

2021

# L'Arche Greater Vancouver Annual Report





## **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:**

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.

## Table of Contents

Message from the Board President	1
Message from the Community Leader/Executive Director	3
Reports	
Residential Program	4
Community Inclusion Programs	5
Human Resources	7
Big Numbers from Our Homes	9
Creation House	
The Crossing	
Nazirah House	
Emily House	
Big Numbers from Our Community Life	11
Our New Community Mandate	12
Our Financial Picture	13
From Our Photo Album	15-16
Goodbye Shiloah!	
Irmin Street - Creation House and Conway Centre (temporary office location)	

## Message from the Board President

### Jim Lattimer



What a year it has been! A year filled with so many changes. We have all continued to struggle living in this Covid 19 world. I would like to express my thanks and gratitude to all of our dedicated personnel who have cared so diligently for our core members and for each other. It has not been easy dealing with the pandemic and the imposed restrictions,

having to relocate to a new house, and to find a temporary space for our offices and day programs, before our main building is demolished in the summer. Our new house on Irmin Street where people in Creation House moved to in March is beautiful, and our core members and assistants are really enjoying their new home. We are grateful to have found the Conway Centre property at the 'eleventh hour'. It will be a suitable temporary space for our offices, community inclusion programs, and storage for the next three years while the new building is being built.

Denise Haskett, our Community Leader/Executive Director for 14 years, steps down from her role at the end of June, after serving her third and final mandate. In order to provide continuity of leadership for the capital campaign and the new building project, we are grateful that Denise will continue to serve in a part-time role as Senior Director of the L'Arche Foundation and the L'Arche Greater Vancouver Housing Society. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Denise for her 30+ years of passion and devotion to L'Arche. During her last mandate as Community Leader, Denise had the tremendous challenge of splitting her time between being the community leader and providing leadership to the capital campaign and the new building project.

I have had the great pleasure of working on the Board with Denise for the past seven years and much of what I have learned about L'Arche comes from her sharing her passion with me. She is a true champion of L'Arche! We thank her for continuing to share her knowledge and experience to see the capital campaign completed and our new building underway.

I would like to thank the L'Arche Foundation of Greater Vancouver Board for their continued ongoing support of the Foundation's efforts to raise funds for the capital campaign. A big thank you to Patrick Armstrong, Amanda Wong, and Renee Lopes Lieu.

I would also like to thank the L'Arche Greater Vancouver Housing Society Board: Dan Kirkegaard, Angela Uruski-Girard, Grant T. Smith, Peter Ruetz, Nick Petrie, Denise Haskett, and Annette Kuhn for their commitment to seeing our new building become a reality.

As this fiscal year draws to a successful conclusion, I would like to thank all of our dedicated employees, volunteers, and financial supporters for their continued support of L'Arche's mission. Finally, I would like to thank the L'Arche Greater Vancouver Operations Board for their trusted support: James Dorsey Q.C., Grant T. Smith, Dan Kirkegaard, Renee Lopes Lieu, and Ric Tesan.

I am looking forward to the upcoming year as we settle into new environments. It will be truly exciting to watch our new building rise from the ground at 7401 Sussex Avenue.

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

Jim Lattimer, President  
James E. Dorsey, Q.C., Vice-President  
Grant T. Smith, Treasurer  
Rev. Daniel Kirkegaard, Director  
Ric Tesan, Director  
Renee Lopes Lieu, Director  
Denise Haskett, Non-Voting Member



## **Message from the Community Leader/Executive Director Denise Haskett**



This has been an extraordinary year for our L'Arche Community and our world. I am filled with gratitude as I witnessed how everyone in the Community rose to the unprecedented challenges that were before us. The Covid-19 pandemic dramatically changed our lives and the ways in which we engaged in our community life together. The dedication and care not only for each other, but also reaching out beyond ourselves to support others, was a testament to people's commitment to living our mission. My deepest thanks go to Annette Kuhn, Director of Community Programs, the leadership team, the assistants who walked day by day with our core members, and all personnel for handling this situation with perseverance and resilience.

