



# 2017 ANNUAL REPORT

## - OUR YEAR IN REVIEW -

[WWW.PACTPROGRAM.CA](http://WWW.PACTPROGRAM.CA)



## About the PACT Urban Peace Program

The PACT Urban Peace Program is an award-winning, outcome-driven and cost-conscious registered Canadian charity dedicated to working with, supporting and empowering underserved, marginalized and at-risk young people, as well as youth already in conflict with the law.

### **We do this through the following programs:**

- LifePlan Coaching for the most at-risk, repeat offender youth
- Life & Job Skills Programs, free-of-charge, for youth ages 13-21
- Grow-to-Learn School Gardening Program

PACT is almost entirely privately funded through generous businesses, foundations, service clubs and individuals. This has always allowed us to stay true to our core values and to be highly entrepreneurial and results-oriented in the development and delivery of all our innovative programming in support of at-risk and underserved youth.

PARTICIPATION ACKNOWLEDGEMENT COMMITMENT TRANSFORMATION





## **WE BUILD** --- **SELF-WORTH**

**We have seen time and again that many of today's youth are often completely disconnected from each other, their families, society and most-importantly, themselves.**

**This is why PACT is dedicated to supporting youth development through experiential, hands-on programs that teach skills but also encourage teamwork, contribution and kindness through giving back to the community.**

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## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

As with all of our 23 years as a registered charity, we planned for 2017 by asking:  
How can we improve our programs and better meet the core needs of the youth and communities we serve?

The answers, and the solution we envisioned, are articulated in this annual report.  
This year has been remarkable. The improvements have involved every program and aspect of what we do.

Our Grow-to-Learn School Gardening Program facilitated over 4000 student visits, all of whom took part in experiential curriculum-linked lessons and workshops in multiple subjects, designed for Grades 1-12. Our weekly Garden Markets in the low-income community of Lawrence West provided a hot meal and fresh vegetables to over 100 families in need during the growing season, from June to October. This program expanded this past year - be sure to read all the highlights.

This past August, we wrapped up our very successful first year of the PACT LifePlan Coaching program for high-risk, repeat offender youth in Belleville, Ontario. In partnership with the youth courts, the idea behind this program is to break the cycle of criminal behavior in the highest-risk youth before they get caught for life in the adult criminal justice system. I want to give a special shout out to our life coach Will Manos and Toronto manager Catalina Chaux for doing a fantastic job. Also to Ben Marshall, for his commitment to develop and support the Belleville LifePlan Coaching Program.

Many congratulations to all of our dedicated staff because they are the heros doing the hard work in the trenches every day.

### **Envisioning the Future**

PACT is highly committed to building an integrated best practice, scaleable program model in partnership with our educational system and our social infrastructures to transform one priority neighbourhood, Lawrence West. We are convinced that community partnerships with our social institutions is the path to build the models which will transform all of our underserved communities.

This is not a far off unrealistic wish - it is an attainable goal. As a society we have the capital, resources and talent to easily achieve this. For me personally, the thing that I am most excited about is creating the environment to unleash the remarkable, untapped potential of every youth when we equal the playing field and provide them with all of the best resources to find their path and live their dreams.

And I believe as Canadians we possess the innate compassion, kindness and drive to build the models and solutions for urban peace that will change our world.



David Lockett, Co-Founder & Volunteer President

# OUR IMPACT



**560**

**LIFEPLAN COACHING  
HOURS PROVIDED TO THE  
HIGHEST-RISK YOUTH**

**3850**

**TOTAL LIFE & JOB SKILLS  
INSTRUCTIONAL HOURS  
COMPLETED BY YOUTH**

## **2017 LifePlan Coaching Success**

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- Our most successful & productive year to date - 90% completion rate with no re-offences.
- Attendance and participation rates increased; compliance with probation orders fulfilled and overall significant improvement in youth documented.
- PACT/Adler Coach Training Scholarship allowed two committed, select team members to receive invaluable life coach training to better serve our youth.

*Originally inspired by a memorial fund set-up by past Adler Dean, Adria Trowhill, to honour her son Craig who was one of PACT's most effective coaches and who sadly passed away in 2011; this scholarship allows those who have already shown a commitment and passion for working with at-risk youth but do not have the financial means to take the training and gain the opportunity to become a fully certified life coach.*

# **PACT LIFEPLAN COACHING**

## **TRANSFORMATIONAL LIFE COACHING FOR THE MOST AT-RISK, REPEAT OFFENDER YOUTH**

PACT LifePlan Coaching (LPC) works with judges and youth courts to break the cycle of criminal behaviour in high-risk, repeat offender youth. PACT has an 11-year proven track record and success rate in working with these youth, keeping them out of custody and in their communities while empowering them to turn their lives around with the support of a professionally trained, certified life coach.

