



# **ANNUAL REPORT**

### 2022 - 2023

### A Message From Our Executive Director

Dear friends and supporters of iHuman,

As the Executive Director, it is my privilege to address you and reflect on our journey and the collective impact of your support.

Our mission at iHuman, fueled by the resilience and determination of the young people, is to use the arts as the catalyst for growth, inclusion and acceptance. The stories of



Sandra Bromley, iHuman Founder and Beryl Bacchus, Executive Director

courage that resonate within our walls are a constant source of inspiration, challenging us to elevate our mission and adapt to the ever-evolving landscape of their needs.

Our vision, shaped by the voices of our youth and the unwavering dedication of our staff and volunteers sets a clear path for the future. We are expanding our programs to empower our youth with the skills and confidence to navigate their world. Art is more than an outlet; it is a universal language, a vital skill, a gateway to opportunity.

Our focus extends to developing new resources tailored to evolving needs, from mentorship programs to technological innovation. Despite experiencing many organizational shifts this year, we remain steadfast in our commitment to build and sustain a strong support network, ensuring resources are available and accessible to our youth.

Looking ahead, we aim to build new pathways for their futures through strategic collaborations with educational institutions, businesses, and communities, thereby opening doors to higher education, employment, and entrepreneurship. A testament to our commitment to the pathways is the new signature event we launched in September 2023; the iHuman Art Walk. With the support of the City of Edmonton and the Meet me Downtown grant, we were able to create an event aimed at increasing visibility, raising awareness, and showcasing remarkable artists that call iHuman their artistic home.

Belief in the transformative power of arts is the fabric of our ethos. To turn our vision into reality, we require continued support of champions, advocates, and believers – individuals like you who understand the profound impact of sustained change.

Although I'm still new in my role, the passion and commitment I've witnessed here have made me feel like I've always been a part of the iHuman family. I am so grateful to all our staff, volunteers, friends, and supporters who continue to contribute in many ways; your support is invaluable. Together, we can create a world where every young individual, regardless of their circumstances, has a fair chance to pursue their dreams, and access to resources that can make them a reality.

Thank you for standing with us.

Beryl Bacchus

### **About Us**

Since 1997, iHumanYouth Society has engaged Edmonton's marginalized youth to foster positive personal development, well-being and social change.

We are a charity located in Edmonton's city centre that provides arts programming and support services to youth ages 12-24 who face barriers. All young people are welcome at iHuman.

We support youth impacted by the negative outcomes associated with poverty, intergenerational trauma, addiction, mental health, abuse, racism, discrimination and exploitation.

We provide free access to our services and programs, where youth actively engage in determining their individualized journey through our resources and guide how we can support them.

Fun fact: Our name comes from an Inuit term identifying the symbiotic relationship of the individual within the collective community; 'One for all and all for one'.

### Land Acknowledgement

#### Amiskwaciwâskahikan ⊲୮^Ს∩∢੶∿"∆Ს' Treaty 6, Turtle Island (Edmonton, Alberta, Canada)

iHuman Youth Society acknowledges that we are located on Treaty 6 Territory, an area that contains a long and deeply rooted history for the Plains Cree people, as well as those Indigenous Peoples who travelled through the area. This land has historically been home to many distinct Indigenous groups, to which many of the youth who access iHuman belong, including but not limited to the Cree, Métis, Blackfoot, Saulteaux, and Nakota Sioux. iHuman serves not only those who belong to these groups but also those from Treaty 7 and 8 Territories as well as those from non-Treaty lands and all other youth who need and want to use our programs.

### **Our Values**



#### **Trauma-Informed Practice**

"Trauma-informed care is a strength-based framework that is grounded in an understanding of responsiveness to the impact of trauma, that emphasizes physical, psychological, and emotional safety for both providers and survivors. It also creates opportunities for survivors to rebuild a sense of control and empowerment."

-Hopper, Bassuk, & Olivet, 2010

#### Anti-Racism <

"Anti-racism is the active process of identifying and eliminating racism by changing systems, organizational structures, politics, and practices and attributes so that power is redistributed and shared equitably." -NAC International Perspectives: Women and Global Solidarity

#### **Anti-Oppression**

"Allyship denotes the responsibility to educate self, engage in self-examination, offer support, and challenge dominant forces at play." -Aveling, 2013; Patton and Bondi, 2015 **Meet Our Team** 



#### **Board of Directors**

Melinda Noyes President **Lorris Williams** Vice-President Nik(one) Sihapanyaxay Treasurer

