



# THUNDERWING

## 2018/2019 ANNUAL REPORT

Celebrating  
**FIVE**  
**YEARS**  
in the  
community

## Vision, Mission and Goals

**VISION:** Thunderwing residents have equal opportunity and their community is recognized as a safe neighborhood for all.

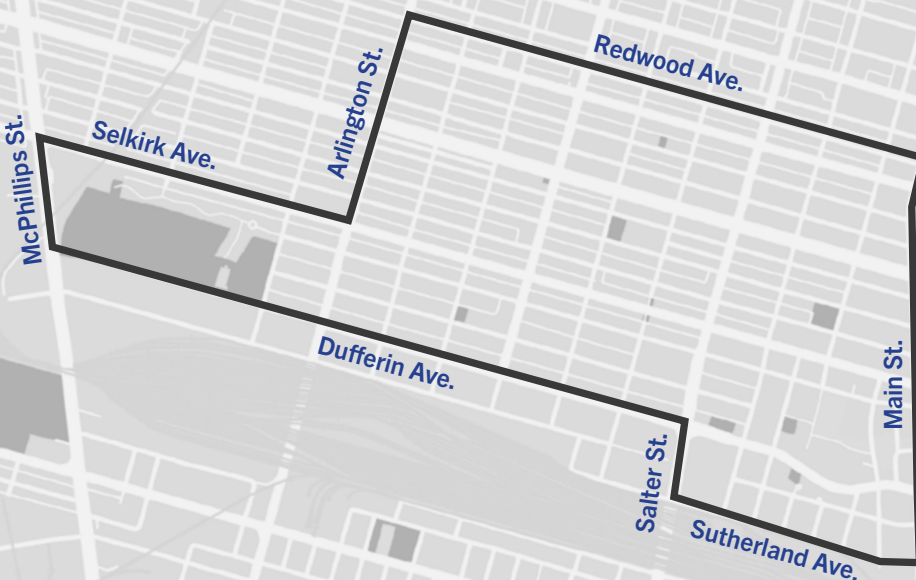
**MISSION:** We coordinate and mobilize existing resources across sectors, to give families the support they need so they can prevent and permanently stabilize crisis situations.

### GOALS:

- Increase community safety
- Enhance the wellbeing of families living in the Thunderwing Community
- Improve the relationship between service providers and the coordination of services
- Improve the relationship between families and systems

## Thunderwing Community

We serve individuals and families living in the William Whyte, Dufferin and Lord Selkirk Park neighbourhoods, on a referral basis.



### THUNDERWING NAME

On Dec 10, 2013, Elders Stella Blackbird and Audrey Bone held a naming ceremony at Urban Circle Training Centre.

The name that came from the spirits was Thunderwing, thunder representing rejuvenation and wing representing protection.

The Ojibwe name for Thunderwing is Animikii Aningwiigan and the Cree name is Khakitochuk Ohkun. The colours of Thunderwing are blue, red, white, and yellow.

We honour the name and colours of Thunderwing through a feast and tobacco offering each spring.

# Referrals and Family Engagement

Any agency can refer an individual or family to Thunderwing. We have received 125 referrals since September 2014. Of these, 95 were accepted, and 81 files have been opened. Of these, at March 31, 2019, 53 were completed, representing an 83% success rate (as 17 were still active).

Participants receive coordinated resource and service support through their Thunderwing Support Team for up to a year. Upon completion, we host a wrap-up gathering and provide a Certificate of Collaboration.

