

Hope. Help. Home.



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We couldn't do it without you.



annual report 2016 | 2017

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- Dianne Brown
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- Patrick Dwyer
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- Wendy-Sue Andrew
- Roy Easterbrook
- Jane Holland
- Joan Kjargaard
- John Stevenson



Over 60 Years of Service

Community Living Victoria supports people with developmental disabilities together with their families, support networks and the community by promoting full citizenship.



On December 16, 1955, a group of dedicated parents founded what is now called Community Living Victoria. Today, as the largest, not-for-profit, community living service provider on Vancouver Island, Community Living Victoria provides a range of support services to children, youth and adults with developmental disabilities, and to their families.

QUALITY OF LIFE MATTERS

All of Community Living Victoria's services focus on supporting people to have access to a full range of life choices. We are committed to the principles of community living. These include:

- > Respect for the uniqueness, dignity and worth of each individual
- > Recognition of each person's need for self-determination, personal happiness and satisfaction, and for
- > A meaningful life where their gifts and contributions are valued.

“Community Living Victoria informs, supports, and empowers, changing lives and our community for the better.”



A N N U N A L R E P O R T 2 0 1 6 | 1 7

Working Together, Making a Difference



Community Living BC (CLBC) and BC Housing to replace the McRae home with a purpose-built home to meet the accessibility needs of the people we support. On July 1, we took possession of the **Gorge View home**. It is lovely and spacious, and will easily meet accessibility needs. During our review, we identified structural problems with our Burnside home. Addressing these issues, along with extensive renovations, will be a six-month project. So individuals supported at Burnside will move to Gorge View during the renovations. The projected move to Gorge View for people living at McRae is spring 2018.

In October, we purchased a property in the Reflections building in the WestShore and relocated our Nicola Place program. This community inclusion program provides 1:1 day supports to seven individuals who have high support needs. We continue to enhance our presence in the WestShore: our CLV office provides space for our Host Agency and Home Share coordinators and Family Support. In addition to restructuring our Satellite and Community Access programs to better suit the needs of individuals, finding appropriate space for these programs continues to be a priority.

On November 18, **Alan Doyle and the Beautiful Gypsies** gave a sold-out performance to an enthusiastic audience at the McPherson Playhouse. Our Foundation's 10th concert raised significant funds for our organization.

At last year's September annual general meeting, we were pleased to present to the membership the many ways in which Community Living Victoria (CLV) made a difference in 2015/16. We also introduced the new format of our annual report, which focuses on a story from each of our main program areas. Our annual general meeting also gave us the opportunity to recognize employees for their dedicated years of service (ranging from 15 to 35 years), and acknowledge our staff who work hard to ensure people have a good life in our community.

In September, we also completed a project with Catalyst, a non-profit housing developer, in which we reviewed all CLV properties with an eye to expanding our affordable housing options. We developed a real estate strategy and identified priorities. One of those priorities was to work with

Alan and his band had the entire concert hall up and dancing. A wonderful evening!

On December 3, CLV, along with BeConnected, Lifetime Networks and the Students with Disabilities Society at the University of Victoria, hosted a film festival, celebrating the **United Nations International Day of Persons with Disabilities**. Unique in British Columbia, this event featured a series of short films and was produced, programmed and hosted by people with intellectual disabilities. Last year's collection of short films, featuring productions from around the world, provided a unique platform to spark dialogue about the rights and opportunities of people with intellectual disabilities.

Our 26th annual **Reach for the Sun** and **Reach for the Stars** fundraising campaigns and our **50/50 payroll lottery fund** have enabled us to distribute over \$10,000. The money we raise through these campaigns is used throughout the year for activities and much needed items for the children, youth and adults we support.

Our Advocates and Ambassadors Group produced a wonderful video, **Living Your Best Life**, which focuses on people's rights. It has been distributed to each home and program at CLV. Go to **Watch Our Videos** on CLV's website (www.communitylivingvictoria.ca) to see this made-in-house production.

The number of adults with developmental disabilities requiring residential and community inclusion supports has been growing by 5% to 6% annually in recent years, and CLBC expects that trend to continue. While the 2017/18 budget increase for CLBC will help the provincial agency respond to this expected growth in

the coming year, it is not sufficient to meet the waitlists. Budget increases for the following two years (2018/19 and 2019/20) amount to 0.5% and 1%, respectively, far below expected growth in the number of people served by CLBC. As a result, CLBC will continue to serve as a crisis response system instead of proactively building capacity to meaningfully fulfill its mandate to promote real community inclusion. Pressure continues for transitioning youth, aging adults and individuals with more complex needs who need support.

