



*The Place ...  
For New Beginnings*

**2008/09  
ANNUAL REPORT**

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## 1. BACKGROUND

The Saskatoon Downtown Youth Centre Inc. - EGADZ has been operating a Youth Centre in Saskatoon since April 2<sup>nd</sup>, 1990 that has become better known as EGADZ.

The development of the Youth Centre began in 1988 with discussions regarding “hard to serve” youth among various agencies under the catalyst of the City of Saskatoon, Leisure Services Department.

Initial discussions determined that there was a need to collaborate among several agencies to address the needs of “hard to serve” youth. The agencies agreed that there was a need to address programs in the following areas:

- Education and Life Skills
- Health and Counselling
- Food and Shelter
- Recreation/Leisure/Culture
- Employment and Work Readiness

Within these areas it was determined that a Drop-In Youth Centre was needed that should include two significant mandates: hangout **space and recovery therapy**. All of the various agencies involved were already addressing some aspect of “hard to serve” youth and wanted to work together to take a leadership role in providing alternative programs for “hard to serve” youth.

Following several months of dialogue, a survey of “hard to serve” youth was conducted through the inter-agency group, through this initiative some conclusions as well as a working definition of “hard to serve” youth were established.

## 2. TARGET POPULATION

The initial inter-agency group formed to address the problem of youth hanging out downtown. The survey they undertook gave information on gaps in services provided by existing agencies as well as identified still unmet needs. The inter-agency group agreed to define “hard to serve” youth as follows:

### ***Definition of “Hard to Serve”***

“Hard to serve” youth shall mean youth, less than 20 years of age, who hang out more than three days a week downtown and are addicted to the streets although they may not live on the streets. They are “at risk” of being non-productive members of society and live in an “at risk” environment. Their lifestyle indicates they do nothing of quality in their leisure time.

*Conclusions were drawn from these discussions and the survey results included the following:*

The Saskatoon community has a significant percentage of its youth who would be considered “hard to serve” youth, which translates to approximately 2000 individuals based on demographic information.

The issues and needs of this target population are complex with diverse social problems that require a variety of programs and services.

Youth hanging out in the downtown core are not confined to any single cultural or ethnic group, however youth of First Nations and Métis decent have certainly edged out other ethnic populations.

A long-term strategic approach in helping youth identify their dysfunction and recovery process is required as there is no quick fix to the problems many youth face. It was worthy to note that a “band aid” solution was deemed unacceptable as it could jeopardize a successful long-term strategy.

Many “hard to serve” youth are not being reached by existing services.

Over 70% of the youth surveyed affirmed that they felt a need for a Youth “Drop-In” Centre located in the downtown area.

**Approach:** It was determined that an interagency, non-profit organization known as the Saskatoon Downtown Youth Centre Inc. – EGADZ should be developed to set up a “Drop-In” Centre that would be established in downtown Saskatoon with an emphasis to address the issue and needs of “hard to serve” youth.

**a) Drop-In Component:** It was deemed that the Youth Centre provide a place where youth could spend time with their friends, away from an “at risk” street environment. Alternative leisure lifestyles would be introduced to the target population so that a change in the quality of their leisure time could occur.

**b) Recovery Therapy:** The Youth Centre would become the catalyst for recovery programs that would assist “hard to serve” youth in finding more productive solutions to the issues and needs in their lives that caused a gravitation to an “at risk” lifestyle.

The uniqueness of this approach is to have each agency that works with “hard to serve” youth become involved with the Centre to allow the Saskatoon Downtown Youth Centre Inc. – EGADZ to be better equipped in identifying and initiating therapeutic treatment for this target population, through other agency and staff participation.

From opening day April 2<sup>nd</sup>, 1990 to the end of the 2008/09 fiscal year EGADZ has always seen a fluctuation with respect to the number of youth attending the Centre.

### 3. VISION, VALUES AND MISSION STATEMENT

#### ***A) Vision***

The Saskatoon Downtown Youth Centre Inc. - EGADZ is a community based inter-agency organization that provides resources and actively supports services that empower “hard to serve” youth to help themselves to reach their full potential. The Saskatoon Downtown Youth Centre Inc. - EGADZ provides a safe acceptable place for “hard to serve” youth with links to their families, with support of the community. The Saskatoon Downtown Youth Centre Inc.- EGADZ believes in having youth involved in expressing their needs and determining services they require in order to meet them is paramount.

#### ***B) Values***

- We value youth and their potential including their right to be heard and to self-determination.
- We value a holistic approach of seeking harmony and balance in the lives of individuals.
- We value community support and assistance in addressing the needs of “hard to serve” youth.
- We believe in the basic human rights and equality rights regardless of race, religion, gender, ability, age and socio-cultural status.
- We value staff, volunteers, and board members.
- We believe in respect for others, property, and the environment.

#### ***C) Mission Statement***

Our mission is to encourage “hard to serve” youth in the city of Saskatoon to make choices that improve their quality of life through the provision of direct services and an inter-agency approach.

### 4. STRUCTURE OF THE ORGANIZATION

There are three ways agencies may be involved with the Saskatoon Downtown Youth Centre Inc. – EGADZ:

#### ***A) Board of Directors***

#### ***B) Executive Committee***

#### ***C) Associate Agencies***

#### ***A) Board of Directors***

The Board of Directors of the Saskatoon Downtown Youth Centre Inc. - EGADZ is made up of government and non-government agencies that have a vested interest in “hard to serve” youth. A member agency is one that provides a service to the target population by way of direct service at the Centre, direct referral to their agency’s program(s), or through direct funding for the operation of the Centre. One representative from each member agency together forms the Board of Directors. Thirteen member agencies comprised the Board of Directors in 2008/09.

The Saskatoon Downtown Youth Centre Inc. - EGADZ is a registered non-profit registered charity organization. The Board of Directors is in place to set policy and regulate the operation of the organization and all it entails.

#### **Board of Directors 2008/09**

- City of Saskatoon - Community Development
- Federation of Saskatchewan Indian Nations
- Friendship Inn
- Greater Catholic School Division
- Indian Métis Friendship Centre
- Inner City Council of Churches
- Ministry of Social Services
- Ministry of Corrections, Public Safety & Policing
- Saskatoon District Health - Public Health Services
- Saskatoon Police Services
- Saskatoon Tribal Council
- The Public School Board
- The Partnership

#### ***B) Executive Committee***

The Executive Committee is comprised of a Chairperson, Treasurer, and two Directors at Large who are Board member representatives that are elected for set terms in accordance of the organizations Constitution. The Executive Committee oversees the daily affairs and business in addition to providing direction and supervision for the Administrative staff of the Centre.

#### ***C) Associate Agencies***

The Saskatoon Downtown Youth Centre Inc. - EGADZ does provide both on and off site services and programs, however EGADZ does seek to utilize agencies from within the community that have services and/or programs specific to needs and issues of youth that can be a positive and beneficial resource. Associate agencies are not represented on the Board of Directors.

Some examples of Associated Agencies of the Saskatoon Downtown Youth Centre Inc. - EGADZ in 2008/09 are as follows:

- Child Hunger and Education Program
- Saskatoon Curbside Recycling
- Child Find
- Mobile Crisis
- Alcoholics Anonymous
- Narcotics Anonymous
- Angus Campbell Detoxification Centre
- Westside Community Clinic

#### ***D) Administration***

The administration of the Saskatoon Downtown Youth Centre Inc. - EGADZ is carried out by core staff positions within and outside the Centre, performing specific duties/functions necessary to the daily operation on the Centre.

#### ***E) Core Staff for 2008/09***

There are two areas of staffing and support assistance at the Saskatoon Downtown Youth Centre Inc. - EGADZ.

##### ***1) Core Staff***

##### ***2) Support/Volunteer Staff***

Core staff positions at EGADZ are funded through the Provincial Government (Ministry of Social Services). Core staff people are the anchor for all the Centre program components.

Support and volunteer staff include casual staff, and individuals from our community who provide their time and talents in various ways that are of benefit to the youth and the organization.

##### ***1) Core Staff***

**Executive Director** - This is the Chief Executive Officer of the Centre. The Director is responsible to oversee the daily affairs and business, in addition to offering direction, support and supervision for staff of the Centre.

**Administrative Assistant** - This person provides daily support to the Executive Director, coordination of the Administration office, including bookkeeping, as well as fund raising efforts for the Centre.

**Client Services Coordinator** - This person is responsible for the coordination of both on/off site services/programs and staff specific to the Drop-In Component, Street Outreach, Operation Help, and "My Homes".

