

2020 ANNUAL REPORT

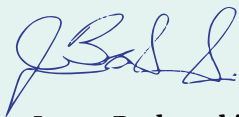
Catholic Charities



The pandemic has not stopped our work

During these challenging times, The Door is Open and the Men's Shelter have not stopped reaching the vulnerable. In fact, your support has allowed these ministries to reach and help even more people.

The Door is Open quickly modified to the changing circumstances and continued their daily meal services by handing meals out their side window and front door. The Men's Shelter moved into a new location which has allowed for greater capacity and a medical respite service for men struggling with homelessness while dealing with medical challenges. Our Prison Ministry also pivoted to an online model as well as an extensive education in our schools regarding the corporal works of mercy. All three of these ministries found creative ways to adapt and I hope you are inspired by the stories and information in this report. None of this is possible without your sustaining support and we are truly grateful for your generosity.



James Borkowski

Archbishop's Delegate for Operations

Our Mission for Catholic Charities

THE DOOR IS OPEN

Our mission is to lessen the social alienation of the poor, the homeless, and the single room tenants of Vancouver by funneling the community resources available to us.

MEN'S SHELTER

The Men's Shelter provides shelter, food and supportive services for men struggling with homelessness. Our team models the caring and compassionate spirit of Jesus.

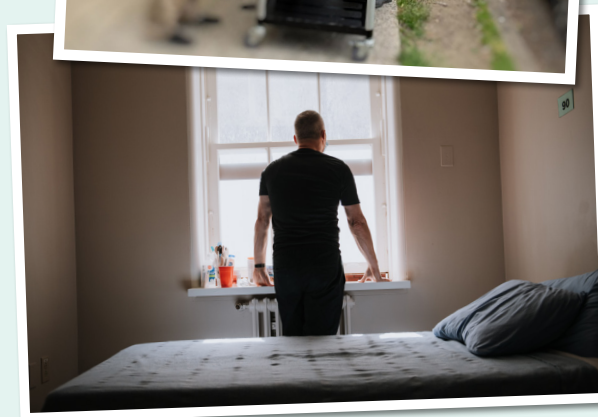
CATHOLIC CHARITIES JUSTICE SERVICES

Serve together to rediscover the fullness of God's love and image in each other.

IN PHOTOS

Top Photo: Volunteers at the Door is Open distribute food to guests.

Bottom Photo: A guest at the Men's Shelter.



In 2020, at The Door Is Open, you provided:



307

lunch
services

53

breakfast
services

4

dinner
services

2

special Easter and
Christmas meals
sponsored by Global Gourmet

Your impact at the Men's Shelter:



27,141

overnight stays



72,582

meals served



7,320

emergency
mat stays

Your impact with Prison Ministry:



over

200

volunteers



100's

of letters

2,000

Easter cards

2,000

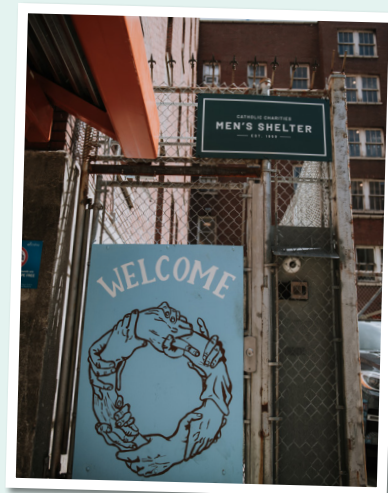
Christmas
cards

A New Location, A New Name

In December 2020 the Catholic Charities Men's Hostel moved from the Robson and Cambie Street location that had been serving homeless men for over 60 years. Along with the move came a rename to Catholic Charities Men's Shelter.

The Robson street location had been sold in 2012 and since then, the Men's Shelter was looking for a new home. In 2017, the Archdiocese and Catholic Charities approached Providence Health Care with a proposal to renovate and upgrade portions of the Comox Building to accommodate the new shelter – an opportunity Providence Health Care says aligns with its mission of caring for and supporting the most vulnerable members of society.

