



Chisholm 

2023
annual report

LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Chisholm acknowledges that we are on Mi'kma'ki, the ancestral and unceded territory of the Mi'kmaq People. This territory is covered by the "Treaties of Peace and Friendship" which Mi'kmaq, Wəlastəkwiyik (Maliseet) and Passamaquoddy Peoples first signed with the British Crown in 1726. The treaties did not deal with surrender of lands and resources but in fact recognized Mi'kmaq and Wəlastəkwiyik (Maliseet) title.

We also acknowledge that the people of African descent have been in Nova Scotia for over 400 years. We honour and offer gratitude to those ancestors of African descent who came before us to this land.



CHISHOLM SERVICES

LETTER FROM THE BOARD CHAIR AND THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

It is great pleasure to welcome you to the new look for Chisholm's Annual Report and the inclusion of Chisholm Foundation for Children's activities which support the important services for children provided from across Nova Scotia right here in Halifax (Kjipuktuk). Our new look has been in the works with our dedicated team and extraordinary volunteers bringing our mission to life.

As you review the report, you will see that there is a focus on the impact Chisholm makes in supporting children in the Child and Youth Caring Program, the LINKS Program, and the Trauma Informed Care Group. Learning to live with COVID and realigning our community-based service back into the community has been a major focus of the team's work at Chisholm this past year.



In collaboration with the Department of Community Services, we have also been working to realign our service to best meet the placement needs of children living at Chisholm today, as well as looking to the future. Finding a path forward with a focus on responsive focused care programs for smaller groups of children, Chisholm is actively pursuing the option to relocate our services within our community in the coming years.

We would like to acknowledge our team of Child & Youth Care Practitioners who help our children be children, every day! They, and the management team, help provide opportunities for children to grow, thrive and prepare for the transition to return home, to foster care, or potentially adoption. We would like to welcome Emily Walker to the LINKS Team as the Program Manager. She has been working diligently to realign the LINKS Program to best support the literacy needs of children, and transition back into more in-person service delivery. Finally, we would also like to acknowledge the support of the Board of Directors and other community partners helping Chisholm, help the children we serve.

Trevor MacDonald
Board Chair

Wade Johnston, MSW, RSW
Executive Director



OUR MISSION

Chisholm Services for Children provides care for children who have complex needs by providing a safe environment while fostering a sense of personal value, self-worth and the development of life skills.



OUR VISION

Chisholm Services for Children is a leader in Nova Scotia in providing safe, community-based care for children 12 years of age and younger. Our therapeutic residential and non-residential programs successfully support children to transition into their community.



OUR VALUES

The Chisholm Way is rooted in the legacy of the founders, the Sisters of the Good Shepherd, and in our collective commitment to embody these values in all that we do. These values guide us through our relationships with our employees, stakeholders, and the broader community. We are accountable to ourselves, each other, and the wider community to embody these values.



COMPASSION
HOPE
BELONGING
COLLABORATION
RESPECT

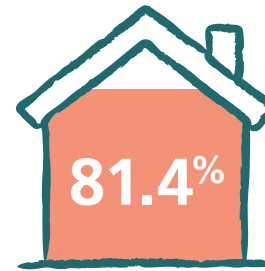
2023 YEAR AT A GLANCE



Reaching children from across the province for their future.

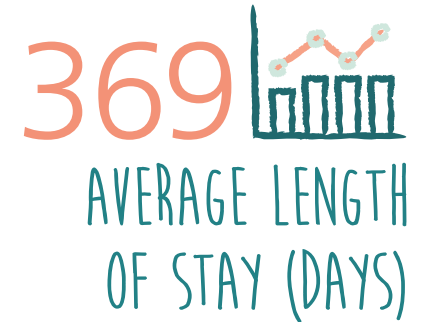


Connecting children with a safe, nurturing home or new support.



AVERAGE
OCCUPANCY

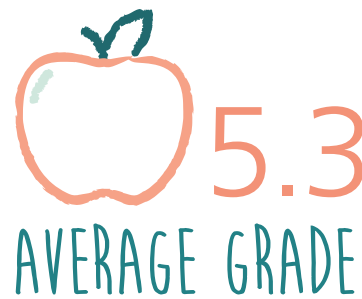
Occupancy is lower this year to ensure we have met the needs of every child in our care.



