



Annual Report

2022-2023

گزارش سالانه مجمع عمومی



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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, Anishnaabeg, and the Mississaugas 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, Mississaugas, 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
28 October 2023

پیام رئیس هیئت مدیره سازمان زنان ایرانی اونتاریو

”آینده از آن کسانی است که به استقبالش می روند“

درود بر شما اعضا و همراهان شرکت کننده در مجمع عمومی سالیانه سازمان زنان ایرانی اونتاریو

به سی و سومین مجمع عمومی سازمان خوش آمدید.

ابتدا لازم میدانم از طرف خود ، اعضای پرتلاش هیت 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 35 سالگی سازمانی گزارش مختصری از دستآوردها و موفقیت‌های سازمان را خدمت شما ارائه کنم.

میدانم همه ما بعد از اتمام دوران سخت پاندمی کوید 19 هنوز هم در دوران سختی بسر می‌بریم. علاوه بر تحمل اثرات سوء اقتصادی به جا مانده از آن دوران در زندگی امروز خود، شاهد جنگ و ویرانی در قسمتهایی از دنیا، فریاد و ترس کودکان معصوم و ادامه تهدید، مرگ و محرومیت در سرزمین مادری خود نیز هستیم.

اما مطمئن هستم با امید و تلاش و همبستگی میتوان درچه نوری را گشود و ما در سازمان زنان در کنارتان هستیم تا بتوانیم با کمک هم در بهبود شرایط زندگی یاری رسان هم باشیم.

گیرم که سحر رفته و شب دور و دراز است،

در کوچه ی خاموش زمان، گام شما بید

خوشحالم که به اطلاع شما برسانم که سازمان زنان ایرانی اونتاریو 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.

اعضای محترم سازمان زنان، سال 2022-2023 سالی دیگر سرشار از موفقیت ها و برنامه های مفید برای سازمان شما بود. ما توانستیم با جلب همکاری نهادها و سازمانهای مختلف مانند دانشگاهها و

کالج های مختلف اونتاریو، موزه ،ROM جشنواره تیرگان و دریافت کمک های مؤثر از نهادهای دولتی و غیر دولتی، شهرداری تورنتو بصورت Grant & Fund برنامه های آموزشی و فرهنگی

بسیاری را برای تولمند سازی و بهبود زندگی اعضا و کامیونیتی ایرانیان و فارسی زبانان تازه وارد طراحی و اجرا کنیم که چکیده از آنرا به استخضار شما خواهیم رساند.

پیام رئیس هیئت مدیره سازمان زنان ایرانی اونتاریو!!

اعضای سازمان نسبت به سال قبل 142% 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 را در 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 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: افسانه وکیلان- نیلوفر سلطانی- پرنا کازرانی و النامترسیر تشکر ویژه بکنم و امیدوارم در هر موقعیتی قرار داشته باشند در کمال سلامت و شادکامی به فعالیتهای خود ادامه دهند.

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.

رئیس هیئت مدیره، دکتر فریبا بشیری

28 اکتبر 2023

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

"The future belongs to those who welcome it"

Hello dear members and participant in the Annual General Assembly of the Iranian Women's Organization of Ontario.

Welcome to the 33th AGM.

First of all, on behalf of myself, the Board members, the hardworking staffs and volunteers, I would like to thank you for your constant presence, support, and you accommodate with us.

Today, on the eve of the organization's 35th birthday, I am proud to present to you a brief report of the organization's achievements and successes.

I know all of us are still going through difficult times after the end of the Covid-19 pandemic. In addition to bearing the economic effects left from that era in our lives , we are witnessing war and destruction in parts of the world, the screams and fear of innocent men, women and children, also the continuation of threats, death and deprivation in our motherland Iran.

But I am sure that with hope, effort and solidarity, we can open a window of light, and we in the Iranian women's organization are with you to help for improving your new life in this beautiful country.

I am happy to inform you that today the Iranian Women's Organization of Ontario has been able to establish its real position among the non-for-profit organizations and have a strong voice as one of the representatives of the Iranian community in Canada.

