



THE UNITED CHURCH OF CANADA  
**FOUNDATION**

2019 Annual Report





## EXCITING INITIATIVES

# Showing God's Love through new faith-based initiatives

In 2019, the Joint Grants Committee reviewed over 250 applications and the Foundation's Board awarded \$1,607,248 to 133 programs and scholars. The people and projects these grants support represent a tremendous amount of energy in our communities for living out God's mission, examining new ways to invite people into our Church, and to exploring fresh approaches to providing service. Five of these innovative programs are highlighted here.

The Foundation was pleased to be able to offer The United Church of Canada a grant of \$3 million to support communities of faith during COVID-19. This formed part of the emergency loan program the Church put in place to help communities of faith meet their financial obligations during the pandemic. This grant is possible because of the faithful forethought of many United Church people from across the country who made gifts in their will. We are so grateful for these generous planned gifts from those who have gone before us to benefit the future work of the Church we love.

# 1

### **Massey Centre for Women** *Toronto, ON*

Comprehensive support for at-risk pregnant and parenting adolescent moms helps to rebuild their lives after facing intimate partner violence.

# 2

### **1JustCity** *Winnipeg, MB*

Therapeutic art workshops foster social connections and build a sense of belonging for seniors experiencing poverty and isolation.

# 3

### **Église Unie de la Grâce United Church** *Chelsea, QC*

In conjunction with a nearby Anglican church, the first bilingual 'Camp Awesome' offers a faith-based summer camp for children in the Chelsea community.

# 4

### **St. Andrew's Westminster United Church** *London, ON*

In response to 'an extreme need for dialogue and support,' a one-day workshop provided tools and strategies to improve participants' mental health.





5

**Visions United Church  
Moncton, NB**

**Spirit of Music** is an exciting new initiative to develop an outreach ministry of music and spirituality. A 'cluster ministry' with other United Churches, Spirit of Music first seeks to identify socially-isolated seniors within the Church's care radius who can no longer attend worship. Musical/spiritual events are then created in the homes of the isolated seniors.

Spirit of Music combines music with reflective storytelling and active listening. It's an innovative, creative process of faith discovery as leaders listen to isolated seniors and build an intimate and communal spiritual gathering with them.

Led by Christine MacLeod (*pictured*), a former United Church minister, the program builds off her dual talents as faith leader and music educator.



Once the pilot is completed, organizers hope that Spirit of Music will become a teachable outreach model for other United Churches and their pastoral care teams.



# Generous donors showing God's Love benefited people the world over

The United Church of Canada Foundation provides a wide range of mission-focused and donor-created funds that enable donors to support the work that they hold precious.

Mission-focused funds support the Environment; Faith & Mission; Leadership; Living Spirit; Mission & Service; New Ministries; Peace & Justice; as well as Theological Education. Donor-created funds support the work of the Church; support Indigenous Ministries and Justice; provide Scholarships; benefit specific age groups; and support the Diakonia of The United Church of Canada.

*See for yourself the impact of your incredible generosity!*



**282**

**Congregations  
\$3,564,690**

Photo: UCC



**8**

**General Council Office  
and Regional Councils  
\$1,605,083**

Photo: UCC



**12**

**Camps  
\$95,371**

Photo: UCC



**26**

**Community Ministries  
& Ecumenical  
Partners  
\$338,824**

Photo: Darren Brennan



**12**

**Theological Schools  
& Retreat Centres  
\$220,620**

Photo: Roger James



**194+**

**Other  
\$644,019+**

Photo: National Valley News



## *Showing God's Love to the World, donors are building bridges out of poverty*

More than a ministry, Peterborough, ON's Bedford House is a community catalyst for social and spiritual response. Helping to build connections and relationships within their vast network provides volunteers with an immediate understanding of the barriers and circumstances facing people who are experiencing poverty. At the same time, under-resourced people develop positive relationships with people who are lawyers, therapists, parenting experts, and clergy. This work is supported by a grant from the **Ann Baker Fund for Innovative Seniors' Ministry** to assist Bridges Out of Poverty. Ann Baker made a gift to the United Church through her estate in 1986. Through her vision and generosity, we have been making grants to support exciting work like this across Canada ever since.



## *Showing God's Love to the World, donors' gifts are already bearing fruit*

Through the generosity of our donors to both the **Living Spirit** and **Faith in Mission** funds, we were able to award a Seeds of Hope grant to Calvary United Church (St. Jacob's, ON) to help grow their multi-faceted community of youth leaders and disciples. Focusing on the future together, our Church depends very much on youth and young adults being energized by the Holy Spirit and then being equipped to lead. Programs like Calvary's establish spiritual roots for youth that will hold them firm in God's truth and love. Here, youth and young adults are equipped for more: they learn how to hear God's voice, pray for others, share their faith, and live a joyful life regardless of their circumstances.



## *Showing God's Love to the World, donors are providing transformational learning*

In the mid-1950s, young Dorothy Bourne and Kenley MacNeill both felt the pull to serve in a leadership capacity in their beloved United Church of Canada. Coming from St. Johns, NL, and Malagash, NS, respectively, Dorothy and Kenley met at the Young People's Union National Leadership Event at the newly established Atlantic Christian Training Centre (now Tatamagouche Centre). Dorothy soon became ACTC's first secretary, while Kenley enrolled in further leadership training there.

