



# 2021 | ANNUAL REPORT



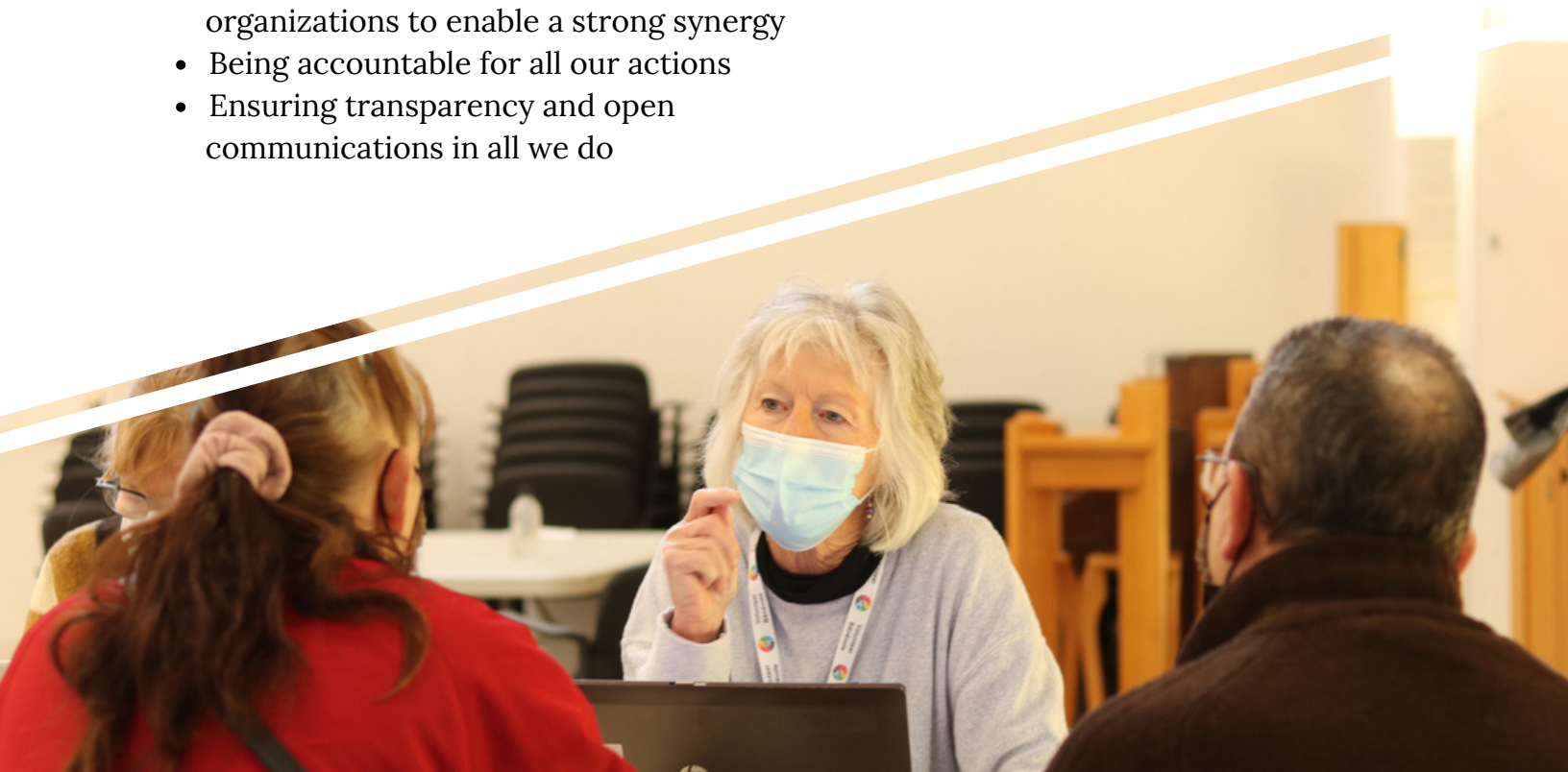
# INSPIRING HOPE AND DIGNITY

## OUR MISSION

To inspire a better quality of life through a ministry of care that addresses physical, emotional, practical, and spiritual needs for those experiencing poverty.

