

Our Health, Our City: Annual Progress Report 2024

Board of Health

November 18, 2024

Overview

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 - Mental Health and Substance Use
 - Provincial Announcements
2. Our Health, Our City Progress Update
 - Implementation Panel
 - Seven Strategic Goals
 - Cannabis, Vaping and Smoking for Youth
 - Indigenous Health and Wellness
 - Year One Priorities

➤ Mental Health



The percent of adults in Toronto who rated their mental health as very good or excellent decreased from 73.4% in 2015 to 55.0% in 2021.



In 2019, only 44.3% of Toronto youth (grades 7-12) reported very good or excellent mental health, while 16.7% of Toronto youth reported seriously contemplating suicide in the past year.



The percent of adults in Toronto who reported being very satisfied with their life in general decreased from 39.5% in 2015 to 29.8% in 2020.

➤ Substance Use



In 2023, there were 19,653 emergency department visits and 6,981 hospitalizations attributed to alcohol in Toronto.



In 2022, there were 3,050 emergency department visits and 1,234 hospitalizations for cannabis related harms in Toronto.



In an average year in Toronto, approximately 11,160 hospitalizations and 15,840 emergency department visits were attributed to smoking, among people 35 years and older.

➤ Drug Toxicity Epidemic



Toronto continues to face a drug toxicity epidemic with over 500 deaths due to opioid toxicity per year for the last four years in Toronto.



In 2023, there were 4,514 non-fatal calls for suspected opioid overdoses attended by Toronto Paramedic Services.



Toronto's Drug Checking Service continues to confirm worsening contamination and unpredictability of the unregulated opioid supply.

➤ Provincial Announcements

Anticipated CTS/SCS Site Closures in Toronto

- In August 2024, the province announced changes to supervised consumption and harm reduction services in Ontario.
- These anticipated changes will close five supervised consumption service sites (SCS) and consumption and treatment service sites (CTS) in Toronto by March 31, 2025.
- One additional site is expected to close in early 2025, due to a lease expiring and a prohibition on relocating sites.

Homelessness and Addiction Recovery Treatment Hubs

- The province also introduced \$378M for 19 new HART Hubs across Ontario.
 - Two HART Hubs will be focused on Indigenous populations.
 - SCS/CTS sites across Ontario impacted by the planned closures were given the opportunity to transition to a HART Hub.
- **City of Toronto and Toronto Public Health and community partners have applied to operate a HART Hub.**



