

Hope.Help.Home.



Community Living
VICTORIA



annual report 2011 | 2012

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- JOAN KJARGAARD
- HELEN PERODEAU
- OTFRIED SPREEN

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- JENNA PROUDLOVE

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- LAUREL HOUNIET, FINANCE MANAGER
- LINETTE BAKER, PROGRAM MANAGER
- JULIE HICKEY, PROGRAM MANAGER
- MIKE JENSEN, PROGRAM MANAGER
- IRMGARD KNUDSKOV, HUMAN RESOURCES MANAGER
- CATHY MACDONALD, PROGRAM MANAGER

57 years of service

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

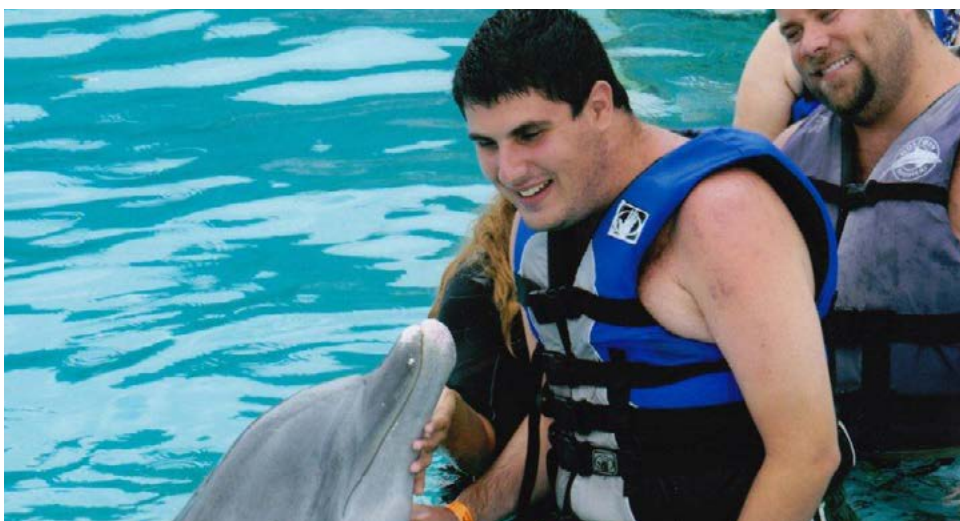
On December 16, 1955, a group of dedicated parents founded what is now called Community Living Victoria. Today, as the largest, non-profit, community living service provider on Vancouver Island, Community Living Victoria provides a range of support services to children, youth and adults with developmental 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.



Keeping people with disabilities on the agenda

A MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT, AND OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

This year Community Living Victoria will celebrate its 57th year. We have come such a long way since 1955, and we have remained true to our roots. There have been many challenges and opportunities along the way and this year was no exception.

Community Living BC (CLBC) service redesign resulted in some home closures across the province and some individuals moved from group homes to live in home-sharing and other residential options. Some individuals felt pressured to move against their will and with a successful provincial advocacy campaign, this was halted.

As a result of the crisis in community living, the provincial

government announced a \$40 million increase in funding to Community Living BC in January 2012. The new funding was announced as a result of a backlash from families and individuals and the support of the media who kept the issue in the forefront.

At the end of the school year many families applied for funding and supports after high school. In addition to those already waiting, 600 youth are estimated to become eligible for CLBC funding this year.

As well, approximately 300 people who are living with their parents and are over the age of 19 will apply for funding for the first time. There continues to be considerable pressure on CLBC. Our provincial advocacy organization – the British Columbia Association for Community Living - and others are keeping a close watch.

Our relationship with CLBC regionally continues to be very good and CLBC is responsive to our concerns. We work very closely with them to ensure the people we support have the services they require to enjoy a safe and good life.

With a provincial election coming in May 2013, we will collectively need to ensure that children with special needs, people with

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CARLENE THOMPSON,
PRESIDENT

developmental disabilities and their families remain on the agenda of the government. Although the crisis in community living and the resulting publicity for our funder, Community Living BC was challenging, it did effectively inform more British Columbians. They responded by demanding that government increase funding so that people will receive the supports they require.

