Living the Gospel
ShareLife Annual Report 2018
Thank you for Living the Gospel!

Caring for those in need is fundamental to who we are as Catholics in the Archdiocese of Toronto. The Catholic community has been serving those among us who are poor, sick and marginalized for 177 years.

With deep gratitude, I join our pastors, parishioners and school communities in celebrating the results of ShareLife’s 2018 Parish Campaign. The $13,366,786 raised for our agencies represents hard work, perseverance, and great love for those in our communities. Without you, ShareLife could not fulfill its mission to “Live the Gospel by providing for those in need.”

ShareLife also represents a reliable signpost on the course mapped out by our Pastoral Plan—namely, its core direction of “Catholic Outreach in Justice and Love.” The work of our agencies, and your generosity towards them, “serve as a pathway through which acts of justice and love are realized, and the witness of the Catholic faith strengthened.” (Pastoral Plan, IV - 3.)

Your support enables ShareLife agencies to continue growing the vital initiatives detailed in this Report to Donors. ShareLife is also investing in the future of our Church by supporting St. Augustine’s Seminary and Redemptoris Mater Seminary, which educated 80 seminarians in the 2017-2018 academic year.

The enthusiastic support of our donors makes possible these and many other programs. Together we are making a real difference in the lives of those in need, both here in our archdiocese and around the world.

My prayer is that we may continue to respond to God’s love by going “forth from ourselves to seek the good of others.”

May our Lord bless you always,

Thomas Cardinal Collins
Archbishop of Toronto

Cover photo: Shereen McFarlane, program manager at Catholic Family Services of Toronto
ShareLife is one of the ways we extend the hands of Christ to those in need in our archdiocese. Each year we invite parishioners to support the work of our agencies as they bring the Gospel value to “love one another as I have loved you” to life. The response is always generous.

This year was no exception, as you replied with overwhelming generosity. Parishioners contributed a record result of over $13 million—the first time we have surpassed this figure! Notably, 131 parishes exceeded their previous campaign result and 85 surpassed their suggested campaign goal.

But ShareLife is more than the collection that took place. Our annual appeal provides the resources to our agencies to carry out programs and services both here in our archdiocese and across the world. Having visited most of our agencies and the areas they serve, I can assure you that we are making a positive difference in the lives of those who turn to them for help.

When I was recently in India, I met a priest who received a motorcycle from the Pastoral Mission Fund—a ShareLife-funded agency. The motorcycle allows him to travel to the mission stations of his parish. He can now visit parishioners to anoint the sick and celebrate Mass. We might find this need surprising, since most of us live close to parishes and have access to transportation. Our support can help extend the Catholic faith in parts of India where this isn’t the case. As one of the many ways ShareLife is making a difference, this would not be possible without you.

I would like to extend our heartfelt appreciation to our clergy, parish volunteers, and the many people who contributed to the ShareLife campaign. On behalf of those served, please accept our most sincere thanks. We are so grateful that you make it a priority to support the work of the agencies.

God bless you for your generosity. Thank you!

Arthur Peters
Executive Director
This year’s record parish campaign result exceeding $13 million represents an important milestone. This result was needed to meet the growing demand for services. More people are relying on ShareLife agencies today than ever.

With the support of Catholic Charities, ShareLife allocated $13.68 million in 2018. This funding makes possible the following initiatives.

- **Refugee resettlement** – In 2017, the Office of Refugees of the Archdiocese of Toronto oversaw the arrival of 1,193 refugees and initiated 381 new sponsorships.

- **Bridges Out of Poverty** – Run by Catholic Family Services of Simcoe County, this program helps clients develop skills and follow a plan to escape the cycle of poverty.

- **Activities for seniors** - The number of clients served by LA Centre for Active Living grew by 34% from 2016 to 2017, in part due to the opening of a new location.

- **Walk-in counselling clinics** – By accessing same-day counselling without an appointment, clients are often able to address their mental health needs without requiring additional sessions.

