

Philanthropy in Action

IMPACT UPDATES - DECEMBER 2023



Share a smile. Lift a Spirit. Choose Generosity.

[View this Newsletter on our Website](#)

Shared Visions, Shared Victories

SurreyCares Community Foundation in the City

In partnership with business, government and community-serving organizations in one of Canada's fastest growing cities, SurreyCares Community Foundation is transforming the lives of Surrey's residents and communities where they live, work and play.

Engaging with the Surrey community is a critical part of our work. By attending and participating in a diverse range of community meetings and events with business, government, Indigenous organizations and communities and not-for-profit community serving organizations throughout the year, we are not only supporting and learning about the needs and priorities of the community we serve, but doing our part to build a strong, connected and resilient Surrey.

Partnering in the Community

What We Do Best

SurreyCares Community Foundation uplifts the lives of people living and working in Surrey and surrounding communities through supporting 48 local organizations. In 2023 our efforts included supporting not-for-profits to reach more people in need, enhance internal systems, embrace and implement technologies and expand fundraising efforts through the Community Service Response Grant in addition to our annual granting cycle.

Our collective efforts have not only strengthened each organization but have also amplified their ability to make a meaningful difference in the City of Surrey. The impact of these partnerships and initiatives extends far beyond each individual organization, as our combined efforts lead to remarkable, city-wide reach.



Learn how YOU can make a difference in Surrey



FEEDING SURREY

Through our partnerships supporting organizations like BC Feed the Kids, FoodBank on Wheels, and The Gurdwara Sahib, we were able to collectively enhance food security for residents across the city; supporting organizations that provided nearly 100,000 pounds of food to feed over 5,000 people in need across our community.

AT HOME IN SURREY

Through our charitable activities in the 2023, we were able to support organizations that provided housing services to approximately 3,300 Surrey Residents. This includes 277 survivors of domestic violence and their children who were moved to safe housing through the activities of Shelter Movers Vancouver and 104 new affordable housing units from Kekinow Native Housing Society for Indigenous people, elders and families being built in Surrey.





PATHWAYS TO RECOVERY

In collaboration with organizations dedicated to mental health and addiction services, we've had the important role of assisting more than 6,000 individuals facing challenges related to addictions and mental health. Approximately 1200 counseling sessions were provided to men in addictions recovery through our partner The Realistic Success Recovery Society.

INVESTING IN INCLUSION

SurreyCares Community Foundation is passionate about supporting organizations that reflect the rich diversity of the people living in our city. We are proud to have offered support to 12 organizations led by and dedicated to serving equity deserving groups. In 2023, our esteemed partner, DiverseCity, extended assistance to 1,500 unique newcomers to Canada



UNITING FOR IMPACT

Our 2023 Grant Recipients

Food Bank on Wheels
 Community First Foundation
 Food for the Soul Program Society
 Great Light Healing Community Services Society
 Guildford Islamic Cultural Centre
 Guru Nanak Sikh Gurdwara Society
 Inclusion Langley Society
 Kekinow Native Housing Society
 Kennedy Hall Community Association
 Langley Care Society
 Langley Pos-Abilities Society
 Lower Fraser Valley Aboriginal Society
 Lutheran Senior Citizens Housing Society

Pathfinder Youth Centre Society
 Peace Arch Hospital Auxiliary Society
 REACH Child and Youth Development Society
 Ridge Meadows Seniors Society
 Solid State Community Society
 SOS Children's Village BC
 South Asian Legal Clinic of British Columbia
 Surrey Hospice Society
 Township of Langley Fire Fighters Charity
 The Realistic Success Recovery
 The Sur-Del Easy Does It Club Society
 ANHBC, Alexandra Neighbourhood House

North Surrey Mustangs Football Club
 Muslim Food Bank and Community Services Society
 Raincity Housing and Support Society
 Shelter Movers Vancouver
 Stroke Recovery Association of BC
 After Stroke BC
 Surrey Christmas Bureau
 Surrey-North Delta Meals on Wheels
 Tetra Society of North America
 The Realistic Success Recovery Society
 Canadian Mental Health Association, V&F Branch
 UNITI
 Volunteer Cancer Drivers Society



Learn more about who we support!

