



2024

ANNUAL
REPORT



A year on
the move!

Working towards
purchasing a property.

LI-BER-T House respectfully acknowledges that we are located on unceded traditional Kanien'kehá:ka territory and we honour the traditional lands of the Haudenosaunee Confederacy, Huron/Wendat, Abenaki, and Anishinaabeg and Kanien'kehá:ka.

As part of the calls to Action put forth by the Truth and Reconciliation Commission, we are committed to addressing and remedying injustices caused by colonization by providing culturally safe spaces for Indigenous women and supporting them on their healing journey.



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About Us

LI-BER-T House is a registered charitable organization committed to helping women in recovery find their rightful and productive place in society.

From grassroots and peer-to-peer initiatives to our first brick and mortar facility, LI-BER-T House is building better communities.

Mission

The LI-BER-T House mission is to alleviate poverty and homelessness for women completing substance abuse treatment (rehab for drugs/alcohol = addiction), by offering a safe housing option, and providing the tools necessary to empower them to become self-sufficient through learning, leadership, companionship, and service. We also offer external consultations for women who have a safe place to live but could benefit from our reintegration services.

Why this is important

There are no facilities presently operating in Quebec offering the services available at LI-BER-T House, for women recovering from addiction. The rate of successfully improving the lives of women re-entering society post-treatment is greatly enhanced with aftercare and reintegration programming (services offered at LI-BER-T House).

Without our facility, many women will end up trapped in the vicious cycle of poverty, addiction, toxic relationships, unemployment, criminality, and homelessness, and are at risk of becoming fatalities. Women with nowhere safe to go after completing rehab are ten times more likely to end up on the street, in prison or to return to treatment within a year. This cycle is often referred to as the 'revolving door' syndrome.

LI-BER-T House is a vital component in improving women's chances of overcoming the dangerous lifestyle that accompanies addiction and putting a stop to the 'revolving door'. The spaces we reserve for Indigenous women, and our partnering with Indigenous led organizations specializing in treatment, healing, social work, and [para-judicial services](#), fill an important void for this population as well.



A message from our Executive Director & President

Fiscal year 2024 was a successful one for LI-BER-T House. We exceeded our own expectations in programming, activities, number of clients served, and have amassed the funds necessary to purchase a larger house to shelter more women simultaneously – a major goal of 2024. Another major goal of 2024 was to become a certified resource with Santé Québec, and I am delighted to say we have temporary attestation, the first step in becoming fully certified. After one full year of following the standards of RHD ([ressource d'hébergement en dépendance](#)) and [accreditation Canada](#), we'll be a fully certified resource, provincially and federally. A major step in our Indigenous component came about via an agreement with [Portage Treatment Center](#) whereby we accommodate their clients from Northern Communities during the initial stages of their admission to the women's program at Lac Echo.

Each year we thrive with the continued support and encouragement received from the City of Pointe-Claire. They've welcomed us and championed our cause, and we're so happy that we'll be staying in this city for the foreseeable future. Being on the West Island offers an added benefit for those in early recovery: we are removed from the hustle and bustle of the inner city; our clients are less likely to encounter former using associates; and they can enjoy relative peace and quiet as they begin rebuilding their lives.

LI-BER-T House would not be able to achieve its mission were it not for the support of its cherished partner-organizations. Our relationship with [Concordia University](#) continues to grow and thrive. We provide research and hands-on learning opportunities for students planning to work in the community sector and have been host to a very special intern for the past 4 semesters, Sarah, who collaborates on different events and activities. [Transform Art](#) continues to volunteer their time by-weekly through Mindful Art sessions for our participants, enriching their healing process. This year our residents experienced acupuncture therapy and Reiki healing with our community volunteers. Pointe-Claire Sports and Leisure Department has again allocated complimentary passes for our residents.

There has been a slowdown in the PSL (programme soutien au logement) offered by the federal government, so finding housing once our residents are ready to move out has been a huge challenge in 2024. In Phase 2 of our development plan, which we aim to complete by the end of 2026, we will buy, or build, a 30-studio apartment complex to house our clients once they've spent 3 to 6 months at our principal housing unit. We are partnered with a non-profit organization, [Batir Son Quartier](#), who has assigned us a GRT (Groupe de Ressource Technique), and they will guide us throughout the process – fundraising, budgeting, architectural and administrative tasks.