Inclusion BC, along with other provincial disability organizations, mounted the **Raise the Rates, Leave Our Bus Pass Alone** campaign to focus attention on the cancellation of the annual bus pass and the low Persons with Disability (PWD) rates. Disability advocates hoped for a more significant increase to PWD rates than the \$50 a month in the 2017 budget. An annual increase of \$600 provided little real improvement to the lives of people with disabilities who depend on provincial assistance. When the NDP formed the government, they took swift action to reduce poverty in British Columbia. They lifted income

"I recently moved to Victoria. I could not have found out about the services here without CLV."



assistance and disability assistance by \$100 a month, which will be reflected in the September cheque. The new monthly rates for a person receiving disability benefits will be \$1,133.

Our fifth CARF survey took place from April 24 to 26. A team of four surveyors evaluated how we meet international standards of quality. This was an opportunity to showcase CLV, the people we support and the competent team of staff we have here! There were almost 1,200 standards we had to meet as an accredited agency. Our senior staff and leadership team have been diligently working to ensure that continuous quality improvement is a priority for CLV. Our efforts were recognized and we received a three-year award, with no recommendations for improvement.

Our 2016 **Measurable Outcomes Report** is available on the **Resources** page of our website. It provides a great deal of information about individuals and our services, including



the results of our satisfaction surveys. It has specific goals for each service area that improve our efficiency and effectiveness, and contains many examples of the difference CLV is making in people's lives!

We held our general meeting on May 17, 2017. A highlight of the evening was the annual presentation of our **Community Recognition Awards**. These awards recognize individuals, educators and businesses that are making a difference. The stories that accompany the awards are always very moving. This year, we recognized Irmgard Knudskov posthumously with the **Legacy Award** for her 38 years of service to CLV.

On June 9 and 10, we conducted a strategic planning session with board members, staff, management, the people we serve, and some family members. This team was charged with determining our key strategic directions for the next three years. Through structured conversations designed to support strategic thinking, this highly engaged and dynamic group tackled planning CLV's future through to 2020. Members included a broad cross-section of people, who have been involved with the organization for one to 35 years. They each brought their unique perspectives to the planning session, which resulted in a very rich and thoughtful dialogue. The three key strategic directions identified are **innovation, service excellence** and **sustainability**. Our Management Team will dedicate time to develop clear, measurable goals based on the wealth of input we received during this planning session. We will present the resulting plan to CLV's Board of Directors for review and approval.

We have been working on the transition to the new **BC Societies Act**. The Act came into force in November 2016, and societies have two years to make the transition. A board committee has worked with our lawyer and will be presenting our proposed constitution and by-laws to the membership at the annual general meeting on September 20, 2017.

Our thanks goes to retiring board members Julie Bruce, Patrick Dwyer, Tony Earle, Vincenza Gruppuso and Judy Harrison. We have appreciated their input and commitment, and we will miss their perspective. We offer our sincerest thanks to the Board of Directors for their guidance and support, and to our dedicated management team

and employees who ensure that the people we support enjoy good lives. We are grateful for all the support from our Foundation, which effectively raises a fund and the profile of CLV. Together we make a difference.



Ives

Irene Ives,
PRESIDENT



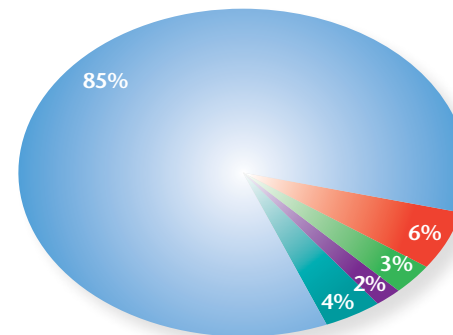
e. tarshis

Ellen Tarshis,
EXECUTIVE
DIRECTOR

"What I appreciate about CLV the most is the fact that we are given the chance & skills to grow, not only as individuals, but as team members."

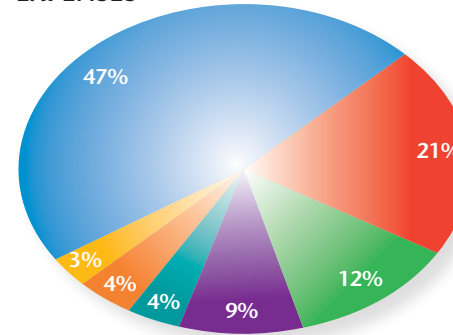
Financial Information 2016/2017

REVENUE



- Community Living BC
- BC Employment Assistance & BC Housing
- Ministry of Children and Family Development
- Island Health
- Donations, Grants, Bequests & Other

EXPENSES



- Staffed Residential
- Host Agency/Homesharing
- Community Inclusion
- Administration
- Youth Services
- Supported Living
- Community Services

Our Services



HOMES

We continue to provide support for 59 individuals in 14 community homes. Our homes are well established in neighbourhoods throughout Greater Victoria. We provide caring and supportive environments that help people live as independently as possible. Many of our staff go above and beyond to ensure that the people we support have a great quality of life.

