

WELCOME HIVE

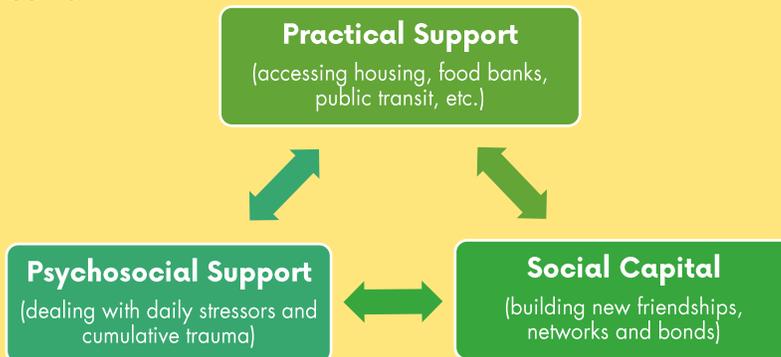
A peer-to-peer, community-based approach to building social connectedness among asylum seekers and refugees



SAMUEL CENTRE
FOR SOCIAL
CONNECTEDNESS

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Refugees and asylum seekers face social isolation and multidimensional post-migration challenges that can adversely impact their mental health. However, conversations with newcomers reveal a reluctance to access formalized mental health services. This requires creating a new model that can build social connectedness and promote mental wellbeing. Mental wellbeing rests on three key pillars in the postmigration context:



RECOMMENDATION:

A collaborative network of civil society actors should be created to host Welcome Hives (informal mental health interventions) for asylum seekers and refugees at various locations across Montreal. This intervention would offer practical support (i.e. workshops on digital literacy), psychosocial support (i.e. facilitated discussions about challenges and anxieties), and build social capital (i.e. create a space to build new friendships and social ties).

DISCUSSIONS



CREATIVE ARTS

WORKSHOPS



COMMUNITY COALITION

SHERPA & The Welcome Collective*

YMCAs (especially YMCA Tupper)

Local libraries and community centres

Community organizations mandated to assist asylum seekers find housing:

Ahuntsic-Cartierville

- Carrefour d'aide aux nouveaux arrivants (CANA)

Côte-des-Neiges

- Regroupement des organismes du Montréal ethnique pour le logement (ROMEL)

Laval

- Carrefour d'intercultures de Laval

Longueuil

- Carrefour Le Moutier

Mercier-Hochelaga-Maisonneuve

- Accueil liaison pour arrivants (ALPA)

Montréal-Nord

- Centre communautaire multiethnique de Montréal-Nord
- L'Entre Parents de Montréal Nord

Plateau-Mont-Royal

- Centre des femmes de Montréal

Rosemont - La Petite Patrie

- Bureau de la communauté haïtienne de Montréal
- La Maisonnée

Saint-Léonard

- Accueil aux immigrants de l'Est de Montréal (AIEM)

Sud-Ouest

- Centre Social d'Aide aux Immigrants (CSAI)

Villeray-Saint-Michel-Parc-Extension

- Carrefour de liaison et d'aide multiethnique (CLAM)