- A family’s readiness for support and change is an important part of the process
- A meeting is held with the family to ensure informed consent and discuss goals

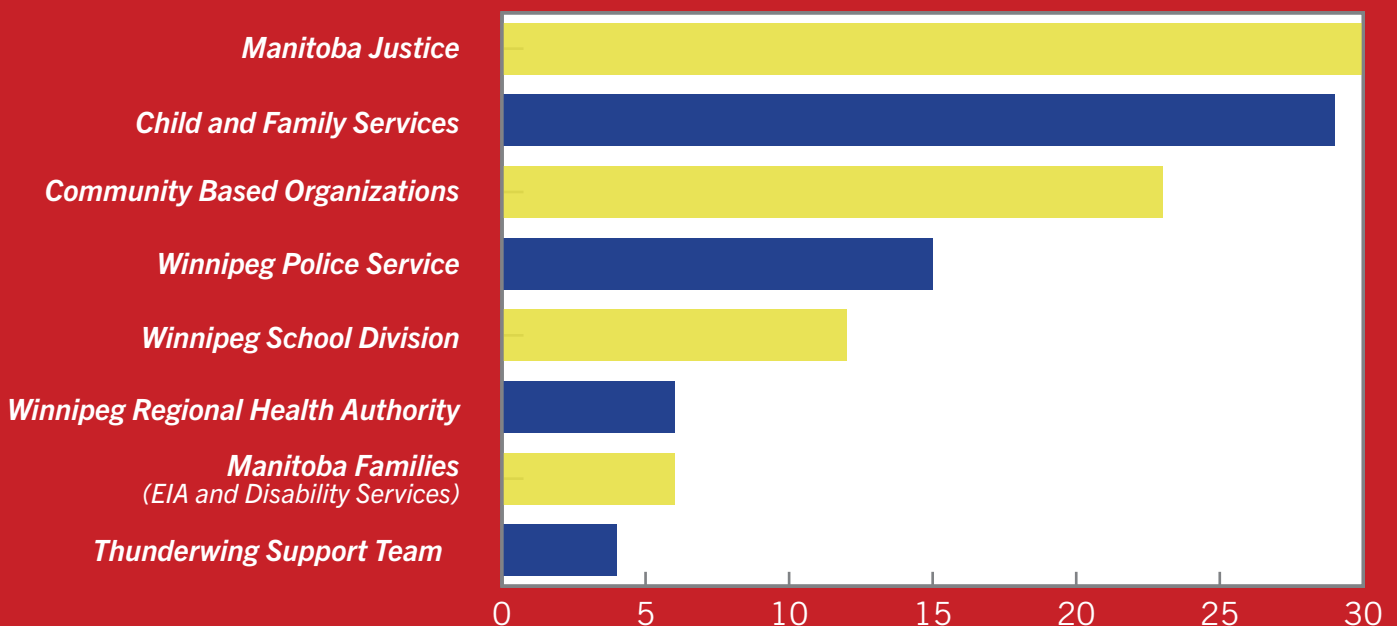
*“[Thunderwing] helped me gain the strength to get and stay sober so I can make that difference in my family’s life.”*

*--Participant, 2018*

*“[Thunderwing] has made a huge difference in me and my children’s lives. I have been through a lot in the past 2 years and having a support team to meet with once a month has helped me.”*

