

Annual
Report
2024

Crescent Valley Resource Centre



Crescent Valley Resource Centre

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506-693-8513
crescentvalleyresourcecentre.ca
Donate at CanadaHelps.org

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CRESCENT VALLEY
RESOURCE CENTRE

Our Mission

The CVRC supports families and individuals who are facing challenging life situations especially low incomes and social isolation. We are committed to providing programs and services that are accessible and inclusive for all and to providing the tools, resources, and necessary supports to foster self-sufficiency within the community.



Residents' Voices

"Thank you so much for this opportunity. My kids absolutely loved the time spent at Summer Squad. Thank you to everyone who made this happen."

"CVRC is very welcoming and is THE place to go if you need anything."

President's Report

I want to acknowledge the individuals and groups who play such pivotal roles in achieving the positive outcomes of Crescent Valley Resource Center that are described in this report.

First, Executive Director Anne Driscoll and her team members arrange and deliver regular and special programming to the diverse residents of Crescent Valley. That diversity includes wide-ranging ages, cultures and languages, and life challenges. The staff have accommodated turnover in their team during the year and continued to address the many complex and varied needs within the CV community.



Second, there are a variety of community partners who collaborate with CVRC through delivery of on-site services, donations of goods, and provision of financial support. These valued partnerships extend the range of services that can be provided to CV residents.

Third, the members of the Board of Directors and Executive Committee volunteer their time and commitment to CVRC. They provide support to the CVRC staff and partners and set policy for the Center. This year Board members were fortunate to hear thoughtful presentations from the front-line staff about their challenges and rewards working at CVRC.

Four, the residents of Crescent Valley themselves who take advantage of the programs and services offered by CVRC. It is gratifying to know that the work of the Center is making a difference in the lives of CV residents.

Thank you to these individuals and organizations working together to make CVRC an essential resource to the community it serves.

Roberta Clark, President CVRC

Executive Director's Report

It is gratifying to know that after seventeen years the Crescent Valley Resource Centre (CVRC) is still relevant and active in the neighbourhood. Our work benefits not only CV families but the broader community, too. Through our programs and services, and the strong staff connections with residents, individuals and families have more opportunities to enhance their well-being and enjoy a trusted support network.

Activities such as the Crescent Valley Running Club, bi-weekly bingo, resident-led art club, and neighbourhood pot-luck gatherings are examples of how the CVRC acts as a catalyst to enhance positive experiences for neighbourhood residents. Residents met with community partners at CVRC to address concerns in the neighbourhood. Programs such as our family literacy events attracted parents and other family members to enjoy reading books, playing board games, doing puzzles and craft activities, and gathering as a community. Through our food security initiatives, and a partnership with the North End Food Bank Association, we supported residents' nutrition needs. Initiatives such as the Saint John Bike Share Program and the Growing Place Community Garden are used by folks from throughout the city. We are thrilled that partners such as UNBSJ Promise Partnership, Horizon Health, Saint John Family Resource Centre, and Saint John Newcomers Centre choose to bring their programs to the CVRC - thus meeting residents where they are.



I want to thank all who have contributed to CVRC through generous donations, grants, and other support; your efforts are essential in keeping the CVRC run effectively. Our Board of Directors plays a key role in the success of the CVRC, and my sincere thanks goes to them. In 2024 they were integral in reworking our strategic plan to create a document that guides our work.

The amazing staff of the CVRC work tirelessly to create a welcoming gathering spot in the neighbourhood. In 2024 Rachel Milne and Laila ElBaghdadi said goodbye to the CVRC team; their contributions, along with those of Justin Shepard, Char Levesque, as well as the part-time and summer staff, have made a big difference in so many lives. Shout out to the staff! Finally, to the individuals we work with daily; thank you for putting your trust in us and allowing us into your lives. You have truly enhanced our lives.

Anne Driscoll, Executive Director



Staff 2024

Anne Driscoll - Executive Director
Char Levesque - Community Liaison
Laila ElBaghdadi - Community Engagement Coordinator
Justin Shepard - Community Engagement Coordinator
Rachel Milne - Neighbourhood Navigator
Allison Brown - Neighbourhood Navigator
Mike Stephen - Technician, SJ Bike Share Program
Rose Butler - Assistant, The Growing Place Community Garden

Summer Staff:

Annaleise Nylen
Bridget Clark
Avin Ali
Alexa Kyle
Hannah Oland
Hailee Ketch

Board of Directors 2024

Ann Barrett-Mazerolle - Treasurer
Kim Brewer
Roberta Clark - President
Mary Doiron - Resigned April 2024
Lina Gharbiya
Kathy Hanna
Sarah Hetherington
Erin Kelly - VP - Resigned April 2024
Debbie McLeod
Katherine Miller
Rachel Milne
Troy Saunders - Secretary
Debra Warner



Community Supporter's Voice

"Thank you for the tour of the Resource Centre, and for arranging the tour of your community garden.