Ellen continues her work with the BC CEO Network, a provincial association of CEOs in social services organizations, whose purpose is to promote effective business practices, leadership development and mutual support. The CEO Network has gained the respect of CLBC and other key players in government and the community. Our work this past year with CLBC has resulted in agreements that help balance the needs of our funder, service providers and the people we support. In Carlene's role as chair of the BC Association for Community Living Member Engagement Committee, she has continued to provide input and leadership on how our provincial organization can effectively engage its stakeholders.

This year also saw the implementation of ShareVision. This is a highly functional and accessible database that allows CLV to capture and meaningfully use information about our programs and the people we support. It helps us to gather and complete analysis



ELLEN TARSHIS,
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

of all aspects of service delivery and can provide immediate snapshots of how people are doing in meeting their goals, and maintaining overall well-being. It is an extremely efficient and comprehensive system that provides an invaluable source of both person-centered and operational information.

We encourage you to frequently access our website for updates about CLV. Our Measurable Outcomes Report 2011 is on the website and parts of that report are included in this publication. This comprehensive report provides valuable information and is a guiding and decision-making tool for management and the Board of Directors for continuous quality improvement and satisfaction.

April 16th was the 30th anniversary of the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms. For 30 years the charter has been a beacon for the right to inclusion of all people in Canadian society, including people with disabilities.

At our General Meeting in April we presented our community awards. This is always a wonderful meeting which recognizes outstanding commitment by individuals and businesses. Please support the businesses that support us. You can find a list on our website.

The Collective Agreement, which governs the working conditions and compensation of our unionized workforce, expired on March 31, 2012. A new agreement has not been reached and we are likely to experience some labour disruption this fall.

We extend our sincere thanks to the management team and staff. They come to work every day committed to making the lives of the people they support meaningful and to assist them to participate and be included in our community.

We salute the Board of Directors for their leadership and guidance. Our thanks go to retiring Board members Loreen O’Byne and Franca Pastro. Their perspective will be missed and

we have greatly appreciated their input and support.

Our Foundation continues to work at raising the profile of and money for Community Living Victoria. Our sincere thanks go to President John Stevenson and the Board, patrons and other supporters whose efforts make a real difference in the lives of the people we support. They are smart and caring people and are committed to Community Living Victoria. Watch for more exciting news from the Foundation in the coming months with the launch of the Planned Giving Program and consider attending the concert featuring Kuba Oms and Alex Cuba at the McPherson Playhouse October 27th.

The road ahead will no doubt bring new challenges but we remain committed to facing these challenges and working with our partners to find solutions and new opportunities.

Carlene Thompson *e. Tarshis*
 CARLENE THOMPSON, ELLEN TARSHIS,
 PRESIDENT EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR AWARDS WERE PRESENTED TO COLLEEN WALTON AND KRISTIN MARRS AT THE GENERAL MEETING.

Our services

HOMES

We continue to operate 14 homes that provide 24-hour support to 60 individuals. Our homes are well established in their neighborhoods and we access our community in a variety of ways.

As the people we support are aging, we face challenges around increased funding needs and accessibility issues that render some of our homes no longer suitable. After an extensive search, we were delighted to purchase a large rancher on Tyndall Avenue in August 2012 to replace our Maplewood home.



SUPPORTED APARTMENT LIVING AND SUPPORTED INDEPENDENT LIVING

The participants of the Supported Apartment Living (SAL) Program are a dynamic and active group. Despite many of the members keeping busy in their volunteer and paid employment, they always find time to be together and have fun! One of the primary goals of the program is to connect people in their friendships by facilitating and planning social events. Some of their activities included participating in the CIBC Run for the Cure, ladies' group cook nights, community concerts, an overnight getaway to Chemainus Theatre, day trips, pub nights, and weekly workouts. As well as having fun, the group takes living independently seriously. They successfully renewed their First Aid certificates this past year and continue to review emergency topics specific



as shopping, banking, helping with cooking and cleaning, doing laundry and helping with chores)

- > 83% said they spend time with their family and friends as much as they want

Comments:

- > *“I love my Home Share family. They have made me feel like part of their family.”*
- > *“I like having someone to be there to help me with my reading and banking.”*
- > *“I love the Supported Apartment Living Program. It is close to work, they gym, and it gives me the support I need.”*

FAMILY SUPPORT

This year, Family Support has been focused on youth transitioning to CLBC services. Funding shortfalls have caused great concern for these young adults and for their families. We have increased our workshop opportunities for families and hosted two transition “Boot Camps”, a Smart Individual Education Plan workshop, two Registered Disability Savings Plan workshops and a sexuality workshop for parents. Our annual Resource Fair continues with a record attendance this year of 200 people.

