

# SIIP Collective Impact Activity Report

## Q2 2021-22



### Program reach



### Positive Impacts

- Supporting vulnerable older adults to access health care and social services
- Youth and older adults are developing meaningful, deep, and ongoing relationships
- Increasing social interaction, comfort within programs, sense of belonging
- Both older adult and youth participants are enjoying being involved in the programs and eager to stay involved
- Participants are learning from each other (e.g., intergenerational communication skills, technology skills, life experiences)
- Older adults are learning to use technology for SIIP programs but also able to apply skills outside of the program for personal connections
- LIVING the Dementia Journey for Young Adults e-learning course was well received by young adults during pilot testing
- 8 new community connections or partnerships made
- 2 media engagements, 1 SIIP project annual report

*“Our older adult participants shared how much they enjoyed being in this space with youth and have repeatedly shared outside of the program with facilitators their appreciation for the youth that participate in this program.”*

*“The participant found belonging and acceptance within the group and felt as though they were able to connect with people on a deeper level than regular conversation.”*

*“One comment that really highlighted the value of the program was that of an older adult and a student who had stayed in touch as ‘pen pals’ even after the program cycle had been completed.”*

*“Really great course! As someone who didn't know much about dementia, I feel way more knowledgeable and would be able to work with someone who has dementia.”*



## Challenges & Opportunities

| Challenge  | Opportunity  |
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| Supporting older adults can be very demanding of staff and volunteer time  | Jane Hennig from the Volunteer Action Centre has been asked to present on youth and volunteer engagement strategies at the upcoming SIIP collective impact team meeting  |
| Recruiting older adults living with dementia as program participants, especially those not already connected to other programs, and advisory board members | Share information about SIIP programs broadly, develop SIIP project postcard to distribute, engage SIIP community advisory committee members to involve their networks, reach out to day programs that serve people living with dementia |
| Collecting valid and reliable data from people living with dementia  | Dr. Carrie McAiney discussed data collection considerations for people living with dementia and a toolkit is being developed to support SIIP projects  |



### Plans for next quarter

- The backbone team will host the semi-annual update meeting with the SIIP Community Advisory Group.
- A video will be produced to highlight project impact stories. This will help to share the work of the SIIP project with the broader community.
- Planning for the Isolation 2 Inclusion Challenge will continue. This event, likely held in January, will bring together youth and older adults to co-design solutions to address factors that impact social isolation.
- A research project will begin to develop a community conversation guide to help community members recognize the signs social isolation and help connect older adults to supports in the Township of Woolwich.