

Work of the Bridge Youth and Family Services Enhanced with another Rotary Club Donation

Story by Ed Kolybaba on Jan 24, 2023

On January 20th, 2023, in appreciation of a major donation of \$10,000 to the Bridge Youth and Family Services (The Bridge) which provided funding toward the purchase of a van, thanked the Rotary Club of Kelowna Sunrise for its funding and then hosted the members of the Club with a grand tour of its facility which included a comprehensive review of the programs it offers. The funds were derived from the 2022 Kelowna Sunrise Rotary Club Annual Raffle.



The members of the club were received by the leadership team from the Bridge, including the Executive Director John Yarschenko, Director of Community Engagement Kelly Paley, and other directors, along with members of the management team.



The managers of The Bridge took time from their work to provide an overview of the focus of seven of the programs (stations), while directing the tour through these stations.

The Bridge has been operating in Kelowna since 1969 providing two distinct arms of service.

Right from the beginning, The Bridge has focused on working preventatively with new parents and their infants, counselling families who are struggling with their parental roles and working with young people who are the most marginalized, street entrenched and disenfranchised.

Additionally, The Bridge has provided a recovery and addiction substance use program by providing supportive recovery housing, intensive live-in youth and adult treatment, community-based naloxone training, outreach overdose prevention, and withdrawal management (detox) services.