To conclude, the LI-BER-T House team is proud of how far we've come in such a short time. Onward and upward is our motto for 2025, when we hope to begin the process of building or buying an apartment complex for Phase 2 of our long-term development plans. I am extremely grateful to all our board members, employees, interns, funders, volunteers, and partners, with a special acknowledgement of [Andy's House Treatment Center](#) who have once again been key to our success with their experience, wisdom, and overall support. As we continue to grow and evolve, the enormous generosity of our donors, longstanding and new, has been indispensable in our decision to move forward with the purchase of our own house. We do what we say and say what we do – with full transparency. In terms of personal growth, I will complete the certificate program in addiction at [Université de Sherbrooke](#) in the fall session. Without all of You there would be no Us.

Wishing you the best of health and a safe and successful year,



Liane Berry
Executive Director



"Congratulations to Liane and her team for their dedication to the women of LI-BER-T House. LI-BER-T House is a testament of what can be achieved when one's vision becomes a reality through tenacity and ambition. It has proven to positively impact its residents by providing an important stepping stone in the next phase of their recovery. In this past year, we have seen some amazing milestones in the continued evolution of LI-BER-T House and there are many more exciting events to come in the future." Marla Newhook, President

Housing & Consultation Programs

How it Works

LI-BER-T House services are available to women who have no safe housing alternative after completing a substance abuse treatment program. At the same time, we offer external consultation services to women who have a safe place to live but wish to reinforce their sobriety with guidance, support and referrals geared specifically to their needs. Each client is eligible for up to six months of housing (or more, if needed) as long as they remain abstinent from drugs/alcohol, pay their monthly stipend, and actively participate in back to work/back to school programs.

Services Provided

LI-BER-T House offers mentoring, community resource support, and tailored services and programs to meet the specific needs of each client. Residents navigate life's ups and downs while staying at LI-BER-T House, with access to resources that are essential in delivering long term success – life coaches and mentors who are recovered addicts/alcoholics. Our residents create their own schedule each week, and our staff oversees the implementation of their schedules, while an addictions counselor oversees their relapse prevention plan.

Indigenous created and run organizations such as Native Montreal, Onen'tó:kon Healing Lodge, PAQ (Projet Autochtone du Québec) and KSCS (Kahnawake Shakotiiia'takehnhas Community Services) interact with our Indigenous clients to ensure access to cultural activities and support.

Recreation, Health and Wellness: complimentary passes to sports and leisure activities from Pointe-Claire (gym, pool, group activities); Reiki healing; NADA (National Acupuncture Detoxification Association); Mindful Art; bicycles for clients;

Staff: around the clock availability; always someone to talk to; safety when clients are sleeping; ensures the smooth running of the house at all times;

Addiction & Treatment Services: relapse prevention plans based on proven methods; mentorship program (recovered addicts/alcoholics helping new residents); addiction counsellor available for consultation as needed;

General Wrap-Around Support: connections with our local CLSC; referrals to community services and organizations (physical/mental health, career orientation, back to school guidance, free legal services – among many others); aftercare services for life where clients can always call us for referrals or guidance;

Mental Health Support Services: Some of our partners in the community: 1. CLSC Pierrefonds and Lac St Louis adult mental health services; 2. Département de psychiatrie Lakeshore; 3. West Island Crisis Center; 4. Aire Ouverte; 5. Les Amis de la Santé Mentale; 6. AJOI (Action Jeunesse Ouest de L'île); 7. Community Perspective in Mental Health; 8. Equipe Entreprise.

The Empowering 6 Step Program is an important tool:

STEP 1 Relapse prevention: Reinforce relapse prevention strategies with evidence-based practices, continue to use tools learned in treatment, create strategic plan.

