

MOMENTUM

2022 IMPACT REPORT



cause we
care
FOUNDATION

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR AND EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

In 2022, Cause We Care expanded our reach and was able to support more single mothers than ever before. We have a diversified investment strategy that puts our dollars to work in the community where single mothers are seeking support. Over this past year we continued to develop our **Single Mothers Support Fund** and **Holiday Care Package** campaign, and were also excited to re-launch our **Community Grants** funding stream with a strategic focus on supporting single mothers to achieve economic security. We research and assess programs that are effectively meeting the needs of single mothers and equipping them to provide stability for their families. This past year we invested in dozens of frontline organizations, with each dollar invested filtering up to our greater objectives of improving the economic security and personal capacity of single mothers, and ensuring their children's opportunities are not restricted by financial barriers. Thanks to the generosity of our donors and volunteers, we significantly increased our fundraising revenues and were able to grow our distributions by **80%**, investing over **\$625,000** in supports for single mothers. The pressures faced by single mothers continue to be enormous, and so we remain committed in their corner, doing what we can to invest in their success. The pages of this impact report will detail our work with these resilient women over the past year, and the difference your support is making in their lives.

Andrea Thomas Hill
Founder and Chair

Shannon Newman-Bennett
Executive Director



WHAT WE DO:

VISION: Single mothers have the resources they need to achieve security and well-being for themselves and their children.

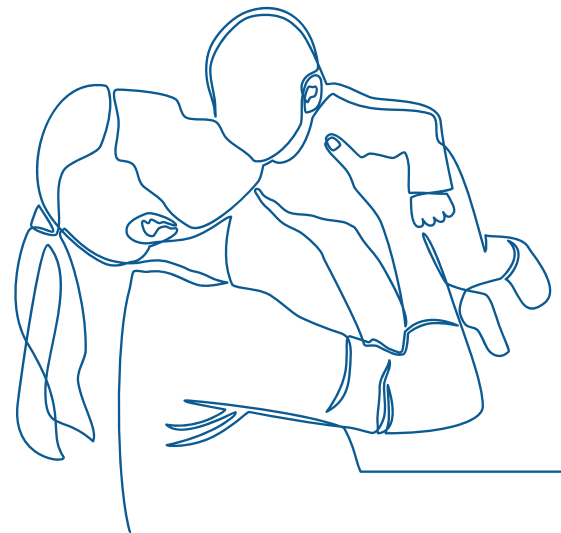
MISSION: To invest in programs and services that support single mothers to achieve security and build positive futures for themselves and their children.

GUIDING PRINCIPLES:

- We value our position as the only foundation in the Lower Mainland that is solely committed to supporting single mothers and their children.
- We have a diversified investment strategy to increase our capacity.
- We track the impact of our investments.

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES:

- Maximize our fundraising efforts to raise money.
- Invest in a range of programs and services that improve the lives of single mothers with a variety of needs.



WHY WE CARE

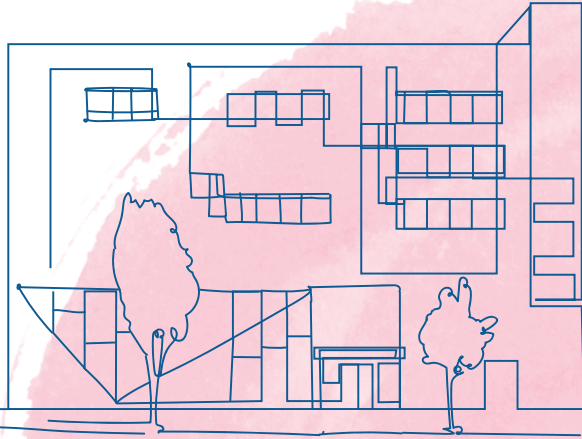
58% of children living in poverty in BC are from single parent families (2022 BC Child Poverty Report Card). There are many factors that can contribute to single mothers' poverty including gender-based pay inequity, lack of affordable childcare, lack of affordable housing, and the economic impacts of fleeing abusive relationships.

Cause We Care is the only foundation in the Lower Mainland that is solely focused on investing in and improving the lives of single mothers and their children. As the sole caregivers in their children's lives, single mothers have the motivation and the will to succeed. Cause We Care's work is in helping make the way a little bit easier for them.

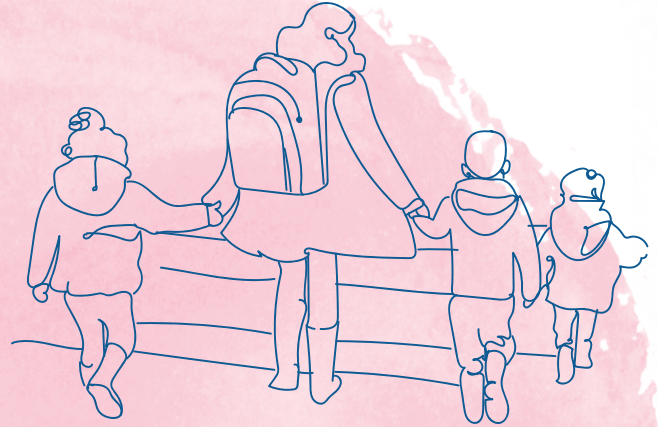
THE PATH TO ECONOMIC SECURITY

In 2022 our investments supported more than 2,700 single mothers and their children across the Lower Mainland through a variety of programs and initiatives including housing programs, support groups, childcare programs, employment training and educational grants. Together, our investments support single mothers to move along the continuum of their needs to achieve improved economic security.