An intense and committed process, dedicated PACT coaches meet with youth for weekly one-on-one sessions for up to 1.5 years, building trust, rapport, resiliency and capacity. They use best practice tools to help youth in the program develop a realistic plan for moving forward in all core areas of their lives.

Getting to these troubled young people early, giving them hope for their future and keeping them out of the adult justice system, ultimately saves society millions of dollars in related justice system, victimization, lost productivity and healthcare costs, while also making our urban and rural communities much safer and more secure for all.

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PACT would like to thank Adler School of Professional Coaching for their generosity in providing a valuable training scholarship.

We would also like to take this opportunity to thank and acknowledge our whole LPC team. The success of the program wouldn't be possible without their amazing commitment and dedication working tirelessly in the trenches and always going beyond the call of duty in support of the challenging youth in our program.

### **LPC in Belleville**

We've had a very successful first year of LPC Program Relaunch in Belleville and surrounding region.

Of the four, high-risk young offenders diverted from the courts:

- 100% have completed probation without any re-offences
- 3 of 4 obtained employment
- 2 went back to high school
- 1 completed an employment training program

### **Plans for 2018**

With the strong, continued support of the Belleville Youth Court and six area Rotary Clubs, PACT is increasing the number of youth accepted into the program, and hiring a part-time social worker to support PACT coach, Will Manos.



**WE BUILD**

# COMMUNITY

**The PACT Grow-to-Learn School Gardens welcome students and teachers, community volunteers, seniors and families to visit, take part and connect to nature, themselves and each other.**



## IN 2017, WE

**GREW  
16,500 LBS**

of organic food that was donated  
& distributed to food banks, school  
culinary programs & to individuals at  
our weekly community markets

**FACILITATED  
4800**

student visits from children and youth  
in Grades 1 to Grade 12

**DELIVERED  
175**

educational, outdoor experiential  
workshops including curriculum-  
connected and activity-based  
workshops field-trips and lessons

**SERVED  
1720**

hot dinners to families and  
individuals that were cooked &  
served in our outdoor kitchen



# GROW-TO-LEARN

## SCHOOLYARD GARDENING PROGRAM

**PACT Grow-to-Learn provides over 1.75 acres of experiential learning space for students in Grades 1-12; it feeds families & seniors; creates safe, green spaces for pollinators and transforms communities.**

The cool weather may have impacted our early harvests, but the increase in visitors, classes, volunteers and community groups ensured our GTL school gardens were at full capacity and a great success in 2017!

Ever growing, we taught more curriculum-linked classes to local school children, we fed hundreds of families and seniors every week and provided hundreds of pounds of fresh, organic food to residents in low-socioeconomic neighbourhoods.

Our Community Compost Exchange program expanded in 2017 to include a subsidized weekly market, as well as a community dinner that is prepared by volunteers in our outdoor kitchen, allowing us to share food in a dignified, educational and environmentally positive way.

**“The garden is truly a special place. It’s not everyday that you’re able to break bread and share stories with so many different people, young and old. I am very lucky to have been a part of it and looking forward to next year!”**

**- Gracie, volunteer**

**“Thank you again for being our community partner. The staff and students have not stopped talking about how amazing the experience has been and how awesome your staff is. Thank you!”**

**- Grade 3 teacher from RJ Lang Elementary & Middle School**





# Community Compost Exchange Program



## FROM KITCHEN SCRAPS TO NUTRIENT-RICH COMPOST:

**OUR COMMUNITY COMPOST PROGRAM ALLOWS LOW-INCOME FAMILIES & SENIORS TO TRADE IN KITCHEN SCRAPS FOR FRESH, ORGANIC GOODS WHILE DIVERTING SIGNIFICANT WASTE FROM LANDFILLS**

**200**

compost bins  
distributed to local  
families & seniors

**\$19,300**

worth of organic  
produce traded for  
kitchen scraps

**345**

average #  
of weekly  
participants

**4490**

bags of kitchen  
scraps collected  
& turned into  
compost

**120,000**

pounds of  
greenhouse gases  
saved from entering  
atmosphere

## 2017 Highlights

- New & improved outdoor kitchen and dining area at our JPCI site includes stainless steel upgrades, propane burners & covered seating for 50.
- A new mobile walk-in cooler allows for cold market storage & the ability to accept donations from local farms.
- Major expansion of the Community Compost Exchange Program allowed us to feed 345 individuals each week.
- We hosted a free summer camp for youth, sensory tours for the visually impaired, pollinator workshops, community garden tours & outdoor cooking workshops.
- A second education space was built at JPCI.

