

THE ROOTS OF VIOLENCE ARE EXTENSIVE AND
PERVASIVE. WE HELP INDIVIDUALS TO

Think 2wice

Think2.org

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ABOUT US

MISSION + To empower individuals to walk in their purpose and unique talents while building positive leaders within the community.

VISION + Empowerment & upliftment of racialized people by eliminating the impacts of inequality & social injustice.

VALUES

Think 2twice believes that:

- + EVERY single person is born with a purpose.
- + EVERY single person has a unique gift and talent.
- + the bigger the calling, the bigger the trials and adversities.
- + there is power in ones words and thoughts.
- + ALL things are possible for those who believe.



A COMPARISON

Think Twice

**GANG
DETERRENCE**

**BELONGING &
LEADERSHIP**

EMPOWERMENT

Roots of Violence Report

2008 By Dr. Alvin Curling

The sense of nothing to lose and no way out that roils within such youth creates an ever-present danger. That danger arises from the impulsiveness of youth and the lack of foresight with which they often act. Including: hopelessness, alienation, and low self-esteem, among others.

Most youth who feel connected and engaged with broader society, and who feel valued and safe and see a positive future for themselves in it, will not experience these conditions and will not commit serious violence.

Repairing the social context and ensuring that programs and services are increasingly based on proven best practices; make appropriate connections with families, schools and communities; and are truly accessible.





OUR FOCUS

Think 2twice is a grassroots organization that focuses on Crime Prevention, Intervention, Rehabilitation and Reintegration.

We provide services and projects in the Neighborhood Improvement Areas (NIAs) of Toronto as well as the Federal Institutions.



OUR EVOLUTION

Think 2twice has evolved as demand and positive response has increased: through mentorship, training, workshops, motivational speaking, music and theatre productions. We provide sources of engagement that are relevant to our participants.