**Youth Workers** - These people are responsible for the delivery and supervision of services, programs and the youth in the Centre and the "My Homes", and all it entails.

**Custodian/Maintenance** - This person provides maintenance and custodial services for the Centre, in addition to overseeing youth who attend the Centre through the Fine Option - Community Services program through the John Howard Society.

**Street Outreach** - These people provide day and evening referral, advocacy, and support services through night street patrols and daytime follow up services.

The purpose of the EGADZ Street Outreach program is to connect and empower youth so they can gain skills that will allow them to assume control of their lives and become responsible

contributing members of our community. Until youth are able to accomplish this, Outreach staff support those they encounter to stay as safe and healthy as possible while they exist in “at risk” behaviours and lifestyles.

Outreach staffs attend the streets seven late nights per week via an Outreach van in order to connect, build and maintain trusting relationships with young people on the streets. Outreach staff is able to provide immediate services to youth as a means of connecting such as nutrition, clothing, printed information, condoms, referrals and support. Relationship building with youth is always ongoing as many if not most of the young people encountered have experienced many situations where their confidence in adults has been betrayed. Outreach staff is able to gain the confidence of the youth they see through consistent support, guidance and services that include them in the development of their own case plan.

\*Street Outreach Program details on page 19 of this report.

### **“My Homes” – Youth Housing**

Since October 1998 the Saskatoon Downtown Youth Centre Inc. – EGADZ began operation of homes one for 16 – 17 year old females (“My Home” 1) and another for 12 - 15 year old females (“My Home” Too) that provides housing and supports for 5 individuals in each home.

The “My Homes” housing has expanded since 1998 to include 5 additional homes, 4 for females and 1 for males. The “My Homes” concept is based upon a Youth Centred Model with the main focus of the program being centred on the youth developing into a functional citizen through progressive growth and moving forward at some point into an independent living situation.

The “My Home’s” are designed as regular home environments that provide youth structure and support for an undetermined period of time as they acquire the necessary skills and confidence that increase their successes in transitioning, given the life experiences of many this can be long term.

\*“My Homes” details on page 25 of this report.

### **Operation Help Program**

Operation Help is an innovative, non-traditional inter-agency approach to the issue of the sex trade in Saskatoon. The principles associated to Operation Help focuses on alternative measures through the installation of positive support mechanisms to encourage lifestyle change.

The Operation Help program is delivered through a partnership comprised of EGADZ, Saskatoon Police Services, the Ministry of Social Services, Aboriginal Court Workers Program, volunteer lawyers, and a much respected Elder who all come together in an effort to effect positive change in lifestyle circumstance(s) of those caught up in the Sex Trade.

\*Operation Help Program details on page 22 of this report.

## **School Support Program**

The School Support Program is designed to assist and support youth who are having difficulties attending, maintaining, and/or reintegrating into an educational placement. Many of the program participants have experienced behavioural, legal, home, literacy and truancy issues. All of which are factors that impact their education.

The purpose and objective of the School Support Program are to provide the best possible assistance and support to youth, their family, and educators. It is known that a large ability of growth and success in a person's life is achieved through education and diverse interaction; this is best obtained through attending school. The School Support staff offer increased support, supervision and inclusion of youth in their case plan, the opportunity to decrease the risk of breakdown of school/home placement of youth has proven to be effective.

The School Support Program is contracted and supported through the Department of Corrections, Public Safety & Policing that allows for the accommodation of 12 individual youth at any given time on a year round basis. Youth are referred to the program through the Department of Corrections and Public Safety - Young Offenders Division.

\*School Support Program details on page 28 of this report.

## **Day Support Program**

The Day Support Program is an intervention program for youth who have lost their existing educational placement and require an alternative avenue to stabilize as part of a means to re-integrate into a school placement. The program's main objectives are to stabilize and then advocate for the youth to find a school placement, assisting their family and other involved agencies. With increased support, supervision and inclusion of the youth in their case plan, the opportunity to decrease the risk of any future school breakdown has proven effective.

The Day Program is contracted and supported through the Provincial Department of Corrections, Public Safety & Policing that allows for the accommodation of 12 individual youth at any given time throughout the year. Youth are referred to the program through the Department of Corrections, Public Safety & Policing - Young Offenders Division.

\*Day Support Program details on page 31 of this report.

The School and Day Support programs while separate programs are linked through shared youth and objectives, and are overseen by one Coordinator with three staff.

## **Teen Parenting Program**

The Public Health Agency of Canada - Community Action Plan for Children (CAPC) contracts EGADZ to develop and deliver a Teen Parent program for youth in the City of Saskatoon. The Teen Parenting program provides youth with individual and group support as well as sessions

that assist or build skills that will better equip youth in their role as parents. The program is based on promoting healthy lifestyle that is taught through group exercises in addition to guest presenters who share their expertise in parenting and life skills development.

Teen Parenting Program details on page 33 of this report.

## ***2) Support Staff***

### **a) Practicum/Work Experience Students**

EGADZ provides work experience placements for students from various educational programs that consist of one day per week to six months in duration. Students receive hands on training and experience in an environment with a target population with which they are seeking to work with upon their academic completion. Upon completion of their placement students are provided with an evaluation done with their instructor and an EGADZ staff member.

Students provided placements at EGADZ attend programs such as Saskatchewan Institute of Applied Sciences and Technology - Youth Care Worker Program, University of Saskatchewan, University of Regina, and University of Saskatchewan - Registered Nursing Program.

### **b) Volunteers**

The Saskatoon Downtown Youth Centre Inc. - EGADZ was fortunate to have 7 active volunteers throughout 2008/09 who provided their time, energy and talents to the youth.

Volunteers at EGADZ like anywhere else offer an invaluable direct service to the organization and more importantly to the youth. Volunteers provide the following at EGADZ:

- Role model for youth
- Support staff person for outings with youth
- Play sports and games with youth
- Tutoring youth with school work
- Supervise social areas at the Centre

Prior to becoming a volunteer a person must:

- Submit a satisfactory criminal records check
- Submit a completed application form
- Undergo a reference check
- Attend a formal interview and orientation meeting

Training is provided to volunteers through in-service and other training that staff participates in whenever possible.

### c) Judicial Fine Option/Community Service Hours

Youth who come in conflict with the Justice system are often given Fine Option or Community Service hours as disposition/condition of an undertaking. EGADZ provides a placement opportunity for youth to work off their hours at the Centre performing a variety of tasks in all areas.

## 5. POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

Policies and procedures of the Saskatoon Downtown Youth Centre Inc. - EGADZ cover the operation of the Centre with respect to the following topic areas:

- Strategic plan
- Values policy
- Dignity and respect policy
- Hours of operation: regular and holidays
- Age restriction: minimum and maximum
- Behaviours and respect: consequences, abuses, building, property and language
- Crisis situations: housing, medical and suicide
- Safety: parents, health, abuses and weapons
- General information: role of agencies, donations etc.

A copy of the Policy and Procedures Manual is made available to each new staff member, and is reviewed annually.

## 6. FACILITY AND PROGRAM OPERATIONS

### *A) Facility*

The Saskatoon Downtown Youth Centre Inc. - EGADZ is situated in the downtown core of the city at the corner of 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue and 24<sup>th</sup> Street. It is distinguished by the red and yellow banner sign at the front entrance. The building provides 22,000 square feet of space over three levels. A large parking lot is located on the north side of the building and is utilized for outside activities such as basketball, volleyball, sidewalk games, hockey and large event gatherings. A large deck with a wheelchair ramp fronts the south side of the building.

The main floor affords a social area where contact is first made with youth. Tables and chairs are set up in a coffee house atmosphere to allow youth to mingle or observe. A foosball table, ping pong table, pool tables, other furniture and a stereo system round out the social area. A lounge area with television is set up for movie nights, watching the news and playing video games.

The Drop-In area hosts two computer areas that were made possible through Industry Canada. Youth are able to access the computers to surf the net to working on school assignments, resume writing to seeking training/employment opportunities.

Posters, calendars of events and other happenings, in addition to youth art work decorate the walls throughout the building.

The Centre is afforded a great kitchen that is utilized for the daily supper program that is coordinated by on site staff, and is also utilized by most all other program areas at EGADZ.

The main floor area houses other program offices that include: Client Services Coordinator, Youth Worker/Street Outreach, Teen Parenting Coordinator and the My Homes.