Time to heal, learn to trust, and build skills for their future.



Each and every day is an opportunity to learn and grow.



Children at Chisholm have experienced success thanks to our community schools.



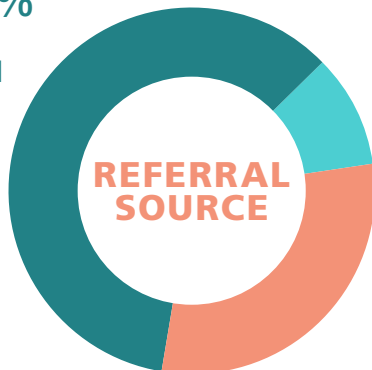
Trending older based on the children we have supported this year.



CHILDREN SERVED IN CHILD
& YOUTH CARE PROGRAM

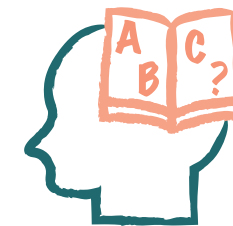
Guiding children to grow and thrive in their community.

60%
Central
Region



10%
Northern
Region

30%
Western
Region



142
LINKS REGISTERED STUDENTS

2800+ hours of literacy instruction at schools across the HRM.

529+

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT HOURS

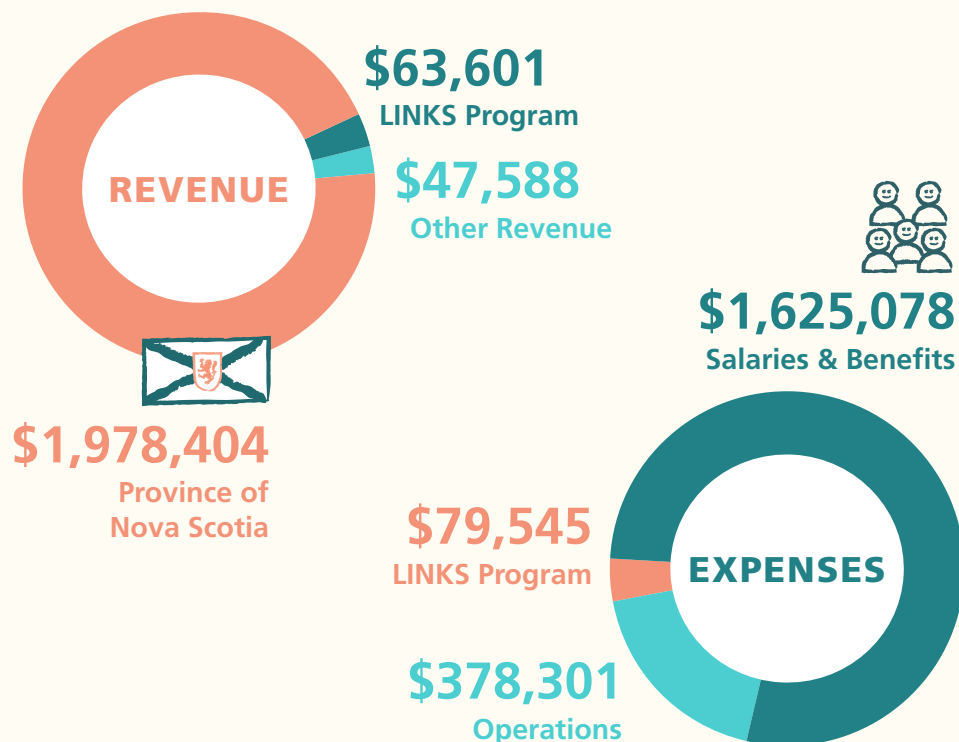
Building team capacity to be better at
what we do for the children we serve.

689+

VOLUNTEER HOURS

Passionate volunteer Board members,
and fundraising event volunteers
enhance the care provided by Chisholm.

FINANCIAL SUMMARY



2,647

TOTAL NUMBER OF YOUTH AND CHILDREN SERVED SINCE 1972

A legacy of supporting children, youth,
and young women in Nova Scotia.