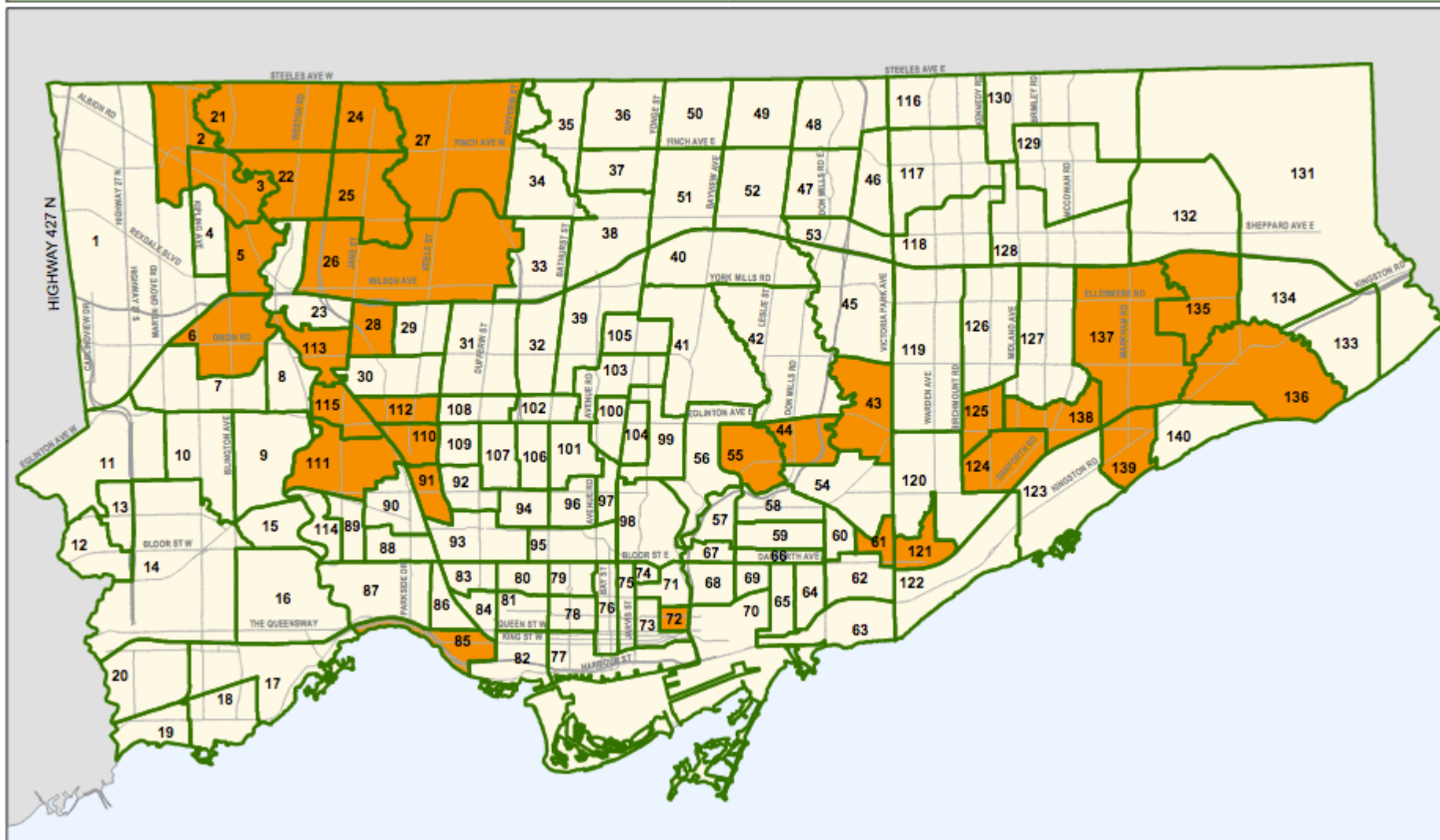
OUR STORY

Think 2twice paints a story and releases inspiration and hope in the vocabulary and understanding of the community, participants and of the audience.



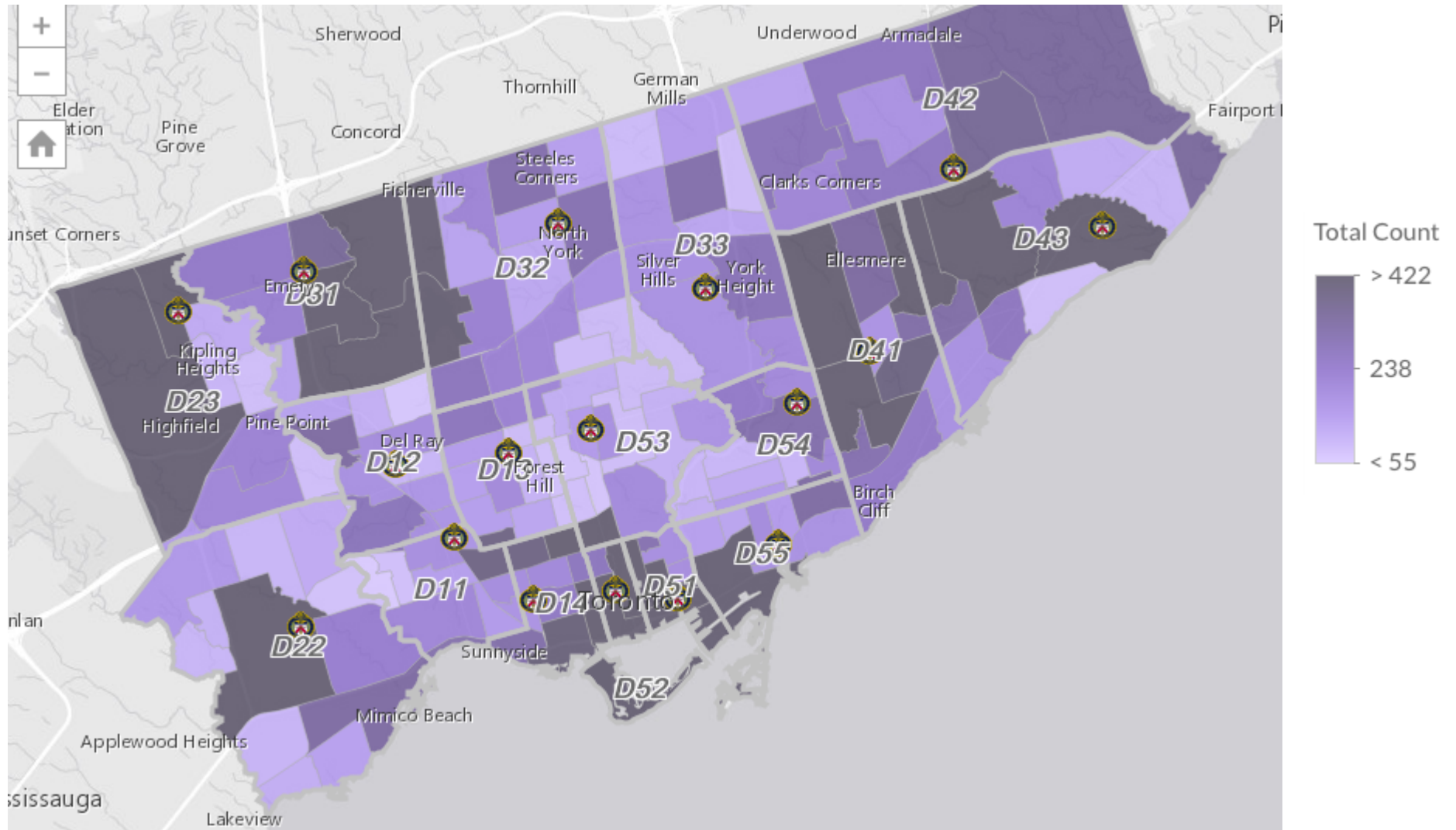
Toronto Neighborhood Improvement Areas -