## OUR VALUES

- Being open and welcoming
- Reaching out with care to those in need
- Treating everyone with dignity and respect
- Ensuring diversity and inclusion in all our programs
- Building relationships with people and organizations to enable a strong synergy
- Being accountable for all our actions
- Ensuring transparency and open communications in all we do



# CHAIR REPORT

2021 felt very much like a transition year.

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We've turned corners relative to advancing our strategic directions. Working relationships between Board and Staff are highly constructive and aligned around a vision that is becoming clearer.

We saw finishing touches to 2020's facilities renovations, a project made possible by our strong relationship with Brunswick Street United Church. The improved space and amenities for staff, volunteers and those we serve, align well with our vision for evolving programs.

The Board decision adopted an equity, diversity, inclusion and accessibility-informed approach to community engagement. This should fundamentally affect all governance and operational structures and processes long into the future.

But some things did not improve.

Too many people are still living in poverty. If anything, the pandemic has aggravated conditions such that even more equity-deserving folks are faced with food insecurity and unaffordable housing. Mental health and addictions challenges follow.

There's something on the wind.

Although the details of the ultimate destination are not yet known, we are confident that with adequate discipline, support and strong partnerships, the Mission's reach, impacts and effects will continue to evolve to the benefit of those in or at risk of being in poverty.

Respectfully submitted,  
**Wayne Marsh, Chair,**  
**BSM Board of Directors**

"There's something  
on the wind."

# DIRECTORS WHO SERVED IN 2021

## DIRECTORS-AT-LARGE

Wayne Marsh: Chair  
Normand Gendron: Treasurer  
Sundari Pashupathinathan: HR Chair  
Rick Gunn: Supervising Council, UCC  
Susan MacQuarrie: HR Chair & Investment Committee Chair  
Margaret Casey: Advocacy Chair

## REPRESENTATIVES

Ruth Bona: Secretary, Bethany UC  
Ian Parker: Brunswick Street UC  
Heather Star Williams: Brunswick Street UC  
Joanne Hayman: Fort Massey UC  
Barbara Baker: Vice-Chair & Governance Chair, Hope UC  
Elaine Gunn: St. Andrew's UC  
Jim Sharpe: St. John's UC  
Shirley McInnes: St. Matthew's UC  
Norman W. Andrews: Rockingham UC, Investment Committee Chair

## EX-OFFICIO

Derek Pace, BSM Executive Director  
Rev. Faith March-MacCuish

# INCOME STATEMENT

## THE BRUNSWICK STREET MISSION

Statement of Financial Position

December 31, 2021

	2021	(Restated) Note 14 2020
<b>ASSETS</b>		
<b>Current</b>		
Cash	\$ 171,795	\$ 399,378
Marketable securities	276,430	159,901
Accounts receivable	7,104	941
HST recoverable	15,614	14,222
Prepaid expenses	-	1,045
	<b>470,943</b>	575,487
<b>Capital assets (Net of accumulated amortization) (Note 4)</b>	<b>218,690</b>	126,186
<b>Restricted cash (Note 3)</b>	<b>10,403</b>	10,402
<b>Long term Investments</b>	<b>129,505</b>	139,070
<b>Cash held in trust (Note 8)</b>	<b>418</b>	150
<b>Inner City Mission investments (Note 12)</b>	<b>440,726</b>	404,737
	<b>\$ 1,270,685</b>	\$ 1,256,032
<b>LIABILITIES</b>		
<b>Current</b>		
Accounts payable	\$ 28,834	\$ 43,942
Deferred receipts (Note 6)	25,000	47,070
	<b>53,834</b>	91,012
<b>Deferred receipts for capital (Note 6)</b>	<b>178,810</b>	104,630
<b>Mission trust liability (Note 8)</b>	<b>418</b>	150
	<b>233,062</b>	195,792
<b>NET ASSETS</b>		
Unrestricted fund	532,017	608,947
Inner City Mission Endowment (Note 12)	440,726	404,737
Invested in capital assets	39,880	21,556
Contingency fund	25,000	25,000
	<b>1,037,623</b>	1,060,240
	<b>\$ 1,270,685</b>	\$ 1,256,032



# GREETINGS

As 2021 said hello to 2022, I was eight months into this adventure with BSM. I was fortunate to have a long transition period with my predecessor, Sandra Nicholas, which was a blessing. She served this Mission well for many years.

