



# About O-YA

The Osgoode Youth Association (O-YA) is a community built and operated non-profit youth centre. O-YA's programs increase opportunities for children and youth to be engaged in the critical hours outside of school - a goal which is particularly important for youth living in a rural community without public transportation. O-YA's programs provide social recreation, skill development, physical activity, leadership training, wellness, mental health and the opportunity to build relationships with community members, peers and adult mentors.

**Teen Programming** (Cooking 101, bus trips, dinners, arts & culture workshops, leadership activities and Drop In)

**Community Events** for all ages (like the annual 'Goode Run; 2K walk/run • 5K run • 10K run in May)

PD Day, Summer, March Break and Winter Camps and **After School Homework Club**

# Evaluation of Two Homework Clubs

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Kelly Weegar, Ph.D. Student, uOttawa

Osgoode Youth Association (O-YA)

South-East Ottawa Community Health Centre

Ottawa Child and Youth Initiative

# 3 Key Messages

1. A lot of background preparation took place before our evaluations were conducted.
2. Using a mixed methods approach is key.
3. The best Homework Club evaluations are tailored and specific.

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# Background Work Prior to Evaluation

Literature Review

Program Needs

Program Outcomes

Program Objectives

Clients & Personnel

Intended Program Activities

Previous Program Evaluations

Context and Objectives of the Programs

Logic Model for O-YA's After School Homework Club

# Literature Review Highlights

**5 C's Positive Youth Development:**  
competence, confidence, connection,  
character and caring

**Effective Homework Clubs:**  
sequenced, active, focused and explicit



# Logic Model for O-YA's Homework Club

Client needs	Intended inputs	Intended activities	Intended outputs	Intended shorter-term outcomes	Intended longer-term outcomes
<p>Few accessible after-school options, because rural (i.e., limited transportation options)</p> <p><b>Needs of children:</b></p> <p>Few opportunities for safe and supervised physical activities outside school</p> <p>Limited awareness of nutrition and healthy eating</p> <p>Limited awareness of well-being and mental health</p> <p><b>Needs of caregivers:</b></p> <p>Support outside the home with helping child/children complete homework</p>	<p>Grant funding</p> <p>Community and personal donations</p> <p>Participants' fee</p> <p>Building and green space</p> <p>Program staff</p> <p>Sports equipment</p> <p>Healthy snacks</p> <p>Community partnerships</p>	<p>Physical activities (sports, hikes, group games)</p> <p>Yoga</p> <p>Drama club</p> <p>Healthy eating workshops</p> <p>Mental health and wellness workshops</p> <p>Play It Fair games</p> <p>Homework time with assistance from staff and volunteer tutors</p> <p>Active free time</p> <p>Monitor and evaluate success of the program</p> <p>Modify program as needed</p>	<p>22 youth will attend at least 80% of all days the program is offered</p> <p>2.5 hours of service per day</p> <p>40 minutes of structured physical activity per day</p> <p>30 minutes of active free time per day</p> <p>1 healthy snack per participant per day</p> <p>20 minutes of homework time per day</p> <p>30 minutes of wellness education weekly</p> <p>20 minutes of healthy eating education weekly</p> <p>45 minutes of drama club bi-weekly</p>	<p><b>Immediate:</b></p> <p>Increase awareness about the importance of healthy eating</p> <p>Increase awareness about the importance of physical activity</p> <p>Increase awareness about the importance of mental health</p> <p><b>Intermediate:</b></p> <p>Increase healthy eating</p> <p>Increase physical activity</p> <p>Improve overall sense of well-being (i.e., mental health)</p> <p>Increase number of homework assignments completed outside home</p> <p>Decrease in negative/ delinquent behaviours during critical hours</p>	<p>Increase healthy eating</p> <p>Increase physical activity</p> <p>Improve overall sense of well-being (i.e., mental health)</p> <p>Better study and homework completion habits</p> <p>Decrease in negative/ delinquent behaviours overall</p>



# Evaluation Design

**Main Objectives were to assess:**

1. How the program is functioning
2. What needs currently exist
3. Perceived change in knowledge and / or behaviour of program participants as a result of attending our program

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# Evaluation Methodology

**Quantitative and qualitative information was gathered using a mixed-methods approach of:**

Semi-structured interview with program personnel

Semi-structured interview with program participants

Questionnaire for caregivers of program participants

# Evaluation Questions

## **Program Process (program function):**

Is the program implemented as intended?

Are the clientele and front line staff satisfied with the services being offered?

Are the clientele satisfied with their interactions with program personnel?

## **Program Needs (existing community needs):**

What are caregivers' needs for after-school homework club in their community?

## **Program Outcomes (perceived changed in knowledge):**

Do children engage in less negative behaviours after school as a result of the program?

Do children spend less time completing homework with their caregiver(s)  
as a result of participation in the program?

Do children engage in more safe and supervised social interactions as a  
result of the program?

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# Evaluation Results

“Before O-YA’s Homework Club ... my son was left to the computer and watching TV ... during outside time, he was often left on his own”

“Since attending O-YA’s Homework Club ... all kids are his age and there are structured activities to do together ... now he opens up more and he is not as shy”

“O-YA’s Homework Club is a great place to be with friends and make new ones in a safe and healthy environment ... they allow a good balance of homework, play time and group work.”

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