

# Drop In Self Help & Peer Support Groups

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May 2025

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<p><b>Virtual</b> Click on the bit.ly URL to join via video or use the toll free phone number and ID number to join via telephone. (NOTE: Typing the link does not work)</p>				
<p><b>NEW GROUP</b> <b>Hope for Recovery</b> @ 12:30p-1:30p with Kass  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>May 5, 12, 26</li> <li>no group May 19 (Victoria Day holiday)</li> <li><a href="http://bit.ly/42rLO9F">http://bit.ly/42rLO9F</a></li> <li>(833) 819-8075 &amp; ID: 290 786 821#</li> </ul> </p> <p><b>Supporting the Supporter</b> @ 5:30p - 7:30p with Kass  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>May 5, 12, 26</li> <li>no group May 19 (Victoria Day holiday)</li> <li><a href="http://bit.ly/3WGPw6T">bit.ly/3WGPw6T</a></li> <li>(833) 819-8075 &amp; ID: 971 491 960#</li> </ul> </p>	<p><b>RETURNING Virtual Self Compassion</b> @ 10:00a - 11:30p with Kass  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>May 6, 13, 20, 27</li> <li><a href="http://bit.ly/423psKc">bit.ly/423psKc</a></li> <li>(833) 819-8075 &amp; ID: 770 408 296#</li> </ul> </p> <p><b>Chronic Pain and Mental Health Peer Support</b> @ 11:00a - 12:00p with Katrina &amp; Allison  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>May 6, 13, 20, 27</li> <li><a href="http://bit.ly/3AKonN5">bit.ly/3AKonN5</a></li> <li>(833) 819-8075 &amp; ID: 413 000 364#</li> </ul> </p> <p><b>I'm the Angry One</b> @ 1:00p - 2:00p with Farah  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1<sup>st</sup> &amp; 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday</li> <li><b>May 6, 20</b></li> <li><a href="http://bit.ly/3zrU11d">bit.ly/3zrU11d</a></li> <li>(833) 819-8075 &amp; ID: 164 053 634#</li> </ul> </p> <p><b>Buried in Treasures Peer Support</b> @ 3:00p - 4:30p with Farah  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>May 6, 13, 20, 27</li> <li>Email <a href="mailto:flahens@cmhaww.ca">flahens@cmhaww.ca</a> to join.</li> </ul> </p> <p><b>Anxiety Depression &amp; Hope Peer Support</b> @ 7:00p - 8:30p with Farah  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>May 6, 20</li> <li><a href="http://bit.ly/3RIIsJg">bit.ly/3RIIsJg</a></li> <li>(833) 819-8075 &amp; ID: 949 992 347#</li> </ul> </p> <p><b>Guelph Redefining Addiction. Reclaiming our Dignity</b> @ 6:00p - 7:00p - With Tonya - <b>VIRTUAL &amp; IN PERSON</b>  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>May 6, 13, 20, 27</li> <li><a href="http://bit.ly/3Xfra9D">bit.ly/3Xfra9D</a></li> <li>(833) 819-8075 &amp; ID: 923 475 136#</li> <li>80 Waterloo Ave, Guelph</li> </ul> </p>	<p><b>Anxiety, Depression and Hope Peer Support</b> @ 1:30p - 3:30p with Lawrence  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>May 7, 14, 21, 28</li> <li><a href="http://bit.ly/4fjPPBd">bit.ly/4fjPPBd</a></li> <li>(833) 819-8075 &amp; ID: 617 321 551#</li> </ul> </p> <p><b>Cambridge Gender Journeys</b> @ 1:30p - 2:30p with Michael - <b>VIRTUAL &amp; IN PERSON</b>  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>May 7, 14, 21, 28</li> <li>Email <a href="mailto:kdivenanzo@cmhaww.ca">kdivenanzo@cmhaww.ca</a> for virtual link.</li> <li>9 Wellington St, Cambridge</li> </ul> </p> <p><b>Afro Caribbean Black Mental Health Support Group</b> @ 6:30p - 8:00p with Farah  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>May 7, 14, 21, 28</li> <li>Email <a href="mailto:flahens@cmhaww.ca">flahens@cmhaww.ca</a> to join.</li> </ul> </p> <p><b>Coping with a Missing Person</b> - @ 7:30p - 8:30p with Maureen &amp; Cindy  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>BI-WEEKLY</li> <li><b>May 14, 28</b></li> <li>Email <a href="mailto:missingpersons@rogers.com">missingpersons@rogers.com</a> to join.</li> </ul> </p>	<p><b>Self Esteem</b> @ 10:30p-12:00p with Kass  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>May 1, 8, 15, 22, 29</li> <li><a href="http://bit.ly/4aEg6lC">bit.ly/4aEg6lC</a></li> <li>(833) 819-8075 &amp; ID: 786 254 358#</li> </ul> </p> <p><b>Boundaries &amp; Assertiveness</b> @ 3:30p - 4:30p with Farah  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2<sup>nd</sup> &amp; 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday</li> <li><b>May 8, 22</b></li> <li><a href="http://bit.ly/4hzi53g">bit.ly/4hzi53g</a></li> <li>(833) 819-8075 &amp; ID: 222 596 520#</li> </ul> </p> <p><b>Bipolar Disorder Peer Support Group</b> @ 7:00p - 9:00p with Maynard &amp; Gloria  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>May 1, 8, 15, 22, 29</li> <li><a href="http://bit.ly/3tV1N1b">bit.ly/3tV1N1b</a></li> <li>(833) 819-8075 &amp; ID: 508 724 285#</li> </ul> </p>	<p><b>Mental Health &amp; Wellness Skills</b> @ 1:00p - 2:00p with Colene  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>May 2, 9, 16, 23, 30</li> <li><a href="http://bit.ly/48En3H6">bit.ly/48En3H6</a></li> <li>(833) 819-8075 &amp; ID: 213 570 692#</li> </ul> </p> <p><b>Abstinence Not Required Substance Use Support Group</b> @ 3:00p - 4:00p with Farah  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2<sup>nd</sup> &amp; 4<sup>th</sup> Friday</li> <li><b>May 9, 23</b></li> <li><a href="http://bit.ly/3VYr99C">bit.ly/3VYr99C</a></li> <li>(833) 819-8075 &amp; ID: 298 076 099#</li> </ul> </p>

