



iwoo

سازمان زنان ایرانی انتاریو
Iranian Women's Organization Of Ontario

Annual Report

2023-2024

گزارش سالانه مجمع عمومی

Content / فهرست

1. Land acknowledgement
2. President's message
3. IWOO's Committees
4. IWOO's Achievements in 2023-2024
5. IWOO's Upcoming Programs for 2024-2025
6. Thanks to IWOO's Staff & Students
7. Board of Directors
8. Thank You To Our Amazing Instructors
9. Thank You To Our Webinar Speakers
10. Thank You To Our Wonderful Volunteers
11. Questions & Comments

Land acknowledgement

We, at the Iranian Women's Organization of Ontario, acknowledge that the land on which we are gathered is the traditional territory of many First Nations including the Wendat, Haudenosaunee, Anishinaabeg, and the Mississauga's of the Credit. We also acknowledge that Toronto is covered by treaty 13.

This territory is the subject of the Dish With One Spoon Wampum Belt Covenant, a treaty between the Anishinaabe, Mississauga's, and Haudenosaunee that bound them to share the territory and protect the land. Subsequent Indigenous Nations and peoples, settlers and all newcomers, have been invited into this treaty in the spirit of peace, friendship and respect.

IWOO recognizes that truth and reconciliation are a continuous process, and this land acknowledgement is a crucial step, our organization has much more work to do. By adhering to our values and leading authentically, we are committed to building positive relationships with Indigenous peoples, the wider community, and the environment.



A message from the President of the Board of Directors

Dr Fariba Bashiri
November 9, 2024

پیام رئیس هیئت مدیره سازمان زنان ایرانی انتاریو

گندم

خوشه / خوشه

رسیده ایم

تا گاه کهنه را

بر باد دهیم

(پروین نگهداری)

دروود بر شما اعضا و همراهان شرکت کننده در مجمع عمومی سالیانه سازمان زنان ایرانی انتاریو به سی و چهارمین مجمع عمومی سازمان خوش آمدید.

ابتدا لازم میدانم از طرف خود، اعضای پرتلاش هیئت مدیره، کارکنان سخت کوش و داوطلبان همراه سازمان از حضور و پشتیبانی همیشگی شما تشکر و قدردانی کنم که همواره مشوق و همراه ما هستید. مفتخرم امروز در آستانه تولد ۳۶ سالگی سازمانی گزارشی مختصری از دستاوردها و موفقیت‌های سازمان را خدمت شما ارائه کنم. امروز ما در دورانی هستیم که همه دنیا بخصوص کشور عزیزمان ایران در تب و تاب جنگ و ویرانی درگیر است. همه ما بخصوص مهاجران تازه واردی که رنج مهاجرت را بر ماندن در دله‌ها و جنک ترجیح داده‌اند علاوه بر تحمل اثرات سوء اقتصادی به جا مانده از آن دوران باندمی در زندگی امروز خود، هر روز نگران آینده خود و فرزندانشان هستیم. اما مطمئن هستیم با امید و تلاش و همبستگی میتوان در پیچه نوری را گشود و ما در سازمان زنان در کنارتان هستیم تا بتوانیم با کمک هم در بهبود شرایط زندگی یاری رسان هم باشیم.

بیکار نمانده ام

با هر قدم

شکسته هایم را

جمع میکنم

(پروین نگهداری)

خوشحالم که به اطلاع شما برسانم که سازمان زنان ایرانی انتاریو امروز توانسته جایگاه واقعی خود را در میان سازمانهای غیر انتفاعی به درستی احراز کند و بعنوان یکی از نمایندگان کامیونیتی ایرانی در کانادا صدای رسایی داشته باشد. صدایی که امروز در سازمان ملل نیز تنین انداز شده و بعنوان یک سازمان مدافع حقوق مهاجرین زن ایرانی و خانواده هایشان توانسته نقشی در تغییر دیگاه این سازمان ایجاد کند.

