

Introduction to Educational Services at the Operation Come Home Achievement Centre 2016

Education on your terms!



Operation Come Home

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Staff and volunteers work hard to create a safe “home away from home.”

Operation Come Home

Overview

Operation Come Home is an employment, education, and support centre for homeless and at-risk youth age 16 and up. Our programs focus on what works and what matters to youth, as well as encourage personal growth of everyone as an individual.

Vision

To prevent homeless youth from becoming homeless adults.

Mission

To provide a comprehensive menu of innovative programs and services designed to engage youth in productive activities that will provide them with a foundation to move on with their life goals.

Value Statement

Operation Come Home strives to create a professional, non-judgemental, caring, confidential, consistent, youth-centred environment that empowers youth, staff and volunteers to actively promote: advocacy, youth success through opportunity, adaptability, integrity and equality through a team approach while maintaining respect for human worth and dignity.

The Achievement Centre

The Achievement Centre is a transitional education model designed to engage street involved youth in academic studies outside of the traditional classroom setting. For some youth, an alternative method of learning is required in order to achieve success academically. The school is based on the philosophy that all students can experience success and that some can graduate in a non-traditional academic environment. The Achievement Centre provides full time course instruction with a qualified teacher through a partnership with Lester B. Pearson High School of the Ottawa Catholic School Board. The teacher provides assistance for all high school courses, GED preparation, co-op courses, and school registration as well as provides the students with an opportunity to set goals and complete their high school diploma. The Achievement Centre has a social support worker who encourages, motivates and assists youth in an attempt to ensure success through problem solving. The role of the Social Support Worker is to provide one-on-one social support and assist youth with any issues other than academic that are preventing them from being successful in the classroom. The supports could include but not limited to literacy, financial, housing, legal, familial, mental health, substance use/abuse, counselling and basic needs. In conjunction with the teacher, the Social Support Worker ensures that each student has a social support action plan. The Achievement Centre is beneficial in that youth who are not successful in a traditional high school setting have the opportunity to graduate and go on to College, University or to choose a career path.

Guiding Principles

1. The students will be offered a transitional program leading to a graduation diploma or other educational or career opportunities.
2. Youth will be empowered to take ownership of their life choices.
3. The educational opportunities provided will facilitate the development of the whole person.

Eligibility Criteria

1. The Achievement Centre will accept youth ages 16-21 for credit accumulation and youth ages 19-25 for General Educational Development (GED) preparation or Independent Learning Centre (ILC) credits.
2. Youth would be accepted into the Achievement Centre if they are considered "at-risk*."
3. The youth has demonstrated an interest and willingness to participate in the program.

* Youth may be considered "at-risk" due to lack of attendance, risk of expulsion, currently homeless, instability of home life, mental health and addictions issues. Final enrollment decisions are at staff discretion.

Registration

Becoming an Achievement Centre Student

Students of the Achievement Centre will have access to the unique and innovative programs and services Operation Come Home currently offers, such as food bank, clothing cupboard, a daily hot breakfast, employment support, housing resources, and maybe even get a first job in one of our social enterprises! Additionally, clinical services such as a mental health counsellor provided by the Royal Ottawa Mental Health Centre, a substance use counsellor funded through Project Step, a nurse from Ottawa Public Health and medical services are available by appointment or drop-in.

Graduates of the Achievement Centre, will also have the opportunity to apply for a scholarship to assist with the costs of attending post-secondary studies. Lester B. Pearson Catholic High School, Pathways for Success and the Rotary Club of Ottawa Centennial Scholarship Fund have committed to reducing the financial stress for students wanting to further their education.

Intake Process

The first two weeks upon registration will be considered the probationary period, where the student must complete at least ten hours per week. Once the student has passed the probationary period, they are considered enrolled and are expected to complete ten hours per week moving forward. Exceptions will be made under special circumstances. The student is considered active if they are participating in the program, however, inactive if the student does not attend school at least once during the week.

Discharge

If at any time the Achievement Centre does not receive any communication from the student for two weeks they will automatically be discharged from the program. The student is welcome to return and repeat the intake process.

Contact Information

Ashley Brunette

Social Support Worker/Financial Literacy Coach

Achievement Centre- Operation Come Home

ashleym@operationcomehome.ca

Office: (613) 230-4663 ext. 255

Fax: (613) 230-8223

Toll Free: 1-800-668-4663

Hours & Location

Monday- Friday 8:30am-3pm

150 Gloucester Street, 2nd floor

Ottawa ON K2P 0A6

Register Today

Students can take advantage of a school program that is open year round and one-on-one tutoring can be made available, the contact is Ashley Brunette to book an intake and begin the registration process. For your convenience, we offer continuous intakes!

External Referral Form

Operation Come Home Achievement Centre

[External Referral Form]

Date: _____

Applicant Information

Full Name: _____ Gender: _____
Date of Birth (YYYY/MM/DD): _____ Age: _____
Phone Number: (_____) _____ Can we leave a message? **YES/NO**
Email: _____

Prior Education

Last school attended? _____
When? _____

Reasons for leaving: **(please check all that apply)**

- Bullying Substance Use Mental Health Pregnancy Lost Housing Self-esteem
- Attendance Expelled Graduated Diagnosed/Undiagnosed Learning Disability
- Other: _____

I want to work towards:

- Credits GED Diploma Certificate Literacy Other: _____

Do you have a copy of your transcript? **Y/N** Are you currently working on a credit? **Y/N**

How many credits do you currently have? _____

Income

What is your main source of income?

- Employment Ontario Works Parents ODSP CAS No income
- Other: _____

External Referral Form

Community Supports

What other community supports do you access?

Community Centre YSB CMHA Probation Services YMCA/YWCA

The Royal Ottawa CHEO Other: _____

Areas of Support

What supports are you interested in receiving while completing school? **(Please check all that apply)**

Housing Identification Income Employment Health Substance Use

Mental Health Life Skills Other: _____

Applicant Signature

Signature

Date

Referral Source

Agency/School: _____

Contact information:

☒ Name: _____

☒ Email: _____

☒ Number: (_____) _____ ext. _____

Please email completed forms to ashleym@operationcomehome.ca or fax to 613-230-8223 ATTN: Ashley