

**Explore your local impact
in Manitoba.**



2020/2021
Annual Impact Report

MANITOBA

During this difficult year, as we faced nearly unprecedented challenges, you chose to give to those in need. Your generosity had an impact in countries across the globe and here at home.

With this report we want to invite you to reflect and celebrate.

Explore your local impact in Manitoba.

The stories you're holding in your hands were made possible by your compassion.

You learned from and advocated with Indigenous neighbours. You helped provide a warm welcome to refugees making Canada their new home. You helped work toward restorative justice and peace in our communities.

**This is work that you made possible.
Thank you.**

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MANITOBA
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THANK YOU FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

When the pandemic began, people in every position in MCC turned their annual plans upside down. Newly drafted budgets, programs, projects and protocols were set for a “normal” year, and this was not normal.

Uncertain about what lay ahead, budgets were dramatically reduced. Travel halted. Essential services—MCC Thrift, health projects, relief delivery—found ways to reduce contact, maintain safe distance, increase hygiene care and ensure safety.

New things happened, too. New volunteers joined MCC Thrift shops and Sam’s Place. Makers of kits and comforters found new ways to pick up materials and drop off projects. New partnerships were formed in prevention and response to domestic abuse and in advocacy for justice in economics, climate and racialized social contexts in Manitoba. Even a few newcomers to Canada arrived during the pandemic!

MCC journeyed purposefully at a time when destinations were not always in sight. Nevertheless, the highlights and stories found in this annual report confirm the psalmist’s promise of God’s refuge and strength in such times as this (Psalm 46:1).

You, our supporters, are the hands and feet of God’s promise to MCC, to partners and program participants across Manitoba and the globe. Together, our purpose is to share God’s love and compassion for all in the name of Christ. Together, we have done so, however unclear it may have seemed at the time.

Thanks be to God, and to you, in Christ Jesus.



DARRYL LOEWEN
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, MCC MANITOBA
DARRYLLOEWEN@MCCMB.CA

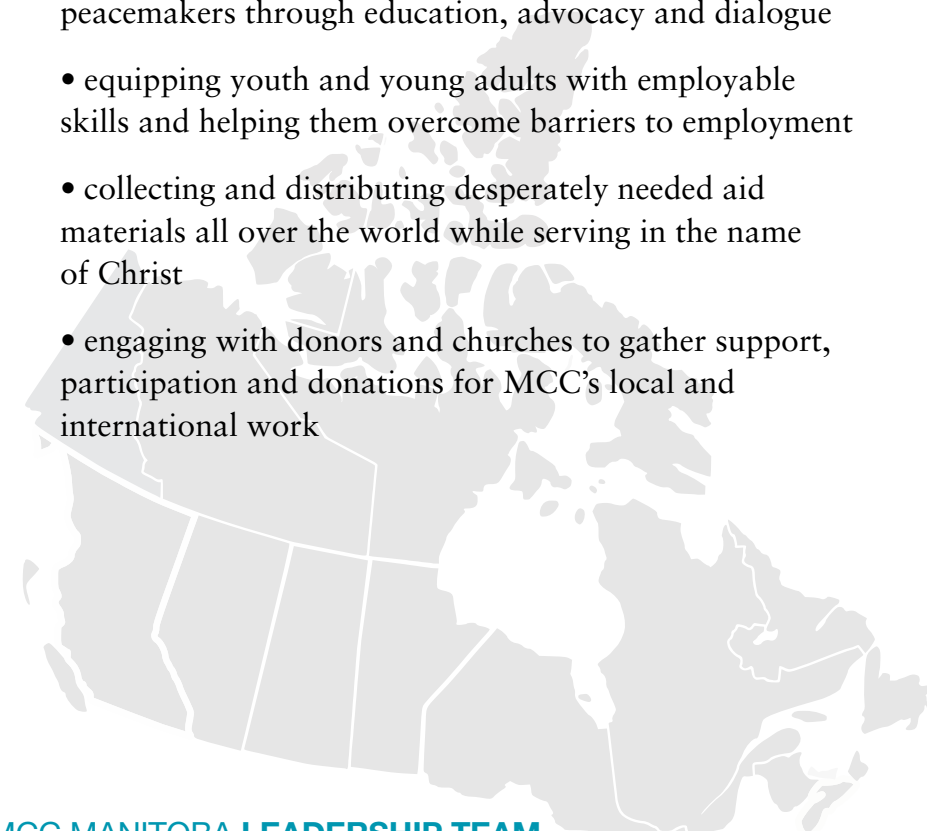
“God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.”

—PSALM 46:1 NEW INTERNATIONAL VERSION (NIV)

ABOUT MCC MANITOBA

Our local work in Manitoba includes:

- a network of thrift shops committed to supporting local and international relief, development and peace projects
- resettlement of refugees made possible by church and community sponsorship groups
- efforts to facilitate reconciliation with Indigenous peoples through relationship, advocacy and financial assistance
- responding to the needs of communities and individuals who have been impacted by domestic abuse through support, workshops, trainings and consultations
- engaging Manitobans of all ages to think, talk and be peacemakers through education, advocacy and dialogue
- equipping youth and young adults with employable skills and helping them overcome barriers to employment
- collecting and distributing desperately needed aid materials all over the world while serving in the name of Christ
- engaging with donors and churches to gather support, participation and donations for MCC’s local and international work



MCC MANITOBA LEADERSHIP TEAM



Joanna Hiebert Bergen
Program Director



Valorie Block
Director of
Communications &
Donor Relations



Josué Figueroa
Director of Social
Enterprise



Carlee Friesen
Director of Finance,
Manitoba &
Saskatchewan

MCC Manitoba is committed to building right relationships with one another, God and creation.

MCC’s work and relationships extend into all five numbered treaties that cover the province. We acknowledge the harms that have been committed to the Indigenous peoples of this land by those of us who have settled here, and we strive toward reconciliation in our words and deeds.

MCC Manitoba seeks to prioritize equity, justice and Indigenous self-determination according to the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.

100 years of relief, development and peace

To celebrate MCC's centennial year, the Mennonite Heritage Village (MHV) Museum in Steinbach launched a special exhibit. *MCC: 100 Years* ran for one year featuring artifacts and pictures that spanned MCC's history. Unfortunately, due to the pandemic, the gallery was closed for most of the year. You can relive part of the exhibit by checking out our story online: mcccanada.ca/stories/small-ideas-lasting-impact.