Housing



Childcare



**ECONOMIC
SECURITY**



Employment



Resources

2022 BY THE NUMBERS

Community Grants distributed
to 12 frontline organizations
with a total value of
\$297,000

\$162,000
raised through the
Blue Ruby x Cause We Care
jewellery collection

OVER 1,500
single mothers served
through our Community
Grant partnerships

**25 SINGLE
MOTHERS**
benefitted from our Single
Mothers Support Fund,
with a total of
\$171,801
invested

42% INCREASE
in donations in response to
growing community need

**1200 HOLIDAY
CARE PACKAGES**
delivered to 32 frontline
organizations

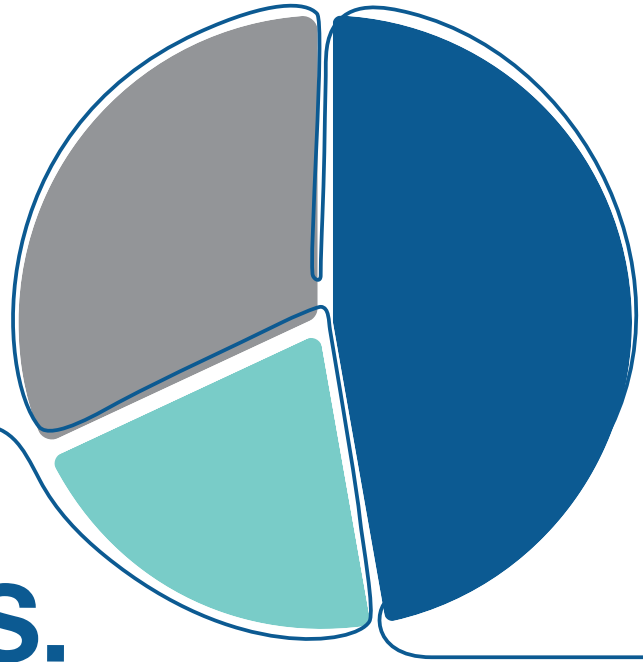
**21 SINGLE
MOTHER-LED
FAMILIES AND
35 CHILDREN**
living at Cause We Care House

DISTRIBUTION OF FUNDS

47% Community Grants

32% Single Mothers
Support Fund

21% Holiday
Care Package
Disbursement



**WE ASSESS.
WE FUNDRAISE.
WE INVEST.**

COMMUNITY GRANTS

Cause We Care is committed to investing in a variety of high-quality programs in the community that have proven effective at positively impacting the lives of single mothers and their children. Our dollars are strategically invested to meet the spectrum of needs single mothers experience on their journeys to economic independence.

Each of our Community Grant recipients must demonstrate their achievement of at least one of the following measurable outcomes:

- **Single mothers have improved economic security**
- **Single mothers have increased personal capacity**
- **Children in single mother-led families have greater opportunities and improved well-being**

IN 2022 \$298,575 WAS AWARDED TO THE FOLLWING 12 FRONTLINE ORGANIZATIONS:

Alexandra Neighbourhood House

- Childcare fee bursaries for single mothers

BabyGoRound

-Baby Gear Distribution program for single mothers

Dixon Transition Society

-Transitional Housing program for single mothers and their children

Dress For Success

-Pre-employment and job retention training for single mothers

Family Services of the North Shore

-Family Counselling program for single mother-led families

Gordon Neighbourhood House

-Single Mothers Connection program

Harvest Project

-Integrated Care Program providing food, clothing, rent support and counselling to single mothers

Kidsafe

-School based summer break programs for children of single mothers

Kitsilano Neighbourhood House

-Single Mothers Support Group

Mom2Mom

-Happy Healthy Children program providing funds to single mothers to pay for children's extracurricular activities

Tsleil-Waututh Nation Community

-Single Mothers and Grandmothers Support group

YWCA Metro Vancouver

-Single Mothers Support Services providing group and one-to-one support to single mothers

SINGLE MOTHERS SUPPORT FUND 2022

The Cause We Care Single Mothers Support Fund (SMSF) is a holistic fund supporting single mothers who are restricted by financial barriers yet have the resilience, desire, and determination to complete educational or job training programs to improve their economic security. Cause We Care has provided these grants to mothers pursuing a wide variety of careers, including social work, teaching, nursing and accounting. We ask recipients to report back on their outcomes one year post funding and results demonstrate the positive impact our investments have made in the lives of these special women: **97% have improved their education; 81% have improved financial security; 78% have improved mental health; 83% have improved opportunities for their children; 86% have improved connections to the community; and 94% have improved hopefulness for the future.**



Self reported progress from recipients 12 months post funding

WHAT OUR SINGLE MOTHERS SUPPORT FUND RECIPIENTS SAY

This is a challenging time in my life when I have to humbly ask for help. If you choose to support me at this time, know that you will be impacting the trajectory of my life, and more importantly, the trajectory of my three children's lives. Having an educated and employed mother will provide them with all the necessities to thrive on their way to becoming independent adults. This was not the life I envisioned. Losing the dream of the family I hoped for is heartbreaking and will likely take many years to accept. Yet my children are my greatest hope, they are the reason I have goals and aspirations. So, I'm finding the resilient parts of me so I can build a better future for all four of us.