For 23 years, Josie had enjoyed living in a CLV home with four housemates and long-term familiar staff. She had lots of opportunity to do what she wanted to do – go on many vacations, enjoy her routines in familiar environment as well as access her community. She attended our Satellite community inclusion program and enjoyed seeing her friends and favourite staff each weekday. She visited her family regularly for holidays each summer and saw them for all special occasions.

But several years ago, Josie began experiencing signs of aging and dementia. She began forgetting things

and routines that she used to know so well. Her mobility was declining and she had difficulty getting up the stairs of her two-story home. Staff at the home and day program worked hard to ensure that Josie was safe, but they struggled to meet her increasing needs. It became clear that Josie would not be able to continue living in her existing home or attend her day program.

Luckily, we had a vacancy come up in one of our accessible homes. CLBC agreed that Josie would be a good fit. We consulted with her family and they said that “they were very happy their sister would remain within the CLV family.” Josie was able to transition to the new home with the help of her familiar home staff who worked with the new home staff and shared information. With regular visits from her friends, staff and family, she has begun to feel at ease in her new home. Josie is comfortable, well supported and can now age in place. Everyone who knows and cares about Josie feels so pleased that CLV works hard to support people throughout their life cycle.

HOME SHARE

55 individuals receive support through our Home Share Services. Home Share enables an individual to live as independently as possible with a home share provider contracted with CLV.

Jenna is a young woman who asked to join CLV’s home share network. She had outgrown her living situation and wanted to move to a place where she was able to be more independent and had more control over her life. Jenna uses a wheelchair, and requires an affordable, accessible home in the

Victoria area so she can easily get to her job downtown. Finding a home share provider with the skills, energy and an accessible home to accommodate Jenna’s needs and lifestyle preferences was challenging. So instead, CLV and the Independent Living Housing Society worked in partnership to obtain a BC housing subsidy for Jenna that enabled her to rent an accessible apartment at an affordable price. We worked with Jenna and her mom to find a suitable roommate who could also support Jenna’s mobility needs.

Jenna and Deb have been living together since September.

Jenna says, “I am very happy and content and feel in control of my life since I moved in with Debra. We get along fabulously, and I feel a sense of peace. I also have more freedom to be my own person. I can choose what to wear, eat and where to go.”

When you find the right match, home share can work out well.



SUPPORTED INDEPENDENT LIVING

Currently, 27 individuals are served by Supported Independent Living (SIL). We manage subsidies through BC Housing so people can have affordable housing options, and we focus on reducing poverty by teaching sustainable skills. Expanding personal networks and increasing independence are priorities. We may never know what each day will look like—a medical emergency, an eviction notice or an urgent trip to the food bank—but we do know we will learn a lot about courage and resiliency.

Catherine has been part of SIL for 26 years. After she was widowed in 2011, Catherine had a dream of finding love again. We assisted in her grieving process and worked with her on some important skills.

Catherine had to sell the marital home she shared with her husband and make it on her own in a very tough rental market. She faced repeated discrimination as she attempted to find and then live in her own apartment. Catherine told us that “suddenly I was alone and my disability felt larger than life. I was so scared...” We assisted her in building an independent life and learning all she set out to learn. Then she met Dean. He became a good friend and in time their friendship bloomed into a relationship.

They wanted to build upon their friendship, learn to budget and find out how to solve conflict. They’ve worked very hard and recently decided to share the rest of their lives together. On July 9, Dean slipped a gorgeous ring onto Catherine’s finger, and asked her to be his wife. At first she said, “You’re supposed to be on your knee when you ask such a question.” And then she said, “Yes!”



“I’ve worked with CLV for almost 8 years now, and from the day I started I’ve felt like a member of a huge family.”



Dean told us that “thanks to SIL, we have been able to grow on our own and now we will be man and wife. We feel so lucky that we had help to understand our relationship needs and rights.”

Sometime next summer, in a beautiful beach wedding, Catherine and Dean will celebrate their love for each other with their family and SIL friends.

We help all individuals in the SIL program to live independent lives. We see many success stories like Catherine and Dean’s, and yet we continue to hear about people living in poverty. We also see a continuous need for advocacy for individuals. To meet these challenges, we help people deal with the impact of poverty on their lives. We strive to create new housing options in a very

tight housing market. We combat loneliness and isolation and create workable solutions for each individual. We assist people in dealing with the numerous crises that arise unexpectedly. Each and every day, SIL staff are presented with a variety of dilemmas, and each and every day we and the people we support rise to the challenge.