We're so grateful for community partners like the Mennonite Heritage Village Museum. Thank you for helping celebrate 100 years of MCC!

The Fordson F Tractor at MHV is nearly identical to those sent to southern Russia (present-day Ukraine) by MCC in 1923. The tractor represents the first major relief effort by MCC at that time. (MCC photo/Rebecca Janzen)



(Photo provided by Elaine Hofer)

Your gifts of **200** masks were distributed to newcomer families to help prevent the spread of COVID-19.



When Elaine Hofer saw a video on Facebook promoting MCC's virtual challenge, GO! 100, she embarked on a 100km bike ride "as an expression of support and celebration" of MCC during its centennial year.

While all other events were cancelled, GO! 100 brought people together to mark MCC's 100th year by connecting friends and families through hobbies or activities, all while raising awareness or funds for MCC's pandemic responses around the world.

Elaine tackled the ride with her sister, Alice, cycling through the dusty countryside of western Manitoba. Starting from their home near Brandon, Elaine and Alice biked 100km on dirt roads, pausing to rest in ditches near fields along the way.

Other GO! 100 participants took on challenges of kayaking, running, making hand-sewn crafts to sell, giving away ice cream on hot summer days to people passing by their church—all in support and celebration of MCC's 100th year.

Together, these supporters raised more than \$50,000! We are grateful for those who took up a challenge, especially participants from Cycle Clear Lake and Brandon MCC Relief Sale—thank you!

We are also grateful for the 587 new supporters and 3,819 returning friends who, with their generous donations, supported hundreds of vulnerable people at risk due to the pandemic, helped meet the needs of those affected by the explosion in Beirut, Lebanon and the double hurricanes in Central America. Your gifts also helped provide essential items to those displaced from their homes and living in places like Mubimbi Camp in the Democratic Republic of Congo. **Every gift truly makes a difference!**

4,406 people made a donation through MCC Manitoba last year

5,300 personal connections were made between MCC staff and donors in Manitoba

2020-2021 Material Resources Highlights

40 sewing kits

1,005 school kits

137 relief kits

48 infant care kits

200 handmade masks

3,792 comforters

940 hygiene kits

1,281 volunteer hours

Thanks to volunteers, MCC distributed handmade masks to newcomer families!

Dareen Alzawahry, Magi Haddad and Tala Haddad received handmade masks from MCC. (MCC photo/Maysoun Darweesh)



"It was amazing to share the love of our volunteers with resettled refugees as a gesture of unity and to send an encouraging message that we are all together in this."

Maysoun Darweesh, migration and resettlement coordinator for MCC Manitoba

Read more stories at: mccmb.ca/Annual-Impact-Report

Reaching more people online

Because of your generosity, the local Abuse Response and Prevention (ARP) program raised awareness around rising rates of domestic abuse and helped churches better understand and respond to the realities of abuse in their faith communities.

Program coordinator, Jaymie Friesen, partnered with Salvation Army and local organization Breaking the Silence on Domestic Violence to deliver a three-part webinar series during Domestic Violence Awareness Month last November.

“Navigating the pandemic wasn’t without its challenges, but the silver lining is that by offering online options more people took part in the webinar series than if the event was in person,” says Jaymie. (MCC photo/Meron Mekonnen Geberu)



Your support has helped 127 refugees secure resettlement in Manitoba through MCC –thank you!



Your support helped sponsored refugees, like Shafiqul’s family, arrive safely in Manitoba—even during a pandemic.

Two years ago, Shafiqul Islam bin Abdul Hussin applied for refugee sponsorship for his wife Arafa binti Mugul Ahammad and their three-year-old son Mohammad Nihal bin Shafiqul Islam. Little did they know that a pandemic and the expectation of their second child would influence the journey.

Jubilee Mennonite Church (Winnipeg) sponsored Shafiqul’s family and, after the application was approved, a travel date was set for February 2020. Then, the borders closed.

At that time, Arafa was already in the first trimester of her pregnancy and with each passing day they began to worry.

In late June, when restrictions began to lift, Margaret Froese, head of the church settlement team, saw “a window of hope.”

She contacted MCC to express her concern about Arafa. Working together with international refugee organizations, it was determined Arafa could fly, but not for much longer. Flight details and a strict quarantine plan were quickly arranged for July.

When the family arrived, there was no fanfare at the airport and they had to self-isolate immediately. Later in August, Arafa safely gave birth to her daughter—Affana.

Because of generous people like you, Shafiqul’s family came to Canada just in time for the safe arrival of their new bundle of joy!

“In Malaysia, we were hopeless in these types of situations, these complicated situations, we [could not] go to Canada because COVID-19 is going on. We were very worried.”

Shafiqul Islam bin Abdul Hussin, Winnipeg

Read more about Arafa and other local program highlights at: mccmb.ca/Annual-Impact-Report

2020–2021 Local Program Highlights

127

refugees sponsored with support from 29 community and church sponsor groups

350

people participated in 37 trainings, workshops and consultations with the ARP program

11

local partners received support—financial and collaborative—from the Indigenous Neighbours program

11

public events held over Zoom to write letters to elected officials related to peace and justice in Palestine and Israel

3

young adults completed their International Volunteer Exchange Program (IVEP) placement in Manitoba

1

new program, Choose Friendship, developed to help newcomers build connections with the broader community

MCC Thrift founders recognized

In 2021, the Nellie McClung Foundation, in partnership with the Winnipeg Free Press, announced the recognition of the MCC Thrift Founders as part of the 150 Manitoba Women Trailblazer Awards. Among the recipients is the group recognition of Selma Loewen, Sara Stoesz, Linie Friesen, Susan Giesbrecht, Justina Baerg, Agatha Friesen and the dozens of women who helped found the first MCC Thrift shops in Manitoba in 1972. Behind these trailblazers were committees, service groups, church congregations and dozens of volunteers who saw their passion and supported their mission. (MCC photo/Gladys Terichow) **Thank you to the many wonderful women who helped plant the mustard seed of MCC Thrift.**



Building skills and having fun

Because of your gifts, Sam's Place could continue to offer mentorship and job training for youth to gain employable skills and experience throughout the pandemic. Though volunteering looked a little different, opportunities to grow new skills were still available for students like Hanna Domingo. (MCC photo/Rebecca Janzen) **You can learn more about Sam's Place online at sams.place or on Facebook (@samsplacecommunity) or Instagram (samsplacecafe).**



(Photo provided by Ruth Jantz)

Your quality donations and purchases at an MCC Thrift shop support MCC's work locally and globally.



