



2019 ANNUAL REPORT

Catholic Charities



You brought hope!

THANK YOU for being a part of our family of donors and volunteers. Your support brought hope to the most vulnerable in the Downtown Eastside of Vancouver.

In 2019, the Men's Hostel celebrated their 60th anniversary of providing overnight stays and support for men experiencing homelessness. This past year, they provided 44,000 stays.

The Door is Open continued to expand their women's grief support group and served over 107,000 meals in 2019. I hope that the stories in this annual report provide you with inspiration and encouragement.

Thank you for extending a hand of mercy to our brothers and sisters in the Downtown Eastside.



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 HOSTEL

The Catholic Charities Men's Hostel provides shelter for transient or destitute men, modelling the caring and compassionate spirit of Jesus Christ.

IN PHOTOS

Top Photo:

Volunteers in the kitchen at The Door is Open preparing a nutritious lunch.

Bottom Photo:

Thanksgiving lunch being served at the Men's Hostel.



In 2019, at The Door Is Open, you provided:



107,000
meals

58
breakfasts

305
lunches

25
dinners

Your impact at the Men's Hostel:



44,000
overnight stays

1,998
unique guests

99.05%
occupancy



40,106
meals served



7,123
winter emergency
stays

6,105
winter emergency
meals

Thank you volunteers!

A **RCHBISHOP MILLER** presented certificates to several longtime volunteers at The Door Is Open on Dec. 4 for their “faithful dedication and outstanding service” to the poor.

We would like to recognize the following volunteers:

20+ YEARS

Cheryl Giustra, Kwanwoo Lee

15+ YEARS

Soon Deok An, Chong Seok Moon, Kwi Ja Kown,
Songhi Lee, Suzanne Vipond, Won Gil Ahn

10+ YEARS

Hyang Min Park, Soon Ja Chae, Junghan Cha,
Hysunsoo Park, Vanesse Ling, Hun Kim,
Soon Young Kim, Gyu Ho Kim, Jung Ja Kim,
Soon Ja Lee, Raymond Kim, Chang Sun Lee,
Soyoung Min, Vanesse Forsythe, Gillian Forsythe,
and Lorna Fan

Thank you to all our volunteers who have served over the years.

Learn more at <https://support.rcav.org/>



IN PHOTO

Archbishop Miller with The
Door Is Open volunteers.



Sustainable products donated to The Door Is Open

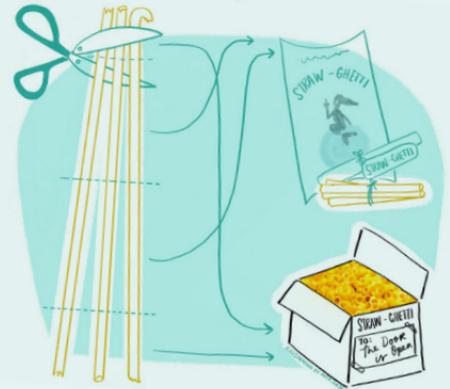
OWNERS OF A START-UP company in Coquitlam called ‘Straw-Ghetti’ have discovered cutting down on plastic isn’t just good for the environment; it can directly help the poor and homeless too. The company imports Italian pasta, cuts it to size, and sells it as an eco-friendly substitute for plastic straws.

But cutting raw pasta down to cocktail or regular straw sizes results in a lot of excess pasta. In 2019, hundreds of pounds of this pasta was donated to The Door is Open.

The pasta was put to good use and fed hundreds of guests. This is just one example of a local company providing both sustainable and healthy products to The Door Is Open.

IN PHOTO

On left: Straw-Ghetti owners Vanessa Braschia and Cory Melville donate 50 pounds of pasta to The Door is Open (co-manager Frances Cabahug on right). (Photo by Agnieszka Ruck; illustrated diagram by Inca Siojo)



A photograph of Keith Ostertag, a man with glasses and a dark jacket, standing in a hospital hallway. He is looking towards the right. The hallway features a long row of grey lockers on the left, with the number '11' visible on one of them. In the background, there are hospital beds with blue covers and windows. The lighting is soft and indoor.

“I love doing this kind of work,
it’s God’s work.”

KEITH OSTERTAG

60 years of sheltering the homeless

IN 2019, The Men's Hostel celebrated nearly 22,000 nights of offering warm, safe places for homeless men to sleep.

The hostel first opened its doors in 1959 during a sudden winter storm. Within three days an empty third floor of a warehouse was turned into a furnished shelter with eight staff and 60 beds. Originally named the St. Francis Hostel, the Men's Hostel has never lost sight of its mission of serving some of Vancouver's most needy, no matter what their background or religion, in the spirit of St. Francis.

Thanks to your support, the Hostel has now grown to have 125 beds and works with their guests to set goals, like saving money or finding stable housing. Thank you.

