

**See your gifts at work
in Ontario.**



2022/2023

Annual Impact Report

ONTARIO

We hope you know how thankful we are that you are part of the MCC community. Together we have been able to do some amazing work. Take some time to read these stories and see the important work that's made possible because of your support.

See your gifts at work in Ontario.

This year we watched prices rise around us, and we all had to make choices about how to adjust. We couldn't be more grateful that through it all you made the choice to keep giving so generously.

Your generosity is bringing more peace and restorative justice programs to families and local communities. It is providing a warm welcome to newcomers seeking a safe place to call home. It is working toward reconciliation with Indigenous Peoples.

We see the fruit of this work every day, and are so grateful for your support.

Thank you.

MCC
ONTARIO
BOARD MEMBERS

Lynn Rempel
Chair

Trisha Ashworth
Vice Chair

Eugene Reesor
Treasurer

Irene Gibbins
Secretary

Denis Wall
Diversity Officer | MB

John Abraham
Conference Representative | MB

Jean de Dieu Basabose
Additional Board
Representative | MB

Ruth Charette
Young Adult Representative
Conrad Grebel University College

Nathan Dirks
Additional Member

Jean Higginson
Conference Representative | BIC

Randy Lepp
Additional Board Representative
MCEC

Matthew Miles
Conference Representative | BIC

Keith Regehr
Conference Representative
MCEC

Bruce Yoder
Conference Representative
MCEC

MCEC - Mennonite Church Eastern Canada
MB - Mennonite Brethren
BIC - Be in Christ Church of Canada

THANK YOU FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Dear Friends,

In another year when the effects of conflict, climate change and the pandemic continued to upend the lives of so many worldwide, your faithfulness and generosity as volunteers, donors and supporting churches made a tangible difference.

When Malcolm Gladwell spoke at our event last fall, he challenged us to remember that like the game of soccer, the work of MCC requires the contributions of everyone on the team. In 1 Corinthians 12, Paul uses the image of the parts of the body to make the same point. As I write my first annual report letter as Executive Director of MCC Ontario, after having served in various other roles at MCC over the last 15 years, I am deeply grateful to continue to join with you in this work.

As you read this report, may you be encouraged by how God continues to be faithful, multiplying our collective efforts to bring relief, development and peace in the name of Christ. There is much to celebrate: people and communities supported by programs in Ontario and around the world, 50 years of Thrift and the resumption of in-person events like Relief Sales and Peace Conference.

Thank you for the part you have played in the work of MCC Ontario this past year. We could not have done it without you.

Joyfully in Christ,




MICHELLE BRENNEMAN
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, MCC ONTARIO
MICHELLEBRENNEMAN@MCCO.CA

“The Lord God has told us what is right and what he demands: ‘See that justice is done, let mercy be your first concern, and humbly obey your God.’”

— MICAH 6:8 CONTEMPORARY ENGLISH VERSION (CEV)

ABOUT MCC ONTARIO

In addition to more than 500 projects worldwide, Mennonite Central Committee (MCC) is actively engaged in making a difference in Ontario. We walk toward reconciliation with Indigenous Neighbours and alongside newcomers building a new life in Canada. We support those impacted by crime or facing the realities of poverty and homelessness. We work to build stronger and safer communities.

Our work includes:

- A network of thrift shops committed to supporting local and international relief, development and peace projects and a sustainable way to preserve finite resources
- Resettlement of refugees made possible by church and community sponsorship groups
- Work to facilitate reconciliation with Indigenous Peoples through relationship, art, advocacy and emergency assistance
- Responding to the needs of communities and individuals who have been impacted by crime through restorative justice, trauma healing and peacebuilding initiatives
- Networking and liaising with providers and agencies in delivering culturally appropriate services for Low German-speaking newcomers
- Walking alongside and supporting people in our community facing the realities of homelessness and poverty
- Collecting and shipping desperately needed relief materials all over the world

LEADERSHIP TEAM



Michelle Brenneman
Executive Director



Kim Lester
Associate Executive
Director



Wendy Adema
Program Director



Lynda Lynch
Thrift Director

MCC ONTARIO WORKS ON TREATED LAND

MCC Ontario acknowledges and honours the Original People from all the Nations represented in this land we now call Ontario. We acknowledge the impact of colonialism on the land, language, culture and knowledge of all Indigenous Peoples. We also recognize the contributions that Indigenous Peoples have made to shaping and strengthening communities across Ontario.

We are grateful for the opportunity to reaffirm our collective commitment to make the promise and the challenge of Truth and Reconciliation real in our lives and in our work.

INDIGENOUS NEIGHBOURS



Bill Louttit (right) and Brian Hunter with some geese from the spring hunt of 2008 near Lake River, Ontario.
MCC photo



Thank you for partnering with MCC Ontario to help address issues of food sovereignty and clean water while responding to the impact of colonialism on Indigenous Peoples.



MATERIAL RESOURCES

Sharon Martin Brubacher knots a comforter at the Material Resources Centre in New Hamburg as part of the Great Winter Warm-up.
MCC photo/Ken Ogasawara



Thank you for providing urgent relief to people in need. Your generosity goes beyond physical needs; your gifts show someone in crisis that they are loved and not forgotten.

15

Partners engaged Indigenous food sovereignty initiatives with the support of MCC.

50

Single-parent and elder-led families from the community of Attawapiskat received wagons to assist with carrying clean, safe water.

269

Comforters were sent to Residential School Survivors as a symbol of respect, support and love.

48

People joined Niska Artisan Lucie Iserhoff for a powerful time of learning about colonial impacts on Indigenous Peoples.

386

Volunteers knotted comforters, packed kits and loaded shipments, providing tangible relief and hope to people in crisis around the world.

400

Dignity kits provided essential support for vulnerable women and girls.

80

Cartons of laundry and bath soap helped families prevent diseases and remain healthy.

17,952

Tubes of toothpaste helped children maintain their oral health in the midst of conflict and disasters.