Count of calls

5 - 18	Not available*
19 - 39	Highway
40 - 99	Main Street
100 - 199	
200 - 671	

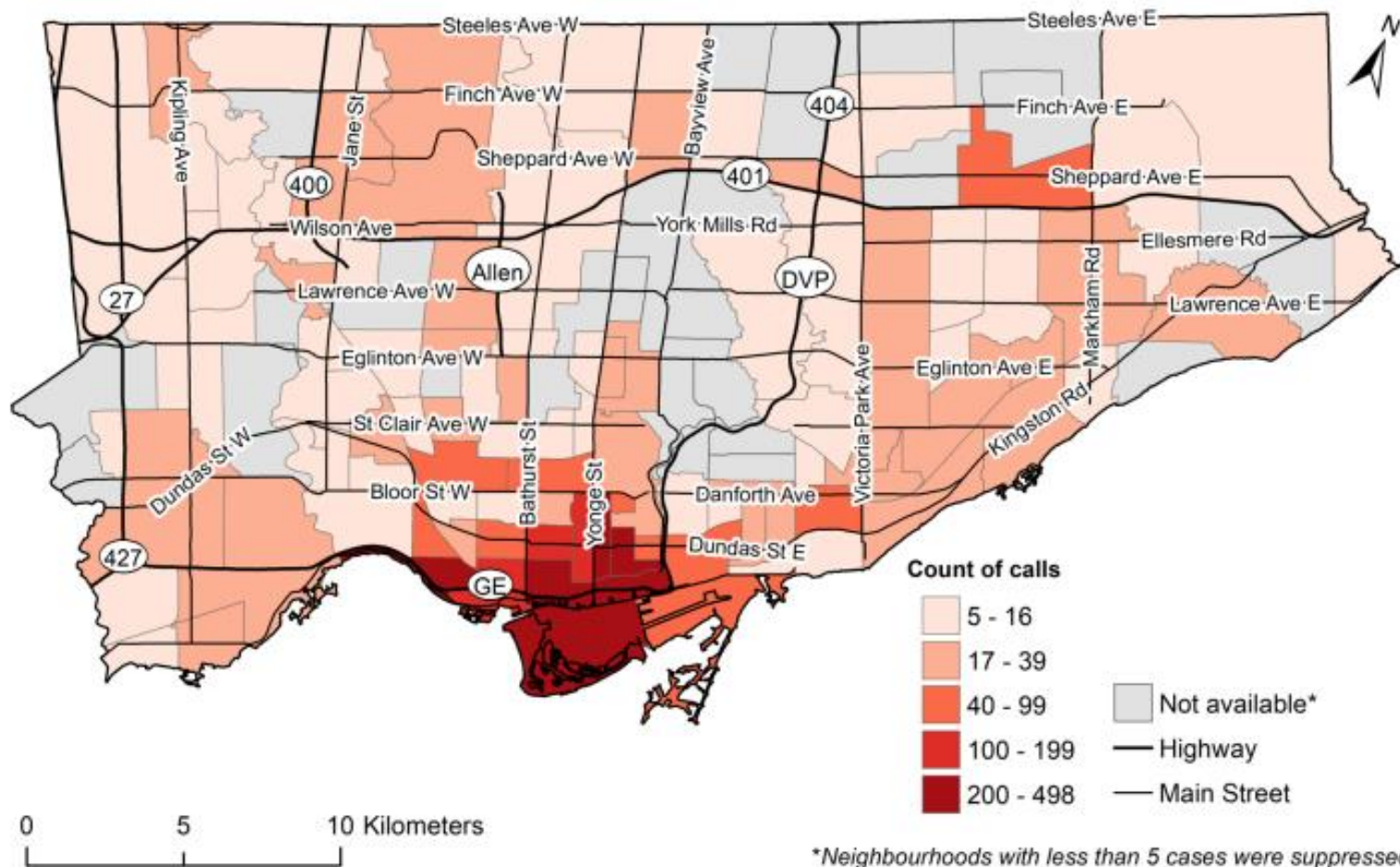
*Neighbourhoods with less than 5 cases were suppressed





Community Needs

Map of suspected opioid overdose calls by neighbourhood, Toronto, January 1, 2020 to December 31, 2020.