SUPPORTED APARTMENT LIVING

Supported Apartment Living (SAL) is a unique option for individuals seeking independent living but needing more support than SIL participants. We provide budgeting support, meal planning and cooking assistance, and we help people set and achieve goals. Ten SAL participants rent their own apartments and three own their own condos. Although we provide daily staff support, there is no overnight staff. Located directly across from a local mall, the apartment building is in an ideal spot. It offers easy access to grocery shopping, banking, medical clinics, pharmacies and five main bus routes.

We are often reminded about resiliency by the individuals we support. Nine participants in our program put their regular fire-drill training into action during a real event in their building. When dense smoke from the elevator filled the building, these seasoned pros

gathered to support each other as they exited the building in a timely and safe manner. This was the second major fire in three years, putting their skills to the test. Their ability to work through such a traumatic event was amazing to witness. The bonds of friendship forged over many years have helped the SAL participants move through these unsettling experiences.

We see other examples of adversity faced by individuals in our program: loss of employment and serious health scares are significant life-changing events that leave a person feeling overwhelmed and under stress. Our goal is to have people support each other after staff have gone home. SAL participants prove this time and time again by offering a helping hand to each other. They are inspirational to us all.

Community Support

PARENT SUPPORT PROGRAM

Our Parent Support Program (PSP) provides long-term, in-home support to families headed by parents with developmental disabilities. We provide training and hands-on support to families in Greater Victoria. We focus on areas such as child development, nutrition, and home and street safety. We connect families to community resources and assist them in navigating government, school and support systems.

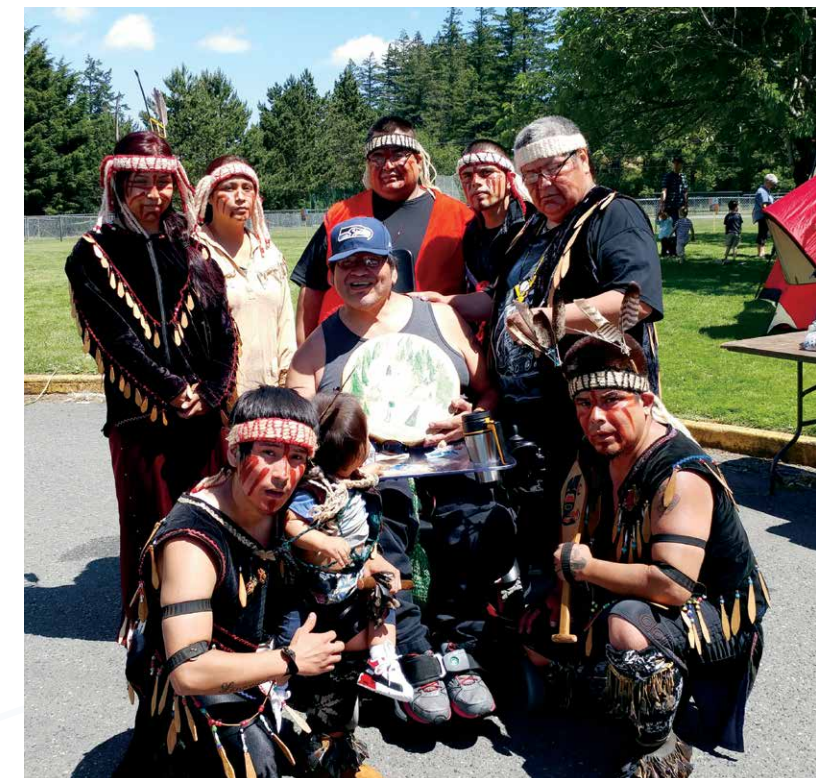
As if parenting a young child and teen weren’t difficult enough, imagine walking in a crosswalk, holding your youngest child’s hand, when suddenly you’re both hit by a car. Marian and her daughter Lily sustained many injuries, both physical and psychological. The number of appointments with specialists, ICBC and lawyers soon became overwhelming.

PSP assists families in navigating systems and dealing with unexpected life events. We played a significant role in assisting Marian with organizing these appointments and helped her communicate her legal concerns to her lawyer. We also enlisted the help of Karen, a long-time volunteer. She stepped forward to advocate for Marian and her daughter to help them obtain the increased level of support they required. “In a time of crisis,” Marian said, “CLV’s support meant the world to me.”

FAMILY SUPPORT

Family Support continues to be in high demand from over 500 families and individuals, and remains a vital service in our community. We are thankful for a BC Community Gaming Grant that enables us to continue to provide information, resources, advocacy and support in a variety of areas important to families. We often attend planning meetings in schools, ministry offices and the community. We help with

“Community Living Victoria’s Family Support is a vital community service helping families.”



planning, conflict resolution, workshop organization, community development, parent support groups and inclusive education facilitation.