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# Drop In Self Help & Peer Support Groups

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May 2025

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<b>In Person</b>				
<p><b>Cambridge Mindfulness &amp; Self-Compassion</b> @ 10:00a - 11:00a with Colene</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• May 5 and 12</li> <li>• <b>No group May 19 or 26</b></li> <li>• 9 Wellington St., Cambridge</li> </ul> <p><b>Cambridge Anxiety, Depression &amp; Hope Peer Support</b> @ 11:30a - 12:30p with Colene</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• May 5 and 12</li> <li>• <b>No group May 19 or 26</b></li> <li>• 9 Wellington St., Cambridge</li> </ul>	<p><b>NEW Kitchener Mindfulness &amp; Self-Compassion</b> @ 10:30a - 11:30a with Colene</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• May 6, 13, 20, 27</li> <li>• 67 King St. E, Kitchener</li> </ul> <p><b>NEW TIME Kitchener Games Group</b> @ 12:00p - 2:00p with Rob &amp; Jen</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• May 6, 13, 20, 27</li> <li>• 67 King St. E, Kitchener</li> </ul> <p><b>RETURNING Kitchener Anxiety, Depression &amp; Hope Peer Support</b> @ 2:30p - 4:00p with Katrina &amp; Daniel</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• May 6, 13, 20, 27</li> <li>• 67 King St. E, Kitchener</li> </ul> <p><b>RETURNING Kitchener Open Share</b> @ 2:30p - 4:00p with Colene</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• May 6, 13, 20, 27</li> <li>• 67 King St. E, Kitchener</li> </ul> <p><b>NEW GROUP Guelph River Steps</b> @ 3:00p - 4:00p with Tonya</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• May 6, 13, 20, 27</li> <li>• Royal City Park</li> </ul> <p><b>Guelph Redefining Addiction. Reclaiming our Dignity</b> @ 6:00p - 7:00p - With Tonya</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>VIRTUAL &amp; IN PERSON</b></li> <li>• May 6, 13, 20, 27</li> <li>• <a href="https://bit.ly/3Xfra9D">bit.ly/3Xfra9D</a></li> <li>• (833) 819-8075 &amp; ID: 923 475 136#</li> <li>• 80 Waterloo Ave, Guelph</li> </ul>	<p><b>NEW TIME Cambridge Intentional Living</b> @ 11:00a - 12:00p with Kass</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• May 7, 14, 21, 28</li> <li>• 9 Wellington St., Cambridge</li> </ul> <p><b>Kitchener Walking Group</b> @ 11:30a - 12:30p with Farah &amp; Rob</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• May 7, 14, 21, 28</li> <li>• Speaker's Corner in front of 67 King Street E., Kitchener</li> </ul> <p><b>Cambridge Gender Journeys</b> @ 1:30p - 2:30p with Michael - <b>VIRTUAL &amp; IN PERSON</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• May 7, 14, 21, 28</li> <li>• Email <a href="mailto:kdivenanzo@cmhaww.ca">kdivenanzo@cmhaww.ca</a> for virtual link.</li> <li>• 9 Wellington St, Cambridge</li> </ul> <p><b>Guelph Anxiety, Depression &amp; Hope Peer Support</b> @ 3:30p-4:30p with Allison</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• May 7, 14, 21, 28</li> <li>• 80 Waterloo Ave, Guelph</li> </ul>	<p><b>NEW Kitchener Mind Over Mood</b> @ 10:30a - 11:30a with Colene</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• May 1, 8, 15, 22, 29</li> <li>• 67 King St. E, Kitchener</li> </ul> <p><b>Kitchener Bowling Group</b> @ 1:00p - 2:00p with Rob</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• May 1, 8, 15, 22, 29</li> <li>• Victoria Bowl, 280 Victoria St S, Kitchener</li> </ul> <p><b>Guelph Walk &amp; Talk</b> @ 1:30p - 2:30p with Tonya</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• May 1, 8, 15, 22, 29</li> <li>• Royal City Park (at the gazebo), Guelph</li> </ul>	<p><b>Guelph Qi Gong</b> @ 9:30a- 10:30a with Lisa</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• May 2, 9, 23, 30</li> <li>• <b>no group May 16</b></li> <li>• 80 Waterloo Ave., Guelph</li> </ul> <p><b>Guelph Self-Compassion</b> @ 10:30a - 11:45a with Amanda, Heather &amp; Allison</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• May 2, 9, 23, 30</li> <li>• <b>no group May 16</b></li> <li>• 80 Waterloo Ave., Guelph</li> </ul> <p><b>Cambridge Mind Over Mood</b> @ 10:30a - 11:30a with Colene</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• May 2, 9, 16, 23, 30</li> <li>• 9 Wellington St. Cambridge</li> </ul> <p><b>Cambridge Meditation Group</b> @ 1:30p - 2:30p with Kass</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• May 2, 9, 16, 23, 30</li> <li>• 9 Wellington St, Cambridge</li> </ul>

