pratt Homes Barrie for their generous support in making this initiative possible.

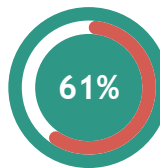
Our Impact

At New Path, we are dedicated to delivering high-quality, evidence-based mental health services and supports to children, youth and their families in an environment that promotes accountability, transparency, and trust.

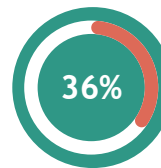
Last year, 3192 children and youth, their families and caregivers accessed mental health services. Of these, 2827, were under the age of 18.



Ages of the 2827 children and youth who accessed our services last year.



female



male



other gender identities including transgender, gender non-conforming or non-binary

Please note that some children and youth preferred not to answer. Their responses were not included in the percentages above.

A total of 10,790 sessions/contacts happened April 1, 2025 to March 31, 2026.

82% in-person sessions

18% online or phone sessions

Service Highlights

New Path Renews Accreditation

We are proud to share that our agency successfully renewed its accreditation through the Canadian Centre for Accreditation (CCA), achieving full compliance with all 60 mandatory standards and all 29 leading practice standards. This accomplishment reflects our strong commitment to quality across the organization. We extend our sincere thanks to our Accreditation Committee for their guidance and support and, most importantly, to our dedicated staff whose professionalism and compassion make this work possible.





Expanded Circle of Security Partnership

Through support from the Knowledge Institute's Innovation Initiatives, New Path expanded its partnership with Dnaagdawenmag Binnoojiiyag Child and Family Services, integrating Circle of Security Parenting with Indigenous teachings. The addition of Foundational Theraplay, using joy and play as powerful tools, supports healing from intergenerational trauma and strengthens family bonds. We are grateful for this strong partnership and for the opportunity to support Indigenous families to thrive.

Enhancing Services

As part of our commitment to accessible and responsive care, we introduced a stepped care approach within our Quick Access Counselling Clinic, enhancing our ability to align services with client needs in a timely and effective way. We are also using the HEADS-ED tool to guide triage, helping ensure individuals are connected to the right services at the right time.

Responding to Community Needs

We remain focused on supporting staff and investing in evidence-based practices to achieve strong outcomes for those we serve. We are enhancing implementation efforts to ensure fidelity to these models and provide staff with the tools and supports they need. Our staff continue to demonstrate exceptional adaptability, collaboration, and responsiveness, ensuring we meet the evolving needs of our community.

Family Engagement



New Path remains committed to engaging families in an equal and active partnership and embedding the family voice in all that we do.

Family Support Program (FSP)

The FSP supports family participation in New Path's clinical services and as a standalone program based on the family's needs. FSP workers have lived experience in services and hope to use that experience to support families with resources and community connections, while working on goals identified by the caregivers. This can include recreation and school support to mental health and food/housing supports.

Better Together Peer Support Group for Parents & Caregivers

Our peer support group meets monthly during the school year, providing families with a safe space to connect, share experiences, and access helpful resources.

“ Our FAC has had a meaningful year nurturing New Path's engagement philosophies & practices! The collective efforts of our family partners, staff, and Board advisory members have continued to provide important pathways that ensure family voice is celebrated, that their experiences and input matters and that the work has impact where it counts.

Family Advisory Committee (FAC)



FAC members and staff actively contributed to initiatives that strengthen equity, youth wellbeing, safety, and family support across the organization.

Strat Café

Family members participated in this annual event and indicated that it was an inclusive event where they felt heard and seen.

Safety Signage

FAC provided input on language for signage promoting safety in waiting areas.

Screen Time Tool

Supported a project exploring youth screen use and co-developing a tool tailored to rural Simcoe County.

Food Insecurity

Accessible snack bins were made available in all offices to better support families.

Safer Spaces Training

Our Family Engagement Lead participated in training that supports consistent, inclusive, and affirming care across the organization.

Youth Advisory Committee (YAC)

New Path is committed to engaging youth as equal and active partners in decision making and ensuring youth voice is embedded in all that we do. Youth voice and choice is key, and through the past year, our YAC has had:

Opportunities for Feedback

Throughout the year members of our YAC have been able to share youth perspectives and have their voices heard on matters that directly impact services offered by New Path.

Some examples include:

- co-creating an EDIB Commitment Charter
- offering feedback on waiting room safety signage that promotes workplace safety and reduces the risk of workplace violence for staff
- reviewing the Client Safety Plan template to ensure it is client centered and uses youth friendly language



Opportunities to Participate

Over the course of the year youth from our YAC have been able to get involved and participate in agency related events and trainings.

Some examples include:

- our Youth Engagement Lead (YEL) attended our agency's Safer Spaces Training
- YAC and Youth Facilitators for Risks and Relationships attended and participated in the annual Strat Café to showcase the work they do throughout the year
- YAC members through their association with the New Mentality planned a Senses Coping Kit activity to share information about mental health
- YAC hosted a New Path table at the MacLaren Art Center for the commUNITY art project opening exhibition, Kempenfest, the Dragonboat Festival and a local high school
- our YEL attended a provincial youth engagement opportunity at Disable the Label and Against the Current



Our Team

Together our staff, students, and partners continue to create pathways to possibility for the children, youth, and families we support. Over the past year, we have nurtured hope, encouraged growth, and witnessed transformational journeys that remind us why our work matters so deeply.

