



# SPENCE NEIGHBOURHOOD ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

DECEMBER 2018

## THE NEED CONTINUES FOR AN OVERNIGHT SAFE SPACE IN THE WEST END

### The Need WE24 Meets

Currently in Winnipeg, there are not enough services to ensure that all youth have access to safety and resources during overnight hours. As it stands in the inner city, there are only two youth serving drop in centres that are open 24/7; one is located in North End, and the other is located in Central. The West End 24 Hour Safe Space, which is the only overnight safe space located in the West End, is doing everything it can to keep its doors open as much as possible, but currently it only has enough funding to be open Fridays, Saturdays, and school holidays.

During the overnight hours youth have the need for safety resources beyond enforcement, policing, and emergency services. The West End 24 Hour Safe Space is that resource. Typically the overnight hours hold the greatest need for safety in our communities, yet these are the hours that community members have the least amount of options for support and resources, if any at all. Many of the individuals accessing the West End 24 Hour Safe Space are facing homelessness, which is a safety concern on its own. Being unable to have a place to stay at night brings on its own set of challenges including those of survival. Individuals experiencing homelessness are at greater risk for experiencing violence, exploitation, mental illness, addictions, and trauma, and they are more likely to interact with the criminal justice system. All which often leads to disparaging situations.

### Where WE24 Is Now

With the rise in meth use we have seen more youth on the streets, leading to more risk of tragedies occurring at night. On top of the rise in drug use, Wendy Gayle Sinclair, a 29 year-old mother of 4, passed away from exposure to extreme cold. As a result The Winnipeg Foundation and End Homelessness Winnipeg released funds to offer more alternatives to sleeping on the streets.

Following the Cold Weather Strategy, February 2018, the West End 24 Hour Safe Space was funded for seven days a week until the end of March. During this time, the numbers of individuals attending the space skyrocketed. Our awareness of the number of homeless youth drastically expanded and the need to be open seven nights a week became very clear.

On top of providing supports to homeless youth, we have made many other noteworthy accomplishments. We have supported youth to securing housing, taken many people off the streets when they were at high risk of freezing, made use of our suicide prevention training on countless occasions, and also have directly assisted in preventing multiple overdoses. We have connected youth to addictions and mental health supports and on a regular basis we have aided in the location and return of missing youth. In the face of every challenge, and all the challenges youth bring to WE24, we have been able to provide a warm, caring and loving environment, free from violence and where youth can feel safe. Since opening our doors in June of 2016, we have met and provided safety, care, and services for over 10,000 visits and 550 individuals who access WE24 from all areas of the city. We have intervened in a number of emergency situations including acts of violence, abuse, threats and responded to motor vehicle accidents. Providing love and support has helped pull our young people through the most challenging of situations. It is difficult to think back to the time when the West End 24 Hour Safe Space didn't exist and wonder what may have happened in these situations had our team not been there.

We see the value in this project every day, and invite community members to think about the positive impact WE24 has had on the community. We are currently working on a strategy to keep our doors open 7 night a week 365 days a year. We have approached all levels of government and private donors to support the Spence community's cause for a year 'round overnight safe space but we need more help.

If you wish to support the West End 24 Safe Space please contact Sean Sousa (West End 24 hour Safe Space Manager): [sean@spenceneighbourhood.org](mailto:sean@spenceneighbourhood.org) or 204-430-1050 or visit: [www.spenceneighbourhood.org/donate](http://www.spenceneighbourhood.org/donate)

### COMMITTEE MEETINGS THIS MONTH

HOLISTIC HOUSING: DEC 4  
COMMUNITY CONNECTING: DEC 6  
CED: DEC 11  
YOUTH & FAMILIES: DEC 12  
SNA 2SLGBTQ+: DEC 12  
TENANTS: DEC 18

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# VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT: IRLANDA GOMEZ, MENTOR EXTRAORDINAIRE

# TEACHING BASKETBALL SKILLS + MENTORING LEADERSHIP

**Which SNA program did you volunteer with?**  
First Jobs for Youth, as a summer Program Mentor

**How long did you volunteered with SNA?**  
Just two months: July and August 2018

**What is one highlight of your volunteer experience with SNA?**  
I think what I was happiest about was when I could make a personal connection with individual youth. It was very special to get to know their individual goals as they were working to achieve them!