IN PHOTOS

On left: Keith Ostertag tours Catholic Charities Men's Hostel on Cambie Street. Above: A staff member making a bed at the men's hostel in an undated photo. The hostel also offers showers, hair cuts, laundry, and other services. (Photo credits: Agnieszka Ruck and RCAV Archives)



A photograph of three men in a kitchen. The man on the left is wearing a grey t-shirt and a blue apron with a logo. The man in the middle is wearing a black t-shirt and a blue apron with the text 'Columbus Power & Light Co.' and 'Rights of Co'. The man on the right is wearing a red and white checkered polo shirt and is stirring a large pot on a stove with a wooden spoon. The background shows kitchen equipment and shelves.

“We reduced our waste going to the landfills by two thirds.”

SCOTT SMALL

Caring for the planet

FRANCES CABAHUG, co-manager at The Door is Open, noted that “Ever since the Pope’s encyclical came out all about our common earth, our common home ... we’ve transitioned from Styrofoam cups and plastic cups to compostable cups, bowls, paper plates, and compostable spoons and forks.”

Similarly, at the Men’s Hostel, by abandoning single-use items, Director Scott Small highlighted that they “reduced [their] waste going to the landfill by two thirds.” In a decade, the hostel has gone from three dumpsters’ worth of trash per week to one because they made the switch to ceramic mugs and biodegradable cutlery.

The initial cost of eco-friendly alternatives is higher, but actually saves money in the long run. For example, buying and maintaining a dishwasher for thousands of ceramic mugs at the Men’s Hostel has cost \$12,000 over the last 10 years, but it has saved the \$3,500 per year that used to be spent on Styrofoam.

IN PHOTO

A volunteer at the Men’s Hostel preparing ceramic mugs for washing.



Finances

THE DOOR IS OPEN *Year ended December 31, 2019*

INCOME	2019	2018
Individual Donations	\$174,691	\$278,360
Charities and Societies	\$85,109	\$96,689
Corporate Gifts	\$12,863	\$42,962
Restricted	\$195,340	
Other (Rental and Interest)	\$91,128	\$47,815
TOTAL SUPPORT AND REVENUE	\$559,131	\$465,826

EXPENSES	2019	2018
Programs	\$279,225	\$293,357
Management and Administration	\$49,905	\$55,609
Building Renovation		
Facilities	\$248,310	\$151,351
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$577,440	\$500,317
NET INCOME (LOSS)	\$(18,309)	\$(34,491)

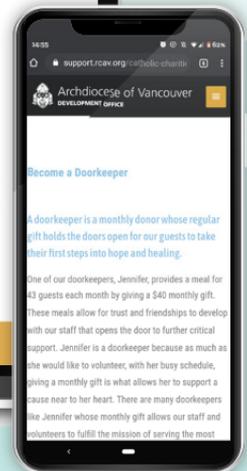
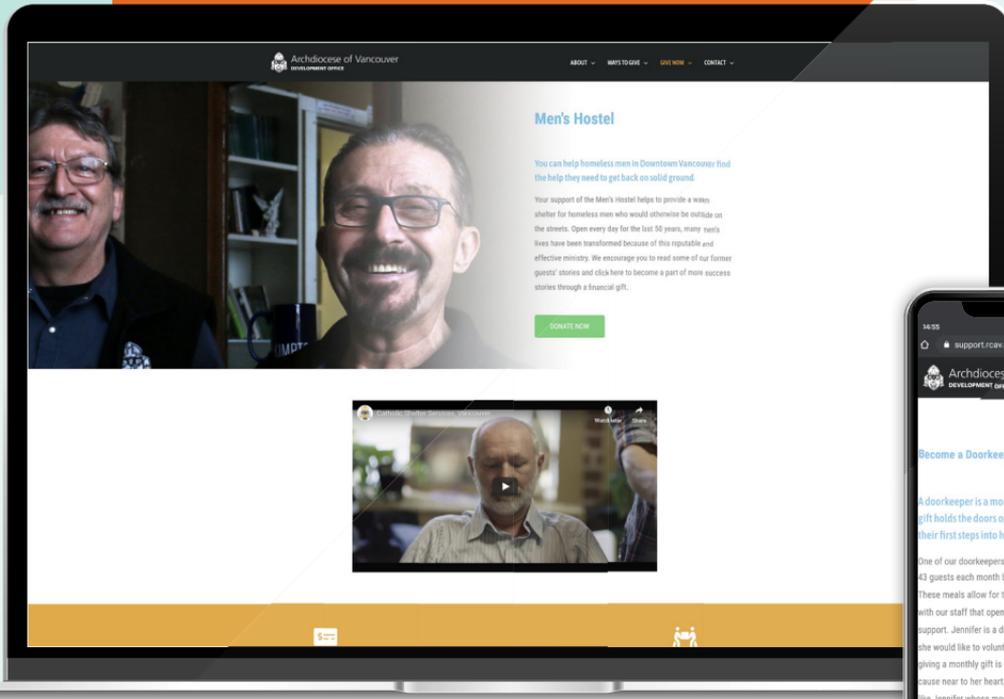
MEN'S HOSTEL *Year ended March 31, 2020*