Neighbourhood Improvement Areas



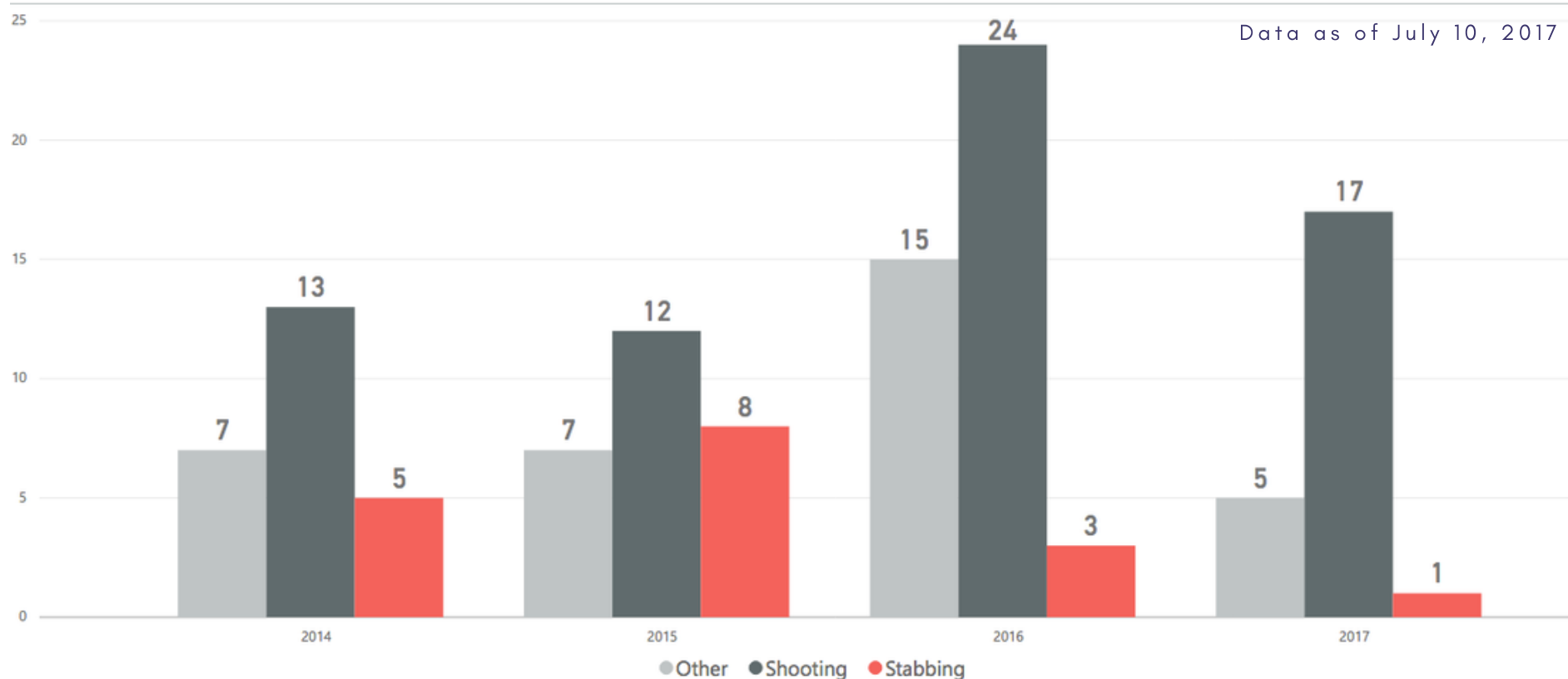
Through the Toronto Strong Neighbourhoods Strategy 2020, identified 31-neighbourhoods as falling below the Neighbourhood Equity Score and-requiring special attention (March 2014).-