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## Enrolled Recovery Learning Groups

[Listen to our podcast!](#)

May 2025

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<b>Virtual</b>				
No enrolled groups on Mondays	<p><b>Mind Over Mood Peer Support</b> @ 3:00p - 4:30p with Lawrence</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• May 6, 13, 20, 27</li> <li>• Groups meet weekly for approximately 8 months.</li> <li>• Registration is closed</li> <li>• For questions, please email Allison at <a href="mailto:apurdy@cmhaww.ca">apurdy@cmhaww.ca</a>.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Peers for Safer Living</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 10-week group for those who have completed the 20-week group.</li> <li>• To join the next session email <a href="mailto:skillsforsaferlivingteam@cmhaww.ca">skillsforsaferlivingteam@cmhaww.ca</a> or call 1-844-264-2993 ext. 4063.</li> </ul> <p><b>Riding the Wave of Emotions</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 16 week group beginning May 21</li> <li>• registration closes May 17</li> <li>• May 21, 28</li> <li>• to register or questions? Jane at <a href="mailto:jbrown@cmhaww.ca">jbrown@cmhaww.ca</a></li> </ul>	<p><b>DBT Skills Peer Support Skills Refresher</b> @ 1:00p – 2:30p with Lawrence</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1<sup>st</sup> &amp; 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday</li> <li>• May 1 and 15</li> <li>• <b>Closed Group</b></li> <li>• Requirement: Having attended a full series of DBT Skills Peer Support.</li> <li>• For questions, please email Allison at <a href="mailto:apurdy@cmhaww.ca">apurdy@cmhaww.ca</a>.</li> </ul> <p><b>DBT Skills Peer Support</b> @ 3:00p – 4:30p with Dana &amp; Lawrence.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• May 1, 8, 15, 22, 29</li> <li>• Groups will meet weekly for approximately 18 months.</li> <li>• For questions, please email Allison at <a href="mailto:apurdy@cmhaww.ca">apurdy@cmhaww.ca</a>.</li> <li>• <b>Closed Group</b>. No waitlist at this time.</li> </ul>	<p><b>DBT Skills Peer Support</b> @ 3:00p – 4:30p with Lawrence.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• May 2, 9, 16, 23, 30</li> <li>• Groups will meet weekly for approximately 18 months.</li> <li>• For questions, please email Allison at <a href="mailto:apurdy@cmhaww.ca">apurdy@cmhaww.ca</a>.</li> <li>• <b>Closed Group</b>. No waitlist at this time.</li> </ul>

Recovery Learning groups follow a curriculum and occur for a determined number of sessions, with the same participants attending each week. These are closed groups.