Single parenting has many challenges and is often overwhelming when you have a child with special needs. Sally approached Family Support looking for guidance and partnership in advocating for better supports for her son at his school.

When our considerable efforts did not yield the results Sally was seeking, transferring her son to a different school was determined to be in his best interest. We made many phone calls on behalf of the family and attended school meetings with Sally at the district principal's office. Our request to transfer her son to another school was granted, and he successfully completed the remainder of his school year. "I'm very happy with the help my son gets now," Sally told us, "and I'm pleased with the support CLV gave us."

COMMUNITY INCLUSION

Most of our Community Inclusion (CI) participants have attended our CI programs for many years. Our two largest programs, the Community Access Program (CAP) and the Satellite program, support 55 individuals to access the community, enjoy opportunities to learn new skills, try new activities and spend time with friends. Our Reflections program provides 1:1 support for seven individuals.

Simon is a very sociable young man who loves to help out. When seeking a volunteer position for him, we wanted it to be close to our Reflections location in Langford, so we could develop ties within our community. We approached

the Salvation Army Thrift Store on Goldstream Avenue, and the manager was very receptive.

Since May, Simon has been spending time every Monday morning helping put things out for sale. He uses his walker, with a large shopping basket attached, and we fill it with clothing, toys or household items. Simon pushes his walker through the aisles to the proper display location. He really enjoys himself and loves to socialize with the very friendly staff and customers.



HOST AGENCY

Our Host Agency service works directly with individuals and families who have chosen to receive Individualized Funding (IF) from CLBC. IF enables people to choose the supports and services they need from a range of possibilities within the community. This means they can create services that suit their lifestyles and preferences. Host Agency supports 52 people.

When Asher Johnson-Dorman was six years old, he disappeared while in a large department store. It was a familiar place to Asher, so his parents, Ben and Catriona, weren't too worried. They began the process of systematically walking through the aisles one by one. Turning a corner, they found Asher grinning and walking toward them with a large box containing a popcorn popper. "Popcorn?" he asked, one of the few words he had at the time.

Years later, the story takes on new meaning. Asher, now nearly 25, is the owner and operator of Asher's Amazing Popcorn, a business he has

been growing over the last three years. Supported by the family-governed group InclusionWorks! Saanich, CLV's Host Agency Services, and GT Hiring Solutions, Asher navigated a process of "Discovery" to determine the kind of employment he wanted. When popcorn emerged as an area of interest, Asher's team supported him in studying for his FOODSAFE certificate and volunteering at the Vic Theatre, where he made popcorn at the concession. The support team also assisted in developing a business plan, opening a bank account and registering Asher's Amazing Popcorn as a sole proprietorship, which continues to grow today.

Additional support from Inclusion BC's Ready, Willing & Able project helped Asher and his support team with research, marketing, product development and customer relations. For the last year, Asher has sold his popcorn weekly at the Victoria Public Market. He has also been a vendor at other events such as toy fairs, parties at

"I've always been treated with kindness and respect at CLV, and I see the same treatment with everyone in this community."

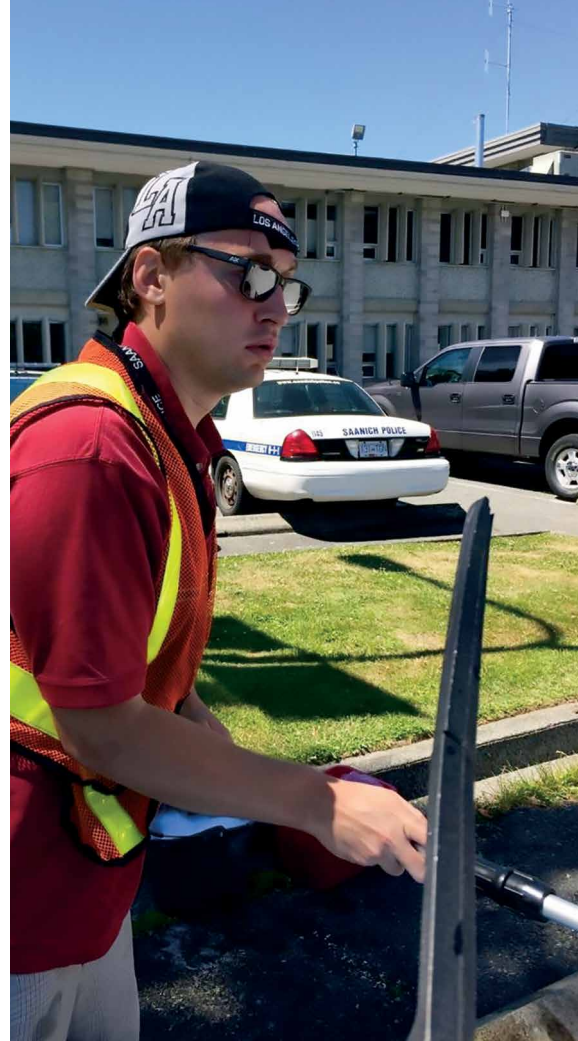
the Centre of the Universe and, most recently, the annual summer barbeque at CLV. The business has made a small profit, allowing Asher to earn enough to contribute to the purchase of a new RV, something he has talked about for more than a decade.