In the midst of this reality, we were also preparing to move out of our beloved Shiloah building and 'home' of 47 years. Many thanks to Annette Kuhn and Annelise Jacky for their coordination and tireless efforts, and all who helped in this massive task! We anticipate that abatement and demolition of the building will be completed in the summer.

In the fall we engaged a new capital campaign consultant to help us strategize on how to raise the remaining 2.6 million of our 6 million dollar goal in a pandemic world where meeting in person was not possible. My sincere gratitude to Ted Kuntz, Jim Lattimer, Jacqueline Doering and the capital campaign team for their efforts. This work continues in earnest.

I also want to extend thanks to our Development Consultants at City Spaces and TL Housing Solutions for guiding us through the various stages of redevelopment.

With the launch of a Community Mandate process in early 2021, the current Mandate will come to an end in June 2021. I have served my third and final mandate in the role of Community Leader/Executive Director and the search for a new person has begun.

I want to express heartfelt thanks to all those who have entrusted me to carry this role for 14 years. Thank you for your support, encouragement and wisdom.

Thank you for sharing in the joys and struggles of living community. It has been a privilege to work along side and learn from each of you. I trust there will be enough light for each new step as the Community lives into its vision to expand L'Arche's mission and welcome more people into a place of belonging.

## Residential Programs



When I look back at our collective and individual experiences, I can truly say this has been a most unusual and challenging year. The pandemic hit us hard, like it did to so many. In spite of these challenges, we had some events that were real blessings. In April 2020, the renovation of Nazirah House was finally completed. The former residents of Peniel House in the Shiloah building moved to the now fully accessible downstairs of Nazirah House. People at Nazirah House who were temporarily living in one of the vacant homes at Shiloah during the renovation, also moved back to Nazirah. People were happy and grateful to finally be able to settle into their newly renovated home. During much of this pandemic year, home-based day programs blossomed: arts and crafts, daily walks and exercises, baking and more. Thank you to the assistants who rose to the occasion with creativity and grace.

During the cold months, we set up patio heaters for the homes so that people could have short in-person visits with family members and friends. In December, people were able to exchange Christmas gifts and greetings on outdoor decks.

Social isolation became a real concern for people as for many others. We used technology to the fullest to be connected with each other. For example, we had Zoom visits with family members and friends, and for community meetings and prayers. Through Zoom, we were able to reach out to more people as well as those who would normally shy away from in-person gatherings!

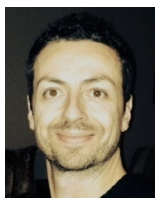
In March, the people in Creation House moved out of the main building to the new property in the same neighbourhood. This beautifully renovated house is large, spacious and fully accessible; equipped with an elevator, stair chair and walk-in showers to ensure comfortable living for people who have greater mobility needs.

I would like to thank all the family members for their understanding and support throughout the year. I would also like to express my gratitude to Laurie Duke, our Community Nurse, for her support to our core members, teams, and myself, in keeping optimum health for all. Last but not the least, my warmest thanks go to the House Leaders and the House Teams for their outstanding effort and creativity and their utmost vigilance in maintaining the well-being of people.

**Akiko Iwataki**  
Director of Residential Programs



## Community Inclusion Programs



To say that the Coronavirus pandemic has changed our Community Inclusion Programs would be an understatement. The past year has upended all of our day-to-day lives. A generous dose of empathy and understanding of that truth strengthened us as we began to rearrange and remake our programs. The anxiety and stress of sudden changes in routine, social distancing, fear of getting sick, or making others sick, was always present. Closing the Emmaus Centre and the Neighbours Helping Neighbours programs, and moving to home-based programs proved challenging but necessary. With other programs such as Community Living Society (CLS) temporarily closing their doors and the Burnaby Association for Community Inclusion (BACI) Still Creek closing permanently, these events impacted some of our core members who participated in those programs. Suddenly, they had no place to go for meaningful work and daytime activities. Also, core members who participated in our programs and who live outside of L'Arche homes, were initially unable to return for safety reasons. This created uncertainty and in some cases, social isolation for these individuals.

