



Task Title: Reading a Community Organization Update

OALCF Cover Sheet – Learner Copy

Learner Name: _____

Date Started: _____

Date Completed: _____

Successful Completion: Yes ☐ No ☐

Goal Path: Employment ☐ Apprenticeship ☐

Secondary School ☐ Post Secondary ☐ Independence ☐

Task Description: The learner will read an annual update from a community organization and answer questions about programs offered.

Main Competency/Task Group/Level Indicator:

- Find and Use Information/Read continuous text/A1.2

Materials Required:

- Pen/pencil and paper and/or digital device

Task Title: ReadingACommunityUpdate_I_A1.2

Learner Information

Non-profit organizations offer a variety of community services. They frequently provide updates about how often resources are used and where there might be additional needs.

Scan the excerpt from "2024 A Year in Review – Safe'n'Sound".

2024 A Year in Review – Safe'n'Sound

Programs & Services

ALL PROGRAMS AND SERVICES ARE **FREE** OF CHARGE!

Drop-In Services Offered



Access to basic first aid and other harm reduction supplies + access to the SOS Team on Tuesdays



Toothbrushes, feminine hygiene products, razors, shampoo, soap, etc.



Access to computers. Not everyone has a cell phone and not everything can be done on a phone.



The only publicly accessible toilets at night in Owen Sound (besides the OS Police Station).



Access to wifi helps Participants stay connected to each other and resources.



The only free publicly accessible shower in Owen Sound. So essential to health and wellbeing!



Washers and dryers give Participants a chance to clean clothing and bedding, which is great for hygiene.



Participants can make phone calls and we can help get them connected with other services.



Participants are outdoors and moving more so they go through more clothes. We provide free used clothing!



The pandemic resulted in much of court being moved to Zoom. We provide a computer and support!



Breakfast, snacks, drinks, and sometimes other meals on Sundays. We provide needed calories.



We are a space for CMHA, Brightshores, SOS, Grey County, Community Living, M'Wikwedong to regularly meet with their clients.

"The ache for home lives in all of us, the safe place where we can go as we are and not be questioned." – Maya Angelou



Programs & Services

CONT.

Overnight Winter Warming Pilot Program

With support from the County of Grey, Safe 'N Sound acted as a 24/7 warming centre from November 1st, 2023 to March 31st, 2024. This allowed those without housing to escape the harsh elements of winter.

18-26

Average number of participants nightly last winter

13,890

Total visits (day & night) from Nov. 1st 2023-March 31st 2024

71

Fewer Emergency Visits

Stat for OS Hospital Emergency Room visits during same time period of the previous winter.

Nightly capacity of 18 (at one time) and unable to allow sleep or beds due to building code and fire code restrictions.

=

Program is NOT a substitute for a shelter, but shows local NEED for a shelter building.

What do our Participants say?

For Safe 'N Sound, the most important opinions come from the people we serve. At the end of last winter, Participants filled out anonymous questionnaires. These are some key takeaways:

Safe Haven for Many:

- 36 out of 39 surveyed Participants felt they had enough to eat during their stay
- The majority rated the cleanliness of our facilities positively
- Majority of Participants gave a safety rating of 7 or higher out of 10

Strong Staff Support:

- Over 2/3 agreed they received the support and assistance they needed from our frontline staff
- 14 Participants specifically acknowledged the good work done by our team

Vital Community Resource:

- Without Safe 'N Sound, many Participants would have been forced to stay on the streets or squat on private property

Areas for Improvement:

- Participants expressed a desire for more comfort and security, including beds and lockers

The homeless often feel invisible, allowed to plummet through widening holes in the social safety net, then hidden in doorways from which people avert their eyes." - Dawn Foster



Work Sheet

Task 1: List six (6) drop-in services that are provided by Safe'n'Sound.

Answer:

Task 2: Which organizations use Safe'n'Sound to meet with their clients?

Answer:

Task 3: How many visits were there between November 1, 2024 and March 31, 2024 during the overnight winter warming pilot program?

Answer:

Task 4: When surveyed, what did participants suggest for improving the winter warming pilot program?

Answer:
