

2019

Annual Report  
L'Arche Greater Vancouver  
and  
The L'Arche Foundation of  
Greater Vancouver





**Identity and Mission Statement  
International Federation of L'Arche Communities:**

**Identity Statement:**

**We** are people with and without developmental disabilities, sharing life in communities belonging to an International Federation.

**Mutual** relationships and trust in God are at the heart of our journey together.

**We** celebrate the unique value of every person and recognize our need of one another.

**Mission Statement:**

Our mission is to...

**Make** known the gifts of people with developmental disabilities, revealed through mutually transforming relationships.

**Foster** an environment in community that responds to the changing needs of our members, whilst being faithful to the core values of our founding story.

**Engage** in our diverse cultures, working together toward a more human society.

**L'Arche Greater Vancouver  
April 1, 2018 - March 31, 2019  
Annual Report**

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## President of L'Arche Greater Vancouver

L'Arche Greater Vancouver is on an historic journey. Collectively, we have embraced an expanded vision that includes growing our mission into the wider community. This growth will occur through our intention to provide new housing and support for individuals with a disability who can live semi-independently, as well as our commitment to include 29 units of affordable housing in our new building. With this new vision, many more individuals, couples and families will experience the richness and fullness of living in an intentional community.



Such a transformation is not without its challenges. Every aspect of L'Arche is being tested with the pains of growth, the uncertainty of change, and the letting go of what is familiar.

I honour this community for its courage and its willingness to step into this expanded vision and embrace the growth that will result from the redevelopment of Shiloah. We will release the quiet, humble presence we've held for 45 years and take on a new and expanded role as we serve as a model of the importance of community and living intentionally.

I'm grateful to all those who have stepped into new leadership roles, whether on the management team, the boards of directors, the housing committee, and in our day-to-day nurturing of one another as we move through this change. I have witnessed a strong sense of collaboration and an increasing community resilience during this time. My gratitude and respect to all of you.

The LGV society has been well served by our current and committed board of directors – Dan Kirkegaard, Jim Lattimer, Tom Nowak, and Angela Girard. We welcome (back) Jim Dorsey and our newest board member, Ric Tesan. My gratitude to all of you for your passion, patience and persistence as we grapple with the many decisions required to advance our redevelopment project. I am especially

grateful to Dan Kirkegaard for so capably chairing the board meetings and providing needed leadership when my attention was focused on the capital campaign and redevelopment project.

In spite of all the demands of a capital campaign, project development, and the transition of members and assistants out of Shiloah, the L'Arche community has responded beautifully to the challenges. I am consistently impressed by the dedication and care that permeates L'Arche every day.

It is a privilege to work with each and every one of you in creating a kinder, gentler and more compassionate community that fulfills the vision of Jean Vanier to live in a world where *“people, whatever their race, religion, culture, abilities or disabilities can find a place and reveal their gifts”*.

In gratitude,

Ted Kuntz  
President

## **L'Arche Greater Vancouver Board of Directors**

Jim Dorsey  
Angela Girard  
Denise Haskett  
Dan Kirkegaard  
Ted Kuntz  
Jim Lattimer  
Tom Nowak  
Ric Tesan

## President of the L'Arche Foundation of Greater Vancouver



This year marks a year of challenges and successes for L'Arche Greater Vancouver. The seeds that were planted last year for our We All Belong Capital Campaign have taken off and grown in leaps and bounds. Our Campaign Executive Team has been working very hard, responding to the challenges as they are presented and introducing L'Arche to many new friends. In response to going out into the community, we have received many generous donations, as well as making stronger connections in the larger community.

In June, we held a Faith Leaders lunch at L'Arche as a kickoff to our We All Belong Campaign. L'Arche's vibrant spirit was captured in this wonderful event that was attended by many faith leaders from across the Lower Mainland, including Archbishop Michael Miller and the Sisters of St. Ann, who have given their wholehearted support for the campaign.

The strength of L'Arche comes from our mission and the passion of the people who deliver it. On that note, we held our annual Ark Builders Brunch in November. Always a success, this year we had the pleasure of a former assistant, Anna Voeuk, as our keynote speaker. Anna shared that her journey as a UBC student took her to spend a transition year as a L'Arche assistant before starting medical school. She shared that, after becoming a physician, her decision to specialize in palliative care was grounded in her experience here at L'Arche. All the while, she remains connected with her L'Arche roots and is currently a member of the Board of L'Arche Edmonton. These are the stories that we hear that are so inspiring. As Jean Vanier said so often, "L'Arche is transformative."

I would like to welcome our newest board member, Robert Fawcett. With our capital campaign in full force, Robert has jumped into the deep end of the pool – thank you Robert. We are a small board, but we are mighty!

Our campaign journey is not by any means over – there’s still lots to do to reach our campaign goal. There are so many people who have come forward to help as ambassadors and supporters – thank you all. As the President of the Foundation Board, I am grateful for the significant role each of our board members and staff play – their contribution is exceptional. Thank you Denise and Ted for your leadership and a big shout out to our core members and their assistants for championing this project.

As I have said again and again, the individuals who really shine are our Donors. They are the ones who have in their hearts the sparkles and beauty of humanity – thank you to each and every one of you. I assure you our team is committed to work hand in hand with you to make our dream come true. We look forward to the coming year – support makes progress become success!

With deep gratitude,

Audrey Staudacher  
President

**L’Arche Foundation of Greater Vancouver  
Board of Directors**

Robert Fawcett  
Denise Haskett  
Jennifer Hermkens  
Ted Kuntz  
Jim Lattimer  
Audrey Staudacher

## Executive Director/Community Leader

*“Ask, and it shall be given unto you; Seek and you shall find; Knock and the door shall be opened to you” Luke 2:9*

As I reflect on the past year, I am struck by the invitation from this gospel verse, which is our theme for the year. The words invite us to actively engage with a faithful God who will respond to us when we ask, seek and knock. It is an invitation to step out in faith, trusting in Providence and each other as we continue on this journey to shape our future.



This year has certainly been one of engaging not only with one another in community, but also with many new friends as we seek to realize our dream and expand our mission.

A highlight of the year was our annual community retreat, which was held at Shiloah, our main building. As we anticipate moving from this place, we are treasuring our time here! The retreat was a time of joyous celebration, singing, dancing, and sharing wonderful meals together.

We received our fifth consecutive three-year accreditation award in June from CARF (Commission on Accreditation Rehabilitation Facilities). CARF accreditation, which is a requirement of Community Living BC, our government funder, is an organizational audit of all our practices. Here is a quote from their most recent report:

*“The organization’s strengths include extensive inclusion of the core members’ personal preferences in program planning and service delivery and treating health and safety as a top priority. Additionally, the staff members, who are knowledgeable and loyal to the mission, carry out their responsibilities with professionalism, create homelike environments, utilize innovative service delivery approaches, and engage supports that enhance the core members’ lives.”*

I want to express my gratitude to the people who worked so hard to prepare us for the survey. Thank you to Peter McKinley for guiding through this process. This award demonstrates excellence even in the midst of major change.

We have made steady progress with our building plans and are grateful for the support of various levels of government. Our project has gone through several steps at the City of Burnaby including a public hearing, and first and second readings by City Council. We also submitted a proposal for funding from BC Housing and were advised that we would receive a grant for \$6.1 million in the coming fiscal year.

We also participated in a process with L'Arche Western Canada and Innoweave to develop a Theory of Change and Action Plan using our current Mandate as a base document. Thanks to Annette Kuhn and Ivana Svadlenova for leading us in this process. It helped us to clearly articulate our intended impact and outcomes with the expansion of our mission.

As always at the end of a year, it is a time to count our blessings and give thanks. Thank you for the generous support of both new and faithful donors as we work towards our minimum campaign goal of \$5 million. I am grateful for the guidance of City Spaces and TL Housing Solutions whose expertise has guided us each step of the way. Much gratitude for all members of the Boards and the Campaign Committee for their unwavering commitment in helping us move towards our dream. Their time and wisdom are invaluable. Heartfelt thanks to Annette Kuhn, Community Programs Director for taking up the challenge of over seeing the community's day to day life while I am focused on the building and campaign. Thank you to the leadership team, for all the ways you have supported the community over the year. To all our volunteers and every person in this community – you continue to inspire me and are such a blessing! Thank you!