Surrey Thrives with UNiTi

Stakeholder Spotlight



together we're stronger

"UNiTi is the partnership of three affiliated societies that have provided important community services for decades. Semiahmoo House Society provides quality services and supports to people with disabilities and their families in Surrey and White Rock. Peninsula Estates Housing Society provides affordable and inclusive housing that reflects the diversity of our community. The Semiahmoo Foundation ensures that UNiTi has the recognition, relationships and resources to support an inclusive community. Together we're stronger!" - UNiTi

SurreyCares Community Foundation together with UNiTi supports and fosters inclusivity, increases opportunities and provides services to ensure people with disabilities "can live self-directed lives in the community at a justifiable cost and are valued members of society". SurreyCares Community Foundation has been a dedicated partner of UNiTi for 18 years, fostering a dynamic partnership since 2005.

In 2021 UNiTi created a sustainable fund through SurreyCares Community Foundation to create a steady, growing form of funding, ensuring the longevity of the organization and its services. The UNiTi endowment fund is disbursed on an annual basis and is to be used to provide support for "Surrey residents with intellectual disabilities living in tenuous housing". We are grateful that UNiTi has entrusted us with this partnership!

Learn more about who we partner with!

"We partner with SurreyCares Community Foundation specifically to support people with developmental disabilities. This is an important local partnership which allows us to support and expand our work for the people we serve."

Jillian Glennie, UNiTi



Celebrating You!

This fall we gathered together - fundholders, donors, staff, grantees, board, and community members to hear from and celebrate the numerous not-for-profit groups partnering with us to uplift people in Surrey who need it most.



Amanda empowers Indigenous youth in Surrey to achieve their dreams of higher education through a sustainable scholarship fund.



SurreyCares Community Foundation partners with Guru Nanak Sikh Gurdwara Society to support infrastructure and community services which uplift the lives of people in Surrey.

In The Know

Updates and Announcements

Meet the SurreyCares Community Foundation Team!

SurreyCares Community Foundation welcomed three new staff members on November 1st! Ana Ortalano, Alexis Zehr, and Taryn Forster join Executive Director Susan Richards to complete the SurreyCares Community Foundation team. The team of four are energized and excited to take SurreyCares Community Foundation to the next level, enhancing community outreach, increasing donor engagement and making a difference in the city of Surrey.

Connect with us!



Ana Ortalano

Program Administration, Grants
ana@surreycares.org

[Email Ana](#)



Alexis Zehr

Fund Development, Administration
alexis@surreycares.org

[Email Alexis](#)

We look forward to hearing from you!

Uplifting the Community

A Note from Foundation Leadership



“Our goal at SurreyCares Community Foundation is to find the greatest needs of the people of Surrey and create funding pathways that serve to answer these problems using a systemic approach to giving that is sustainable. In 2024 we will grow our giving while answering to big, pressing issues like addiction, mental health and affordable housing in new, innovative ways.”

Susan Richards, Executive Director

susan@surreycares.org

[Email Susan](#)

“The heart of SurreyCares Community Foundation is serving the people of Surrey who need it most so that no one is left behind. Our focus everyday is to advocate for those needs and ensure that funding is placed into the hands of not-for-profit organizations doing the good work on the ground - and coming alongside those teams. Together we are uplifting lives in Surrey using multiple channels at once.”

John Lawson, Chairman



[Learn how YOU can make a difference in Surrey](#)

SurreyCares Community Foundation would like to respectfully and gratefully acknowledge the ą́wα:ńłń (Kwantlen), ńńńń (Katzie), semyámə (Semiahmoo), kńíkńłłm (Kwikwetlem), sńńwαθń mństeyńń (Tsawwassen) and qńqńyt (Qayqayt) First Nation communities, whose people have stewarded the land that we live, work, and play on in Surrey since time immemorial.