



ANNUAL **REPORT** **2024**



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About L'Arche Calgary

L'Arche Calgary is a part of an international Federation, with 160 communities in 37 countries worldwide.

L'Arche Calgary was founded in 1973.

51 years ago in August 1973 the first ever L'Arche Calgary home, called Marymount, was established and thus began the journey!

These past 51 years have been filled with memories, joy, celebration, beautiful traditions, meaningful relationships, countless milestones and so much love!

Over the many years, L'Arche Calgary has welcomed hundreds of beautiful people including, assistants, core-members, friends, family members, volunteers, and each person has left a unique imprint on this community that we will always remember and cherish.

Over the last 51 years we have grown to be 5 houses, a Day Program (Tamarack Day Program) and a Supported Independent Living Program (SILP).

In our houses - [Annapurna](#), [Haeremai](#), [Kichiyak](#), [Marymount](#), and [Villa Maria](#) - core-members live alongside assistants who join us from all over the world. Each house is unique, just like its inhabitants. People with and without intellectual disabilities experience the rhythms of daily life alongside one another.



Whether sharing supper on a typical Tuesday or going out to celebrate a special occasion, our family model of care allows us to build trust and mutual relationship.

Our **Tamarack Day Program** provides engaging programs and activities for Core Members from Monday to Friday. Our individualized approach ensures that each person's day is relevant to their goals, interests, and needs. Assistants provide support both on-site and on community outings, from music therapy to baking, there is something for everyone at Tamarack.

Our **Support Independent Living Program (SILP)** is designed to help core-members to live independently while receiving the support they need. Core members receive assistance ranging from occasional visits to regular help with daily tasks as meal preparation, transportation, and medical administration. This program enhances their personal, social, and spiritual well-being, promoting independence and their integration in the broader community.



Our Identity

Vision

- Mutual care, respect, and compassion between people with and without disabilities.
- Sharing ordinary, daily life with all its joys and sorrows.
- Living, working, learning, and celebrating together in communities of belonging.
- Transforming our lives as we embrace our gifts and imperfections.
- Recognizing that we need each other and are better together
- A model of inclusion, a way of peace, and a sign of hope for our world.

Mission

Make known the gifts of people with intellectual disabilities, revealed through mutually transforming relationships.

Foster an environment in community that responds to the changing dreams and needs of our members while being faithful to the vision and core value of our founding story.

Engage in our diverse cultures, working together towards a more human society.

Values

Creating a vibrant community celebrating the value of each person building mutual relationships.

Journeying together nurturing our gifts and growth having a valued role sharing spirituality living a life of Joy shaping a more Human Society

Word from our Community Leader

This year marks the 50th anniversary of L'Arche Calgary. It all began when Emile Lemire, our founding Core Member, joined Pat and Jo Lenon and their family; the day was August 13th, 1973.

Since then, the community has seen many transitions, enormous growth, a vast number of opportunities changes and, and countless moments of joy, sadness, celebrations, and laughter in all our homes and programs. These are small moments of daily life that spark hope. A hope that is rooted in a vision of shaping a kinder and more sustainable society through simple actions of vulnerability, acceptance, care, and celebration.



Ani Hynes

Community leader

This past year, our community has overcome many challenges. We have been successful in securing better governmental funding for all our homes, we are better equipped to have bigger teams and to support and carry out our core members' needs in their daily lives. We welcome new people to our teams and collectively start conversations around our needs for future growth and development. We also assessed our community's practices around our traditions and spiritual practices. We have open conversations and seek to find our true selves. We recognize that our voices matter and when we are appreciated for our uniqueness, supported to grow, and able to accept and share our gifts and limitations, we find our places of belonging in our community. But the first step is having the desire and wanting to be wholehearted present here and now. It is vital for us to name and address areas that require work (individually and collectively) to ensure we are rooted in our core values, and we continue to stay a healthy, vibrant, intentional, and inclusive community.

As I reflect on our collective journey, I am reminded of our intentions and habits. Our habits reveal what we love because we repeatedly pay attention to the things, we value most.

"Small choices become actions, actions become habits, and habits become our way of life."

While the choices we make every day may seem small, they add up to tell the larger story of how we have chosen to live, and the feeling that we belong here in L'Arche is the fundamental element that inspires action.

Ani Hynes

Word from our Board President

As I reflect on my first year as Board President, we have much to be thankful for and to celebrate within our L'Arche community. First and foremost, I would like to extend our deepest gratitude to our past board chair, Mike Doty, for his dedicated service over the last five years in both his capacity as a Board Member, our Chair, and Past Chair. His leadership and hard work have been instrumental in guiding us through very challenging times and positioning us for future success. Thank you, Mike, for your unwavering commitment and passion for our mission and mandate.



