

## SOCIAL JUSTICE TEAM

### Update on Youth Resources in our Community, March 2021

Incredible initiatives are underway to support the youth of Centre Wellington, including the Skyline Community Hub, The BHive (under Big Brothers Big Sister CW), and an Integrated Youth Services Network site (opening June 2021). They will offer youth a variety of social and educational opportunities along with support services. A brief summary is provided below using excerpts from the websites and news articles. Videos and website links are included for more information. Over the next few months, additional information will be shared with our congregation to raise awareness of the activities being offered, the fundraising plans and the volunteer/donation needs.



The [Skyline Community Hub](#) is a collaborative space designed to support Community Innovators and Charity Organizations within Centre Wellington. By working together, we can better build and support vibrant communities.

#### Vision:

- create a space that builds a network of like-minded service providers that can work together with shared resources to enhance the community of Centre Wellington. The Hub will open its doors to a variety of unique businesses and organizations that are connected by the common goal of building their community.
- build a space that offsets the high costs community organizations face when renting retail space. Through the generosity of Skyline, the Hub provides community organizations with subsidized rent in an effort to reduce their operating costs. The rent subsidy should allow these organizations to put more of the money they raise towards the services and programs that they offer to the community.

Location: 900 Tower St. S (in the Giant Tiger plaza)

Website: <https://communityhub.skylineonline.ca/>

Some additional information

<https://www.wellingtonadvertiser.com/skyline-announces-plans-for-community-hub-in-centre-wellington/>

<https://www.skylinegroupofcompanies.ca/news/introducing-skyline-community-hub/>

<https://www.skylinegroupofcompanies.ca/news/skyline-supports-cmha-ww-youth-mental-health-project-in-fergus/>



The [BHive](#) (Big Brothers Big Sisters CW). Open and following all covid-19 public health guidelines. People can physically come up for tours or they can book a room if they need to. We are running programs virtually with great success.

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Centre Wellington presents The BHive! A space for youth, by youth in the community to come together and enjoy programs and services that will build their social emotional competence, mental health and well being and educational engagement and employment readiness.

Youth were involved in the design and development of the BHive from the name and the logo to the programs and services that will be offered. We believe that youth are the very essence of the future.

We go above and beyond to provide our youth an empowering environment where they can fully embrace their identity and gain all the skills they need to be the leaders of tomorrow.

Our goals are to shape the way youth live their lives and teach them the fundamentals of social responsibility, healthy living and cultural acceptance. Curious to find out more about us and how you can get involved? Browse our website and get in touch with us today.

Website: <https://www.thehivecw.com/>

Facebook: Big Brothers Big Sister of Centre Wellington



The CW site is set to open in June 2021 in the Skyline Community Hub location.

### **About IYSN**

[Integrated Youth Services Network](#) is a grassroots community initiative, led by the Rotary Club of Guelph, to bring an integrated youth services model to Wellington County and the city of Guelph. Youth ages 12–26 are at the centre of IYSN’s programs; they need equal access to a continuum of services, from employment to mental health and addiction services. IYSN’s vision includes service providers working together to enhance the integration of services and build a system to better meet the needs of youth in its communities.

### **Goal:**

- 7 Centres. 1 Door. A new model in youth centred services and resources.
- The IYSN will include 7 locations but will feature the benefit of “one door” meaning that youth will only tell their story once. This is made possible through an interconnected online system.
- The 7 sites include East Wellington Community Services – Town of Erin Minto Mental Health – Palmerston Skyline Community Hub – Fergus University of Guelph YMCA/YWCA of Guelph Canadian Mental Health Association Waterloo Wellington Shelldale Family Gateway

Over 30 different organizations are coming together under the leadership of the Rotary Club of Guelph. This is a partnership of service organizations and volunteers united in a common goal to build a new standard of care, support and services for our youth.

Website: [Integrated Youth Services Network – Integrated Youth Services Network \(transformingyouth.ca\)](#)

Some additional information

<https://www.wellingtonadvertiser.com/youth-services-hub-in-centre-wellington-set-to-launch/>  
<https://cmhaww.ca/news/cmha-ww-to-launch-youth-services-site-in-centre-wellington/>

PDF: presentation provided by the IYSN Director, March 10, 2021

