



Support. Hope. Thrive.



Community Powered Care

Annual Report 2025-2026

A message from the CEO & Board Chair

This year’s theme, Community Powered Care, reflects something we see every day at Stonehenge: better outcomes happen when people and organizations come together around a shared purpose.

If life has been feeling heavier, you are not alone. Across our community, people are carrying more stress, isolation, and uncertainty. For many, substance use is one way of coping. This is why our work matters, and why it must be grounded in connection, compassion, and access to the right support at the right time.

This year, we saw the strength of that approach in action, supporting over 3,400 people through strong partnerships, improving pathways to care and continued to bring services together across housing, healthcare, and justice. Lived experience remains at the heart of our work, with peer support helping people feel seen, supported, and connected. By sharing stories in our community, we continue to build understanding and reduce stigma.

We are proud of what we have accomplished together. These results reflect the dedication of our staff, the strength of our partnerships, and the courage of the people we serve.

As you read this report, we hope you see **what is possible when care is community-powered.**



KRISTIN KERR
CEO



JOANNA KUCZYŃSKA
Board Chair



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3,476
Individuals Served

36,352
Face-to-Face Interactions



Vision

We envision communities where people living with substance use are welcomed, supported, and thriving.



Mission

With a commitment to partnership, support, and advocacy, STC delivers expert services to individuals, families, and communities experiencing harm related to substance use.



Values

- Inclusion
- Advocacy
- Accountability
- Collaboration
- Innovation
- Person-centered



Our Four Pillars of Service

STC's four pillars of service highlight the foundations of our harm reduction services and our areas of expertise.



Residential Services



Supportive Housing



Addiction Medicine & Withdrawal



Community & Justice



Our Strategic Priorities & Why They Matter (2024 – 2026)

The People and
culture that underpin
everything we do

→

Engage and centre client voices in our work...

so that STC's work is in support of, and informed and supported by, the wisdom, experience and good will of clients, families, alumni, and community.

Ensure that our people thrive and love contributing to, and working at, STC...

so that STC has highly skilled and engaged teams to support client care and community development.

The Work we
most need to do to
create impact

→

Increase revenue and resource pathways to target resources here they are needed most...

so that STC has the necessary, stable, and flexible funds to support the organization and its clients.

Define and fulfill our mission and purpose in meeting the needs of individuals, families, and communities experiencing harm related to substance use...

so that clients and community members have the support they need from STC.

Enhance corporate services...

so that STC has a strong foundation to support the organization and its clients.

The Impact
we want to deliver for
our stakeholders

→

People impacted by
substance use feel
supported, are able to
access quality services
when and where
they need them, and
experience their desired
outcomes.

Lived Experience Leads

Peer support is at the heart of Stonehenge Therapeutic Community. People with lived experience of mental health and substance use build trust, reduce stigma, and offer hope through shared understanding.

We currently have **11 peer staff** working across STC, embedded in every pillar of the organization, with more joining soon.



91%
of clients said peer support staff supported and motivated them to make healthy changes



Program Highlight: Peer2Peer Overdose Response Program

Peer Recovery Coaches provide practical, emotional, and timely support to individuals affected by overdose. Based in the community, local emergency departments, and RAAM clinics, they help people navigate care and stay connected to support when it matters most.





“ Peer Story

In my role as a Peer Recovery Coach, I had the privilege of supporting a client who was navigating a decade-long addiction. When we first connected, they were carrying the weight of their struggle in silence and searching for a path forward.

Together, we worked to build a foundation for recovery, connecting them with local AA and NA meetings, coordinating admission to withdrawal management, and providing consistent, compassionate support throughout their hospital stay. While the journey was not without challenges, their commitment to change remained steady and inspiring.

Today, they are celebrating 131 days of sobriety. They have repaired relationships with family and friends, returned to work, and continue to prioritize their recovery through daily meeting attendance. Their story is a powerful reminder of what is possible with dedicated support, access to services, and the courage to take the first step toward change.



78%

of clients said peer support staff helped their friends and family better understand how to support them



Having someone with lived experience listen and understand the struggles I face was the most helpful aspect.

