



ANNUAL REPORT 2024-25



Arrowhead Clubhouse

An engaged, healthy and thriving Coast.

That's our vision - and everything we do is in service of it.

We help people stabilize, rebuild, and move forward through our 30 programs that support people across all stages of life.

Powered by a team of 105 staff and 125 volunteers, we create opportunities for people to thrive, guided by our values of interdependence, diversity, compassion, respect, and social justice.

We are honoured to provide services on the unceded, ancestral and traditional lands of the shishálh (Sechelt) Nation and the Skwxwu7mesh Uxwumixw (Squamish Nation).

WELCOME MESSAGE

Building communities of hope

In 2024, Sunshine Coast Community Services Society (SCCSS) proudly served more than 4,000 individuals, families, and children across the Sunshine Coast. From expanding food access programs to launching new mental health supports and housing navigation services, our team delivered care and resources that foster dignity, connection, and resilience.

“I came here thinking I just needed food. What I found was people who actually cared and helped me believe in myself again.”

PROGRAM PARTICIPANT

At SCCSS, we understand that health is not just about doctors or hospitals—it’s about the conditions in which people live, work, and grow. That’s why we root our work in the **social determinants of health**—the economic, social, and environmental factors that shape well-being. When individuals have access to stable housing, nutritious food, income support, education, and a sense of belonging, they are more likely not only to survive—but to thrive.

Advancing long-term impact

This year, we began to see the results of years of collective advocacy, investment, and grassroots dedication. Thanks to the support of our donors, volunteers, partners, funders, and participants, we created critically needed pathways out of crisis and into long-term stability for thousands of community members. Key milestones included:

The **Building Together project** transitioned from vision to reality. Years of planning, community engagement, and fundraising are now taking shape in a new space that will offer safe, supportive housing for women

and children impacted by violence—providing not just shelter, but safety, stability, and a community of care.

Foundry Sunshine Coast moved one step closer to becoming a reality. We secured a central location that meets Foundry’s integrated service model—bringing accessible, youth-directed healthcare and social supports to the heart of our community.

Technology readiness To ensure we are ready for the growth ahead, we completed a comprehensive gaps and needs analysis of our technology systems. In the year ahead, we will begin implementing improvements that strengthen our digital infrastructure and support staff efficiency.

Looking ahead

These achievements reflect what’s possible when community comes together. Each success this year, whether it was a meal delivered, a child supported, a mother safely housed, or a youth accessing mental health care - was made possible by collaboration and shared commitment.

To our partners, donors, staff, and volunteers: thank you. Together, we are building a Sunshine Coast where everyone belongs, contributes, and thrives.



Jason Winkler
President, SCCSS Board of Directors



Catherine Leach
Executive Director, SCCSS



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

In 2024–25, our Board of Directors contributed over 1,400 hours of volunteer governance oversight, helping guide the strategic direction and success of SCCSS. Led by President and Chair Jason Winkler, the Board included Vice President Patricia York, Treasurer Linda Iverson, and Directors Kayla Blok, Chelsea Cooledge, Kim Fenton, Joanne Harrington, Bianca Jaegge, Andy Jones-Cox, and Ruby Orchard. We are deeply grateful for their time, leadership, and dedication to our mission.



TOGETHER AGAINST VIOLENCE

Creating a foundation of safety and support

For more than five decades, Sunshine Coast Community Services has been helping build a community where everyone can feel safe, supported, and hopeful about their future. This commitment is at the heart of our [Together Against Violence programs](#), which have grown in response to the evolving needs of our community.

SCCSS began its work in 1974, and by 1981, growing concerns about violence and a lack of safe options led a group of volunteers to open the first Transition House in Wilson Creek. What followed was a steady expansion of support: from Halfmoon Bay to Sechelt, from one full-time staff member and a group of volunteers to a team of skilled professionals offering a full continuum of services for survivors. Today, through emergency shelter, crisis intervention, long-term counselling, outreach, and advocacy, we walk alongside individuals and families impacted by violence and trauma — helping them rebuild not only their lives, but their sense of safety and belonging in the community.