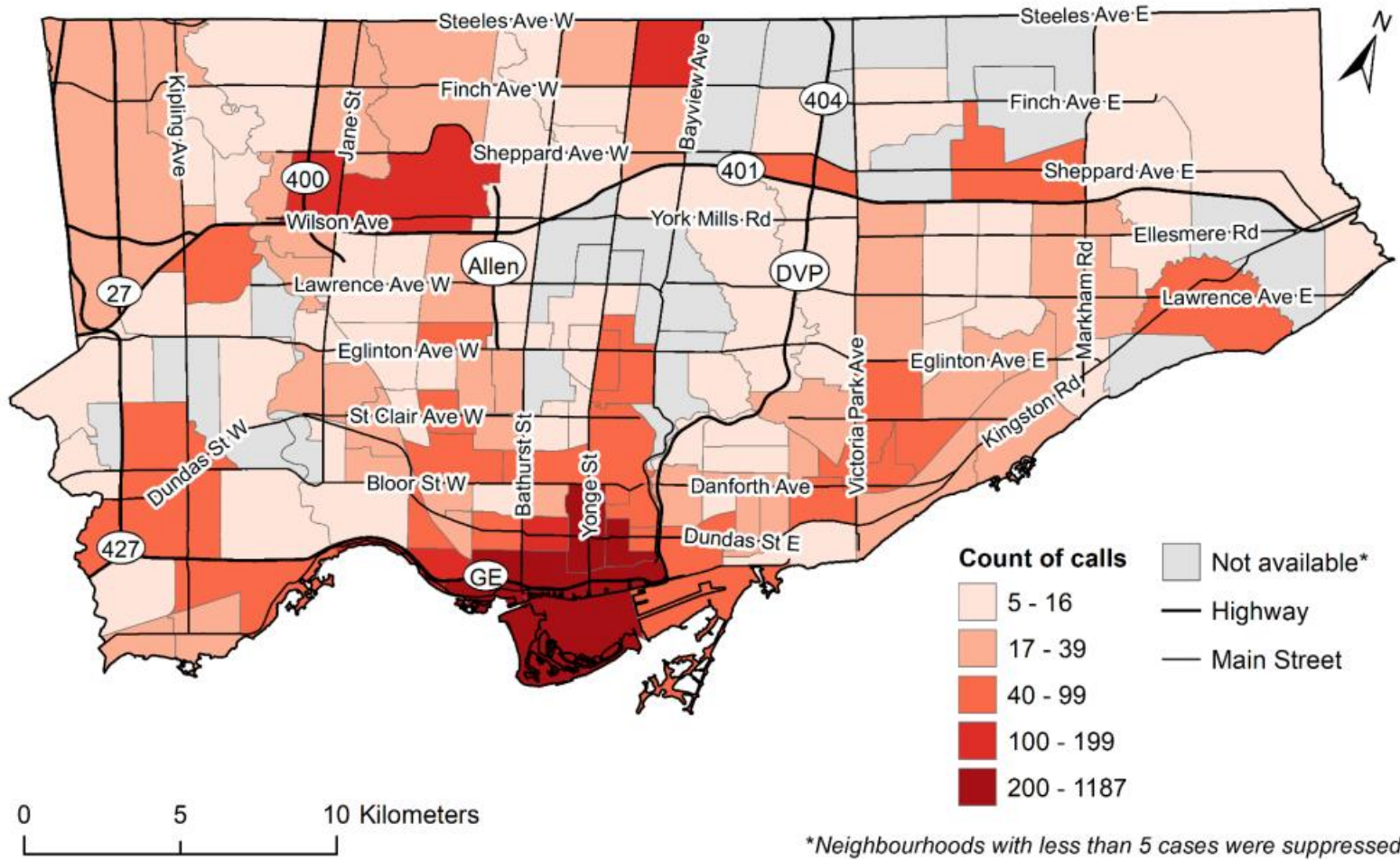


Source: Toronto Paramedic Services.
Electronic Patient Care Record. January 1,
2020 to December 31, 2020. Extracted
January 4, 2021. Prepared by Toronto
Public Health..



Community Needs

Map of suspected opioid overdose calls by neighbourhood, Toronto, January 1, 2021 to December 31, 2021.