Rebuilding food sovereignty

Bill Louttit and his seven brothers and sisters grew up eating wild game in the fly-in community of Lake River about 180 km north of Attawapiskat. “Everything you needed to eat was outside the door,” recalls Bill. Today, because of the disruption of traditional food systems and knowledge caused by residential schools and colonialism, most Indigenous communities rely on overpriced, poor-

quality food shipped from urban centres.

MCC has partnered with First Nations communities all over Northern Ontario to support food sovereignty with initiatives such as community garden kits which come complete with all the tools and seeds needed to start a large garden.

The Great Winter Warm-Up

In February, 122 people gathered at the MCC Ontario Material Resources Centre to knot comforters during the Great Winter Warm-up, a week-long comforter-knotting blitz. Across Ontario, hundreds more gathered in churches,

homes and apartments. Each comforter provides warmth and compassion to individuals and families who have lost so much.

MIGRATION & RESETTLEMENT



Tawimbi and her children
MCC photo/Benja



Thank you for coming alongside those who have been uprooted and for welcoming newcomers to Canada. The positive impact of your generosity will last for generations.



RESTORATIVE JUSTICE

The Dismas Photo Club is an art project that was created and led by folks reintegrating into community after serving a sentence and by the volunteers who support them. The project is a creative way of expressing beauty. This photo was taken by Sylvia Richards, partner of Circle of Support and Accountability volunteer Ian Sutherland.
Dismas Photo Club/Sylvia Richards



Thank you for choosing to partner with MCC in the work of restorative justice. You are helping to build a culture of peace for all.

305

newcomers were supported as they started a new life in Canada.

171

Active sponsoring groups were supported as they navigated the refugee sponsorship process.

205

Service providers to the Low German-speaking community increased their capacity to better serve this community.



81

Individuals convicted of sex offences were supported and held to account as they continued to maintain crime-free lives.

1,500

Individuals were trained to respond to harm or conflict using non-violence and promote peaceful solutions.

100

Recently released individuals were supported in reintegrating into communities following incarceration.



Hope is on the horizon

Tawimbi and her children fled violence in Democratic Republic of Congo and immigrated to Canada in 2017, but she was forced to leave her husband behind in a Tanzanian refugee camp. Issues with the residency paperwork and then COVID-19 closures meant that he has been unable to see his family for over six years. The

wait was long, and at times it has felt like all hope was lost. But your compassion and care have supported them every step of the way.

In March 2023, we received the happy news that Tawimbi's husband was finally just one step away from being reunited with his family. Hope is on the horizon!

Returning to community

We know the impact of prison and how overwhelming it is to return to the wider community. Our participants face incredible difficulties after incarceration. Challenges and frustrations can lead to isolation, and isolation often leads to re-offence.

The Faith Community Reintegration Program (FCRP) comes alongside formerly incarcerated

individuals who want to make meaningful spiritual connections. This year, FCRP served 19 women with this goal. The program also supported these women to ensure no breach of parole conditions. We are happy to report that 100% of participants had no breach of conditions and no new criminal charges.

WALKING WITH PEOPLE IN POVERTY



Deb proudly shares a dreamcatcher she made at the Circle of Friends retreat. Indigenous Neighbours staff Mim Harder taught the group how to create dreamcatchers. MCC photo/Ken Ogasawara



Your partnership with MCC fosters connection, creates meaningful employment and advocates for vulnerable people. The impacts of your generosity are far-reaching!

7

Individuals with disabilities or barriers to traditional employment enjoyed meaningful work by serving up more than 26,000 cups of soup through the Raw Carrot Soup Enterprise.

9

People's Action Group members with lived experience in homelessness advised the Region of Waterloo on effective policies to address homelessness.

333

Circle of Friends meetings supported individuals and families transitioning to stable housing.

Community in times of crisis

Circle of Friends supports individuals and families transitioning from homelessness and shelter-living to stable housing in the community.

Ben* was one of those people. When Ben was diagnosed with an aggressive form of cancer, he didn't have many people to be there for him, but he was not alone. His Circle created care packages for him and continued their visits at the hospital which

he appreciated so much.

Ben eventually died in hospital, but his story remains one of resilience and hope.

Last year, MCC supported 17 active Circles, facilitated 333 Circle meetings and worked with 34 volunteers.

*name changed



THE POWER OF PARTNERSHIP

Best-selling author, honorary Mennonite and K-W native Malcolm Gladwell was the keynote speaker at MCC's Power of Partnership event in October 2022. MCC Photo/Shoua Vang

MALCOLM GLADWELL

The Power of Partnership describes the essence of MCC's approach to our work in relief, development and peace in the name of Christ. That was the theme for MCC's signature event in October 2022 in Kitchener with best-selling author, honorary Mennonite and K-W native Malcolm Gladwell. The event celebrated MCC's centennial of 2020, but was postponed because of the global pandemic crisis. About 650 MCC friends and supporters gathered for an amazing evening that will last long in the memory. Using stories and sports analogies, Gladwell emphasized the evening's theme of the power of developing relationships with local, on-the-ground organizations. He also spoke about how working together as a team can bring peace, dignity and hope to those who need it most. Gladwell challenged the audience to carry the message that building a better community requires teamwork such as those shown by a soccer team. Attendees generously contributed over \$150,000 to support MCC's efforts here in Ontario and worldwide.

50 Years of MCC THRIFT

In 2022, MCC Thrift celebrated 50 years of supporting MCC's work in relief, development and peace. Across Ontario, volunteers and staff gathered to celebrate this milestone and reflect on the impact thrift has had in our local and global communities.

From its humble grassroots, MCC Thrift has grown to a thriving network of six shops and three associate shops in Ontario where purchasing dishes can help support newcomers to Canada, or donating books

can help provide reading material to students in places like Rwanda.

2.5 million

items were donated, sorted, merchandised and sold in MCC Ontario thrift shops.

TRAINING ACTIVE BYSTANDERS

Thrift on Kent volunteer Barb LeBlanc uses her training to turn a potential crisis into a great customer service experience.
MCC photo/Ken Ogasawara



Because of your support, thousands of community members across Canada have been empowered to be active peacemakers.

STANDING BY FOR PEACE

Training Active Bystanders (TAB) is a program that equips us to respond to moments of crisis, whether large or small, in a peaceful and de-escalating manner. TAB has been implemented by MCC's Restorative Justice team since 2019.

