

# Homeward Bound 5 Year Retrospective Evaluation Summary

WoodGreen received funding from the Local Poverty Reduction Fund to evaluate our flagship Homeward Bound program. The goal of this work is to build a body of evidence to understand what programs truly work for Ontarians living in poverty.

As part of this work, WoodGreen engaged external evaluation experts at Constellation Consulting Group to objectively assess the impact of Homeward Bound on single mothers who have graduated since 2012. The objective has been to better understand the outcomes, successes and challenges of Homeward Bound so that the program can be continuously improved and effectively scaled going forward.

The evaluation revealed important learning about the impact of Homeward Bound. The outcomes are remarkable. We examined changes in housing status, employment, and income source from when survey respondents began Homeward Bound to where they reported they are today.

**Full Report:** <http://www.woodgreen.org/2018HBReport.aspx>

 In total, **59** unique Homeward Bound graduates participated in the survey.

## Upon Intake:

**46%** of survey respondents were living in a shelter (homeless shelter or women's shelter)

Nearly two thirds of survey respondents (**64%**) had Grade 12 or less as their highest level of education

**94%** of survey respondents were unemployed

**90%** of participants were accessing social assistance at an average income of \$11,645 per year



## Within 5 years of Graduating from Homeward Bound:

**94%** of survey respondents are stably housed: 67% are now living in market rentals and 8% now own their own home

**100%** of survey respondents who graduated Homeward Bound have completed a college degree in an employable field

**88%** of survey respondents are currently employed, on leave or in school

On average, full-time employed survey respondents reported earning approximately **\$43,000** per year



Opportunity made here.



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