2020–2021 Social Enterprise Highlights

30

youth and young adults gained employable skills at Sam's Place

220

training drinks and meals prepared by Sam's Place program participants

16

MCC Thrift locations across Manitoba kept their doors open as much as possible throughout the pandemic

1,000*

volunteers in MCC Thrift shops donated their time and talents during the pandemic (*estimated)

167,000*

volunteer hours donated in MCC Thrift shops throughout the province (*estimated)

\$1.8 M

contributed to MCC's local and global work of relief, development and peace

Since the pandemic began, MCC Thrift shops have been adjusting to the revolving door of health and safety restrictions to prevent the spread of COVID-19. It's caused a series of challenges for the shops, yet hope remained throughout the uncertainties.

Pearl Plohman, a volunteer at the Sargent MCC Thrift Shop in Winnipeg, has remained committed to her volunteerism—even learning new roles when the shop was closed. For Plohman, her time at the MCC Thrift shop is essential to her mental health.

“MCC has been a lifeline for me,” she said.

Staff, management and volunteers like Pearl have all been essential this past year for both MCC Thrift and Sam's Place, MCC's job skills program.

We are grateful for the dedication of many generous people who ensured MCC Thrift shops and Sam's Place could be a safe place for the community to shop, donate, volunteer or learn new skills—thank you!

“MCC has been a lifeline for me.”

Pearl Plohman, Winnipeg

thrift.mcc.org

@MCCThrift

Read more of Pearl and Hanna's story at: mccmb.ca/Annual-Impact-Report

Your support as a community partner is integral to MCC!



“I’m a big believer in supporting health, nutrition and clean water. I think a lot of people don’t realize how wealthy we are.”

Abe Giesbrecht, Landmark



Abe Giesbrecht, a mechanic in the small community of Landmark, is known for his high-quality automotive work. What some of his customers don’t know is that Giesbrecht Mechanical, the shop he runs alongside his father, John Giesbrecht, stands for more than excellent customer service and automotive repair.

In 2020, Giesbrecht began donating a portion of the profits from his business to support various relief and development organizations, including MCC. Even when the pandemic hit and many businesses across Manitoba were shuttered, Giesbrecht continued to give faithfully.

“We’ve been blessed in this business,” says Giesbrecht. “I think a lot of people don’t realize how wealthy we are. I can’t imagine the feeling of not having clean water or a hospital available, or having to worry about being able to feed your family for your next meal.”

Community partners like Abe and generous donors like you are essential to achieving relief, development and peace worldwide!



Male Moshan Alvarez, an IVEP participant who volunteered with the Indigenous Family Centre (IFC) in Winnipeg, continued to serve during the pandemic even as her role shifted from working with people to distributing food hampers through no-contact delivery. (MCC photo/Emily-Ann Doerksen)

Clayton Harder, Grow Hope farmer

In 2020, MCC welcomed two new farming partners to Grow Hope, Edwin Redekopp and Clayton Harder. Edwin offered 30 acres of land free of charge and Clayton farmed those acres with the help of donors like you.

Our community of generous Grow Hope supporters sponsored 326 acres of Manitoba farmland. These acres were cared for by seven local farmers who grew the crop to raise funds for MCC food projects. These gifts, sponsored at \$300 per acre, helped raise more than \$100,000 which, through government matching, could be multiplied up to four times!

Every dollar makes a difference in the lives of farmers and families who are hungry and without a safety net. Thank you for your kindness and dedication as donors and partnering farmers!

Your gifts provide food today, tomorrow and for all through Grow Hope and MCC’s partnership with Canadian Foodgrains Bank.

(MCC photo/Emily-Ann Doerksen)



216 people and churches donated to Grow Hope

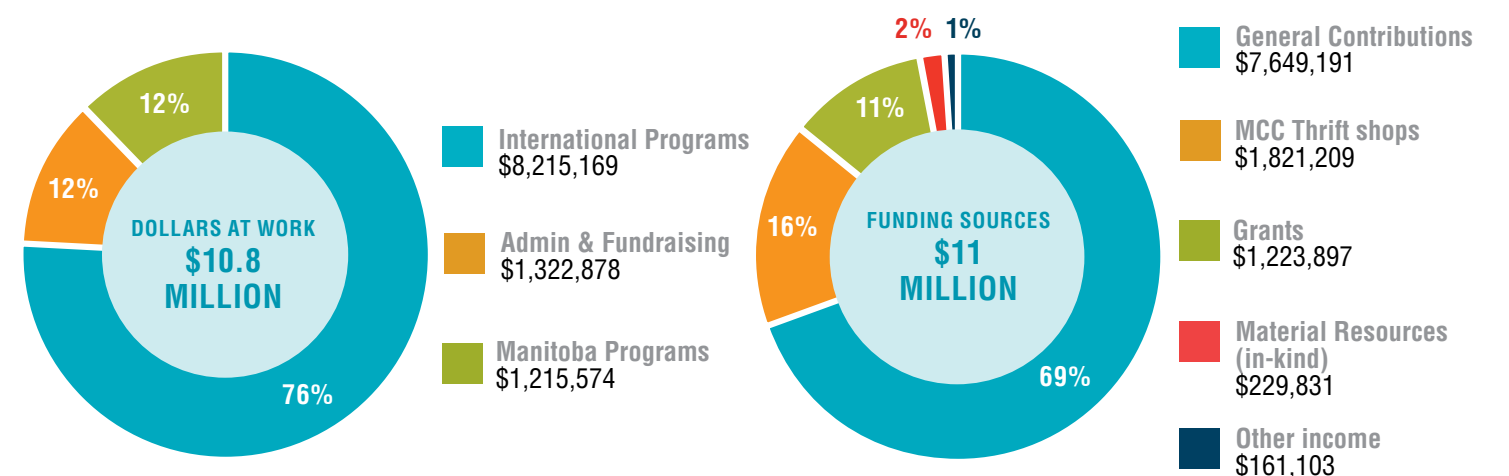


326 acres raised in 2020

2020–2021 Financial Highlights

For complete audited financial statements, please visit mccmb.ca/AnnualReport.