اعضای محترم سازمان زنان، سال ۲۰۲۳-۲۰۲۴ سالی دیگر سرشار از موفقیت ها و برنامه های مفید همراه با چالشهای فران برای سازمان شما بود. ما توانستیم با فعال کردن کمیته های مختلف و به همت اعضای هیئت مدیره و داوطلبین فعال در کمیته ها با جلب همکاری نهادها و سازمانهای مختلف و دریافت کمک های مؤثر از نهادهای دولتی و غیر دولتی، شهرداری تورنتو بصورت Grant & Fund برنامه های آموزشی و فرهنگی بسیاری را برای تولنمند سازی و بهبود زندگی اعضا و کامیونیتی ایرانیان و فارسی زبانان تازه وارد طراحی و اجرا کنیم که چکیده از آنرا به استخطار شما خواهیم رساند.

پیام رئیس هیئت مدیره سازمان زنان ایرانی انتاریو||

اعضای سازمان نسبت به سال قبل رشد داشته و بیشتر از 5000 نفر در برنامه های سازمان شرکت کردند.

برای سال آینده نیز برنامه هایی را جهت بهتر شدن شرایط حصول به اهداف سازمان در نظر داریم که امیدواریم موفق به اجرای آنها بشویم.

متأسفانه تعدادی از اعضای پرسابقه و جدید عضو هیئت مدیره به دلایل مختلف نتوانستند مأموریت خود در این مقام هیئت مدیره به پایان برسانند، اما با همراهی سایر اعضای سخت کوش و توانمند هیئت مدیره توانستیم بر مشکلات عدیده ناشی از کمبود نیروی انسانی فائق آمده و همه برنامه های پیش بینی شده را مثل جشن گالا بعد از پنج سال وقفه به سرانجام برسانیم. امیدواریم با انتخاب اعضای جدید که امروز خدمتتان معرفی خواهند شد بتوانیم با توان و انگیزه ایی مضاعف برنامه های بهتری را جهت بهبود شرایط زندگی اعضای سازمان و ایرانیان تازه وارد به کانادا طراحی و اجرا کنیم.

در پایان دوست دارم ضمن تقدیر و قدردانی از اعضای هیئت مدیره فعلی که با حمایتها و همراهی فعال خود من را در رسیدن به این دستاوردها یاری رسانند، از دوستانی هم که توفیق تداوم همراهی هیئت مدیره در سال پیش رو را نداشتند خانمها: بهنار معین زاده- دکتر هنگامه صابری- یاسمین فولاد وند- نرگس محسنی و آقایان امیر و امین آزاد تشکر ویژه بکنم و امیدوارم در هر موقعیتی قرار داشته باشند در کمال سلامت و شادکامی به فعالیتهای خود ادامه دهند. ضمناً امروز هم از اعضای هیئت مدیره ایی که دوره ماموریتشان به پایان رسیده از هیئت مدیره خداحافظی خواهند کرد ولی همکاری خود را همچنان در کمیته های مختلف سازمان ادامه خواهند داد کمال تشکر را دارم که با تمام وجود و ایثار این کار داوطلبانه خود را تا پایان بخوبی به انجام برسانند و همواره کمک حال من در این دوران پر مسیولیت بودند.

از همکاران دفتر سازمان سرکار خانم دکتر نوشین خاوریان، لیلی پناهی، پریسا حبیبی، آیدا ارجمند و آقای محمد تحویلی، دانشجویان کار تابستانی و دانشجویان کارورزی، که همگی فراتر از وظایف سازمانی در خدمت برنامه ها بودند نهایت تشکر را دارم.

از شما داوطلبین عزیز که بدون حضور، همراهی و کمک شما قادر به تداوم برنامه ها نبودیم و نیستیم. داوطلبان عزیزی که در کمیته های سازمان، در کلینیک های سلامت روان و حقوقی، در آموزشهای بسیار مفید و همینطور در اجرای برنامه های سازمان ما را یاری داده اید بی نهایت سپاسگزارم و امیدوارم همواره در زندگی و کار خود در کنار خانواده با نشاط و سلامت

و موفق باشید.