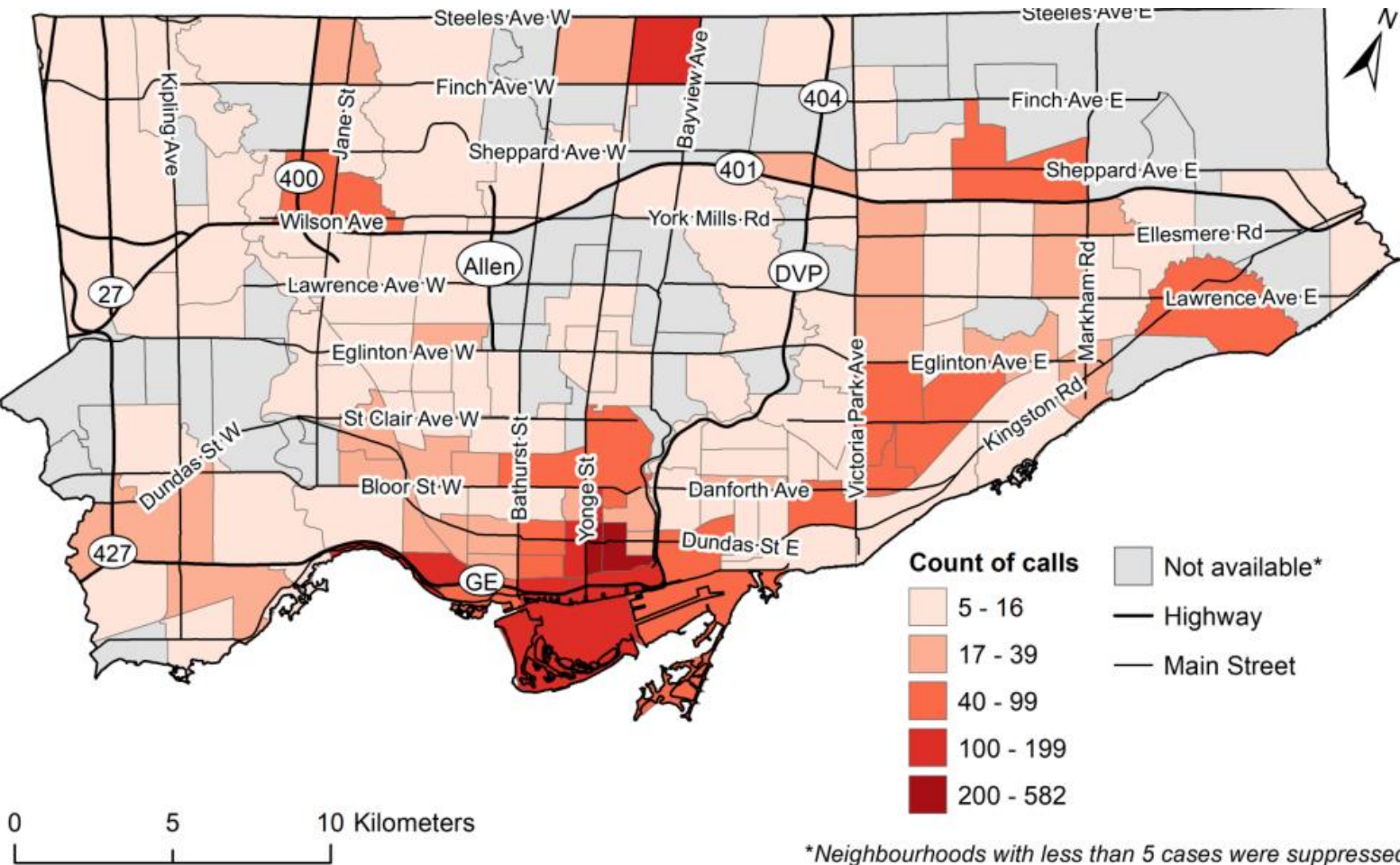


Source: Toronto Paramedic Services. Electronic Patient Care Record. January 1, 2021 to December 31, 2021. January 13, 2022. Prepared by Toronto Public Health.



Community Needs

Map of suspected opioid overdose calls by neighbourhood, Toronto, January 1, 2022 to December 31, 2022.