However, when restrictions began to ease up in the summer, our core members who were supported at home during the day rejoiced with the assistants. House groups were allowed back into the Shiloah building and the Emmaus Centre. Core members, who lived at home with their families, were also eventually allowed to return and be reunited with friends. Assistants and program participants got involved early in the vaccine rollout. The Emmaus and Neighbours Helping Neighbours team members began organizing and packing for the highly anticipated move to a temporary location in April. We strengthened our relationship with Jubilee United Church located in Burnaby and were grateful for their offering of additional temporary space for our programs. We searched earnestly and excitedly for a new temporary program space and found Conway Centre in Burnaby!

Despite all the many concerns and the difficulties faced throughout the pandemic, we all managed to find positives in our experiences. This past year has made us value our relationships, re-evaluate how we spend our time together, and has helped us to be more creative and flexible through change. So, while the pandemic has changed our way of life forever, hope and excitement governs our path to the future.

Peter McKinley

Director of Community Inclusion Programs & Quality Assurance



# Big Numbers from Our Community Inclusion Programs

## Emmaus Centre

- 32** Friday Lunches
- 1920** cookies baked
- 122** greeting cards made
- 64** trips to cardboard recycling



## Neighbours Helping Neighbours

- 57** customers supported
- 8** new customers served
- 161** lawns cut
- 157** gardens weeded and leaves raked

## Human Resources



In the past year, we continued to look for candidates who were not just looking for a job, but also wanted to share their lives with people with developmental disabilities in community.

We welcomed nine assistants in the homes last year but also blessed nine who moved on for their next journey.

We continued to have one co-op practicum student from the University of Waterloo every four months for a co-op term. We would like to maintain this relationship and continue to regularly welcome students who bring new life and experience to our homes.

We have streamlined the time away request process by switching to infoHR online submission system. We are working on having the casual support online time sheet submission interface with our payroll system.

The recruitment committee we established last year continues to build relationships with local schools, churches, and like-minded groups to plant seeds for future assistant candidates. Besides the regular individual volunteers, we had several group volunteers visit us and build relationships through gardening, crafting, cleaning, and baking.

We provided our personnel various training in the following areas: Care for Core Members, Personal Growth, Communication, New Assistant Formation, Leadership Development, and Health and Safety.

We are excited about the increasing potential recruitment opportunities that come with the L'Arche Foundation's We All Belong capital campaign. We gladly welcome those opportunities in Human Resources.

**FeiFei Peng**  
Director of Human Resources

# Human Resources in Numbers

## NUMBER OF PERMANENT PERSONNEL: 47

Homes	Day Programs	Admin Leadership	Admin Support	Property Mgmt	Community Life	Foundation
22 (FT) 6 (PT)	5 (FT)	6 (FT)	3 (FT)	1 (FT)	1	1 (FT) 2 (PT)

## NUMBER OF YEARS IN THE COMMUNITY

1 YEAR	1 - 4 YEARS	4-8 YEARS	8+ YEARS
4	13	5	24

## AGE IN YEARS

19-30	31 -40	41-50	51-60	61 +
9	11	13	9	5

## CULTURAL BACKGROUND

CANADA *	EUROPE	ASIA	AFRICA	CARIBBEAN/ CENTRAL/ SOUTH AMERICA	AUSTRALIA
11	12	15	4	4	1

\*Individuals who were raised in Canada

## CASUAL SUPPORT PERSONNEL

Number of Casual Support Personnel (active): 16

Number of years in the Community:

1	2-4	4-8	8+
3	3	1	9

## VOLUNTEER HOURS

COMMUNITY INCLUSION PROGRAMS	BOARD OF DIRECTORS
1800	147.25



# Big Numbers from Our Homes

## Creation House



**730,000** meters walked around our neighbourhood

**144** video calls made with friends and family

**9600** sheets of paper shredded by Ken for the Community

**720** meals together

**192** drive-thru visits to Tim Horton's and McDonald's

**1** Big Move to Irmin Street

## The Crossing

**55** movies watched

**45** drive-thru coffee trips

**3** new assistants welcomed

**3** assistants said goodbye



# Big Numbers from Our Homes

## Nazirah House



**23** picnics together  
**47** movie nights  
**214** coffee outings  
**41** physically distant meetings  
**20** vaccine shots

biked **670** times together  
went for walks **331** days of the year  
did exercise **1704** times  
made **334** greeting cards  
Rosie, Philip, and Melina made **63** necklaces/bracelets  
Melina did **335** puzzles  
used **303** litres of milk-cream for cooking, baking, and drinking  
Mary, with the help of assistants, dried dishes **790** times

