# North of the Danforth Research Project

Household Financial Supports

## THE NODA ("NORTH OF DANFORTH") RESEARCH PROJECT

- South Riverdale Community Health Centre, Massey Centre for Women, and WoodGreen Community Services spoke to residents in the Pape Village / Broadview North area to learn what types of health and social services are needed in the community.
- Residents spoke about their needs for primary healthcare and dentistry, childcare, child and youth programs, public space for communitybuilding, financial supports, and food and nutrition programs.

#### **EMPLOYMENT**

- Many people knew about and had used the employment supports on Danforth Ave., but residents found that these were too far away. People felt that when they were looking for employment, they needed to have the tools (ex. Internet, printer, fax, telephone) close to their homes.
- Adults with skilled and professional work experience, including newcomers, felt that many employment support programs are meant for people without skilled work experience. They needed different forms of support because they had past professional work experience.
- Youth struggled with finding employment, and had not regularly visited the organizations on Danforth Ave.
- Youth suggested a mentorship network where

they could job-shadow or apprentice at local businesses. It would help develop skills, make contacts, and connect them to the community.

### HOUSING

- Participants felt that the average rents in Toronto had become too expensive for many families.
- Some lived in homes too small for the family, but could not afford larger homes.
- Some people with housing need more support to continue living in their homes with stability. This includes people that are formerly homeless, people with disabilities, and some seniors.
- There is a sense that homelessness may be an increasing problem in the neighbourhood.

## Where Can I Find Support For Home Finances?

### **EMPLOYMENT SUPPORTS**

• Toronto Public Library — Todmorden Room Branch

• 1081 <sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> Pape Ave., inside East York Community Centre.

- <u>http://www.torontopubliclibrary.ca/</u> or call
  (416) 396-3875.
- Includes 2 computers with internet and 1 printer. The branch has very limited hours and no staff that work specifically with people look-

ing for employment.

- WoodGreen Community Services
  - Several locations surrounding the neighbourhood, each with different programs.
- <u>http://www.woodgreen.org</u> or call
  (416) 645-6000
  - Many programs to support people looking for work or planning to return to school, including specific programs for women, immigrants, and people with mental health challenges. Most programs free, and some offer free childcare.
- Newcomer Women's Services Toronto (NEW)

• 745 Danforth Ave. and 705 Danforth Ave., by Jones Ave.

<u>http://newcomerwomen.org/</u>or call
(416) 751-8886.

• Programs for newcomer women looking for work (e.g. Job search workshops, English language development, etc.). Many programs give free TTC tokens, and some have free childcare.

### **HOUSING SUPPORTS**

- East York East Toronto Housing Help Centre
  - <u>http://www.eastyorkhousinghelp.ca</u> or call
    (416) 698-9306.
  - Housing support workers can help you find affordable housing, access emergency funds to

pay rent or electricity bills, prevent an eviction, and find more services.

Ontario Landlord and Tenant Board
 http://www.lth.gov.op.go/.or.goll\_toll-

• <u>http://www.ltb.gov.on.ca/</u>or call toll-free at 1-888-332-3234.

• Information for tenants and landlords on laws related to rented housing, including leases, maintenance, moving out, and eviction. All information available in English and French, and brochures are available in 10 languages, including Chinese, Russian, and Urdu.

## OTHER INFORMATION

### Metro Voicemail Project

- http://www.toronto.ca/housing/guidetoservices/voicemail.htm.
- Get a voicemail account and check your phone messages from any telephone. For people without phone numbers. Cost is \$10 for 3 months.
- Flemingdon Community Legal Services
  - 49 The Donway West, by Don Mills Rd. & Lawrence Ave. E.
  - <u>http://flemingdonlegal.org/</u> or call (416) 441-1764.
  - Lawyers and paralegals on staff to give lowincome people legal advice.

For a directory of over 20,000 community, social, health and government services, please visit www.211Toronto.ca.

The NODA research project's report is titled "From Neighbourhood to Community: Health and Social Supports North of the Danforth". The full report and executive summary can both be found on the websites of South Riverdale Community Health Centre, Massey Centre for Women, WoodGreen Community Services, and the Wellesley Institute.

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