We continue to work with teachers from all three school districts, parents, employment services

and CLBC to encourage best practice in transition planning.

We are now able to assist families in setting up Representation Agreements for their sons and daughters as they turn 19 and have facilitated the signing of 31 Representation Agreements since August 2011.

We have provided opportunities for parents to share their stories with University of Victoria student teachers and Camosun College students.

Once again, thanks to the McAdam Foundation, 12 youth were able to attend summer camp with a support person. The continued support from BC Gaming with a grant of \$52,000 ensures that Family Support is available for the 450 families who use our service every year.

PARENT SUPPORT

This is a small program (six to eight families) that provides intense, long term, in-home and

“The program has been wonderfully supportive of families – from those that are just beginning their journey to those that have been on the journey for awhile.”

“Please know that your support was monumental for me and my family. Again thank you for your advice... it is exactly what we both needed. Thank goodness for our community services - AMAZING!”

community support. Families in the Parent Support Program (PSP) often find it difficult to access and integrate knowledge from many of the generic resources and supports available in the community. As social and community isolation is a common obstacle, one of the goals this year was to link families to more community resources. As a result, each family was connected to a number of community resources such as: legal aid, childcare and housing subsidies, daycares, public health clinics, affordable recreation and leisure programs and mental health supports.

Another way we wanted to provide both learning opportunities and parent-to-parent connections, was to host some parent group learning sessions. Parents were invited to participate in a session where they got to know each other and brainstorm group topics.



COMMUNITY INCLUSION

We support 72 individuals to access the community in a variety of ways. Many of our long-term community inclusion participants have reached or are nearing retirement age. As a result we have altered many program activities and times to better accommodate the needs of the participants. For example, one group goes to one of our homes during the day to enable participants to spend time in a more relaxed atmosphere doing retirement-based activities of their choosing.

For some of our younger participants, we continue to focus on a variety of recreation, volunteer and employment-related activities. Some participate in our new Job Club hosted by our Employment Services team.

This club meets on a regular basis to practice interview techniques, prepare for interviews and learn various employment-related skills.

Serving youth

VOCYL

The Victoria Opportunities for Community Youth Leadership (VOCYL) has once again had an extremely busy and successful year. Thanks to generous funding from the United Way, TELUS and the Queen Alexandra Foundation, VOCYL presented to over 600 grade six students at Glanford, Cedar Hill, Arbutus and Lansdowne Middle Schools. The 23 VOCYL members, those with and without developmental disabilities, have put their acquired leadership skills into practice as they lead students in interactive assemblies and presentations that challenge them on issues such as diversity, inclusion, bullying and stereotypes. With the help of a local videographer, members created a video that shares their message of inclusion and belonging for everyone. VOCYL was featured recently on CHEK, and was recognized in 2011 on both CFX and in the Times Colonist for their work and impact in the community.



TEEN COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS

This after-school program for youth aged 12-18 continues to be an active and lively group. They can be seen everywhere in our community: volunteering, accessing recreation facilities and learning new skills every day. The summer months brought the addition of our full-day, week-long camps that operate out of local recreation centers. In all, 35 youth were supported over the summer months in these camps!

AUTISM SERVICES

Our newest program, Autism Services, is growing and we are now supporting close to 50 youth and their families. They come to us for a range of supports including 1:1, summer day camps, social groups and to access the expertise of Behaviour Consultants. We were pleased to receive a United Way grant this year that allowed us to provide Family Support, organize a series of workshops, help facilitate transition planning and build support networks.

"VOCYL's program was a real asset to our school's goal of furthering inclusivity. Their presentation to our grade sixes generated a great deal of interest and enthusiasm in our students and their teachers. Their facilitators were well-organized, positive, flexible, and inspiring."
~ Ken Andrews, Principal, Lansdowne Middle School

Hope, Help, Home

A MESSAGE FROM THE CLV FOUNDATION PRESIDENT

The past year continued to be exciting for our Foundation Board and our activities are diverse, fun and profitable. I am pleased that we have added some new faces to our Board of Directors and we continue to work effectively with both Boards to advance our two goals – fundraising and increasing community awareness.