- **Supporting agency staff** – Investing in the retention and enhancement of qualified professionals helps ensure the best possible care.

- **Shared services** – Back-office integration among agencies is improving administrative efficiency. Agencies are sharing resources in financial management, human resources, and information technology. The service provider for this project is St. Elizabeth Service Trust.

- **Collaborative Evaluation Project** – This initiative helps Catholic Family Services agencies measure outcomes related to counselling programs. The project includes benchmarking for quality improvement, increasing effectiveness, and building sustainable evaluation practices across agency programs.

- **St. John Paul the Great Family Centre** – Located at St. Augustine of Canterbury Parish in North York, the centre’s programs include afterschool activities for at-risk youth.

Recent Initiatives

Participants of the Sistering Program at CFS Peel-Dufferin
The five ShareLife-supported Catholic Family Services (CFS) agencies assist individuals, couples and families coping with stress and anxiety, including emotional, psychological, social, and financial problems. In addition, the CFS agencies provide intensive therapy and support services to survivors of abuse and domestic violence, helping clients begin their path to healing and recovery.

Kristen is a college student who endured a lot of loss in the past few years. Her mom died after a long battle with cancer, her dog needed to be put down, and her boyfriend was laid off from work. The sense of loss and abandonment led to severe anxiety issues. Constant fear made it hard for Kristen to eat, sleep and study. Her grades were dropping, she began isolating herself from loved ones, and panic attacks kept her from leaving the house.

She heard about free walk-in counselling clinics offered by Catholic Family Services of Simcoe County. Having worked up the courage to go, she found the session helpful. Kristen agreed to keep working with the clinician and attended several more sessions. The clinician worked with her to identify what triggered her panic attacks and together they came up with a plan to battle her anxiety.

Kristen started to feel more in control of her emotions. She could now calm herself down and cope, instead of completely shutting down to the world. She is doing better in school, eating healthier, and improving her sleeping habits.

Kristen is grateful to now have the tools, resources, and support around her to overcome her anxiety issues.
Hidden from view in our communities, thousands of elderly people struggle with isolation, poverty and mental illness. ShareLife-funded agencies are providing a lifeline to these vulnerable men and women by enabling access to social activities, health services, income supports and spiritual care. These vital programs are helping them live their lives to the fullest, in a manner that recognizes their dignity.

Over 10,000 elderly people access ShareLife-funded services annually.

Would She Walk Again?

Just after a horrific ice storm, Florence decided it was safe enough to walk to the grocery store to buy milk for her coffee. But just twenty steps from her front door, she slipped and fractured her right hip, breaking her thigh bone and ankle.

Following a successful surgery that week, she was sent home to recuperate. Due to the minimal resources available for home support and physical therapy, Florence worried she would never recover or walk again. She didn’t have the financial means for private services and didn’t want to burden her family. Feeling she had no choice but to try to recover independently, she kept her worries and mobility issues to herself.

At a follow-up visit to her family doctor, she was referred to LA Centre for Active Living. Within a week, Florence began participating in the centre’s free health and fitness classes. In just two months Florence progressed from being totally dependant on a wheelchair to using a walker, and finally to a cane. In just six months she was back to walking independently. She continues to be a frequent participant in the centre’s many complementary programs and services.

Making an impact

Over 10,000 elderly people access ShareLife-funded services annually.
Throughout our communities, young people are dealing with adult problems: abuse, family conflict, addiction, and homelessness.

ShareLife agencies are helping homeless youth build life skills so they can transition from an emergency stay towards independent living.

Just as crucially, other ShareLife agencies work to ensure at-risk youth are supported before ending up on the street.

He Found His Voice

It had been two years since Adam spoke in full sentences. When he moved from Covenant House's crisis shelter to Rights of Passage, its longer-term housing program, he would only say a word or two.