Today, our Together Against Violence programs offer a spectrum of services available to women as they turn to us for support in starting new lives:

Yew Transition House – A 7-bed confidential shelter offering safety, advocacy, and support for women and their children

Thyme Second Stage Program – Transitional housing with wraparound supports to help women and children rebuild after violence

Women’s Counselling – Trauma-informed counselling for survivors of violence, abuse, or sexual assault

Women’s Outreach – Mobile support and advocacy for women who may be isolated or at higher risk

Community-Based and Police-Based Victim Services – Support for survivors of crimes including intimate partner violence and sexual assault

Emergency Sexual Assault Services – Crisis support and referrals for survivors aged 13 and older

KEY MOMENTS IN OUR JOURNEY AGAINST VIOLENCE

1974

SCCSS begins with official registration as the Sunshine Coast Community Resource Society.

1981

Yew Transition House opens to support women and children fleeing violence.

1991

Launch of Nobody’s Perfect parenting program and Violence Prevention education in schools.

1992

Expansion of services to include Women’s Counselling and Children Who Witness Abuse program (now PEACE).

1994

SCCSS purchases a permanent building; celebrates 20 years of community service.



50 Women for SCCSS



Construction starts at Inlet Avenue

In 2020, we took a bold step forward with the launch of Building Together, an initiative to expand the continuum of care with a purpose-built housing and community services hub in downtown Sechelt. Construction is now underway, and we've reached a major milestone: the third-floor foundations are in place, and work is moving quickly.






Each new layer is more than concrete. It is a step closer to 35 units of safe, affordable housing for women and children impacted by violence, and a permanent home for vital SCCSS programs like a Community Food Hub, Bellies and Babies, and Youth Services.

A powerful catalyst for this vision has been the 50 Women for SCCSS campaign. In 2024, 50 community champions raised more than \$842,000 toward the project. To date, we've secured over \$31.5 million of the \$34 million needed, thanks in part to over \$2 million in community donations. But we're not there yet.

We are still working to close the \$2.5 million funding gap, and we need your help. Every gift brings us closer to opening the doors to healing, safety, and support for generations to come.

We need your support to close the funding gap. Please donate today.

Help us build a community of hope for women and children impacted by violence

-  35 units of affordable housing
-  A community hub for everyone
-  A safer neighbourhood
-  Food solutions
-  Pathways out of poverty

Visit buildingtogether-sccss.ca



1995

Thyme Second Stage Transition House opens, offering longer-term housing for women leaving violence.

2004

Community-Based and Police-Based Victim Services contracts taken over from the Action Society.

2020

Building Together initiative launches, setting the stage for expanded housing and a permanent program hub.

2024

50 Women for SCCSS fundraising campaign. Move to our temporary location on Wharf Avenue. Construction starts on Building Together.



BUILDING COMMUNITIES OF HOPE

Providing pathways to safety and stability



Perinatal Substance Use Support

PERINATAL SUBSTANCE USE SUPPORT

Supporting women through challenge and change

This program offers one-to-one, non-judgmental support to women and birthing individuals navigating pregnancy and the first year postpartum while facing challenges like substance use, poverty, or housing instability. Whether in recovery or actively using substances, participants receive compassionate, practical support from attending appointments to navigating the legal system.

In 2024, this client-led approach helped participants build stability, strengthen support networks, and reduce negative interactions with MCFD and other government systems. By meeting participants where they are, the program fosters trust, safety, and positive change during a vulnerable time.

"I didn't think anyone would understand what I was going through - but you listened without judgment and helped me feel like I wasn't alone."

PARTICIPANT, PERINATAL SUBSTANCE USE SUPPORT

POLICE BASED VICTIM SERVICES

Helping victims navigate trauma and justice

Police-Based Victim Services supported 496 individuals in 2024, offering emotional support, crisis intervention, and practical guidance to victims of crime and trauma across the Coast. From violent assaults to sudden deaths, missing persons, and sexual violence, the program worked closely with the RCMP and Crown Counsel to ensure victims had the information, court support, and referrals they needed.

With incidents of violent crime and homicides increasing, this service plays a critical role in building safety and stability for those most impacted. Every connection made is a step toward hope, healing, and a stronger, more resilient community.

"I see every day how Victim Services helps people navigate some of the hardest moments of their lives."