Dear members, 2022-2023 was another year full of successes for your organization. By developing cooperation with different institutions and organizations such as universities and colleges of Ontario, ROM Museum, Tirgan Festival and receiving some grants and funds from Canadian government, stakeholders, City of Toronto we were able to implement many educational and cultural programs to improve of the members and Farsi speaking newcomer's life.

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

Now we have 142% more members than last year and more than 5000 people took benefit from IWO's services

For the next year, we are considering some programs to achieve the organization's mission and vision. We hope can succeed in this implementing.

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

I hope with your vote for the new 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 this success, and also to my friends who were not able to continue with the board of directors in the coming year. I would like to express my special thanks to Afsaneh Vakillian, Niloufar Soltani, Parna Kazrani, and Elena Metersir, and I wish them a healthy and happy life.

I am extremely grateful our staffs: Dr. Noushin Khavarian, Lili Panahi, Parisa Habibi, Aida Arjamand and Mr. Mohammad Tahvili, 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
October 28, 2023

IWOO's Committees

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

Director: Dr. Fariba Bashiri

Director: Behnaz Moinzadeh

Director: Dr. Noushin Khasteganan

Director: Dr. Hengameh Saberi

Director: Leyly Mirsanjari

Interim Director: Saharnaz Nahidi

IWOO's Achievements in 2022– 2023

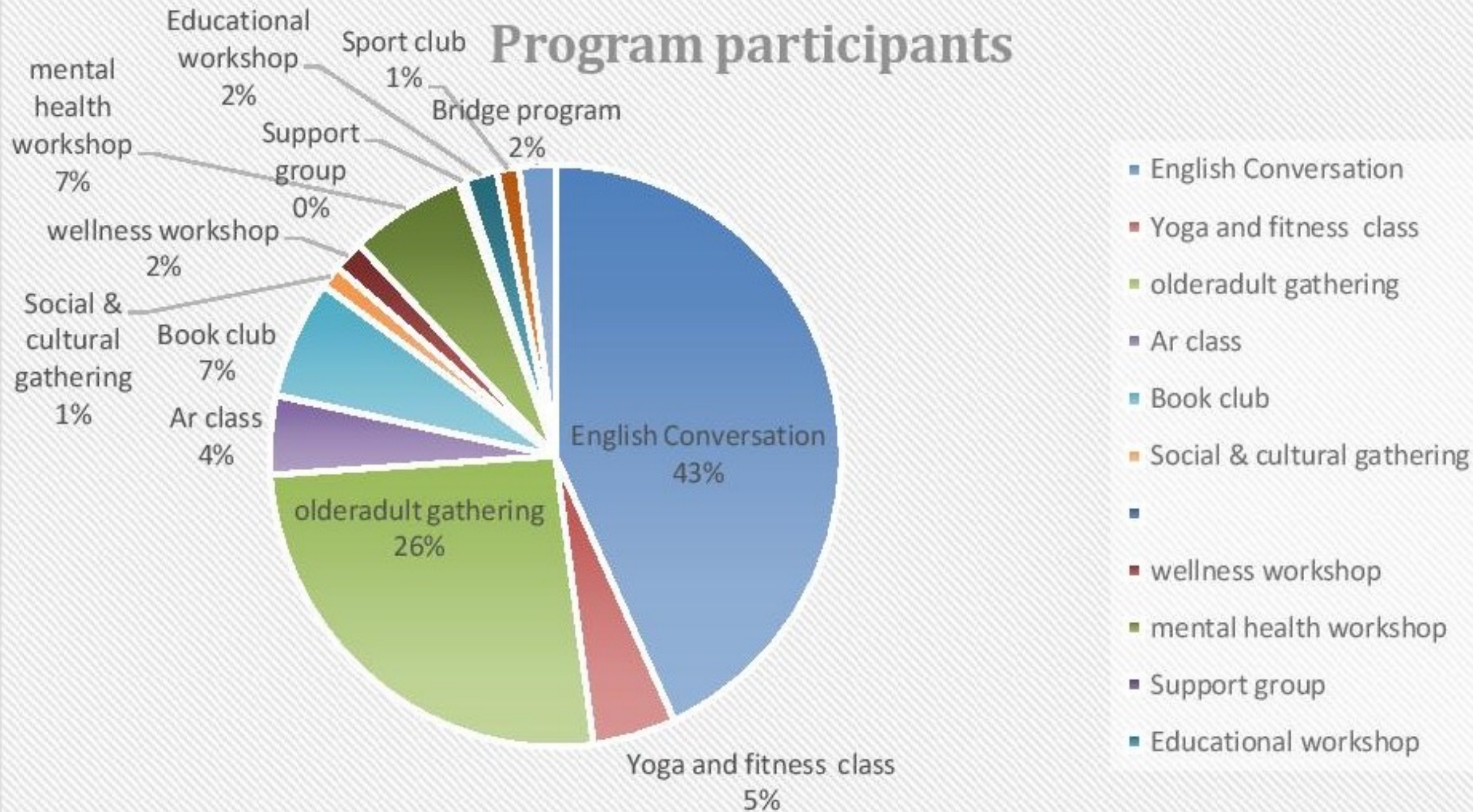
- Programing based on main goals; Mental health, wellbeing , and empowerment of women and their families.
- IWOO's committee's achievements:
 1. Mental health: Monthly meeting, mental health clinic, mental Health Forum, Support groups, monthly webinars, Self-development training sessions and Community Need assessment research
 2. Wellness: Monthly webinars, Yoga and Zumba classes, sport activities
 3. Art &Cultural: Committee's meetings, Story writing classes, Book club, Cultural & social gathering, Art night, Tirgan Festival, A Window to a Dream opera
 4. Volunteer & Membership: Monthly meeting, empowering volunteers through Leadership program, volunteer appreciation event
 5. Fund & Grant: Committee's meetings, Resilient Community Fund 1 , CSP, New Horizon for seniors and Youth summer jobs, and Canadian Women & Sport's Spotlight Grant, Resilient Community Fund 2
 6. HR : Interviewing new hiring, summer job students, Students placement Seneca and Gorge Brown Colleges
 7. Executive committee: IWOO officers monthly meeting for discuss about executive matters
 8. PR: Collaboration with different organizations and student association, Collaboration with media
 9. Event: Organizing various outreach activities and cultural and civic events