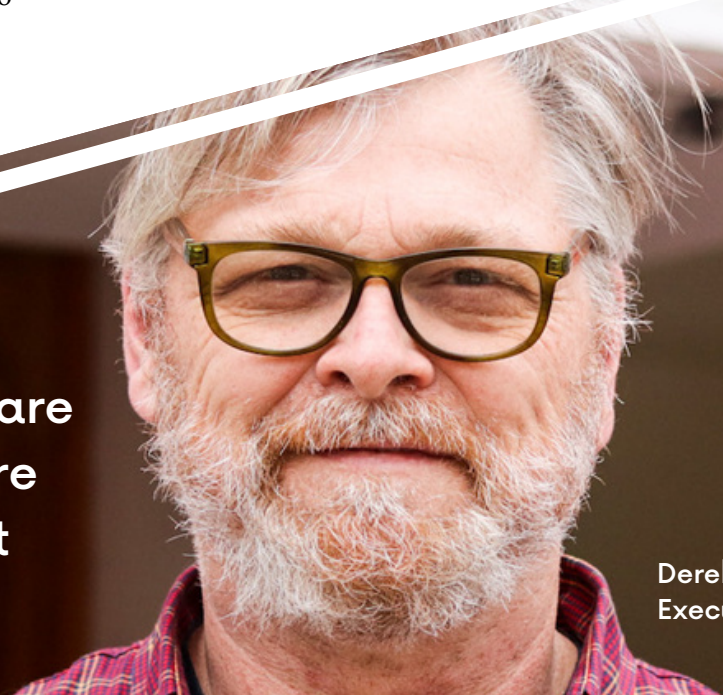
As many service agencies in this sector, we went through the pandemic with openings and closures. This adversely affected the people that we support. In challenging times, those that are most affected are the people that this Mission serves. Fortunately, we were able to stay responsive to the needs of our community throughout the year. In the late summer, we surveyed many of our clients to get a baseline for how we are doing and assess programming needs. We asked them their opinion of what the Mission does. Overall, they told us they were satisfied with our programs. Where we needed to, we have been nimble and made changes to programming based on client feedback. Clients indicated they would like to see drop in programming and we are committed to looking into that soon.

Last year provided me with a chance to step

back, pause, and reflect on what really matters. It was a time to engage in a reset on our strategic plan, to listen to our guests, to build relationships in the community, and prepare for the coming year. I am grateful for and inspired daily by the incredibly competent and dedicated team of staff and volunteers that have amassed here to support our community.

Our overarching goal is to use our assets to better serve those who arrive at our door. We will continue to push for change. I am excited for what's to come.

**"In challenging times, those that are most affected are the people that we support."**



Derek Pace,  
Executive Director

# FOOD BANK

Demand for our Food Bank continues to increase year over year. We saw a 90% increase in families and households seeking food bank services from 2020 (218) to 2021 (419). That's 200 more households in our community that are struggling.

The first few months of 2021 the pandemic was in full swing and we served our clients curbside. In June, we were thrilled to open our doors and allow guests back into the building. At that time, our Food Bank was open one day per week and people were required to register the day before. Many of our frequent guests shared their struggles getting to the food bank and making this schedule work for their families.

These rigid barriers to service didn't sit well with us. We decided to make some significant and needed changes, taking a two-phase approach. In Phase One, we would scrap pre-registration and increase our hours of operation. In Phase Two we would switch to a choice model in our food bank. We added a birthday cupboard, offering clients cake mixes and birthday candles if they have an upcoming birthday for one of their children. We also added a sampling station where we can make recipes using surplus items that we either have

that people aren't taking to generate interest in these items. In August, we initiated Phase One by extending our hours. This change was welcomed by the community and we received accolades from clients regarding the new hours. Later in August, we started work on Phase Two. We reached out to Sobeys for assistance creating a market look and feel for our Food Bank. They said yes! They provided us with all of the shelving that we required and donated two display fridges and a soup warmer for our samples.

