

ANNUAL REPORT
2021
2022



This is dedicated to every human being who looks different, feels different, and thinks differently. I see you. I feel you. I am you. Stay different.

Our world needs the difference we will make.

– Qasim Chauhan



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#### **OUR THANKS & GRATITUDE**

#### A Message from Our Executive Director

It has been quite a year! We have welcomed some new people, said farewell to some and stayed connected to our clients, each other, and our community despite the challenges of Covid-19.

2021 ushered in a great deal of unprecedented change and uncertainty. Our world, our work and our lives looked very different this year. Whether we worked from our kitchen tables, a makeshift office and/or anywhere in our homes we could find, we found a way to do it and to continue to reach out to our clients. We stayed connected and continued to focus on and further the journey for all those we serve.

I would be remiss if I did not acknowledge Andrea Topham and the legacy she left me personally and ATN as an organization. She left us with beautiful new branding, a work culture that is truly people centered, and a new space we now call home.

Our Team's dedication and commitment to our work was inspiring and offered security and connection at a time that was putting those things at risk. There are no words to capture the gratitude I feel and the joy I get from leading our organization.



We are getting ready to head back into our new home on Adelaide Street. We are thrilled to once again be able to meet clients in-person. I could not be more excited about what the coming year will bring.

I hope you can feel the people, our clients and the work we do contained in this report.

Sincerely,

- Bobbie Jo Barker Executive Director **Special Thanks to Our Dedicated Board of Directors for Providing Governance and Continued Commitment to** 

#### Do Opportunity Differently



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Chair





## With Our Thanks, So Long, Farewell

Our year ended with the departure of two of our integral leadership staff, both of whom had profound impact on ATN. We thank and wish them both the very best on the next steps of their respective journeys!

Jancy Bohners

We thank Nancy for over 30 years managing our money and balancing our books, and congratulate her on retirement. A one-of-kind, incredible human being, Nancy was at the heart of our organization and we will miss her humour, wit and generosity of spirit. We wish her the very best on her new journey!

We congratulate Andrea as she begins a new CEO role and wish her the very best on her new adventure. A dynamic changemaker, Andrea re-imagined our organizational structure, reinforced a person-centered workplace culture of belonging, and spearheaded our rebrand and move to our new home at 1 Adelaide

Street North

## New Look

This past year we refreshed our look with a new logo and new website!



Captures our two main themes

The 't' is intentionally different to represent our key themes and our clients' strengths

Accessible design - no all caps, standard font, no cursive, no serifs, appropriate colours

## **New Location**

























# What does it mean to hold space for another person?

It means that we are willing to walk alongside another person in whatever journey they're on without judging them, making them feel inadequate, trying to fix them, or trying to impact the outcome. When we hold space for other people, we open our hearts. offer unconditional support, and let go of judgment and control.

- Heather Plett



#### Our Team in Action





Everyone Matters



How We Work is as Important as What We Do



Adaptability Creates Belonging



Everyone has
Unique
Strengths



Effecting Positive Change



Caring for Each Other



Leading with Authenticity



Having Fun and Enjoying Our Work



Tenaciously
Creating
Opportunities for All



Daring to be Different

# our Vision

"ATN provides a really essential service. Their staff provide a lot of resources to a lot of people. I know it's helped me and I'm sure it's helped many others too" - Matt

"My experience with ATN was amazing. It gave me lifelong skills I can now share with others thanks to the wonderful staff" - Nicole

"ATN was always so clear and helped in so many other ways. Take care of yourself and be kind to yourself. They care about caring for yourself. I felt a lot of change in my life and in myself" - Samantha

"Amazing program! Truly enjoyed it and learned a ton! Super helpful" - Bethany

Every person is empowered to grow, discover, and belong.



Inspire, create, and engage opportunities for all.

### **Celebrating Connections**

We are grateful for our partnerships that help us "Do Opportunity Differently!"