Client, Peer2Peer

Collaboration Improves Access

When organizations work together, barriers fall and people connect to the right supports faster — without having to navigate complex systems alone. Together, we're expanding low-barrier access and strengthening care across Guelph-Wellington.



HART Hub Guelph-Wellington

In partnership with Guelph Community Health Centre

The HART Hub Guelph Wellington brings together health care, housing, and community partners to deliver coordinated, wraparound support for individuals facing complex mental health, substance use, and housing challenges — ensuring timely, accessible care.

Since launching in April 2025:

The Hub has rapidly grown from core services into a comprehensive system of care, including:

- Walk-in crisis services
- Increased crisis stabilization beds
- Virtual psychiatry
- On-site substance use and housing supports at Guelph CHC
- In early 2026, the Hub added 150 supportive housing spaces with wraparound supports



Looking ahead:

The HART Hub will continue strengthening the continuum of care by:

- Expanding timely supports
- Adding medically supported withdrawal spaces
- Enhancing coordinated transitions into ongoing services

This approach will help individuals access care sooner, stay connected after crisis, and build stability. This will reduce service gaps and ease pressure on emergency and hospital systems.



1,330

Individuals Served

Organizations providing HART Hub services:





Community Partner Awards

Community partners are central to the work we do at STC. Their commitment helps us deliver the wraparound care people need to thrive. At this year's All Staff Day, we were proud to recognize **Tania Resendes of CMHA Waterloo Wellington** and **Jean Hopkins of the WDG Drug Strategy** with our Community Partner Awards. Their dedication and advocacy strengthen our collective efforts to support people experiencing substance-use-related harms.

In addition to direct client support, community partners highlighted the role STC staff play in providing resources to both clients and other caseworkers, and in supporting multi-organizational troubleshooting.



82%

of community partners said STC program staff helped them better understand overdose-related risks and feel more informed about how to respond and support safer communities



The community was the number one thing about the program that helped me.
STC Client



93%

of community partners said they intended to use the knowledge/skills provided by the STC Program staff to make evidence-informed improvements to policies, programs, and practice STC program

A New Approach: Housing is Healthcare

For too long, our systems have been designed to respond to crisis – not to sustain stability. People living with complex needs often cycle between hospitals, shelters, encampments, and emergency services, without ever receiving the consistent support needed to truly heal.

10 Shelldale was created to change that.

This 32-unit permanent supportive housing site in Guelph-Wellington represents a bold shift: treating housing not as a social service or an afterthought, but as a core health intervention.

At its foundation, 10 Shelldale is built on a simple but powerful idea: **When people have a stable home, everything works better.**



Nearly half of residents came directly from encampments or were sleeping rough. Today, they have something many have gone without for years — a safe, stable place to call home





The Model: Designed for Stability

10 Sheldale works because it brings together three essential elements of care into one integrated model:

- **Housing stability**, delivered through trauma-informed landlord support
- **On-site healthcare**, including mental health and substance use care, chronic disease management, and crisis intervention
- **Collaborative partnerships**, led by Stonehenge Therapeutic Community, Guelph Community Health Centre, and Kindle Communities

This isn't just housing – it's coordinated, wraparound care.

Residents have access to 24/7 supports, including counselling, harm reduction services, medication management, and primary healthcare, all in one place.

In the first year alone:



1,296

healthcare appointments
were provided

The results are powerful, in the first year of operating:

- **100% of residents are connected to healthcare**
- **0 evictions**
- **0 deaths**

The evidence is clear: Housing stability doesn't require people to be "ready" for treatment. Instead, **housing creates the conditions for healing to begin.**





The Impact: Stronger People, Stronger Communities

The impact of 10 Shelldale extends far beyond its walls.

When people move from instability into supportive housing, crisis decreases and stability grows:

- Fewer hospital visits and emergency interactions
- Reduced police contact
- Fewer drug poisoning events
- Greater connection to care and community

At the same time, residents are experiencing something equally important: dignity.