Asher hopes to focus on developing partnerships with local businesses to offer popcorn at monthly customer appreciation events. If you are interested in hiring Asher's Amazing Popcorn for a business event or celebration, contact him at www.ashersamazingpopcorn.ca.

EMPLOYMENT SERVICES

For more than 30 years, Employment Services has supported people in securing and maintaining jobs. Our employment counsellors work hard to develop strong relationships with employers and employees, resulting in a diverse and inclusive workforce. By focusing on abilities, not disabilities, the people we serve are supported to overcome barriers to obtain meaningful, gainful employment, ensuring their right to full citizenship in their communities.

When Daimon was referred to us, he was a very quiet, shy young man who found it challenging to connect with others. But Daimon quickly recognized that money was very important to him. Although he had a limited work history, Daimon had a can-do attitude and a willingness to learn! Over the past two years, we have supported Daimon on his employment journey, beginning with washing vehicles at the Saanich Police Department and later working as a parking lot attendant. Daimon has told us, "I'm proud of doing the job all by myself."



Daimon's skills and confidence have grown, and when a position opened at the Gala-Van Party Shop in June, he was the successful candidate. Owner Linda says, "Daimon is a perfect fit for Gala-Van's team," and she is impressed by his positive attitude and eagerness to try new things.

To say that Daimon has grown over the past two years would be a massive understatement. In conversations we've had, Daimon has reflected on how far he's come on his employment journey. Initially, his focus had been "to make money so I can buy things that I want," but during our most recent conversation, he said that "having a job really helps build confidence" and that he feels it has given him "good self-esteem." Daimon is now making personal connections with co-workers and is enjoying new things he can afford to do.

Youth Services

VICTORIA OPPORTUNITIES FOR COMMUNITY YOUTH LEADERSHIP

Victoria Opportunities for Community Youth Leadership (VOCYL) is an inclusive youth leadership program, and our philosophy is that everyone has the right to belong, no matter their race, gender, size, age, religion, sexual orientation or ability. Members share their knowledge and experiences as youth both with and without disabilities in order to advocate for change in their local schools and communities.

VOCYL delivered close to 100 inclusion awareness presentations to over 750 grade six middle school students in the last year. During these presentations, VOCYL youth demonstrated their passion, courage

and leadership as they shared their own stories and inclusion experiences. As one VOCYL participant said, "When we share our stories we know that we are not alone in this journey through school." Teacher Amy Collins told us that "the inclusion of the VOCYL youth [enabled] students to see how someone could overcome adversity and speak openly about it with others."

Presentations included interactive games and discussions, which encouraged students to think about their similarities, look beyond stereotypes and deepen their understanding of how they can be more inclusive in their schools. Teacher Amanda Black thinks that "it's very important that students are aware, at a young age, that everyone [has] the right to belong, and everyone deserves kindness."

"CLV has worked very hard to improve the quality of life for all of the people who we support."





“The presentations make me feel welcome, and I feel positive reading my personal story about having Down syndrome,” said another VOCYL participant. Clearly, VOCYL presentations do make a difference. Our survey shows:

- 85% of students said that they have been friendlier, more accepting and inclusive of other students.
- 97% of students said that they better understand how hard it is for kids with disabilities to fit in.
- 93% of students said that they better understand what it means to be inclusive and accepting of other people.
- 97% of students said they are committed to not bullying and being kinder to others in their school, even those that look and act differently than they do.

TEEN COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS & AUTISM SERVICES

Teen Community Connections (TCC) is an inclusive program for youth between the ages of 13 and 18 with developmental disabilities. Our support helps them make friends, develop social and life skills and access the community.

Autism Services is designed for children and youth ages 6 to 18 years who live with autism spectrum disorder (ASD). We help families manage and designate their funds, navigate the system, plan for success, and coordinate contractors to provide direct services such as behaviour intervention, social skills groups, day camps and family support.

