



Rossbrook House 2019-2020 Annual Report

"No child who does not want to be alone, should ever have to be"
 – Sister MacNamara

Executive Director's Report 2019-20

No child who does not want to be alone should ever have to be. Our vision has taken on even more meaning at the end of our reporting year of 2019-20. I write my report with Rossbrook's doors open 24 hours daily during this unprecedented time, dominated by closures and isolation measures because of a global pandemic. You cannot get more dramatic than that!

Still, we have settled calmly into new routines that have allowed us to keep staff and participants safe while we wait out the spread of the corona virus. Rossbrook staff, as all people working during this pandemic, have been heroic. Our supporters have been unprecedented in their generosity and caring for those who are most affected by the closures. **We cannot thank everyone enough for pulling together to make sure our doors stay open.**

The suspension of our programming to stay safe and focus on the basics has brought many older homeless youth through our doors. They seek a warm place to spend the night, something nutritious to eat, and a feeling that they are not alone. **We are grateful to play our part in being here for them.** Prior to the outbreak, our main group of participants was children and younger youth. Our programs and activities provided opportunities for them to thrive, building confidence and resilience to meet challenges along the way. We look forward to resuming our programming as restrictions are relaxed.



I can still report that all our programs and activities, right up until March 2020, happened as planned. The Learning Always afterschool program was able to get two sessions in at the St. Boniface Hospital Albrechtsen Research Centre's RBC Youth BIOLab before the closures. Our White Sash Keepers and Leadership programs took place as well as the Young Mom's Program, Lighthouses Weekend Alternatives, the drop-in Music Program, our Summer Activities Program and Camp Maskwa. There were monthly cultural outings, Pow Wow practice and annual events like: *Cold City Warm Hearts* our joint venture with friends from IRCOM, our in-house Teddy Bear's Picnic with *Children's Hospital* staff and volunteers, and of course our annual *Pow Wow* in May 2019. We also hosted our first ever community Christmas Eve Feast put on by the **Sons and Daughters of Italy**, which we hope may become an annual event.

There were regular weekly activities like Girls Night, van rides, Boys Night, ice hockey and gym games, arts and crafts and Art City programming, all anchored by daily meals and safe rides home. With 80 participants coming through the doors on a typical day, that meant somewhere in the range of 22,000 meals served and just as many safe rides home.



We are also grateful for another year of hosting three Winnipeg School Division 1 alternative school programs – Wi Wabigooni elementary, Eagles Circle junior high and Rising Sun high school. The associated administration from Victoria Albert, Hugh John MacDonald and Gordon Bell could not be more supportive of Rossbrook House and our shared commitment to the students. It was sad to see them leave early this year in March, but they have stayed in touch by virtue of the internet and we look forward to their return in the fall.

All in all it was an extraordinary ending to a beautiful year.

Phil Chiappetta
 Executive Director, Rossbrook House



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President's Report

We on the Board of Directors continue to be honored to have the opportunity to work with the children, youth and families who come to Rossbrook House. We are guided, as always, by the words of Sister Geraldine McNamara's vision; "No child who does not want to be alone should ever have to be" and the mission of Rossbrook House to provide "a safe place for children and youth to belong, play, learn and become..."



Like everyone else, Rossbrook House has been challenged by the Covid-19 pandemic. We have made adjustments as required. In the meantime, a number of our major events for the spring and summer have had to be canceled, including the annual Pow Wow, graduation celebration and our summer camps. As always, our staff and participants are coming up with innovative ways to stay open to serve our community. There have been budget challenges as well, including the 10% in our support from the city, something that many social service agencies experienced with the current city budget. However, our donors have continued to support us, especially in this difficult period.

As always we are grateful for the generous support of our many funders and supporters. These include individuals, organizations, businesses, labour groups, church groups, sports groups and our three sustaining funders the City of Winnipeg, the Province of Manitoba and the United Way of Winnipeg.

Thank you,
Denis Bracken
 President, Rossbrook House Board

Where We're At Today

The COVID-19 Pandemic has compounded the need and the challenge to serve children and youth in our community.

We've been staying open around the clock at Rossbrook House since March 20, 2020. We stay focused on the basics of food and a safe place to go when so many doors are closed. We continue to balance our need to keep the children and youth, as well as our staff and community, safe.

We rigorously practice social distancing, as well as reducing the maximum number of people in the building and increasing cleaning and hand washing protocols. We are not using the vans for rides home at this time, nor are we going on outings. As a result of these measures our numbers are manageable for a high level of safety in the building. We are seeing an average of 35 children and youth throughout the day and this includes 6-8 young adults (ages 18-24 years) staying overnight.