## Emily House



## Big Numbers from Our Community Life

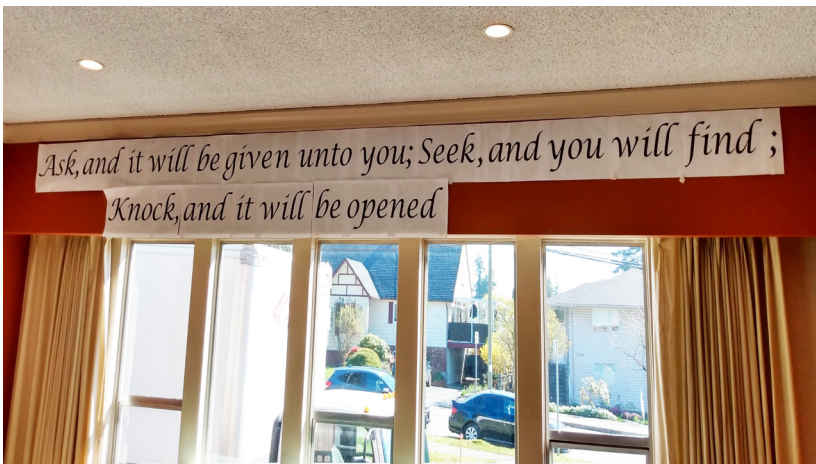


**47** Community prayers held by Zoom with people attending from across the country

**320 + hours** spent packing and clearing 47 years of history in our 15,000 sq. ft. Shiloah building

**150** plants from our Shiloah garden given away

inaugurated Bible studies by Zoom, and even had “Zoom teas”  
had our first Zoom Advent and Lenten Days of Prayer





## Our New Community Mandate July 2021 - July 2025

*"By an act of faith, Abraham and Sarah said yes to God's call to travel to an unknown place that would become their home. When they left, they had no idea where they were going. By an act of faith, they lived in the country promised them, lived as strangers camping in tents. They did it by keeping their eye on an unseen city with real, eternal foundations - the City designed and built by God. ~ Hebrews 11:8-10*



A time to embrace transition and change, to grow and come together in new ways as a Community, while our new building gets built.

L'Arche Greater Vancouver is a vibrant Community with a deeply lived spirituality, where mutual, supportive relationships are nurtured. All members are supported to grow, share their gifts, and build Community.

Key Outcomes for our Community:

- 1) Resilient in times of change and challenge
- 2) Live Community with intention
- 3) Build an inclusive and collaborative culture
- 4) Support learning and growth
- 5) Live into the vision in the new building
- 6) Let our light shine! Be a place of welcome and belonging

WE ALL **BELONG**



## Our Financial Picture

### L'Arche Greater Vancouver The Big Numbers—Audited Year ended March 31, 2021

#### Revenues

Provincial grants	\$2,934,000
Donations from the L'Arche Foundation of Greater Vancouver	95,000
Other	211,000
<b>Total Revenues</b>	<b>\$3,240,000</b>

#### Expenses

Direct program costs	\$2,496,000
Facility costs	315,000
Administration costs	321,000
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$3,132,000</b>

Surplus (Deficiency) of revenue over expenses \$108,000

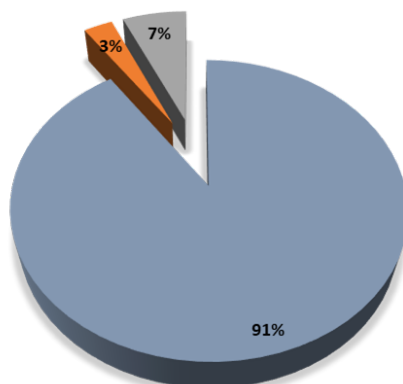
Numbers taken from L'Arche Greater Vancouver's Audited Financial Statements for the year ended March 31, 2021.

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.