**Any advice to share with folks wanting to volunteer with SNA?**  
SNA has so many different kinds of programs that you are sure to find one that really inspires you. Don't be afraid to ask them questions so you can find a program you would love to volunteer for! It is truly worth it to be part of a community organization that does so much for our neighbourhood.

The GOAL (Girls Opportunities for Athletic Leadership) program started a Jr. Coaches program last month and will continue this December. Three talented female athletes, who are current members of MERC's 14 year-old girls basketball team AND last year's championship winning team, are stepping up to pass on some of their best tips for being successful on the court. Together they are coaching participants from SNA's Building Belonging program. The girls are learning how to make practice plans, the importance of fundamental movement skills, and most of all, what it means to be leaders in their community.

For more information about the GOAL Program, contact: Meghan Lemoine, [meghan@spenceneighbourhood.org](mailto:meghan@spenceneighbourhood.org)

# HAVE OLD OR BROKEN ELECTRONICS?

**What do I with old or broken electronics?**  
Computers, TVs, microwaves, cell phones and any other electronic device can be recycled! Bring your electronics to the 4R Depot at 1120 Pacific Avenue or Mother Earth Recycling at 771 Main Street. Seniors 55+ and older can schedule a free pick from Mother Earth Recycling by calling 204-942-7900.

To learn more about how your devices are recycled or to find other collection depots in Manitoba, check out: [www.recyclemyelectronics.ca](http://www.recyclemyelectronics.ca)

**Spence Neighbourhood Association (SNA):**  
**615 Ellice Avenue** (Head Office):  
Community Connecting, Environment & Open Spaces, Finance, Homeless Outreach, Housing, & Rental Safety.  
**430 Langside Street** (Magnus Eliason Recreation Centre - MERC):  
Building Belonging, Children, Newcomer Youth Outreach, West End 24 Hour Safe Space, & Youth Drop-In.  
**365 McGee Street** (West End Commons):  
First Jobs 4 Youth, Wahkohtowin Strengthening Families Program, Homework Club, & Youth Crew.  
**231 Isabel Street** (Central Neighbourhoods):  
Gang Action Interagency Network (GAIN)  
**350 Spence Street** (Axworthy Health & RecPlex):  
Community Sports Program  
**Phone:** 204-783-5000 | **Email:** [liaison@spenceneighbourhood.org](mailto:liaison@spenceneighbourhood.org)  
**|Website:** [www.spenceneighbourhood.org](http://www.spenceneighbourhood.org)

## YOUTH CREW IS HIRING

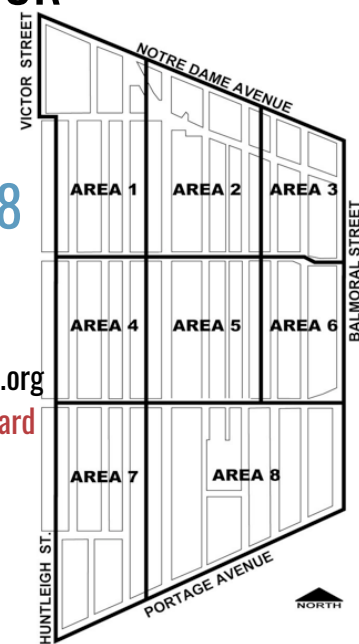
Are you a youth (18-29) that is **not in school**, do you enjoy cooking, baking, and occasional yard work?

Youth Crew is looking for part-time/casual youth available during the day and early evenings.

To apply or for more information contact Aaron: [aaron@spenceneighbourhood.org](mailto:aaron@spenceneighbourhood.org) or 204-783-5000 ext.116

## WE ARE SEEKING FOLKS TO JOIN OUR BOARD OF DIRECTORS TO REPRESENT AREAS 1, 3, 7, & 8

Connect with us:  
204-783-5000 ext. 103  
[jamil@spenceneighbourhood.org](mailto:jamil@spenceneighbourhood.org)  
[spenceneighbourhood.org/board](http://spenceneighbourhood.org/board)



## CHILDREN & YOUTH PROGRAMS

### Building Belonging

Monday-Friday | 3:30-5:30PM | 430 Langside.  
Structured programming for kids ages 6-12 with lunch and snacks provided and pick up from home and drive home available within the Spence neighbourhood. Registration forms available at MERC. Contact: Building Belonging Coordinators at 204-783-5000 ext.112.