Toronto Major Crime Indicators 2014-



maps.torontopolice.on.ca

TPS Shootings - Homicides by Type

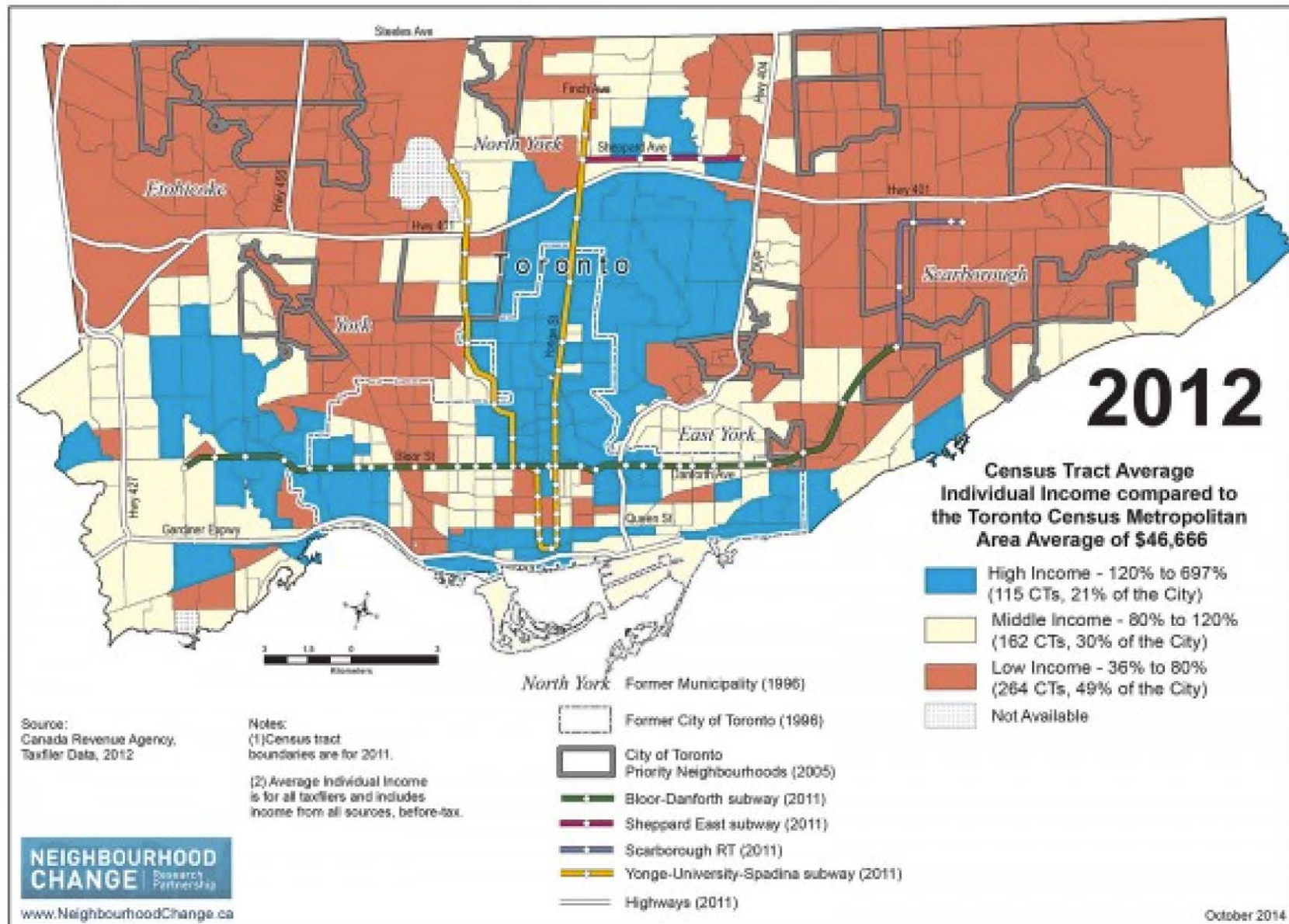


Shootings each year exceeds all other forms of homicide. In the past two years there were 41 shootings, which increased by 64% from 2014-15, and 'Other' Homicides by 43%. The impacts of violence ripples within communities - families, friends, and their health and safety. The trauma is real and communities are further marginalized.

What are we doing to address the roots of violence and the after effects through effective, preventive and trusted interventions?