دکتر فریبا بشیری

A message from the president of Iranian Women's Organization of Ontario

**“A woman's strength knows no bounds,
She overcomes, she perseveres, she astounds”**

Hello dear members and participants of the Annual General Assembly of the Iranian Women's Organization of Ontario. Welcome to our 34th annual AGM. To begin, on behalf of myself, the Board members, the hardworking staff and volunteers, I would like to thank you for your constant presence, support, and accommodations for us.

Today, on the eve of the organization's 36th birthday, I am proud to present to you a brief report of the organization's achievements and successes. Today, we are in an era when the whole world, especially our beloved country, Iran, is involved in the heat of war and destruction. And all of us, especially the newly arrived immigrants, who preferred the suffering of immigration to staying in the fear of occupation and genocide, are left behind in addition to suffering the negative economic effects. From that time in their lives, to today, they worry about their future and that of their children every day. However, I am sure that with hope, effort and solidarity, we can open a window of light. All of us from this organization are by your side so that we can be helpful in improving these living conditions.

Our beloved members, 2023-2024 was another year full of successes and challenges for your organization. By developing cooperation with different institutions and organizations such as Canadian universities, and receiving grants and funds from the Canadian government, stakeholders and City of Toronto, we were able to implement many educational and cultural programs to improve the lives of the members of the Farsi-speaking community. Today, we have increased our number of members, and more than 5000 people took benefit from IWOO's services.

A message from the president of Iranian Women's Organization of Ontario II

For next year, we are working on introducing some additional programs that achieve the organization's mission and vision. We hope to succeed in this implementation.

Unfortunately, a few old and new members of the board of directors could not complete their mission for various reasons, however, with the help of other capable members of the board of directors, we were able to overcome these problems and delivered all planned programs and services.

Today, some members of our Board of Director's terms will be ending, but they will remain active members of committees and help us deliver better services to the Iranian-Canadian community. I hope with your vote for the nominees who will be introduced today, we will be able to design and implement better programs to improve the organization's services.

I would like to express my gratitude to the members of the current board of directors who helped me achieve such success, and to my friends who were not able to continue with the board of directors in the coming year, I wish them a healthy and happy life.

I am extremely grateful for our staff members: Dr. Noushin Khavarian, Lili Panahi, Parisa Habibi, Aida Arjamand, Mr. Mohammad Tahvili, and additional thanks to our summer job and internship students.

Dear volunteers, without your presence, support and help, we couldn't make these achievements, thank you. I am extremely grateful, and I hope that you will always be happy and healthy in your life.

Dr. Fariba Bashiri

IWOO's Committees

- Mental Health & Wellness Committee
- Entrepreneurship Committee
- Public Relations (PR) Committee
- Art & Culture Committee
- Volunteer & Membership Committee
- Finance and Grant Committee
- Event Committee

Director: Dr. Fariba Bashiri

Director: Dr. Noushin Khasteganan

Director: Dr. Guita Movallali

Director: Saharnaz Nahidi

Director: Behnaz Moeinzadeh

Director: Denise Yousefi

Director: Salina Asadi

IWOO's Achievements in 2023- 2024

- Programing based on main goals; Mental health, wellbeing , and empowerment of women and their families.
- IWOO's committee's achievements:
 1. **Mental health / Wellness** : Monthly meetings, Mental health clinic, Mental health forum, Support groups, monthly webinars, community-needs assessment research and yoga and zumba classes.
 2. **Art & Cultural**: Committee meetings, Story writing classes, Book club, Cultural & social gathering, and Paint night
 3. **Volunteer & Membership**: Committee meetings, recruitment of volunteers and introducing them the world of social organization work, the empowerment of volunteers through training sessions and appreciation events. Increase in members joined.
 4. **Fund & Grant**: Committee's meetings, CSP, New Horizon for seniors and Youth summer jobs, OTF continues
 5. **HR** : Interviewing for job positions, summer job students, College student-placements
 6. **PR**: Increased community and organizational connections, increased social media activation and engagement (doubled), LinkedIn growth, increased IWOO events coverage and media production, and increased community responsiveness
 7. **Events** : Cultural and civic events including Yalda Night Celebration, Nowruz, and International Women's Day