Maureen Ross

Board president

This past year has been a period of renewal and growth for our community as we have resumed many of our beloved activities now that the Covid-19 pandemic is behind us. It has been heartwarming to see our core members re-engage with the programs and events that bring joy and meaning to their lives. From candle making and music therapy to community outings and celebrations, the vibrancy of our community has truly been restored. I am grateful to see our community flourish and be a visible testament to the gifts and talents they have been given to be shared in the Calgary community once again.

We are also excited to welcome new assistants and staff to the leadership team. Their fresh perspectives and enthusiasm are already making a positive impact, and we look forward to the contributions they will bring to our community. Their arrival marks continued renewal for L'Arche, one filled with promise and potential.

highlight of this year has been our large fundraising run, which was an incredible success. Thanks to the hard work of our participants, volunteers, and supporters, we raised \$60,000, which will directly benefit our core members and their programming needs. In our current economic times, this achievement is a testament to the strength and generosity of our community, and it will significantly support our programs and initiatives. We are continually grateful to our donors- new and long-term- for their confidence in L'Arche Calgary as worthy of their time, talent, and treasure. I often say that L'Arche Calgary is a hidden gem in our city and we look forward to the day that everyone knows and shares this gift in our little southwest community.



Word from our Board President suite...

While we have made great strides in promoting and celebrating the successes of L'Arche Calgary, additional funding is necessary to ensure that we can provide the highest level of care and support for our core members' changing needs and growth. These additional supports are essential as we strive to meet these needs and uphold the values of compassion, dignity, and inclusion that define L'Arche. Our western regional team continues to foster open communication and ties with all levels of government and we look forward to working together to create that more human connection for which we all strive.

Thank you all for your unwavering support and dedication to our L'Arche community. We continue to celebrate the unique value of every person and recognize our need for one another in this beautiful journey called life.

With heartfelt gratitude,

Maureen Ross

Our generous donors

*"Giving is not just about making a donation.
Is it about making a difference."*

Kathy Calvin

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We extend our sincere gratitude to each individual and organization that has supported us over the past year. Every donation makes a difference and enables our work.

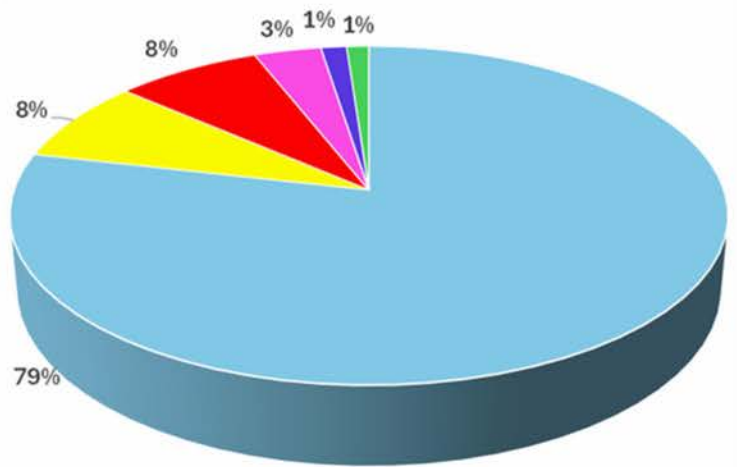
Due to limited space, we are unable to list all of ours supporters here. However, we would like to acknowledge the generosity of the following Foundations, Corporations, and Organizations



The Latest Numbers

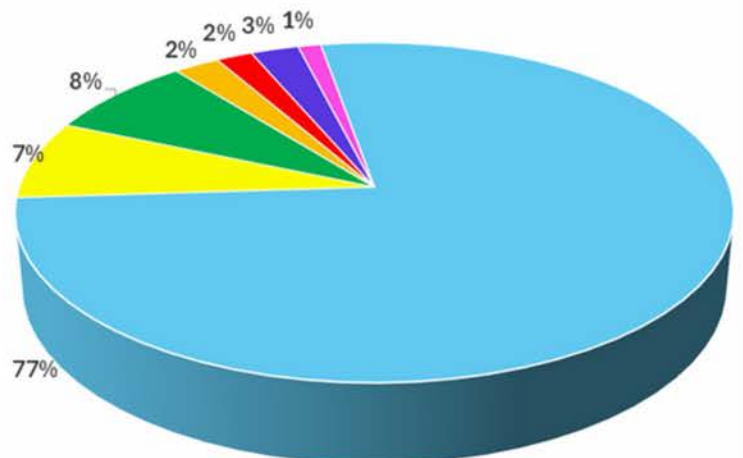
Revenues

PDD Contracts		\$ 3,931,144
Donations & Fundraising		\$ 392,169
Room & Board		\$ 381,246
Seniors Housing		\$ 174,100
Investment Income		\$ 67,017
Other		\$ 57,830
TOTAL		\$ 5,003,506



Expenses

Salaries, Benefits & Personnel	\$ 3,775,395
Program Expenses	\$ 367,213
Building Expenses	\$ 384,290
Professional Fees	\$ 117,231
Memberships & Trainings	\$ 93,044
Administration	\$ 122,411
Property Amortization	\$ 57,963
TOTAL	\$ 4,917,547



Meet Christian

Our New Funding and Development Coordinator.