This year, we welcomed 22 new members to our New Path community, each helping to strengthen our network of care, ensuring everyone feels supported and valued:

- 10 Staff (7 Frontline, 3 Support Services)
- 3 Relief Workers (2 Placements Students also joined the Relief team)
- 10 Students
- 1 Youth Worker through the Canada Summer Jobs Grant

We now have 22 staff members marking 20 years of service or more this year!



Our Committees

New Path's 10+ Committees and Working Groups drive progress by strengthening inclusivity, enhancing experiences, and keeping the organization aligned and responsive.

The Performance Evaluation Working Group

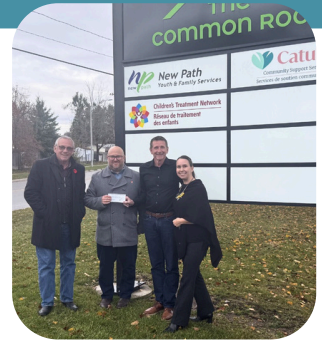
This Performance Evaluation Working Group has been hard at work reviewing individual, group and Strat Plan Café feedback. Together, they refined the Performance Evaluation tool to better reflect our agency values and enhance our strengths-based, collaborative approach. After consulting with BambooHR, the group is also exploring an electronic version to improve goal tracking and reduce administrative workload.

The Evidence Based Practice (EBP) Committee

This Committee has been working diligently to promote consistency and effectiveness in implementing EBPs across programming at New Path. In collaboration with frontline staff and leadership, the Committee has developed training plans that include timelines for ongoing training as well as implementation and maintenance plans for continual use of EBPs. In addition, the Committee has re-evaluated and co-created updated Fidelity Tools, incorporating valuable feedback from frontline staff to better support their learning and implementation of EBPs. The Committee remains committed to ensuring clients and families receive the highest quality of care at New Path.

On behalf of the Board and the Management Team, thank you to all staff and students for your unwavering compassion, commitment to inclusivity, and active engagement. Through your adaptable, high-quality work, you continue to open pathways and possibilities for the children, youth, and families who rely on us. Thanks for helping to ensure New Path is a great place to receive services and to work.

Our Funders and Donors



Our Provincial Funding

New Path is funded through the Ministry of Health (MOH), the Ministry of Children, Community and Social Services (MCCSS), and Ontario Health (OH) to offer free, accessible, and accredited child and youth mental health services to children and youth, their families and caregivers across Simcoe County.

We are also thankful to receive support from Royal Victoria Regional Health Centre, The Knowledge Institute, The Government of Canada, Medavie, Children's Mental Health Ontario, Waypoint Centre for Mental Health, and The City of Barrie.

Thank you!

We would like to express our deepest gratitude to the many businesses, schools, service partners, and individuals who generously give their time, resources, and support. Your kindness, through in-kind and financial contributions, truly make a meaningful difference in the lives of children, youth, and families across Simcoe County.

Connecting with Our Community

...to the Barrie Baycats for including us in their Kids to Camp fundraiser help-jays baseball camp this summer! 🙌
 ...ika, our Manager of Communications, had an amazing time working out F45 Training with an awesome community. We're grateful to be part of an event that makes a real difference for local kids!
 #NewPath #KidsToCamp #CommunityStrong #GivingBack #NewPath #Love #Fundraiser #MakingADifference #WorkoutForACause See less



...at #COMMUNITY = MAGIC 🪄
 ...beyond grateful to everyone who attended our FREE COMMUNITY Art Workshops at the vie Public Library and MacLaren Art Centre last weekend! Thank you for sharing your time, ability, and joy with us. These moments are what COMMUNITY is all about. ...More creative fun ring up this Sunday for our very last and full workshop.
 commUNITY #FreeWorkshops #CreativeBarrie #ArtsAndCulture #StrongerTogether See less



...rocks! It for child and youth mental health! Great work team! #PlayingForComm.



...in our People and Culture Manager and LU alumni, Tara Powers, a placement and employment opportunities at New Path! Onwards and Up, mpus, January 27th 10am - 2pm. Learn more about our student placement www.newpath.ca/careers-student-placements/... #NewPath #Community #



...for child and youth mental health at New Path! On top of that, the team won the Charity Challenge Cup with a time of 1:30:52! A special thank you to our incredible photographer J! Check out all the incredible pictures on our website: <https://newpath.ca/barrie-dragon-boat-race/> See less



...ve Path, teams continue to reflect on what it means to create more inclusive, re-compassionate spaces. @From our IT team to Live-In Treatment and Youth and Family Ales, staff shared that this work is grounded in empathy, communication, respect, and understanding in how we show up for one another and for the youth, families, and caregivers we serve. These conversations don't begin and end in one week or one month. They are ongoing, evolving, and part of how we continue to grow as an organization. We remain committed to learning, reflecting, and taking action together. #ITSTARTS WITH COMMUNITY See less



...ful to Girls that Give Barrie for their generous donation to New Path You. Your contribution helps us provide youth and families in our community with all health supports they need to thrive. 🙌 We're truly grateful for your commitment, a difference. #GirlsThatGive #CommunityImpact #Gratitude #YouthWellness #New



...ts to the @barriebaycats on your win last night! What a fabulous game! Our New Pa... of a great time handing out SWAG and chatting with everyone about our services. #ProKids #NewPath #Community #EventHealth See less



 SUBSCRIBE



@NewPathYFS



Our Board and Leadership Team

We are so grateful to New Path's volunteer Board of Directors!