I want to welcome Laura Bolster (Megsen FitzPatrick), Tom Humphreys (Peninsula Co-op) and Milica Ivaz (Investors Group) to our Community Living family as Board members and we all look forward to working with you.

MEDIA CAMPAIGN

We continue to use our very successful “I’m Community Living” media campaign and branding which appears on television, radio, buses and in the local print media as and when required. We will continue to use its consistent messaging for all of our current and future media and promotional requirements.

THANKS TO OUR SPONSORS

Our annual sponsor Thank You Breakfast in May gave us an opportunity to recognize our sponsors and supporters. The

event featured Ryan Cochrane, now of Olympic Silver Medal fame, who eloquently spoke about his swimming goals and support for Community Living Victoria. Lee Kissinger spoke about how Community Living Victoria has made a difference in his life and along with Ryan, effectively connected sponsors and supporters with the cause.

SUCCESSFUL FUNDRAISING EFFORTS

In October 2011, we hosted our Holly Cole concert at the McPherson Playhouse. By all accounts it was very well-received, raising \$57,000. I want to acknowledge the leadership and commitment of Sharlet Poole which resulted in such a great evening. Coast Capital Savings, Think Communications and Tim Taddy of Newport Realty were our Community Leader sponsors.

The Foundation had another successful year and raised close to \$100,000 in fundraising and through donations. Money raised through our direct mail campaigns continues to go directly to the people we support.

We were also the charity designated for the RE/MAX Island Star Search event with the finale held in January. What a fun evening it was.

The impressive talent here on Vancouver Island was indeed amazing. Thanks to the RE/MAX Island Star Search Event Team for including us in this special program as the charity!

This summer we were the recipient of the Vipond Golf Classic held at the Royal Colwood Golf Club, a first ever for this golf tournament on Vancouver Island. The tournament, and the proceeds from it, is directed only to an agency that supports people with developmental disabilities. We look forward to continuing our partnership with the great support received from the Royal Colwood Golf Club. The event raised \$30,000 for Community Living Victoria.

LOOKING FORWARD

Our next fundraising concert, starring Kuba Oms and Alex Cuba will be in October 25th, 2012 at the McPherson Playhouse. This is a “double bill” for two very accomplished BC artists.



Another great golf tournament is scheduled for June of next summer for which we have been designated the charity. This is the BC Ferries Media Golf Classic, a very successful and fun-filled annual fundraiser. Not only does this golf tournament raise a significant amount of dollars, it also is profiled extensively in the media as is the charity that will received the funds raised. This is a win-win for us!

Our Planned Giving launch will be in September and will feature the perspective of a donor, family and recipient. We have lifelong relationships with many of the people we support and their families and want to ensure that they and other supporters consider us for a gift.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTRIBUTION

This year four of our Board members, Sharlet Poole, Lori McLeod, Pat Vickers and Catherine Collver, stepped down after a period of significant commitment to our work and cause. I want to take this opportunity to thank them both for their hard work and support.

