

## Losing your identification (ID) shouldn't cost your identity



Pieces of ID that look like health and photo cards are drawing attention to the growing need for ID services for those who are homeless or lack secure housing. The IDs look like standard pieces, but a closer look reveals a faceless portrait with obscured description fields. The back of the card sends a clear message: "Losing your ID shouldn't cost your identity" along with a QR code that takes people to Street Health's website to learn more.

Thanks to a generous in-kind donation and the creative talents of ReThink Canada, Street Health is creating wider awareness about the need for our Identification Services.

Street Health's ID services helps clients replace lost or stolen ID. Each month 12 community partner drop-ins are offered, including bi weekly clinics for those staying at the Bathurst/Lakeshore respite site. Documents covered by this service include: Ontario Health Cards, birth certificates, SIN and verification of status (ROL). In addition "ID Safe" offers secure storage for documents and receiving mail. This service has had a 25% increase in clients in the last year.

For anyone, losing your wallet and ID causes stress and inconvenience, but for homeless people losing or lacking ID can also result in no access to essential services – including housing, health care, income supports, voting in an election, or even childcare.

**To learn more about this awareness campaign or to make a donation to support ID services visit Street Health's website – [www.streethealth.ca](http://www.streethealth.ca)**

## Mark the Date – February, 22, 2020

### Coldest Night of the Year (CNOY) – Let's Go!



Last year 75 amazing people helped Street Health raise \$15,000 by asking their family and friends to sponsor them, walking 5 km and learning more about the issue of homelessness.

### Now we need YOU to walk with us on February 22, 2020:

- Commit to be a team captain
- Ask colleagues, family and friends to join you
- Get some donations
- Prepare yourself for the cold
- You will learn about homelessness and Street Health's services
- You will feel amazing for being involved in an event that supports change in our community.

See over to hear from participants from previous years →



## Past walkers in the Coldest Night of the Year said:

*"The walk with a staff guide and the opportunity to ask questions was an amazing experience."*

*"We started in sunshine and ended with soup. The streets of the downtown east side show their wrinkles at night – folks with little to wear and few places to rest."*

*"These donations are essential to Street Health's services, supporting people where they are at and delivered without judgement."*

*"Bundle up and you will walk proudly as an advocate for those who rely on these accessible harm reduction services"*



Join us – February 22, 2020.

For more details visit [www.streethealth.ca](http://www.streethealth.ca) or call 416-921-8668.



A BIG thank you to David Mintz Catering and AYS Rentals for their continuing, generous support for a festive community lunch and providing post-walk refreshments for our CNOY event!

## Success, Potential and Uncertainty

Street Health has released an evaluation of our Overdose Prevention Site (OPS) services at Dundas and Sherbourne. This document provides insights from site service users and front line staff about the importance and positive impact this service has had on saving lives. Street Health's funding from the Ontario Ministry of Health was abruptly cut last March and has had to rely on a combination of short-term federal government and private donor funding to continue operating.

### PROGRAM USAGE STATISTICS

Street Health Overdose Prevention Site:  
Visits and client demographics, June 27th, 2018 to August 31st, 2019



**3,134**  
total visits



**56%**  
clients identifying  
as women

+



**43.5%**  
clients identifying  
as men

+



**0.5%**  
clients identifying as trans,  
gender non-conforming  
or non-binary

Number of overdoses successfully reversed: **50**

Average number of visits per month:<sup>1</sup> **272**

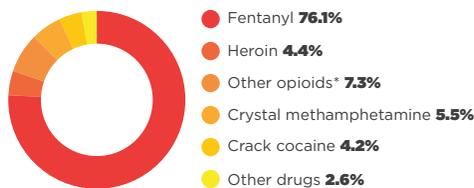
Average number of referrals per month to  
healthcare including substance treatment:<sup>2</sup> **53**

Average age of clients: **36 years old**

Peer-to-peer assisted injections: **12.9%**

<sup>1</sup> Average number of visits per month from January – August 2019  
<sup>2</sup> Average number of referrals per month from April – August 2019

### PRIMARY DRUG CONSUMED



\* oxycodone, hydromorphone, etc.

*"We need Street Health's donors – community organizations, family foundations and friends – to know that we need your continuing financial support to ensure our OPS can remain open after March 31, 2020,"*

states Kapri Rabin, Executive Director.

*"This evaluation highlights that OPS offer essential healthcare, keep people alive and ensure they have the supports they need."*

The full evaluation is available on our website:  
[www.streethealth.ca](http://www.streethealth.ca)



For information about our client-inspired harm reduction efforts and all the latest news visit "What's Up" - [www.streethealth.ca/what-s-up](http://www.streethealth.ca/what-s-up)