Board Chair

Laura Kloosterman

Board Vice-Chair

Tim Gronfors

Board Past Chair

Desiree Burke

Audit Committee Chair

Rick McHale

Board Development Chair

Amanda Palermo

Board Governance Chair

Meghan Gray

Directors

Dale Boyle

Carina D'Amato

Shannon Dawson

Kulbir Dhaliwal

Megan Forget

Shannon Kelly

Agnes MacLachlan

Gobind (Richie) Singh

Stephen Zborovski

Our Leadership Team

Jim Harris, CEO

Maureen Armstrong, Executive Assistant and Board Liaison

Lisa Cluett, Director of Services

Bijumon (Biju) Peter, Director of Operations and Planning

Tara Powers, Manager of Human Resources

Magda Montagnese, Manager of Continuous Quality Improvement

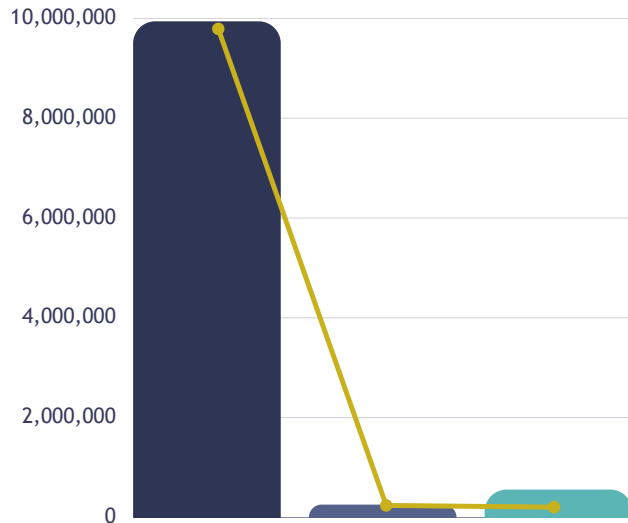
Kim Moreau, Manager of Finance

Mahendra Patel, Manager IS and Network

Dominika Zapolnik, Manager of Communications

Revenues and Expenditures

New Path Sources of Revenue



Budget: —

● **Ministry Funding (MOH, MCCSS, and OH)**

Actuals: \$9,940,240

Budget: \$9,740,963

● **Other Operating Grants**

Actuals: \$258,059

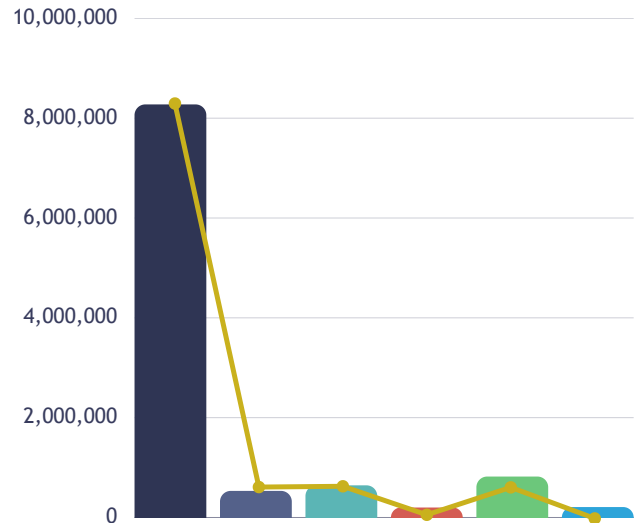
Budget: \$280,364

● **Expenditure Recoveries, Investment Income, and Other Income**

Actuals: \$558,978

Budget: \$245,849

New Path Expenditures



Budget: —

● **Salaries & Benefits**

Actuals: \$8,275,609

Budget: \$8,258,823

● **Purchased Services**

Actuals: \$532,515

Budget: \$660,317

● **Building Occupancy**

Actuals: \$643,939

Budget: \$644,891

● **Repairs & Maintenance**

Actuals: \$199,731

Budget: \$94,794

● **Program and Administrative Costs**

Actuals: \$820,043

Budget: \$638,981

● **Other Expenses**

Actuals: \$208,860

Budget: \$22,575



Because Mental Health Can't Wait

New Path has office locations across Simcoe County. Our goal is to ensure children and youth, along with their families and caregivers can access child and youth mental health supports when and where they are needed, in-person, by-phone and online in English and en français

Learn more on our website: www.newpath.ca

or give us a call: 705-725-7656 or toll free: 1-866-566-7656