Participants have found TAB to be a practical tool for peacebuilding, as well as an opportunity to learn more about one's self.

One participant wrote:

"I find it a bit easier to see the human being behind actions or words that are hurtful, rather than automatically falling back into my habitual reaction which is to try to convince them I'm right."

Barb LeBlanc, a volunteer at an MCC thrift shop, showed how being a gentle yet "active bystander" not only prevented a potential argument between customers who wanted the same pair of sandals, but turned it into an above-and-beyond customer service experience by finding a suitable pair for each customer. "There was a potential for confrontation – thankfully it didn't occur."

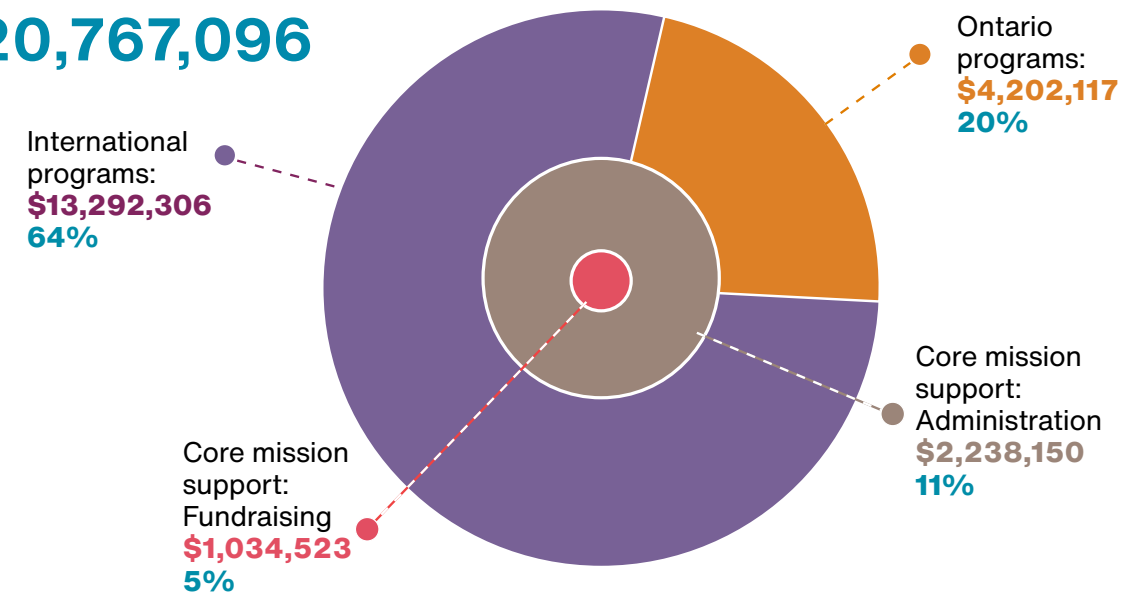
In collaboration with 11 partners, MCC has trained over 2,000 participants across Canada.

Financial highlights

The financial information on this page represents the operations of MCC Ontario for the year ending March 31, 2023 and has been prepared from the audited financial statements. Complete audited financial statements are available upon request or at [MCCOntario.ca/annual-report](https://mccontario.ca/annual-report).

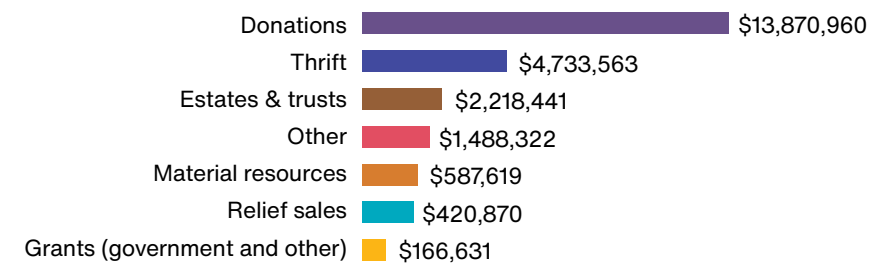
MCC ONTARIO DOLLARS AT WORK:

\$20,767,096



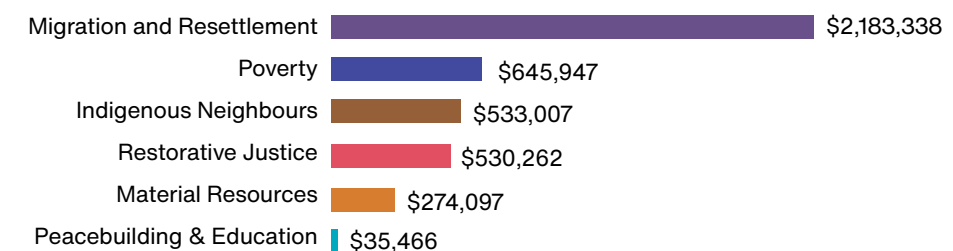
MCC ONTARIO FUNDING SOURCES:

\$23,486,406



MCC ONTARIO PROGRAM DOLLARS AT WORK:

\$4,202,117



**See your gifts at work
around the world.**



2022/2023

Annual Impact Report

CANADA

Right now, you are holding something special in your hands. It's proof of the real difference that your generosity has made this year. Together we have accomplished some amazing things. We hope you can take a moment to enjoy these stories, made possible because of your support.

See your gifts at work around the world.

Last year, we watched the news as bombs continued to fall. We saw more lives lost or forever altered. We saw global hunger continue to rise. But you were right there with us to meet these challenges head-on.

Your compassion touched lives around the world. Brought relief to people fleeing war and disaster. Supported training and education to create stronger communities. Built peace for a more hopeful future.

Thank you.

P.S. We know this work can be hard, especially for local partners and staff on the ground who see the challenges first-hand. We'd love it if you'd record a short video of encouragement. Scan the QR code to let staff and partners know you're thinking about them.



THANK YOU

FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Early, on cold mornings this past winter, I would stir the coals in our woodstove and add a few chunks of wood for the day. As the fire blazed back to life, I would think of families in Ukraine supplied with small woodstoves to heat their homes when their utilities were interrupted by bombing or electricity shortages.

And this fall, our two granddaughters took their first steps into schools in Ontario and Indiana. And I was reminded that unlike girls across the world in South Sudan, they and their parents need not worry about affording school supplies or having enough food to be able to focus in class.

Woodstoves and support for girls' education. Two varieties of responses from MCC. Yet both are responses of love offered to communities facing far too much violence and injustice.

At our core, we are a Jesus-rooted peacebuilding organization. Today, even as violence rages and inequality grows, we lay foundations for this peace work by sharing support like the warmth of stoves in Ukraine and the opportunity for learning in South Sudan. In this sharing, may we also be transformed as agents of reconciliation.

Thank you for your generosity.

Thank you for being part of God's work of mutual transformation.

And thanks be to God.



RICK COBER BAUMAN
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, MCC CANADA



This report was written to reflect the 2022/2023 fiscal year, which ended March 31, 2023. To read an online version visit mcc.org/about/reports

We've moved!
Read more about our new, environmentally friendly office space in downtown Winnipeg.



MCC envisions communities worldwide in right relationship with God, one another and creation.
In our second century of service, we reaffirm our Christ-led commitment to serve and learn from vulnerable people around the world.

María Dolores Pérez Páez (right, pictured with Bonnie Klassen, MCC area director for South America, Mexico and Cuba) and her husband received an MCC relief kit after Hurricane Ian hit Cuba in 2022 and their home was destroyed. "I thank the people who sent me this," says Maria. "I recognize the effort it took to send it, and I want to honour it because when it's gone, I don't know where I'll get more." (MCC photo/Annalee Giesbrecht)

MCC CANADA 2022/2023 BOARD MEMBERS

Ron Ratzlaff
Chair, CCAL*

Jacqueline Block
MCC Saskatchewan

Selena Friesen
CCAL*

Mark Sawatzky
Member-at-large

Catherine Enns
Vice-Chair, Member-at-large

Sandra Bunnett
Eastern Canada

Laura Hanna
CCAL*

Peter Wolfe
MCC British Columbia

Cindy Klassen
Secretary, CCAL*

Ernie Engbrecht
MCC Alberta

Janet Plenert
MCC Manitoba

Eleanor Andres
Treasurer, Member-at-large

Laurence Fontaine
Member-at-large

Lynn Rempel
MCC Ontario

*Appointed by the Canadian Council of Anabaptist Leaders (CCAL), which includes Mennonite Church Canada, Be in Christ Church of Canada, Canadian Conference of Mennonite Brethren Churches, Evangelical Mennonite Conference, and the Evangelical Mennonite Mission Conference.

Your gifts at work around the world



Every year, MCC responds to disasters all around the world, providing emergency relief to people after devastating loss. And because of your continued support, the work doesn't end there. After immediate needs are addressed, we work to rebuild and restore what was lost, physically and emotionally. Here are a few updates of what MCC's work looks like in the months after the initial events of disaster in Syria, Ukraine and sub-Saharan Africa.



(Fellowship of Middle East Evangelical Churches photo)

Syria earthquake

MCC continues to respond to the destruction left in the wake of earthquakes that devastated Syria and Türkiye in early 2023. In Syria, after responding to short-term needs in the immediate aftermath, MCC partners like the Fellowship of Middle East Evangelical Churches (FMEEC) have begun longer-term projects that will provide food packages, hygiene items and trauma support in places that were particularly hard-hit. The project will run for nine months with the goal of helping families regain long-term access to food. This photo shows some FMEEC volunteers distributing relief kits to shelters.

Scan the QR code to listen to a podcast episode about the response.



(AMBCU photo)

Trauma healing in Ukraine

The war in Ukraine continues to disrupt and endanger the lives of millions. In addition to providing relief for immediate needs like food and shelter, MCC partners are also working to address the trauma that conflict like this inflicts on people. Margarita* (in the yellow coat above) works with MCC partner Association of Mennonite Brethren Churches of Ukraine (AMBCU) using equine therapy to help children with physical and emotional rehabilitation.

*Names are shortened or omitted for security reasons.

Scan the QR code to watch a thank you video from MCC staff in Ukraine.



(MCC photo/Tadeo Santonino)

Hunger crisis

Last year, a crisis of extreme hunger emerged, putting the lives of millions of already vulnerable people in danger. The conflict in Ukraine, combined with other factors like flooding and the worst drought in 40 years in East Africa, led to inflated food prices and a global hunger crisis. The number of people facing extreme hunger has more than doubled since 2020. Your support allowed MCC to respond to these increasing needs in countries around the world. We are providing emergency food for thousands of families whose options have run out in places like South Sudan, pictured above.

Scan the QR code to listen to a podcast episode about the hunger crisis.



Multimedia feature

On *Relief, Development and Podcast*, MCC Canada staff Emily Loewen shares audio diaries from her 2022 trip to western Ukraine. “You know, from the outside, when you read news about Ukraine ... you’d think people would feel really discouraged and hopeless. At least that’s what I assumed. But so many people are mostly reflecting on the many ways that other people have helped them, that communities have supported them.”

Scan the QR code to listen



Relief program highlights:

208,149

people received emergency food assistance globally

1,552

households received home repairs or reconstruction

62,000

people in Ukraine have been supported through MCC’s 14 local partners

4,003

people received financial support or rent assistance

RELIEF



Your support sent life-saving food and relief to Ukraine.

“Thank God that we were able to get MCC humanitarian aid. It helped us a lot.”

HENNADIY*, RECIPIENT OF MCC RELIEF IN UKRAINE

In the photo

A woman* in a village recovered from Russian military control in Ukraine’s Kherson region receives a small wood stove from MCC partner Uman Help Center. (Photo courtesy of Uman Help Center)



Before the escalation of the war in Ukraine, Nadiya O.* and her husband lived near the city of Uman. Together they grew a vegetable garden and kept bees, selling their honey to make some extra cash. But shortly after the conflict worsened, her husband died from a heart attack.