Please note that the fiscal year ending March 31, 2021 was significantly influenced by the COVID-19 pandemic and the retail restrictions that were put in place during that time. Our numbers reflect the generosity of amazing donors, the support of grant programs and the support shown for MCC Thrift shops during a challenging year.




*All activity in this report, including finances, reflect MCC’s fiscal year from April 1, 2020 to March 31, 2021.

Explore your global impact.



2020/2021
Annual Impact Report
CANADA



Last year was a hard year. For all of us.
Through it all, you made a choice to help others.
We couldn't be more grateful.

Looking back over the last year, we want to invite you to take some time to stop and see the difference you've made. Take a moment to reflect.

Explore your global impact.

The stories you see in this report wouldn't have been possible without your generous support. Your gifts make a real impact around the world every day.

You brought relief to people who were hurting. You provided food and water to people who needed it. You gave the gift of education and a brighter future. You helped build peace for a better world. In the midst of a global pandemic, you responded.

From the bottom of our hearts, thank you.



Jessica Ana Maya Cabrera, pictured saying goodbye to her host grandmother, Dolores Pablo Mendoza, came from Mexico to serve in Guatemala through the Young Anabaptist Mennonite Exchange Network (YAMEN), a joint program of MCC and Mennonite World Conference. During her year of service, Cabrera found faith and dwelling in God's word provided a compass and guide. Every day she remembered the invitation of Matthew 22 to love God with all her heart, soul and mind and to love neighbours as herself. (MCC photo/Jardely Martínez)

In 2020, MCC celebrated the centennial of its ministry. As we enter a second century of service, we reaffirm our Christ-led commitment to serve and learn from vulnerable people around the world.

The MCC Canada and MCC U.S. boards identified these four strategic directions to guide our work from 2021–2025:

1. Increasing the capacity of our partners to help uprooted and vulnerable people
2. Improving communication with churches and constituents
3. Increasing peacebuilding and justice work
4. Caring for God's creation and supporting communities harmed by climate change

To read an online version of this report visit mcccanada.ca/annual-impact-report-2021

A THANK YOU FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Looking back at 2020, some of you may remember it as the year of MCC's 100th anniversary. But I expect many more will remember it as the year of COVID-19.

In March 2020 we prayerfully decided to lower our projected income and reduce our spending plan. Unable to gather for in-person centennial events, we turned our attention to what MCC does best—relief, development and peace in the name of Christ, with a focus on responding to COVID-vulnerable communities.

The pandemic enveloped us all in a global unknown, even as it exposed painful inequities. You could have turned inward, tending to your personal struggles. Instead, you turned **toward** your global neighbours and shared of your finances generously.

Your gifts allowed us to continue our relief, development and peace work in the name of Christ. Even relief sales and MCC Thrift shops, facing strict constraints and closures, contributed significantly through creative ventures previously never considered or attempted!

We had imagined 2020 was going to be memorable for our community. But instead of reflecting back on centennial festivities, I expect to recall how we responded—together—to a world in need, refusing to be overcome by fear and loss.

Thank you for participating in ministry with MCC over this past year. Thank you for sharing God's love and compassion for all in the name of Christ. And thanks be to God.


RICK COBER BAUMAN
 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, MCC CANADA



*“God is our refuge and strength,
 a very present help in trouble.”*

—PSALM 46:1 (NRSV)

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Because of your gifts, Josephine can grow enough food to support herself all year.

“Diversifying farms with livestock production lessens farmers’ dependence on a single crop or harvest and gives them access to different markets.”

MICHAEL ADEOLA
MCC food security and livelihoods coordinator



Josephine Mwikali Mutinda shows off her maize harvest in a granary at her home in Kathonzweni, Kenya. (MCC photo/Mwangi Kirubi)

You can't help but smile when you see Josephine Mwikali Mutinda smile. And for her to be smiling after harvest season in rural Kenya is not something to take for granted. Climate change is negatively impacting farmers like Josephine, drastically affecting the rainy seasons that are vital to growing healthy crops.

Add to that a global pandemic that disrupted trade and economic stability in the area and many farmers have nothing to smile about.

But Josephine had some help this year—from you. Through MCC's account at Canadian Foodgrains Bank, your donations equipped an MCC partner in Kenya to help Josephine diversify her farm and adapt to some of the environmental challenges she is facing.

She planted a wider variety of crops to increase her chances of good yields. This year, in addition to her successful maize harvest, she also brought in a bountiful mango crop. She also started raising chickens and rabbits, so she's less reliant on her crops and can supplement her income in the event of a poor harvest.

On average, it costs \$2.92 to provide farmers like Josephine with the seeds they need to plant crops for the year. Because of you, she, and hundreds of farmers like her, got the support they needed to provide for themselves this year while setting up for a more successful crop next year.

Sukhi Murmu, from Palashdanga village in West Bengal, India, holds a sheaf of rice. (MCC photo/Pabitra Paramanya)



Partner profile

MCC partners with 14 other agencies to fight global hunger through Canadian Foodgrains Bank. MCC has 42 projects in 19 countries funded through its account at the Foodgrains Bank. This year, more than \$11 million went to MCC food and agricultural projects through that account.

Food program highlights:

61,791

people attended training in improved agriculture and animal production methods

28,468

people received agricultural supplies including seeds and tools

26%

average increase in yearly income for a group of farmers in Nepal after learning new techniques

86.8%

of participants eat two or more meals a day (up from 40 per cent) thanks to an agriculture project in Ethiopia

The explosion came with almost no warning. The devastating blast wave in Beirut, Lebanon, ripped a huge portion of the city to shreds. Hundreds of people were killed and thousands more were injured. Nearly 300,000 people had nowhere to go—their homes reduced to rubble and shattered glass.

The city’s food supply was greatly diminished, and hospitals were overflowing with wounded, as a city already brought to the brink by the global pandemic desperately called for help.