## We're Growing in 2018!

In partnership with the TDSB, our Thistletown CI garden is undergoing a major 1.4 acre expansion, complete with outdoor learning space and kitchen!

Plans are underway at our John Polanyi CI garden to make the garden more accessible for those with visual and physical disabilities.

Our Elmbank EMS location is being transformed into an orchard and pollinator space, with plans for younger students to get involved in making bee hotels, apple cider & strawberry jam.





# PACTCOOKING

## TAKING YOUTH ON AN INTERNATIONAL CULINARY ADVENTURE



### 2017 HIGHLIGHTS

- Teens, ages 13-21, took part in 80 PACTCooking classes this year!
- We added an Intermediate course for youth who aspire to seek employment and/or advanced training in the culinary field
- Summer cooking classes in the PACT garden leveraged the field-to-table cooking & dining experience

PACTCooking is designed to give at-risk youth practical culinary skills and learn about nutrition and smart shopping. It provides a team-building, skills-based learning environment and a strong community-service component.

As well as learning how to follow a recipe and prepare affordable meals from around the world, youth are given the opportunity to give back in meaningful ways by feeding staff and guests and helping to prepare extra food each week for low income seniors within the community.

**535**

**instructional &  
volunteer hours  
acquired by  
youth**

**158**

**# of three course,  
international-inspired  
meals cooked**

**25**

**# of outdoor  
cooking classes  
in the PACT  
garden**

**15**

**Different fruits &  
vegetables harvested  
in the PACT garden &  
used for meals**

**600**

**# of individual  
meals donated  
to local feeding  
programs**





# PACTMUSIC

## AN URBAN MUSIC WORKSHOP & SAFE SPACE FOR TEENS

### 2017 HIGHLIGHTS

- PACTMusic youth performed onstage this year at Youth Week, City Hall & at a Revival fundraiser
- New funding allowed us to purchase new instruments & equipment
- Our Songwriting Program youth wrote and professionally recorded six original songs
- Special guest mentors include slam poet, Fraser & Moyo (Zimbabwe mbira player)



PACTMusic is a weekly urban music workshop specifically designed for at-risk and under-resourced youth, ages 13-21.

Through individual and group instruction from four professional musicians, PACTMusic provides a supportive, nurturing, non-judgemental and collaborative environment that allows youth to explore any musical genre, learn the basics of an instrument of their choice and take part in performing one or two cover songs, as well as collaborate on writing and crafting an original song.

Throughout the year, participants are given the opportunity to take part in community performances.

**1731**

# of instructional  
youth hours  
accumulated  
over 93 classes  
in 2017

**8**

Public community  
concerts  
performed by all  
youth

**11**

original songs  
written and  
produced by  
youth



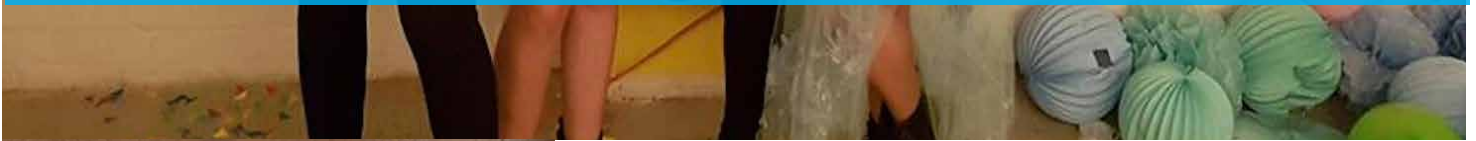


## 2017 HIGHLIGHTS

- Six advanced fashion students took part in YouthLoveFashion II, a runway show and showcase of PACTs most passionate young designers.
- Students made tote bags, baby quilts, knapsacks, mittens, pillowcases and menstrual kits - all that were donated to charities for others in need.

# PACTFASHION

## SEWING & FASHION DESIGN FOR YOUTH



PACTFashion teaches practical design, sewing and alteration skills to youth, as they work on completing a basic, finished garment or accessory, such as tote bags or mittens that are donated to various local and International charities.

Youth are encouraged to stay connected to this program by either attending advanced classes or taking part in the Business Incubator program, where they can work on their own fashion lines, portfolios for school or acquire more experience for employment.