Then Russian military bombing destroyed their home, turning to ash most of the beehives they had once tended together. In Ukrainian, the name Nadiya means hope, but her situation left little reason to feel hopeful. **However, your caring gifts have provided an essential lifeline to Nadiya and thousands of Ukrainians like her.**

MCC sent five containers full of canned meat, comforters and other relief items to Uman and

other nearby cities this year, focused on reaching the most vulnerable. Partners also distributed supplies to help people survive the cold winter with limited heating or electricity. One small wood stove costs \$54 and provides a person or family a reliable way to cook their own food.

“We gave to people whose homes were destroyed, people who lost their jobs, the elderly people with small pension benefits and people living with disabilities,” says Nadiya T.*, program coordinator for MCC in Ukraine.

Because of your generous and prayerful contribution, Ukrainians with no other support are getting their basic needs met.

*Names are shortened or omitted for security reasons.

Donor profile

Annette and Peter Wolfe have been supporting MCC's Share Your Table program since 2019. They give because "access to nutritious food is key to people flourishing, especially families with children. We also enjoy the monthly stories and recipes and regularly try them out." Share Your Table is MCC's monthly giving program that provides emergency food to families in need around the world.

(Photo courtesy of Peter Wolfe)



Food program highlights:

44,654

people trained in improved agriculture and animal production methods

68%

increase in the variety of food grown in kitchen gardens with support of a food security project in Bangladesh

39,158

people received agricultural supplies, including seeds and tools

35 projects in **18**

countries supported through MCC's account at Canadian Foodgrains Bank

FOOD



You're helping farmers respond to climate change around the world.

"We got trained on new techniques to make good produce. Now we share and learn together with others."

RATH MORN, CAMBODIAN FARMER

In the photo

Rath Morn* and his wife, Jhonh Nham, work in their garden beside their home. They're farmers supported by MCC partner Organization to Develop Our Villages. (MCC photo/Isaac Alderfer)



When Rath Morn* was growing up in Sampor, Cambodia, his family could count on reliable dry and wet seasons to grow their crops. For generations, that reliability meant bountiful crops and prosperous farmers.

But as our climate has continued to change, so have the realities of farming in Cambodia. Scorching temperatures cause essential water sources to dry out, for both crops and animals. The once-consistent wet seasons now bring hard-driving rain that flattens or drowns crops.

But your donations are supporting Morn in adapting to the changing realities he's facing.

For \$482, MCC partner Organization to Develop Our Villages (ODOV) built a fishpond and filled it with fish. For \$67, they built a chicken coop and stocked it with hens and a rooster. Thanks to these resources and the agricultural training ODOV provides, with funding through MCC's account at Canadian Foodgrains Bank, Morn's family now earns around \$63 per month.

He sees the difference these changes are making in his neighbours: "People are getting better, and I can see the improvements in their families. In each family, people do not do anything that would cause harm to others. Instead, they share with each other."

*In Cambodia, names are written with the surname appearing first, followed by the given name.

Donor profile

Jane and Peter Andres decided to leave a gift in their will for MCC, saying, “It’s a continuation of the values that have always been important to us. It came as a pleasant surprise when our financial advisor suggested that we could leave a legacy for MCC while at the same time we could save our children some taxes on our passing. We are convinced that MCC will put that donation to good use.”

(Photo courtesy of Jane and Peter Andres)



Water program highlights:

55,568

people now have access to an improved water source

201

drinking water systems built or repaired

15,776

people now have access to a new or improved latrine or sanitation facility

315

water harvesting structures for irrigation constructed or repaired

WATER

You provided safe access to life-giving water.

“Now peace has come. Water is near the house. They can go at anytime they like.”

EDO FALANKA, PROJECT COORDINATOR FOR MCC PARTNER COMMUNAUTÉ DES ÉGLISES DE FRÈRES MENNONITES AU CONGO (CEFMC; COMMUNITY OF MENNONITE BRETHREN CHURCHES IN CONGO)

In the photo

Chanelle Kingenzi, a secondary school student at Malwanu Institute, in Kanzombi, DR Congo, washes her hands with clean water drawn from the well that an MCC partner established in the community. (Justin Makangara/MCC/Fairpicture)



On a good morning, Chanelle Kingenzi would need an hour to fetch water from the spring nearest to her family’s home in Kanzombi, the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DR Congo). That water would be enough for her, her three siblings and mother to bathe and cook breakfast before school started.

On bad mornings, fighting in line could delay her three or four hours, making her miss part of the school day. Chanelle’s family was displaced by violence elsewhere in DR Congo, so sometimes the others in line would treat her poorly. More than once, she was threatened or hurt, or went home with no water.

But your generosity has changed all of that for Chanelle.

With your support, a local MCC partner drilled a series of deep borehole wells in Kanzombi and other communities nearby. For around \$32,000, the well, storage tank and water taps provide fresh, clean water to thousands, who no longer must risk their safety for drinking water.

Now instead of a long and unsafe journey, Chanelle can take a short walk to the well and fill her containers with almost no effort. No longer does she have to risk missing school or her own safety just to have water to drink.

Partner profile

Anne Kuria is the counsellor at the Mary Ward Primary Health Care Centre that runs out of Loreto Rumbek School in South Sudan. As a school counsellor, she's seen how important the clinic is to ensuring girls get an education. "The [health care] centre is here in part to protect the girl child's education. And not only education but [to protect] against forced and early marriages as well."

(David Lomuria/MCC/Fairpicture)



Health program highlights:

38,055

people received direct clinical care

55%

of women and girls in a sexual violence prevention program in Haiti now feel comfortable discussing with friends and family the abuse they experienced

159,429

people received hygiene items, including menstrual health supplies

43%

of girls in an Ethiopian school system now have regular access to sanitary pads — an increase of 23%

HEALTH

You're giving children access to the health care they need.

"I'm a changed person.... I'm using what I've learned to keep my children and myself healthy."