The shelter offers 102 beds to homeless men every night but since March has been operating at a lower capacity to allow for physical spacing during the pandemic. The new shelter will accommodate a minimum of 102 guests per night, with additional capacity in case of severe winter weather.



IN PHOTO

The Catholic Charities Men's Shelter's
New Location at St. Paul's Hospital



Volunteer Story: Shona

When I first started volunteering at the Door is Open, my regular Wednesday mornings quickly became something I looked forward to. The community that was created in the art room was strong and flavoured with everyone's unique styles. Something I particularly enjoyed was when I would bring in a project for that day – the results from the ladies were always different, unexpected, and often inspiring. This was from having a place where everyone was welcome to sit in a safe space and create at their own pace. The value the women put on community was shown in the respect and love they had for the shared arts space.

Working at The Door is Open is something I think back to fondly, as it was the foundation to my future in social service work, and what I learned from working with the women there will stay with me throughout my career.

IN PHOTO

Left: Shona (right) with guests in the craft room for women.





IN PHOTO

A guest of the third floor
at the Men's Shelter.

A Shelter Space for Recovery and Rest

From the onset of the our move, the third-floor space was dedicated to provide space for up to 26 guests who need time to rest and recovery from medical treatments and conditions.

Due to the our proximity and close relationship with Providence Health Care, we have been able to receive patients who have been discharged from the hospital. Many of these men returned to the street and many would have been back in the hospital shortly after discharge. These guests are now able to stay and recover from their condition.

We have seen firsthand that the patients who come to the third floor have reduced their visits to the emergency department because of the extra care that they are getting. One patient had to have both hips replaced and because he was discharged to the Shelter, he was able to receive the rest and recuperation he needed. He has been able to attend his nearby appointments and is improving every day. This is a patient that otherwise would likely still be in hospital or returning to the Emergency Department regularly.

In partnership with Rexall Pharmacy, we are also able to provide supervised medication delivery for our guests. Through their medical liaison on staff, Shelter team members can support the recovery of the guests on the third floor and assist with arranging for medical appointments.



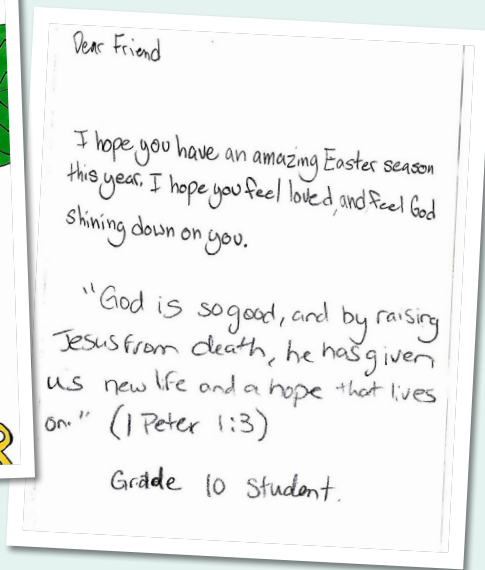
Guest Story: Ian

“I’ve been coming regularly to the Door is Open for nine years now.

Fifteen years ago I had money for food and I only came in once or twice. Without you I’d have starve. I come here for meals – breakfast cereals and lunch... You never turn anybody away. I like the Sisters and the staff are really friendly. There are many food places in the neighbourhood but this is the best one. The other ones have too many fights. Not here. They treat everyone equally here. Even on weekends people here do their best to help everyone all the time. I hope you get a lot of donations because I know you serve good food (like fried rice and sometimes even hamburgers).”

IN PHOTO

Guest, Ian, standing in front of the Door is Open entrance



“By this very letter exchange, that you continue to BE His church.

Thank you for your service – know that it is appreciated.”

— Prison Inmate

Prison Ministry: BE His Church

We have maintained regular contact with some of the fellows inside. Since we cannot visit inmates in person at this time, our letters serve to encourage and uphold the flame of faith in the institutions.