Participating in a Recovery Learning group requires enrollment with Self Help & Peer Support. During enrollment staff will collect some basic contact and demographic information from participants and attendance is tracked.

**If you have questions, or to join one of our “Recovery Learning” groups email [selfhelpgroup@cmhaww.ca](mailto:selfhelpgroup@cmhaww.ca) or call one of our sites.**

**To Join via video** - use the bit.ly URL. | **To join via telephone** - use the toll free phone number and ID number.

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## Enrolled Spark of Brilliance Groups

May 2025

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Virtual	In Person - 67 King St E, Kitchener	In Person - 80 Waterloo Ave, Guelph	Virtual and In Person	
<b>Studying the Masters: Klimt</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>May 5 1:30p - 3:30p</li> </ul> <b>Art for Self Care</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>May 12 1:30p - 3:30p</li> </ul> <p><b>No workshop May 19</b></p> <b>The Answers are Within You</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>May 26 1:30p - 3:30p</li> </ul>	<b>Printmaking – Carve &amp; Create</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>May 6 and 13 1:30p-3:30p</li> </ul> <b>3D Needle Felting</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>May 20 and 27 1:30p-3:30p</li> </ul>	<b>Pottery in the Garden@ The Guelph Enabling Garden, Riverside Park</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>May 7 1:30p-3:30p</li> </ul> <b>In Progress</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>May 14 1:30p-3:30p</li> </ul> <b>Plant Propagation</b> (rescheduled from April) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>May 21 1:30p-3:30p</li> </ul> <b>3D Needle Felting</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>May 28 and June 11 1:30p-3:30p</li> </ul>	<b>Crochet &amp; Knit Club</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>May 1 and 15 11:00a-1:00p</li> <li>80 Waterloo Ave, Guelph - SHPS Group Room</li> </ul> <b>The Writing Life with Mary Katherine Carr</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>May 1 3:30p-5:00p</li> <li>Virtual</li> </ul>	No workshops on Fridays

To enroll in Spark of Brilliance, register for a workshop, or be added to our monthly mailing list, email Marcey at [mgray@cmhaww.ca](mailto:mgray@cmhaww.ca). Spaces are available on a first come, first served basis and limited spaces are available for each workshop. Enrollment in Spark of Brilliance is required \*prior\* to registration. All supplies are provided at no cost to participants. **To Join via video** - use the bit.ly URL. | **To join via telephone** - use the toll free phone number and ID number.

**CANCELLATIONS:** Planned cancellations are noted on the above grid. In the event that we need to unexpectedly cancel a workshop, registered participants will be notified via email as soon as possible.

**3D Needle Felting** - In this two-part workshop, you'll learn the art of needle felting to create your own whimsical 3D wool sculptures. From animals and characters to flowers or fantasy creatures, the choice is yours! We'll start with the basics and build up your piece over two sessions, exploring techniques for shaping, detailing, and bringing your creation to life. No experience needed—all materials provided!

**Art for Self Care** - During this monthly workshop series, with the help of artist Jessica Swift and Skillshare, you'll learn how to tap into the power of your intuition and use artmaking as a tool for radical self-care. Whether you're an experienced artist or a curious beginner, this self-paced class is for you. Artmaking can be used as a tool for meaningful self-discovery and transformation.

**Guelph Crochet and Knit Club** - Calling all yarn lovers—beginners, pros, and everyone in-between! The Crochet & Knit Club is an open, drop-in group where you can learn, practice, and share your love for fiber arts. Not sure where to start? Don't get tangled up—we'll help you hook onto the basics in no time! Learn how to read patterns, pick the perfect hook, and spin your way through yarn choices. Already working on a project? Bring it along to get in the loop with other crafters! Need knitting help? Just cast on and ask around for advice. Whether you're a newbie or have been purling for years, this is your space to create, relax, and share your passion. We have limited supplies available, so please bring your own hooks, needles and yarn. For beginners, we recommend starting with a 4-4.5mm hook and a chunkier yarn for easier crafting.

**In Progress** - When it comes to your art, do you spend more time procrastinating than creating? Do you find you don't set time aside to work on existing projects? During "In Progress" we will gather to work on our on-the-go projects, offer each other support on getting through creative blocks and bumps, and of course take time to make art! Remember to bring the supplies along that you will need to work on your project during the workshop time.