MARY ATHEEN, MOTHER TO A BABY RECEIVING VACCINES AT THE MARY WARD PRIMARY HEALTH CARE CENTRE

In the photo

Cholhok Maluk (right) and Teresa Ayen (middle) look through an infant care kit during an infant immunization session at the Mary Ward Primary Health Care Centre in Rumbek, South Sudan. (David Lomuria/MCC/Fairpicture)



About one in 10 children born in South Sudan don't survive to see their fifth birthday. This heartbreaking statistic is caused by many factors, including new mothers simply not having access to health care.

But thanks to your compassionate support, an MCC partner in South Sudan is providing health care to many who would otherwise go without.

The Mary Ward Primary Health Care Centre is part of the Loreto Rumbek School in South Sudan. In addition to providing a fully staffed pharmacy, recovery unit, examination rooms and mental and sexual health services, each week they host a child vaccination clinic. Their program gets newborns on a five-month vaccine

series for diseases including polio, hepatitis B, tuberculosis and many others.

As an incentive to stick to the entire program, the clinic offers an MCC infant care kit to mothers whose children complete the entire slate of immunizations. The clinic provides around 3,000 vaccinations each year, and each child's continued health creates a testimony that combats vaccine skepticism in South Sudan, says clinic nurse Mary Alual.

"It's not only the vaccines, but everything they're learning about health here," Mary says. "Handwashing, the connection between child and mother health, many things."

Volunteer profile

Rebeka Delamorandiere has sponsored two families for resettlement in Canada with North Langley Community Church in Langley, B.C. She was looking for a way to invest in her community and felt sponsorship was a great way to do it. “We have a calling to feed the hungry and to help those who may not look and act and be just like us. And I’ve always been drawn to that, to cross-cultural communication and the challenges and joys it might bring.”

(Photo courtesy of Rebeka Delamorandiere)



Migration program highlights:

452

refugees from these countries were resettled in Canada through MCC-supported sponsorship:

- Syria **158**
- Eritrea **78**
- Afghanistan **36**
- Iran **29**

Other countries include: DR Congo, Ethiopia, Iraq, Somalia, South Sudan, Sudan, Vietnam and more.

MIGRATION



You’re providing safety and support to people on the move.

“Serving [at Casa del Migrante] has given me new eyes to see, learn and share with my neighbours who are on journeys of migration.”

KATRINA SHENK, MCC SALT PARTICIPANT SERVING AT CASA DEL MIGRANTE IN GUATEMALA CITY, GUATEMALA

In the photo

Casa del Migrante staff Hector Pablo (left) gives an MCC hygiene kit to Liam Josue (right) at Casa del Migrante in Guatemala City. (MCC photo/Meghan Mast)



There are many reasons why someone might migrate. It could be to find new work, join family or study. It might be to flee violence or disaster. Whatever the cause, there are more people on the move today than ever before, and many are facing immense hardship and danger trying to reach their destination.

That’s why your generous support for MCC partners like Casa del Migrante is so important.

In Guatemala City, Casa del Migrante is a place of shelter and care for people on the move through this part of Central America. Migrants can access legal advice, food and medicine,

medical and dental care, spiritual support and a variety of other help before they continue their journey.

Carlos López, the director of Casa del Migrante, says that while they cannot promise people safety on their journey, they try to provide everything they can when migrants come through their doors.

They offer “security, trust and safeguarding to know that they are not at risk or in danger inside the shelter’s facilities,” says Carlos. “But above all, [we offer] empathy on the part of the staff.”

Advocacy highlight

In August 2021, the Taliban took control of Afghanistan. Because of Canadian laws, organizations like MCC faced severe restrictions to providing relief. Some organizations couldn't operate at all. MCC joined a coalition of relief agencies to lobby the government to amend these rules. Nearly 10,000 Canadians, including MCC supporters, sent letters in support of Bill C-41, which officially became law on June 20, 2023.

The MCC Canada board of directors show their support. (MCC photo/Anna Vogt)



Peace & Justice program highlights:

30,246

people trained in conflict transformation, peacebuilding or mediation globally

32

meetings between policymakers in Ottawa and MCC staff

399

peace clubs active this year

468

letters sent to parliamentarians by MCC supporters

PEACE & JUSTICE



You are advocating for climate justice.

“It’s important to adapt with ancestral knowledge but also by using new technologies that are coming up. I think that’s the only way we will be able to learn to live with climate change.”

GABRIEL ACARAPI CHUCA, A TECHNICIAN WITH MCC PARTNER PRODII, WORKING IN REMOTE BOLIVIAN COMMUNITIES

In the photo

Lidia Chambi is a farmer and the vice president of an agricultural producers association. She helps farmers grow varieties of potatoes that are more resistant to the harsh conditions caused by climate change in Chiro Kasa, Bolivia. (MCC photo/Annalee Giesbrecht)



Lidia Chambi is a farmer in Chiro Kasa, Bolivia. In addition to tending her own crops, she helps other farmers in her community succeed in the unforgiving environment high up in the mountains.

Climate change is causing water to become scarce; this leads to conflict between neighbours as everyone tries to get enough. And when new weather patterns cause harsh rains to wash away crops, families are split apart as some migrate to larger cities for paying work. **But your loving generosity is enabling just action to address these issues.**

Working with MCC partner PRODII (Interdisciplinary Comprehensive Development Program), Lidia and farmers like her are combatting the injustice caused by climate change. By helping farmers learn new techniques to adapt to the changing climate (and sometimes even reviving ancestral agricultural techniques), they’re growing heartier crops and reducing the need to migrate. And that creates more peaceful communities.

At the same time, MCC advocates to the government in Canada for policies that reduce greenhouse gas emissions and that provide more support for communities like Lidia’s.

To read more stories about MCC and our partners responding to climate change injustice and to take positive action, visit www.ClimateActionForPeace.com.

Multimedia feature

It is estimated that less than a third of women aged 15 and older in Afghanistan are literate. In this episode of *Relief, Development and Podcast*, you'll hear from an MCC partner in Afghanistan teaching women to read while navigating the governing rule of the Taliban. "If you want to educate that generation, you have to educate a woman because, especially in Afghanistan, women are all the time with their children," says the director of MCC's local partner.

Scan the QR code to listen



EDUCATION



You're ensuring quality education is accessible to every student.

"When I shared my exam results with my parents ... they were very happy, thanking God for this achievement."