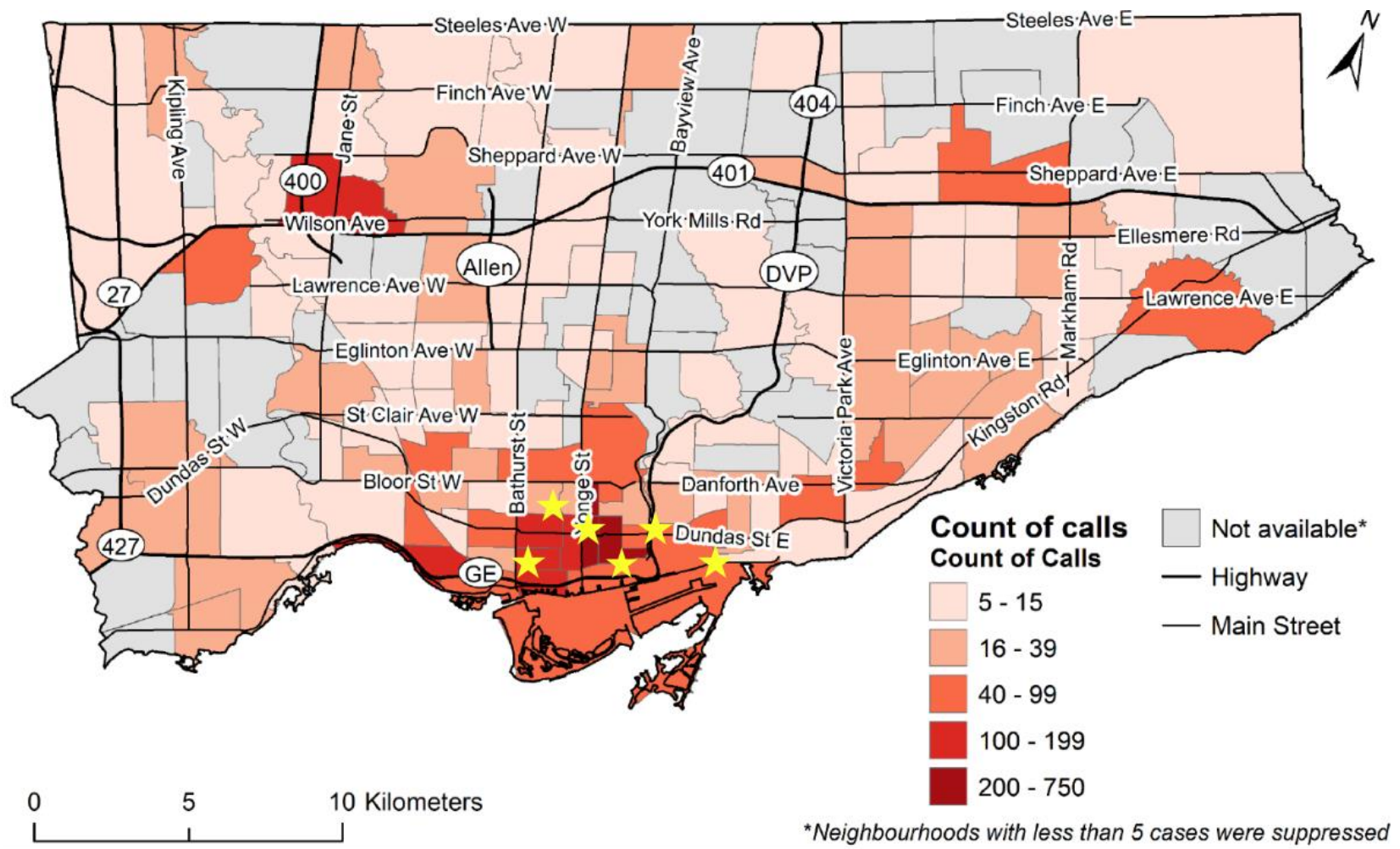


Source: Toronto Paramedic Services.
Electronic Patient Care Record. January
1, 2022 to December 31, 2022.
February 8, 2023. Prepared by Toronto
Public Health.



Community Needs

Map of suspected opioid overdose calls by neighbourhood, Toronto, January 1, 2023 to December 31, 2023.



Source: Toronto Paramedic Services. Electronic Patient Care Record. January 1, 2023 to December 31, 2023. Extracted January 3, 2024.

Our Health, Our City Progress Update

➤ Our Health, Our City Implementation Panel



- The Our Health, Our City Implementation Panel was established in September 2024.
- The panel met for the first time in October 2024.
- The panel will provide ongoing input and guidance on further implementation efforts.