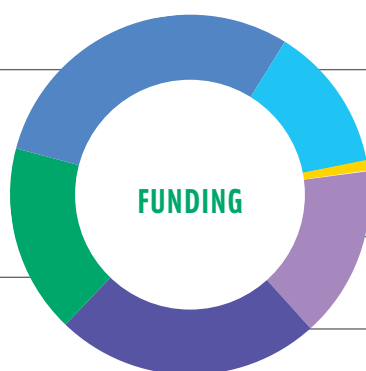
We plan to remain open 24-hours until school is back in session in September, when overnights will be weekends only. We are hoping to see further relaxation of restrictions starting in June and are planning to start up activities and outings with small groups of children at this time. As we progressively ease into providing programs and activities we feel we can still give the children and youth coming to Rossbrook House a summer holiday to remember. **We thank all of you for making this possible!**

Financial Information

Private Donors, Church Groups, Foundation & Service Clubs
\$482,036 – 30%

United Way of Winnipeg
\$275,365 – 17%

Program Staffing
\$1,245,253 – 72%

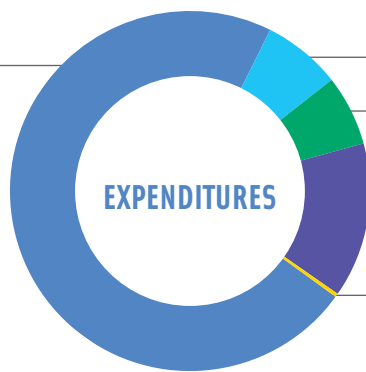


Rossbrook House Foundation **\$213,125 – 13%**

Other **\$15,235 – 1%**

City of Winnipeg **\$249,954 – 15%**

Province of Manitoba **\$386,968 – 24%**



Buildings **\$121,374 – 7%**

Administration and Communication **\$108,983 – 6%**

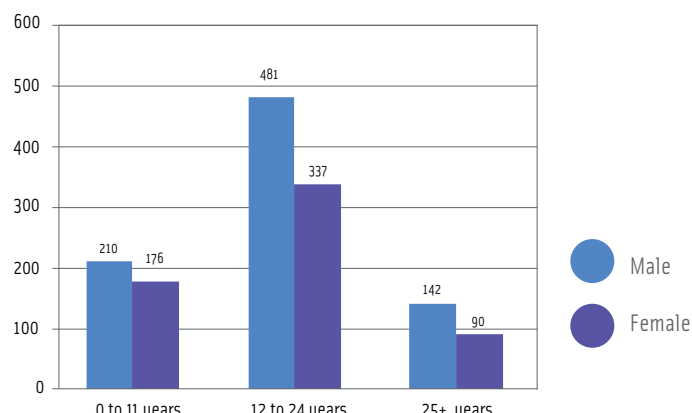
Programs & Activities **\$239,856 – 14%**

Gifts to Rossbrook House Foundation **\$5,558 – 0%**

An audited financial statement is available upon request.



ATTENDANCE





Rossbrook House & 2019-2020 Annual Report

Rossbrook House Foundation

Your support has assisted Rossbrook House in conducting its programs and operations. We couldn't have done it without you.

FRIEND \$20-\$499

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- 105 Anonymous Gifts

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- Stasa Veroukis
- 11 Anonymous Gifts



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- Unifor Local 7
- Ursuline Religious of the Diocese of London in Ontario
- W R Dick & Jean Van Walleghem
- Maureen & William Watchorn
- Jake Wolfe
- 8 Anonymous Gifts

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- Boston Pizza Foundation
- Dr Alfred E Deacon Medical Research Foundation
- Fort Garry Industries
- Mauders McNeil Foundation
- William & Rebecca O'Reilly
- Price Family Foundation
- The Wawanasa Mutual Insurance Company
- 1 Anonymous Gift

BUILDER \$10,000-\$24,999

- Keith & Alexandra Bruch
- Graham C Lourt Family Foundation Inc
- Paul & Anne Mahon
- Puchniak Family Fund-The Winnipeg Foundation
- Margaret G. Smith
- Souchay Gossen Family Foundation
- United Way Winnipeg

VISIONARY \$25,000 +

- Marie & Kirby Fontaine
- George & Carol Gamby
- Johnston Family Foundation
- Tachane Foundation Inc

BEQUESTS

- Paul Adams
- In memory of Walter George Enns
- Elsie Nykoruk

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- Susan Clubb & Tom Pundyk
- Guy & Marlene Coughlin
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- Claudette Toupin & Greg Selinger
- Bert & Linda Smith
- Terrina Taylor
- William & Maureen Watchorn
- 4 Anonymous



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rossbrookhouse.ca