



48th Annual General Meeting

June 15, 2015



Our Vision:

Children, youth and families are safe and healthy in caring and inclusive communities.

Our Mission:

Strengthening children, youth and families through innovative and accessible quality services.





Message from the President

As I reflect on our agency over the past year, I am struck by the commitment and professionalism shown by our staff toward our clients, our community, and our agency. I want to also acknowledge the strong work of our Executive Director and my colleagues who, along with me, give of their time to sit on the board. As an agency, we continue to provide high quality services to the people that we serve and we enjoy strong partnerships with our funders, especially the MCFD. Thank you all.

—Dennis Yandle, *President*

Our Board 2014/2015

Dennis Yandle, *President*

Marion Clauson, *Vice President*

Paulene Hall, *Secretary*

KP Aujlay, *Treasurer*

Deborah Hutchings, *Director*

All members of our Board of Directors are volunteers who have a keen and dedicated interest in the welfare of children, youth and families. All are actively involved in the community in addition to their work with STLEO.

A number of Board members are award winning volunteers receiving: community service awards, Burnaby Local Hero awards, Burnaby Citizen of the Year, Lions Club (highest award in Canada), Honorary Life Memberships, Queen's Jubilee Medal.

Additional Board community involvement has included:

Abbeyfield House Society

Area Commissioner Girl Guides of Canada

BC Lions Society for children
City of Burnaby Santa Claus Parade

City of Burnaby Social Planning Committee

City of Burnaby Youth Justice Committee

Hospital Community Service
Lions Clubs

Meals on Wheels

Optimist Club

Professional Committee with BC Women's Hospital

St. Margaret's of Scotland

Sun Yat-Sen Classical Chinese Garden Society

Valley Therapeutic Association
Willingdon Church

Executive Director's Report




An AGM is a time to sit back and take note of our accomplishments as well as refine our goals. It is also a time to be appreciative, thoughtful, and self-reflective. Our work is important. Collectively and individually, we make a difference in our community and to the people that we serve.

Over the past year, St Leonard's has experienced some moderate growth with two new programs coming on line. I'd like to welcome our new staff and programs to the agency. These are the Delta House residential program for youth and the Burnaby Gang Prevention program for young women.

Last year, **STLEO** provided services to 461 children, youth, and families. Our agency grew to a total of 86 employees delivering over 26,000 hours of direct service.

In addition to new programs, **STLEO** launched the Youth Innovation Lab. This project provided eight youth at-risk with an opportunity to learn coding skills, build apps, develop websites, and shadow mentors in the tech community. Young people in the program also received support to secure housing, connect with appropriate resources, and plan for their future. The conclusion of the pilot will produce an external evaluation report that will guide us to further develop our curriculum and program. Youth within the program also spoke to their experience to staff and parents in the Burnaby School District. We believe the pilot has been exceptional in meeting our early goals and we look forward to the next stage of this social innovation project.



St Leonard's was chosen again by the Home Depot Foundation to participate in their campaign to end youth homelessness. All proceeds raised at our participating Burnaby Home Depot store will be donated to support youth to secure stable housing, education, and employment.

STLEO is an accredited agency and participates in continuous quality improvement. In February, CARF Canada reviewed our agency against industry standards and awarded our agency with the highest award possible—a three year certificate. The summary report states, among other things, that “The persons served express high levels of satisfaction with the services provided and the respect and dedication shown by personnel.”

Our agency launched its first annual climate survey in staff. The survey asked staff about a number of items including knowledge about agency policy, staff satisfaction, and areas for agency improvement. This report will be consolidated and made available to staff and board. Our agency also again conducted program SWOTs (strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats) to assist our agency in continuous quality improvement (CQI).

Thank you to our Board of Directors for their commitment of time and expertise to the agency. Thank you also to our wonderful staff and volunteers, as well as to our many community and government partners.

Our Programs and Services



Child and Youth Access

66 families served

Many children struggle with issues related to emotional, behavioral, and mental health, which can cause significant distress and impair development and functioning at home, at school, and in the community. Through prevention, early identification, and intervention efforts, their struggles can be reduced. The Child and Youth Access program helps children, youth, and families deal with mental health issues, including behavioral, psychological, and emotional challenges. The program provides timely, appropriate, and effective assistance that respects and promotes the independence and self-determination of participants.



Family Development Program

97 families served

Today's families are faced with many challenges that place great demands on resources. Strong family systems provide support for successfully meeting these demands and for encouraging the healthy emotional and physical growth of family members. We believe that strong families, which provide a support system to guide individuals through various life stages and life events, are the foundation for strong communities. Building positive, healthy interactions between family members is an important key to family preservation. The Family Development Program is designed to focus on strengthening family and individual relationships, with the objective of building healthy families.



SMILE

50 families served

Raising a healthy child starts with a healthy pregnancy. Educating young mothers, fathers, and any significant others through pregnancy and childbirth has a positive impact on the health of the mother and on the ongoing development of her baby. At **STLEO**, we understand having a baby is a life-changing experience and that everyone needs support to become a nurturing and responsible parent. That's why we started the SMILE program—to help young mothers and fathers experience a healthy pregnancy and to provide them with the education and support needed to prepare for childbirth and raising their children.