2023 HIGHLIGHTS



CHISHOLM'S CHILD AND YOUTH CARING PROGRAM

sets its sights on early intervention, prevention and permanency planning. Chisholm helps resilient children build upon their social and life skills with a vision of preparing children to potentially transition home, to

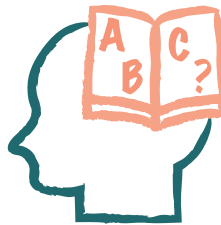
kinship care, or to foster care or adoption. Approximately 60% of the children leaving Chisholm this past year were reunited with family or moved to a foster home. During their stay at Chisholm, children attended public school approximately 95% of the time and were able to participate in daily HIGH FIVE© activity focused on building stronger safe relationships with adults and peers, all while developing social skills, and of course, having fun. Our Child & Youth Care Practitioners passionately cared for our children every day, from the time they put their feet on the floor first thing in the morning, until they placed their heads on their pillows at night, all while supporting them find a sense of hope and a path forward in their lives.

"So, my story begins when I was around 8 years old living in a small farming community in Kings County. It was then I was left alone. They [Chisholm] welcomed me with wide open arms filled with love and support. I was given opportunities to explore my interests, trumpet, tennis, art and Neptune theatre acting lessons. I also tried aerobics. All these experiences have shaped me into who I am today."

- Former Youth

"LINKS has helped my son become more excited about reading. Reading at home used to cause arguments but now he actually wants to read to us. He's proud of himself."

- Parent / Caregiver



THE LINKS LITERACY PROGRAM

is a literacy program for elementary students who are reading below grade level or lacking confidence in their literacy skills. This year, LINKS was offered

for children from across the HRM with grant funding provided for students at Harbour View Elementary School, Rockingstone Heights School, Saint Joseph's - Alexander McKay Elementary School, and Sycamore Lane Elementary School. This past year, LINKS has helped 142 registered students build confidence and develop the necessary skills to become fluent and confident readers. Approximately 97% of our students have increased their reading level by at least 1 level after participating in a LINKS term of 20 instructional hours. Through sourced funding, this year we are pleased to note that we provided reading instruction to 117 students at no cost to them or their caregivers.



This year Chisholm once again offered the **TRAUMA INFORMED CARE GROUP** in collaboration with the Department of Community Services, Adoption Services.

Focusing on how to best understand and care for children who have faced adverse situations, the group supported 28 caregivers who have been approved and waiting to welcome an adopted child into their lives. The Trauma Informed Care Group helped caregivers find a path forward in strengthening relationships with children and building stronger families as they prepare to adopt a child.

"Chisholm's Trauma Informed Care Group gave me the strategies, tools and understanding of how to deal with a child who's experienced complex trauma. This knowledge has allowed me to help my son navigate the big emotions...getting him 'back to calm' in a compassionate way."

- Adoptive Parent / Caregiver

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Trevor MacDonald (Chair)

Kelly Currie (Vice Chair)

Elizabeth Macdonald (Treasurer)

David Pilon (Secretary)

Deborah Bauld

Darlene Boliver

Rebecca (Becky) Campbell

Alison Casey

Sheila MacDonald



EMPLOYEES & STUDENTS

ADMINISTRATION:

Wade Johnston
Executive Director

Geoff Hurst
Director Business Development

Arun Jose
Bookkeeper / Payroll

Becks Levick
Manager LINKS Literacy - Spring 2022

Emily Walker
Manager LINKS Literacy - Summer '22 to Winter '23

Sean Clarke
Program Coordinator / A/Director Clinical Services - October '22 to March '23

Anja Spears
Director Clinical Services - April '22 to October '22

Mike Shea
Supervisor

Melissa Wilson
Supervisor

Ariel Landry
Maintenance

Shawna Burgess
Office Administrator

CHILD & YOUTH CARE PRACTITIONERS:

Ariel Beals
Sarah Bookman
Natalia Byard
Gemma Coley
Alyse Comeau
Ashley Dye
Rachel Eisenhauer
Jillian Eisnor

Tiauna Francis
Glen Frizzell
Veronica Green
Mikida Green-Andrea
Arielle Hiar
Bridget Higgins
Leanne Higgins

Hayley Hilchey
Anniesa Huggarth
Laura Hutt
Madoka Imamura
Tyson James
Haley King
Kyle Lantz
Kaitlyn Leslie

Nicole Long
Logan MacKinnon
Donavon Manthorne-Borden
Kahlyn McIntyre
Peyton McKeaveney
Emily Murphy
Teruko Nita