SOURCES: www.torontopolice.on.ca/statistics/ytd_stats.php
<http://data.torontopolice.on.ca/pages/homicide>

Average Individual Income, City of Toronto, 2012



<http://spacing.ca/toronto/2014/10/29/torontos-mayoral-election-four-maps/>

THE ISSUE TODAY

"Gang violence is not
about involvement
anymore, it's about your
postal code"

Gun violence is one of the leading causes of death among young people.

The field bordering Jamestown Crescent, where a pregnant mother of two, Rochelle Bobb, was shot and killed in May 2016, but her baby was saved by emergency cesarean section. In the days after, Toronto recorded its 30th homicide of the year - double the number in 2015.

This is just one of the stories that makes it to the headlines. No one knows the after effects, nor the lives impacted, and the costs to society.

We must focus on prevention and intervention. To build social connections, positive role models, and empowering individuals through art, culture and community belonging.



"

All our men are behind bars. So much wasted talent. They are crying out for programs that they can relate to. We need to do more.

- PARTICIPANT

50 people are hired to run programs in this institution and not one of them had the effect on the inmates that you did. Amazing job!

- GUARD

"





BLACK HISTORY THEATRE

Our Prison Theatre Production releases hope and empowerment while incorporating artists, music, acting and speaking.

Our Past Productions:

February 2012- "HOPE"

February 2013- "REPENTANCE"

February 2014 "THE DITCH THEY DUG FOR ME"

February 2015 "3 KINGS" and "Not Everything That Glitters is Gold"

February 2016 "TRUTH"

February 2017 * 3 KINGS-SECOND CHANCES"

Follow up Workshops

We focus on the intense messages in the play. These messages are pulled apart and discussed in smaller intimate groups.

Theatre plays are performed for the Black History Events in Ontario Prisons. These are partnerships we have strengthened over time.

We offer the "3 KINGS" all year round, as a prevention initiative in the community, schools and other institutions.



KINGS TO KINGS

PREVENTION PROJECT

Is a crime prevention and intervention initiative where Inmate Leaders co-facilitate workshops geared to 'at risk' youth within the Federal Institutions.

This project's focus is to divert young people from criminal activity and empower them to Think Twice before making decisions that could negatively affect them, their loved ones and community.



“A smart man learns through his experience. A wise man learns from the experience of others.”

PROGRAMS

All of our programming empower young people to stop and Think Twice before making decisions that will affect them forever.

'I AM' WOMENS PROGRAM

Empowers women 13-17 years old to Think Twice before making unhealthy relationship choices that may increase the susceptibility for human trafficking and other gang related activities. Through skills development and theatrical cultural healing, women become ambassadors and awareness leaders.

MOTIVATIONAL SPEAKING AND WORKSHOPS

Topics of Interest:
Gang and Crime Prevention
Confidence Building
Anti-Bullying
Actions/ Consequences
Leadership
Purpose
The Power of Words/Thoughts

CORRESPONDENCE PROGRAM AND WRITING WORKSHOP

Empowers, motivates and supports young people who are incarcerated through the art form of writing.
Volunteers and community leaders provide mentorship through correspondence.



Our Impacts to Date

2006-2017

Audience Members

30000+

Workshops

2352

Correspondence

65

Participants

220+

Partners

13

Productions

6

Artists Hired

4





Zya Brown

Founder & Director

Think 2wice Members (past and present)

Andrae Walsh

Kirk Watson

Neisha Tyne

Jafari Fraser

Althea Dyce

Salomeh Ahmadi

Think 2wice Artists Supported (past and present)

Andrae Walsh (Acting)

Brandon Roache (Choreographer)

Yomi (Musician)

Stephanie Campbell (Recording Artist)

Samantha Nicole (Musician)

Wong (muralist & Music Producer)

Meet our team



3000

Since 2006, Think 2wice has
performed for over 3000 audience
members in Ontario.



COLLABORATORS & PARTNERS

All of the prisons, partners, inmates and families we work with, thank you!



FUNDED BY
THE CITY OF
TORONTO



ONTARIO ARTS COUNCIL
CONSEIL DES ARTS DE L'ONTARIO
an Ontario government agency
un organisme du gouvernement de l'Ontario

MEDIA COVERAGE

Young men go behind prison walls to see the results of bad choices, CBC Mar 03, 2017

www.cbc.ca/news/canada/toronto/young-men-go-behind-prison-walls-to-see-the-results-of-bad-choices-1.4007163

Etobicoke youth violence forum hears survivors' stories, Inside Toronto, Nov 09, 2016

www.insidetoronto.com/news-story/6955322-etobicoke-youth-violence-forum-hears-survivors-stories/

THANK YOU

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