### Art City Outreach

Mondays | 4-6PM | 430 Langside  
Express yourself with facilitators and guest artists at art making workshops for ages 6-12. Contact: Building Belonging Coordinators at 204-783-5000 ext.112.

### Sports - Soccer Clinic

Dec. 7, 14 | 5-6:30PM | 350 Spence.  
Contact Community Sports Program Coordinator for more info: 204-988-7635 or sport@spenceneighbourhood.org

### Youth Program

Monday-Friday | 6:30-9:30PM | 430 Langside.  
Programming and outings for youth grades 7-12 with a meal provided and drive home available within the Spence neighbourhood, or bus tickets provided. Registration forms available at MERC. Contact: Newcomer Youth and Outreach Worker: newcomer@spenceneighbourhood.org

### WE24 Overnight Safe Space

Friday, Saturday, & School Holidays | 11PM-7AM | 430 Langside  
An overnight space for youth ages 13-26 to rest and relax and access food, resources, and basic needs in a supportive, kind, and warm environment. Contact: WE24 Manager 204-783-5000 ext.110 or sean@spenceneighbourhood.org

## COMMITTEE MEETINGS

### Holistic Housing Committee Meeting:

Dec. 4 | 5:30PM | 615 Ellice.  
Contact: Housing Coordinator at 204-783-5000 ext.105 or housing@spenceneighbourhood.org

### Community Connecting Committee Meeting:

Dec. 6 | 5:30-7PM | 615 Ellice.  
Contact: Community Connector at 204-783-5000 ext.106 or safety@spenceneighbourhood.org.

### CED Committee Meeting

Dec. 11 | 5:30PM | 365 McGee.  
Contact: Youth Employment Hub Coordinator at 204-783-5000 ext.115 or firstjobs@spenceneighbourhood.org.

### Youth & Families Committee Meeting

Dec. 12 | 7-8:30PM | 430 Langside.  
Contact: Youth & Families Director at 204-783-5000 ext. 111 or kristen@spenceneighbourhood.org

### Spence 2SLGBTQ+ Advisory Committee

Dec. 12 | 6-8PM | 615 Ellice.  
Contact: Community Connector at 204-783-5000 ext.106 or safety@spenceneighbourhood.org

### Tenants' Committee Meeting & Workshop:

Dec. 18 | 5:30PM | 615 Ellice  
Learn to make a door draft snake - materials provided.  
Contact Rental Safety at 204-783-5000 ext.105 or rentalsafety@spenceneighbourhood.org

## 55+ PROGRAMS & EVENTS

### 55+ Social Club

Dec. 3, 17 | 1-3PM | 625 Portage.  
Spence and West-End adults 55+, elders, and seniors, please join us for a free light lunch and coffee/tea every. We offer conversation, learning, and fun activities in a relaxed and safer environment. Contact: Community Connector at 204-783-5000 ext.106 or safety@spenceneighbourhood.org.

## MORE WAYS TO ENGAGE WITH YOUR COMMUNITY

### Rental Safety Workshop

Dec. 5 | 2-3PM | 615 Ellice.  
Join SNA and HART for the final workshop in the Healthy Home Series: Enjoying your Space - art therapy, guided imagery, special spaces. Free event, no registration required.  
Contact: Vanessa, SNA Rental Safety Coordinator, 204-783-5000 Ext. 107.

### Community Holiday Party

Dec. 8 | 11AM-2PM | 430 Langside.  
Pancake breakfast, holiday + outdoor activities, and pictures with Santa! All welcome to this free event. Contact: 204-783-5000 ext. 109 for more info.

