Toronto Foundation for Student Success: Beyond 3:30

Founded in 1998, The Toronto Foundation for Student Success (TFSS) is the registered charity of the Toronto District School Board but operates independently. Through our nutrition programs offered in TDSB schools, we provide 147,000 snacks or meals to students every day. Other programs run by the TFSS are The Gift of Sight and Sound, Model Schools Pediatric Health Initiative, Emergency Fund and beyond 3:30. Beyond 3:30 is a unique TDSB Model Schools for Inner Cities initiative that provides free programming focused on healthy living and learning opportunities in the arts for middle school children between the hours of 3:00 and 6:30 pm in one of the places they trust the most, their local school. These programs provide a safe, positive learning environment for youth in the after-school hours during their transition years from child to young adult. These programs are structured for students to achieve greater academic success, enhance feelings and attitudes toward their own self-worth and self-efficacy, and deepen their sense of belonging to the school and broader community.

Toronto Public Library

Toronto Public Library (TPL), with 100 locations across the city, is the busiest library in North America. In addition to traditional library services, TPL offers literacy help to students in both junior and high school. The Leading to Reading program is offered to students with reading and writing difficulties in Grades 1-6. Students will gain case study experience in helping a particular child, knowledge of the public library's role in the lives of children, and a better understanding of the services and resources of the library and the role it plays in the community.

BGC Jane and Finch Club – After School Program

To provide safe, supportive places where children and youth can experience new opportunities, overcome barriers, build positive relationships, and develop confidence and skills for life. Students will facilitate programs geared towards life skills, academic progression, leadership training, nutritional and cooking skills, physical fitness and more.

ArtHeart

ArtHeart provides children, youth and adults living in the inner city with visual arts programming free of charge. ArtHeart provides participants with a supportive environment where they can create and learn, build self esteem and develop life skills. ArtHeart’s after school program focuses on visual art.

The 519 Church Street Centre, Early Years

The 519 Church Street Community Centre is a meeting place and focus for its vital and varied downtown community. Within a supportive environment, it responds to community issues and needs by supplying the resources and opportunities to foster self-determination. Programs are offered for homeless/marginalized people; newcomers/refugees, LGBTQ (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Trans, and Queer) people, parents/caretakers and their children 0-6 and 6-12. The 519 is committed to principles of accessibility, voluntarism, individual dignity and value, participation, and celebration.

The students will be placed within our Children’s Programs; specifically, the Family Resource Centre that serves parents/caregivers from our community and their children aged 0-6. Participants represent the
diversity of the community that is described above. Students will assist the Children’s Program Staff team in delivering our Family Resource Program. Activities include early learning activities; school readiness; interacting with adults and children 0-6; setting up program; preparing healthy snacks; arts and crafts; music circles, Storytime etc.

Pathways to Education

Pathways to Education helps youth in low-income communities graduate from high school and successfully transition into post-secondary education. Pathways addresses systemic barriers to education by providing leadership, expertise and a community-based program proven to lower dropout rates. The Pathways program provides a comprehensive set of academic, financial and social supports to youth.

Tutoring primarily involves students receiving academic support in core subjects. With the support of staff, volunteer tutors provide assistance with homework and students’ assignments. Academic resources are also available on-site.

Mentoring provides social support in both group and individual contexts and both in person and virtually on Zoom. With the support of staff, volunteer mentors run activities and/or workshops to help support the development of social skills, problem solving, and career planning.

Variety Village

Variety Village is a sport, training and life skills facility for people of all ages and abilities. Recognized as a leader in inclusive participation. Variety Village has a 76,000 square foot gymnasium, 200-meter track, an indoor rockwall, high elements course, cardio room, weight room and tae kwon do area. Variety Village promotes healthy active living possibilities for more than 6,500 members weekly.

Students are involved in the planning, implementation and evaluation of adapted physical activity programs for adults and/or children.

Toronto and Region Conservation (TRCA)

Toronto and Region Conservation (TRCA) is an organization dedicated to the healthy coexistence of human life and wildlife in the Greater Toronto Area (GTA). TRCA approaches this goal through a variety of activities such as flood water control, development review, stewardship, bio-monitoring, habitat replacement/enhancement/creation, and of course, through EDUCATION. TRCA has offered culture and heritage, environmental, experiential, and outdoor education for over 60 years at our day and overnight centres, and can also be found coming to schools as well as in parks within our jurisdiction. At TRCA’s day centres (Kortright Centre and Claireville Conservation Area), students support for a half or full day visit, engaging with hands-on, curriculum linked programs, led by our knowledgeable staff. Learners of all ages find topics and activities of interest.