**Plant Propagation (Rescheduled from April) (@ The Guelph Enabling Garden, Riverside Park)** - Ready to grow your plant family? Join us for a fun and friendly workshop where you'll learn how to grow new plants from cuttings and explore the many benefits of having nature in your home! We're thrilled to partner with our amazing horticulture therapist, Heidi Torreiter, to guide you through proper propagation techniques and share tips to help your plants thrive. Feel free to bring along your favorite houseplants that you'd like to propagate. It's a great way to share cuttings with the group, exchange plant care tips, and leave with some new green friends for your home! Whether you're a total beginner or already have a jungle at home, everyone is welcome.

**Pottery in the Garden (@ The Guelph Enabling Garden, Riverside Park)** - Get your hands in the clay and let your creativity take shape in this hands-on pottery workshop! Whether you choose to make a plate, sculpture, or wall hanging, you'll learn basic handbuilding techniques in a relaxed, outdoor setting at the Guelph Enabling Garden. After the workshop, pieces will be taken to be fired, with a couple of brief follow-up dates offered to return and add a colourful or clear glaze. Please note as the weather can be unpredictable, be sure to check your email the morning of the workshop for confirmation of location—just in case we need to move indoors!

**Printmaking – Carve & Create** - Join us for this playful two-part printmaking workshop! In the first session, we'll dive into the art of stamp carving, creating unique designs that reflect your personal style. In the second session, we'll bring our stamps—and our imaginations—together to make a variety of prints, experimenting with color, layering, and collaborative creativity using each other's stamps. No experience needed—just bring your curiosity!

**Studying the Masters: Klimt** - This monthly workshop will focus on a different master artist each month. We will learn some tidbits about the highlighted artist and then use a piece of their art as inspiration for a drawing. This month's artist is Gustav Klimt.

**The Answers Are Within You** - Join us for a unique writing and art workshop inspired by "The Answers Are Within You" by Amber Rae. Using the book's insights on self-discovery and personal growth, participants will explore themes of mind, body, and soul through creative expression. Writers and artists will have the option to write or create art from a first-person perspective for a more intimate, personal experience or experiment with second or third person to develop fictional storylines. Whether you're looking to reflect on your own journey or craft new narratives, this workshop offers a transformative space to explore your inner world. Participants may submit their writing and art from each workshop to be considered in a year end book project.

**The Writing Life with Mary Katherine Carr** - This workshop, facilitated by writer and editor Mary Katherine Carr, will explore creative intuition and writing as a healing practice and force for positive transformation in the self and in our community. We will experiment with various forms of writing, including fiction, creative non-fiction, poetry, and letters, taking inspiration from writers past and present, from all around the world. We will share our work with one another when we feel inspired and comfortable doing so and provide supportive feedback, exploring our natural curiosity and instincts. Writing can be a self-care practice, as well as a vehicle for social change - your words are powerful!

## Program Descriptions

**Abstinence Not Required Substance Use Support** – An open discussion, harm reduction focused on substance use and addictions peer support group. We share how substance use affects our lives and how we may come together in mutual support and learning on our individual journeys towards improved wellness and quality of life. This group focuses on living well with or without changing our substance use and is facilitated by peers with lived experience. This group is an alternative to the 12-step model. For connection details, please email facilitator Farah at [flahens@cmhaww.ca](mailto:flahens@cmhaww.ca).

**Afro Caribbean Black Mental Health Support Group** – Our Afro-Caribbean Black Mental Health Support Group is a space where we come together to acknowledge the unique tapestry of our shared experiences. Our souls, rich with melanin, understand the impact of cultural winds and societal storms on our mental well-being. In this safe and supportive community, we weave our stories into a vibrant quilt of resilience. We shared coping secrets like ancestral whispers carried on the breeze. Our goal is mutual upliftment, and we rise hand in hand. We honour our Afrocentricity and recognize that our roots run deep, connecting us together as we strive towards healing, guided by the rhythm of our hearts. To join group please email Farah at [flahens@cmhaww.ca](mailto:flahens@cmhaww.ca).

**Anxiety, Depression & Hope Peer Support** – With a focus on coping, recovery, and fostering hope; a regular opportunity to talk about our walk with depression and anxiety, to hear peer stories, and as a result, to learn ways for living the life we want every day. Multiple sessions each week.

- Cambridge In person Monday - staff facilitator email Colene at [callen@cmhaww.ca](mailto:callen@cmhaww.ca).
- Kitchener In person Tuesday - staff facilitator email Colene at [callen@cmhaww.ca](mailto:callen@cmhaww.ca).
- Tuesday evening bi-weekly virtual group staff facilitator email Farah at [flahens@cmhaww.ca](mailto:flahens@cmhaww.ca).
- Guelph in person and Wednesday virtual - staff facilitator email Allison at [apurdy@cmhaww.ca](mailto:apurdy@cmhaww.ca).