Christian's journey with L'Arche Calgary began more than ten years ago when he joined as a Day Program Assistant. Growing up with a sister with a disability, he has always held a deep appreciation for L'Arche's model of care, which provides an environment where participants are cherished and supported, allowing their families peace of mind. Reflecting on his time at L'Arche, Christian says, "L'Arche is a place where our core members can truly feel at home."

Christian's path has been diverse and full of exploration. Initially, he pursued nursing at the University of Calgary, driven by a desire to care for others and make a meaningful impact. However, his journey took him through various disciplines, including geology, civil engineering, and software engineering, before he ultimately graduated with a degree in communications and media studies. Throughout these changes, Christian remained connected to L'Arche, spending weekend nights as Annapurna's awake overnight assistant, and continually drawn back to the community he deeply cared about.

In addition to his work at L'Arche, Christian has gained extensive experience in advertising, marketing, and sales, primarily working with startups. His roles in these fields allowed him to develop a diverse skill set, but he always felt something was missing. He realized that while he was successful, he lacked a true sense of purpose. "In my previous positions, I often felt like I was just going through the motions," Christian shares. "I was unsure of exactly why I was doing what I was doing. Returning to L'Arche allowed me to use my skills for a cause I genuinely believe in."

Christian's role as the Fundraising and Development Coordinator at L'Arche Calgary is a perfect blend of his professional expertise and personal passion. He is dedicated to ensuring that L'Arche continues to thrive and provide exceptional care to its core members. His unique perspective as a sibling of a person with a disability informs his approach, making him deeply empathetic and committed to the mission of L'Arche.

Reflecting on his journey and his new role, Christian says, "I believe it's essential to have faith in your work and to pursue what truly matters.. Growing up with a sister with a disability, I've seen firsthand how harsh the world can be for the vulnerable. To me, L'Arche is a breath of fresh air—a place where kindness is given, appreciated, and reciprocated, not something to be taken for granted."

One of the significant challenges L'Arche faces in the coming months is rebuilding three of its homes. This project will require the dedication and support of the entire community. Christian, along with the L'Arche Calgary team, is committed to contributing to these efforts with passion and determination, fully aware of the challenges ahead. Though the task is substantial, Christian and the entire community are confident in taking it on together, supported by the strong spirit of unity and collaboration that defines L'Arche.

Highlight

Acera Insurance Run for L'Arche



The spectacular annual fundraising Acera Insurance Run for L'Arche unfolded on April 6th at the enchanting St. Patrick Island, where we joyously welcomed 315 eager runners and 60 dedicated volunteers.

Together we were able to raise around \$60,000, all thanks to the incredible generosity of our donors.

**Thank you !
to all Runners,
Supporters, Donors,
Sponsors, Partners, and
our Stampedeers
Cody Grace run starter!
We couldn't have done
any of this without your
support!**



\$ 60,000

Remember

Duncan CHUTE

born on 28th of April 1957 In Edmonton.



Duncan lived with his family until he moved into a residence with the Calgary Association for the mentally Handicapped where he was reportedly unhappy. Duncan arrived to L'Arche Calgary for a brief stay in Villa Maria in 1979 but returned home due to relationship problems.

Duncan was formally welcome into L'Arche on January 13th, 1981. During his 42 years in L'Arche Calgary Duncan lived in Marymount, Annapurna and moved to SILP.

Duncan was caring, thoughtful and kind-hearted. He treated everyone with respect and sensitivity and took a personal interest in people's lives and families. He paid attention to others and was very intuitive as to what people's concerns and needs were, so that he could inquire after them. He had a witty, observant sense of humour and made people laugh. Duncan loved a good party and enjoyed singing and dancing. He never shied away from the spotlight and was an entertaining performer and public speaker. His signature song was, "What A Wonderful World" and his impersonation of Louis Armstrong always put a smile on people's faces.

"What a wonderful world"



Remember

Lorna ENZIE

born on 1st February 1957 in Trochu.



Lorna lived at home with her family until 1965, she had two brothers and two sisters whom she loved.

In 1965 she moved to Michener Center for five years. She return home between 1970 to 1972, and went back to Michener Center until 1993, when she moved to live with a supportive roommate, Nicole Young.

Lorna was welcomed into the L'Arche Day Program on June 26th, 1995.

Lorna had been a faithful member of our L'Arche Day Program for over 28 years.

We remember her beautiful personality, especially her smiles and gentleness, her good sense of humor, her passion towards coffee and money, and she was always excited about her birthday.

Lorna enjoyed going on outings, especially shopping.

Her eyes would light up when she showed happiness.

She always had a big smile when talking about her family. Her family was very important to her.



"money, coffee, shopping"





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