PRATHO HALDER, RECIPIENT OF TUITION MONEY FOR NURSING EDUCATION

In the photo

Opi Sarker (right) sits with fellow students Bonnya Sarker (middle) and Pinky Das (left) in a class for their third year at the Elizabeth Conan Memorial Nursing Institute at Christian Mission Hospital in Rajshahi, Bangladesh. (MCC photo/James Kisku)



Education program highlights:

19,685

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

80%

of students across 25 schools saw significant improvements in English literacy from a project in Kolkata, India

65,711

children and youth received education supplies, including MCC school kits and locally purchased items

79%

of graduates from a vocational training program in Gaza successfully found jobs immediately after graduating

Opi Sarker always knew she wanted to help people. By the time she finished high school, she had set her sights on becoming a nurse.

"I love to serve people, and nursing as a profession seemed like a way I could serve people in my job," says Opi.

Her father is a fisherman, while her mother stays at home caring for Opi's older sister, who lives with an intellectual disability. So, when Opi was accepted into the nursing program at a highly reputed school 400 kilometres away, she was thrilled. But on the heels of that excitement came the dread of wondering of how she was going to pay for this chance to follow her dream.

And that's where you stepped in. **Your generosity is helping students like Opi get the education they deserve.**

Through an MCC partner in Bangladesh, Opi, and other students like her, receive just over \$200 per year toward their education. While it may not sound like a lot of money, it's an amount that she says makes a significant difference.

"For people from families like mine, the amount that we're getting from MCC — that's a big support for us: it's really helpful," says Opi.

MATERIAL RESOURCES



Your generosity allows children to learn better at school.



“May God bless the people who gave us these books.”

MARY ANIONG ACHIEN, 16, RECIPIENT OF SCHOOL KITS IN RUMBEK, SOUTH SUDAN

In the photo

(Left to right) John Gai Mabor, Mary Aniong Achien, Emmanuel Gaak Chol and Amida Yunis James receive their school kits during a distribution at Rumbek Comboni Primary School in Rumbek, South Sudan. (David Lomuria/MCC/Fairpicture)

Students at Rumbek Comboni Primary School in South Sudan, have limited access to basic school supplies. Even if they were able to find all the items in a school kit at the local market, it could easily cost more than an entire month’s wages — around 5,000 South Sudanese pounds. Those same items can be purchased in Canada for \$8.50.

Mary Aniong Achien, 16, is in her final year of primary school and wants to be a doctor when she graduates. She says school kits have made a huge difference for her as a student. “How do you take notes without notebooks? I did not understand well in class before I had them, but now I can take notes in all my classes,” says Mary. “And the bag makes everything easy to carry.”

She also noted that she’s very aware of how difficult it would be for her parents to buy her supplies like these. “With the school kit, my parents can buy food instead of books,” she says.

Material resources shipped last year with your support:



MCC THRIFT



Reducing waste and providing connection.

“At thrift, we receive things that someone does not want or that have been deemed no longer useful to the owner, and we gratefully see the potential for new life and purpose.”

MARGARET SMART, WALKING WITH PEOPLE IN POVERTY PROGRAM COORDINATOR

In the photo

Ann J.* shows a lamp she upcycled as part of Reclaiming Beauty, a joint program of MCC Thrift and MCC’s Walking with People in Poverty. (MCC photo/ Ken Ogasawara)



Ann J.* was recovering from a lengthy health care journey with two children at home and no one to help co-parent them — she was feeling depressed. But when she heard about Reclaiming Beauty, a joint program between MCC Thrift and Walking with People in Poverty in Ontario, she saw a chance to reclaim some parts of her own life.

Across Canada and the U.S., MCC Thrift shops reduce waste by giving used items new life, and they also provide space for community connections. The women taking part in Reclaiming Beauty are empowered to upcycle donated thrift items into cherished treasures. Through the process of re-creation, participants reflect on their own journey and goals.

“I needed to do something gratifying and beautiful that I enjoy, that I could sit and see and spend time with,” says Ann.

*Last name withheld for privacy

2,481 people signed up for the **Thrifty 50 Challenge**, taking small and practical steps to reduce waste and care for our planet.

\$37,873,000 donated by MCC Thrift shops in Canada and the U.S. to support the work of MCC in the 2022/2023 fiscal year.



You are helping young adults put their faith into action.



“Whoever thought up these [GSL] programs was thinking with the heart of God!”

JOSÉ DAVID DÁVILA, A PARTICIPANT IN MCC'S SEED PROGRAM IN GUATEMALA

In the photo

José David Dávila, a participant in MCC's Seed program in Guatemala, at Casa del Migrante (The Migrant House), in Guatemala City, Guatemala. (MCC Photo/Meghan Mast)

José David Dávila remembers the name Mennonite Central Committee from the cans of meat his family received when he was a young boy living in Managua, Nicaragua. So, when he grew up and was seeking direction for his life, he turned to MCC, knowing MCC's commitment to peace through all its programs.

In 2016, he served for a year with MCC's Young Anabaptist Mennonite Exchange Network (YAMEN) in El Salvador. That experience gave José David a desire for more active service: in 2021, after a few years of school, he started his term with MCC's Seed program in Colombia, then finished his second year in Guatemala.

He says both programs gave him opportunities to see his ideas of faith translated to action, helping real people in the real world. “If you want to serve God, you need to get out of your comfort zone. These programs are very transformative because you're exposed to situations that cause you to unlearn and learn, [to discover] the many forms of God's grace that are moving in the whole world.”



Investing in impact

\$229 million legacy donation supports MCC's worldwide ministry

Globally, more than 110 million people have been forced to flee their homes. More than 43 million of these displaced people are children. And more than 800 million people – one in ten – go to bed on an empty stomach each night.

In 2012, HyLand Properties was created to receive the first donation of property and in the fall of 2022 an additional \$229 million of property was donated and is now being managed by HyLand.

The scale of the need is staggering.

For over 100 years, MCC has been working to address challenges like these, responding to real and urgent needs around the world. These issues require innovative and bold solutions.