**Bipolar Disorder Peer Support Group** – Individuals who experience bipolar disorder are invited to participate in this group. Mood swings within bipolar can be mild, moderate, or severe and can be accompanied by changes in thinking and behaviour. This group provides a non-judgmental and comfortable environment where the above can be discussed and explored. Staff facilitator email Allison at [apurdy@cmhaww.ca](mailto:apurdy@cmhaww.ca).

**Boundaries & Assertive Peer Support Group** – Our group is dedicated to empowering individuals to establish and maintain healthy boundaries through assertive communication. We provide a supportive environment where participants can share experiences, learn practical skills, and gain confidence in expressing their needs and limits. Join us to build stronger relationships, enhance your self-respect, and support others on their journey to assertiveness. Staff facilitator Farah at [flahens@cmhaww.ca](mailto:flahens@cmhaww.ca)

**BPD Peer Support Group** – This group provides a space to meet weekly to offer hope, validation, shared experience and skills for those living with borderline personality disorder. This group is fully peer support. Staff facilitator Kass at [kdivenanzo@gmail.com](mailto:kdivenanzo@gmail.com).

**Buried in Treasures Peer Support** – Our peer support group provides a supportive environment for individuals struggling with urges to collect, save, and organize belongings. We aim to decrease stigma “hoarding” by fostering understanding and empathy. Participants come together to share experiences, offer support, and create a safe space for healing. For connection details, please email facilitator Farah at [flahens@cmhaww.ca](mailto:flahens@cmhaww.ca).

**Cambridge Anxiety, Depression & Hope Peer Support** - See above, [Anxiety, Depression & Hope Peer Support](#).

**Cambridge (and Virtual) Gender Journeys (Virtual and In Person)** - A peer support led group where participants will talk on topics such as coming out to families, the transition process, ID change, all the way through to mental health issues that come up with transitioning. The group is open to all those who identify as trans and non-binary! At 9 Wellington Street, Cambridge Ontario or Virtually on Microsoft Teams. Staff facilitator email Kass at [kdivenanzo@cmhaww.ca](mailto:kdivenanzo@cmhaww.ca).

**Cambridge Intentional Living** - Intentional Living is about choosing your life. We will spend time deciding what is important to us and building the path to becoming our best selves. Seek clarity, define our values, and create goals through worksheets, group conversations, and fun activities. Staff facilitator Kass at [kdivenanzo@cmhaww.ca](mailto:kdivenanzo@cmhaww.ca).

**Cambridge Meditation Group** - Join peers in person to explore different meditation styles. We will use books, audio, statements and more to meditate weekly. Staff facilitator email Kass at [kdivenanzo@cmhaww.ca](mailto:kdivenanzo@cmhaww.ca).

**Cambridge Mind Over Mood** - Participants meet in person to work through and discuss the book, Mind Over Mood, by Dennis Greenberger and Christine A. Padesky, a classic based on Cognitive Behaviour Therapy (CBT). Explore how CBT can be helpful in addressing the challenges of depression, anxiety, anger, and shame. Although it is not necessary, participants may wish to purchase their own hard copy of the book (we use the 2nd Edition) through their local or online bookseller. Staff facilitator email Colene at [callen@cmhaww.ca](mailto:callen@cmhaww.ca).

**Cambridge Mindfulness & Self-Compassion** - Mindfulness lets us choose where to focus our attention. When we are mindful, we are in the moment. Mindfulness and Self-Compassion go hand in hand, so when we are mindful, we are able to be compassionate with ourselves and those around us. Staff facilitator email Colene at [callen@cmhaww.ca](mailto:callen@cmhaww.ca).

**Chronic Pain & Mental Peer Support** - Chronic pain takes as much of a toll on our minds as it does on our bodies. Join us as we support each other, exploring and finding new ways of coping and even thriving with our pain. Staff facilitator email Allison at [apurdy@cmhaww.ca](mailto:apurdy@cmhaww.ca).

**Coping with a Missing Person** – This group is for families and friends who have a missing person and those who have found their missing but wish to continue to support each other. Know that it's the situation that is abnormal, not you. You will learn about living with uncertainty (Ambiguous Loss, Pauline Boss) and how to deal with triggers, roadblocks and changing needs. Self care is an important aspect. There can be special events to remember our missing, based on group wishes. Through sharing our experiences, we can learn from each other in a safe space and feel connected instead of isolated. For connection details, please email volunteer facilitator Maureen at [missingpersons@rogers.com](mailto:missingpersons@rogers.com). Staff facilitator Farah at [flahens@cmhaww.ca](mailto:flahens@cmhaww.ca).