Our letters to one fellow have a ripple effect inside, stirring the hearts of those whom we do not have direct contact with. A fellow wrote how he hoped “God can use me in some small way as a conduit and inspiration to continue to maintain our connection and fellowship”.

We also have a phone program with a similar effect where volunteers can speak one to one with those they know on the inside.

*“Therefore encourage one another and build one another up,
just as you are doing.”*

— 1 THESS. 5:11



New Shelter Location, New Manager

2020 was a year of constant change. Not only did the Men's Shelter get a new name and a new location, but they also got a new manager, Solomon Atta. Solomon came to British Columbia from Ghana to complete his Master's in Public Policy and Global Affairs at the University of British Columbia and started at the Men's Shelter in January 2019 as a Part Time Staff Member.

Coming from a family of 12, he is one of two sets of twins. Solomon was raised Protestant and it wasn't until the age of 12 that he had a desire to join the Catholic Church. As the desire grew, Solomon began to explore more about the Catholic Faith and its teachings and discovered that not only is the Church in deep communion with God but is also deeply committed to serving humanity in a way that reflects the teachings of Christ.

His desire to live the gospel influenced his decision to work for the Men's Shelter to help people experiencing homelessness. After Solomon finished his Master's in May 2020, he took on the role of Shift Supervisor at the Men's Shelter. In October 2020 he was offered the role Manager. His vision is to create the conditions at the Shelter to meet the immediate needs of the guests and their long term goals in order to restore their human dignity.

While it has been difficult to work with men experiencing homelessness, some of whom are struggling with addiction, Solomon's faith has motivated him to work harder. He believes that you don't get a better opportunity to manifest your Catholic faith than in a place where you see such vulnerable people and are able to help them.

Solomon lives in Vancouver with his wife and two children.

IN PHOTO

Solomon Atta, Manager Catholic Charities Men's Shelter



The Impact of Covid on The Door is Open

It has been so very heart-warming over the last few weeks to witness the level of support that we have been receiving at The Door is Open from many supporters with respect to the supply of sandwiches and sweets. Volunteers and staff are most grateful for the assistance and our guests have been, too.

In addition to providing our guests with sandwiches, hot meals and drinks every day, we have also been able to supply them with something sweet. And thanks to the donations of a number of suppliers (and the volunteers who deliver them to us), we have also been able to offer bread on a daily basis as well as vegetables a few days a week. It makes us feel great to provide our guests with many items that they require and appreciate. Besides the food, we are also happy to be able to supply much needed toiletry items such as soap, razors, deodorant, shampoo, toothpaste, and towels, facecloths, blankets, sheets and books of fiction, all of which are much appreciated.

The staff and volunteers at the Door is Open continue to take many precautions for the safety of our guests as well as us, and we thank you for your continued thoughts and prayers. We are very grateful to you all!

IN PHOTO

Volunteer Gwen (right) with Sr. Gerlette (left) in front of mural painted by local artist

Finances

THE DOOR IS OPEN

Year ended December 31, 2020

INCOME	2020	2019
Bequests	\$1,032,611	-
Individual Donations	\$293,284	\$174,691
Charities and Societies	\$274,643	\$85,109
Corporate Gifts	\$55,300	\$12,863
Restricted	-	\$195,340
Other	\$71,239	\$175,578
Total Support and Revenue	\$1,727,076	\$643,581
EXPENSES	2020	2019
Programs	\$262,226	\$279,225
Mgmt and Admin	\$(70)	\$49,905
Facilities	\$95,201	\$248,310
Total Expenses	\$357,357	\$577,440
Net Income (Loss)	\$1,369,720	\$66,141

PRISON MINISTRY

Year ended December 31, 2020

INCOME	2020	2019
Donations	\$378	\$13,606
Total Support and Revenue	\$378	\$13,606