### Meet some of our Business Incubator students:

- Delaina has been attending the weekly drop-in for three-years. She is legally blind and is finishing her first year of Fashion Arts at Seneca College.
- Connor D, used his drop-in class time to work on a jumpsuit that was featured in a music video. He's decided to continue attending PACTFashion to jumpstart his career.
- Melonie, a 5-year student, is raising two children and started a custom sewing and alterations business out of her home.
- Karlo, another long-time student, was hired to work at The Make Den.



PACTFilm showcased two youth films on the big screen at the YouthWeekTO film festival in 2017:

Adjust Your Focus  
- about youth depression  
&

Post Secondary Pressure - about the pressures of graduating high school



## PACTFILM

### AN EXPLORATION INTO CREATIVE EXPRESSION & PROFESSIONAL FILMMAKING

PACTFilm takes youth through the end-to-end filmmaking process, from initial concept to screening. Working in small groups, youth brainstorm, write, storyboard, shoot and edit short PSAs from a youth perspective about issues that impact themselves and/or their communities.

Thanks to generous new equipment funding in 2017, each program session is now able to support multiple film crews and simultaneous productions. Each youth is provided with their own laptop for editing; adding a new and valuable level of hands-on, technical experience.

A collaboration with PACTMusic allowed the most recent group to produce a music video for an original song written by a youth in the program.



**464**

**instructional and  
volunteer hours  
acquired by  
youth**

**6**

**# of short films  
completed this  
year, including  
one music video**



# PACT ONLINE ENTREPRENEUR

## DIGITAL MARKETING FOR TEENPRENEURS



Through setting up the PACT Leather Goods online store, PACT Online Entrepreneur youth learned the fundamentals of setting up and building their own online stores.

Participants were introduced to small business digital marketing including product/service branding, website development, web photography and social media marketing.

Special guest mentors shared their business marketing experiences, also providing an experiential learning opportunity.

### About PACT Leather Goods



Two years in the making, our new leather belt line is high-quality and competitively priced! Our leather belts are made by youth (PACTFashion alumni) who are paid a living wage and are often provided with their critical first opportunity for job experience.

We are looking forward to expanding this initiative, and providing more opportunities for youth to get involved in the experiential process, as well as officially re-launching in 2018.

## PACTBUILD

### PAINTING & WALL FINISHING TRAINING

PACTBuild is a popular hands-on, experiential painting and wall finishing (plastering/dry wall) training program that takes many court and probation referred youth, as well as many high school students through the basics of paint work and plastering over six to eight weeks, providing real-work experience opportunities for those who pass a competency test.

In 2018, we're looking forward to incorporating the community service element of this training into our GTL garden expansion through the painting and staining all the new benches for our outdoor classrooms.



All PACT programs, including LifePlan Coaching and school garden workshops are provided free-of-charge to vulnerable, marginalized and at-risk youth ages 13-21.

PACT does not receive government funding, but instead relies on the financial assistance from businesses, foundations, service clubs such as Rotary and generous individuals.

From our small, but mighty team, we extend our heartfelt gratitude to all financial sponsors who make our work possible.

*A very special message of gratitude and appreciation to  
PACT Ambassador, Susan Levesque  
for her kindness & committment in raising over \$1million throughout the years.*



The ECHO Foundation



To donate, please do so online through Canada Helps  
([www.canadahelps.org/en/charities/pact-urban-peace-program](http://www.canadahelps.org/en/charities/pact-urban-peace-program))  
or send your valued donation to:

PACTUrban PeaceProgram  
312 Brooke Avenue  
Toronto, ON M5M 2L3  
(A tax receipt will be issued)

Please contact David Lockett, PACT President & Co-Founder at 416-256-0726 or [david@pactprogram.ca](mailto:david@pactprogram.ca) to discuss sponsorship or funding proposals.

A photograph of three young women standing in a kitchen, smiling at the camera. They are holding a tray of several cupcakes with white frosting. The woman on the left has long brown hair and is wearing a grey t-shirt under a red plaid shirt. The woman in the middle has blonde hair tied back and is wearing a black and white striped shirt. The woman on the right has dark hair and glasses, wearing a dark blue floral dress with a colorful scarf. The background shows kitchen equipment like a range hood and tiled walls.

A HUGE

**THANK YOU**

**TO ALL INDIVIDUALS &  
ORGANIZATIONS WHO  
HELPED US MAKE A  
POSITIVE IMPACT IN 2017**