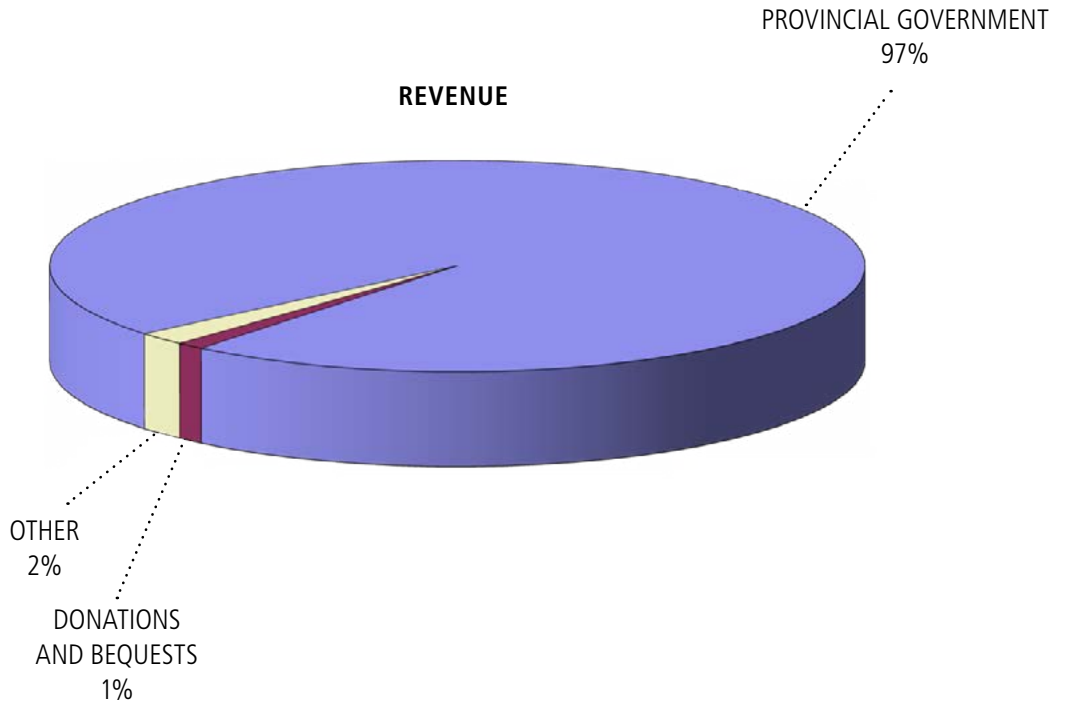
I look forward to working with stakeholders, volunteers and donors in the coming year to enhance the lives of the people we support.

JOHN STEVENSON, PRESIDENT
COMMUNITY LIVING VICTORIA FOUNDATION

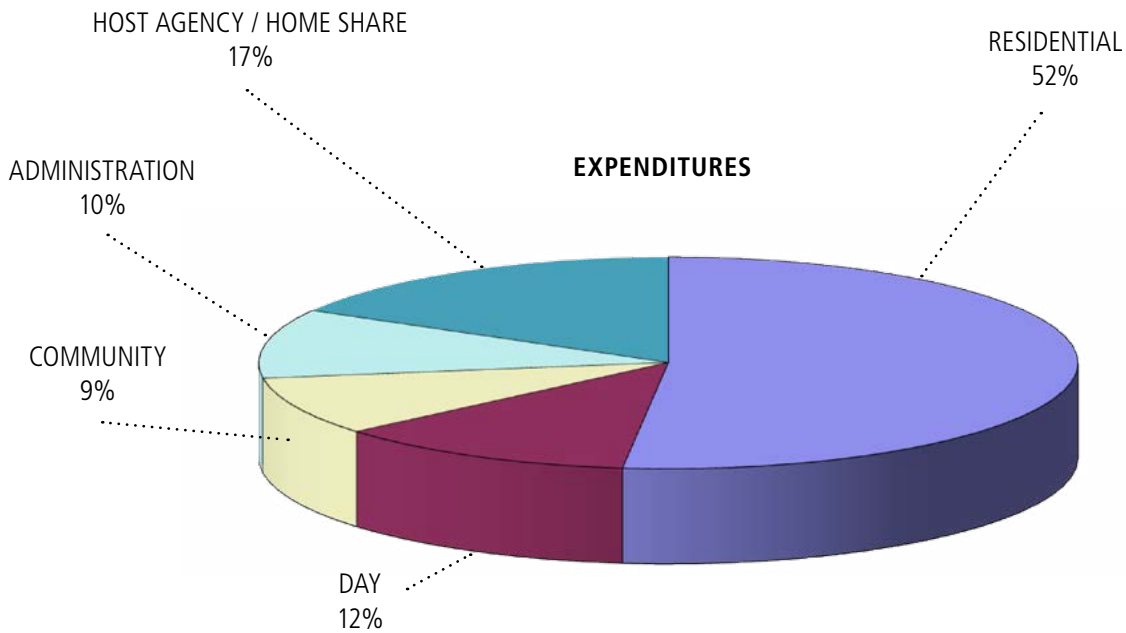


Financial Information 2011/2012

REVENUE



EXPENDITURES





COMPLETE AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AVAILABLE BY REQUEST



Community Living VICTORIA

Different abilities. One community.

3861 CEDAR HILL CROSS RD
VICTORIA, BC V8P 2M7

 250 477 7231
 250 477 6944

info@clvic.ca

www.communitylivingvictoria.ca