A youth worker accompanied Adam on an appointment in the community. Like usual, he was really quiet. Then, instead of asking Adam questions, the youth worker tried something different. He asked Adam if he had any questions he wanted to ask.

After some time, Adam asked two questions. He wanted to know at what age the youth worker started talking and if ever there was a time in his life when he stopped talking. They connected over the youth worker’s revelation that he didn’t speak until he was four years old.

Adam began to open up in response to this. He found his voice during his time in the Rights of Passage program, even advocating for himself to extend his stay so he could finish high school there. He excelled in computer science and was proud to have earned an award for his marks. Adam’s progress continued as he joined Covenant House's mentorship program.

Adam is now thinking about pursuing a career in computer science or engineering. With his new voice and the positive relationships he has built, his future is open to so many possibilities.

Making an impact

Camp Ozanam provides a week-long camping experience for 600 boys aged 7-12 who may not otherwise have the opportunity. Each camper’s holiday is subsidized through ShareLife.
Making an impact

Last year, ShareLife-funded agencies provided compassionate care to over 6,300 seniors.

ShareLife-funded agencies benefitted 2,785 people with special needs and their caregivers last year.

ShareLife agencies cover a wide range of needs. Silent Voice provides services for Deaf adults, youth and children. Meanwhile, Mary Centre and St. Bernadette’s Family Resource Centre offer programs to support those with developmental challenges. Other agencies serve those living with physical disability, mental illness and addiction.

Living the Gospel by supporting People with Special Needs

Ben, a 66-year-old man with a developmental disability, lives with his 90-year-old mother. While the mother and son are inseparable, she realized that she hadn’t made any plans for her son should anything happen to her. She has been widowed for 25 years and Ben has no siblings. He is terrified of group homes and the thought of leaving his mother.

Through Mary Centre’s respite program, Ben was matched with a respite worker. As they began to build a relationship, he took Ben to one of Mary Centre’s group homes to make friends with the men and women living there. When the day comes that Ben needs to move into a Mary Centre home, the relationships he has made with the staff and residents will help support him through that difficult time. Eventually, he can develop a sense of belonging and responsibility to that new community.

Coping With Change

Participants of a Silent Voice summer camp...
ShareLife-supported agencies in Scarborough, Oshawa, Newmarket and Peel provide resources for young parents in need, including baby food, counselling, education supports, skills development and employment training.

Accessing the right resources will help them become the best possible parents and ultimately contribute toward the most positive outcomes for their family.

A Second Family

Anika was 19 when she discovered she was pregnant. She and the baby's father got engaged, and Anika moved out of her parents’ home to start a life with her new fiancé.

After giving birth to their son, Anika noticed her fiancé becoming increasingly controlling. She felt more and more isolated, and she finally decided to reach out to Rose of Sharon Services for Young Mothers to see what support might be available.

At Rose of Sharon, Anika found a safe and loving second family. She and her son attended almost every program offered, including a six-week program called “Healthy Relationships.”

Anika started to realize that she didn’t have to tolerate her partner’s behavior. She connected with a housing worker at Rose of Sharon who helped her find an affordable and safe apartment for herself and her son. She still attends drop-in programs every few weeks.

“I never thought I could make it on my own as a single mother,” says Anika. “But with the help of Rose of Sharon, here I am doing it.”

Making an impact

ShareLife-funded agencies provide an array of individual and group programs to influence the lives of 1,700 young pregnant women, parenting youth, and their children annually.
In much of the world, poverty robs its victims of the very basics: food, water, health care, and human rights. To prevent families from being entrapped in poverty for generations, ShareLife-supported agencies help break the cycle.

Here in Canada, the Office of Refugees and Catholic Crosscultural Services help newcomers settle and integrate. Challenges facing immigrants and refugees include housing, language, and employment. ShareLife agencies connect them with the resources they need to adapt to their new environment.

“Making an impact”

Last year, ShareLife-funded agencies provided compassionate care to over 6,300 seniors.

