



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Board approves funding for John Howard Society

Funding will support recreational therapy at JHS Residence

THUNDER BAY, ON (May 25, 2023) — At this week’s Board meeting, the Thunder Bay Police Services Board approved a funding proposal of \$10,000 for the John Howard Society (JHS), a non-profit organization with the goal of understanding and responding to problems of crime and the criminal justice system.

“The work that the John Howard Society does is essential to Thunder Bay and beyond, and we are proud to be able to provide funding that will go towards their Recreational Therapy Program,” said Malcolm Mercer, Acting Administrator, Thunder Bay Police Services Board. “It is important for us as a Board to grant community partners like JHS the funding that they need as we aim to continuously support those within the communities that we serve.”

The Thunder Bay Police Services Board funding will play a pivotal role in supporting the John Howard Society’s mission to enhance the well-being of individuals within the community through the ongoing delivery of the Recreation Therapy Program within the JHS Residence. The program provides transitional and supportive housing to individuals that are at risk or experiencing homelessness, and those at risk or currently involved in the Criminal Justice System.

“We are thrilled to announce that our organization has been awarded a generous grant from the Thunder Bay Police Services Board,” said Kevin Haynen, Chief Executive Office, John Howard Society of Thunder Bay & District. “This funding will enable us to employ a dedicated and highly skilled recreation therapist who will make a significant difference in the lives of individuals within our community. Through therapeutic recreation interventions, we aim to enhance physical, emotional, and mental well-being while promoting a healthier lifestyle and successful outcomes for those we serve. We are grateful to the Board for their unwavering support and commitment to our shared goal of fostering a safer and thriving community.”

For more than 90 years, the John Howard Society of Ontario has worked to build a safer Ontario by supporting the people and communities affected by the criminal justice system. With over 19 local offices, the JHS delivers more than 80 evidence-based programs and services focused on prevention, intervention, and re-integration across the province.

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