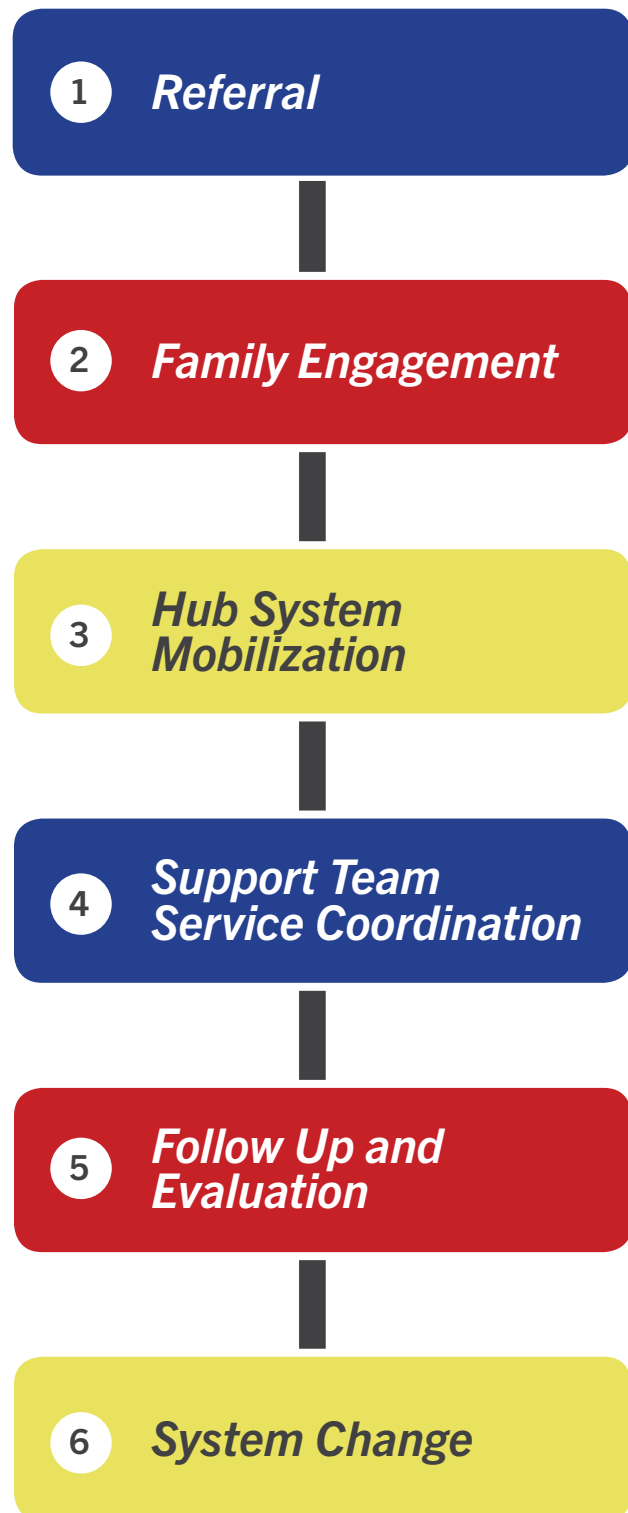
*--Participant, 2018*

## TOTAL REFERRALS BY PARTNER AGENCY 2014-2019



# Thunderwing Process

Steps in the Thunderwing Process are provided below.



*“Building relationships with the family and with support team members allowed us to collaborate and problem solve as a team, and to use combined resources. Offering learning plans, supports and resources to the family facilitated greater independence and healthier choices for the family.”*

*--Support Team Member, 2018*

## Community Engagement

In June 2018, we hosted a successful Spring Feast, Resource Fair and Report Back to the Community at William Whyte School. Over 250 people attended.

## Family Advisory Committee

The experiences and perspectives of Thunderwing participants are invaluable to us. We held one Family Advisory Council in May 2018, in a focus group format, as part of our ongoing commitment to meaningfully engage families in our work.

## THUNDERWING HUB

In 2018/19, the following agencies were represented on the Hub:

Addictions Foundation of Manitoba

Andrews Street Family Centre

Child and Family Services Division  
(Manitoba Families)

Community Services  
(City of Winnipeg)

Crime Prevention Branch  
(Manitoba Justice)

Domestic Violence Support Services  
(Manitoba Justice)

Employment and Income Assistance  
(Manitoba Families)

Manitoba Adolescent Treatment  
Centre

Manitoba Early Learning and Childcare  
(Manitoba Families)

Manitoba Housing (Manitoba Families)

Mount Carmel Clinic

North End Community Renewal  
Corporation

North End Women's Centre

Probation Services (Manitoba Justice)

Southern First Nations Network  
of Care Child and Family Services  
Authority

Wahbung Abinoonjiiag

William Whyte School

Winnipeg Police Services

Winnipeg Regional Health Authority

Winnipeg School Division

## Thunderwing Hub

Community-based and government agencies are represented on the multi-sectoral Thunderwing Hub. Informed consent from participants is required before their situation is brought forward. Hub members gather 1 to 2 times each month to consider family situations, strengths and goals, for the purpose of gathering information and breaking down barriers to effective and efficient service delivery. The key roles of the Hub members are:

### **Mobilization**

Working outside regular practice when regular practice isn't working

### **Collaboration**

Working together to fit services to families' needs and meet their goals



Thunderwing is a member of the Manitoba Community Mobilization and Safety Initiatives Network, along with other projects in Selkirk, Stonewall, Dauphin, Steinbach, Gimli, Brandon, Altona, Thompson, Swan River, Winkler and Portage la Prairie; and EVA (Ending Violence Across) Manitoba. Block by Block provides staff time and funding support to the Network.

***“We were able to keep connected easily and work together to get through any barriers we had and any ongoing.”***

*--Participant, 2018*

# Thunderwing Support Teams

We bring together existing and new supports in a family's life to break down barriers and support them in reaching their goals. Since 2014, we have engaged 398 professionals from 98 agencies in 594 Support Team meetings:

- 33 Community Based Organizations such as North End Community Renewal Corporation, Andrews Street Family Centre
- 19 schools
- 14 Child and Family Services agencies
- 11 Manitoba Government programs such as EIA, Manitoba Housing, Probation Services, Victim Services, Children's Disability Services
- 8 Winnipeg Regional Health Authority programs such as Families First, Homecare, Public Health

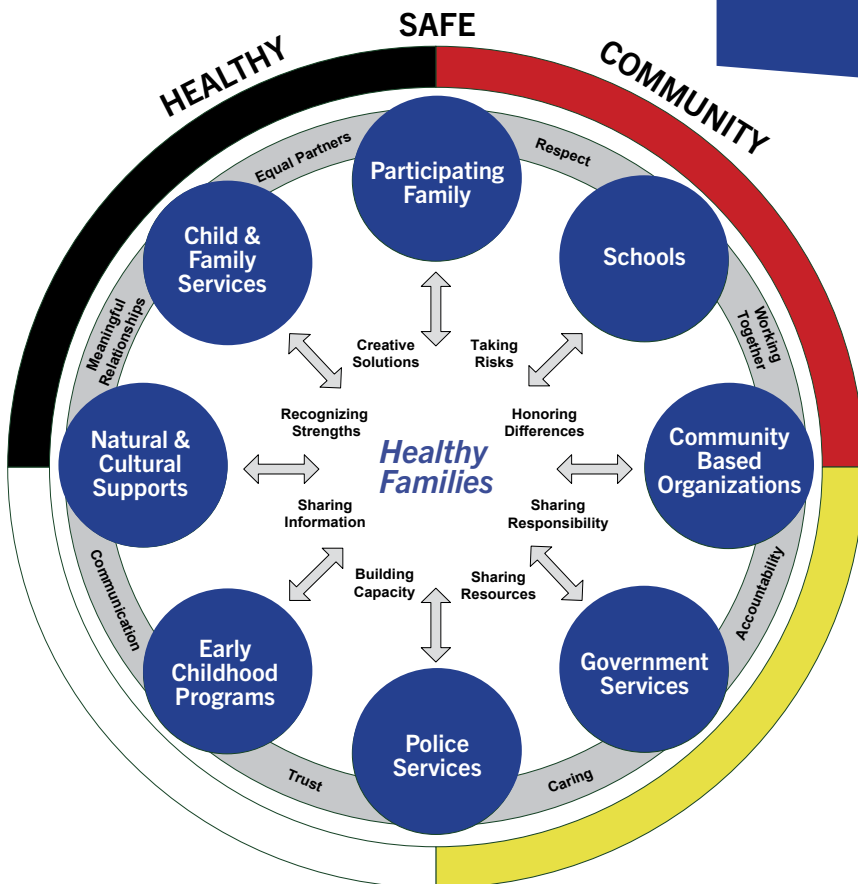
- 5 others such as child care centres, Public Trustee, subsidized housing provider
- 3 Winnipeg Police Service units

Families are also encouraged to invite natural supports to join their Support Team.