We "soft launched" the food market in late fall and asked for feedback from our clients and were able to operate for a few weeks before the late 2021 pandemic wave reverted us back to serving clients curbside.

Thank You to our Program Funders:



Watkins Fund for Innovative Programs and Projects in  
Addressing Poverty and Children at Risk at  
The United Church of Canada Foundation



# HOT BREAKFAST CHRISTMAS REPORT

A hot breakfast and a cup of something warm is life-changing on a cold morning. Many of the folks who come for breakfast spend the night outside.

It was difficult to serve our guests through a window for most of the year. Guests arrived for breakfast and had to wait outside in the elements. This was heartbreaking for the team. We were finally able to reopen inside dining in the fall and this was greatly appreciated by many of our regular patrons.

We want to give thanks to all of the volunteers who give the gift of time very early in the day to support this program. We also would like to specifically thank our Monday volunteer for her culinary creations and her commitment to running the whole show on Monday mornings.

Our Kitchen Coordinator, Darrin, took the helm late in 2020 and has built strong relationships with the volunteers and guests alike. In 2021, we served over 13,300 meals, that's 2000 more meals than in 2020.

**Thanks to our program funders:** Watkins Fund for Innovative Programs and Projects in Addressing Poverty and Children at Risk at The United Church of Canada Foundation, Christina & Hedley G. Ivany Charitable Foundation, Feed Nova Scotia, and the many individual donors to the program.

The Christmas and winter holidays are a tough time of year for so many people for a variety of reasons.

Through our work with Feed Nova Scotia, our Christmas program supported over 160 households with food support and gift certificates over the holidays. Clients were provided with all of the fixings for a festive turkey dinner and there was also a vegan option for those who wanted it.

Our Christmas Eve lunch was a special event. A full meal was prepared off-site by chefs in the community and dropped off that day. We were proud to serve 85 people an amazing meal. Folks received Smoked Chicken, Double Smoked Ham, Green Beans, Mashed Potatoes, Stuffing, Gravy, Cranberry Sauce, Cookie, and Square for dessert. Each attendee also left with a Tim Hortons gift card as a small gift.






# TRUSTEE

The In Trust program continued to support over 90 individuals and maintain their financial stability.

Our Trustee works with clients, their caseworkers, landlords, and utility providers to ensure that essential bills are covered, ensuring clients have the peace of mind that stable housing provides. In a climate where housing is extremely difficult to secure, keeping people in their housing is imperative. Losing your place could leave you with little or no hope of securing a new one.

A portrait of Silvia Yeye, a Black woman with her hair styled in braids, wearing a black leather jacket. She is looking directly at the camera with a neutral expression. The background is a light-colored, textured wall.

Silvia Yeye,  
Trustee

# CLOTHING

The right clothing is essential in HRM, as they say, “if you don’t like the weather in Halifax, wait 5 minutes.” With the closures and reopenings of the year, we were still able to fulfill all clothing needs of people coming to our doors. Whether a person was unhoused or a family requiring warm weather gear for their children, we were there to meet the need.

Our clothing is supplied by the community. Huge shout out to all who donated clothing in 2021.

# VOLUNTEER TAX PROGRAM

We would like to say a huge thank you to our tax volunteers for all of their hard work and expertise in all things tax filing. The volunteer tax program held in-person “clinics” in March and April of 2021 and picked up taxes to file weekly throughout the year. In 2021, they served 959 clients and filed over 1100 tax returns. There were only three volunteers doing this heavy lift!

People who rely on government supports to make ends meet must have their taxes filed; our volunteer tax program ensures that people's taxes are up to date so they don't lose essential income.

# OUTREACH

Our Outreach Program officially launched at the beginning of the 2021. Our outreach programming is trauma informed in all relationships, developed to be transparent, offer choice, and demonstrate accountability.