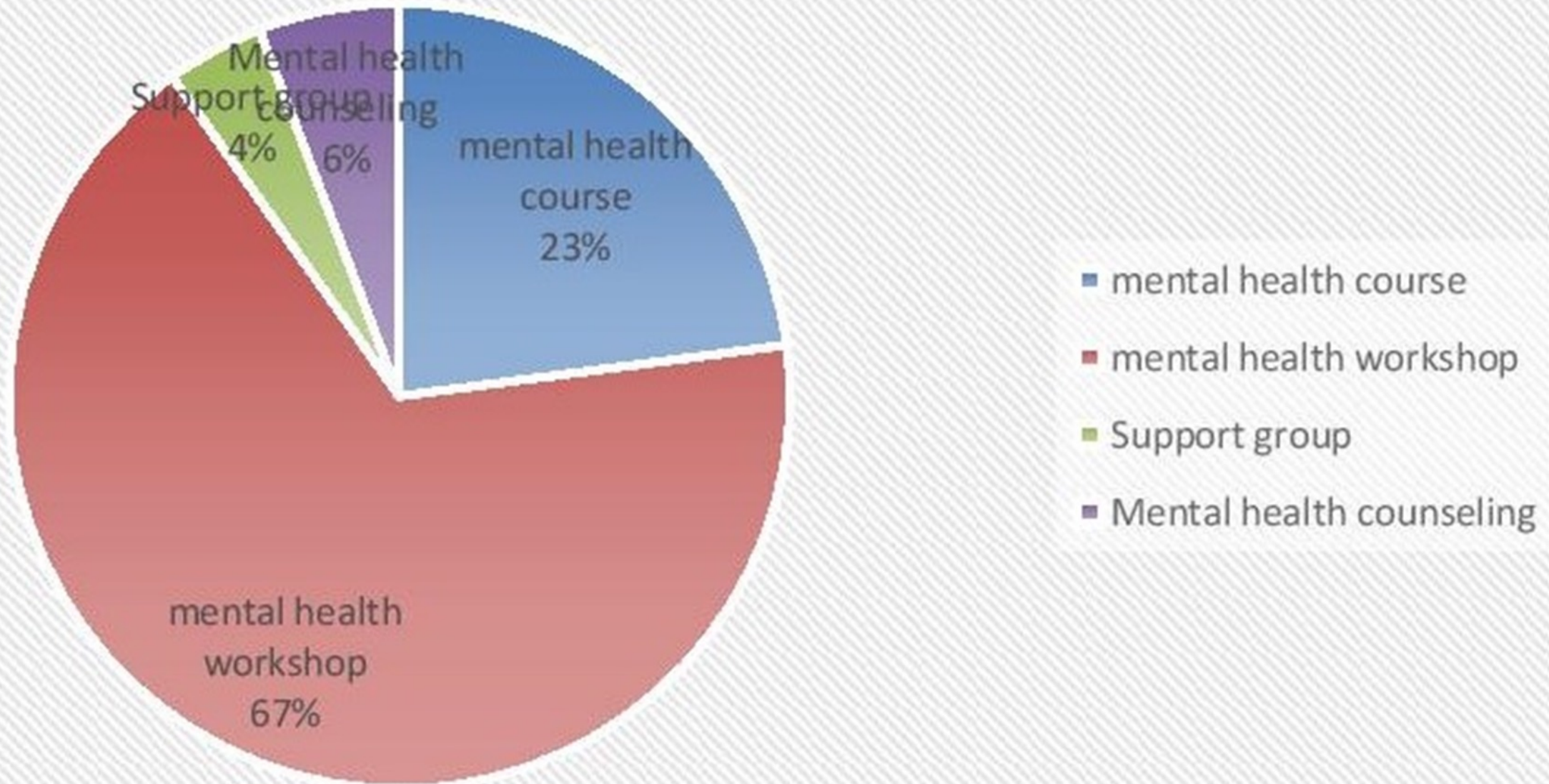
IWOO's Achievements in 2022- 2023 II

10. Implementing missed policies for IWOO's: Website Terms and Conditions of Use, Privacy Policy, Board of Directors Conflict of Interest and Code of Conduct Policy, Accessibility Policy and revising anti-oppression and other policies
11. Revising IWOO's By- Law
12. Developing mental health clinic, programs and training courses. Started Mental health support group programs for survivor from cancer and chronic disease
13. Partnership with York and U of T, Western, Laurier, McMaster, Toronto Metropolitan and Brescia Universities for planning better pathway for newcomers and involving Youths
14. Continuing older adult programs by adding wellness, art, training, English Café, picnics and day trip programs
15. Holding 2023 International Women's day at Royal Ontario Museum in collaboration with University of Toronto and ROM
16. Completing the research about Iranian- Canadian community needs assessment by partnership with Laurier university
17. Devoted 2 Mahsa Amini's Scholarship for Iranian female students by Partnership with Brescia College and sponsors
18. Receiving award for the Queen Elizabeth II Platinum Jubilee Pin as community heroes for IWOO's president & office manager
19. Member of United Nations Commission of the Status of Women/UN-CSW
20. Holding confidence project training sessions for newcomers in Partnership with Leonnova and Ministry of Labour
21. Free tax clinic for 2022 IWOO member's personal by collaboration with Canadian Revenues Agency's (CRA) volunteers