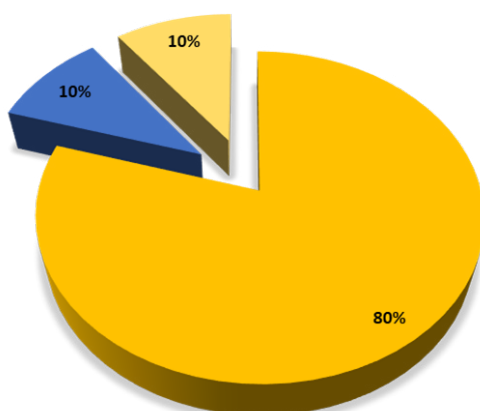
## Our Financial Picture Year ended March 31, 2021

### L'Arche Greater Vancouver - Revenues



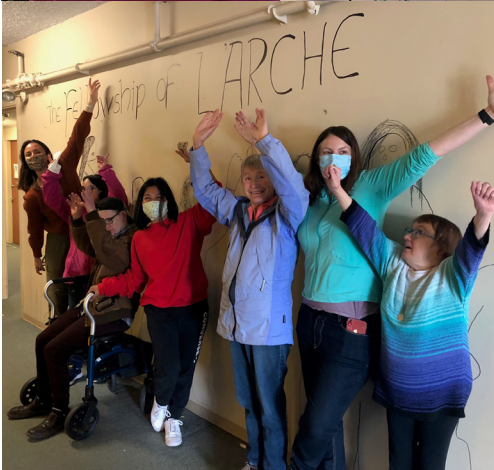
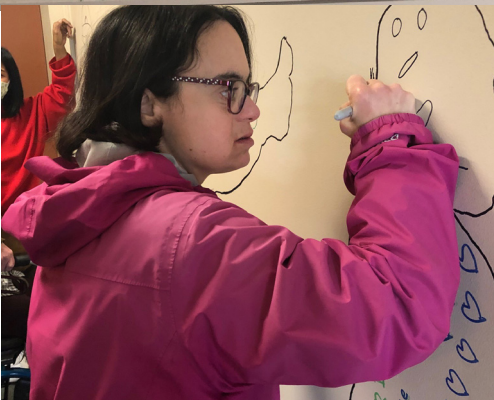
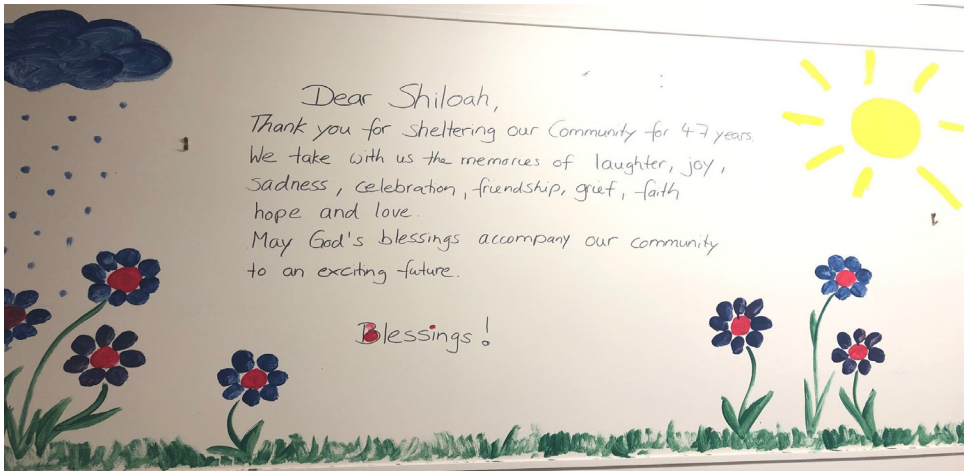
- Provincial Grants
- Donations from the L'Arche Foundation of Greater Vancouver
- Other

### L'Arche Greater Vancouver - Expenses



- Direct program costs
- Facility costs
- Administrative costs

## Goodbye Shiloah!



## Irmin Street - Creation House and Conway Centre







WE ALL **BELONG**

7401 Sussex Ave  
Burnaby, BC V5J 3V6  
604-435-9544

[www.larchevancouver.org](http://www.larchevancouver.org)



**L'ARCHE**  
GREATER VANCOUVER