A call you answered. You, and thousands of compassionate Canadians, came together to reach across the world and care for a hurt and grieving city. You contributed to MCC’s \$2.3 million emergency response in Beirut.

Your incredible generosity helped provide monthly food support to 1,300 families, give hygiene vouchers to 750 families, fix 75 homes and businesses and provide trauma care to 270 children and adults.

“Though the emergency stage has passed, many of those needs remain the same and are now worsened by the severe economic crisis Lebanon is witnessing,” says Tala Itani, peacebuilding advisor for MCC Lebanon. “We thank everyone who contributed to the emergency response.”

Your donations helped thousands recover from the explosion in Beirut.

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“We are now able to cook and make meals for our children.”

ALICE JOUBANIAN
Lebanon



Kate Mayhew, MCC representative for Lebanon, Syria and Iraq, walks through the Beirut neighbourhood of Gemmayze following the massive explosion in the city’s port in August 2020. (MCC photo/Garry Mayhew)

Mark Siemens (second from right) and his family on a camping trip to Banff National Park in Alberta. The Siemens family left to right: Mattea, Julie, Alexi, Katrina, Mark and Annika. (Photo courtesy of Mark Siemens)



Donor profile

Mark Siemens’ family wanted their gifts to have real impact. They heard about Share Your Table, MCC’s monthly giving program, and thought it was a perfect fit. He says, “the combination of cooking as a family, trying new foods from around the world and reading about the lives of people throughout the world made this program both impactful and fun.”

Relief program highlights:

161,046

people received emergency food assistance

65,005

people received locally purchased emergency relief items, including clothing, kitchen items and bedding

1,231

households received home repairs or reconstruction

1,194

people received financial support or rent assistance



Your support enabled Sarothi to keep attending school

“MCC’s partners provide quality access to education for children who wouldn’t have that opportunity due to violence, poverty, gender, ethnicity or disability.”

LYNN LONGENECKER
MCC education coordinator



Sarothi Pahan studies with a notebook that she received along with an MCC school kit. (MCC photo/James Kisku)

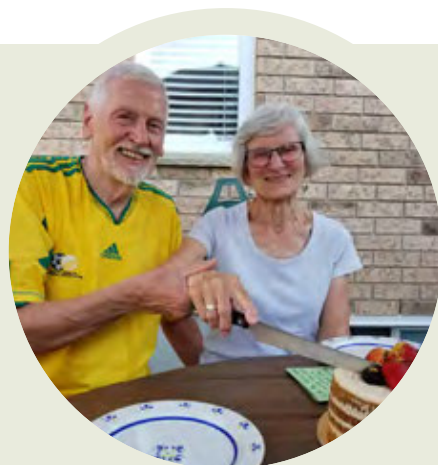
Sarothi Pahan wanted to be a teacher. But after finishing her primary school education, that dream seemed impossible. Sarothi has polio. Even though Bangladesh was declared polio-free in 2014, many remote areas, like Sarothi’s home of Vutahara, struggled to access vaccines.

That infection caused a serious physical disability in Sarothi’s legs, greatly limiting how far she’s able to walk. And because there are no high schools near Vutahara, her dream of teaching others was being pulled out of her reach.

Now, thanks to your generosity, Sarothi’s dream is on track to become a reality. An MCC partner in the area connected her to a group home for children with disabilities in a nearby city. The cost to support one student here for a year is \$112—beyond the financial capacity of her family. **But because of you, Sarothi’s room and board, food and education costs are fully covered, allowing her to pursue her education at a nearby high school.**

You’ve given Sarothi the ability to make her own choices about her future. She’s now in Grade 10 and is one the top students in her class. Her dream of sharing a love of education with others is becoming more her reality every day because of you.

Ron Mathies and his wife Gudrun Mathies pack MCC school kits with their grandchildren every year on Christmas Eve. (Photo courtesy of Ron Mathies)



Volunteer profile

Ron Mathies and his wife, Gudrun Mathies, both worked in education and administration for their whole careers. Every Christmas Eve, they put together MCC school kits with their grandkids (in person or over a video call) while they share family stories. He says, “we wanted to build the habit that when we share gifts with family, we’re also remembering to share gifts with others.”

Education program highlights:

13,816
children and youth participated in K-12 education supported by MCC

2,238
children received scholarships or tuition support

87%
of children in an after-school tutoring program in Guatemala passed all their courses—a 71 per cent increase from the beginning of the project

88%
of students who received tuition support at a school in Syria finished with average grades above 75 per cent



When Ayalew Misgan was very young, there was no clean water at home. He lives in western Amhara, Ethiopia, where for much of his life, the water nearby wasn't safe to drink. The only water sources were shallow open-pit wells or small ponds that the local wildlife also drank from.

As a result, women had to walk hours in either direction to collect water that was only sometimes safer to drink. These long walks could be dangerous and exhausting. Often, young girls missed time at school to assist their mothers in water-gathering.

But your caring support has drawn clean, safe water up from the ground for Ayalew and his whole village. Your support allowed an MCC partner to dig wells deep enough to reach safe, clean water. For the cost of \$5,200, one of these pumps provides an easy-to-access supply of drinking water free from disease or bacteria.

"Our life in the past had made us vulnerable to many problems. Now, we are able to fetch and use safe water here from our village, near our homes. From this time onwards, we have no worry of [getting sick]," says WorkuAbebe Chinois, who lives in the same community as Ayalew.

Because of your support, Ayalew can drink clean water every day

.....

"Now we are able to fetch and use safe water here from our village, near our homes."

WORKUABEBE CHINIS
Ethiopia



Ayalew Misgan drinks from the water pump that was built to bring clean water to his village in western Amhara, Ethiopia. (MCC photo/Daniel Stoltzfus)

Durga Bahadur Sunchiuri (left), MCC Nepal program coordinator, and PR Sharma, Shanti Nepal's program director, check on a recently built water tap in Dhola, Nepal. (MCC photo/Avash Karki)



Partner profile

Shanti Nepal is an MCC partner, founded in 2003. They're committed to demonstrating the loving actions of God and all creation through their efforts to ensure everyone has access to food and water. They were a major part of MCC's emergency response following the 2015 Nepal earthquake.

