

BRUNSWICK STREET MISSION

# BY THE NUMBERS

FOOD BANK

Brunswick Street Market continues to provide a dignified approach to Food Banks, serving over 300 households in the last six months:

- One third are unhoused
- **Over 500 children served**
- More than 250 visitors are new to Food Banks; many are new refugees and immigrants
- We provided birthday cake mix, candles, and icing to 143 homes celebrating a birthday

"Thank you so so so much, I can't believe it!"

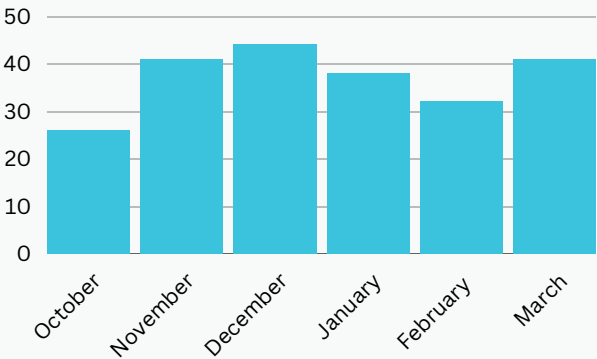
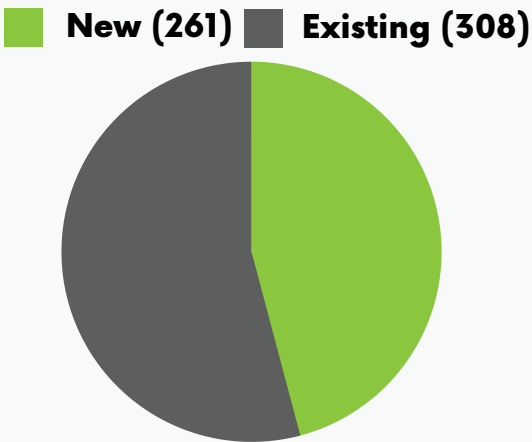
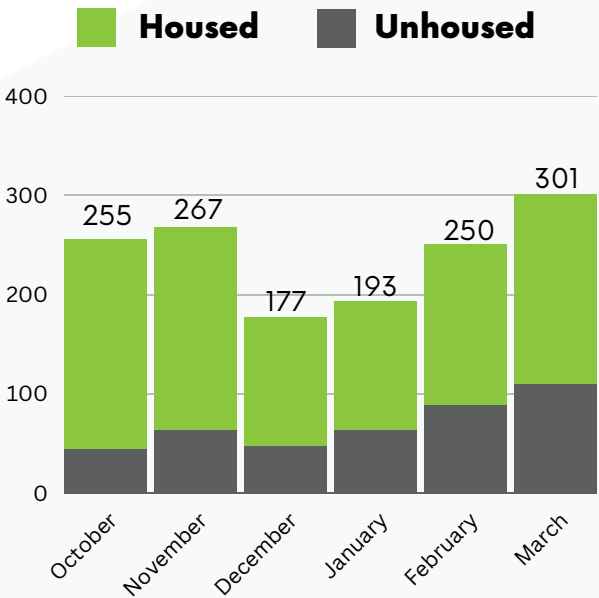
-

"I love this place!"

-Market Guest Comments

LAUNDRY

Our laundry program is used several times each day, providing laundry facilities for our unhoused neighbours to clean their belongings. To date, 123 individuals have used our laundry facilities a total of 429 times.



Front Photo:  
Our Outreach Support Worker, Kat, sits with clients during breakfast. As part of our Outreach Program, Kat chats with folks in our community, not only making a human connection but assessing needs and providing valuable resources.



   /BSMHalifax  
brunswickstreetmission.org

2107 Brunswick Street  
Halifax, NS B3K 2Y4  
Office: 902.423.4605  
mission@brunswickstreetmission.org



BRUNSWICK STREET MISSION  
**SPRING UPDATE**

## NEW EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR WELCOME LISA

We're excited to announce the appointment of our new Executive Director, Lisa Harrison.

Born in Antigonish, Lisa has had a varied career on both sides of the Atlantic. She trained as a graphic designer at NSCAD and spent an exciting year working at Core Networks.

Taking advantage of her British citizenship, she moved to London, UK in 2001 and found herself drawn to the not-for-profit world after taking a job as communications officer at a copyright charity.

Lisa went on to work at organizations focused on people's wellbeing, including a busy day centre for unhoused people, a



skills academy for social care, and a national membership and training organization for supported housing. In 2017, Lisa returned to Nova Scotia with her husband to be closer to her family. Her most recent role was with community hub Veith House in the North End.

Lisa is excited to join Brunswick Street Mission and very happy to continue serving Halifax's diverse communities. Lisa began her role with us on March 27.

Many of the folks Cassie met with told her how much they miss a warm, home-cooked meal. Our priority is to make sure folks have food and a warm meal at least once a week. We're looking for volunteers to prepare meals. If you're interested in supporting this effort, call Cassie at (902) 809-5530 or donate to [brunswickstreetmission.org/spring](https://brunswickstreetmission.org/spring).

\* grant provided by The Watkins Fund for Innovative Programs and Projects in Addressing Poverty and Children at Risk and the Living Spirit Fund at The United Church of Canada Foundation.

## THANK YOU FROM SHARON & DAVE

In our last newsletter we told you about the challenges Sharon and Dave had when they were forced out of their apartment and into a tent in Halifax.

Arman, our volunteer coordinator built a relationship with this couple every week when Sharon visited our Food Bank. Late last year, Sharon and Dave left Halifax in the hopes of finding better options for their needs. They sent Arman an email we are happy to share with you.

You can provide dignity to folks like Dave and Sharon: **donate at [brunswickstreetmission.org/spring](https://brunswickstreetmission.org/spring)**.

"We finally learned of the Mission and went to see what it was all about. What we found was kind and caring people with a set up that let you keep your dignity and pride."

--Dave & Sharon

A

To: Arman  
From: Sharon and Dave

Subject: Letter for the mission

Well, when you are both employed and have been living in the same home for three years, then cockroaches and bedbugs displace you, it's quite the shock. So, off to the hotel you go with only a few belongings. More shocking is when finally you can't return home. Working enabled both me and my wife the opportunity to stay for a couple of months in a hotel. But because of us both working and unable to get any assistance, the \$4000 a month finally became a burden we couldn't keep up. And once again the only assistance we could get meant we would have to split up. That wasn't an option. So, to both of our surprise we ended up homeless.

Then my wife couldn't work because she had to make sure the little bit we had was safe. So, I went to work everyday. Even then there were times where that didn't make ends meet. We finally learned of the Mission and went to see what it was all about. What we found was kind and caring people with a set up that let you keep your dignity and pride.

Sometimes I don't think we would have made it without them. So, we moved from a tent in the woods to a beautiful apartment in a more understanding city. Sad leaving home and all the friends we made at the Mission. But thanks to them we are both working with a roof over our heads. Our new place is amazing and we have never changed our way of keeping positive. We went from knowing to loving all those at the Mission and pray that they realize all they do for our city.

Love Dave and Sharon

## OUTREACH STREET OUTREACH

We've expanded our Outreach Program!

Thanks to a grant\*, we've hired an Outreach Support Worker, Kat. Kat connects with our breakfast guests and supports Cassie, so she can spend more time meeting with our unhoused neighbours in the encampments.