D/COMM. DWAYNE MCDONALD, COMMANDING OFFICER, "E" DIVISION RCMP



Police Based Victim Services and RCMP

LEILA'S STORY

Finding safety, rebuilding hope

Leila came to the Sunshine Coast in 2021 hoping to build a new life. Not long after settling in, she entered into a relationship that became emotionally unsafe. Over the next two years, she experienced repeated verbal abuse and episodes of uncontrolled anger. She left the household multiple times, sometimes with nowhere to go but her car, but returned, believing her partner's promises to change.

One day, the abuse turned physical. Traumatized and afraid, Leila called a trusted friend, who told her about SCCSS. She arrived that same day, looking for help.

From the moment she walked through the doors, Leila was met with kindness and compassion. The staff welcomed her into the transition house, giving her a safe, private space to rest and recover. She wasn't pressured to share her story right away. She could wait until she felt ready.

What comforted her most was knowing someone was always available, day or night. That steady presence helped her feel safe, seen, and supported in a way she hadn't in a long time.

After three months at the transition house, Leila felt ready to move on. With legal support from SCCSS, she relocated to a new community where she could continue healing in safety.

Today, Leila is surrounded by a supportive network, feeling calmer and more grounded. She's deeply grateful for the care she received. That support helped her escape abuse and begin a new life with peace and dignity.

"For the first time in a long time, I felt safe. I finally had space to breathe, to rest, and to begin again."

LEILA, SURVIVOR, YEW TRANSITION HOUSE



Yew Transition House



Pints and Pups fundraiser - 50 Women for SCCSS

50 WOMEN FOR SCCSS

Community-driven giving with lasting impact

In 2024, a powerful community-led initiative brought together 50 women from across the Sunshine Coast who each pledged to raise funds in support of the Building Together project.

Through over 35 events, presentations and persuasive campaigning, these incredible women raised over \$822,000, laying the foundation for a future where women and children have access to safe, affordable housing and vital community supports.

This campaign was more than just a fundraiser - it was a movement of hope, solidarity, and action. Each donor became a champion for change, sending a powerful message: when women support women, communities thrive.

OUR IMPACT

Together Against Violence



Yew Transition House

Offers a safe, respectful haven for women and children to break the cycle of domestic abuse.

27 families experiencing or at risk of abuse were provided with a safe space to land and rebuild their lives.

1129 calls to the 24/7 Access Line were made by women in crisis seeking resources, support, advocacy, and safety planning.



Thyme Second Stage

Providing housing, support, and advocacy for women and children rebuilding their lives after violence.

5 families offered temporary housing and wrap-around supports in this goal-based program.



Women's Outreach

A free, confidential service to increase the safety and well-being of women at risk of violence.

139 families at risk of abuse were supported to find options and make choices.

"I am very grateful for the kindness and support of all staff who helped me to find the way back to myself."

THYME SECOND STAGE HOUSING RESIDENT



Women's Counselling

Non-judgmental support for coping with abuse and violence fostering healing and empowerment.

53 women empowered to make informed, confident life and health decisions.



Emergency Sexual Assault Services

Providing information, support, and referrals to survivors of sexual abuse, assault, and harassment.

23 survivors received trauma-informed care and respectful support.



Community Based Victim Services

Supporting survivors of relationship violence, sexual assault, harassment, child abuse, and family violence.

115 individuals received free, confidential support, information and referrals.



"I am so thankful you are in our lives. I don't know what my son and I would have done without your support."

WOMEN'S OUTREACH CLIENT

OUR IMPACT

Community Action & Engagement



Arrowhead Clubhouse

Providing a safe, stigma-free environment where people with mental health challenges can learn skills, get support, and build relationships.

- 216** people received support and connection in a welcoming space.
- 30** members helped into housing and 24 into rehabilitation centres.



Better At Home

Providing seniors with non-medical home support services, so they can continue to live independently.

- 215** seniors received help with daily tasks and community connection.



Food Security Programs

Programs to reduce food insecurity, increase access points for food, and promote advocacy and education.

- 672** households accessed the Food Bank for food and essentials.
- 20K** lbs. of food products reclaimed and distributed in the community.
- 257** prepared and frozen meals were brokered for the Better At Home seniors meals program.



Client Navigator

Connecting all ages to Sunshine Coast services, community agencies, and tailored resources.

- 916** people received support and advice, including 112 unhoused individuals.



