

2018



Annual Report



Thanks to *you*, our work changes lives. Read on to learn more:

Meal Program Profile	3
Community Help Desk Program Profile	4
2018 Audited Financials	6
Thank You to Donors	8
Major Contributor Acknowledgments	back cover



Board of Directors 2018:

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Message From Leadership

Dear Friends,

2018 was a year of deep reflection and planning. We engaged in intense sessions, reviewing and optimizing internal processes, administration, and programs. This culminated in a clarified vision, mission, and values – to seek a just society by nurturing each person’s spirit through ministry, housing, advocacy, and community services.

To this end, we completed much-needed renovations to the Community Help Desk, the men’s public showers, and the kitchen. Doing so reinforced for us that our building is at the end of its useful life. This has moved us to take advantage of unprecedented opportunities to partner with all three levels of government to build a new facility on our current site. We are excited to share that pre-development plans are well underway, and look forward to sharing updates as this work matures.

In the meantime, our programs continue to serve the people in our community, including at-risk populations and those with co-occurring conditions – more on this on pages 3 and 4.

Despite the perception that society over-invests in our community, the reality is the systemic barriers to overcoming these multiple challenges are becoming more entrenched. One of the strengths of First United is our relationships – both with the communities on the Downtown Eastside and with the communities who support our work. We thank you for your continued support – we truly couldn’t do what we do without you, our donors, supporters, and volunteers.

Yours in faith,



The Rev. Dr. Carmen Lansdowne
Executive Director



Stan Lanyon
President, Board of Directors


\$476,153

 PROGRAM
COST

\$2.95

COST PER MEAL

\$7,956

 MEAL
SPONSORSHIPS

161,300

 MEALS
SERVED


Meal Program Profile

Hot and healthy meals are essential year-round. In 2018, our meal program continued its decades-long commitment to provide over 150,000 healthy and tasty meals for Downtown Eastside community members. These are more than just meals, though. These daily rituals offer them the opportunity to meet with friends and neighbours, connect with First United staff, and, importantly, are an entry point to our additional programs and services.

In the afternoon we also offer 'teatime'. This year, 24,576 people joined us for a break from the street complete with refreshments and the

option of participating in a fun activity. Whether it's a few rounds of karaoke, a movie projected on our massive kitchen wall, or a rousing game of cards, afternoon programming aims to introduce a bit of playfulness into what are otherwise long, hard days for many.

Thank you to everyone – our meal sponsors, donors, volunteers, community members, and staff – for making this program and the drop-in such a welcoming, healthy space for so many.

“ In a prosperous city like Vancouver, we forget that we have people right here, not having their needs met. ”

– Dilpreet Gill and the Gill Family

2018 meal sponsors





Community Help Desk Program Profile

The Community Help Desk provides immediate emergency services for those in crisis as well as wrap-around services for those who seek to stabilize their living conditions. The team of staff and volunteers serve hundreds of people every day, providing crucial overdose prevention supplies, referrals to housing and legal supports in and beyond First United, and important basics, like socks and band aids. It's also a place where community members who are no longer in need of our services continue to stop by to say "Hello" or even for a volunteer shift to help out the program.

4

“ While our other programs provide services like housing, legal advocacy, and nourishment, the community help desk is designed to cover just about everything in between. ”

With the help of our funders, sponsors, and people across the province contributing a range of financial and in-kind supports to the program, we're making socks, pet food, deodorant, and so much more available to the hundreds of individuals, families, and furry friends that come through our doors each year.