It is absolutely incredible.

Your community is blessed to have such a wonderful space to grow food and connections."



Neighbourhood Navigator

In 2024 **112** Income Tax Returns were prepared for residents, ensuring they would receive the benefits they are entitled.

"Thank you for everything you're the best, truly." (Resident)

In 2024:

- ✓ **FOOD SECURITY INITIATIVES:** Healthy Breakfast, Emergency Food Packs, Food Purchasing Club, Summer Squad Snacks & Meals, Family Drop-in Playgroup Snacks, The Growing Place - Community Garden & Greenhouse, Costco Partnership - Weekly Food Donations for Residents
 - **1109** take-out healthy breakfasts provided.
 - Emergency Food pack/food supplement program assisted **200** individuals.
 - As a Centre, purchased **25** Food Purchasing Club produce packs for distribution at no charge to area families.
 - **1472** lunches/snacks provided to Summer Squad participants.
 - A total of **2806** participants accessed food security programs.
- ✓ **SAINT JOHN BIKE SHARE PROGRAM**
 - Received, repaired, and redistributed over **1000** bikes and helmets for residents throughout the city since the program's inception.
 - In 2024, **175** bikes were repaired and given out through the Saint John Bike Share Program.
- ✓ **FAMILY LITERACY**
 - **2456** literacy program participants, and **376** books lent to **329** library patrons.
 - **76** resume building services and assistance appointments.
 - "Winter Squad" Christmas break camp & "March Break Hang Out" camp for children aged 6-12, (educational crafts, games, activities and reading).
 - Summer Squad summer camp for children 6-12 yrs.
 - Community Garden Drop-In summer events for children, **3 x week**, including story tent.
 - **Daily**, informal kids/teen drop-ins to play games, other activities and completing volunteer work.
 - Themed **surprise bag** "giveaways" for Christmas, Halloween, Easter, and Eid.
 - **Earth Day** sunflower growing kit giveaway.
 - **Mother's Day / Valentine's Day** card making events.
 - **8** Book Giveaway events for various ages.
 - Board game nights for all ages.
 - **18** Bingo sessions for adults.



The CVRC receives funds and other support from many caring individuals, community organizations, government departments and volunteers. We want to acknowledge the support of the following who are making it possible for the CVRC to provide a safe and welcoming centre in the heart of a vibrant and changing neighbourhood:

- NB Department of Social Development
- Housing NB
- NB Children's Foundation
- Saint John Energy
- Emera New Brunswick
- City of Saint John
- UCT Jack Kidd Council #755
- The Environmental Trust Fund
- Private donors and volunteers

The Crescent Valley Resource Centre, Inc. Income Statement - Dec 31 / 24

Income

Donations	Received	\$	89,624.00
	Unreceived	\$	11,663.00
	Charities	\$	9,000.00
Government	Federal	\$	19,691.00
	Provincial	\$	174,930.00
	Municipal	\$	25,500.00
Other	Miscellaneous	\$	2,533.00
Total income		\$	332,941.00

Expenses

	Salaries	\$	301,109.00
	Office	\$	15,404.00
	Insurance	\$	4,355.00
	Program Expenses	\$	16,997.00
Total expense		\$	337,865.00
Net Operational Income		\$	(4,924.00)

Balance Sheet - Dec 31 / 24

Assets

Current Assets

Bank Account	\$	217,720.00
Petty Cash / Gift Cards	\$	7,019.00
HST Accrued	\$	704.00
	\$	225,443.00

Liabilities & Equity

Current Liabilities

VISA	\$	925.00
Whittaker & Estrabrooks	\$	1,500.00
CRA	\$	(11.00)

Equity

Restricted - Playpark	\$	14,580.00
Restricted -Friars	\$	8,695.00
Retained Earnings	\$	204,678.00
Net Income	\$	(4,924.00)

Total Liabilities & Equity		\$	225,443.00
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