Denise Haskett  
Executive Director/Community Leader

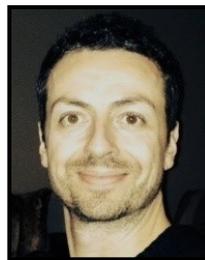


Neighbours Helping Neighbours Crew



The Emmaus Centre Team

One of the strengths of our community inclusion programs is how we showcase the gifts of those with developmental disabilities to our neighbours and to the wider community. This year we have had several opportunities to display the artistic talents of people through the Art Together project. In July, we collaborated with Planned Lifetime Advocacy Network, in September our art was on display at the Pastoral Centre of the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Vancouver, and in November, we were offered one month of gallery space for our paintings at the Burnaby office of MLA Janet Routledge.



We also had several opportunities to joyfully express the gift of hospitality as we welcomed over 20 student volunteers from Corpus Christi College and the West Coast Go Project in the spring, as well as appreciating the many other visitors and volunteers we received through the year.

Health and Safety is a major part of the CARF Accreditation process and, as Chair of the Health and Safety Committee, it was encouraging to see how each of the Health and Safety Representatives from the homes and community inclusion programs rose to the occasion and successfully completed the many tasks required.

Core members continue to inspire all of us in the community inclusion programs with their unceasing compassion and acceptance. They are often the first to raise a hand to volunteer, the first to approach a new visitor with a handshake or hug, and often the first to say 'thank-you' for someone's assistance.

Early in the New Year, we said goodbye to two Emmaus participants – Sasha Takhar, who decided to return to school, and Leewei Tao, who moved to another day program. It was sad to see them go, and we wish them well on their journey.

In August, we welcomed our latest volunteer from the Mennonite Central Committee. Tsepang Molefe, from Lesotho, joined both Emmaus and Neighbours Helping Neighbours and will be with us for the next year. Everyone in Emmaus and NHN are very appreciative of the hard work and dedication of all the volunteers who help to support our programs.

With strong leadership, dynamic teams and eager participants, the community inclusion programs are in good hands. There is always room to grow, more challenges to face but, with such a solid foundation, whatever the future holds will be welcomed with open arms.

Peter McKinley  
Director of Day Programs and Quality Assurance

## Human Resources in Numbers

Number of Permanent Personnel : **45**  
 Number of Casual Support Personnel: **23**  
 Number of Volunteer Hours: **1385**

### Length of Service

1 year <b>5</b>	2-4 years <b>8</b>	4-8 years <b>6</b>	8+years <b>26</b>
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### Age Groups

19-30 <b>11</b>	31-40 <b>10</b>	41-50 <b>10</b>	51-60 <b>8</b>	61+ <b>6</b>
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### Cultural Background

CANADA	EUROPE	ASIA	AFRICA	CARIBBEAN/ CENTRAL/ SOUTH AMERICA
14	11	15	2	3



## Human Resources

In the past year, the L'Arche Greater Vancouver community experienced its usual changes, welcoming new people and saying goodbye to others. One thing remained unchanged: we continue to seek potential assistants who are not just looking for a job, but who want to intentionally share their lives with people with disabilities, living in community.



- We welcomed 7 assistants into our homes last year, and also blessed 7 who moved on to their next journey.
- We had 2 co-op practicum students from the University of Waterloo spend 4 months with us. It was such a good experience, that we would like to maintain the relationship and continue welcoming students regularly.
- I started in the role of Director of HR on Jan 1, 2019 so Annette Kuhn could fully dedicate herself to the role of Community Programs Director.
- Our new HR database – infoHR – allows online time away request submissions. We expect this database to further streamline our HR processes.
- We have formed a Recruitment Committee with the goal of building relationships with local schools, churches and like-minded groups to help plant seeds for future assistants.
- We also had had the support of live-in volunteers and group volunteers. We are in the process of expanding our volunteer program.