Kaeley Dube Director Gayla Grinde Director Mat Patenaude Director Director

**Cecilia Blasett** 

Janice Randhile Director

Ariel Rombough Director Mary McLellan Director

**Staff Members** 

**Beryl Bacchus** Executive Director

**Sean Arceta** 

Worker

**Registered Social** 

Kshama Ranawana Executive Assistant **Roger Ogden** LINKS Psychologist

iSucceed Community

**Paul Matras** 

Manager

Nathan Davies LINKS Mental Health Counsellor

Maret Langner Arts & Culture Programming Manager

**Ian Pinto** Finance Manager

**Annysa Baldeo** 

LINKS Coordinator

**Star Oldring** Facility Manager

**Joshua Gauvin** 

**Registered Social** 

Worker

**Tatiana Duque** Volunteer Coordinator

**Delilah Turner** Family Resources Coordinator

**Scott Gudbranson** HYPE Navigator

Samuel J. Mensah Sound Studios Coordinator

**Laek Keith** HYPE Navigator

**Thomas Udell** Soul Food C oordinator **Jelena Bojic** Fundraising & Marketing Consultant **Colleen Thasitis** Digital Marketing Strategist **Violet Poon** Human Resources Consultant

### **Empowering Futures:**

Amber Alexander Megan Armstrong Shane Asbell Kateryna Barnes **Brandy Bauer** Gayl Berwald Katherine Binhammer Vivian Binnema Jenna Blumhagen Willi Burgess Winona (Nonie) Buski Michael Buss Cher-Ann Chai Christine Chomiak Marion Clark Garrell Clark Marta Collier Bill Connor Frances Coughlan Ken Crocker Hilary Darrah Susan deVriend Aleksander Dimas-Lehndorf Danielle Dolgoy Mark Feduk Patricia Ferguson Kelin Flanagan **Neil Fleming** Carson Fong Sheryl Geirholm Sandra and J Mark Godel Stephen Goyette **Catharine** Grieve Gail Hache **Robin Henley** Phyllis Hodges Kristi Hodson Jessica Holt Dakota Hourie

Alison Hughes Naomi Hungler Skye Hyndman Kathy Jessup Nancy Kardash Aleem Karmali Gerry Kendal Ryan Kenny Joe Kirman Jonn Kmech Tyson Kuhnel **Bonnie** Lakusta Anne Lalonde Jennifer Lambert Henny Lamers Jocelyn Lamothe Trina Larsen David and Joan Laurie Lori Ann Leathers Susan LeClair William Lee Amanda LeNeve Kirsten Lindquist Mark Lisac Jessie Lover **Ross Machetchuk** Craig Mackenzie Sondra Mackenzie-Plovie Philip Mail Carolyn Martens Derek McCune David McGruther Laurie McInnes Jodie McRobbie **Emily Meeds-Churchill** Jennifer Mikula Ian Miller Carolyn Miller Keri Lee Mitchell

Natalie Moores Sylvia Nasseri Karlie Nelson Amber Niemeier Pamela North Daniel O'Keefe Martin Osswald Allyson Paynter Jessica Peverett Darrell and Tammy Pidner Aleksandar Pupovac Michele Rajotte Marian Rossiter Fiona Salkie Jessica Scalzo Moselle Semeniuk Leanne Shea Jodie Sinnema **Kirstin Smith** L Javed Sommers Wanda Stephens **Bryce Stewart** Lori Stewart Dave Sutherland Stephen Symington Megan Tam Gayle Thoun Jordan & Tamara Van Biert **Robin Varughese** Derek & Andrea Watts Bryan Webb Kate Welsh Chris Wiebe Crystal & Blair Willie Timothy Wilson David Woodruff Antonia Yarmon Nicholas Yee Timothy Yeung Mei Yeung

### Thank you for your generosity

### Government, Foundations, Corporate and Community Supporters:

#### Government:

Municipal: City of Edmonton Family Community Support Services (FCSS) Providing Accessible Transit Home (PATH)

Province of Alberta: Alberta Foundation for the Arts (AFA) Alberta Gaming and Liquor Control (AGLC) Child & Family Services, (CFS) Child Protective Services (CPS) Community Initiatives Program (CIP) Homeward Trust Edmonton

Government of Canada: Canada Summer Jobs Foundations:

Aqueduct Foundation Butler Family Foundation Cinders Family Fund Community Foundations of Canada Edmonton Community Foundation Edmonton Oilers Community Foundation Eldon & Anne Foote Fund Gouin Family Fund Lorris and Cathy Williams Family Fund RBC Foundation REALTORS Community Foundation Van Woudenberg Family Fund Telus Community Foundation Ralph and Gay Young

**Corporate:** 

Canadian Western Bank Weir Bowen LLP

#### **Community Partners:**

Alberta Turkey Producers Edmonton's Food Bank Homeward Trust Sisters of St. Joseph TELUS World of Science Winspear Centre

### Thank you for your generosity

iHuman | Annual Report 2022-23

### **Our Programs**

#### **Outreach**

## *Outreach is the process by which young people become part of iHuman* & *identify their goals*

When a young person registers with iHuman, they meet with outreach staff to learn about the services available to them and how they can be accessed.