Meghan, mother of 3, PhD Population and Public Health

Receiving this grant has provided a sense of renewed hopefulness that I can overcome adversity and successfully work towards a healthier reality for myself and my family - it has granted me the ability to focus more fully on being a good mom and student because of reduced financial stress. This has led to internal motivation to stay focused and on track with my educational goals.

Jenny, mother of 1, Masters of Education – Education Training

The SMSF grant made it possible for me to continue my education. I became more determined and empowered to finish this program and improve my life and my daughter's life. All my grades became better after receiving this financial help as I was less anxious and stressed out about our daily expenses. It increased the quality of the time I spent with my child and helped me sleep better. It helped me to be healthy and happy.

Carrie, mother of 1, Medical Aesthetic Diploma

On a personal level, this grant has affected my mental well-being to be under less financial stress. I've lived paycheque to paycheque for many years. Knowing that I had this support was such a boost on an emotional level. I know that I've been a better, happier mom this year because I've had this support to help me in working toward a meaningful goal. Thank you so much.

Lucie, mother of 1, Masters in Counselling

HOLIDAY CARE PACKAGE DRIVE 2022

Cause We Care, along with our generous donors and corporate partners, has been collecting donations and delivering care packages to fill the needs of families in the Lower Mainland for the past 16 years. Ours has become the largest hamper drive in the city, with over 10,000 care packages delivered to date. In December 2022, we were proud to provide 1200 single mother-led families with a brand new backpack filled with a \$100 grocery gift card, some essential grocery supplies, warm winter accessories and a few sweet treats for the family to enjoy.

Largest Hamper Drive In The City

16th

**Annual Holiday
Care Package
Drive**

1200

**Care Packages
Distributed**

32

**Frontline
Organizations
Supported**

22

**Corporate
Partners
Involved**





CAUSE WE CARE HOUSE

Cause We Care House, operated by YWCA Metro Vancouver, continues to provide safe and affordable housing to 21 single mother-led families in the Downtown Eastside. Situated above a full-service library on East Hastings Street, residents also benefit from free on-site programming and resources.

There are currently three employment programs being offered on the second floor of Cause We Care House, including the Employment Navigator program which assists women to navigate programs and services around career exploration, post-secondary education, accessing scholarships and external awards, and referring them to WorkBC funding. All of this support helps these women to develop a road map and action plan towards economic independence.



FRONTLINE ORGANIZATIONS WE SUPPORT

- Alexandra Neighbourhood House
- Act2 Safe Choice
- BabyGoRound
- Britannia Elementary & Secondary
- BC Society of Transition Houses
- Cedar Cottage Neighbourhood House
- Change the World Foundation (Harvest Project)
- Collingwood Neighbourhood House
- Cunningham & Carleton Elementary
- Developmental Disabilities Association (DDA)
- Dixon Transition Society
- Dress for Success Vancouver
- Family Services of Greater Vancouver
- Family Services North Shore
- Fraser Health Authority
- Gordon Neighbourhood House
- Grandview Łuuqinak'uuh Elementary
- Hastings Elementary School
- Kidsafe Project Society
- Kitsilano Neighbourhood House
- Kate Booth House & Esther's Place
- Mom2Mom
- North Shore Crisis Center (Sage & Hope)
- North Shore Family Services
- North Shore Neighbourhood House
- North Shore Women's Center
- Queen Alexandra Elementary
- Ray-Cam Community Center (NICCSS)
- Sardis Doorway for Mothers and Children Society
- Seymour Elementary
- Sources Community Resources Society
- Spectrum Mother's Support Society
- Strathcona Elementary
- Thunderbird Elementary
- Tillicum Annex Elementary School
- TWN Community Society (Tsleil-Waututh Nation)
- Van Tech Secondary
- Waverley Elementary
- Wenda's Place Transition House/Dixon Society
- Xpey Elementary School
- YWCA Metro Vancouver (multiple locations)



Playroom at Cause We Care House

2022 ANNUAL DONORS

PREMIER PATRON \$50,000+

- Aritzia LP
- ARON Foundation
- Blue Ruby Jewellery

VISIONARY \$25,000 - \$49,999

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- Herschel Supply Co.
- Robert Disbrow
- Haywood Securities Inc.

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

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- Stuart Rowles
- Wendy Epp



THANK YOU

It takes a dedicated team to ensure Cause We Care is able to help single mothers gain MOMentum towards economic security. We could not have achieved the results we have over the past year without the commitment of our volunteers and donors. Thank you to each of you who have supported our work and, in doing so, contributed to the success of single mothers in our community.

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