#### **Key Partnerships**

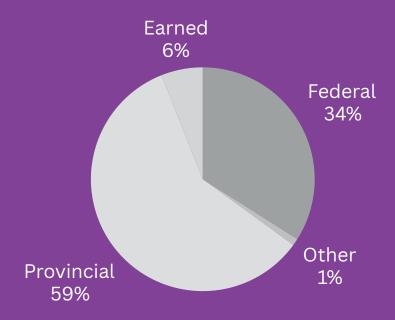
Glen Cairn Resource Centre **Trios College Campus Creative** Mustang Sally's restaurant **Innovation Works** Game Knight League Fresh Co Steeves & Rozema Group Voyago The Wright Clinic **Amsted Automotive** Habitat for Humanity - Adelaide Habitat for Humanity - Pacific Habitat for Humanity – Wonderland Habitat for Humanity – St. Thomas Mission Thrift Store—London South **Ark Aid Street Mission** Home Depot—London East Amazon





#### In Numbers

#### Revenue \$1,713,565

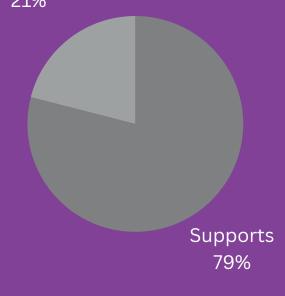


#### Expenses \$1,626,421



#### **Direct Client Services**

Allowances & Wages 21%



## ATN Programs and Services



Ontario Employment Assistance Services (OEAS) - **Ministry of Labour, Immigration, Training and Skills Development (MLITSD)** - Our core programming, providing supported individualized employment preparation and job matching services.

Ontario Disability Support Program (ODSP) Employment Services - Our vital supported intensive, one-on-one customized pre-employment and job development services.





**Access Lab Fee-for-Service** - Our specialized assessment and training services, serve WSIB, City of London, and others, including new partnerships this past year with Western University Employee Wellness, and the Community Tech Connect project.

Employment Skills Training Program - **Youth Employment and Skills Strategy (YESS)** - Our integral, holistic and life-building employment training and job placement program.

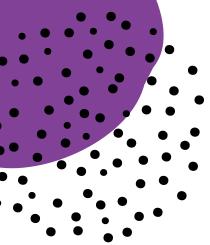




**New! - Youth Employment and Skills Strategy Program (YESSP)** - A supplemental program customized to serve youth job seekers on the autism spectrum through specialized pre-employment planning, job matching, and on-the-job supports.

**New!** - Practical Matters - **United Way Elgin Middlesex (UWEM) COVID-19 Response Fund** - Our program designed to combat anxiety and improve mental health through a combination of group-based counselling and individual skills development; an initiative that was truly responsive to a growing community need due to the pandemic!



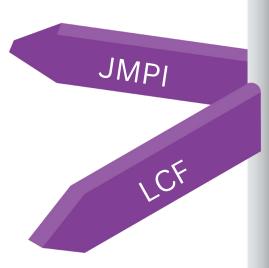


# Looking Toward the Future

With renewed energy and a forward-looking vision, we can not help but feel a palpable excitement around our programs, services, and new possibilities for the upcoming year! While we look at new growth opportunities, we also celebrate new funding commitments for 2022 and beyond!

A first for us, and a first for our sector!
We have received an increase in our core operational funding (a whopping 30% increase!) through the Ministry of Labour, Immigration, Training, and Skills Development for our Job Match Placement Incentive (JMPI) program.

We made the case with our pilot and we are being rewarded! United Way has committed two years of funding for our "Be Well" initiative designed to tackle anxiety!



London Community Foundation is investing in our home and in our staff! We will be receiving funding for professional staff development through the Vital Person Award, as well as funding for our new "Green Wall" initiative through their Maple Leaf Community Fund!



Be Well

Potential Growth Possibilities:

Employment and Social Development Canada (ESDC) - Opportunities Fund and Skills for Success; Ontario Trillium Foundation (OTF) - Youth Opportunities Fund and Resilient Communities Fund; HSBC Family Literacy First Fund; Libro, RBC, TD and More!

Quiet the voice telling you to do more and be more, and trust that in this moment, who you are, where you are at, and what you are doing is enough. You will get to where you need to be in your own time. Until then, breathe. Breathe and be patient with yourself and your process. You are doing the best you can to cope and survive amid your struggles, and that's all you can ask of yourself. It's enough. You are enough.

- Daniell Koepke

# Thank You!