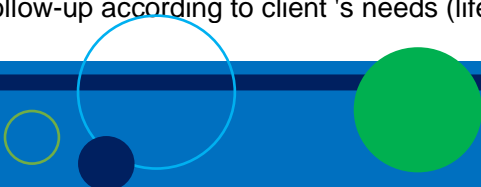
STEP 2 Personal development: Equip clients with practical skills for daily living and provide a safe space for emotional expression and healing, conflict resolution, communication.

STEP 3 Professional/vocational development: Empower and equip clients with the skills, knowledge and confidence to pursue and succeed in meaningful employment or return to school.

STEP 4 Interpersonal skills: Participation in groups (aftercare groups, family activities, 12 step groups, etc.), social contexts, Pointe-Claire sports and leisure activities.

STEP 5 Community involvement: Foster a sense of belonging and mutual support. Group outings, financial budgeting, team-building exercises. Community involvement – volunteering, employment, housing searches.

STEP 6 Independent living and transition: Post-housing follow-up approach. Help with independent living, follow-up according to client's needs (lifetime if necessary).



2024: Year Three – How We're Doing

- 31 Clients: Housed 14 women and supported 17 external
- Received 750 phone calls
- Accompanied women to 98 appointments
- 396 one-on-one consults
- Touched base 344 times with graduates (after-care)
- 225 referrals to community services
- Completed 16 evaluations
- Assisted in 20 crisis interventions

Who were our clients:

- 50% 18 to 35 years old
- 25% Indigenous
- 25% Black
- 50% White
- 10% French as first language

50% of graduates found and retained safe housing and employment

Major Milestones in 2024

- Received certification approval for one year from Santé Québec;
- Partnered with several Indigenous led organizations, enhancing our Indigenous component;
- Admitted a higher number of women to our shelter component;
- Participated in several media interviews for visibility: television and print;
- Received CPR certification for staff and interns from Santinel;
- Continuously updating our training with the CIUSSS of Montreal south;
- Signed a memorandum of understanding with our local Pharmacy;
- Reinforced our 'home cooked meals' kitchen program;
- Welcomed from the SPVM 4 new recruits in the Immersion MTL program;
- Secured Sports and Leisure complimentary passes from City of Pointe-Claire;
- Built important and beneficial relationships with many different organizations;
- Increased our revenue to meet the larger budget expenses.

Held a successful Capital Campaign and set aside \$394,622 towards purchasing a property to house 10 clients at a time.

<https://libert.ca/new-capital-campaign-1>



Testimonials

"I will always and forever be the 21st resident of LI-BER-T House. I was present last year at the AGM and noticed something significant; three of us spoke about our experiences living in LI-BER-T House. The difference that stood out, in my mind at least, was emotional stability. We all had different amounts of sober time. A year ago, I was experiencing what I could only describe as something like a culture shock. I had spent many years living in chaos; never knew how I would pay my rent; never knew how to afford supper for the week; never saw the floor at my house since everything on every shelf or in any drawer covered every inch of it. Suddenly like a beat-up boat, I landed on the shores of LI-BER-T House. There was clean air drifting through the house on a cross breeze. Structure. Hope. Each time I fell short on structure or lost hope there were people there to lean on. People there that assured me that since I only ever knew chaos and peril and a messy life, shock was what I was supposed to be feeling. Throughout the year I have borne witness to my own feelings; I never had that ability before; never had a bird's eye view of myself. I watched emotions buried for decades start to rise. I watched them swell and spill over. And now I see them ebb and flow. And while I live in a structured and safe place, I am free to feel. Maybe there is no such thing as emotional stability. Life on life's terms is peaks and valleys and now I see that. Before now, I only ever knew that life was a hard climb up a burning mountain and then a free fall. As I write this now, I am sitting in the living room of my parents' house. This time last year I was not invited to be here. I see that I can add to any environment and not take from it or use it for my immediate gratification. I have recently signed a lease, and I actually prepaid my first month's rent. Because I have been woven into the structure of a house with a healthy cross breeze it is my goal to recreate that life in my own space. When I try to describe this change to my teenage daughters, there seems to be only one example that perfectly encompasses what I have learned I have all my socks. They're all in pairs. They're all folded together and placed in the same spot up on the same shelf. I know where they are. I know where I am." Allison, 2025

