

Safe Families Canada 2022 Annual Impact Report



From our National Executive Director

Warm Greetings to you, our Safe Families Canada National Community!

It is hard to believe that we find ourselves at the beginning of a new year, and yet here we are. They say that time flies when you are having fun, yet at Safe Families Canada (SFC), we learn every day that time passes when we are purposely focused on carrying out the work that God has called us to. Together, we are co-builders of God's Kingdom; shoulder-to-shoulder, just as Nehemiah arranged the Israelites to rebuild the wall of Jerusalem, we are rebuilding the broken walls of families with caring, compassionate communities across Canada, in the name of Jesus.

While *MacLeans* magazine tells us that we are the 35th fastest-growing charity in Canada heading into 2023*, we say God is surveying the land and retooling hearts of individuals to launch a chapter in their community, give generously from their own resources, and open their hands, hearts and homes to join us in transforming families. God's people, like you, want to serve faithfully and purposely, and they are finding their place along the SFC wall, shoulder-to-shoulder in their local communities. The build might seem fast, but we know that when we lay this work before the Lord, looking forward to what He will build, in us and through us, we will see more incredible things. "Unless the Lord builds the house, the builders labour in vain (Ps 127:1). And so, we give all the glory to Him.

To all of our donors, volunteers and "fellow-builders", THANK YOU for making our mission your own and ensuring a family does not have to face a crisis alone. It is your faithfulness and generosity that makes a difference, keeping children safe and families together!



Adele-Marie Diffey
Adele-Marie Diffey
National Executive Director

Blessings to you all in 2023,

"Top 50 Fastest Growing Charities in Canada." MacLeans, vol.135, no. 12, January 2023, pp. 5.

Our Vision & Movement

SFC Vision: "Creating a world where children are safe and families transformed through radically compassionate communities."

When you look back 20 years into Safe Families' history, you will see a man with an idea who was determined to fill the gap between the church and child welfare in the US. Dave Anderson, a well-known name and admired man of God, broke ground for the Safe Families Movement around the world. When Jen Francis envisioned Safe Families Canada over 10 years ago, she did not know that God had bigger plans to grow the movement. She often says, "God's vision is bigger than what we can see." And, she is right! We are amazed by how God continues to grow the Safe Families Movement in Canada, by bringing qualified staff, dedicated volunteers and generous donors. He is imparting a vision in the hearts of His church to arise and create extended family. In 2022, God made a way for the following:



New Development

Barrie-Orillia ON North Bay ON
Calgary AB Oceanside BC
Lethbridge AB Okanagan, BC
Lower Mainland BC Sarnia-Lambton ON



Launched Chapters

Brantford, ON
Guelph, ON



Going Digital

Funding and implementation
of the Better Impact®
Database to support local
volunteers & co-ordination



Safe Families Plus

Launched in Hamilton-Halton, ON
Procured funding in Steinbach, MB
to begin development



Dave Anderson



Jen Francis

Our Mission & Impact

SFC Mission: Safe Families Canada hosts vulnerable children and creates extended family-like supports for desperate families through a community of devoted volunteers who are motivated by compassionate faith to keep children safe and families together.



1. Did we create extended family-like support?

YES WE DID!

43 New Safe Families Churches | 328 New Volunteers | 340 Circles of Support
Parents had a place to belong!



2. Did we keep children safe?

YES WE DID!

Children hosted for 3,584 bed-nights | Children hosted for 445 daytimes | Reduced likelihood of abuse and neglect for 455 children
Parents had the space and time to address their circumstances.



3. Did we keep families together?

YES WE DID!

88 New Community/Referral Partnerships | 261 Families supported | 222 Circles of Support without a hosting
Parents retained custody and were connected to more community resources.



Our Financials & Growth

2022 Revenue
\$1,578,658.34

Project grants received 2021: \$136,159.74



Government of Canada
New Horizons for Seniors

Gouvernement du Canada



Building Sustainable Communities Program



OTTAWA COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

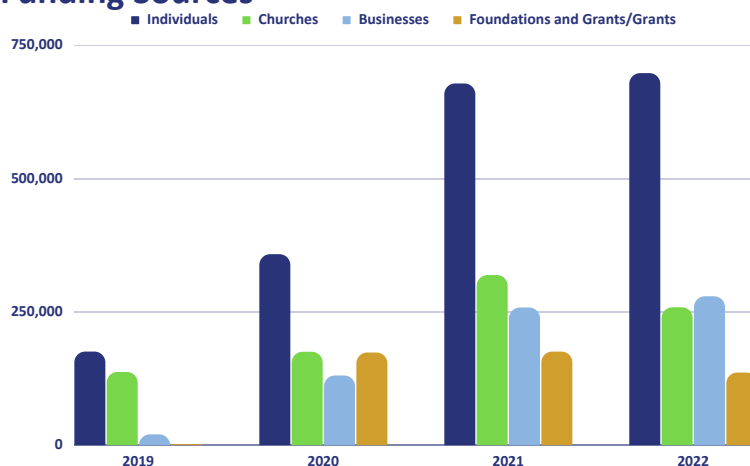
PLAY DAY Totals
\$135,737

Gift of Family Campaign
\$277,301.16

Movement Growth

Calendar Year	Revenue	Chapters	Permanent Staff	Volunteers
2019	\$350,118.04	7 active 7 developing	8	125
2020	\$878,955.56	10 active 4 developing	20	515
2021	\$1,499,139.72	11 active 5 developing	21	660
2022	\$1,578,658.34	13 active 9 developing	29	759