The basement level houses a small combative type area which offers space for indoor floor hockey as well as other activities such as pow-wow drumming, and dance. There are also showers; laundry area, clothing depot, fitness area, art room, donated items room, storage space and a maintenance area complete the basement.

The top floor houses the main administration offices, School and Day Support program offices, Multi-purpose meeting room, Teen Parenting Play Area, and infant/toddler clothing depot in addition to other storage space.

**Hours of Operation: 2008/09**

**Administration:**

Monday through Friday 8:00 am - 5:00 pm

**Drop-In Component:**

Monday through Friday 3:30 pm - 9:00 pm

Saturday 1:00 pm - 9:00 pm

The aforementioned hours are based on the school calendar and are expanded during the summer from 1:00 pm - 9:00 pm. Youth are able to access services and/or programs at anytime throughout the week that meets their need(s).

**Formal Agencies:**

Monday through Friday 9:00 am - 5:00 pm

This time is available to other service providers and professionals to attend the Centre to meet/connect with a youth in a neutral and for the youth comfortable setting.

**Street Outreach Program:**

Monday through Friday 9:00 am - 5:00 pm

This time is utilized providing support, follow up and advocacy service for youth.

Monday through Saturday (Street Patrols) 8:00 pm - 1:00 am

Sundays 4:00 pm - 12:00 pm (Street Patrols)

## ***B) Key Areas of Operation***

It is clear that young people in venturing to the downtown for the first time are in a position of extreme vulnerability to the negative influences and aspects of our society, for which they can easily become caught up in destructive lifestyles that they feel no hope of ever getting out. Even when youth are experienced with street life they still require support, guidance, assistance regarding their health (physical/mental), education, leisure activities and life skills training. EGADZ has through its direct involvement of the target population and innovative approach continues to be successful in reaching and supporting youth in their journey of changes.

Five key areas of emphasis are the focus of the Centre for both informal/formal programming:

- Education & Life Skills
- Employment & Work Readiness
- Recreation/Leisure/Culture
- Health/Personal Wellness & Counseling
- Food & Shelter

The program structure of the Saskatoon Downtown Youth Centre Inc. - EGADZ is comprised of four components:

- Informal program service
- Formal Agency program service
- Direct referrals to member and associate agencies
- Formal special projects program service

### **1) Informal Program Service**

#### ***EGADZ Monthly Drop-In Attendance and Averages 2008/09***

	Month Attendance	Average Per Day
April	1008	33
May	1024	33
June	1016	33
July	1200	38
August	1025	33
September	1164	38
October	1130	36
November	1200	40
December	991	31
January	1131	36
February	1303	46
March	1388	44

### ***Age of Contacts 2008/09***

Age Group	Number of Contacts
5 & under	837
6-11	143
12-13	1155
14-15	3796
16-17	3278
18-19	2121
20 &	2248
Total	13,578

Informal Programming serves the following purposes:

A means to connect and attract youth away from hanging out on the street and encourage them to be somewhere positive like EGADZ where there is a higher degree of safety and positive alternatives.

Increase the opportunity for increased structure in youth's lives.

Support youth to acquire or expand social and behavior skills while having fun in a safe manner.

**There are four types of informal programming used at the Centre:**

- a) **Organized leisure and life skills**
- b) **Community outings**
- c) **Spontaneous recreational and cultural activities**
- d) **Special events**

The Saskatoon Downtown Youth Centre Inc. - EGADZ views recreation as being a very important aspect of a healthy lifestyle and eagerly provides leisure programs whenever possible. For many youth these programs are the only opportunity they have to participate in structured yet fun recreational activities. Youth are involved in the planning process for all activities thereby increasing the participation levels. Saskatchewan Lotteries, City of Saskatoon - Community Services Branch, Saskatchewan Government Insurance and the Department of Canadian Heritage (Urban Multi-Purpose Aboriginal Youth Centre Initiative) has provided financial support that has enabled EGADZ to develop and provide youth with opportunities to experience and become actively involved in variety of positive recreational and leisure activities/events that promote a positive and healthy lifestyle alternative.

#### **a) Organized Leisure and Life Skills**

The purpose of organized leisure and life skills is to assist youth in developing social skills, discipline, and commitment, physical and mental health. A key to achieve success in this endeavor includes the involvement of youth through inclusion of their input and hands on involvement regarding content. The following are examples activities that are structured and scheduled on a monthly calendar.

**Weekly** – Various arts and craft activities, pow-wow drumming and singing, movie night, spontaneous games, karaoke and movie or video gaming night and various recreational sport activities.

**Seasonally** – Guest presenters offer discussions and workshops on various topics that pertain to the issues and needs of the youth. Twice per month various activities/events are taken in off site to expose youth to the diverse community we have in order to expand their overall life experiences.

**Special Celebrations** – Birthdays, and other special days of the year are celebrated such as Valentine’s Day, Halloween, and the Christmas dinner/party being the highlight of the year.

### **b) Community Outings**

The purpose of community outings is to assist and expose youth in being comfortable when attending a community event/function as an alternative social life to hanging out downtown. It has been our experience that many youth often do not have opportunity to experience and participate in the community in this way without this component.

In 2008/09 there were 1283 youth who took part in community outings that consisted of some of the following:

- Various Recreational Activities
- Various Cultural Events
- Festival of Trees
- Ice Skating by the River
- Blades Hockey Games
- 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Day of Mourning

### **c) Spontaneous Recreational and Cultural Activities**

The purpose of spontaneous activity affords youth the freedom to choose to participate in activities at or through the Centre with their direct input as to what it is they would be interested in doing.

The following are some examples of spontaneous activities in 2008/09

- Basketball
- Floor Hockey
- Shinny
- Table Games (Ping Pong, Foosball, Billiards and Chess)
- Board Games
- Movie or Video Gaming Night
- Talking Circles
- Cooking Night
- Attending various community events

#### **d) Special Events**

The purpose of special events are to provide “hard to serve” youth with experiences that many other youth take for granted as part of what is considered a normal family life, this is utilized to acknowledge youth improvements in behavior and/or positive change. This is done through providing a young person an opportunity to attend a certain event or to a group of youth through a special event planned around a special day or time of year.

#### **2) Formal Program Services**

Member agencies provide formal services/programs both on and off site. In most cases this has been in the way of referral to formal agencies so youth may obtain necessary specific service(s). When possible EGADZ seeks to bring agency services to the Centre as the connection and impact is often better with youth as they feel comfortable and have trust in the staff at EGADZ.

There are 13 member agencies committed to delivering therapeutic and recovery services and/or programs at/or through the Centre. Each member agency is required to provide a letter of agreement stating their agencies commitment to the youth and EGADZ.

The following are some examples of agency delivered services and programming in 2008/09:

##### **a) Education**

Both the Public and Catholic School Boards and the Ministry of Corrections, Public Safety & Policing provide liaison staff to meet monthly to discuss shared youth and continue re-evaluating case plans so that they are more successful in their educational placement.

##### **b) Employment and Work Readiness**

There is an employment opportunity board posted in the Centre for youth access, as well computers set up to do resumes and job searches on line. Youth are made aware of and referred to appropriate employment and training opportunities as they are brought the attention of EGADZ.

The Day Support program facilitates a part time employment component each summer. Youth were provided opportunity to gain valuable skills working at Saskatoon Curbside Recycling while at the same time earning some monies.

##### **c) Recreation/Leisure/Culture**

The City of Saskatoon, Community Services Branch affords funding for arts, crafts, pow-wow drumming and cultural activities through the Metawetan program. These activities afford youth opportunity to experience new things that foster positive healthy alternatives.

1) *Cultural Activities* – Whenever possible cultural activities were arranged on availability of resources. Cultural activities and events are promoted for youth to attend or become involved in, again as a positive healthy alternative.

2) *Sport, Swimming, and Recreational Activities* – Youth were involved in informal sports activities such as floor hockey, shinny, basketball, volleyball, swimming and indoor soccer, either at EGADZ or other more suited facilities. The YMCA, YWCA and the City of Saskatoon - Community Services Branch provided EGADZ with youth passes to their facilities that they utilize with great enthusiasm.

#### **d) Counseling and Health**

1) *Sexual and Physical Abuse Support* – Youth are provided with crisis counseling, support and referral to the most appropriate resource specific to their need and comfort level, such as Saskatoon District Health – Addictions and Mental Health Services, Ministry of Social Services, Saskatoon Police Services, Sexual Assault Centre in addition to others.