Keeping People Housed

providing interest-free loans to eligible Sunshine Coast families in temporary financial crises.

- 51** households assisted with unexpected crises with rental arrears or essential utilities.



Community Services Thrift Store

A social enterprise that turns donations into impact by offering eco-friendly shopping, skill-building, and volunteer opportunities.

- 4200** hours of volunteer time from 35 community members, helping generate vital revenue - all reinvested back into SCCSS programs.

“The Fresh Food For All market is one of the best programs. I wish it ran all year round.”

FOOD SECURITY PROGRAM PARTICIPANT



Fresh options for Gord

After losing his partner in 2023, Gord's visits to the Food Bank dropped dramatically. He's since found a new food access point as a regular shopper at our **Fresh Food For All Market** - a seasonal, low-cost market offering fresh produce and community connection. While his Food Bank use is down, he shows up weekly at the market to meet his needs. Gord's story shows how expanded food programs are creating new pathways to nourishment and connection.

OUR IMPACT

Family, Youth and Children's Services



Bellies and Babies

A welcoming drop-in group for new moms, expectant families, and caregivers to find support, connection, and early parenting resources.

179 new parents attended, connecting with peers, building community, and sharing experiences.



Dads Matter

Championing the emotional safety and wellbeing of fathers and their families.

16 dads helped to be the best dads they can be through this 8-week program.

“As a single dad, it was eye-opening to see that I am not alone and hearing other dads share their stories.”

DADS MATTER, PROGRAM PARTICIPANT



Supported Child Development

Collaborating with families who have children that require additional supports to access inclusive childcare.

102 children and their families were supported with wraparound services to best suit their needs.



Parent-Tot Drop-In

An inclusive free program where parents can take a break, connect with other parents and caregivers and have fun playing with their children.

510 parents and caregivers attended 273 sessions in a supportive and non-judgmental space.

32 training sessions and workshops to build parenting skills and confidence.



Physiotherapy Services

Providing timely therapy to children under 6 to support functional development and family participation.

111 children received therapy to develop gross motor skills that support daily activities.



Infant Development Program

Supporting families with children 0-3 who are, or are at risk of, experiencing developmental delays or disabilities.

74 children and their families supported, using an integrated, family-centred approach.

A lifeline for Leah

As a new single parent far from family, Leah found strength and connection through our **Child Care Resource and Referral Program**. Whether borrowing from the lending library, joining parent-tot groups, or simply using the playground, it became a safe, welcoming space for her and her daughter. As a licensed ECE, Leah also appreciated the access to professional development. Most of all, she felt heard and supported by staff who truly cared.



OUR IMPACT

Child and Family Counselling



Youth Outreach

Enhancing youth safety by connecting them to resources and fostering community understanding.

- 37** Dinner Club sessions held - a weekly food and connection program for high-risk youth.
- 23** Queer Youth Drop-Ins and Gender Diverse Network Meet Up sessions.
- 43** youth attended the annual Youth Solstice Dinner for connection and friendship.



Supported Services to Children and Youth

Supporting individuals with brain differences to engage socially, build skills, and connect with peers.

- 41** youth served via life skills after-school programs.

“Life Skills group is the best part of my week. It’s where I met my best friend, and I love the staff.”

SUPPORTED SERVICES TO CHILDREN, PROGRAM PARTICIPANT



Youth In Transition

Empowering vulnerable youth exiting care to set and pursue goals towards independence.

- 10** youth received personalized support to develop life skills, build connections and plan for the future.

“I used to be stuck and overwhelmed. With your support, I finally feel like I’m moving forward.”

YOUTH IN TRANSITION, PROGRAM PARTICIPANT



PEACE Program

Prevention, Education, Advocacy, Counselling and Empowerment (PEACE) services for children and youth with experiences of/at risk of violence.

- 24** children and youth (ages 3-18) empowered through this free, confidential program.



Family Preservation & Reunification

Home-based, multi-component interventions designed to reduce and prevent risk for children and families involved with MCFD.

- 45** families working to strengthen parenting skills and foster positive relationships.



Sexual Abuse Intervention Program (SAIP)

Providing counselling, information, and other supports to children, youth, and their families who have been impacted by sexual abuse.