In the first eight months of 2018, Canadian Food for Children sent 215 shipments to 15 countries in the Global South, totalling over 3 million kg. of food and supplies.

“Living the Gospel by supporting Immigrants, Refugees and International Development”

“A refugee resettlement committee welcomes a new arrival to Canada”

“They saved my life”

Living in Egypt, Jane entered an arranged marriage with her husband. She understood she was in danger soon after the wedding day.

“I realized the second night as a married couple that this man is going to murder me,” Jane recalled. She endured years of severe physical and sexual abuse, while bearing three children before her 17th birthday.

Concerned her children would one day suffer the same abuse, she successfully applied for refugee status in Canada and fled Egypt with them.

Jane found herself in Toronto, not knowing the language, what to do, or who could help. Fortunately, she met an Arabic speaker at the airport who told her about Catholic Crosscultural Services (CCS).

CCS connected Jane with a Newcomer Support Program worker who helped her navigate the complicated immigration process. A Transitional Housing Support Program worker helped her find an apartment, apply for income support, and sign up for employment assistance. A Newcomer Mental Health worker helped treat her symptoms of Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder.

“CCS saved my life,” Jane says. “They gave me all the information I needed to make the right moves. Today I have money of my own, an apartment, and my children are finally safe and happy.”
St. Augustine’s Seminary is the Major Seminary of the Archdiocese of Toronto, educating seminarians and candidates for the permanent diaconate program.

ShareLife also supports Redemptoris Mater Missionary Seminary (RMMS), which is located on the premises of St. Augustine’s Seminary. RMMS provides formation for seminarians from abroad who will then minister in the Archdiocese of Toronto.

ShareLife funding also assists the work of the Office of Vocations.

A Chance Encounter

By Martin Dicuangco, Seminarian

Gilbert Cesbron once wrote that “every great existence is born of a great chance.”

While studying at the University of Toronto, I was searching for something that could satisfy my ache for meaning. Although I grew up Catholic, my outward religious observance flowed from a sense of duty and a fragile belief in God’s presence.

One day, when walking around campus, I came across a residence called Serra House. I knocked on the door and a joyful young man kindly invited me in. Stepping through those doors changed everything.

I met other young men and they introduced themselves as seminarians. I stayed for a couple of hours, praying with them and listening to their testimonies. Their hospitality left a deep impression.

I came to understand that my heart was not searching for a something, but a Someone, who reached me through this “great chance.” I recognized the voice of the Good Shepherd calling me to the priesthood. I am now in my third year of theology studies at St. Augustine’s Seminary.

I thank ShareLife for supporting St. Augustine’s Seminary, where young men like myself, after experiencing the love of Christ, are joyfully preparing for ordination to the priesthood.

Making an impact

Ten permanent deacons were ordained in 2018, joining over 120 others serving in the Archdiocese of Toronto. Each deacon completes five years of discernment and study at St. Augustine’s Seminary.
Providing for those who will one day serve in our parishes, ShareLife supports St. Augustine's Seminary, Redemptoris Mater Seminary, the Diaconate Program and the Office of Vocations.

We thank all who generously supported the ShareLife campaign. Those who contributed $2,500 or more to the 2018 campaign are recognized as Patrons. This list denotes Patrons who granted permission to be recognized in print as of October 10, 2018.

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Corporate and Foundation Donors

Thank you to the following corporations and foundations that support ShareLife, along with donors that choose to remain anonymous. Funds raised from our corporate partners support 31 social service agencies that benefit the whole community. Contact the ShareLife office to learn how your company can support the campaign.