We are excited about the increasing opportunities and potential that will come with our redevelopment project. We will embrace these opportunities in the recruitment, training and support of our human resources.

FeiFei Peng



## Residential Programs

In the past year L'Arche Greater Vancouver supported 19 Individuals with disabilities living in five homes. We also provided respite care in our homes for two individuals.



We began our relocation plan in January which meant that some people from the Shiloah building moved into our other L'Arche homes in the neighbourhood. They were welcomed by their new housemates and have been settling in to their new households well.

Throughout the year, we carried on with our way of life in the midst of all these changes. As a community we have welcomed many people who are interested in getting to know L'Arche and contributing to our housing project. Community members have welcomed these guests into their homes with open hearts. It was heartening to see how people participated in "We All Belong" Art Together show.

New assistants continued to step up and to help in the planning and leading of celebrations, as well as participating in community committees and leading formation meetings, alongside assistants with more years of experience. I am also very grateful to the house leaders for not only supporting their respective homes with deep understanding and care, and working collaboratively with each other and with me.

Lastly, I would like to express my gratitude to St. Mary's Foundation for their ongoing financial support that has made it possible for us to obtain health-related products and equipment to ensure the well-being and safety of our aging individuals with disabilities.

Akiko Iwataki  
Director of Residential Programs

## Our Homes

### Creation House



### The Crossing



Emily House



Nazirah House



Peniel House



## Our Big Numbers

### Creation House

We went on **232** outings

Wayne, Evelyne and Tammi went out for coffee **50** times

Guy walked **1560** exercise laps around the house

We laughed 365 days this year (and sometimes even more)

### The Crossing

Went on **6** Road trips

Paul skyped **52** times with his family

Had **15** karaoke nights

**4** new long-term friendships were made

### Emily House

Mary folded **7300** towels

Philip set the table for breakfast and dinner **720** times

Members of Emily House cycled **3058** kilometers

Sang Happy Birthday **36** times

### Nazirah House

Patrick made **25** cards for the community

Celebrated **12** Birthdays

We welcomed **48** guests for dinner

## Our Big Numbers

### Peniel House

Went out for coffee **137** times

Welcomed **74** friends for meals

We went grocery shopping together **98** times

### Emmaus Centre

We did **930** loads of dishes

Celebrated **39** Birthdays

**180** Hours of document shredding

Volunteered **62** hours for Hospitality

We made **4300** cookies

### Neighbours Helping Neighbours

Volunteered **142** hours at different community organizations

Served 57 customers, **9** of which were new

Raked leaves and did weeding **77** times

Cut **138** lawns

### Community Life

We sent **23** people to retreats or workshops

We welcomed **87** overnight guests

**89** people participated in our annual community retreat

We gathered for community prayer **45** times where we sang **225** songs and broke **2** guitar strings

## Our Financial Picture

### L'Arche Greater Vancouver - The Big Numbers - Audited

	<u>Year ended</u> <u>March 31, 2019</u>
<b><u>Revenues</u></b>	
Provincial Grants	\$ 2,564,289
Donations from L'Arche Foundation of Greater Vancouver	205,752
Other	<u>253,496</u>
	<u>3,023,537</u>
<b><u>Expenses</u></b>	
Direct program costs	2,260,737
Facility costs	316,551
Administrative costs	<u>375,774</u>
	<u>2,953,062</u>
Excess (Deficiency) of revenue over expenses	<u>\$ 70,475</u>