IWOO's Achievements in 2023- 2024 II

- 8.** Partnership with Leonnova and the Ministry of Labour for training sessions and, Western, Laurier, McMaster, for planning better pathway for newcomers and involving youths
- 9.** Achieved and continuously increasing older adult and senior programs such as increasing the senior day program to two sessions per week
- 10.** Enhanced older adult/senior programs by adding wellness, art, training, English Café, picnics and educational workshops
- 11.** Completed research on Iranian-Canadian community needs assessment by partnership with Laurier university
- 12.** Promoted events to support small home-based businesses run by women
- 13.** Increased generational diversity among members
- 14.** Built and grew productive connections with higher education institutions and provided mentoring service for newcomer Farsi-speaking women to identify their interest and pursue education toward professional advancement.
- 15.** Provided more in person services
- 16.** Planned recreational & cultural events for members and newcomers
- 17.** Continuously increased members and volunteers through IWOO programs

Programs and Services

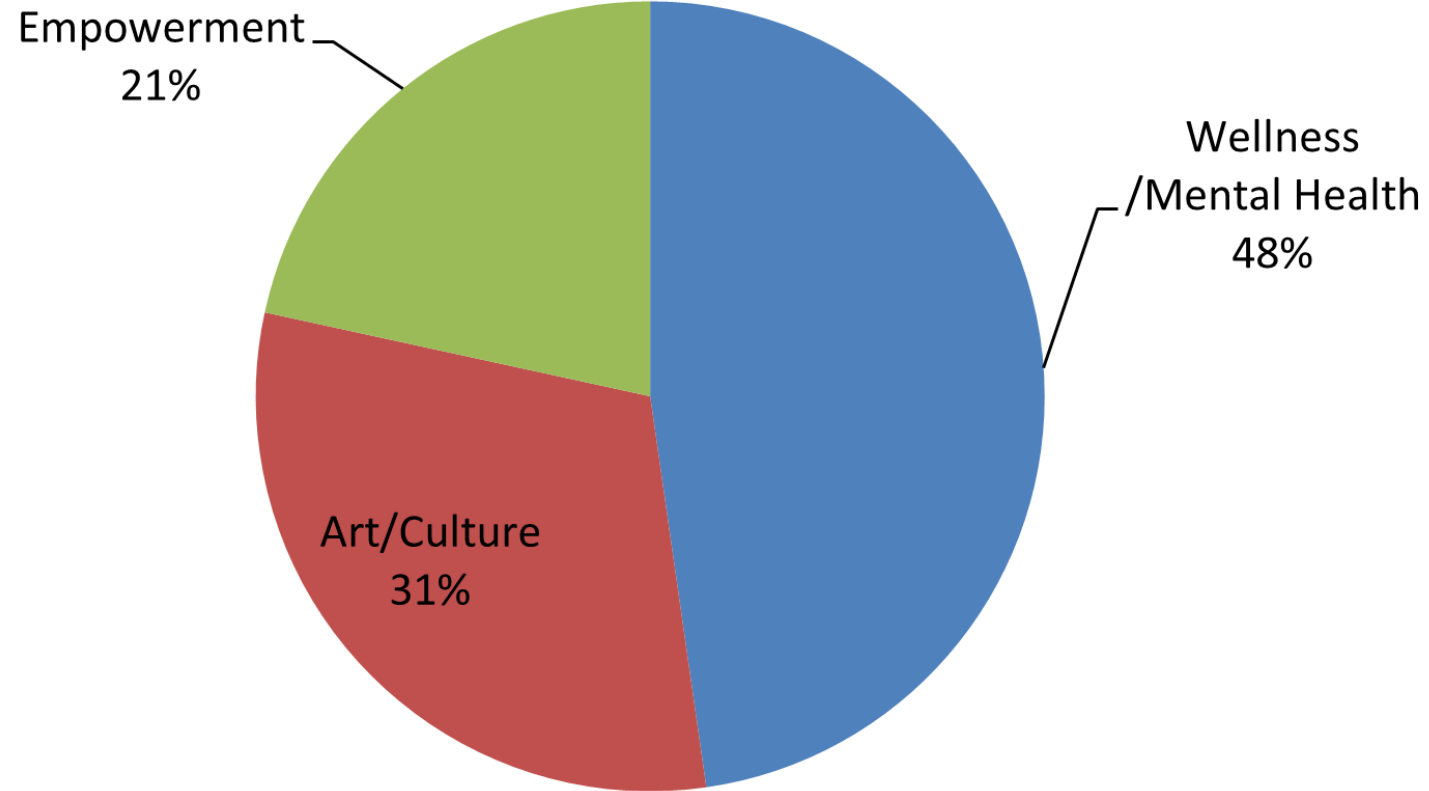
IWOO offers over 15 diverse programs and services each week, including seasonal cultural events and outreach programs to meet the needs of our community. Our programs include:

- Art & Culture Programs
- Children's Classes
- Educational Workshops
- Employment Programs
- English Conversation Classes
- Entrepreneurship Programs
- Intake, Information, and Referral Services
- Legal Workshops
- Older adult Programs
- Mental Health Counseling and Workshops
- Senior Support Program
- Settlement Services
- Support Groups
- Training Classes
- Volunteer Development Programs
- Wellness Programs

These services are designed to support personal growth, community connection, and the overall well-being of our clients.

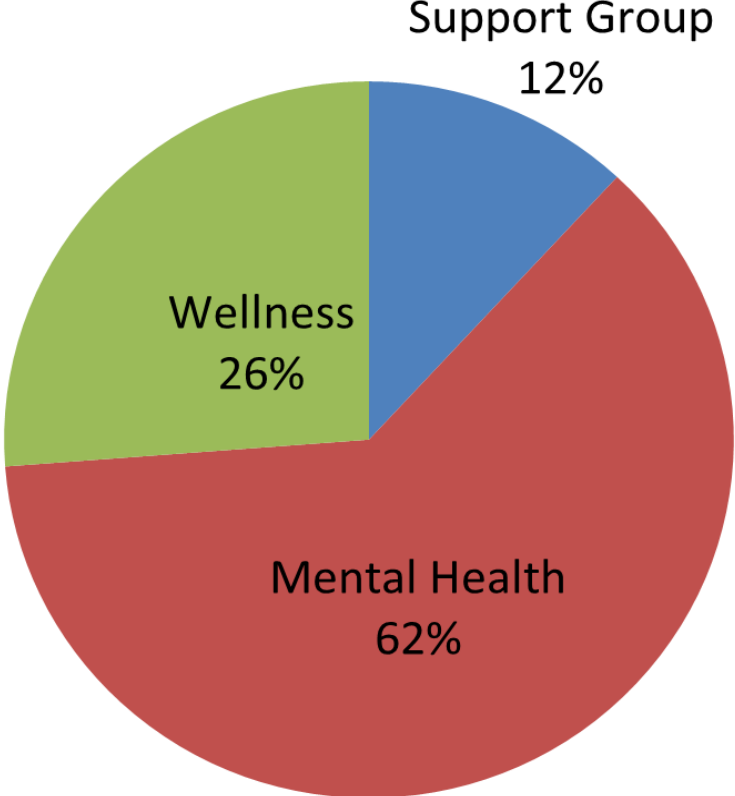
Programs Categories

■ Wellness/Mental Health ■ Art/Culture ■ Empowerment



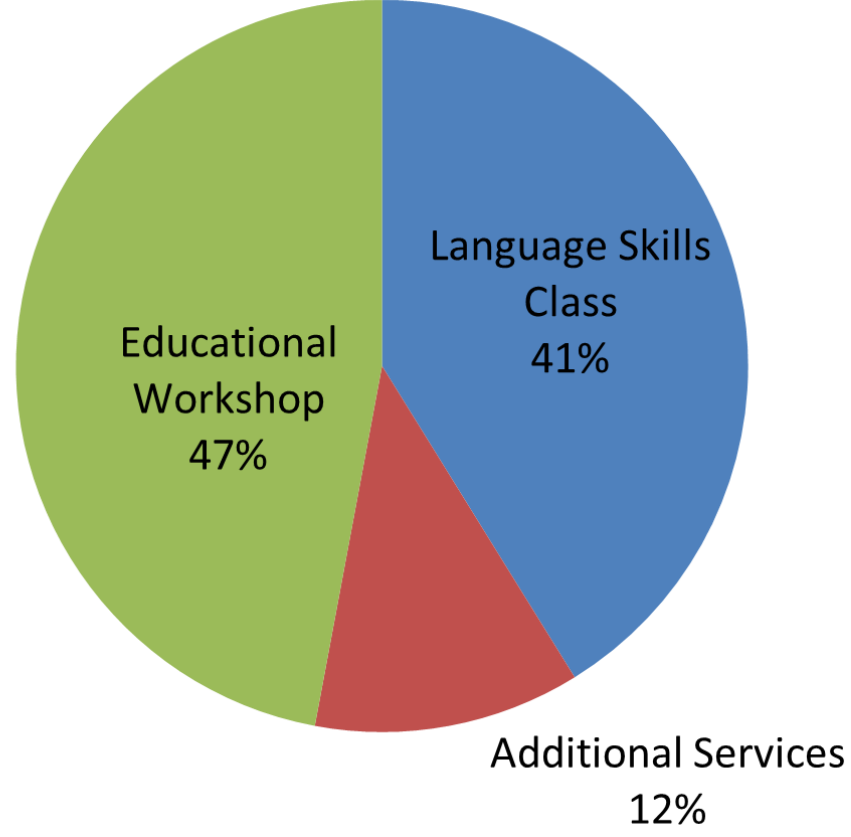
Wellness/Mental Health Programs

■ Support Group ■ Mental Health ■ Wellness



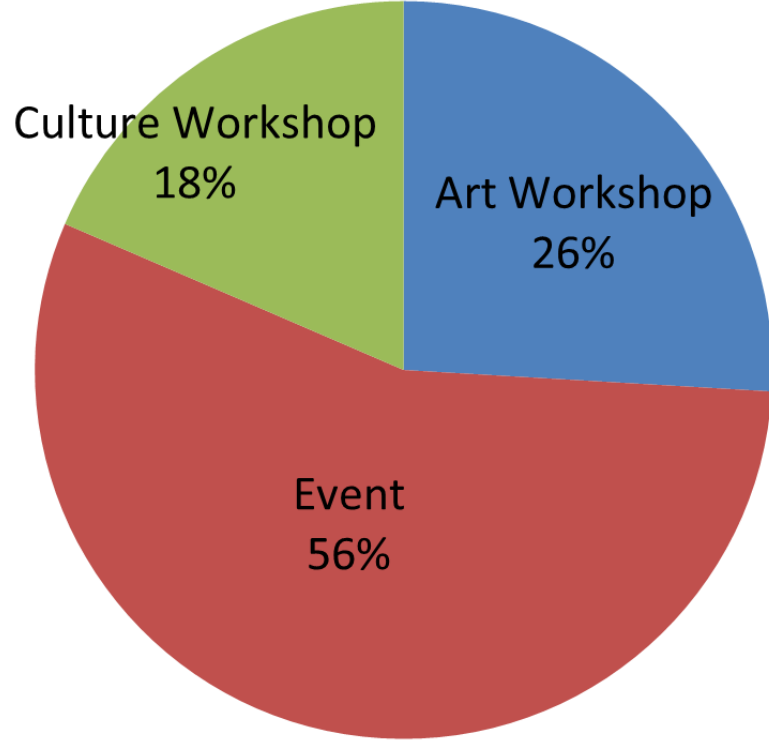
Empowerment Programs

■ Language Skills Class ■ Additional Services ■ Educational Workshop