This includes assistance from iHuman staff in navigating services in the community, such as obtaining identification. Once registered, young people can access all other services at iHuman, including the art studios.

Outreach staff frequently continue to meet with young people as they go through their journey with iHuman, serving as guides and mentors for young people's evolving needs as they work towards their goals.

#### HYPE

#### All young people are welcome

HYPE, the hub for young people's empowerment at iHuman was originally established to address the heightened needs of Edmonton's most vulnerable youth during the pandemic. HYPE effectively provided essential services such as food, laundry, and shower facilities. It also offered a safe space for distributing donated items like clothing and hygiene products, and harm reduction supplies, all in a judgement-free environment. This space allowed young people to socialize and stay warm during the winter months.

As HYPE served as the initial contact point for many youths with iHuman, it played a crucial role in introducing them to the wrap around services. In the summer, HYPE merged into iSucceed, with the belief anyone entering the space has made the decision to take a step forward in the journey of life.

Building on this foundation, iHuman is transitioning the former HYPE space into a new program, EmpowerART. This program aligns more closely with our mission and mandate, focusing on supporting youth as they age out through various professional and personal development programs. EmpowerART represents a strategic shift towards more targeted and long-term empowerment of young individuals, ensuring they have the support and resources they need for their future endeavours.

#### **Art Studios**

The Art Studios are what make iHuman unique. Visual art, music, performance art, and fashion studios are all available to young people

Using donated supplies, and with the guidance and mentorship from staff and volunteers, young people can create something that expresses who they are. That could be a painting on 9-foot canvas, a radio-quality recording of their own music, a new piece of hand-made jewelry, or whatever their imagination can come up with.

The art studios are open every day for youth to drop in, or they can make an appointment with staff to work on specific projects.

#### **Links Mental Health Clinic**

#### The Links Clinic is a multi-faceted approach to mental and physical wellbeing

Traditional counselling with a registered psychologist is available, as well as more informal conversations with trauma-informed staff, including a substance use support worker. Weekly activities are held that focus on mental health and creativity.

Through a partnership with Radius (formerly called the Boyle McCauley Health Centre), nurses are also available for medical appointments. Art therapy is a focus of Links, and an art therapy student is also available to spend time with young people.

#### **Family Programs**

#### iHuman's family programs support caregivers of all kinds

Our Woven Journey Program is specifically designed for young indigenous mothers and their children impacted by intergenerational trauma and the ongoing effects of colonization.

Meeting twice a week, the program offers support systems such as cultural connection, weekly programming that encourages life skills development and navigating our complex justice and health care systems.

#### **Soul Kitchen**

#### Providing sustenance and a taste of home and belonging

More than a meal program, the Soul Kitchen is where nutrition meets nurture. It's a place where young people gather to share a meal, learn life skills, and experience the warmth of a community.

#### **Cultural Programming**

#### iHuman serves a significant number of indigenous young people

We have a program specifically to allow young people and staff access to indigenous ceremony, teachings, knowledge keepers, and elders. Regular cultural activities are scheduled such as ribbon skirt making, medicine picking, and sweats, facilitated by those gifted teachings.

As with all iHuman programs, our Cultural Programming is designed to meet our youth where they are using input from young people and focusing on what they would like to learn and do.

#### **iSucceed**

iSucceed is a program for young people who express goals beyond immediate crisis

It is primarily focused on education and employment opportunities, with training, mentorship, and job leads facilitated by staff.

Whether a young person needs help writing a resume, enrolling in school, or obtaining professional certifications, iSucceed can help. Access to computers and the internet is provided, and peer support is available.



For more information, please contact us at 780-421-8811, extension 102.