### Art with Gerry:

Dec. 19 | 5-7PM | 615 Ellice.  
Led by local artist Gerry Berard, AWG aims to create an accessible and inclusive space for community members of all ages and skill/experience levels to engage in free, recreational and skill-building art and craft activities. Registration required. Contact: Community Connector at 204-783-5000 ext. 106 or safety@spenceneighbourhood.org

### Wahkohtowin Strengthening Families Program:

Session Begins Jan. 10, 2019 | 5-8PM | 365 McGee  
WSFP is a free strength-based skill-building program that works with youth ages 11-17 along with their families/support circles to increase communication, decrease conflict, connect with culture, and increase bonding. Childminding, dinner, and transportation are provided. Currently accepting registration for session starting January 10, 2019. Contact: 204-783-5000 ext. 111 or kristen@spenceneighbourhood.org

### Wahkohtowin Holiday Party

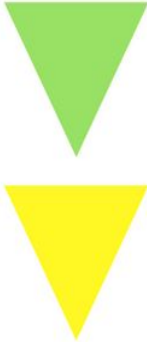
Dec. 20 | 5-7PM | 365 McGee  
All past and current Wahkohtowin families are invited to the West End Commons Assembly Hall for a holiday party full of crafts, hot chocolate, cookies, and fun! Please register: 204-783-5000 ext. 111 or kristen@spenceneighbourhood.org

### Our Place Safe Space:

Fridays | 4-10PM  
OPSS is a "comes as you are" safer space for those who identify as sex workers, experiential folks, victims/survivors of sexual exploitation and victims/survivors of human trafficking (all ages, genders, and Nations), operating as a drop-in. Harm reduction services and fun free dinner provided. Contact: OPSS Outreach at 204-774-7005 ext.106 or bobbi@spenceneighbourhood.org

### OPSS Calendar Launch & Fundraiser

Dec. 14 | 10PM | 190 Garry St.  
Come out for fun, get a great calendar, and support Our Place Space Space!



# SPENCE NEIGHBOURHOOD ASSOCIATION (SNA) DECEMBER 2018

| 204-783-5000 | liaison@spenceneighbourhood.org | www.spenceneighbourhood.org |  
 | Facebook @spenceneighbourhoodassociation | Twitter @snacommunity | Instagram @snacommunity |

## Children & Youth Programming

### WE24

Fridays and Saturdays, and School Holidays  
11PM-7AM

Winter Break Schedule  
(Dec. 23 - Jan 4):  
Sunday-Saturday  
11PM-7AM

## Building Belonging

Mondays-Fridays  
3:30PM-5:30PM

Dec. 10, 21: Drop-In Only  
Dec. 24 - Jan. 7:  
Drop-In Only, 12PM-6PM

## Art City Outreach:

Mondays 4PM-6PM

## Youth Program

Mondays-Fridays  
6:30PM-9:30PM

## Sports Program

Dec. 7, 14: 5-6:30PM

Soccer Clinic @RecPlex

visit MERC (430 Langside)

for specific children & youth program calendars

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	
30	31	Programming, hours, and locations may be subject to change without much notice. SNA is closed evenings, weekends, May Day, and national and provincial holidays.					1
2	3 55+ Social Club: 1-3PM	4 Holistic Housing Committee: 5:30PM	5 Rental Safety Workshop 2-3PM	6 Community Connecting Comm.: 5:30-7PM Wahkohtowin 5-8PM	7 Our Place Safe Space: 4-10PM	8 Community Holiday Party 11AM-2PM	
9	10	11 CED Committee: 5:30PM	12 SNA2SLGBTQ+ Comm.: 6-8PM Youth & Families Comm.: 7-8:30PM	13	14 Our Place Safe Space: 4-10PM OPSS Calendar Launch & Fundraiser: 10PM @ 190 Garry St.	15	
16	17 55+ Social Club: 1-3PM	18 Tenants' Committee: 5:30PM	19 Art with Gerry 5-7PM	20 Wahkohtowin Holiday Party 5-7PM	21 Our Place Safe Space: 4-10PM	22	
23 WE24 begins Winter Break Schedule	24	25 SNA Offices Closed	26 SNA Offices Closed	27	28 Our Place Safe Space: 4-10PM	29	

## Event & Program Locations

### @430 Langside

Building Belonging (6-12 years old)  
West End 24 Hour Safe Space for Youth  
Youth Program (Grade 7-12)  
Youth & Families Committee  
Community Holiday Party

### @350 Spence

Soccer Clinic

### @615 Ellice

Art with Gerry  
Community Connecting Committee  
Holistic Housing Committee  
Rental Safety Workshop  
SNA 2SLGBTQ+ Committee  
Tenants' Committee

### @625 Portage

55+ Social Club

### @365 McGee

CED Committee  
Wahkohtowin Strengthening Families Program