Ashley O'Brien
Jason Pinsent
Sheena Purdy
Amy Vinnedge
Noah Widmeyer

LINKS LITERARY INSTRUCTORS:

Sara Alemeldin
Jayden Altman-Prezioso
Jessica Bailey
Sage Beatson
Shealyn Blaik
Deanna Cain

Wendy Cordoba
Jenny Crouse
Chantel Cullen
Meltem Etiz
Brittany Fitzgerald
Meghan Hall

Shannon Halley
Kathleen Hatch
Catherine Landry
Emily Macdonald
Neda Moghadam
Jann Pasco

Rosaline Patton
Braunwyn Powell
Rheannon Richards
Brenna Riome
Grace Ross
Leah Simonot

Kayley Wartman
Rachel Watts
Jessica Woods
Judy Zinck

CHISHOLM STUDENT INTERNS:

Ariel Beals
Vickie Kagona
Anniesa Huggarth

Donavon Manthorne-Borden
Haleigh Bach
Junasia David

Devin Brown
Jacob Smith
Jashan Kaur
Rylee Levy

LINKS STUDENT INTERNS:

Maggie Legere

FRIENDS OF CHISHOLM'S CHILDREN

INDIVIDUALS

Doug Allen	Jackie Clark	Heather Frantsi	Brandon Jennings	Doug & Valerie McNeil	Kristen Scully
Amateur Alex	Jared Cloutier	Megan Furuness	Richard Jennings	Marica Seitz-Ehler	5 Social Halifax
Peter Anthony	Megan Coady	Lisa Gardner	Anjali Jensen	Taline Selman	Accomplice Content Supply Co, Inc.
John Apfeld	Darrell Cochrane	Joy Gillespie	Wade Johnston	Mike Shea	Alex MacAulay Photography Inc.
Shea Armstrong	Lee Coley	Colin & Jane Gillis	Fern Jordan	Kira Simpson	All State Insurance Company of Canada
DeeDee Austin	Michelle Coley	Jane Gillis Ring	William Jordan	Hannah Smith	Alumitech Architectural Glass & Metal Ltd.
Dawn Baglole	Jessie Comeau	Molly Goodwin	Jenna Juntermanns	Nadine Smith	Atlantic Elver Fishery Inc.
Elsor Bailee	Steph Comeau	Kelly Goudey	Paul Kieley	Sandy Snide	Atlantic Sewing Guild
Lori Baker	Brodie Cook	Samantha Gould	Allan King	Kendra St. Amour	Atlantic University Sport
Hon. Jill Balser	Jessica Cooke	Lana Grant	Stuart Kirby	Ryan Stapells	Auction House
Susan Balsor	Valerie Corkum	Carol Grantham	Anne Kline	Kathy Steen	Avison Young
Amy Baltzer	Breeanna Costain	Jane Grantmyre	Maggie Knox	Alana Stobert	Baker Tilly Nova Scotia Inc.
Kara Barrett	Nick Cottreau	Bonnie Grover	Heather Labucki	Paula & Alan Stoddart	Bell Media
David Barry	Samantha Cottreau	George Hallett	Perry Lambourne	Dr. Robert Strang	CBCL Limited
Clare Belford	Kristina Creamer	Gary Harris	Lisa Landry-Shaw	Alex Surette	CIBC Miracle Fund
Wendy Birrell	Emma Crilly	Peter Harrison	Carly Lawrence	Ian Surette	Clearwater Seafood
Terri Mont & Chris Blackmore	Jackie Crouse	Ally Harvie	Maya Layton	Jean Surette	CN Halifax Community Board
Peter Blackmore	Jennifer Crowley	Tim Hatcher	Donna Leal	Mike Surette	CTV
Alex Bohan	Charles W. Cullen III	Margaret Hatfield	Travis Lindsay	Nadine Surette	Deeneh Foundation
Cheryl Borden	Kelly Currie	Amanda Hatt	Connor Locke	Stuart Tabor	DORA Construction
Josh Boudreau	Rob Dearman	Ben Hawkins	Crystal Lowe-Pearce	Maddi Tang	Edmonds
Sarah Bourgeois	Amanda Debison	Larry Hayes	Alex MacAulay	Brigitte Teleu	Encore
Kevin and Pamela Bourke	Heather d'Entremont	Kim Hendrickson	Katelyn MacAulay	Erika Thomas	Francis J. Robinson Estate
Charlene Bourque	Spencer d'Entremont	Evan Hickey	Mark MacDonald	Neil Thompson	Grafton Connor Group
Maura Brennan	Kenzie d'Entremont-Harris	Josee Hicks	Mickey MacDonald	Cara Todd	Grant Thornton
Lily Briand	Dwight Deon	Jeff Hiltz	Tanner MacDonald	Anna Underhill	Halifax International Airport Authority
Glynis Brogan	Maggie Dixon	Trudy Hiltz	Fred MacGillivray	Eric Vail	Halifax Protestant Infants Foundation
Joyce Brooks	Valerie Dort	Paul Hollingsworth	JoAnne MacGillivray	Suzanne Vail	Halifax Youth Foundation
Paul Browne	Erin Doucette	Heidi Holloway	Amber MacInnis	Neil Walker	Hartman Matthews Family Trust
Peter Browne	Anique Dugas	Erin Hopkins	Neville MacKay	Ross Walker	Harvest Wine Beer Spirits
Keith Budgell	Stephen Dunn	Rose Hopkins	Sophia MacLeod	Carrie Lynn Wall	IBM Canada Employees' Charitable Fund
Shawna Burgess	Sarah Edmonds	Debra Howard	Annie MacMillan	Erin Washburn	IG Wealth Management
John Cambelljohn	Freya Emery	Abbie Hubbard	Katelyn MacPhail	Keith Weagle	IMP Group International Inc.
Becky Campbell	Chris Evans	Gary Hurst	Andrew Marriott	Jeremy Webb	
Mike Campbell	John Falkenham	Geoff Hurst	Nicole and Kyle Marryatt	Rachel Webber	
Alison Casey	Ryan Finn	Corrina Hynes	Tanya Matthews	April White	
Darrell Casey	Josh Foote	Ryan Inglis	Gord McComb	Skye White	
Nick Chan	Deborah Forsyth	Brooke Ireland	Jim McComb	Brian Wood	
Lauren Chaulk	Gillian Fox	Mary Isnor	Rianne McIlwraith	William Young	
Patricia Chilibeck		Daryl James	Steve McMullin		
		Rose Jenkins	Janet McNamara		