Water program highlights:

18,638

people now have access to an improved water source

9,660

people received access to a new or improved latrine or sanitation facility

294

drinking water systems constructed or repaired

92

water harvesting structures for irrigation constructed or repaired

For most of her life, the only option Floride Murhimanya M'nkware had to relieve herself was to use a hole in the ground. Her village, known as Mosho II, in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DR Congo) didn't have running water or bathroom facilities.

As she got older, it was a greater challenge for her to use these safely—two planks of wood don't make a very stable platform. Digging a hole more than a few metres deep is challenging, but a shallow pit will attract disease-spreading insects and fill up in a matter of months. It's an unhealthy and dangerous cycle.

But your compassion broke that cycle.

Thanks to you, an MCC partner in DR Congo has installed brand new latrines in Mosho II, including one at Floride's home. It costs \$252 to build a latrine like this. Now there's no smell, no risk of waste infecting water supplies and no danger of her falling and hurting herself. Floride also received a rain barrel in her home to collect rainwater that she can use for cooking and washing dishes or hands.

"We are old now," says Floride, 66. "We don't have strength to dig the toilet over and over again. But the water is helping us, especially when it rains. We are sure we'll have water all the time."

Your gifts have kept Floride safe from disease.

"This type of basic infrastructure for safe handwashing and waste disposal is essential for preventing the spread of new infectious diseases."

PAUL SHETLER FAST
MCC global health coordinator



Floride Murhimanya M'nkware (left) and her husband Jacques Safari Lukwebo stand beside their new latrine in the village of Mosho II in eastern Democratic Republic of the Congo. (MCC photo/Matthew Lester)

Paul Shetler Fast, MCC's global health coordinator, stands near a lava field after the May 2021 volcanic eruption of Mount Nyiragongo in the Democratic Republic of the Congo. (MCC photo/Mulanda Jimmy Juma)



Staff profile

Paul Shetler Fast is MCC's global health coordinator. "Health is deeply personal for all of us," he says. "Even when I'm working with people across vastly different cultures, we can still connect on something shared but also personal. Celebrating with a mother whose child has recovered after serious illness is both as universal and personal as it gets."

Health program highlights:

37,450
people received direct clinical care

118,933
people received hygiene items, including menstrual supplies

88%
of participants in one mental health project in Palestine and Israel experienced significant reductions in stress and other symptoms

20x
more people washed their hands at community gathering sites in Zimbabwe's Mwenzezi district following a health-messaging project



Everyone needs a home. Somewhere to feel safe and secure where their basic needs are met. Somewhere to come and go freely where they can imagine a future. But that is not the reality for Palestinians—or even for some Israelis.

MCC Canada’s A Cry for Home campaign has been educating and advocating for action to end the illegal occupation of Palestine and create safe, just and peaceful communities for all Palestinians and Israelis.

Your faithful support has empowered MCC to raise the voices of our partners in Palestine and Israel to the highest levels of government in Canada.

Our advocates have been meeting with members of Parliament and citizens across Canada, carrying the stories of the people on the ground. You’ve enabled us to meet with government officials, rally Anabaptist and other faith groups together and equip all Canadians with tools to let their voices be heard to say we need a just peace in Palestine and Israel.

Your donations have lifted the needs of the people in Palestine and Israel to the halls of Parliament.

.....

“The advocacy offices have been meeting with partners on the ground—they’re hearing from people directly engaged in this work. These monthly exchanges give partners hope.”

JOAN ALTY
MCC representative for Jordan,
Palestine and Israel



Woroud Al-dibs, left, who attends music classes with an MCC partner in Palestine and Israel, plays a traditional instrument called the oud with Viviane Eyer who was visiting with an MCC learning tour to Palestine and Israel. (MCC photo/Naomi Enns)

Anna Vogt carries a sign that reads, “The moment has come to reconcile ourselves. Yes to peace, to forgiveness, to life,” during a peace march in Bogotá, Colombia, in 2016. (MCC photo/ Amy Eanes)



Staff profile

Anna Vogt started with MCC’s Seed program in Colombia and now serves as director of the new Peace & Justice Office in Ottawa. “A wise mentor once told me that advocacy means listening boldly,” she says. “You can’t advocate with someone if you’re not listening to them. I feel honoured to listen to the stories of our partners and boldly raise their voices up to a bigger platform.”

Peace & justice program highlights:

15,441

people trained in conflict transformation, peacebuilding or mediation

162

Peace Clubs active this year

36

Peace Clubs and restorative justice units operating in prisons in Zambia

85%

of participants in a youth peacebuilding program in Cambodia say they’ve changed their behaviour toward “the other”

Shadi Alkhannous knows what it's like to land at an airport in Canada without knowing a single person. That's why he joins refugee sponsor groups as often as he can to greet newcomers who are walking out of the airport into Canada. He knows firsthand the comfort of hearing a familiar language.

Shadi arrived in Canada from Syria in October 2016. Along with his wife Sultana and his children Ghazal and Hussein, they escaped a dangerous conflict zone and made a new home in St. Catharines, Ont.

Shadi quickly found a job at a grocery store called Alnoor Halal Food Market. Last year, he opened a take-out and delivery counter in the store, offering meals like beef kabab and chicken shawarma. Even during the pandemic, when the food counter can be open safely, lines at the take-out window are a common sight.

And he wouldn't be here without you. **It's your support that has enabled MCC Canada to resettle more than 13,000 refugees in Canada over the last 42 years.**

Now that he's in Canada, Shadi and his wife have helped other newcomers find sponsors for family members still living as refugees. Shadi says it very simply—he likes to help people however he can. “When people call me, I'm happy to do what I can for them,” he says. “I do the same as people did for me when I came new.”

Your donations gave Shadi an opportunity for a new life in Canada.

“When people call me, I'm happy to do what I can for them I do the same as people did for me when I came new.”

SHADI ALKHANNOUS
Former refugee from Syria



Shadi Alkhannous runs the take-out and delivery counter at the Alnoor Halal Food Market in St. Catharines, Ont., serving meals like shish tawook, chicken shawarma and beef kabab. He and his family have been living in Canada since they were resettled here in 2016. (Photo courtesy of Shadi Alkannous)

Terry Schulz and his wife, Sandi Schulz, have supported a number of refugees for resettlement. (Photo courtesy of Terry Schulz)



Volunteer profile

Terry Schulz is a refugee resettlement sponsor from Abbotsford, B.C. “We do it because we're grateful,” he says. “We've never had to worry about food or safety in our life, so we decided we'd try to help people who don't have all that. And God's really put people in our life that have made it possible.”