- 22** individuals and their families offered timely assessment, treatment and consultation.



COLLECTIVE IMPACT

Powered by generosity, guided by heart



Operations, admin, and logistics make it all happen

MAKING IT ALL POSSIBLE

The people, systems, and support behind every frontline service

Every program you see is backed by a team you don't. From navigating complex contracts to managing phones, payroll, and IT systems, the backbone of our work is often invisible. Behind every outreach worker is a vehicle, insurance, and admin team ensuring it runs safely. Behind every counselling session is a space that's clean, private, and welcoming. Most of this work isn't covered by program funding. It's possible because of donors who give where it's needed most.

"I see the impact of my work with every person that comes through our front door. It feels good to be part of that."

AMY ROBINSON, ADMIN ASSISTANT, SCCSS

Donate to where it's needed most and power the work that holds everything together.



THE HEART OF OUR WORK

Volunteers: showing up and making a difference

In 2024, 125 volunteers gave 11,064 hours of their time across SCCSS. From food programs and Thrift Store sorting to gardening, admin support and more, their work ripples through every part of our organization. Many came seeking connection and found community. Their presence allows staff to focus, clients to feel supported, and our programs to thrive. We're deeply grateful for their time, energy, and care.

"I've made friends, learned new skills, and feel proud to be part of something that helps."

JUNE, THRIFT STORE VOLUNTEER

[Join our team of changemakers.](#)
Volunteer with SCCSS and help build a stronger, more connected Coast.



Volunteer support turns everyday tasks into lasting change



Len Libin with a portrait of his late wife, Judi, in whose honour the early years area will be named

A LEGACY OF LOVE

Honouring Judi through a lasting gift

When Len Libin and his family made a \$150,000 donation to our 50 Women for SCCSS campaign in memory of his wife Judi, it was more than a gift—it was a tribute to the warmth and care she shared with everyone she met.

The early years family support area of our new building will be named in honour of Judi, lovingly called “Bubs” by her 12 grandchildren. This welcoming space will offer connection, resources, and support to parents and caregivers with young children.

Judi’s name will live on in a place that helps families thrive. We are deeply grateful to the Libin family for this generous and meaningful gift.

“We hope others will be inspired to give, not just for today but for generations to come.”

LEN LIBIN, LEGACY DONOR, BUILDING TOGETHER



To [learn more about legacy gifts](#) and naming opportunities, we’d love to talk!

THE POWER OF ONGOING GIVING

Christine gives monthly. It matters.

Each month, a growing community of donors gives what they can—\$10, \$25, \$100—and helps keep our work going. These gifts aren’t just generous—they’re strategic. They provide steady funding we can count on, especially for essentials other sources don’t cover. From fuel for outreach to meals for seniors and core operations, monthly donors make it possible.

Christine Chandler is one of them. In addition to being a major donor to Building Together and a member of 50 Women for SCCSS, she gives monthly to Where It’s Needed Most—ensuring her impact is felt all year and helping build lasting solutions for a stronger, more connected community.

“Knowing I’m making a difference each month, without even thinking about it, is deeply rewarding.”

CHRISTINE CHANDLER, MONTHLY DONOR



[Become a monthly donor.](#) It’s a simple, sustainable way to support our work.



Christine Chandler, monthly supporter of Where It’s Needed Most

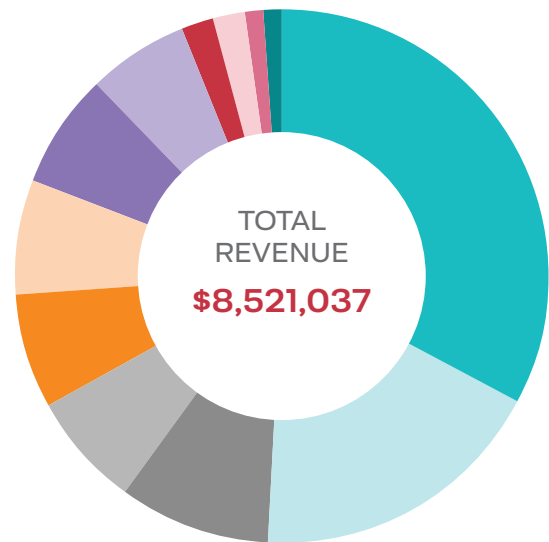
Financial health, community impact

The financial results for the 2024-2025 year reflect the organization’s continued commitment to fiscal responsibility and strategic stewardship of resources. Our commitment to our people and community remains unwavering. Despite ongoing economic pressures, we maintained a balanced approach to revenue generation and expense management, allowing us to sustain our core programs and invest in our redevelopment project. Our financial results remained stable, supported by diversified funding sources including contributions from all levels of government, grants from numerous foundations and charities, and community donations. We are in a strong financial position with a healthy internal reserve, ensuring we are well-equipped to meet future challenges and continue delivering impactful services to the community.