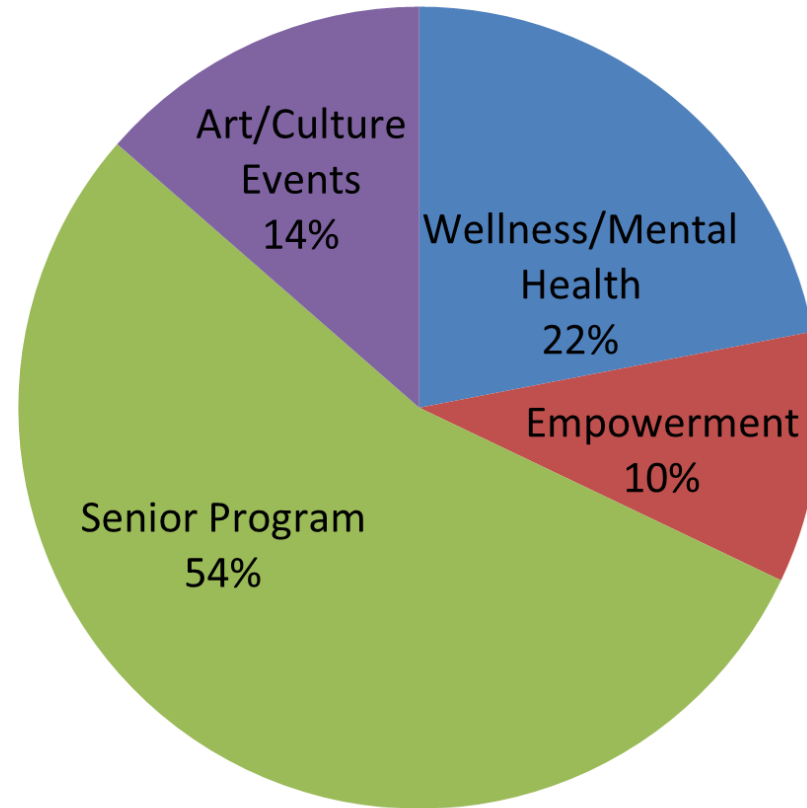
Art/Culture Programs

■ Art Workshop ■ Event ■ Culture Workshop



Program's Participants

■ Wellness/Mental Health ■ Empowerment ■ Senior Program ■ Art/Culture Events



IWOO's Upcoming Programs for 2024-2025

- Developing IWOO's settlement service for Iranian & Farsi speaking newcomers
- Aim to become a hub for hosting female international students upon their arrival and provide mentoring and support through their first few months in Ontario
- Planning to recruit/dispatch volunteers who will provide weekly Farsi-speaking supportive phone calls with isolated seniors
- Negotiating with other cities in Ontario for opening a new IWOO branch
- Outreach for finding more grants in order to continue music, art and cultural integration programs
- Held a Gala and fundraising event after 5 years
- Collaboration with broader organizations, including The Persian Awards
- Planning personal & professional development programs for volunteers
- Participating in the revision of the statement for UN CSW (UN Commotion Sate for Women)Beijing +30 In Geneva Switzerland
- Continue active social media presence to gain more popularity and followers
- Nominating the IWOO president & office manager for the King Charles III medal
- Planning cultural events such as International Women's Day, Yalda night and Nowrooz
- Summer programs for children (dance and painting classes) with their parent's support group at the same time.
- Developing a choir group consisting of our senior members

IWOO's Funders

- Government of Canada
- City of Toronto
- New Horizons for Seniors Program
- Canada Summer Jobs program
- Community Service Partnerships (CSP)
- Ontario Trillium Foundation