2) *Drug & Alcohol Assessment/Counseling* – Addictions assessments and referrals are done by designated staff. Referrals for detoxification and treatment are made throughout the Province and in some cases to other Provinces. Youth are encouraged to attend outside meetings, personal counseling and support groups that are able to provide consistent structure and support each individual may require.

#### **e) Food and Shelter**

1) *Emergency Shelter* – Services available for emergency shelter are accessed through the YWCA, Ministry of Social Services, Mobile Crisis, Interval House, Saskatoon Tribal Council - Safe Refuge Home, Crisis Nursery, “My Homes” and other appropriate resources.

2) *Daily Supper/Snack Program* – A daily nutritious meal for youth at the Centre is made possible through the support of the Child Hunger and Education Program, Friendship Inn as well as corporate, group and individual food donations.

The Child Hunger and Education Program provided financial support that allows for various food staples required to offer the supper program for youth and children.

The Friendship Inn provides various surplus staples for supper and snack time at EGADZ, in addition provides prepared meals for special events and holidays such as Thanksgiving and Christmas.

Throughout the year fruit, vegetables, homemade goodies and other various foods are donated from corporations/stores, various groups and individuals from the community.

### ***Supper Program 2008/09***

In 2008/09 EGADZ supper program provided 4,467 meals, this translated to an average of 14 youth/children per day as well as approximately 671 snacks.

#### **f) Drop-In Component - Agency Referrals**

Anger Management - 1  
Alcoholics Anonymous - 6  
General Educational Assistance/Referral - 11  
General Housing Assistance - 32  
Legal Aid - 5  
Mobile Crisis - 2  
Narcotics Anonymous - 6  
Saskatoon Food Bank - 23  
Salvation Army (Emergency Housing) - 1  
Saskatoon Rentalsman - 4  
Saskatoon Tribal Council – Safe Refuge - 2  
Westside Community Clinic - 8  
YWCA (Emergency Housing) - 4

#### *Drop-In Component – Services*

Bus Passes Earned - 13  
Clothing Depot - 693  
Computer Assistance - 11  
Condoms - 103  
Education Supplies - 35  
Emergency Baby Supplies - 200  
Emergency Food Packs - 101  
Employment Services - 41  
First Aid - 55  
House Wares/Furniture - 224  
Income Tax Service - 18  
Laundry - 35  
Personal Hygiene - 265  
Printed Information - 10  
Showers - 39  
Transportation - 327  
YMCA - 291

### ***Christmas 2008***

On December 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2008 EGADZ staffs through the generosity of Canadian Tire, Denny Carr Secret Santa effort, Youth Granting for Youth, other groups and individuals were able to

provide 113+ gifts and 177 stockings to youth at the Center. There were 75+ youth who attended Christmas dinner and enjoyed a visit from Santa with another 120 attend for Christmas Dinner.

**g) Tours & Presentations**

Staff at EGADZ guided 76 tours and presentations throughout 2008/09 that was inclusive of approximately 800+ people.

**3) Street Outreach Program**

The Street Outreach program started in September of 1993 as a special project to connect and build trust with youth caught up in “at risk” and “high risk” street lifestyles.

The focus of the Street Outreach program is to connect with all youth involved on the streets; however the greatest group of concern continues to be Children and Youth who are Sexually Exploited and Abused through street prostitution. Through the coordination of necessary and needed support and services such as addictions counseling/treatment, advocating for special needs and developing case plans from an alternative measures approach with aftercare planning, success is being achieved, however this issue is very complex and remains of highest priority.

*Street Outreach Program Statistics 2008/09*

Age Group	Night Streets	Day Streets	Day Contact	Total
1-3 years	143	31	19	193
4-6 years	178	158	6	342
7-11 years	495	565	0	1060
12 years	175	44	17	236
13 years	170	8	65	243
14 years	238	6	141	385
15 years	506	13	288	807
16 years	403	13	172	588
17 years	351	8	123	482
18 years	391	26	93	510
19 years	357	17	92	466
20 years	460	18	118	596
21 years	370	26	44	440
22 & over	<u>6,127</u>	<u>343</u>	<u>299</u>	<u>6,769</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>10,846</b>	<b>1,303</b>	<b>1,502</b>	<b>13,117</b>

The statistics provided above include number of contacts with those classified as street youth and sex trade combined.

Of the 13,117 contacts made 304 were with individuals that were pregnant at the time.

*Sex Trade Statistics 2008/09*

Age	Active	Possible	In-Active	Deceased	Total
					Excluding those Inactive or Deceased)
11 years & Under	0	0	0	0	0
12 years	0	0	0	0	0
13 years	0	2	0	0	2
14 years	0	2	0	0	2
15 years	2	1	0	0	3
16 years	1	6	1	0	7
17 years	3	7	0	0	10
18 years	14	6	1	0	20
19 years	10	4	6	0	14
20 years	0	4	1	0	4
21 years	19	7	1	1	28
22 & over	<u>21</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>28</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>166</b>

Street Outreach staff encountered 39 active individuals and another 47 new individuals strongly suspected of possibly being involved in the sex trade for 2008/09.

*Street Outreach Services 2008/09*

Service	Night Streets	Day Streets	Day Contact	Total
Bus Tickets	56	10	108	174
Case Conferences	0	1	18	19
Christmas Gifts	57+	0	0	57+
Clothing	446	7	17	463
Condoms	2,312	57	2	2,371
Court Support and Advocacy	1	1	261	263
Crisis Counseling	72	1	63	136
Education Assistance/Support	4	0	125	129
Employment Assistance	8	1	26	34
Emergency Baby Supplies	306	6	8	320
Emergency Food Packages	110	3	12	125
Emergency Housing	85	1	72	158
First Aid	39	1	1	41
Home Visits	922	9	33	964
Hospital Visits	18	0	17	35
Individual Reported Abuse	5	0	0	5
Medical Appointments	19	4	118	141
Moving Assistance	2	0	19	21
Nutrition	8,090	1,046	52	9,188

Personal Hygiene	322	6	20	348
Printed Information	54	0	10	64
Transportation	952	48	916	2,057
Telephone Contacts	125	2	125	252
Violent John Reports	18	0	0	18

### ***Court Work***

Court work is a critical component for youth of the Street Outreach program, staffs attend court 5 days per week to assist both the youth and the court to offer clear insight to a youths life circumstances and offer alternative solutions that are obtainable for the youth but also sufficing the mandate of the Justice system. In 2000/09 Outreach staff assisted and supported 261 individual youth with their legal matters.

### ***Addictions Counseling and Treatment***

In 2008/09 Street Outreach staff continued to assist young people work through their substance abuse and addiction issues. This comes from direct contact with the youth, case planning with each individual, to referral, support and aftercare planning. Sometimes it takes on a more collaborated approach as EGADZ staff works with various supports in the community to assist these youth in their efforts to work through and overcome the issues that feed their use and or addiction.

Staff continues to familiarize themselves in the addictions field through self education, workshops to more formalized training. The experience of staff is that the traditional approach when dealing with high risk, high needs youth is too cumbersome with bureaucracy, assessments and waiting lists. The extent of time taken to find/secure a placement, most often life circumstances of that young person saw them back to using. The issues of detoxification and treatment programming for youth continues to plague us as a society as there is little to nothing available for our most venerable target population, young people.

In 2008/09 Outreach staff assessed and referred 26 individuals a total of 18 times for Detoxification and Treatment to various facilities in the Province. This includes printed material, referrals to Detoxification Centre's in the City, providing transportation and hygiene supplies when attending detoxification or treatment programming, necessary contact information – Addictions Services, referral and advocacy support with aftercare planning with various services and programs. EGADZ continues to advocate in earnest for Detoxification and Treatment for youth, until something specific is implemented staff continue to seek user friendly programs and facilities that are culturally sensitive and/or appropriate for each individual.

### ***Nutrition***

Nutritional snacks for those encountered in the community is one of the tools Outreach staff utilize on a daily basis in effort to create new and building on existing relationships with those on the streets. Day and night streets work allows staff opportunity to provide a beverage, fruit,

sandwiches and occasionally other snacks when available.

The front line nature of the work done by Street Outreach staff requires a trusting relationship exist between them and those served. Without the community support we provide via nutrition and other emergency services, the advocacy work and case planning and support that can result in positive changes for those worked with may not happen.

In combination with the generosity of individuals, various church groups and businesses the CHEP Good Food Inc continues to provide the majority of the nutrition delivered to those in the community through EGADZ Outreach.