REVENUE

For Financial Year ending 31 March, 2025

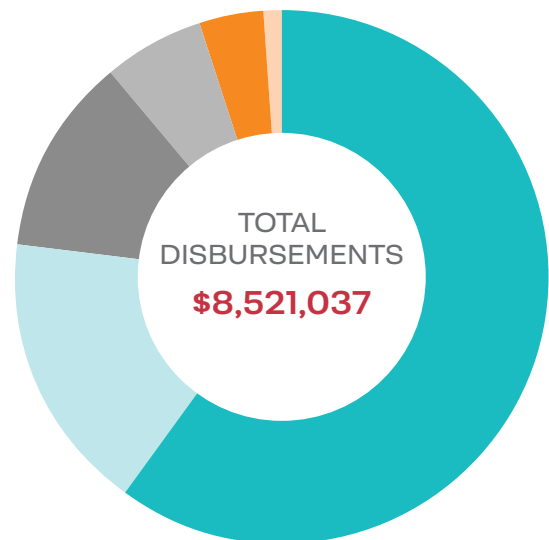
Provincial - Child & Family Development	33%	■
Provincial - BC Housing	18%	■
Provincial - BC Health Authorities	9%	■
Provincial - Public Safety & Solicitor General	7%	■
Grants	7%	■
Donations	7%	■
Provincial - Education and Child Care	7%	■
Other revenue	6%	■
Municipal	2%	■
Social enterprise	2%	■
Provincial - Gaming	1%	■
Federal	1%	■



EXPENSES

For Financial Year ending 31 March, 2025

Program delivery - staff/contract	60%	■
Program delivery - client support	17%	■
Society operations	12%	■
Building operations	6%	■
Fundraising & redevelopment expenses	4%	■
Transfer to reserve	1%	■





Sunshine Coast
Community Services
Caring since 1974

Together, we build a thriving Coast.

Behind every story in this report is a community of people who care.

To our staff, volunteers, donors, service partners, and supporters - thank you. Your dedication, generosity, and heart make our work possible.

We are sincerely grateful to the many individuals, schools, workplaces, businesses, clubs, and associations who choose to

support Sunshine Coast Community Services. Your efforts add greatly to our ability to provide vital services and programs for people in need on the Coast.

And to the people we serve, thank you for your courage, trust, and resilience. You are the reason we do what we do.

Let's keep building connection, safety, and opportunity together.



Donate today and transform tomorrow

Every dollar makes a difference. Give monthly, leave a legacy, or support Building Together and Where It's Needed Most—your gift creates lasting impact.



Spread the word - amplify our reach

Help spread the word and follow us on Instagram and Facebook at sc.communityservices or sign up for our e-news at sccss.ca.



Volunteer your time - share your skills

Are you passionate about making a difference in the lives of others? Join our amazing team of volunteers and help create change. Learn more at sccss.ca



Shop at the Thrift Store in Gibsons

Every dollar from sales supports SCCSS programs. Visit us at 731 North Road, Gibsons. For hours, donations, or volunteering, visit sccss.ca.

MAKE A DIFFERENCE TODAY! | 604-885-5881 | INFO@SCCSS.CA | VISIT SCCSS.CA





Sunshine Coast
Community Services
Caring since 1974

We gratefully acknowledge the commitment and support of government and private funders who make a significant financial contribution to our programs and are helping us build an engaged, healthy and thriving Coast:



This Annual Report is dedicated in memory of Sue Jackel — our friend, neighbour, honorary co-chair of 50 Women for SCCSS and a passionate community advocate. Her legacy continues to inspire and uplift.



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SCCSS has been CARF accredited since 2005.