ORGANIZATIONS

5 Fishermen	KBRS
5 Social Halifax	Kent & White Insurance
Accomplice Content Supply Co, Inc.	Labatt Brewery
Alex MacAulay Photography Inc.	Lifeworks
All State Insurance Company of Canada	MacFarlands Events
Alumitech Architectural Glass & Metal Ltd.	Medavie Blue Cross
Atlantic Elver Fishery Inc.	MICCO Companies
Atlantic Sewing Guild	Mill Cove Brew Pub
Atlantic University Sport	Moments in Time Photography Studio
Auction House	MOVE 100-1
Avison Young	Municipal Group of Companies
Baker Tilly Nova Scotia Inc.	My Mother's Bloomers
Bell Media	Numus Financial Inc.
CBCL Limited	O.E. Smith Estate
CIBC Miracle Fund	Outfront
Clearwater Seafood	PayPal Giving Fund
CN Halifax Community Board	Premiere Entertainment Group
CTV	Q104
Deeneh Foundation	RBC Charitable Giving Program
DORA Construction	RBC Dominion Securities
Edmonds	rcs Construction
Encore	Ritchfam Holdings Limited
Francis J. Robinson Estate	Royal Bank of Canada
Grafton Connor Group	Scotia Investments
Grant Thornton	Shoppers Drug Mart Kurt Ryan
Halifax International Airport Authority	Sisters of the Good Shepherd - Toronto
Halifax Protestant Infants Foundation	Surrogate Technology Management Inc.
Halifax Youth Foundation	Sysco Halifax
Hartman Matthews Family Trust	TELUS Health
Harvest Wine Beer Spirits	The Cooperators - Amber MacInnis Insurance & Financial
IBM Canada Employees' Charitable Fund	TPH
IG Wealth Management	United Way of Greater Toronto
IMP Group International Inc.	Virgin Radio
	WORKSPACE Bedford