Migration program highlights:

80

refugees came to Canada through MCC's sponsorship program from:

Eritrea	12
Iraq	12
Syria	32
Palestine	9

Other countries:
DR Congo, Myanmar,
Ethiopia, Iran,
Sudan – 15

The global pandemic greatly reduced the number of people who could resettle in Canada this year. MCC included a number of safety measures and protocols for those who were able to enter the country to ensure their health.

MATERIAL RESOURCES



Abdel* lives in Homs, Syria, with his family in a temporary shelter. He's holding items from an MCC relief kit and enjoying the warmth of a comforter handmade by MCC volunteers. (Photo courtesy of FMEEC/Abuna Sergios)



Your support is a tangible sign of hope in times of crisis.

"Here the light of Christ shines through MCC. [The kits] we received today will paint a smile on my wife and children's faces."

LAITH BAJAJI, an Iraqi refugee in Jordan

Material resources shipped last year:



550,440
Canned meat (lbs)



51,549
School kits



77,240
Hygiene kits



45,787
Comforters



21,792
Relief kits



5,812
Infant care kits



1,600
Sewing kits

Abdel* and his family have had a very challenging few years. They've been forced to abandon two homes because of the constant threat of violence in Syria. They're living in Homs, Syria, now—Abdel, his parents and his five siblings—in a house that desperately needs repairs to withstand the rainy winter months.

But your caring support offered warmth to Abdel on the coldest of nights.

He and his family received an MCC relief kit and comforters that were packed and sewn by MCC volunteers. These supplies provided his family with important basic necessities and the knowledge that people across the world were thinking of them.

**Name changed for security reasons.*



MCC THRIFT

Ruth Jantz (left), shop manager of the Sargent MCC Thrift Shop in Winnipeg, Man., and shop assistant Essence Matthews say adapting to public health orders now feels somewhat normal. (MCC photo/ Allison Zacharias)

"[The volunteers are] so dedicated, even though it took a while for it to sink in that we can't do things as we normally would [due to COVID-19]."

RUTH JANTZ, manager of Sargent MCC Thrift Shop

Your dedication kept thrift shops open for our communities.

This year saw a major disruption to MCC Thrift shops across the country. But the staff and volunteers who operate our shops worked tirelessly to ensure shoppers got as close to a regular experience as they could.

Ruth Jantz, manager of the Sargent MCC Thrift Shop, says the flexibility of volunteers made a challenging situation much more manageable. "They've been great at adapting to the changes in their schedules, filling the gaps and figuring out a new routine," says Ruth. "They're eager to continue as much as they can."

And for volunteers like Pearl Plohman, her time at a thrift shop was also a way for her to connect. "MCC has been a lifeline for me [during the pandemic]," she says. "God made us to be sociable creatures, so you do need contact with people."



MCC THRIFT
Where every purchase is a gift to the world

\$12,387,000

Donated by MCC Thrift shops in Canada and the U.S. to support the work of MCC in the 2020/2021 fiscal year.

GLOBAL SERVICE LEARNING

GSL

YOUNG ADULTS VOLUNTEERING IN THE NAME OF CHRIST

Dr. Ela Castro, a 2019–2020 YAMEN participant, used her training as a doctor to serve at Casa del Migrante (Migrant House) in Guatemala City, Guatemala, offering medical care to migrants and refugees. (MCC photo/Lizette Miranda)



You are helping young adults experience service and growth

“YAMEN is a great place for people to confirm their gift and their call.”

DR. ELA CASTRO, a 2019/2020 YAMEN participant

Dr. Ela Castro always knew she wanted to spend her life serving those in need. By all outward appearances, this is what she was doing. She'd studied for years to earn her medical degree. She was working at a health-care clinic. She was helping people—but something was missing.

It wasn't until she took a step of faith that she truly felt like she'd found her purpose. Through her church, Ela decided to try a one-year term of service with Young Anabaptist Mennonite Exchange Network (YAMEN) and was placed at a ministry serving migrants in Guatemala.

“YAMEN is a great place for people to confirm their gift and their call, and for me it was proof that I can do something different than other doctors are called to do,” she says. She also says her time with YAMEN played a pivotal role in her faith formation and in planning what is next for her life.

“It was my Gethsemane,” says Ela. “It was an opportunity for me to experience my faith by myself without the support of my mom and dad and closer family.”



SOOP



Give a gift today

Help families in poverty survive the effects of COVID-19

Even as the impact of the pandemic recedes in Canada, in many countries the hope of widespread vaccinations could still be two or three years away. This leaves people incredibly vulnerable to the health and economic effects of the pandemic.

Join us with a gift to help respond to the overwhelming need for health care and relief. Your generous donation will provide life-saving support for families living in poverty.

mcccanada.ca/covid-19-donation



COVID-19 RESPONSE



In the early months of 2020, it became clear the COVID-19 disease was going to be a global threat. Adapting our programs around the world to ensure everyone stayed safe was a top priority. Working with our partners across the globe, we adapted and shaped projects to meet the constantly changing situation. As universal as the threat of the coronavirus was, each project required a unique approach. Here are just a few of the ways we responded.

A staff member* from MCC partner Popular Aid for Relief and Development (PARC) prepares to distribute MCC blankets and relief items in Tyre, Lebanon, in March 2020. She wears a mask and gloves to protect herself and recipients. (MCC photo/Evangeline Hammond)

* Name not used for security reasons.



Kenya

Anna Mwatha (right) and Joel Esapaya (left) support families and pregnant mothers in Mathare, a neighbourhood of Nairobi, Kenya. Our partner shifted how they provide health care and support for pregnant mothers to one-on-one sessions, mostly by phone. And they maintained a network of handwashing stations in the area.

(MCC photo/Scott Stoner-Eby)



Afghanistan

In Afghanistan, we shifted some funds to buy personal protective equipment for project staff so they could keep meeting safely to provide mental health care and share COVID-19 prevention information with their clients. The name of MCC's partner in this work and the names of the people pictured are not provided for security reasons.

