

Annual
Report
2025

Crescent Valley Resource Centre



Crescent Valley Resource Centre

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crescentvalleyresourcecentre.ca
Donate at CanadaHelps.org

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@cvrcsj

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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.

President's Report

CVRC has had another successful year as a service hub for residents of Crescent Valley as reflected in this annual report.

In this message, I want to acknowledge the staff members of CVRC (their names are listed on pg. 4 of this report). Executive Director Anne Driscoll regularly reports to the Board about the successes and challenges of her team in delivering services at CVRC. (I emphasize the



word "team", as staff members routinely pitch in to help and support each other.) In addition, over the past year full-time staff members in turn attended a Board meeting to describe their work and share their experiences.

The five full-time staff members of CVRC deliver a varied program of services to residents with diverse and increasingly complex needs. Staff also work with community partners, summer students, part-time hires and volunteers to extend their reach, and residents benefit from this added expertise and manpower. However, it is important to note that these services require CVRC staff to be involved in recruitment, orientation, negotiation, coordination, supervision and more. These efforts are a clear demonstration of strategies to strengthen teamwork among service providers.

CVRC faces financial challenges in the same way that all non-profits do. The work of the Centre is funded through government and charitable grants, and most require an annual application. Thank you to Anne and her team for identifying potential funding sources and for following through by contacting funding agencies, gathering relevant data, and completing the application process.

There are many needs among the residents of the Crescent Valley community, and CVRC's competent and enthusiastic staff is ready to help. Thank you to each of them for their dedication and valuable contributions to the teamwork at the Centre.

Roberta Clark



Residents' Voices



"I love Summer Squad, it's the best"

"I liked going bowling and I am thankful and it is fun reading."

"Thank goodness you (CVRC) are here."

Executive Director's Report

I am proud to share this year's Annual Report, highlighting the impact of our work alongside valued stakeholders and partners.

Supporting residents as they improve their lives, and strengthening the neighbourhood are at the heart of everything we do at the Crescent Valley Resource Centre. Through programs and services such as: food security assistance, family literacy activities, social support, and advocacy, the CVRC is often the first point of contact for 100+ families, including refugee and low-income families. As a trusted bridge to essential services and community support, we are proud to welcome and assist new neighbours who have settled in Crescent Valley.



Collaborating with other community organizations has made a meaningful difference in our neighbourhood. The work is not easy, but strong partnerships have tremendous benefits for individuals, families, and the city as a whole. Thank you to The Promise Partnership at UNBSJ, the Family Resource Centre, The Saint John Newcomers Centre, and PRUDE, to name a few, for your commitment to work with us to create a strong neighbourhood. In the past year we contributed to several key community consultations including the North End Plan Advisory Committee and a review of community health care for local residents.

CVRC would not be what it is today without the dedication, commitment, and hard work of our staff. I am fortunate to work alongside a team that consistently strives to engage residents and collaborate in building successful programs and initiatives that are valued and often emulated by others. My thanks go to the Board of Directors, they are the foundation of our organization, and their dedication, passion, and belief in our mission make everything we do possible.

Finally, our funders. A huge thank you goes to our funders. Their help has allowed us to provide camps, literacy activities, breakfasts, social gatherings, youth activities and much more throughout the year. We are grateful to you.

Anne Driscoll



Staff 2025

Anne Driscoll - Executive Director
Char Levesque - Community Liaison
Abdullah Al Sheikh Zein - Community Engagement Coordinator
Ahmad Alhaj - Community Engagement Coordinator
Justin Shepard - Community Engagement Coordinator
Jen Hallihan - Neighbourhood Navigator- Part Time
Saran Hetherington - Neighbourhood Navigator - Part Time
Annaliese Nylen - Neighbourhood Navigator
Mike Stephen - Technician, SJ Bike Share Program
Rose Butler - Assistant, The Growing Place Community Garden

Summer Staff:

Bridget Clark
Tessa Black
Olivia Nixon
Kelsey Mannett
Chelsea Daigle - Wylie
Evin Shirzad Ali



Board of Directors 2025

Ann Barrett-Mazerolle - Treasurer
Melanie Bell Hughes
Kim Brewer - (resigned May 2025)
Roberta Clark - President
Lina Gharbiya - Vice President
Kathy Hanna
Sarah Hetherington
Debbie McLeod
Katherine Miller (resigned May 2025)
Rachel Milne
Troy Saunders - Secretary
Debra Warner



Community Supporter's Voice

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

"You have every right to be proud of the incredible work you're doing at the centre - you've certainly earned it!"

"The youth in the area are so lucky to have a team like you supporting them."



Neighbourhood Navigator

The Neighbourhood Navigator is a resource referral source for residents, and assists with any challenges or issues they may be facing such as, goal setting, needing help filling out paperwork, housing support, etc.

In 2025 **113** Tax returns were completed assuring residents received the benefits they were entitled.

In 2025:

- ✓ **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
 - **997** take-out Healthy Breakfasts were served.
 - Emergency Food pack/food supplement program assisted 44 individuals.
 - Provided **24** Food Purchasing Club produce packs for distribution at no charge to area families.
 - **1472** lunches/snacks provided to Summer Squad participants.
 - A total of **2513** 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.
 - Operate a satellite program through a partnership with the Carleton Community Centre.
 - In 2025, **41** bikes were repaired and distributed.
- ✓ **FAMILY LITERACY**
 - **2122** total participants in literacy activities, **231** books lent to **193** library visitors, **15** neighbourhood bingo events.
 - Themed surprise bag "giveaways" for Christmas, Halloween, Easter and Eid. Earth Day sunflower growing kit giveaway. **Mother's Day** and **Valentine's Day** card making.
 - **171** participants for Book/Puzzle/ Board Game Giveaway events for various ages
 - Celebration of National Family Literacy Day / book, puzzle and board game giveaways. Family Literacy Day activity books giveaway. Board Game nights for children, teens and families
 - **51** resume building and assistance appointments
 - "Winter Squad" Christmas break camp & "March Break Hang Out" camp for children. Summer Squad camp for children.
 - **Community Garden Drop-In** summer events for children, 3 x week, incl. story tent - **254** participants
 - Informal kids/teen drop-ins to the Centre playing games and completing volunteer work.



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 / 25

Income

Donations	Receipted	\$	65,768.00
	Unreceipted	\$	8,052.00
	Charities	\$	10,000.00
Government	Federal	\$	25,627.00
	Provincial	\$	145,929.00
	Municipal	\$	25,000.00
Other	Miscellaneous	\$	583.00
Total income		\$	280,959.00

Expenses

	Salaries	\$	285,301.00
	Office	\$	11,840.00
	Insurance	\$	4,325.00
	Program Expenses	\$	17,608.00
Total expense		\$	319,074.00
Net Operational Income		\$	(38,115.00)

Balance Sheet - Dec 31 / 25

Assets

Current Assets

Bank Account	\$	175,825.00
Petty Cash / Gift Cards	\$	7,623.00
HST Accrued	\$	809.00
	\$	184,257.00

Liabilities & Equity

Current Liabilities

VISA	\$	(221.00)
Whittaker & Estrabrooks	\$	1,500.00

Equity

Restricted - Playpark	\$	13,515.00
Restricted -Friars	\$	7,835.00
Retained Earnings	\$	199,743.00
Net Income	\$	(38,115.00)

Total Liabilities & Equity	\$	184,257.00
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