**DBT Skills Peer Support** – Join us in learning how Dialectical Behaviour Therapy (DBT) skills, as presented in Dr. Marsha M. Linehan's work, can transform emotional experiences, and decrease our suffering using mindfulness, emotion regulation, distress tolerance, and interpersonal effectiveness. Summaries of the ideas are provided by email. Regular attendance for about 18 months is required for each series. Staff facilitator email Allison at [apurdy@cmhaww.ca](mailto:apurdy@cmhaww.ca).

**DBT Skills Peer Support Skills Refresher** – This is a biweekly opportunity to refresh your DBT skills. Having attended a full series of DBT Peer Support with Self Help & Peer Support is required. Staff facilitator email Allison at [apurdy@cmhaww.ca](mailto:apurdy@cmhaww.ca).

**Guelph Qi Gong** - Wear comfortable clothing and join us as we explore gentle movement to improve physical, mental, emotional, and spiritual wellbeing. Qigong is a branch of Traditional Chinese Medicine that sees the mind and body as interconnected - moving the body can improve all aspects of our health. All movements can be done standing or modified sitting in a chair and do not need any equipment. Starting in September, join us inside at 80 Waterloo Ave., Guelph, Room G02/G04. Staff facilitator Allison at [apurdy@cmhaww.ca](mailto:apurdy@cmhaww.ca).

## Program Descriptions

### **Guelph (and Virtual) Redefining Addiction. Reclaiming Our Dignity (Virtual and In Person) -**

This all-inclusive peer support group is a safe and welcoming space for anyone impacted by substance use health, regardless of where you are on your journey. Whether you are actively using, exploring harm reduction, 'in recovery', or simply seeking support, you belong here. Together, we challenge the stigma surrounding addiction and embrace a compassionate, non-judgmental approach. We focus on empowering individuals to reclaim their dignity and define their own paths to wellness. Through shared experiences, mutual understanding, and support, we foster a sense of community and connection, reminding everyone: you are not alone. Join us as we redefine addiction on our own terms and build a foundation of respect, hope, and empowerment for all. About the facilitator: Tonya Evans is a Peer Specialist/Advocate with over 8 years working in the field of Mental Health & Substance Use Health. Her lived expertise includes substance use, parenting and substance use, voluntary and involuntary treatment, detox centers, criminalized substance use, recovery with harm reduction, Opioid Agonist Therapy, grief & loss, homelessness, mental health (PTSD). She also has over 15 years' experience in the Health & Fitness field where she worked as a Wellness Coach/Trainer. Staff facilitator email Tonya [tevans@cmhaww.ca](mailto:tevans@cmhaww.ca).

**Guelph River Steps** - Join us at Royal City Park (at the gazebo) for Walk & Talk if you are bored of virtual groups! We will walk along the Speed River trail and connect with one another during conversation or if you wish to just walk and not talk, that is ok too! Weather permitting. \*If it is raining or heavy snow/ice, it will be cancelled. Staff facilitator email Tonya at [tevans@cmhaww.ca](mailto:tevans@cmhaww.ca).

**Guelph Self-Compassion** - This workbook-based group (The Mindful Self Compassion Workbook, by Kristen Neff and Christopher Germer) gives opportunities for activities and discussions on how to be kinder to ourselves. A digital copy of the workbook is provided by email. Staff facilitator email Allison at [apurdy@cmhaww.ca](mailto:apurdy@cmhaww.ca).

**Guelph Walk & Talk** - Join us at Royal City Park (at the gazebo) for Walk & Talk if you are bored of virtual groups! We will walk along the Speed River trail and connect with one another during conversation or if you wish to just walk and not talk, that is ok too! Weather permitting. \*If it is raining or heavy snow/ice, it will be cancelled. Staff facilitator email Tonya at [tevans@cmhaww.ca](mailto:tevans@cmhaww.ca).

**I'm The Angry One** - Welcome to "I'm the Angry One", a compassionate peer group where we embrace and understand anger together. We're here to explore anger, an emotion we all experience but can sometimes overwhelm us. Mismanaged anger can cause stress and harm relationships. In this group, you'll find peers who share your experiences. A safe space where we uncover what fuels our anger. Share personal stories and coping methods learn to express and manage anger in healthier ways and support each other on our journey towards improved anger management. Staff facilitator email Farah at [flahens@cmhaww.ca](mailto:flahens@cmhaww.ca).