Funding Sources



SFC Value: Compassion Fuelled by Mercy

We are moved by mercy to see and act to help those in need. Compassion allows us to “see” those in need which has to occur in order to act. Compassion means to “suffer with” and includes a desire to help alleviate that suffering.

Launching Safe Families Plus in our Hamilton-Halton Chapter in 2022 was exciting!

Engaging our church to mentor youth and young adults as they transition out of foster care has been such a blessing in so many ways. Something as simple as putting yourself out there to engage with a “stranger” with the intent of forming a friendship, can seem daunting. We question if we have the space in our lives to have more relationships or energy to forge new ones. Yet, meeting David, who has had a different life from me has helped me to recognize the value in every individual and embrace the differences. As friends, we listen and be there to share life, encourage and offer support and direction to help meet goals, and above all, show love. It is not much different than forming any other friendship; it is as simple as valuing a friend for who they are, a child of God created in His image.

The journey with David has already eased into a friendship. We talk about life, sometimes surface, sometimes deep. He’s invited into our friend and family circles. It’s been great introducing him to a large community at Blessings Church which offers more relationships for him. Like any friendship, it’s a two-way street. David has opened himself up to these new friendships just as much as we have. Things I think we enjoy the most are a good laugh, but also talking about the deep things in life: life’s purpose and its opportunities. Being able to share in that is awesome.

“Two people are better off than one, for they can help each other succeed. If one person falls, the other can reach out and help. But someone who falls alone is in real trouble.” (Eccl. 4:9-10 NLT)

~ Hamilton-Halton, SFPlus Mentor, Len

SFC Value: Disruptive Generosity

Generous people are selfless, redemptive, and sacrificial. We give freely of our time, talents, treasure, and words.

Through Safe Families Canada, I was given the opportunity to keep my little family together. My daughter and I were matched with a Host Family just 24 hours after she was born. We were welcomed with open arms, unconditionally loved and provided wrap-around support during that very trying time. We found a place where we belonged.

~ Ottawa, Mom

SFC Value: Radical Hospitality

Open arms, open hearts, open doors. We welcome strangers into our homes and our lives to find hope, rest, and healing. Staff and volunteers alike are willing to host and serve, being a role model to others of living out the welcoming love of strangers.

A parent we supported knew their days were numbered until their family would be living on the streets. The feeling was gut wrenching. Mom was having a difficult time finding a place to rent. We eventually supported her to find a place that checked all of the boxes: pet friendly, space for kids and in her price range. However, her rental application was turned down because of some concerns regarding her former landlord's opinions. This family was desperate! Thankfully, after SFC gave the new landlord a call and shared about SFC's community of support and provided a reference, they changed their mind and accepted her application.

When moving day came, our devoted volunteers chipped in to make it happen. Our Host Family, helped with moving and cleaning out the old place, while a Family Friend watched the kids so that mom could pack. Sometimes all someone needs is a couple of helping hands and people to welcome them into their caring community. The Lord provided when it felt like all hope was lost.

~ Winnipeg Chapter Director, Cassidy Falk



GROWING OUR TEAM

National Office

Jason Peters was promoted to Western Canada Director in 2022. He will be instrumental in overseeing chapter development in the West. An Eastern Canada Director is on the horizon that we hope to announce in 2023.



National Team

With 29 current staff and eight new chapters in process to launch, our national staff team is growing! We are extremely thankful for each faithful team member as they carry out the mission of SFC in their communities across our great nation.



Join the Movement

PRAY | VOLUNTEER | DONATE | BE A SF CHURCH

PRAY

Join the movement by praying for your local chapter staff, volunteers and families!

<https://safefamiliescanada.com/find-a-chapter/>

VOLUNTEER

Join the movement by becoming a screened, trained and vetted volunteer today!

<https://safefamiliescanada.com/get-involved/>

DONATE

Join the movement by making a monthly or one time donation!

<https://safefamiliescanada.com/donate/>

BE A SAFE FAMILIES CHURCH

Join the movement by inviting your church to partner with SFC!

<https://safefamiliescanada.com/get-involved/be-a-safe-families-church/>

1 SAFE FAMILIES GLOBAL DAY OF PRAYER

March 7th



2

PLAY DAY September 23

PLAY with SFC in your local community to build awareness of our work and meet the needs of families in crisis.



3

GROW OUR BOARD

Consider volunteering for our Board.

Email us at info@safefamilies.ca



4

CORPORATE SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

Your business can increase its responsible business activities and by supporting SFC.