HyLand is fully owned by MCC B.C. and functions like an endowment. A separate board and staff, with related business expertise, is preserving and growing the capital while making annual donations to support MCC's international relief, development and peace projects. Through HyLand, Henry's legacy gift will have a global impact for generations to come.

HyLand Properties was created to receive legacy donations as an innovative and bold way to address global poverty, managing strategic investments to support the work of MCC – today and into the future.

Even in the face of daunting need, generous and faithful donors are partnering with MCC to share God's love and compassion for all in the name of Christ.

The origin story of HyLand is the story of one donor's strategic generosity and faithfulness. Henry Rempel, of New Westminster, B.C., whose family benefitted from the work of MCC many decades ago, decided to donate a large portfolio of rental and development properties located across B.C. He wanted his legacy to help meet basic human needs for generations – to bless others through MCC, just as his family had been blessed.

Every gift makes a difference.
To learn more about making MCC part of your own legacy visit mcc.org/legacy

Scan the QR code for more information about HyLand



Photos above: HyLand properties benefit local families and communities, while supporting MCC's international efforts.



Canada
492 MCC workers*
\$12 million
*includes MCC Thrift staff

United States
201 MCC workers
\$10.7 million

Latin America & the Caribbean
88 MCC workers
\$8.5 million

Europe & the Middle East
59 MCC workers
\$19.7 million

Africa
145 MCC workers
\$26 million

Multi-Region
\$11.9 million

Asia
123 MCC workers
\$7.7 million

Dollar figures on map represent direct program expenses without fundraising and administration costs.

*Map uses Equal Earth projection

45
countries

393
partners

508
projects

1,108
workers

95
participants in Global Service Learning programs as of July 31, 2023:

YAMEN	23
IVEP	22
SALT	17
Seed	13
Seek	13
Summerbridge	7

MCC around the world

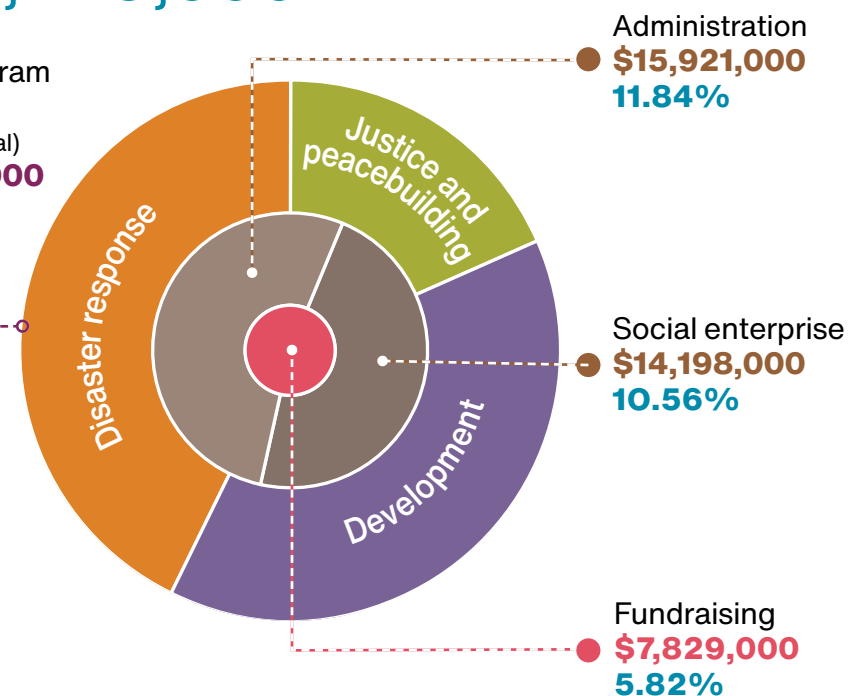
FINANCES

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, 2023. More detailed financial and program reporting, as well as complete audited financial statements are available at mcc.org/about/reports.

*For a detailed list of funding sources see the electronic annual impact report appendix online at mcc.org/about/reports.

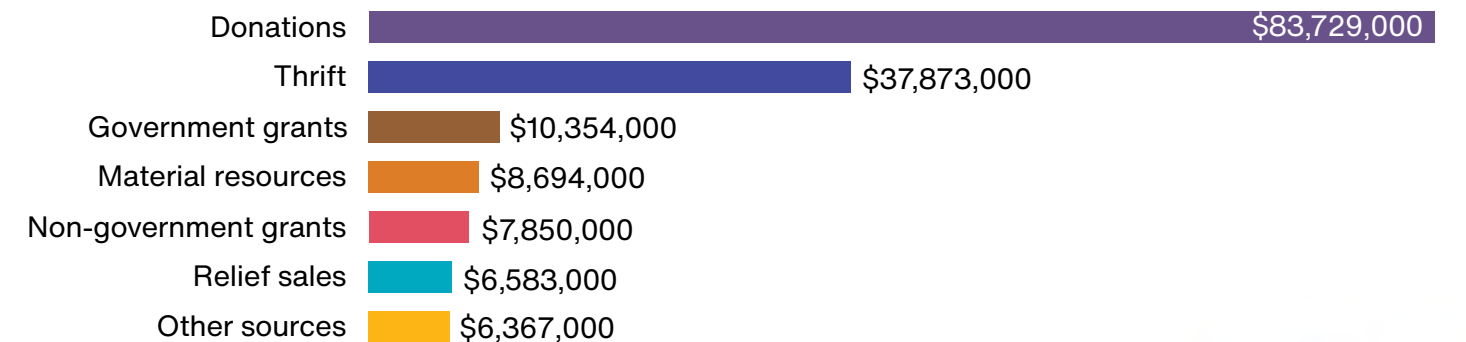
TOTAL EXPENSES:
\$134,445,000

Direct program expenses (outer ring total)
\$96,497,000
71.78%



TOTAL REVENUE:
\$391,074,000*

Funding sources



* A gift of capital property of \$229.6 million to MCC B.C., managed by HyLand Properties, is excluded from the above graph to make financials comparable year-over-year. For more information about HyLand and this legacy gift see p. 25.

Introducing MCC's new website mcc.org