Kendall is a teen who participates in both TCC and Autism Services. About three years ago, she discovered her love of sports when introduced to the physical literacy activities TCC offered in partnership with the Pacific Institute for Sports Excellence (PISE). This new love of sport led Kendall and her family to become regular attendees at Family Fun Nights, which bring families and youth in Autism Services

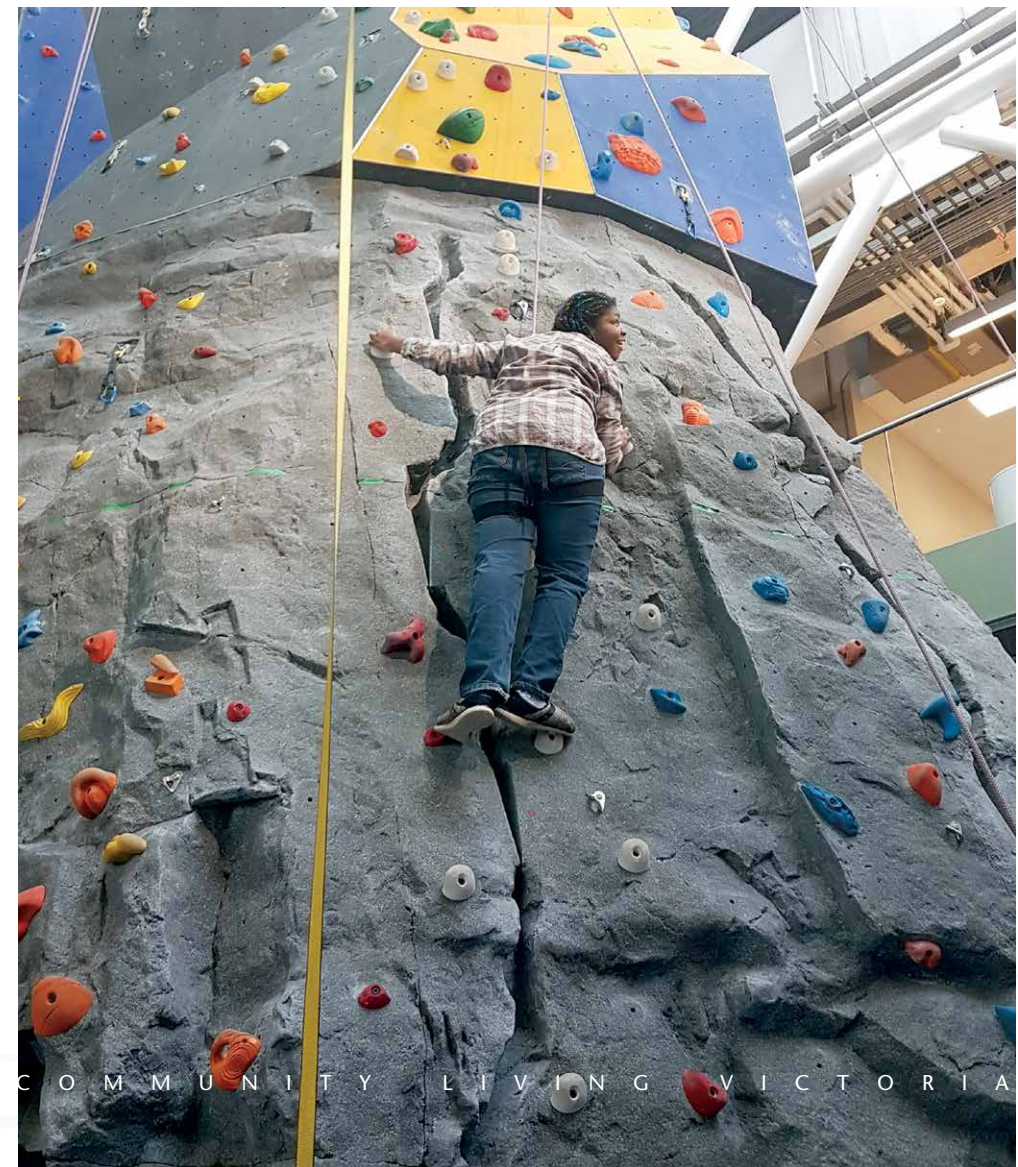
together for engaging physical literacy games facilitated by PISE. Kendall always comes to PISE activities ready to learn or play, energizing those around her with her laughter, free spirit and enthusiasm. Kendall’s mom, Pat, says, “Kendall would never miss a PISE opportunity. [She enjoys] the noise, excitement, fun, and pure enjoyment of being with her peers.”

When TCC partnered with the Centre for Athletics, Recreation and Special Abilities (CARSA) this winter to introduce a 10-week adaptive climbing program, we were astonished at how Kendall approached this new adventure. It was amazing to see her step outside of her comfort zone and try something she had never done before. Each week she climbed a bit higher! Kendall had the same support team each week, and with

this consistency, her confidence soared. “As parents,” Pat says, “we are thrilled to see how much Kendall has grown in her physical abilities and agility... Kudos to the leaders who make this all possible.”