MEN'S HOSTEL

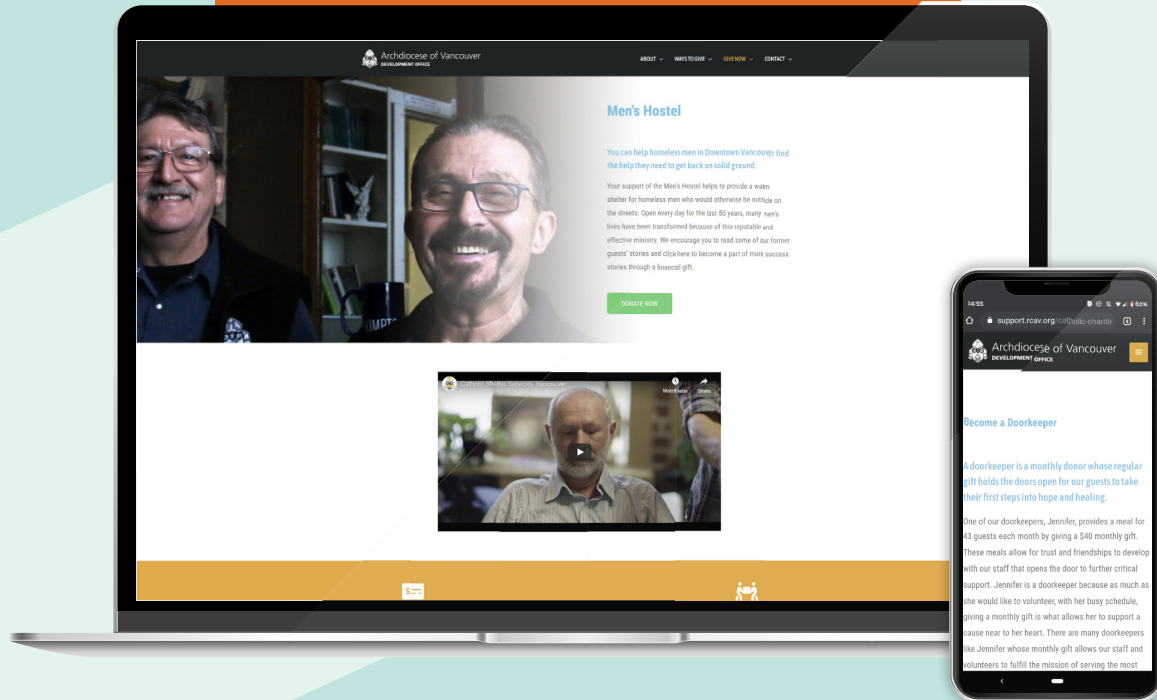
Year ended March 31, 2021

INCOME	2020	2019
Donations	\$63,101	\$58,277
BC Housing Subsidy	\$1,572,129	\$1,509,088
Grants	-	-
Total Support and Revenue	\$1,635,230	\$1,567,365
EXPENSES	2020	2019
Programs	\$1,478,442	\$1,415,780
Mgmt and Admin	\$58,993	\$58,829
Facilities	\$192,927	\$203,379
Total Expenses	\$1,730,362	\$1,677,988
Net Income (Loss)	\$(95,132)	\$(110,623)