The total number of contacts receiving nutrition through the Street Outreach program in 2008/09 was 9,188 contacts.

### ***Youth Alerts***

EGADZ staff had a total of 10 missing youth reported in 2008/09 by parents, guardians and other concerned family members. Awareness regarding the youth alerts continues to grow, as EGADZ staff assist in gathering and sharing of information provided in efforts of locating the missing youth successfully.

### ***High Risk Homicide Registry***

The High Risk Homicide Registry (H.R.H.R.) is a voluntary descriptive form that is utilized by EGADZ for individuals involved in the Sex Trade. The purpose of the H.R.H.R is to record, on a voluntary basis, personal information on each person engaged in the sex trade. In the event that they may end up deceased this document can assist to identify someone, or provide invaluable information in light of a criminal investigation into a specific death. There are a total of 95 individuals listed to date.

### ***Christmas 2008***

On December 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2008 EGADZ staffs through the generosity of Canadian Tire, Denny Carr Secret Santa effort and other groups and individuals were able to provide 57+ gifts and 90 stockings to young people on the streets.

### **4) Operation Help Program**

The Operation Help program offers those caught up in the sex trade in Saskatoon access to immediate support and services from agencies/organizations that afford the most appropriate service(s) to assist in addressing the issues and needs of each individual. Coordination, referral, support and advocacy for each individual is crucial as their issue(s) and need(s) are almost always include the following that are compounded: legal, health (physical/mental), security, counseling, education, housing and relationship building are some of those that need to be addressed, all of which can be broken through the Operation Help partnership.

In 2008/09 there were a total of 175 individuals involved with the program. Currently 8 individuals are aged 18 years and under, 60 individuals are aged 19 – 24 years, 62 are aged 25 – 29 years and 45 are 30 + years of age.

Since its inception Operation Help has experienced the loss of 12 individuals who have passed away as a direct result of their high risk street lifestyle.

In 2008/09 Operation Help has had a total of 30 individuals brought into the support circle. Of these individuals 14 are new and 15 individuals returning.

*Operation Help Program Statistics 2008/09*

Direct Services:

- Abused/Beaten Reports - 6
- Baby Supplies - 16
- Bus Tickets - 508
- Case Conference - 312
- Clothing - 14
- Condoms - 25
- Court Support - 116
- Crisis Counseling - 249
- Emergency Housing - 26
- Food Packs - 20
- Home Visits - 102
- Hospital Visits - 21
- Housing Support - 50
- Leisure Passes - 24
- Medical - 111
- Phone Contacts (Information, Relationship Building and Support) - 1115
- Personal Hygiene - 51
- Printed Information - 16
- Probation Contacts - 75
- School Transport - 243
- School Visits - 3
- Snacks - 174
- Street Contacts - 17
- Transports - 608
- Treatment Support Visits - 42
- Visual Contacts - 549
- Youth Facility Visits - 10

Direct Referrals:

- Saskatoon District Health – Additions Services - 52
- Additions Pinegrove - 3
- Angus Campbell Detoxification Centre - 3

Calder Treatment Centre - 2  
 Calder Treatment Centre Support Visits - 11  
 Children's Advocate - 1  
 Counsellors - 5  
 Cree Nations Treatment Haven - 2  
 Crown Prosecutors - 4  
 Elizabeth Fry Society - 9  
 First Nations & Inuit Health - 6  
 Food Bank - 8  
 Hospital - 2  
 Income Assistance - 24  
 Infinity House - 4  
 Interval House - 1  
 John Howard Society - 1  
 Larson House - Detoxification - 12  
 Larson House – Support Visits - 26  
 MACSI Centre – Prince Albert - 2  
 MACSI Centre – Regina - 1  
 MACSI Centre - 4  
 Ministry of Social Service - 13  
 Mediation Services - 4  
 Medical Appointments (Various Facilities) - 111  
 “My Home” (EGADZ) - 1  
 Nutana Collegiate - 7  
 Oskayap Collegiate - 1  
 Paul Dojack - 1  
 Paul Dojack – Support Visits - 2  
 Pleasant Hill Place - 2  
 Quint Development Corporation - Housing - 1  
 Regina Detoxification Treatment Centre - 1  
 Saskatoon Legal Aid - 13  
 Saskatoon District Health – Mental Health Services - 3  
 Saskatoon District Health – Public Health Services - 16  
 Saskatoon Housing Authority - 2  
 Saskatoon Police Services - 2  
 Saskatoon Rentalsman - 2  
 Tamara's House - 2  
 Saskatoon Victim Services - 1  
 Various School Referrals - 15  
 Westside Community Health Clinic - 12  
 White Buffalo Youth Lodge - 3  
 YWCA – Crisis Shelter & Housing - 17

## 5) “My Homes” (Housing)

Since October 1998 the Saskatoon Downtown Youth Centre Inc. – EGADZ has operated two homes one for 16 – 17 year old females (“My Home” 1) and another for 12 - 15 year old females (“My Home” Too) that provides housing and supports for 5 individuals in each home. The “My Homes” developed and operated by EGADZ are supported through the Provincial Government – Ministry of Social Services.

Through the Federal Government - National Homelessness Initiative, financial support allowed for construction of 2 new houses for both “My Home” and “My Home Too”. The “My Home” concept is based upon a Youth Centred Model with the main focus of the program being centred on the youth developing into a functional citizen and through progressive growth moving forward at some point into an independent living situation.

In 2007 EGADZ was able to expand the continuum of housing through the Provincial Government – Ministry of Social Services and Saskatchewan Housing and the Federal Government – Services Canada, City of Saskatoon and support of a number of Saskatoon Businesses. The new housing was implemented as Structured Independent Homes for older female youth aged 18 – 23 years that lends to a balance of structure and independence required to more successfully move forward to adulthood. The homes were designed to accommodate young women who like many young people lack life skills, education, employment experiences and are just not ready to leave home. In the area of Social Services the history has shown that youth in care and those who experience neglect, abuse(s) and direct exposure to traumatic experiences most often regress both personally and academically. The Structured Independent Homes afford the young women the supports that normally would be provided by a parent, family members and positive friends. The young women are afforded opportunities to become a positive and contributing member of the community. The Homes are able to accommodate young Mothers who are seeking to escape often abusive living situations for them and their baby/toddler. The emphasis for each individual is based upon the progress not perfection approach and keeping in mind each individual progresses at a different rate.

In 2008 EGADZ was able to set up and open two new homes as part of the “My Homes” continuum of housing support for youth in Saskatoon. This was made possible through the Federal Government – Homelessness Partnering Strategy, Saskatchewan Provincial Government – Ministry of Social Services, City of Saskatoon and the support of a number of Saskatoon Businesses. One of the new homes opened is for Male youth aged 12 – 15 years and the other for Females aged 12 – 15 years, both homes are staffed housing 24 hours a day, seven days a week that provides support and supervision of 5 youth in each home.

In 2008 EGADZ was fortunate to be the benefactor of a generous donation of an existing house in Saskatoon from an anonymous donor. This home was renovated and expands housing for structured independent housing for young teen mothers with and infant or toddler.

### ***House Mother/Mentor***

The “My Home” concept includes a live-in mentor; the role of this person is a unique one. The mentor is a non-judgmental person who has life experience. This individual is someone who may or may not have had many of the struggles that the “youth” are facing however is someone who is a contributing person in the community either continuing in an academic pursuit or otherwise employed. The “youth” can more easily relate to the Mentor through her example of healthy choices, perseverance and hard work.

### ***Support Worker***

The role of the My Home “Support Worker” is supporting the Mentor and the “youth” in the homes, providing support for youth in detoxification/treatment programs, medical appointments, advocating, prenatal and delivery support, parenting support, educational support, addiction support, transportation to treatment, transition to independent living and independent living support, transportation to appointments, health and hygiene, family relation support, case planning and case conference support, various referrals and all emergency support. The support worker is a parent, a friend, a mentor, and a consistent non-judgmental person who follows through and is dependable.

Trust and respect are the main ingredients that make these relationships work. This gives the worker the ability to raise the expectations for the girls and help them rise to another level in their successes. It also allows the worker to praise the girls when they have achieved and add more structure and boundaries when they are sliding.