"LI-BER-T House has been a life changer for me. While completing a 6-month rehab my biggest worry was finding a safe place to live afterwards. Without a safe place my chances of progressing in my recovery were low at best. In rehab I learned that it takes 2 to 5 years to repair the damage addiction causes in our lives. LI-BER-T is giving me the chance to rebuild myself, one step at a time, one problem at a time! Liane, as the head of the house, has given me more love and support than I've ever received in my whole life and what makes her such a great guide is that she herself has gone through the same process. Recovery is not linear; it has lots of ups and downs and with LI-BER-T House I am able to learn from my mistakes without the fear of starting all over again. Overall, I cannot express how grateful I am for this place I can temporarily call home." Ana B. - 2025

"Working at LI-BER-T House has provided me real-world experience supporting vulnerable women in the community. Through my work at LI-BER-T House, I have strengthened my communication skills, adaptability, and resourcefulness. My interactions with the residents of LI-BER-T House have given me a better understanding of women from diverse socio-economic and cultural backgrounds and the challenges they face. LI-BER-T House has shown me the importance of a holistic approach to recovery by incorporating wider community networks and services that work simultaneously. During my time at LI-BER-T House, I took on new responsibilities, allowing me to develop new skills such as conflict resolution, interventions, and providing end-of-shift reports. These skills have improved my confidence in approaching complex situations in my professional and personal life." Sarah B. SHIFT Concordia intern. - 2025



Thank You!

The generosity of our financial contributors, their belief in our mission, and their ongoing support, have been the catalysts for our growth and vitality. Without You there is no Us!

Financial Partnerships

- Bell Canada – Bell Let's Talk
- Chamandy Foundation
- Community Foundation Canada
- Eric T. Webster Foundation
- George Hogg Family Foundation
- Hockey Helps the Homeless
- Holt Foundation
- Hydro Quebec
- Hylcan Foundation
- J. A. DeSève Foundation
- Louise and Alan Edwards Foundation
- McConnell Foundation
- Mission Inclusion
- Molson Foundation
- Pathy Family Foundation
- PME Montreal – West Island branch
- Tenaquip Foundation
- Trottier Foundation
- West Island Community Shares (W.I.C.S.)



Fondation J.A. DeSève



*The Molson Foundation
Fondation Molson*



Special acknowledgment of the generous contributions from the Eric T. Webster Foundation, McConnell Foundation, Molson Foundation, Tenaquip Foundation, and Trottier Family Foundation, enabling us to achieve our Phase 1 goal of purchasing our own home. Thank you as well to the financial contributors and private citizens who wished to remain anonymous.

Community Partnerships

Thank you to the following community organizations and individuals. Their expertise, guidance and mentorship have made the world of difference.

- Sean Berry for using a milestone celebration to raise funds for LI-BER-T
- Mike Weston and Andy's House staff – clinical expertise and referrals
- Concordia University
- Literacy Unlimited
- CRC W.I. (Community Resource Center - West Island)
- A.J.O.I. (Action Jeunesse Ouest de L'île)