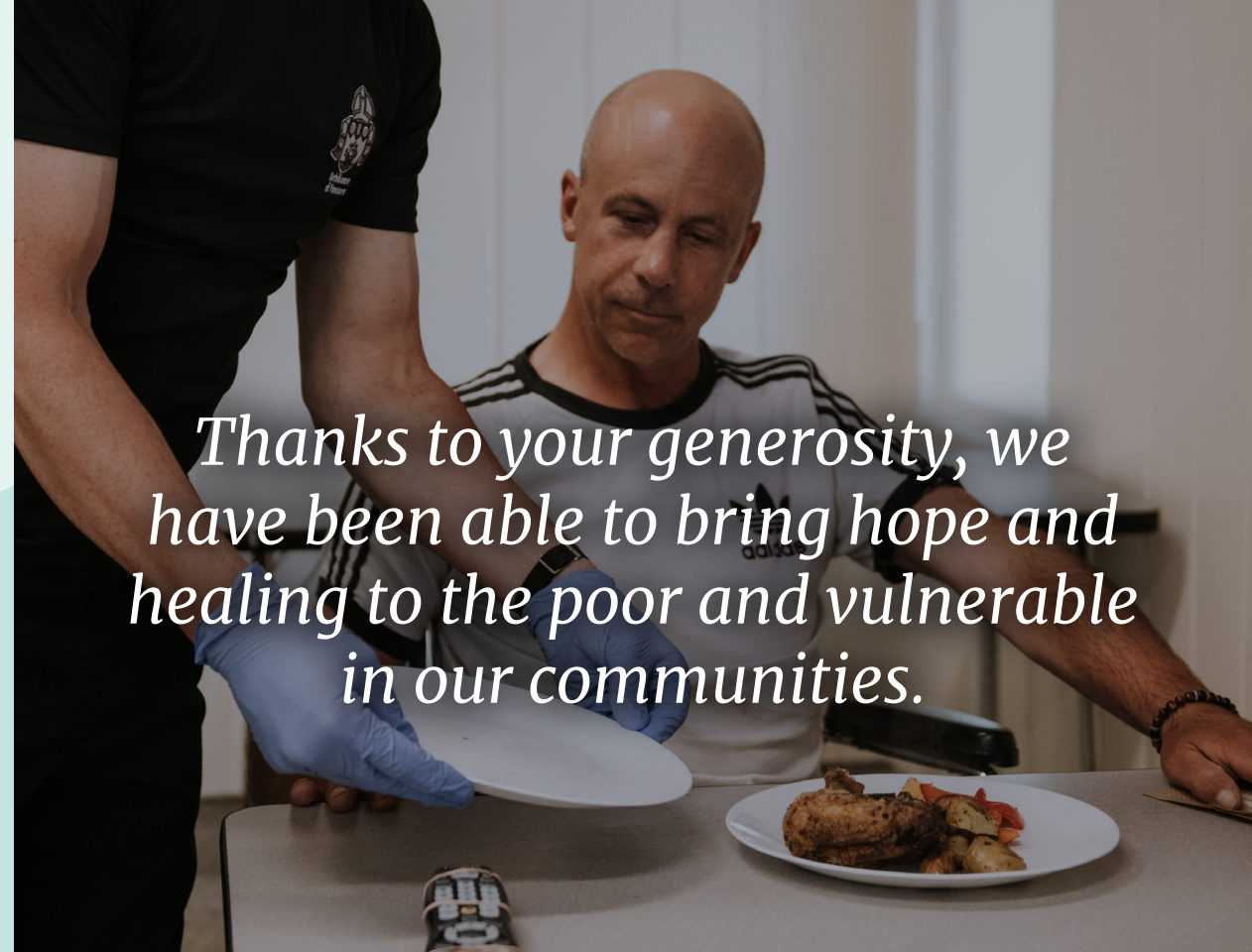
EXPENSES	2020	2019
Salary & Benefits Expenses	\$110,313	\$113,136
General & Admin Expenses	\$3,667	\$5,894
Travel Expenses	\$1,568	\$4,834
Total Expenses	\$115,548	\$123,865
Net Income (Loss)	\$(115,170)	\$(110,259)



VISIT OUR NEW WEBSITE AT
[HTTPS://SUPPORT.RCAV.ORG/CATHOLIC-CHARITIES](https://support.rcav.org/catholic-charities)



*Thanks to your generosity, we
have been able to bring hope and
healing to the poor and vulnerable
in our communities.*



**For over 60 years, you have made it possible to serve
our vulnerable brothers and sisters in Vancouver.**

Thank you for your generosity.

**CATHOLIC CHARITIES OF THE
ARCHDIOCESE OF VANCOUVER**

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