**Kitchener Anxiety, Depression & Hope Peer Support** - See above, [Anxiety, Depression & Hope Peer Support](#).

**Kitchener Bowling Group** - This group meets every Thursday at Victoria Bowl (280 Victoria St. S, Kitchener). Cost - 2 games - \$10 including shoe rental. Join us for fun, social time, & exercise. No registration required. Everyone welcome! Staff facilitator email Farah at [flahens@cmhaww.ca](mailto:flahens@cmhaww.ca).

**Kitchener Games Group** - Come to our Kitchener office and enjoy this social time playing games with others. This group is held in the Rear Recovery room on the main level. Staff facilitator email Farah at [flahens@cmhaww.ca](mailto:flahens@cmhaww.ca).

**Kitchener Mindfulness & Self-Compassion Group** - Mindfulness lets us choose where to focus our attention. When we are mindful, we are in the moment. Mindfulness and Self-Compassion go hand in hand, so when we are mindful, we are able to be compassionate with ourselves and those around us. Staff facilitator email Colene at [callen@cmhaww.ca](mailto:callen@cmhaww.ca).

**Hope for Recovery** - This group will help provide hope for recovery, enhance motivation for support, and increased feelings of connectedness and belonging **for those who experience eating disorders and body dysmorphia/challenges**. All discussions will come from a trauma-informed lens. Staff facilitator email Kass at [kdivenanzo@cmhaww.ca](mailto:kdivenanzo@cmhaww.ca).

**Kitchener Mind over Mood Group** - Participants meet in person to work through and discuss the book, *Mind Over Mood*, by Dennis Greenberger and Christine A. Padesky, a classic based on Cognitive Behaviour Therapy (CBT). Explore how CBT can be helpful in addressing the challenges of depression, anxiety, anger, and shame. Although it is not necessary, participants may wish to purchase their own hard copy of the book (we use the 2nd Edition) through their local or online bookseller. Staff facilitator email Colene at [callen@cmhaww.ca](mailto:callen@cmhaww.ca).

**Kitchener Open-Share** - Participants have an informal discussion about their mental health and wellbeing. Staff facilitator email Colene at [callen@cmhaww.ca](mailto:callen@cmhaww.ca).

**Kitchener Walking Group** - Join us at Speaker's Corner outside our Kitchener office for Walk & Talk if you are bored of virtual groups! Weather permitting. \*If it is raining, it will be cancelled. Facilitated by Rob & John and Staff facilitator email Farah at [flahens@cmhaww.ca](mailto:flahens@cmhaww.ca).

**Mental Health & Wellness Skills** - This group emphasizes practical skills and strategies for maintaining our recovery journey and enhancing our Wellness. The group is a collection of the skills learned in other groups and provides opportunities to put those skills into practice. The group's content is led by the members of the group. Staff facilitator email Colene at [callen@cmhaww.ca](mailto:callen@cmhaww.ca).

**Mind Over Mood** - Virtual format. See [Kitchener Mind Over Mood and Cambridge Mind Over Mood](#).

**Peers for Safer Living** - If you have previously attended the Skills for Safer Living group you are invited to join this 10-session refresher and peer support group where we will continue to practice our skills and strategies to make safer choices and deepen our understandings of suicide related thoughts and behaviors. Meets virtually. \*Must have attended a SFSL group previously. Email [skillsforsaferlivingteam@cmhaww.ca](mailto:skillsforsaferlivingteam@cmhaww.ca) or call 1-844-264-2993 x 4063 to join or for more information.

**Riding the Wave of Emotions** - Do you struggle with your emotions? Do you know what it means to be emotionally healthy? Take control of your emotions by learning how to respond to them. Please join us in learning how to identify, understand and release your emotions. **Registration closes May 17.**

**Self-Compassion** - This workbook-based virtual group (The Mindful Self Compassion Workbook, by Kristen Neff and Christopher Germer) gives opportunities for activities and discussions on how to be kinder to ourselves. A digital copy of the workbook is provided by email. Staff facilitator email Kass at [kdivenanzo@cmhaww.ca](mailto:kdivenanzo@cmhaww.ca).

**Self-Esteem** - Peer-led group discussions, where we explore and develop wellness tools and self-care strategies. We will use conversation, worksheets, group activities, and visual aids to help gain a stronger understanding of self-esteem and its' importance in recovery. Staff facilitator Kass at [kdivenanzo@cmhaww.ca](mailto:kdivenanzo@cmhaww.ca).

**Supporting the Supporter** - Supporting the Supporter is a weekly peer support group for friends and family that support individuals who live with mental health challenges and/or substance use challenges. Peer led discussions about mental health, substance use health, and how best to be supportive while considering personal boundaries, community resources and self-care. Staff facilitator email Kass at [kdivenanzo@cmhaww.ca](mailto:kdivenanzo@cmhaww.ca).