Outreach offers the following programs:

- Pandemic Recovery Support: to support members of the community who have been impacted by the pandemic get back into the workforce.
- Financial Support: to provide a safety net to our community members in the North End who have nowhere to turn for support by intervening with a one-time emergency payment.
- Employment Support: to address employment barriers by covering the cost of criminal record checks or by providing work gear such as steel-toed boots.
- ID Support: to set up our community members with identification by covering the cost of ID and supporting the (sometimes high-barrier) process.
- One-to-one Advocacy and Navigation: to identify the needs and wishes of the client and add our voice to theirs in order to accomplish their goals. To support clients in navigating different services and programs within the community and system.
- Laundry services: to provide opportunity for dignity to our unhoused community members and give them a place to launder their belongings.

As the year progressed, we added more supports to the outreach services. We saw a need to have Commissioner of Oaths support on-site for our gender marker work. Until then clients had to go off-site to find a commissioner of oaths to sign off on their documentation. We felt this would streamline the process and be more client-centered. Further to our gender marker work, our Outreach Coordinator, Cassie, has provided gender inclusivity workshops for staff and volunteers as part of our commitment to offering a safe and inclusive space for all members of the community.

Identification storage was also something clients identified as a need. Now when they replace their ID, they have a safe place to voluntarily store it if they wish. We also added a volunteer role to the outreach program late in 2020 to assist with our ID drop-in. We are extremely thankful for the support this person brings to the program.

In 2021, 103 unique individuals were supported through the aforementioned programs, many of them received support from more than one program. We are happy to report that 80% of clients that were supported by us achieved their goals in 2021.

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**Thank You to our program funders:**

The Windsor Foundation,  
Flemming Charitable Foundation,  
Halifax Assistance Fund,  
Halifax Association for Improving  
the Conditions of the Poor, and  
all of the individual donors  
who support the outreach  
program.

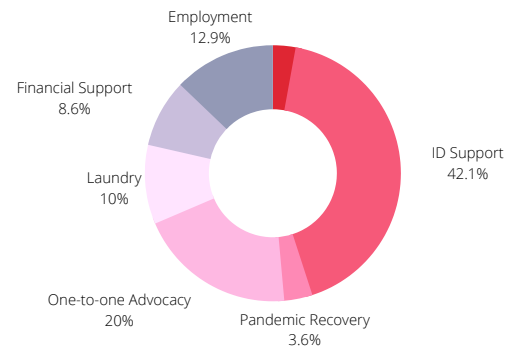
Cassie Sinyerd,  
Outreach Coordinator

8 OUT OF 10

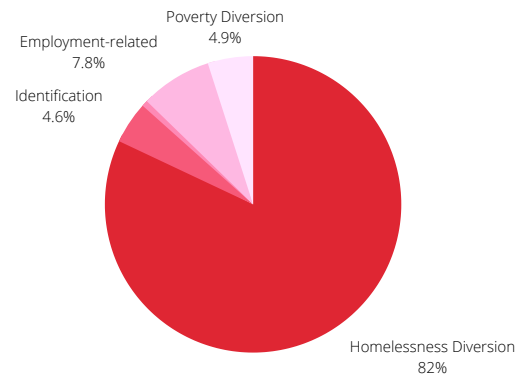


clients achieved their  
program goals upon exit

## SERVICES DELIVERED



## PROGRAM COSTS



# MISSION BREAKFAST

The 15th Annual Mission Breakfast was a great event, raising over \$31,000!

Orlando Bowen's keynote was terrific and his stories inspirational.

Thank you to Cora Grant for sharing her heartfelt message about the work of Brunswick Street Mission. We also want to thank Mayor Savage and MLA Suzy Hansen for your words about our work. Thank you to our event sponsors.

We hope that this year's event left all those who attended feeling inspired. There is much work to be done to address poverty and the poverty-related issues that affect the people that we serve.

Together we can accomplish more!

**Thank You to our Sponsors:**



**Wealth Management**  
**Dominion Securities**



**Bell**Media

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## Brunswick Street Mission

2107 Brunswick Street | Halifax, NS B3K 2Y4 | [brunswickstreetmission.org](http://brunswickstreetmission.org)