Our Programs and Services

Beach, Newton, and Delta House 46 youth served

At a time of crisis or transition, youth in care can find support through our newest programs located in Surrey and Delta. Our two bed emergency receiving homes provide youth with a warm and inviting homelike setting, to assist with personal goal setting, school support and physical and mental health planning.



Esau House 51 youth served

When there is instability and change in their lives, youth need to be encouraged, supported, and nurtured. Providing a stable, safe environment for youth in transition is often a key first step in establishing a foundation for them to overcome obstacles and move forward in a positive way. Esau House provides that environment and offers support, encouragement, and ideas for youth who are often not involved in school or community programs. The co-ed home offers behavioural assessment and contact with professionals to provide stability during crises and transitional periods in a youth's life.



Southside Residential Program 9 youth served

When there is instability and change in their lives, people need to be encouraged, supported, and nurtured. This is particularly true of girls who are not only moving through adolescence, but who may be dealing with issues including alienation from their family, and involvement in street activities. Providing a stable, safe environment for teenage girls in transition is often a key first step in establishing a foundation for them to overcome obstacles and move forward in a positive way.



Youth Innovation Lab

In our newest program, youth receive hands-on training with some of the best technology companies in Vancouver to achieve skills in computer coding, animation and project development. When completed, youth will understand basic coding language, tour an animation studio, advertising firm, and computer lab, and receive a mentorship relationship with an artist, coder, or social media expert in the field.

Integrated Community Youth Services (ICYS)

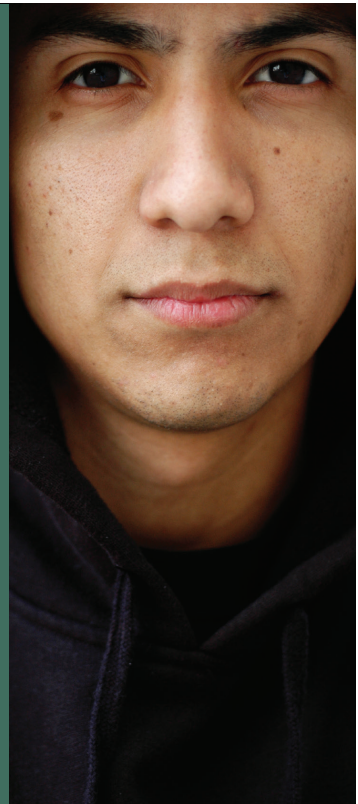
142 youth and families served

At STLEO we've learned we can help youth realize lasting positive change in their lives by building on their strengths. When youth feel included and valued in their families and communities, they are more motivated to make positive choices and to live a healthy, safe, and productive life style. That's why we created Integrated Community Youth Services (ICYS) – an innovative youth development initiative aimed at building a network of support for high-risk youth by establishing meaningful links, connections, and relationships between young people as individuals, their families and significant others, and the community as a whole. Through ICYS, youth build confidence and self-esteem while learning to increase their social, interpersonal, and life skills.

Through ICYS, we work to build community networks and connections with social service agencies, community, and business organizations.

Services offered as part of ICYS include:

- Youth mentorship opportunities to provide friendship, support and positive role modeling
- Community work service placements to provide opportunities for youth restitution
- Parental support, education, parent/teen mediation and crisis intervention to help build strength in families
- Support to transitional housing to help stabilize living arrangements for youth
- Youth development and monitoring to help build personal strength
- Community capacity development to help build a supportive community
- School program for youth to be able to continue with formal learning
- Outreach to connect with sexually exploited youth
- Support for youth to exit gang involvement through recreational and pro-social activities



Awards

AI Cote Employee of the Year Award

The AI Cote Award is presented annually to an employee who best exemplifies the qualities that AI Cote has given our society to the benefit of the people with whom it is our privilege to work.

AI Cote was one of the founding members of St. Leonard's Youth and Family Services and served as a volunteer for over two decades as a member of the society, committee chairperson, and as an officer and director on the Board.

AI was the kind of honest, sincere, hard working person you could truly depend on. Over the years, he had given unstintingly of his time because he cared deeply about people who are in need and believed that the work of the society could make a positive difference in their lives.



From left to right: Cole Bennett, AI Cote Winner, with Renata Aebi, Executive Director

The University of British Columbia: St. Leonard's Youth and Family Services Scholarship

A \$500 to \$1000 scholarship has been endowed by St. Leonard's Youth and Family Services. The award is offered each year to an undergraduate student entering the final year of study in Social Work. The award is made on the recommendation of the School of Social Work and Family Studies, University of British Columbia.





We thank our funders for their support and partnership



Ministry of Children and Family Development
Ministry of Justice



vancouver
foundation

St. Leonard's is accredited by CARF: The Commission on Accreditation Rehabilitation Facilities. This means that we have met CARF's rigorous guidelines for service and quality and that our services adhere to internationally recognized standards of excellence. Please visit the CARF website for more information:

www.carf.org



St. Leonard's Youth and Family Services Society is audited annually by the firm Matthews Campbell.

St Leonard's Youth and Family Services

7181 Arcola Way, Burnaby BC V5E 0A6

Telephone: 605-524-1511 Fax: 604-524-1510 Charitable # BN 107674 6481