Many of the youth we support are excluded from meaningful participation in sports, or dislike sports because of previous negative experiences. Adapted sports provide more than a physical release of energy. Physical literacy and adapted team sports are opportunities for youth to interact in new ways with others, gain self-confidence, learn how their bodies work, build endurance and test limits. Like Kendall, our participants are learning to self-regulate to engage well with others and experience the thrill of being active in sports and games.

“The Community Living Victoria staff is amazing, welcoming, helpful & understanding.”



Hope. Help. Home.



YOUR FOUNDATION BOARD

We have been labelled “the Fun Board” because we put on such great events to achieve our key objectives of fundraising and community awareness of CLV.

Our 2016/17 board is currently supported by 13 volunteers who come from a variety of backgrounds. In January 2017, we welcomed two new members: Nicole Woods and Ken Marriette. Ken has volunteered to take on the role of our ambassador, speaking to service groups and other community organizations in order to raise our profile in Greater Victoria.

We would like to recognize and thank our past board members Laura Bolster, Mark Medgyesi and Marilyn McLaren who left the board in 2016. They have been great supporters of CLV, and we know that they will continue to advocate for CLV and support our efforts.

OUR 10TH ANNUAL CONCERT FUNDRAISING EVENT

We held our 10th annual concert in 2016, featuring Alan Doyle and the Beautiful Gypsies. It was an amazing evening of high energy entertainment and stories that touched the hearts of 772 attendees. This was our second sell-out event in a row, with all tickets snapped up six

weeks before the concert. (Hint: Get your 2017 tickets early!)

It was also the second year for our Gift of Flight raffle, which offered participants a chance to win WestJet tickets for two to anywhere the company flies. The raffle brought in \$7,960.

With Tom Humphries at the helm of our concert sponsorship committee, our sponsor revenue was \$53,700 this year. An outstanding achievement! To date, our concerts have raised almost \$600,000. Without our wonderful supporters, these concerts would not be possible.

It's no surprise that our concert series has taken on a life of its own. Many regulars who attend each year mention that it's on their “must see” list because of its entertainment value and important cause. All money raised at this event is directed toward enhancing services for individuals supported by CLV. This year, the funds went to Youth Services, Employment Services and group home repairs and furniture replacement.

On January 12, 2017, we held a planning session to map out our future vision for the annual concert in a three-year plan. It was attended by members of the Foundation and CLV boards, and others who have experience in the industry. A facilitator helped keep us focused. We reviewed our main objectives, current challenges and risks, the venue, ticket prices, sponsorship attraction, artist selections, expenses and revenue opportunities, to name a few areas of discussion. We believe our venue and size continue to work well for us, and we will continue to focus on our sponsorship, revenue and costs in order to meet or exceed our fundraising goals.

Our November 17, 2017, concert features Citizen West. Tenors Cody Karey, Marc Devigne and Brett Pruneau have joined forces to bring listeners a unique blend of elite vocals and modern pop flair. Some of you will recognize Cody Karey who was our featured artist in 2014, working under David Foster. Together and individually, the members of Citizen West have appeared on renowned world stages such as Madison Square Garden in New York, the Gibson Amphitheatre in Los Angeles and the Mandalay Bay Events Center in Las Vegas. They have also appeared on a PBS musical special, and performed live with the likes of Michael Bublé, Andrea Bocelli, Sarah Brightman and The Tenors, just to name a few.

For more information, go to www.theconcertforhopehelphome.com.

VIPOND ROYAL COLWOOD GOLF CLASSIC

June 23, 2017, marked our sixth year for the Vipond Golf Classic, which is a key fundraiser for CLV. Bruce Brown continues to devote high energy to this important event. To date, Vipond has raised about \$240,000. This year's proceeds will be used to deliver a series of transition workshops in the WestShore.



These workshops are targeted at families who have special needs and children who are transitioning to adult services. This year, Vipond dollars were used to purchase an accessible vehicle for people with disabilities so they are able to take advantage of various programs within the community.

SPRING/SUMMER AND FALL/WINTER CAMPAIGNS

One hundred percent of donations received in our annual *Reach for the Sun* and *Reach for the Stars* direct mail campaigns go to the people CLV supports. Thanks to everyone who has made these important fundraising campaigns possible. We raised \$10,576 this past year.

JUNE BARBEQUE

On June 28, 2017, at our Cedar Hill Cross Road location, we hosted a barbeque for about 150 people that we support, along with some of our sponsors, staff, board members and guests. This has become a special time when we can meet the people that we support as they enjoy a day of companionship and many smiles. This year's event had live music provided by Mile Zero, which got people up dancing and singing along. And it was an opportunity for all attendees to celebrate Canada's 150th birthday.

“Community Living Victoria is diverse, strong, and caring. At CLV, everyone matters.”



Robert Taggart
Robert Taggart, PRESIDENT
Community Living Victoria Foundation

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