Ontario 

Canada 

 **TORONTO**

Ontario
Trillium
Foundation  Fondation
Trillium
de l'Ontario

IWOO's Partners

- SAFSS (Settlement Assistance & Family Support Services)
- Elahe Omidyar Mir- Djalali Institute (UofT)
- University of Toronto, Institute of Iranian Studies
- Royal Ontario Museum (ROM)
- Iranian Association at the University of Toronto (UTIRAN)
- Leonnova
- McMaster University
- Tigran Festival
- JVS Toronto
- Iranian students Association at York University (ISAYU)
- Toronto North Local Immigration Partnership
- Wilfrid Laurier University
- Brescia University
- CSW (UN)
- Persian Award
- Kanon Mohandes

Thanks to IWOO's Staff & Students - سپاس و قدر دانی

Staff

- Dr.Noushin Khavarian, Office Manager
- Parisa Habibi, Program Manager
- Leili Panahi, BookKeeper
- Mohammad Tahvili, Website Coordinator
- Aida Arjmand, Program Assistant

Summer Students

- Mehrsa Ghiasi
- Maryam Karimzadeh

Student Placement

- Simin Soheilinia
- Melika Fadaei

IWOO's Supporters & Doners



Board of Directors – اعضای هیئت مدیره

- Dr. Fariba Bashiri President & mental health & wellness committee director
- Behnaz Moeinzadeh Secretary, Volunteer & membership committee director
- Dr.Noushin Khasteganan Entrepreneur committee director
- Denise Yousefi Treasurer, Fund & grant committee director
- Dr. Guita Movallali Public relationship committee director
- Saharnaz Nahidi Art & culture committee director
- Salina Assadi Event committee director

Thank You To Our Amazing Facilitators

Dr. Hossein Abdollahi
Sani Omid Alaei
Faezeh Asadi
Sonia Asli
Sheida Bamdad
Shahpar Banani
Dr. Fariba Bashiri
Nooshin Beheshti
Lili Bourani
Fariba Divsalar Mohajer
Samira Dastmalchi
Nouchine Davarpanah
Sadigheh Gandomi
Sasan Ghahreman
Karoline Goodarzi
Dr. Ensiyeh Harbi
Soraya Hafezi Motlagh
Manijeh Hafezghoran
Nikta Hodjat
Dr. Maryam Holisaz
Farveh Jafaei
Mojgan Jafari

Parisa Khalifegi
Dr. Noushin Khavarian
Dr. Noushin Khasteganan
Dr. Katrine Manouchehri
Behnaz Moeinzadeh
Saharnaz Nahidi
Davood Nayeb Pashaei
Mojgan Parsa
Mehrangiz Pournaseh
Sara Rahimi
Dr. Fariba Raeisi
Neda Rezaeiazar
Mitra Safari
Susan Salek
Marzieh Sotoudeh
Macy Tatari
Denise Yousefi
Dr. Haniyeh Yousfopour
Ghaheer Ziaei
Mitra Zernaki
Dr. Bahareh Zohrabi
Nazanin Zohdi

Thank You To Our Wonderful Volunteers

Dr. Hossein Abdollahi Sani
Omid Alaei
Sahar Alavi
Manijeh Anjom Shoa
Nasrin Ataei
Fakhosadat Arab
Aida Arjmand
Baran Azmoodehkar
Paria Doust Mohammadi
Samira Dastmalchi
Samira Dastmalchi
Soraya Hafezi Motlagh
Dr. Ensiyeh Harbi
Dr. Maryam Holisaz
Dr. Ali Jasmi
Mahnaz Khosravi

Maryam Khojasteh
Sadigheh Gandomi
Kian Ghazi
Azi Nia
Dr. Niloufar Mohammadpour
Fatemeh Mosavat
Nooshin Beheshti
Noushin Pooladsaz
Bardia Mansouri
Fakhri Mahbodfar
Mehrangiz Sadrian
Soheila Shamsi
Soheila Shamsi
Bardia Sheikhi

Mojgan Yahyazadeh
Setareh Rousta
Setareh Roosta
Mitra Zernaki
Nikoo Zahedi
Simin Soheilinia
Afsaneh Rad
Mahnaz Shirani
Parisa Ryan



Thank You!

Questions? Comments!