Residents consistently highlight what matters most: **trust, safety, non-judgment, and access to care.**

And perhaps most importantly:

- **80%** of residents now feel hopeful about their future

10 Shelldale shows what's possible when housing, healthcare, and community come together.

When people have a stable home:

- Healthcare works better
- Support services are more effective
- Communities are stronger

This is more than a program. It's a model for the future and a clear path forward for building healthier, more compassionate communities.



80% feel respected and supported

82% feel encouraged to share their voice

89% would recommend the program to others



“ Resident Story

Before moving into Shelldale, a 10 Shelldale resident lived in a forest encampment for four years while navigating significant physical health challenges — including mobility issues — alongside his substance use. Since securing stable housing, he now regularly accesses healthcare services and has accessible supports in his unit that have greatly increased his independence, comfort, and overall quality of life. Today, he enjoys a quieter daily routine at Shelldale, often spending time doing puzzles with his dog, an activity that has become an important source of stability and joy. Having a safe and stable place to call home has allowed him to focus more fully on his health, wellbeing, and day-to-day routines.



80%

of residents said they felt respected, understood, and supported by staff throughout their time in the program



I had the opportunity to start to develop individual relationships with staff that were exceptional in helping me stabilize from the hardships of homelessness, support my recovery needs, and help me heal and grow.

Client, 10 Shelldale

Stories Change Systems

When we share client stories we learn what's working, where gaps remain, and how to respond faster. Those insights help us connect people to the right supports at the right time and reshape the systems around them to be more integrated, responsive, and person-centred.

“ **STC Staff,** Addiction Court Support

I worked with a client who was navigating the legal system for the first time and striving to maintain abstinence after a decade of substance use. I supported them by securing legal assistance, obtaining necessary court documents, and helping them enter our wellness court program. Together, we crafted a personalized wellness plan that they diligently followed over a year, in conjunction with other support services from our program. I also provided addiction counselling. Now, two years later, the client is still abstinent, has secured better housing, and is nearing the end of their court proceedings. They're even exploring post-secondary education options. Their situation has drastically improved, demonstrating the transformative power of our program's support and interventions.



82%

of STC clients said the staff
made it easier for them to talk
openly about difficult situations
and experiences



“ Jason Perfect, Peer Support Supervisor

I had the opportunity to assist a client who was trapped in an abusive home environment. Recognizing the urgency of the situation, my team and I provided regular community check-ins and fiercely advocated for them to receive priority status for affordable housing. Today, I am filled with pride and joy as I share that this individual has been stably housed for over a year now. They've also made remarkable strides in their personal and professional life – graduating college and securing employment. Through this journey, I've seen first-hand how our interventions can truly transform lives, providing safety, stability, and a pathway to success.

Affirming and inclusive program values were also deeply appreciated by residents. One resident highlighted the importance of the program's "queer positive staff, program values, as well as openness to feedback and improvements," emphasizing how creating a welcoming and responsive environment helped foster a stronger sense of safety, belonging, and trust.



Community Giving



Signature Event: Ride for Refuge

Stonehenge's first-ever **Ride for Refuge** brought our community together in an incredible way. Eighty-one participants rode, ran, walked, and rolled to raise over **\$21,000** in support of compassionate, community-based substance use care.

From team spirit to shared celebration, the day was a powerful reminder of what's possible when people come together. We are deeply grateful to our sponsors, volunteers, participants, and supporters for making it all possible.

Highlights:

- 81 participants
- 15 teams
- 21 dedicated volunteers
- \$21,000 raised
- Top fundraiser: Ray Felice with \$1,656



Winter Comfort Kits: Rotary Club of Guelph Trillium Grant

The Rotary Club of Guelph Trillium's **\$3,000 Community Grant** supported the creation of Winter Comfort Kits, filled with essentials like socks, sleeping bags, thermal blankets, and more. These kits help keep the people we support warm and safe and also created opportunities to build meaningful connections.



Nurture Her Initiative: Bell Let's Talk Grant

Bell Let's Talk awarded **\$25,000** to support the **Nurture Her Initiative**, strengthening gender-responsive programming for women in our residential program. Funding supported curriculum development and staff training, helping participants build coping skills, confidence, and connection.