The Centre, with its vision of transformative education and experience-based learning, continued to play an important



part in their lives. After marrying, the MacNeills returned to the Centre many times as participants, as leaders, and as volunteers.

The Centre has always been a place of discovery, offering new models of education, new understandings of group dynamics, as well as new awareness of emerging societal and theological developments. The MacNeills established **The Transformational Learning Fund** to provide people

the opportunity to experience the same transformative learning. The MacNeills' Centre-based education shaped their sense of call to leadership within the Church. It also revealed to them the power of transformative learning and the many ways it positively impacts both individuals and communities.

The Transformational Learning Fund will soon provide bursaries to promising students enrolling in educational programs who demonstrate an openness to being transformed.

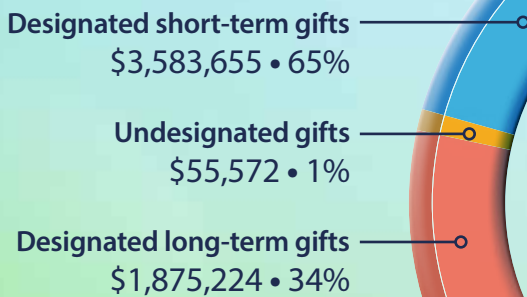
The new Fund is a fitting tribute to two loving people joined in faith and in the desire to live out the call to show God's Love to the World.



## STEWARDING OUR FINANCES: 2019 IN REVIEW

# Showing God's Love makes a world of difference!

### 2019 Sources of Donated Revenue \$5,514,451

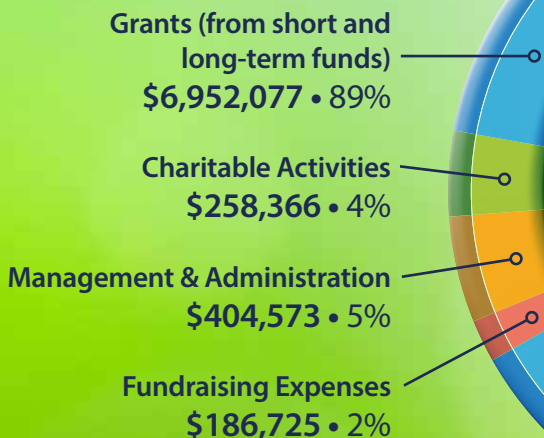


*Please note:*  
Thanks to a return of 17.7%, our 2019 Investment Income was **\$10,996,546**. This revenue is mostly re-invested into the funds each year.

### Assets Under Management

As of December 31, 2019, the Foundation held **\$75,765,576** in assets within approximately **500** endowed and restricted funds, an increase of **\$8,812,441** over 2018.

### 2019 Expenditures \$7,801,741



The Foundation holds:

- **\$30,105,157** in endowed capital
- **\$42,422,438** in externally-restricted funds
- **\$1,923,244** in internally-restricted funds

GRANT US THIS DAY

# Total grants made in 2019 were \$6,952,077

## *Support for communities of faith*

Of our grants, **\$3,547,713** came from short-term funds. Most of these funds were designated to congregations, Church-related organizations, and other registered charities.

The Foundation's assets are managed by **Fiera Capital**. In 2019, our investments were at least 98% compliant with the Foundation's and *United Church's Socially Responsible Investment Policies*.

As a service to communities of faith, our Foundation has two affiliate investment managers that offer services to congregations and Church organizations looking for assistance with their long-term fund management.

The first, **Frontier Capital Funds Inc.**, manages the accounts of more than 132 United Church organizations wanting to maintain ownership of their invested assets.

The second, **Genus Capital Management**, is a leading provider of low carbon and socially responsible investment solutions. Any United Church member or organization wishing to invest at least \$250,000 can access **The United Church Sustainable Portfolio Program** in order to create sustainable portfolio options that bring your values and your investments into alignment.

For more information on resources to assist you with the management of long-term funds, please contact the Foundation at **1 866 340-8223** or [fdn@united-church.ca](mailto:fdn@united-church.ca), or visit our website: [www.unitedchurchfoundation.ca](http://www.unitedchurchfoundation.ca) and search for 'Investments.'

Total grants to our shared denominational work  
of **\$1,511,543** included:



Photo: UCC

**\$1,049,521**  
for Mission & Service



Photo: UCC

**\$375,137**  
to Church programs  
and funds



Photo: Kaitlin Bardswich

**\$86,885**  
for overseas projects





THE UNITED CHURCH OF CANADA  
**FOUNDATION**

*Focusing on the Future Together*

1 866 340-8223 • [fdn@united-church.ca](mailto:fdn@united-church.ca)  
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**2020-2021**

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**Susan Brodrick** Calgary, AB  
**Brenda Munro** Halifax, NS  
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**Tim Reaburn** Sauble Beach, ON  
**Nora Sanders** Toronto, ON  
**Leigh Sinclair** Edmonton, AB  
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**Paul Douglas Walfall** Fort Saskatchewan, AB

**STAFF**

**Sarah Charters**  
Acting President

**Erik Lo Forte**      **Jessica Smith**  
Grants Officer      Gifts Officer



**The United Church of Canada Foundation** provides service and support to all courts of the Church and United Church-related institutions and organizations. The Foundation facilitates gifts of stocks, mutual funds, etc., provides grants for innovative and unique programs and projects run by United Church-related organizations, and facilitates the long-term support of all courts of the Church and their mission and service.

DESIGN: WISHART.NET