Maverick ($100,000 +)
- BMO Financial Group
- CIBC
- RBC Foundation

Transformer ($50,000 - $99,999)
- F.K. Morrow Foundation
- Scotiabank

Leader ($25,000 - $49,999)
- Great-West Life, London Life & Canada Life
- McCarthy Tétrault Foundation
- Normac Kitchens Limited
- Patrick and Barbara Keenan Foundation
- TD Bank Group

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- Anne McGrath Memorial Foundation
- The Bedolfe Foundation
- C.M. Odette Philanthropic Foundation
- The Elizabeth & Tony Comper Foundation
- Joan & Clifford Hatch Foundation

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- Agnico Eagle Mines Limited
- HUB International
- Leon's Furniture Limited
- The McLean Foundation
- The Sam Sorbara Charitable Foundation
- The Steele Family Foundation

Builder ($2,500 - $4,999)
- Brattys LLP
- Clairvest Group Inc.
- Kenaidan Group
- The Robert Campeau Family Foundation
Results of the 2018 Parish Campaign
$13,366,786

Results of the 2018 Schools Campaign (included in the Parish Campaign results) $461,397

Results of the 2018 Corporate Campaign $944,826

Companies $763,775
Patrons* $42,250
Foundations $48,334
Mail Appeal $5,300
Corporate Special Events $85,167

* Note: Patrons are those not aligned with a parish. All other Patrons are included in the Parish Campaign total.

Results of the 2018 Employee Campaigns $187,960
(funds received from various employee campaigns where employee donations are directed to ShareLife)

Results of the 2018 Schools Employee Campaign $125,905

Miscellaneous amounts transferred to the 2018 Campaign including In Memoriam and Institutions $249,749

Investment Income $150,134

Amount transferred from Legacy for Life Endowment Fund to the 2018 Campaign $209,145

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Single and Teen Parents $774,923

Rosalie Hall
www.rosaliehall.com | (416) 438-6880

Rose of Durham Young Parents Support Services $274,983
www.roseofdurham.com
(905) 432-3622 (Oshawa) | (289) 385-1160 (Ajax)

Rose of Sharon Services for Young Mothers $295,021
www.roseeofsharon.com | (905) 853-5514

Vita Centre $121,200
www.vitacentre.org | (905) 502-7933

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Immigrants and Refugees $492,667

Catholic Crosscultural Services $190,267
www.cathcrosscultural.org | (416) 757-7010

Office for Refugees of the Archdiocese of Toronto $302,400
www.archtoronto.org/refugee | (416) 934-0606 ext. 804

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Education of Clergy $1,875,000

St. Augustine’s Seminary $1,700,000
www.staugustines.on.ca | (416) 261-7207

Office of Vocations | (416) 968-0997 $100,000

Redemptoris Mater Missionary Seminary $75,000
www.rmmstoronto.com | (416) 264-9477

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International Development and Missions $1,400,000

Canadian Catholic Organization for Development and Peace $800,000
www.devp.org | (416) 922-1592

Pastoral Mission Fund | (416) 934-0606 ext. 567 $600,000

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Agency Support, Advocacy and Volunteer Development $878,862

Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Toronto $878,862
www.catholiccharitiesstor.org | (416) 934-3401

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Special Projects $538,000

With the support of Catholic Charities, Special Project funding was directed to our Parish Outreach to Seniors pilot project, Grief Reconciliation for Young Mothers pilot project, and Shared Services between agencies for financial management, human resources and information technology.

Grants-in-aid Agencies $620,951

The deVeber Institute $10,000
Birthright International $20,000
Toronto Right to Life $40,000
New Beginnings $50,000
Canadian Food for Children $85,000
Good Shepherd Refuge $95,000
St. John Paul the Great Family Centre $100,000
Hospital Chaplaincy $200,000
Special grants allocated by Catholic Charities $20,951*

* Catholic Charities, with the support of ShareLife, provided additional community grants for services to those who are hungry, homeless and dying; to refugees and immigrants; to children living in poverty; and for prison ministry through community reintegration programs.
The Catholic community and its partners responding generously with justice and love.

1155 Yonge Street
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416-934-3411 / 1-800-263-2595
Charitable Registration: 13063 2474 R0001

Thank you for your generosity!

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