COMMUNITY COLLABORATIONS

Canadian CORE Group

Canadian Mortgage and Housing Corporation

Captain William Spry Community Centre

Citadel High School

Cyclesmith

Eastern College - Child and Youth Care Worker Program

Flar Equine Experience

Gorsebrook Junior High School

Halifax Public Libraries

Halifax Regional Centre for Education

Halifax Regional Municipality

Halifax Regional Police

Harbour View Elementary School

Health Association Nova Scotia

Inglis Street Elementary School

IWK Health Sciences Centre

Kids Help Phone

Mental Health Mobile Crisis Team (MHMCT)

Mi'kmaw Family and Children's Services

Mount Saint Vincent University (MSVU)

MSVU Department of Child and Youth Studies

Nova Scotia Community College - Irvy Campus (Child and Youth Care Studies)

Nova Scotia Community College - Truro (Child and Youth Care Studies)

Nova Scotia Department of Community Services (Child and Family Wellbeing)

Nova Scotia Department of Education and Early Childhood Development (DEECD)

Nova Scotia Department of Municipal Affairs and Housing

Nova Scotia Federation of Foster Families

Nova Scotia Government & General Employees Union (NSGEU)

Nova Scotia Office of the Ombudsman

Pinwheel Communication & Design

Provincial After-Hours Response Team (PART)

Rockingstone Elementary School

Saint Joseph's - Alexander McKay Elementary School

Saint Mary's Elementary School

Saint Stephen's Elementary School

SchoolsPlus

Scouts Canada

Sir Charles Tupper Elementary School

St. John Ambulance Therapy Dog Program

Summa Holdings Inc.

Sycamore Lane Elementary School

Woodlawn High School

Worker's Compensation Board of Nova Scotia

WORKSPACE Bayers Lake



CHISHOLM FOUNDATION

Chisholm Foundation for Children was established in 2010 with the sole purpose of enhancing the services and support provided to children and community from Chisholm Services for Children. Focusing its attention on raising community awareness of the most important support provided to children, leading fundraising initiatives and management of assets and investments, the Foundation is governed by a passionate community based Board of Directors that strives to assist Chisholm in providing exceptional experiences well deserved by those involved in the care of Chisholm.

LETTER FROM THE FOUNDATION BOARD CHAIR

On behalf of the Board of Directors, I would like to recognize the important role the Foundation holds in helping Chisholm care for children who face adversity in their lives. Working diligently with the Program Relocation Committee, the Foundation has been instrumental in investing in the future vision of Chisholm with a focus on offering smaller four-bedroom homes for children to live. In partnership with the Nova Scotia Department of Municipal Affairs and Housing, CMHC, HRM and the Department of Community Services, the Foundation's goals are to help enhance and build the future of Chisholm.

With the support of John Apfeld from Summa Holdings Inc., we have been fortunate to explore alternative locations for the service that would best respond to children's needs. This search includes considering the community they will live, recreational and educational supports they will have access to, as well as additional services and supports that will

help make placement at Chisholm successful; all with a view of enhancing the services we know today.

In establishing an Investment Committee this past year, the Foundation has also focused its attention on ensuring the future of the service comes with the highest rate of return for success. The support of the committee has greatly contributed to helping develop the beginnings of a financial strategy to support relocation of the services.

As we began to learn to live with COVID this year, the Foundation was able to once again offer in person events, and we are all very pleased to see our signature event, Blind Date with a Star, return after a hiatus since 2020. With the support of Geoff Hurst, Director Business Development, this and other events helped contribute to raising community awareness and investing in children today and with tomorrow's vision.

In closing, I would like to thank the Foundation Board members for their generosity of time and talent in leading the activities of the Foundation, as well as the team at Chisholm who go above and beyond everyday to make sure the children receive the best care they can.

Respectfully Submitted,



Dave Ring
Board Chair

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

David Ring
(Chair)

Janelle McNulty
(Vice Chair)

Peter Browne
(Treasurer)

Amanda Hatt
(Secretary)

John Falkenham

Anjali Jensen

Wade Johnston

Trevor J. MacDonald

Tanya Matthews

JoAnne MacGillivray

FUNDRAISING HIGHLIGHTS



RAISING AWARENESS

Providing opportunities for the community to help Chisholm, “help children be children”. With the return of our signature event, Blind Date with a Star, along with other events such as Chuckles 4 Chisholm, Back to School Auction, Blue Nose Charity Challenge and the Holiday Fundraiser, Chisholm exceeded its targets this year in helping our community partners better understand the important service Chisholm provides right here in our community for children. Additionally, the launch of our new logo, video and soon to come website, will keep the community aware and up to date on the important activities of Chisholm.