### ***“My Home” Statistics (April 2008 - March 2009)***

Placements at the “My Home” – 14 youth

9 months + - 3  
6 – 9 months - 3  
3 – 6 months - 5  
1 – 3 months - 3

Healthy Babies Born - 1  
Youth Transitioned Back to Families - 1  
Youth Placed – Intensive Stabilization/Custody - 1

### ***“My Home Too” Statistics***

Placements at the “My Home Too” - 13

9 months + - 2  
6 – 9 months - 4  
3 – 6 months - 3

1 – 3 months - 4

***“My Home 3” Statistics***

Placements at “My Home” 3 - 7

6 months + - 3

3 – 6 months - 1

1 – 3 months - 3

***“My Home” “Next Step” Statistics***

Placements at “My Home”- “Next Step” – 14 Adults and 4 Children

9 months + - 2

6 months + - 4

3 – 6 months - 4

1 – 3 months - 4

Employed - 5

Healthy Babies Born - 2

Youth Transitioned into Independent Living - 4

***“My Home” “Next Step Too” Statistics***

Placements at “My Home”- “Next Step Too” - 15 Adults and 5 Children

9 months + - 3

6 months + - 1

3 – 6 months - 6

1 – 3 months - 5

Employed - 6

Emergency Placements - 1

Youth Transitioned into Independent Living - 2

***“My Home” “Females 12 – 15 years” Statistics***

Placements at “My Home”- “Females 12 – 15 years” - 7 Youth from October, 2008 to March, 2009

6 months - 0

3 – 6 months - 4

1 – 3 months - 3

Youth Transitioned Back to Family - 3

Youth Transitioned – Intensive Stabilization/Custody - 1

***“My Home” “Males 12 – 15 years” Statistics***

Placements at “My Home”- “Males 12 – 15 years” - 7 Youth from October, 2008 – March, 2009.

6 months - 2

3 – 6 months - 4

1 – 3 months - 1

Youth Transitioned – Intensive Stabilization/Custody - 1

**6) School Support Program**

The School Support Program has been in operation since 1990. First named the “Back to School” program, in June 2000 the name was changed to better reflect the intent and purpose of the program.

The School Support program is designed to assist youth who are experiencing an array of difficulties that are barriers to acquiring or maintaining an educational placement, many live in unstructured family environments with various levels of social-economical disadvantages. As a result many of these young people demonstrate negative responses stemming often from dysfunctional home and parenting environment. Issues such as truancy, substance abuse, gang involvement, homelessness, criminalized behaviours as well as mental and physical health concerns are all significant factors that impact on their education.

The objective of the School Support program is to provide the most inclusive support and assistance to youth, their family and school staff in order that an educational placement becomes successful. As a result of increased support, supervision and inclusion of youth in their case plan the opportunity to decrease the risk of breakdown of school/home placement of youth has proven to be effective.

The School Support program is financially supported through the Provincial Department of Corrections and Public Safety and is able to accommodate 12 individual youth at any given time year round. Youth are referred to the program through the Department of Corrections and Public Safety - Young Offenders Division.

***School Support Program Components***

Program staff support youth in every aspect of their lives. Staff seek to provide youth with support for legal issues by transporting and attending with them for court/lawyer’s appointments, probation reporting, calls and visits to the home/school, in school crisis interventions/suspensions, support such as wake-up calls, transporting to school, parent visits, and one-on-ones with youth. Staff attends case conferences, contact workers, make outside

agency referrals such as Medical, Personal Counselling and Addiction Services.

The School Support Program provides recreation through extended school breaks such as Easter Spring Break and Summer, this has proven to be very beneficial for youth upon their re-entry into the next school year. With an increase of support provided there is a decrease in school placement breakdowns. This further assists to maintain a rapport with youth and affords staff extra awareness of potential problems. Through consistent daily contact with the youth, their workers, caregivers and schools, youth are more probably to be held accountable for their negative actions and encouraged for their positive work. These components are essential to assist youth to improve and maintain their academics, attendance and ultimately their school placement.

### ***School Support Program – Breakfast Component***

This year a breakfast program was again made available in significant part through assistance from CHEP Good Food Inc.. Providing a meal, especially breakfast for youth promotes a healthy lifestyle choice that lends towards improved behaviour and energy levels. Breakfasts can include foods such as fruit/veggie drink, cereal, eggs/toast, fruit, muffins, yogurt and cereal bars.

### ***School Support Program – 2008 Summer Component***

This summer there were 14 youth who remained involved with the School Support program during the summer months where they are involved in positive and healthy recreational activities and a camping trip. This approach offers consistency and structure in a young person's life that has proven to be beneficial upon their return to school at the end of summer.

### ***School Support Statistics 2008/09***

Total Referrals - 78  
Total Intakes - 63  
Males Referred - 44  
Females Referred - 34  
Pregnant - 2  
Employed - 2  
Repeat Referrals for the Year - 10

Addictions Treatment Referral - 2  
Contact with Worker/Case Conferences - 204  
Home/Parent Contacts - 1435  
Breakfasts - 171  
Lunches - 108  
One-on-Ones/Crisis Intervention - 45  
School Visits/Contacts - 430  
Returned to Custody - 2  
Transportation – 1291

Recreational Hours - 351.5  
Life Skills Hours - 48  
Field Trip/Cultural - 48.5  
Physical Education Hours - 108

### ***School Plus Program 2008/09***

In May 2005 a pilot project between Red Willow Centre and EGADZ was developed. The program was mirrored to the School Support Program approach.

The School Plus Program is a collaboration between the Ministry of Social Services, Ministry of Corrections, Public Safety and Policing, Greater Saskatoon Catholic Schools, Saskatoon Public Schools and EGADZ Youth Centre with financial support provided through the Education in Custody Initiative. Referrals for this project are made through the Day Supervisor at Red Willow Centre. The target population are youth aged 9 – 17 years who are in Care with Red Willow Centre or in custody at Kilburn Hall or Yarrow Youth Farm and are poised to re-integrated back to an appropriate residential and educational placement.

The approach of the School Plus Program has been to provide coordinated and intensive support for a youth transitioning from a in care or custodial facility back into the community. Through increased support, supervision and inclusion of youth, their family and schools has afforded opportunity to decrease the risk of breakdown with home and school which has proven to have positive effect for the young person.

### ***School Plus Program - Breakfast Component***

In 2008/09 the breakfast program continued to be available through financial support of the Child Hunger Education Program (C.H.E.P.) that has allowed for youth to access a nutritious breakfast. Providing a meal for youth has helped promote a healthy lifestyle in addition to other positives such as improved behaviour and energy level. Breakfasts include items such as milk, fruit/veggie juice, fruit, muffins, yogurt and cereal bars.

### ***School Plus – Summer Program 2008***

The School Plus Program saw 4 individual youth through the summer that were provided opportunity to enjoy a summer of positive community outings, activities, events, recreation, life skills and camping. This approach allows youth structure and consistency and become better prepared to return to school.

### ***School Plus Program – Summer Statistics 2008:***

Total Referrals – 11

- Red Willow Centre – 9
- Yarrow Youth Farm – 6
- Kilburn Hall – 1

Total Intakes – 10

Males Referred – 8

Females Referred – 3

Breakfasts – 107

Lunches – 120

Contact Workers/Case Conference – 62

Home/Parent Contacts – 89

One-on-One's – 28

School Contacts – 24

Transportation – 153

Food Studies Hours – 32

Field Trip/Cultural Hours – 57

Life Skills Hours – 75

Physical Education Hours – 91

Recreation Hours – 234.5

### **7) Day Support Program 2008/09**

The Day Support Program is an intervention program for youth who have lost their whole or partial existing educational placement and require an alternative avenue to stabilize as a means to re-integrate into an appropriate educational placement. The program offers a monthly schedule with consistent components for each day of the week (Monday through Friday). The components are comprised of Community Volunteer placement's, educational, fieldtrips (educational/recreational), life skills, and physical activities. The main objectives are to stabilize and assist the young person to obtain and reintegrate back into an appropriate educational placement.

The Day Support Program takes an active role in keeping academics as a consistent part of each day for youth. Through a Partnership with City Park Collegiate ESP (Extension Support Program) youth were provided instruction and school work to be completed for the following week. Youth who completed the required number of assignments are able to obtain a credit in Math or English.

The Day Program is supported through the Provincial Department of Corrections and Public Safety - Young Offenders Branch and is able to accommodate 12 individual youth at any given time throughout the year.

### ***Day Support Program Components***

The Day Program seeks to stabilize youth by providing a monthly schedule with consistent activities each day of each week. There are a number of separate components in each day from volunteer, recreation, educational, field trips, life skills physical activities, cultural activities and design studies.