Astoria

Astoria App: Telling the Stonehenge Story

Sharing client stories is at the heart of our work—offering hope, reducing stigma, and demonstrating impact. To support this, **Stonehenge piloted the Astoria app**, which uses AI-guided prompts to help staff and clients easily capture stories via text. These stories are securely collected and used in communications and grant applications to strengthen support for our work. Here is one of those stories:

“ Staff Story

As a counsellor at Stonehenge, I supported a client who was initially navigating substance use challenges and housing instability, and who was hesitant to engage with community supports. Through a referral from one of our community partners, she accessed shelter and counselling services that helped her begin to stabilize. Alongside this, our team at Stonehenge worked with her to secure meaningful employment at the YWCA, an opportunity she approached with enthusiasm and determination. Today, she is thriving: maintaining her sobriety, living with her family, and building a stable future. It has been a privilege to witness and contribute to her inspiring journey toward recovery and renewed independence.

\$3,782.18 for Family & Friend Support Group: Year End Campaign

Our year-end campaign (December 1–31) raised **\$3,782.18** thanks to our generous community. These funds will support an 8-session pilot Family & Friends Support Group for loved ones of Supportive Housing clients, reaching 10–15 participants. Insights from the pilot will help guide the program’s future growth.



Annual Report Financials

2025-2026

REVENUE

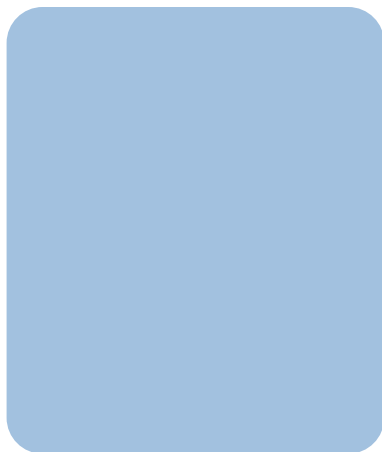
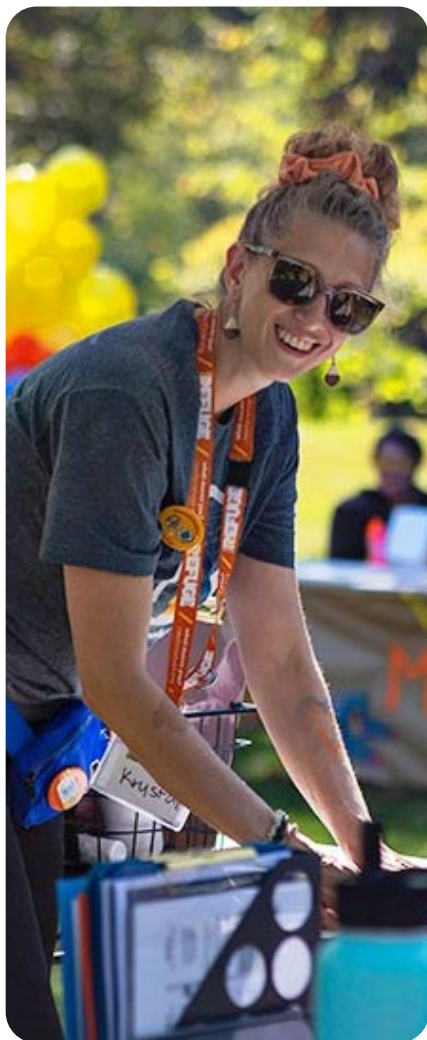
Ministry of Health / Ontario Health	\$ 8,836,360
Ministry of the Solicitor General	\$ 770,052
Correctional Service of Canada	\$ 824,770
Other Funders*	\$ 1,734,460
Miscellaneous	\$ 39,752
Total Funding	\$12,205,394

* Health Sciences North, Guelph CHC, County of Wellington, Shoppers Drug Mart, Waterloo Regional Health

EXPENSES

Residential Services	\$ 3,492,158
Supportive Housing	\$ 3,799,649
Addiction Medicine & Withdrawal	\$ 3,225,348
Integrated Supports & Justice	\$ 1,096,452
Total Expenditures	\$ 11,613,606





By working together, we can
create meaningful and lasting
change in our community!



Support. Hope. Thrive.

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