➤ Update: Seven Strategic Goals

In 2024, a wide range of action has been taken across city divisions towards implementing the seven strategic goals identified in Our Health, Our City.



1. Promote mental health and wellbeing across the lifespan.



2. Prevent and reduce harms and deaths related to substance use across the lifespan.



3. Expand access to the full continuum of services to address mental health and/or substance use issues.



4. Advance community safety and wellbeing for everyone.



5. Improve access to housing and other social determinants of health.



6. Support mentally healthy workplaces and optimize the mental health of workers.



7. Proactively Identify and respond to mental health and substance use issues.

➤ Cannabis, Vaping and Smoking for Youth



- Preventing and reducing the harms associated with substance use across the lifespan is one of the goals in Our Health, Our City.
- As mandated by the Province, TPH has responsibility for enforcing the *Smoke-Free Ontario Act, 2017* and for the provision of health promotion and vaping prevention and education services to reduce the harms associated with youth vaping.

➤ Indigenous Health and Wellness



- Parallel work on a co-developed Indigenous Wellness Strategy is underway.
- An Indigenous Wellness Table and Indigenous Harm Reduction Circle with Indigenous-led service providers in the city were established.
 - Both groups continue to convene to advance Indigenous wellness, with a particular focus on harm reduction and promoting mental health and wellness.

➤ Update: Year 1 Priorities



Shelter Services, Supportive and Affordable Housing



24-7 Crisis Stabilization Supports



First Responders & Hospital Transfers



Expand Toronto Community Crisis Service



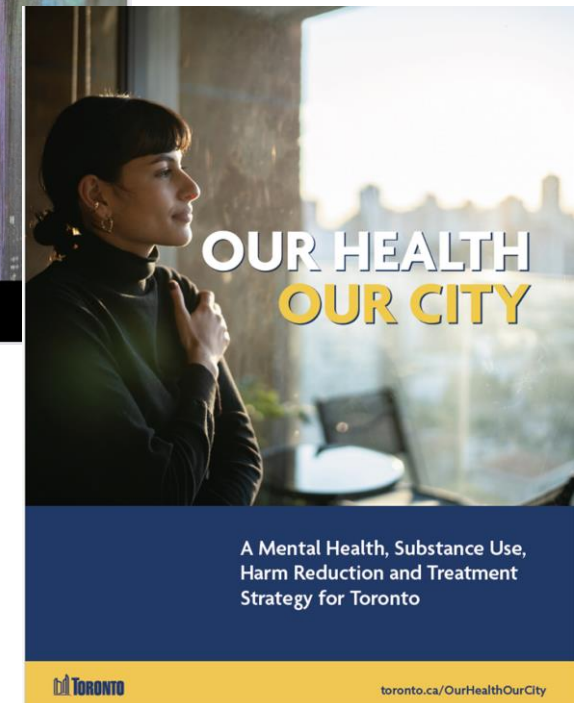
Toronto Community Crisis Service

Toronto Board of Health

November 18, 2024

SafeTO & Our Health, Our City

- The **TCCS** is one of **SafeTO's** key priority actions under year one efforts to reduce vulnerability through proactive mental health supports.
- Expanding the Toronto Community Crisis Service city-wide, as Toronto's fourth emergency service is a first-year priority action of **Our Health, Our City: A Mental Health, Substance Use, Harm Reduction and Treatment Strategy for Toronto**