The length of Thunderwing involvement is unique to each family; typically 6 to 7 Support Team meetings are held during their time with Thunderwing. The family-centred Thunderwing Collaboration Model guides the work of our Support Teams.

*"I believe that Thunderwing has impacted the family in a very positive light. The circle of care that was given to the family because of Thunderwing is everlasting."*

*--Support Team Member, 2018*



## THUNDERWING COLLABORATION MODEL

All Thunderwing Support Team Meetings are guided by the Thunderwing Collaboration Model

# Thunderwing Outcomes

We use an extensive evaluation design to examine Thunderwing's impact. The tables below illustrate outcomes for children/youth and adult participants based on information gathered from Support Teams before a file is opened, and then again upon completion.

CHILDREN / YOUTH OUTCOMES 2014 - 2019	TOTAL
Returned to parents care	23
Remained in parents care	43
Increased number/improved quality of visits with parents	5
Improved school attendance, academics or situation	37
Continued attending school regularly	23
Connected to recreation activities	34

FAMILY OUTCOMES 2014 - 2019	TOTAL
CFS protection file closed or transferred to family enhancement file	5
Left an abusive relationship / relationship became healthier	16
Housing obtained / maintained or made safe and adequate	48
Reduced Winnipeg Police calls for service	38
Charges diverted/stayed	10
Probation Order completed	6
Started or finished an education / job training program	8
Entered into the workforce	7
Began volunteering or began employment readiness program	8
Obtained health care provider/other medical needs met	18
Maintained health care provider	19
Connected to new resources	65

## SOCIAL RETURN ON INVESTMENT

Social Return on Investment (SROI) measures and reports the social value of program impacts that are difficult to quantify, such as community well-being. In September 2017, a third-party SROI was completed for Thunderwing.

***For every \$1 invested in Thunderwing, \$5 in social value was created.***

The biggest system impacts were in the areas of child welfare, policing and justice.

# Block by Block Community Safety and Wellbeing Initiative



Thunderwing is a project of the Block by Block Community Safety and Wellbeing Initiative. Block by Block is a platform for multi-sectoral collaboration on long-term, sustainable solutions to complex social issues.

We work to identify and address barriers that impact community safety and individual and family well-being.

## GUIDING PRINCIPLES

**Possibility:** Real transformation happens when we focus on what is possible

**Strength-Based:** All communities, families and agencies have strength, value, and the capacity to be well

**Family Centered:** Families know their own lives best and are capable of identifying their own needs

**Engagement:** Everyone has value and something to contribute

**Accountability:** Sustainable impact is quality driven

**Cultural Diversity:** There is more than one way of doing and thinking

**Integrity:** Collaboration starts with building meaningful relationships

***“[Thunderwing] Pushes us to make practical steps towards a more family centered accessibility oriented model.”***

*--Support Team Member, 2018*

## BLOCK BY BLOCK SECRETARIAT

The Secretariat is the backbone organization that provides full time support to both the Block by Block Initiative and Thunderwing Project.

Lisa Holowchuk  
*Executive Director*

Cassandra Dokken  
*Policy and Evaluation Analyst*

Pauline Jackson  
*Thunderwing Project Coordinator*

D/Sgt Derek Carlson  
*Block by Block Safety Liaison*

Vanessa Wilson  
*Administrative Assistant*

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## BLOCK BY BLOCK PARTNER AGENCIES

Manitoba Justice

Manitoba Families

Manitoba Education

Manitoba Health

Winnipeg Police Service

City of Winnipeg

Winnipeg School Division

Winnipeg Regional Health Authority

RCMP – Division D

Winnipeg Chamber of Commerce

Community Based Organizations

Addictions Foundation of Manitoba



**Block by Block**  
Community Safety & Wellbeing Initiative

*Strengthening community...  
block by block, family by family.*

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