



2018 ANNUAL REPORT

The Door Is Open

A message from Sister Chita

THANK YOU for the support and hope you gave to the most vulnerable in the Downtown Eastside of Vancouver throughout 2018.

The 110,000 plates of nutritious food you provided greatly helped many of our brothers and sisters. Beyond these meals your generosity also allowed us to offer various support programs.

One of our new programs in 2018, a women's grief support group, helps women to find peace in the midst of loss.

In 2018 your donations were crucial as we received a significantly lower amount of goods from the Food Bank. This resulted in a need for us to fill the gap with our own purchases.

I hope that the stories in this annual report inspire you and will illustrate the impact of your giving. Thank you for extending a hand of mercy to our brothers and sisters in the Downtown Eastside.

May God Bless you and your family.

Sincerely,



S. Torres

Sister Chita Torres,
Carm. O.L.
Co-Manager

THE DOOR IS OPEN offers free meals, counselling, clothing, and support in the Downtown Eastside of Vancouver.

More than 80% of Vancouver's homeless population is located in the Downtown Eastside.

**We are located on the same block as Oppenheimer Park.*



OPPENHEIMER PARK

POWELL STREET

E CORDOVA STREET

E HASTINGS STREET

E CORDOVA STREET

JACKSON AVENUE



In 2018, you offered 408 meal services to the vulnerable of the Downtown Eastside

335
lunches

50
breakfasts

18
dinners

5
holiday meals

110,000 plates served

You serve more than meals!

WHEN RUSSEL first came to *The Door is Open* after a shoulder injury that resulted in losing his job, you helped him find hope and encouragement.

Russel pointed to the many ways your support provided more than meals: “We find so much help here: from food, to clothes, to friends – even spiritual help.”

Guests also regularly comment on the safety, comfort, and ease you helped them feel at *The Door is Open*.

Randy echoed Russel by saying, “It just feels so good to be here at *The Door is Open*. Other places don’t have the same feeling – I don’t mean to be rude, but it’s true.”

Your generous support allows for this experience to continually reach our guests. Without you, many of them go without the support they need in the most critical of times. Thank you for blessing men like Randy and Russell.

The Door Is Open guests, Randy and Russell, with Sr. Chita



Programs offered in 2018



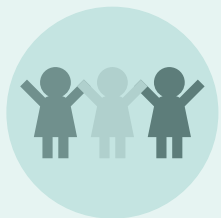
Free meal program



Grief counselling



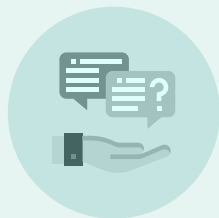
Clothing program



Women's group



Shelter services
and referrals



Information, support,
and awareness

Program highlight: Women's Wednesday

WOMEN'S WEDNESDAY gives women a safe space to be creative and build relationships with each other, staff, and volunteers.

- Arts and Crafts has an average of 10 women per session.
- In 2018, we served breakfast to an average of 100 women weekly.

It only costs \$1.50/meal to serve a nutritious breakfast of eggs, sausages, hash browns, and toast.

Keep an eye on *The Door is Open* on Instagram and Facebook for their artistic creations and stories.

Instagram | @thEDOORisopen
Facebook | @thEDOORisopen1



You provide healing

MORE THAN FOOD is served at *The Door is Open*. Trusting relationships are built, allowing for opportunities for healing and spiritual support.

GRIEF SUPPORT

The grief support group was launched in 2018 and had an average of seven women in attendance.

Most of the women are of Indigenous heritage with complex issues from sexual abuse, domestic violence, divorce, and poverty.

This group encourages mutual support which alleviates the isolation of these women who often lack the natural support of family and friends.



8

actively receiving counselling



12

information and support
referral consultations

“The women in the group helped me open my heart.”

BECAUSE OF YOU Victoria, a member of the women’s grief support group, was provided with a safe place where she could share her story and experience healing from trauma. Victoria shared that, “the women in the group helped me open my heart.” It is only through your support that this group came to be and Victoria was able to move forward in the healing process.

Victoria was also able to receive individual support from our registered counsellor, Liz, which allowed her to work through losses to a place of hope. “The counselling helped me with my issues of losses in my own family and my own children.”

Now Victoria is an “example to others” that healing is possible. Thank you for being an essential part of this process of restoration and transformation.

The hope is to continue to expand this group and counselling support to bring healing to the many more women in need. Your continued support is what will make this possible.