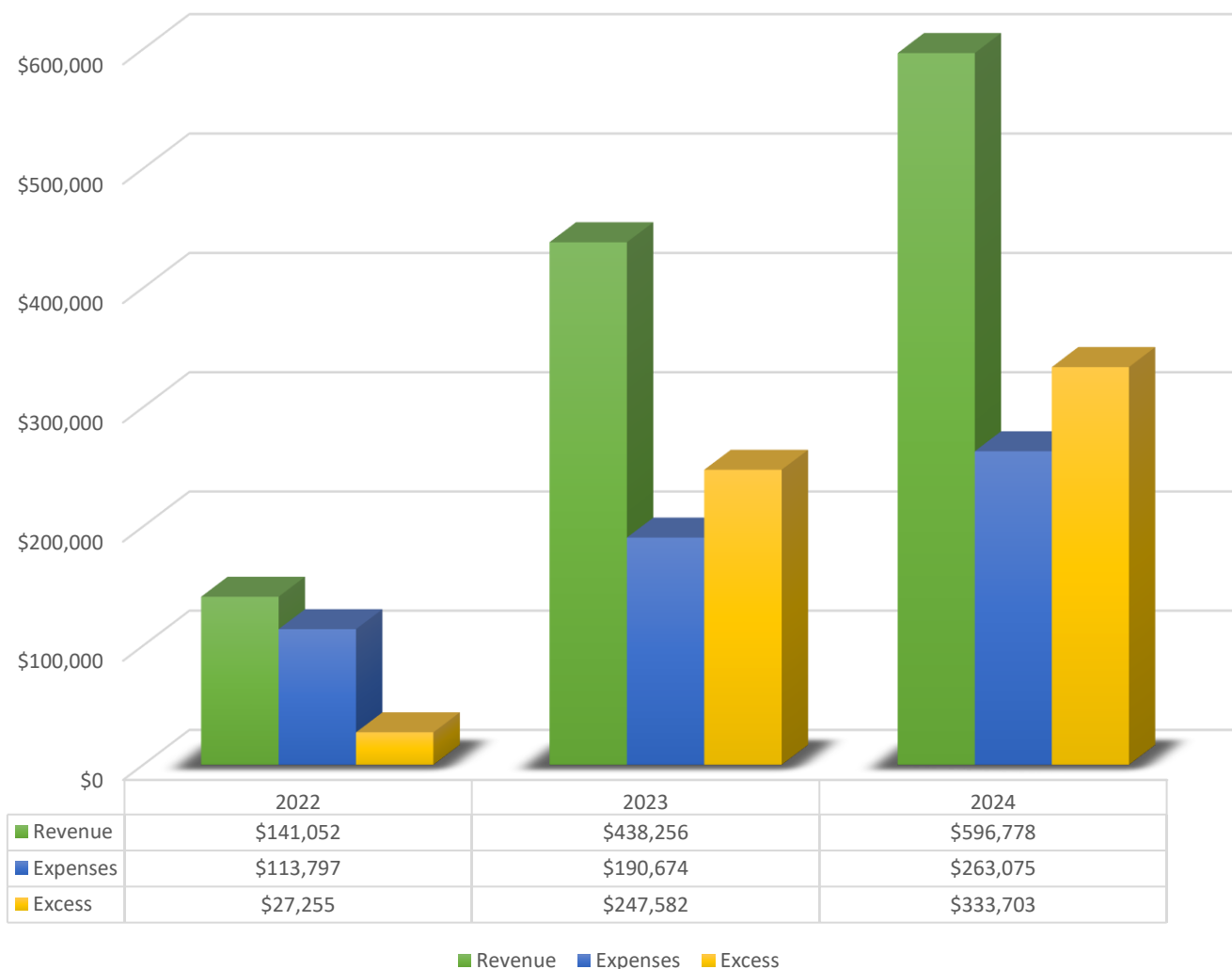


Financial Review

Following our third full year of operations offering safe housing and support services, LI-BER-T House's finances remain very healthy. Our revenues have increased substantially over the past few years, allowing us to offer a higher level of service to our clients. In addition, in 2024 we successfully completed a fundraising campaign, enabling us to purchase a residence to house our operations in 2025. Having our own house increases our capacity to shelter women and ensures the long-term stability of our organization.

We opened the year with an accumulated surplus of \$405,638, raised and collected \$596,778 during the year, and after allowing for expenses of \$263,075, added \$333,703 to our accumulated surplus at the end of the year, which now stands at 739,341. This includes \$394,622 for the capital campaign fund mentioned above.