The Toronto Community Crisis Service is available City-Wide



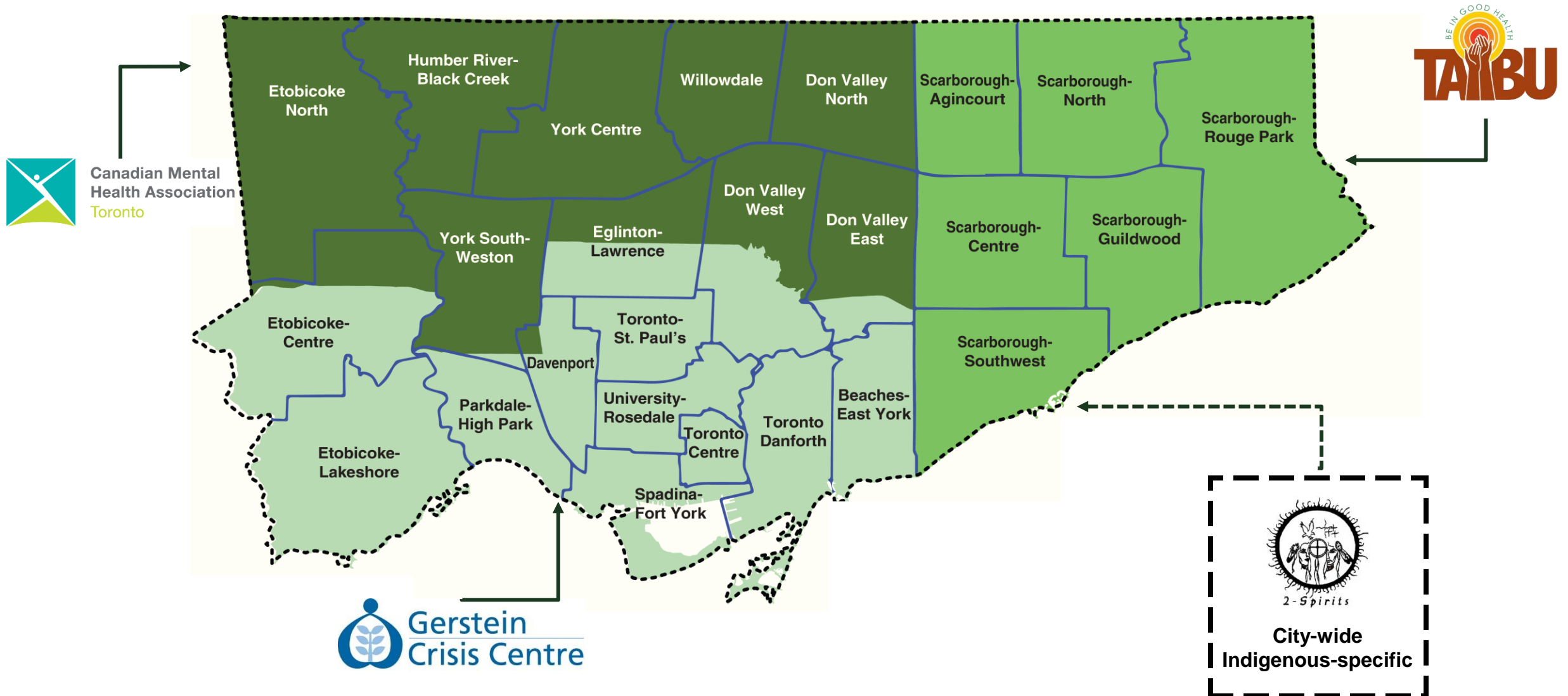
In November 2023, City Council approved the city-wide expansion of the Toronto Community Crisis Service, after a successful pilot year, by the end of 2024.

The TCCS successfully expanded city-wide on July 8, 2024.



Toronto
Community
Crisis Service

Expanded TCCS Service Areas



Expanded Partner Networks



Canadian Mental
Health Association
Toronto

Canadian Mental Health Association

- Yorktown Family Services
- Jane and Finch Centre
- Rexdale CHC
- Black Creek CHC
- CAFCAN
- Black Health Alliance
- Hong Fook Mental Health Association
- North York Family Health Team
- North York Community House
- Addiction Services of Central Ontario
- Unison Health and Community Services



TAIBU Community Health Centre

- Black Health Alliance
- Scarborough Health Network
- Hong Fook Mental Health Association
- Scarborough Centre for Healthy Communities
- Canadian Mental Health Association (CMHA)
- Fred Victor
- STRIDES Toronto
- Centre for Addiction & Mental Health (CAMH)