Staff support youth in all aspects of their lives and support them with daily contact, providing breakfast/lunches, doing home visits/calls, wake-up calls, transportation, parent/house visits, one-on-one with youth, contacting workers, and attending case conferences. Staff advocate for youth by making outside agency referrals as requested by the youth. Ultimately the Day Support is designed to be a mechanism for youth to enter into an appropriate educational placement, in 2008/09 there were 45 youth who re-integrated back into an educational placement/program.

A spontaneous element of the Day Support Program is the “Random Act of Kindness”, this year youth experienced the opportunity to something out of the blue to help someone or just because. Youth did such things as delivered Flowers to random people and places, shovelled sidewalks and driveways, handed out muffins, juice/hot chocolate for breakfast to people walking in the cold, gave someone a ride home with their groceries. The youth all enjoy these experiences and comments made to them offer insight to selflessness.

During the summer youth are provided an opportunity take part in a work program through the support of Saskatoon Curbside Recycling in partnership with the Day Support Program. Youth acquire valuable knowledge regarding recycling and its impact on the environment, the community and their own lives. Curbside provides training to the youth, work experience and an understanding of positive work ethics required to gain and maintain employment. In 2008 there were 13 youth who worked in this portion of the program throughout the summer. The summer program also consists of recreational activities, fun events, field trips, swimming, bowling, BBQ’s and a camping trip.

### ***Day Support Program Statistics 2008/2009***

Total Referrals - 92

Total Intakes - 83

Males Referred - 43

Females Referred - 41

Total Repeat Referrals for the Year- 17

Breakfasts - 1093

City Park Collegiate – Extension Support Program Hours - 546

Contact Worker/Case Conferences - 509

Design Studies Hours - 40

Employed - 2

Field Trip/Cultural Hours - 425

Physical Education Hours - 367

Food Studies Hours - 426  
Home/Parent Contacts - 1143  
Life Skills Hours - 780  
Lunches - 1293  
Pregnant - 3  
Recreation Hours - 2539  
School Placements - 45  
Transportation - 1500  
Treatment Referral - 4  
Volunteer Hours - 1429.5  
Work Education Hours - 419.5

### **8) Teen Parenting Program**

The Teen Parenting Program continues to be supported through the Health Canada - Children's Action Plan of Canada (CAPC).

The Teen Parenting Program exists as a significant program within the Saskatoon Downtown Youth Centre Inc. - EGADZ. The program offers support and educational services both on an individual basis and in group settings to expectant and already young parents and their children. The structure of the program allows for both informal support on a drop-in basis as well as more formal programming such as parenting groups and the summer recreational component.

Monthly community outings continue to take place, sometimes as a family activity and other times as an activity more suitable for just the parents. Outreach services have increased in the Teen Parenting Program to adequately and effectively meet the needs of the target population. Baby supplies such as diapers and formula have continued to be provided on an emergency basis and the infant/toddler clothing depot, maintained through the Parenting Program, continues to be available to young parents who wish to access it.

#### ***Teen Parenting Program – Highlights 2008/09***

Parenting class offered by the Teen Parenting Program continued to be recognized by Saskatchewan Learning, as a credit equivalent to Life Transitions 30, Parenting 20, and under pre-approved conditions, Special Project 30. Young parents who attend the group regularly can earn one or more of the aforementioned course credits. Through a partnership between the Teen Parenting Program, the Catholic School Board (Bishop Murray High School) and other community based organizations this community-based credit initiative has been further extended to a fixed number of young mothers who frequent the Teen Parenting Program from which they can earn their high school diploma.

The cooking component continued to benefit in creating relations with the participants; this approach continued to have positive discussion, interaction, cooperation, gained and shared cooking skills, learning about proper nutrition and safe food handling skills.

Participants were provided opportunity to gain certification through the Nobody's Perfect program facilitated by the Teen Parenting Coordinator.

***Teen Parenting “Fun for Families” Summer Recreational Component - 2008***

The “Fun for Families” summer program operated in July and August each Wednesday from 1:00 pm - 5:00 pm and included some of the following outings:

- Meewasin Trail Walks
- Forestry Farm Tour
- Attended the Aboriginal Day Celebration
- Kinsmen Park – Spray Pool
- Pike Lake Provincial Park – Day at the Beach

For many of the young parents involved in the Teen Parenting Program, the summer recreational program is the highlight of the year. It encourages families (parents and children) to participate in fun and positive activities that they may not otherwise have the opportunity to partake in due to financial and transportation barriers. In addition, the outings provide a rich opportunity for staff to guide youth in the development and continuity of positive interactions between family members and the group at large, to promote appropriate play, and to model effective supervision skills to the young parents. Participants learn more about the community resources available at little or no cost and are encouraged to utilize them year-round to help foster positive family cohesion.

***Teen Parenting Program Statistics - 2008/09***

2008-2009	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Total
<b>TEEN PARENTING PROGRAM</b>													
<b>PARENTS</b>													
New	18	19	7	4	15	18	16	24	12	18	37	12	200
Returning	15	117	102	33	83	91	84	85	86	78	36	157	967
Individual Contacts	66	73	82	27	67	83	60	71	58	51	106	81	825
Group Contacts	42	48	29	20	50	32	43	40	48	41	66	71	530
<b>TOTAL CONTACTS</b>	<b>176</b>	<b>260</b>	<b>220</b>	<b>84</b>	<b>215</b>	<b>224</b>	<b>203</b>	<b>220</b>	<b>204</b>	<b>188</b>	<b>245</b>	<b>250</b>	<b>2489</b>
Children's Clothing	14	6	2	1	5	5	6	6	4	6	9	1	65
Calls	19	3	25	10	21	12	13	10	26	0	0	0	139
Home Visits	2	0	16	0	8	8	4	6	8	3	6	4	65
<b>Appointments</b>													
Doctors	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	4
Hospital Visits	0	3	0	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	2	13
<b>Transportation</b>													
Bus Tickets	26	40	21	19	29	24	29	42	33	34	56	51	404
Rides	18	15	6	5	17	17	8	1	8	2	8	6	111
Formula	6	3	3	1	15	22	13	7	12	11	22	16	131
Diapers	13	12	12	11	28	35	15	11	15	84	26	21	283

Children														
Visits-Play Centre	23	30	39	20	26	35	4	38	22	0	0	0	237	
Nutrition	43	48	47	22	47	38	35	48	35	0	0	0	343	
Referrals Made	6	5	9	0	3	5	2	3	1	5	7	3	49	
Fun for Families														
Parents				13	27								40	
Children				20	33								53	
Transportation														
Bus Tickets				52	37								89	

### ***Teen Dad in Action Program***

The Teen Dads in Action continued to offer young Teen Dads a support group of their peers as well as individual counseling and support. The program structure consists of a weekly group that alternates between open and structured discussions in relation to all aspects of their lives. The topics are client focused with relationships, addictions, violence, and stress management as some examples. Topics of discussion are directed in advance by the participants which allows for ownership of their issues along with the support provided allows for learning new skills that led towards positive well-being and growth. Ultimately this is their program which truly allows them a voice and support that addresses their real and current issues and needs.

Individual support and advocacy is available for a variety of participant’s issues/needs such as doctor/dental appointments, personal counseling or just someone to listen that understands and cares. The program addresses the realities of each participant’s situation through their involvement in their own case plan in order to build a solid foundation for their own lives that are inclusive of their child/children.

It is important to note that this program is operated one evening per week, however, the program staff person is available at other times when arranged by the young dads.

### ***Program Statistics - 2008/09***

- Various Referrals - 4
- One-on-Ones - 16
- Individual Counseling - 8
- Transportation - 3
- Bus Tickets - 57

### **9) Joe’s Garage Program - “Guys Only”**

The Joe’s Garage program is an innovative program specific for “Guys Only” that is financially supported through the Urban Multipurpose Youth Centre Initiative (UMAYC) administered by the Department of Canadian Heritage. The program was implemented to fill gaps that were evident from the male population that frequented and utilized EGADZ. The male population has too often been overlooked with respect to services/programs leaving many struggling to deal with issues ranging from self-esteem to unacceptable behaviors that only lead to problems,

ultimately themselves. Many of the young males show signs of substance, physical and emotional abuse; they wear the scars of self-mutilation and often appear in the crowd (followers) with many varied issues.

Joe's Garage encourages participant involvement through the implementation of ideas expressed based upon their needs/issues. Peer Mentors are utilized to assist the program staff in promoting activities, organizing activities/events and encouraging others to bring forth their input to their program. Participants must keep in mind that the program components need to reflect a variety of activities/events that promote healthy, mental, physical, cultural/spiritual growth.