### **4** Outcomes

All iHuman Programs are assessed based on these 4 outcomes:

#### Belonging

"I felt comfortable... I felt something I've never felt... With iHuman I connected with everyone instantly... We all had the same story and the same adversity... We used that as a positive outlook." -iHuman Young Person

#### Purpose

"The song we create here, music is a big outcome from iHuman - it keeps me going for another day, because I know tomorrow I can work on something that can have an impact." -iHuman young person

#### Identity

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"I came here when I was 18, and I'm 22. I still have three years... During that time, I'm going to put in as much time as I can. I want to express where I want to be in the future and hopefully with enough time and effort it will manifest who I want to be." -iHuman Young Person

#### **Self-worth**

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"I value how much it has pushed me to do things. I currently have a laptop thanks to people believing in what I can do. This staff, they are just amazing, and eventually, I will be one, one day." -iHuman young person

### **Your Gifts Hard at Work**

### **310** MEALS SERVED WEEKLY

1200 YOUTH VISITS PER MONTH

HOUSING SECURED FOR 5 YOUTH PER MONTH 384 YOUNG INDIGENOUS MOTHERS LEARNING CULTURAL PRACTICES AND ESSENTIAL LIFE SKILLS ANNUALLY

45 ID CARDS ISSUED MONTHLY FOR HOMELESS YOUTH

4 ARTISTIC PLACEMENT OPPORTUNITIES FOR YOUTH PER MONTH

### **Financials**

### **Statement of Financial Position**

As at June 30, 2023

	2023	2022
SSETS		
URRENT		
Cash	\$467,069	\$1,032,024
Term Deposits	500,000	215,000
Accounts Receivable	43,462	13,389
Prepaid Expenses	35,771	29,696
	1,046,302	1,290,109
CAPITAL ASSETS	4,176,520	4,176,520
	\$5,222,822	\$5,531,577
LIABILITIES CURRENT Accounts payable and accrued liabilities Deferred contributions related to operations	\$135,784 187,390	\$50,406 175,908
	\$323,174	\$226,314
DEFERRED CONTRIBUTIONS RELATED TO CAPI	TAL ASSETS	
	\$1,581,052	\$1,619,651
	1,904,226	1,845,965

#### NET ASSETS

General Fund	82,541	236,539
Building Fund	640,587	827,256
Capital Fund	2,595,468	2,621,817
	3,318,596	3,685,612
	5,222,822	5,531,577

### iHuman in the Community

These are just a few events that iHuman youth and staff actively participated in



The Nextfest Arts Company is made up of hundreds of young and emerging artists from a wide variety of disciplines, banding together to present Edmonton's most unique annual multi-disciplinary arts festival: Nextfest.

We were exited to see that 17 young artists from iHuman produced an original showcase of live music and painting for one evening.



In July, our talented youth had the unique chance to showcase their skills at the Zeigler Dome, in an event aptly named Rising Stars. Each participant received an honorarium, with the net proceeds earmarked for our Arts Studios. The event's success was underpinned by a \$5,000 grant from the University of Alberta in collaboration with Telus World of Science, complemented by ticket revenue.



iHuman was honored to be chosen as the beneficiary charity by Winspear Centre for the Thorgy Thor concert. We received a portion of the ticket sales proceeds, and were also provided a space in the lobby. This opportunity allowed our youth to engage with the community through drag makeup demonstrations, effectively raising awareness about our organization and its significance to the community.



### iHuman in the Community









### **Looking into the Future**

Dear friends, donors, staff, volunteers, and young people of iHuman,

As Board President, I'm honored to address you, acknowledging our respect for Treaty 6 Territory and the Indigenous cultures it represents. Our organization values storytelling and the rich heritage of this land, striving to honor it through our community work.

We're grateful for each story of transformation we witness among the youth we serve, made possible by the generous support of our donors. Your contributions represent hope and belief in a brighter future for these young individuals.



As we all gather to reflect on the previous year, I want to extend my gratitude to our board members for their strategic guidance, our dedicated staff and volunteers for their tireless efforts, and I warmly welcome our new executive director, Beryl Bacchus, whose experience and vision promise to enhance our mission and impact.

Looking into the future, we envision a landscape where our impact deepens and expands, reaching more young lives than ever before. We aim to build on our successes and lessons learned, adapting and growing to meet the evolving needs of our community. Our focus will be on nurturing a safe and creative space for youth, not just to create but to flourish and manifest their fullest potential.

Together, we are committed to breaking barriers and building bridges for our young people, ensuring that their journeys are not defined by their past but illuminated by their strengths and possibilities. We are stepping into a future where our combined efforts create a world of opportunity, support, and empowerment for every young person that enters iHuman.

Here's to a future filled with hope, transformation, and endless possibilities.

Thank you,

Melinda Noyes

President of the Board



### **Contact Us**



info@ihuman.org



(780)-421-8811

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