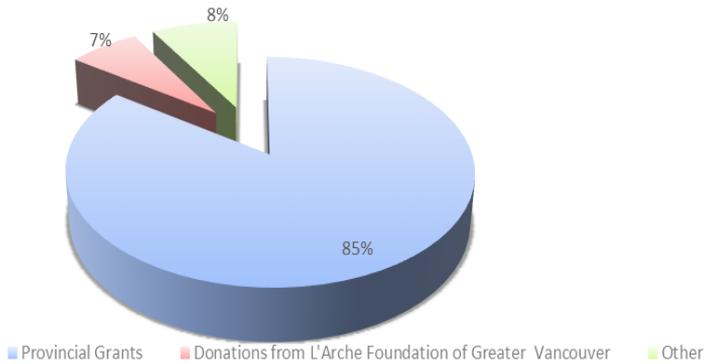
Numbers taken from L'Arche Greater Vancouver's Audited Financial Statements for the year ended March 31, 2019

L'Arche Greater Vancouver is assisted in its mission by the L'Arche Foundation of Greater Vancouver, a registered charity dedicated to finding funds from non-government sources in support of L'Arche Greater Vancouver. The Foundation is responsible for building modernization and improvements as well as new building projects.

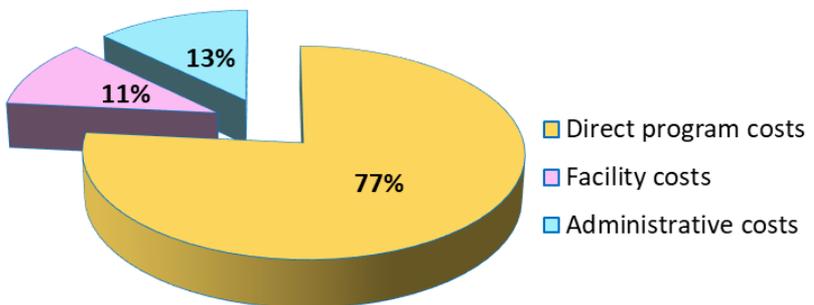
Full audited financial statements for L'Arche Greater Vancouver and the L'Arche Foundation of Greater Vancouver are available upon request.

## Our Financial Picture

### L'Arche Greater Vancouver - Revenues



### L'Arche Greater Vancouver - Expenses



## Our Corporate and Community Supporters

Agape Catholic Charities Fund	Celtic Cross Charitable Foundation
Andrew Mahon Foundation	City in Focus Foundation
Art's Nursery	Cob's Bread (Marine Way)
Archdiocese of Vancouver	Columbia Bowell Funeral Chapel
BC Housing	Community Living BC
Burnaby Firefighters Charitable Society LTD	Corpus Christi College Society
C.W.L. of Canada O.L.P.H Council	D & D Reesor Family Holdings Inc.
C.W.L. of St. Mary's Parish	Digitally Hip Corporation
C.W.L. of St Peter's Parish	First Christian Reformed Church of New Westminster
C.W.L. of St. Theresa's Parish	God With Us Inc.
C.W.L. of Holy Cross Parish	Grace Lutheran Church of South Burnaby
C.W.L. of St. Francis de Sales Parish	GVC Credit Union
Catholic Women's League	J & G Servant Foundation

## Our Corporate and Community Supporters

Knights of Columbus, Father Peter McGuire Council, No. 4615	South Burnaby United Church
Knights of Columbus - Guardian Angels Council No. 14723	St. Anthony of Padua Fraternity, S.F.O.
Knights of Columbus, Fraser Valley Council, No. 2552	St. John's Anglican Church ACW
Knights of Columbus, No. 8853	St. Joseph the Worker Parish
Mackin Creek Farm	St. Mary's Health Foundation
Mount Pleasant War Memorial Community Cooperative Association	St. Thomas Anglican Church
Provincial Employees Community Services Fund	Team Telus Cares
Reliance Insurance Agencies Ltd.	St. Paul's School (The Catholic Independent Schools of Vancouver)
Rexall Health Solutions	The Benevity Community Impact Fund
Rivendell Society	Tundra Sales Inc.
Rotary Club of Vancouver	United Way Toronto & York Region
SCWH Holdings Ltd.	Vancity Royal Oak Community Branch
Sisters of St. Ann	VanCity Community Foundation
Sisters of the Child Jesus	Virginia's Arc Private Foundation



**L'Arche Foundation of Greater Vancouver**

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Charitable Registration No. 137648671-RR0001