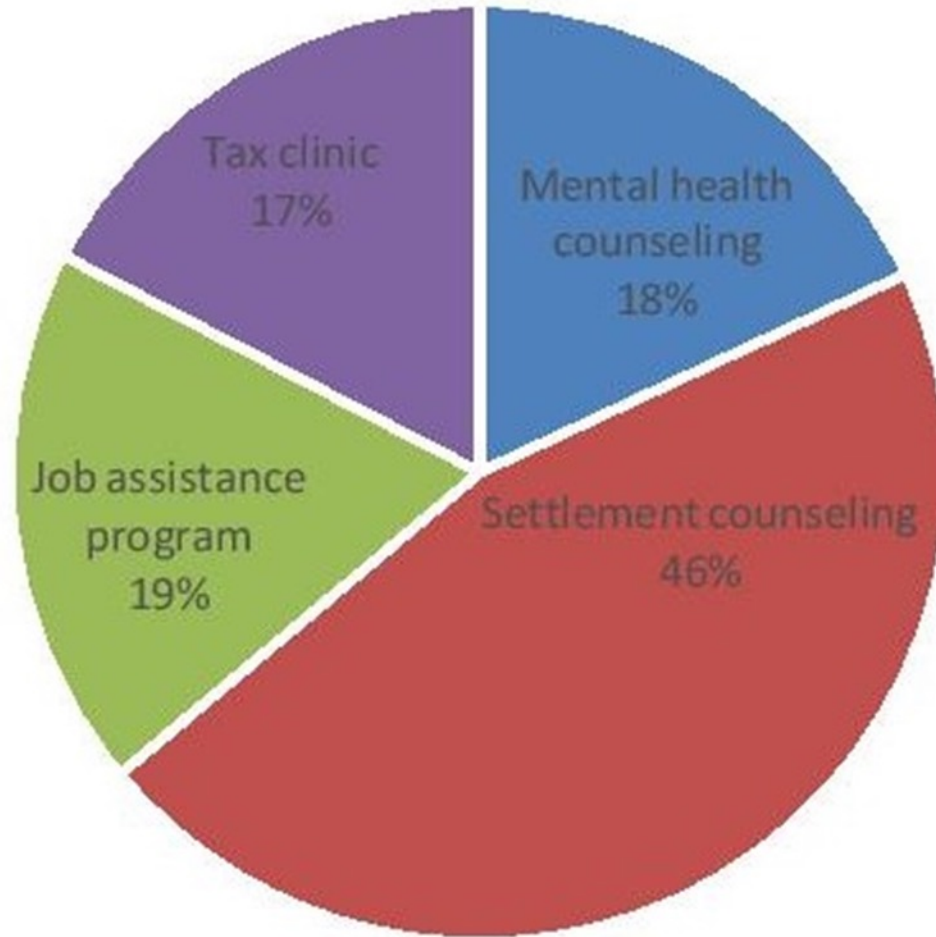
Program participants



Mental health Participants



Counseling Participants



IWOO's Upcoming Programs for 2023–2025

- Planning for having more generation diversity in members
- Build and grow productive connections with higher education institutions and provide mentoring service for newcomer Farsi-speaking women to identify their interest and pursue education toward professional advancement.
- 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
- Developing IWOO's settlement service for Iranian & Farsi speaking newcomers
- Planning to recruit and dispatch volunteers to spend some time during the week with seniors and provide support to them through conversations in Farsi.
- Providing more in person services
- Negotiating with other cities in Ontario for opening new IWOO's branch
- Outreach for finding more grant to continue programs
- Programing yearly Gala and fundraising event
- Collaboration with other organization at the same interest
- Planning personal & professional development programs for volunteers
- Planning recreational & cultural events for members and newcomers



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
- Canadian Women & Sport's Spotlight Grant

Canada  Ontario   **TORONTO**



FEMMES ET SPORT AU CANADA
CANADIAN WOMEN & SPORT

Ontario
Trillium
Foundation



Fondation
Trillium
de l'Ontario



IWOO's Partners

- 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)
- McMaster University
- Tigran Festival
- SAFSS (Settlement Assistance & Family Support Services)
- JVS Toronto
- Iranian students Association at York University (ISAYU)
- Toronto North Local Immigration Partnership
- Wilfrid Laurier University
- Brescia University

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

IWOO Staff

- Dr.Noushin Khavarian, Office Manager
- Leili Panahi, Book Keeper
- Mohammad Tahvili, Website Coordinator
- Parisa Habibi, Program Manager
- Aida Arjmand, Program Assistance

IWOO Summer Students

- Houman Ebrahimi
- Bahar Nazarinejad
- Parsa Nasirian
- Farin Khoshsorour

IWOO Student Placement

- Mitra Zernaki
- Mehrangiz Sadrian
- Sepide Tuman
- Neda Qusemi



IWOO's Supporters & Doners



CENTURY 21

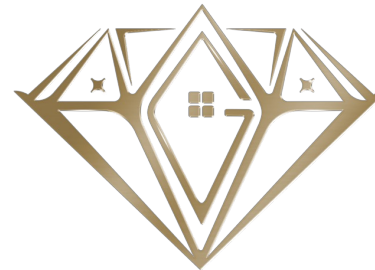
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GOHAR SHAHRAKI
Mortgage Agent