Joe's Garage has maintained a core of activities that youth have grown to enjoy, such as horseback riding, swimming, movie/video gaming night, various sports (basketball, frisbee, hockey/skating) combined with becoming involved in the community attending and experiences events together. The availability of an Elder on a weekly basis, pow wow drumming/singing and weekly sweats in the winter and spring offers young guys positive alternative outlets to explore their culture or re-engage.

A significant aspect for Joe's Garage was the availability of daytime/follow-up support for the male participants with housing, addictions, legal, health, educational support and just having someone to listen and assist in guiding them in creating positive change for their life.

In 2008/09 the Joe's Garage Program saw a total of 680 participants aged 12 – 19 years involved with the program. There were an average of 6 males per activity and 91 different individuals for the year.

#### **10) Josie's Garage Program - "Girls Only"**

Josie's Garage is an innovative program specific for "females only" aged 12 to 18 years that is supported through the Saskatchewan Lotteries Trust Fund, The Community Initiatives Fund and the City of Saskatoon. The program is designed by the participants with a balance of life skills, recreation and cultural activities/events. Youth mentors are utilized to assist with coordination of activities/events based upon interaction and consultation with their peers. Mentors are rotated so that the experience can be had by those interested in gaining new skills and additional incentives such as a bus pass, swim ticket and positive memories.

The activities and events planned and attended provided positive alternatives, in addition other relevant issues through workshops, community outings, referrals and mainly through counseling from program staff as a result of the relationships established. Participants in the program have become their strongest support for each other as they recognize that they are not alone in their issues, feelings or sharing their solutions. The

In 2008/09 there were a total of 290 females aged 12 – 19 years who participated with the Josie's Garage program. There was an average of 6 individuals per night with the average age of participants being 14 years old.

Josie's Garage program in 2008/09 saw significant ownership from a number of consistent individuals who as a result saw personal positive growth as a result. The diversity of activities and events were experiences that inspired many of the group. Youth attended Cirque de Soleil, several individuals experienced a recording session first hand of themselves, and exposure to a gymnastics class saw one participant enrolled in an 8 week intermediate gymnastics program. Other activities and outings included rock climbing, belly dancing, cultural cooking, scrapbooking and horseback riding.

The opportunities that the group has created have also created a platform from which EGADZ staff has been able to build upon in the continuum of services available to assist youth. Through participation in activities with youth, relevant issues they are experiencing saw insight gained through workshops, community outings, referrals and counseling. For a time Josie's Garage affords the girls a positive break from the stresses of their everyday lives, and opportunities that their socio-economic circumstances are most often unable to afford them. Without this group, the maturity and self growth that enables kids to believe they can do great things with their lives would be all but realized.

## 7. BUDGET

The Saskatoon Downtown Youth Centre Inc. – EGADZ 2008/09 Operation Budget

### Revenue

City of Saskatoon	144,000
Saskatchewan Government - Ministry of Social Services	290,540
Administration Fees	27,059
Corporate Donors	18,000
Service Clubs	20,141
Churches	5,000
Special Events	3,000
Child Hunger and Education Program	8,600
Private	20,000
Other Income	715
Interest	4,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>568,055</b>

### Expense (Detail)

#### Administration

Salaries	86,128
Benefits	13,490

E.D. Expense	1,500
Fundraising	8,700
Communications	6,700
Office Supplies/Printing	9,200
Postage/Courier	2,000
Bank Charges	250
Equipment Replacement Reserve	4,957
Sundry	3,000
Audit/Accounting	5,500
<b>Total</b>	<b>141,425</b>

### **Building**

Salaries	30,365
Benefits	3,290
Lease/Insurance	90,735
Utilities	40,000
Taxes	20,000
Security	450
Maintenance	10,000
Custodial	8,000
Insurance	9,000
Additional Building Renovations	7,500
<b>Total</b>	<b>219,340</b>

### **Program (Detail) Drop In - Street Outreach**

Salaries	158,780
Benefits	22,100
Travel	2,150
Materials - Drop-In Component	13,890
Nutrition Program	8,600
<b>Total</b>	<b>205,520</b>

**\*Note:** Revenue overage in Core covers costs for Street Outreach, School Support and Operation Help programs.

<b>Street Outreach Program</b>	
Revenue – <i>SK Government Ministry of Social Services</i>	189,370
<i>Petro Canada</i>	5,000
<b>School Support Program</b>	
Revenue – <i>SK Government Ministry of Corrections, Public Safety and Policing</i>	95,957
<i>Greater Saskatoon Catholic Schools</i>	37,500
<b>Day Support Program</b>	
Revenue – <i>SK Government Ministry of Corrections, Public Safety and Policing</i>	101,790
<b>Teen Parenting Program</b>	
Revenue – <i>Health Canada - Children’s Action Plan Canada (CAPC)</i>	76,582
<b>Operation Help Program</b>	
Revenue – <i>SK Government Ministry of Social Services</i>	87,410
– <i>SK Justice</i>	16,200
<b>Program Total</b>	<b>609,811</b>
<b>“My Home” - Housing Component</b>	
Revenue – <i>SK Ministry of Social Services</i>	174,000
<b>My Home Too</b>	
Revenue – <i>SK Ministry of Social Services</i>	174,000
<b>My Home 3</b>	
Revenue – <i>SK Ministry of Social Services</i>	85,000
<b>My Home 4</b>	
Revenue – <i>SK Ministry of Social Service</i>	85,000
<b>My Home 5</b>	
Revenue – <i>SK Ministry of Social Services</i>	207,710
– <i>Saskatoon District Health – Addictions &amp; Mental Health Services</i>	54,167

<b>My Home 6</b>	
Revenue – <i>SK Ministry of Social Services</i>	207,710
– <i>Saskatoon District Health – Addictions &amp; Mental Health Services</i>	54,167
<b>“Check it Out” (Summer) Program</b>	
Revenue – <i>SK Lotteries and City of Saskatoon</i>	4,400
– <i>Saskatchewan Government Insurance</i>	6,000
<b>Program Total</b>	<b>899,154</b>
<b>Joe’s Garage Program</b>	
Revenue – <i>Canadian Department of Heritage - (UMAYC)</i> <i>Urban Multipurpose Aboriginal Youth Centre Initiative</i>	50,000
<b>Josie’s Garage Program</b>	
Revenue – <i>SK Government - Community Initiatives Fund</i>	14,840
– <i>SK Lotteries Trust Fund</i>	
– <i>City of Saskatoon</i>	
– <i>Urban Aboriginal Grants for Sport Recreation and Culture</i>	
<b>Day Support Program</b>	
Work Project	3,894

## 8. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Saskatoon Downtown Youth Centre staff act as advocates for “hard to serve” youth and endeavors to work cooperatively with existing agencies in order to seed services that are beneficial and healthy for youth.

The Board of Directors and Staff of the Saskatoon Downtown Youth Centre Inc. - EGADZ are grateful to all agencies, church groups, individuals, businesses and corporations that contribute in many ways that allow for the work to be done through the services and programs delivered at EGADZ.

The appreciation of financial support and understanding of the efforts required to assist young people create personal change that benefit us all as a community can never truly be expressed, EGADZ does however wish to express a sincere thank you to the following:

Provincial Government of Saskatchewan  
Canadian Tire Stores – Preston Crossing & Confederation  
Child Hunger and Education Program  
City of Saskatoon  
Dakota Dunes Casino  
Department of Canadian Heritage  
Health Agency of Canada - Children's Action Plan of Canada (CAPC)  
International Road Dynamics  
Loraas Disposal  
McQueen Family - Tessier, SK  
North Ridge Development Corporation  
Numerous Various Saskatoon Church Groups  
Numerous Individuals from Eston, SK  
Numerous Individuals from Saskatoon  
Petro-Canada  
Rona  
Saskatoon Credit Union  
Saskatoon Curbside Recycling  
Saskatoon StarPhoenix  
Saskatoon Truck Centre  
SIGA - Saskatchewan Indian Gaming Authority  
Sherbrooke Community Centre  
Soroptimist International - Saskatoon  
Tel-J Communications  
The Plumb Shop  
The Saskatoon Foundation  
The Muttart Foundation  
Uncle Ed's Furniture  
University of Saskatchewan - Employee Contribution Plan  
Yip & Jen Investments Ltd

## NOTES

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