Gerstein
Crisis Centre

Gerstein Crisis Centre

- Family Services Toronto
- Health Access St. James Town
- Parkdale Queen West Community Health Centre
- Toronto North Support Services
- Woodgreen Community Services
- East End CHC
- STRIDES Toronto
- Inner City Health Associates
- Regent Park CHC
- Unity Health Toronto
- West Neighbourhood House



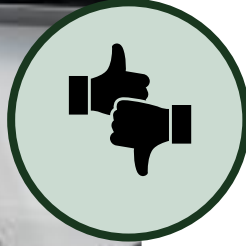
2-Spirited People of the 1st Nations

- PASAN
- Weaving Wellness Centre
- Parkdale Queen West Community Health Centre
- ENAGB Indigenous Youth Agency
- Tungasuvvingat Inuit
- Anishnawbe Health Toronto
- Thunder Women's Healing Lodge

What is the TCCS?



24/7 Service



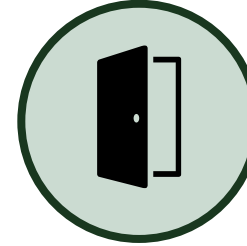
Voluntary, consent-based



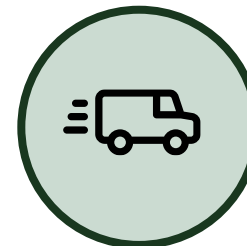
**Serves
Torontonians 16+**



**Trauma-informed
care & harm
reduction**



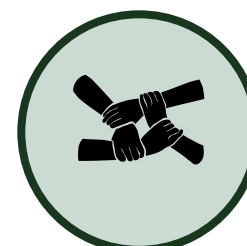
**“No wrong door”
approach that leverages
multiple intake channels**



Mobile Crisis Teams



**Post-crisis follow up,
case management &
service navigation**



**Culturally relevant
services & referral
network**

High-level Service Map



Crisis



Mobile Team



Follow-up support

Dispatch

On-scene support



Outcomes

Service uptake from multiple doors



17,880

total calls received for service



15,908

number of times mobile teams were dispatched



58%

completed calls received from 211 or community sources

42%

by 911

Diverting crisis calls to TCCS



78%

of calls transferred from 911 handled by TCCS with no police involvement



4.5%

decrease in Person in Crisis calls attended by the Toronto Police Service in 2023 compared to previous years



8%

of total calls resulted in a visit to a hospital emergency department



4%

of calls attended resulted in a request for emergency services

Outcomes continued

Connecting people to appropriate supports



5,781

referrals made onsite and during follow up visits



1,114

service users connected to case management

Culturally relevant supports

471

culturally relevant supports provided to service users

47%

Indigenous-specific (such as access to ceremony, traditional medicine, family and kinship care)

16%

Afrocentric and West Indian / Caribbean-centric supports (such as access to culturally appropriate foods, referrals to Black physicians and access to cultural programming)

Positively impacting the lives of

PROVIDING A POSITIVE SERVICE USER EXPERIENCE:
95% of service users reported being **very satisfied** or **satisfied** with the TCCS service they received

INCREASING FEELINGS OF SAFETY AND WELLBEING:
90% of service users indicated the TCCS **very positively** or **positively** impacts their perception of community safety and well-being

CONNECTING PEOPLE TO THE SUPPORTS THEY WANT:
95% of service users indicated they **agree** or **strongly agree** that they decided what types of supports they wanted and felt emotionally safe receiving those supports

Questions?



**Toronto
Community
Crisis Service**

[Toronto.ca/CrisisService](https://toronto.ca/CrisisService)

Denise Andrea Campbell

Executive Director

Social Development, Finance & Administration

City of Toronto

Deniseandrea.Campbell@toronto.ca

Nicole Watson

Manager, Policing Reform

Social Development, Finance & Administration

City of Toronto

Nicole.watson@toronto.ca

Toronto