(MCC photo)



Nepal

Public health inspector Ram Udgar Yadav (right) takes Pramod Kumar Yadav's (left) temperature in front of a health facility in Nepal. We shifted our program here to a more direct care approach, providing items such as hospital beds and thermometers to under-equipped hospitals in the area. At the time the photo was taken in May 2020, the government of Nepal did not require face masks to be worn outdoors.

(BICWS photo/Sanjog Luitel)



El Salvador

When tropical storm Amanda devastated communities in rural El Salvador, we quickly launched an emergency response that included food and personal protective equipment. These women in Cuisnahuat, El Salvador, were some of the 300 households who received a one-month supply of food.

(MCC photo/Kathy Figueroa)



India

In India, our local partner introduced social distancing and other safety protocols to distributions of food, water and hygiene kits like this one to make sure no one was exposed to any extra risk.

(ISARA photo/Jajati Pandit)

MCC around the world

Canada
444 MCC workers*
\$9.5 million
*includes MCC Thrift

United States
156 MCC workers
\$8.4 million

Latin America & the Caribbean
67 MCC workers
\$5.9 million

Europe & the Middle East
35 MCC workers
\$15.2 million

Africa
138 MCC workers
\$15.6 million

Multi-Region
\$7.4 million

Asia
128 MCC workers
\$6.1 million

47
countries

385
partners

508
projects

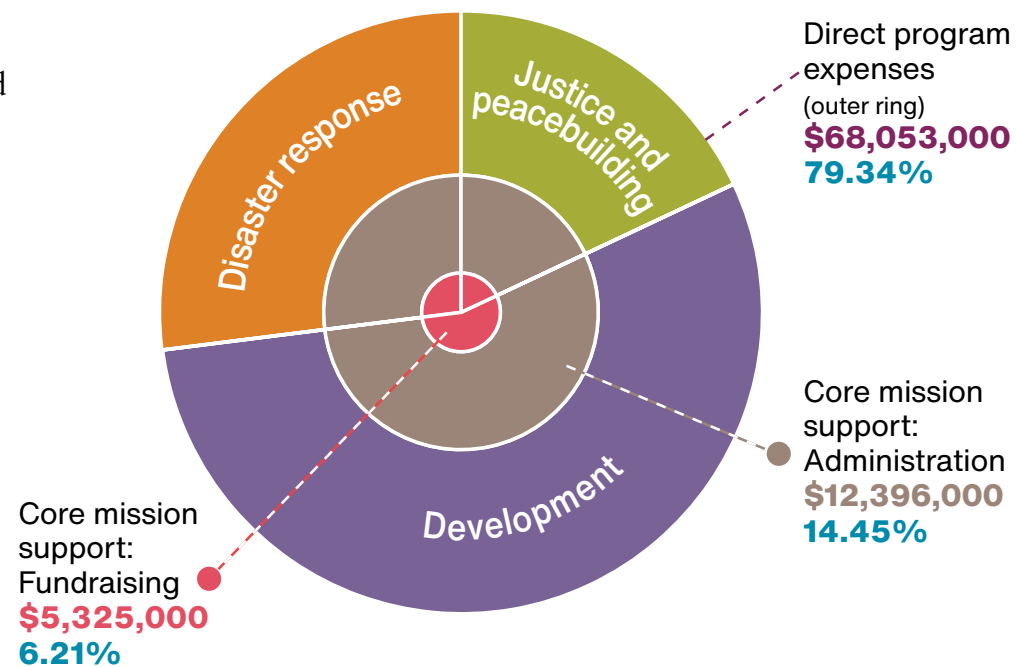
968
workers

31 participants in Global Service Learning programs: SALT, IVEP, YAMEN, Summerbridge, Seed and SOOP. Participant numbers last year were greatly reduced because of the pandemic.

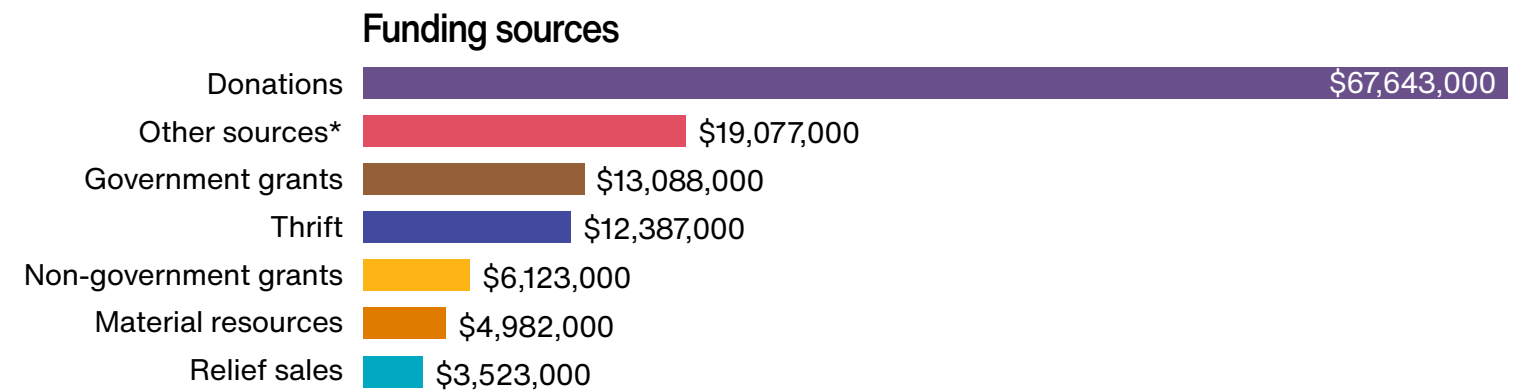
FINANCES

The financial information on these pages presents the combined operations in Canadian dollars of the MCCs in Canada and the U.S. for the year ended March 31, 2021. More detailed financial and program reporting, as well as complete audited financial statements are available at mcccanada.ca/annual-report.

TOTAL EXPENSES:
\$85,774,000



TOTAL REVENUE:
\$126,823,000



*For a detailed list of funding sources see the electronic annual impact report online at mcccanada.ca/annual-report.