\$95,417

PROGRAM COST

TOP 5 MOST REQUESTED ITEMS AT THE COMMUNITY HELP DESK

TOOTHBRUSHES

SHAMPOO

TOWELS

RAZORS

SOCKS

5





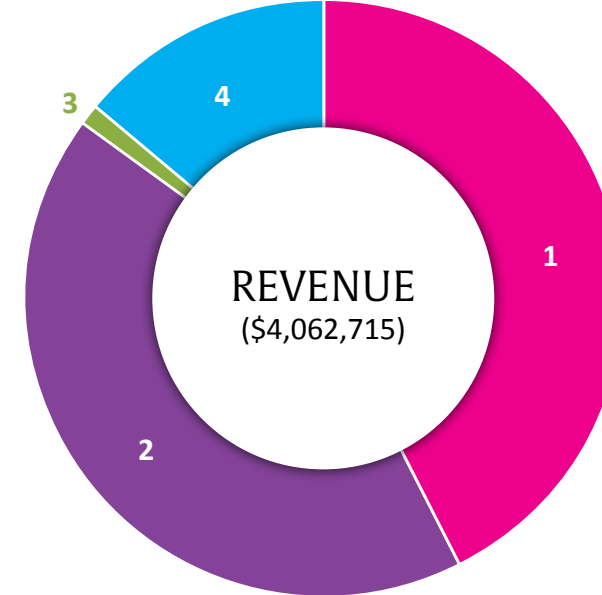
6



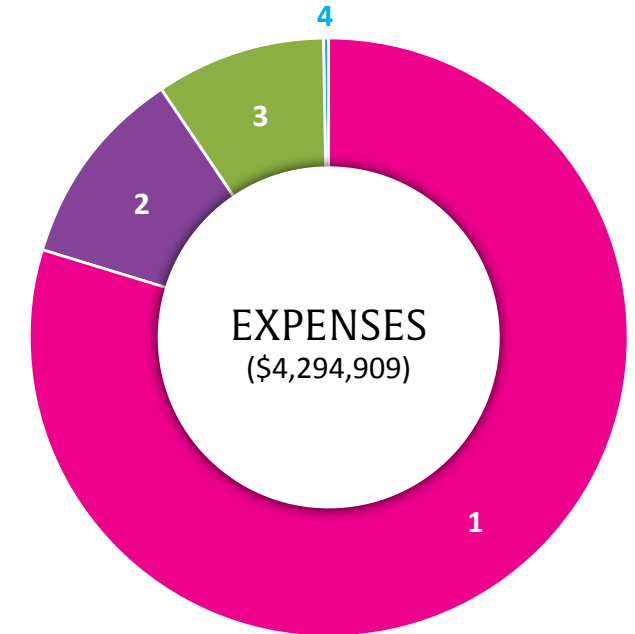
2018 Audited Financials

REVENUE	
Donations & Grants	\$1,743,619
Government Funding	\$1,741,961
Interest Income	\$ 32,511
Other	\$ 544,624
TOTAL REVENUE	\$4,062,715

EXPENSES	
Salaries & Wages	\$3,016,432
Programs	\$1,137,719
Amortization	\$ 140,758
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$4,294,909



- 1 Donations & Grants - 43%
- 2 Government Funding - 43%
- 3 Interest Income - 1%
- 4 Other - 14%



- 1 Charitable Activities - 80%
- 2 Fundraising & Communications - 11%
- 3 Management & Administration - 9%
- 4 Other - 0.2%

7



Thank You to Our Monthly Donors

Our monthly giving program, Frontline Monthly Donors, is a convenient, secure way to support First United on an ongoing basis. If you are someone in the habit of supporting us on an annual basis, consider joining the 348 donors who spread their gift throughout the year. To our Frontline Donors – thank you! Your monthly support continues to bring stability to our programming and precision to our budgets.

348
TOTAL
FRONTLINE
DONORS

\$40
AVERAGE
GIFT

16
NEW MONTHLY
DONORS IN 2018



Thank You to Our Meal Sponsors

Baker Tilly WM LLP

The Blue Horizon Hotel

David Nairne and Associates Limited

Khalsa Credit Union

Ms. Mahsa Momenzadeh

Odlum Brown Limited

Richmond Steel Recycling Limited

Robert Allan Limited

Softlanding Solutions Incorporated

Vancity Savings Credit Union

Wells Fargo Bank

And two anonymous sponsors

1,717
DONORS

1,524
FINANCIAL
GIFTS

8



Friends of First are those who have decided to leave a gift to First United in their will.

Thank You to Our *Friends Of First* Supporters

Arthur Adamson

Lorraine Beckett

Florence & Robert Brownridge

Bob Burrows

Dr. Heather Clarke

Jan & Joan Drabek

Colleen Dunn

Don Evans

Ken & Joan Fowler

Doreen Gardner Brown

Ian & Billie Housego

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Jack & Nancy Jefferson

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Jean & Lawrence Matrick

Bob Miller & Barbara Rendell

Janet Reid

Rae Rennie

Brian & Heather Smith

Daphne & Gordon Squire

Gordon H. Tolman

Floyd C. Wartnow

And 24 anonymous Friends

Special thanks to all the local congregations, religious, and other community groups who have supported us over the years by volunteering to prepare and serve meals onsite and donate sandwiches.



195
IN-KIND
GIFTS

9

Organizations Contributing \$10,000 or More

BC Housing

Blue Sea Philanthropy Inc.

Catherine Donnelly Foundation

Charles Johnson Charitable Fund

City of Vancouver

Connor, Clark & Lunn Foundation

Face the World Foundation

Government of Canada

Greater Vancouver Food Bank

Hockey Helps the Homeless

The Law Foundation of British Columbia

Lotte & John Hecht Memorial Foundation

Seedlings Foundation

United Church of Canada

UFCW local 1518

Alma VanDusen Fund, Lightburn

Family Fund, & The McGrane-Pearson
Endowment Fund, held at Vancouver
Foundation



We have done our best to include all our donors. If we have made a mistake, please contact us at 604.681.8365 ext. 123.



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