You gave
22,000
hours
of your time
in service



22,000
volunteer hours



726
volunteers



285 volunteers from 17 parish groups,
17 schools, 241 volunteers from companies, civic
groups, families, and individuals



Would you like to volunteer? Give us a call at
604.669.0498 Or email the **doorisopen@rcav.org**

“There are still so many people out there.”



WHEN JOSEPH SONG from St. Andrew Kim's parish first came to volunteer, he was surprised to see the number of homeless individuals that came to *The Door is Open*.

Seven years later, Joseph continues to be surprised that the number hasn't decreased.

In the last seven years, the number of homeless individuals in Vancouver has increased by 30% from 1602 to 2181 people.*

Joseph is among one of 60 generous and joyful volunteers from St. Andrew Kim and St. Agnes Kim that help at *The Door is Open* weekly. He volunteers because this is his way of giving back to his community for the blessings he has received in Canada.

Thank you to all the volunteers for serving our brothers and sisters and in the Downtown Eastside.

*<https://vancouver.ca/people-programs/homeless-count>

Food Sources



30%
purchased by
The Door Is Open



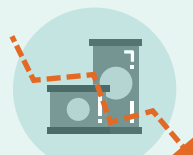
15%
from local farmers



15%
from businesses



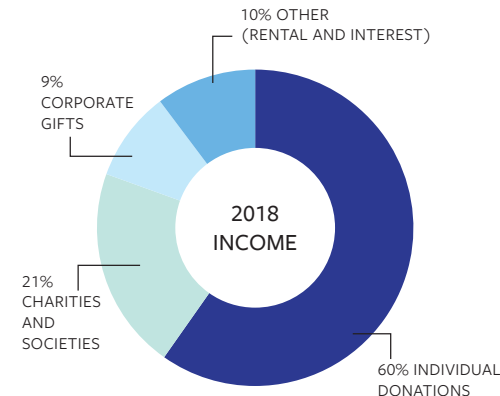
15%
from individuals, parishes,
and schools



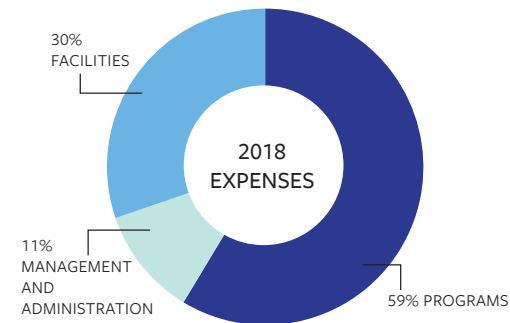
25%
from the Food Bank
DOWN FROM 70% IN 2015

Finances

INCOME	2018	2017
Individual Donations	\$278,360	\$137,318
Charities and Societies	\$96,689	\$85,394
Corporate Gifts	\$42,962	\$24,198
Other (Rental and Interest)	\$47,815	\$33,626
TOTAL SUPPORT AND REVENUE	\$465,826	\$280,536



EXPENSES	2018	2017
Programs	\$293,357	\$328,527
Management and Administration	\$55,609	\$16,500
Building Renovation	\$38,013	\$53,011
Facilities	\$113,338	\$94,324
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$500,317	\$492,382



Registered Canadian Charity No. 10687 9950 RR0001

* The Archdiocese of Vancouver subsidizes operations of *The Door Is Open*.

Highlighting our Doorkeepers

WHAT IS A DOORKEEPER? A doorkeeper is a monthly donor whose financial supports holds the door open for our guests to take their first steps into hope and healing.

One of our doorkeepers, Jennifer, provides a meal for 124 guests each year by giving \$40/month. These meals allow for trust to develop with our staff that can lead to a relationship with Christ.

Jennifer is a doorkeeper because as much as she would like to volunteer, with her busy schedule, giving a monthly gift is what allows her to support a cause near to her heart.

There are many doorkeepers like Jennifer whose monthly gift allows our staff and volunteers to fulfill the mission of serving the most vulnerable in the Downtown Eastside of Vancouver.



To learn more about becoming a doorkeeper, visit www.doorisopen.ca/doorkeepers



THE DOOR IS OPEN

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rcav.org/giving



Archdiocese of Vancouver
THE DOOR IS OPEN | DEVELOPMENT OFFICE

FOR OVER 35 YEARS,
generous donors like you
have made it possible for us
to serve our vulnerable
brothers and sisters
in Vancouver.

THANK YOU
for your love and
continued support.

Icons from flaticon.com