Board of Directors – اعضای هیئت مدیره

- | | |
|-----------------------|---|
| • Dr. Fariba Bashiri | President & mental health committee director |
| • Noushin Khasteganan | Vice president & wellness committee director |
| • Behnaz Moinzadeh | Interim Treasurer & Volunteer & membership committee director |
| • Dr. Hengameh Saberi | Secretary & Legal committee director |
| • Lely Mirsanjari | Public relationship & event committee director |
| • Saharnaz Nahidi | Designated Art & culture subsuted director |
| | |
| ❖ Afsaneh Vakilian | Ex Treasurer |
| ❖ Elena Metesmir | Ex Secretary & art and culture committee director |
| ❖ Nioufar Sultani | Ex Entrepreneur & HR committee director |
| ❖ Parna Kazerani | Ex Grant committee director |



Thank You To Our Amazing Instructors

- | | |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| • Marzieh Sotoudeh (Writer) | Book club |
| • Sasan Ghahreman (Writer) | Book club, story writing |
| • Behnaz Moeinzadeh | Self-development, Anti oppression |
| • Dr. Noushin Khasteganan | Transforming course |
| • Shery Darvish | Director of law program |
| • Mojgan Parsa | English class (intermediate) |
| • Nooshin Beheshti | English word group learning |
| • Karoline Goodarzi | Senior English café |
| • Fariba Divsalar Mohajer | Let's speak English |
| • Mona Pourmahmoudian | Yoga class |
| • Mojgan Jafari | Art and mindfulness class |
| • Susan Salek | Senior fitness class |
| • Sadigheh Gandomi | Senior fitness club |
| • Macy Tatari | Settlement service |
| • Raha | Dance class |
| • Davood Nayeb Pashaei | Cultural & social gathering |



Thank You To Our Webinar Speakers

- Dr. Hossein Abdollahi Sani
- Omid Alaei
- Dr. Fariba Bashiri
- Dr. Ensiyeh Harbi
- Dr. Noushin Khasteganan
- Dr. Noushin Khavarian
- Dr. Shahin Sakhi
- Dr. Hossein Kaji
- Dr. Maryam Holisaz
- Delaram Mehdizadeh Jafari
- Jila Ansari
- Mehrangiz Pournaseh
- Nilo Mortazavi
- Shahpar Banaei
- Mitra Zeranki
- Roshanak Parastesh



Thank You To Our Wonderful Volunteers

- Dr Fariba Bashiri
- Behnaz Moinzadeh
- Dr. Hengameh Saberi
- Leyly Mirsanjari
- Dr. Noushin Khasteganan
- Afsaneh Vakilian
- Noiloufar Soltani
- Parna Kazerani
- Elena Metesmir
- Mitra Zernaki
- Dr. Hossein Abdollahi Sani
- Dr. Ensiyeh Harbi
- Dr. Maryam Holisaz
- Omid Alaei
- Mahmonir Eradi
- Sherry Darvish
- Selora Lazarjani
- Lachin Fathi
- Helen Shirin
- Mojgan Jafari
- Saharnaz Nahidi
- Karoline Goodarzi
- Fatemeh Mohseni
- Dr. Fereshteh Mohammadi
- Shohreh Khatoni Moghadam
- Sadigheh Gandomi
- Paria Doust mohammadi
- Fatemeh Mosavat
- Fakhosadat Arab
- Aida Talebzadeh
- Ladan Ganji
- Bahar Nazarinejad
- Majid Zandieh
- Parvaneh Vakilian
- Farnaz Mofid
- Haleh Salari
- Dr. Afshin Kazeroni
- Bardia Mansouri
- Amir Azad
- Melika Moayedi
- Melinaz Barati
- Mojgan Yahyazadeh
- Manijeh Anjom Shoa
- Modeh Jankouk
- Mehrangiz Sadrian
- Soheila Shamsi
- Faezeh Asadi
- Tahareh Abbasi
- Hossein Kaji
- Parisa Ryan
- Sahabeh Arbabei





Thank You!

Questions? Comments!