INVESTING IN TOMORROW

Saving for the future to build new places for children to call home, to live, and thrive. With the vision of providing care and support that is more responsive to children’s needs, Chisholm continues to plan for tomorrow and enhance service delivery. Donors invested in today’s service as well as children’s future helping to provide an opportunity to grow and develop a sense of hope and belonging.



CELEBRATING SPECIAL OCCASIONS

Enhancing children’s experiences over the holiday season. With community support, the children in the Child and Youth Caring Program were very well cared for and comforted during special occasions year-round.



BUILDING TEAM CAPACITY

Contributing to help strengthen the team to be better together, and to support those in Chisholm’s care. Stronger relationships across the team help build stronger relationships with the children. Donor generosity is felt throughout our grateful team.



CHISHOLM’S VIDEO OF POSSIBILITY



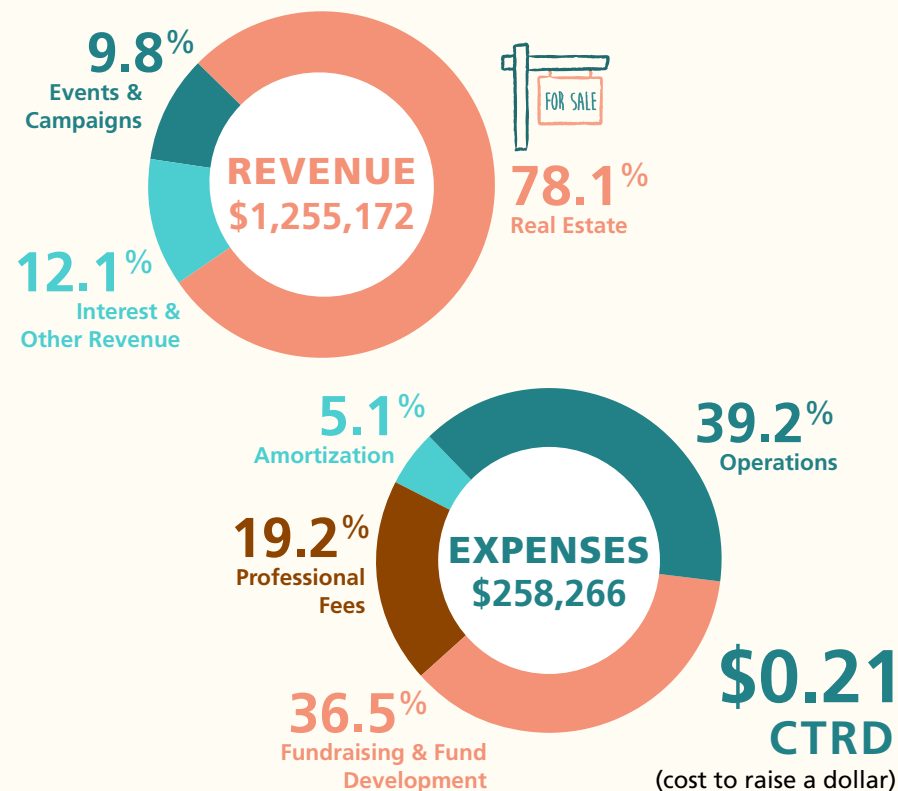
With a view of using different mediums to convey the important work Chisholm offers to children, *Accomplice Content Supply Co.* produced the video at no cost to Chisholm. Please search the web for Chisholm’s Video of Possibility;

“where and with the proper love, care and attention possibility becomes potential, potential becomes purpose, purpose becomes passion!”



vimeo.com/
776807810

FOUNDATION FINANCIAL SUMMARY





 [chisholm4children](https://www.facebook.com/chisholm4children)

 [chisholm4c](https://twitter.com/chisholm4c)

 [chisholm4children](https://www.instagram.com/chisholm4children)

CHISHOLM SERVICES FOR CHILDREN

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