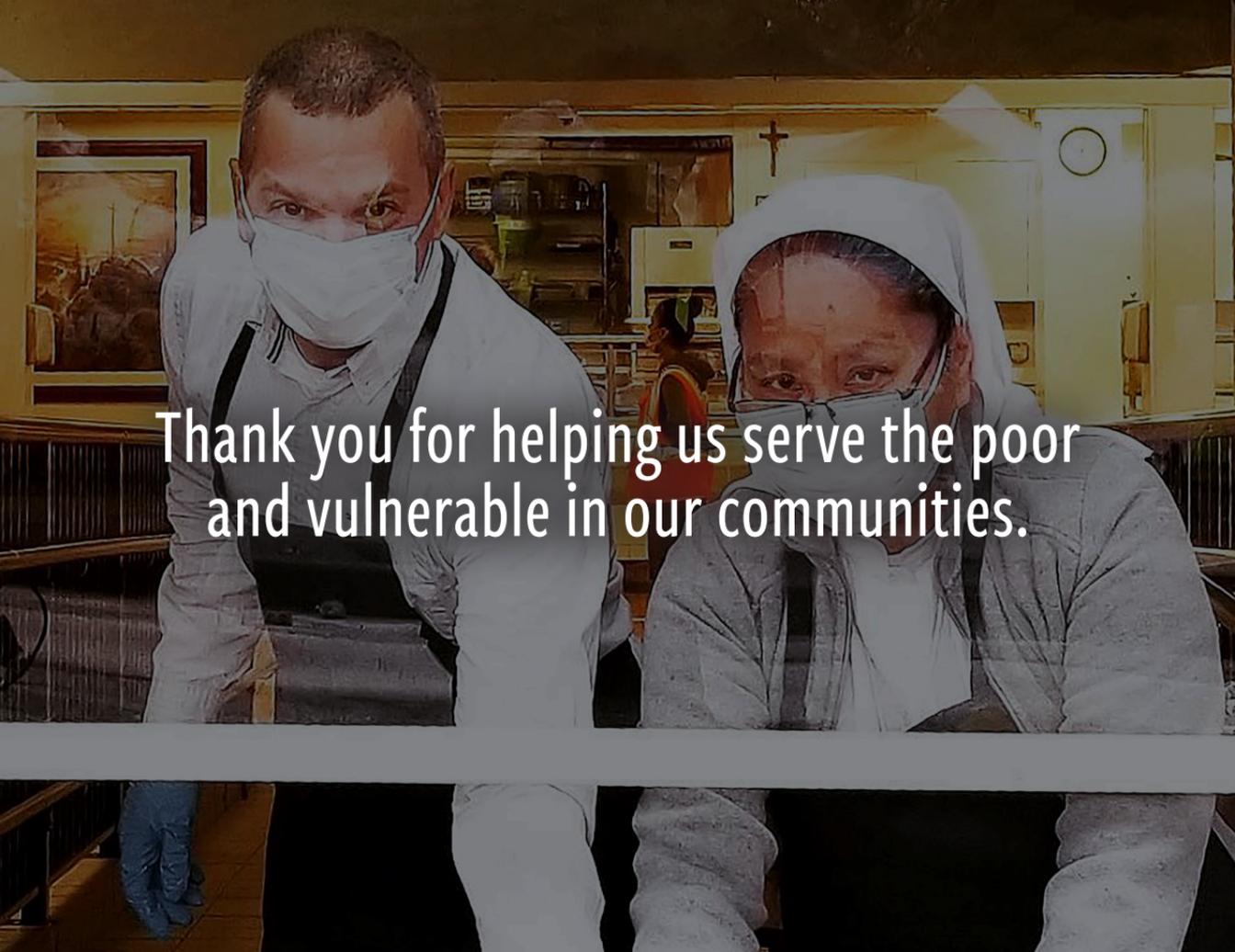
INCOME	2020	2019
Tax Received Donations	\$54,832	\$48,466
Non Tax Received Donations	\$2,297	\$9,811
Restricted Donations	\$6,000	
BC Housing Extreme Weather	\$224,286	\$169,956
BC Housing Annual Contract	\$1,347,843	\$1,339,132
TOTAL SUPPORT AND REVENUE	\$1,635,258	\$1,567,365

EXPENSES	2020	2019
Programs	\$1,592,639	\$1,381,264
Management and Administration	\$96,038	\$97,924
Building Renovations		
Facilities	\$190,346	\$198,800
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$1,879,023	\$1,677,988
NET INCOME (LOSS)	\$(243,765)	\$(110,623)

*The Archdiocese of Vancouver covers the deficit for both The Door Is Open and the Men's Hostel.

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



A photograph of two individuals in a kitchen or food service area. On the left, a man with short hair, wearing a white surgical mask and a white apron over a light-colored shirt, looks directly at the camera. On the right, a woman wearing a white head covering, glasses, and a white apron over a light-colored shirt also looks at the camera. The background shows a kitchen with stainless steel counters, a sink, and a wooden railing. A framed picture hangs on the wall to the left, and a cross is visible on the wall in the background. The overall lighting is warm and indoor.

Thank you for helping us serve 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.

THE DOOR IS OPEN

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Archdiocese of Vancouver
DEVELOPMENT OFFICE