Operations Overview 2024 vs 2023, 2022



Financial Statement

OPERATIONS

For the year ending December 31, 2024

	2024	2023
	\$	\$
REVENUE		
Donations and grants	570,908	426,182
Rent collected	12,269	7,716
Interest income	13,102	3,999
Miscellaneous	499	359
	596,778	438,256

EXPENSES

Salaries and employee benefits	202,394	130,193
Program cost	9,735	7,177
Consultants	302	3,706
Advertising and promotion	1,863	878
Professional fees	1,035	2,354
Rent	35,135	34,100
Utilities	3,091	2,552
Office	549	712
Insurance	5,037	5,726
Memberships	269	218
Education and training	294	944
Interest and bank charges	74	35
Travel expenses	2,325	1,655
Miscellaneous	972	424
	263,075	190,674

EXCESS OF REVENUE OVER EXPENSES

CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES

For the year ending December 31, 2024

	2024	2023
	\$	\$

	Operating Fund	Restricted Fund	Total 2024	Total 2023
	\$	\$	\$	\$
BEGINNING OF YEAR	405,638	-	405,638	158,056
Excess of revenue over expenses	333,703	-	333,703	247,582
	739,341	-	739,341	405,638
CAPITAL CAMPAIGN				
Interfund transfer (Note 3)	(394,622)	394,622	-	-
END OF YEAR	344,719	394,622	739,341	405,638

Leadership Team

Executive Director



Liane Berry is the driving force behind LI-BER-T House. She is an award-winning community leader, celebrated author, recovering drug addict, and rehabilitated former repeat criminal who has been completely abstinent beginning May 1st, 2014. Since that time, she has been active in recovery circles helping countless women stay clean and sober and is a sought-after motivational speaker. Until December 2021, Liane was employed at the Portage Treatment Center in Montreal as a substance abuse counselor. Please visit her website lianeberry.ca if you'd like to learn more.

Board of Directors



Marla Newhook, Director

Marla has dedicated most of her life to community work from a volunteer to Executive Director and has worked in the non-profit sector for more than 20 years. She currently works at Batshaw Youth and Family Centres as the Indigenous Consultant, helping Indigenous families and children navigate life's challenges. Her proudest accomplishment is her two children.



Victoria LeBlanc, Secretary

Victoria is a writer, curator and artist with over 35 years' experience in communications and administration in cultural, government and education sectors. She also has extensive experience in the non-profit sector and has served on the Board of Directors of several organizations.



Pierre Collins, Treasurer

Pierre Collins is currently Director, Investments for the Lucie et André Chagnon Foundation, one of Canada's largest private foundations. He has prior experience in business development, client service and manager research in the offering of various investment products and consulting services. In addition, he is a CPA and is both a CFA Charterholder and CAIA Charterholder. He is also a member of the Lakeshore General Hospital Foundation Investment Committee and is a past Board Member of Volunteer West Island and Hestia House.



Anthony Di Staulo, Director

Anthony is a Montreal based lawyer. As a member of the Québec Bar since 2016, Anthony has worked in many different legal domains including Civil Law, Family Law, Corporate Law, Criminal Law and Transport Law. Anthony has been recognized for competent research and detailed opinion drafting in line with the best practices of the legal profession.



Danielle Lee, Director

Danielle has been working in the Event Marketing industry for the past 10 years with experience in sales, recruiting, HR, training and staff development. One of Danielle's passions is volunteering for the non-profit organization Animatch.

Honorary Members



Sean Berry is an executive management leader with a unique combination of business experience and expertise in the fields of Customer Service, B2B Services and Non-Profit Management. Sean has an extensive volunteering background and has served on numerous Boards and committees. He is currently President at the Electric Boating Association of Canada, and an electric school bus driver.



Susan Doherty is currently Director of Marketing and Product Development in the building products industry with over 22 years of progressive experience. Susan's focus on community has led her to volunteer opportunities with organizations such as Hockey Helps the Homeless and Scouts Canada.

How to Get Involved

Community & Corporate Partnerships

LI-BER-T House welcomes corporate sponsorship and financial contributions. There are a number of ways that corporate and community partners can help:

- corporate & private foundation financial sponsorship;
- marketing, media and promotion & printing products;
- building maintenance supplies & furniture;
- gift donations for fundraising events;
- female & household products.

Volunteers

Volunteers are vital to the ongoing success of LI-BER-T House. If you have a specialization or skill that fits our organization or would like to help in any way, please reach out to us.



CONTACT US

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Visit our website at: www.libert.ca

 Maison LI-BER-T House
 Maison LI-BER-T House

Opening Hours: Please call or email for an appointment

Registered Canadian Charity Number:
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