



Sunshine Coast **Community Services**

Opening doors to hope

ANNUAL REPORT 2025-26

Safety. Stability. Connection.



Who we are

Founded in 1974, Sunshine Coast Community Services Society (SCCSS) is a community-based charitable organization that strengthens safety, stability, and connection across the Sunshine Coast.

We are honoured to provide services on the unceded, ancestral, and traditional lands of the shíshálh Nation and the Skwxwú7mesh Uxwumixw (Squamish Nation).

For more than 50 years, SCCSS has worked alongside children, youth, families, adults, and seniors to respond to emerging community needs and build stronger, healthier communities. Through more than 30 integrated programs, SCCSS supports people at every stage of life by giving children a strong foundation, supporting youth and families, preventing and responding to violence, creating pathways to safe and affordable housing, and strengthening community connection.

Guided by a volunteer Board of Directors, SCCSS is an independent, community-based nonprofit organization. Working in partnership with governments, foundations, donors, volunteers, and community partners, SCCSS develops local solutions that create lasting benefits for individuals, families, and the broader community.

Our vision

An engaged, healthy and thriving Coast.

Our values

Compassion | Respect | Diversity | Interdependence | Social Justice

At a glance

30+ programs and services supporting all stages of life

4,000+ people supported across the Sunshine Coast

101 employees working to serve our community

150 volunteers strengthening SCCSS programs

35 affordable homes under construction

Unless otherwise noted, statistics in this report reflect the April 1, 2025 to March 31, 2026 fiscal year. Some people may access more than one SCCSS program and may therefore be represented in more than one program total.

A message from our Executive Director and Board Chair



Catherine Leach
Executive Director



Patricia York
President & Board Chair

The past year reminded us that community well-being cannot be taken for granted. Across the Sunshine Coast, more people are experiencing housing insecurity, rising food costs, financial pressures, mental health challenges, social isolation, and gender-based violence. Behind these challenges are individuals and families navigating increasingly complex circumstances.

At Sunshine Coast Community Services Society, we see these realities every day. We also see the resilience of our community and the extraordinary impact timely, compassionate support can have on someone's life.

Throughout the year, our staff, volunteers, partners, and supporters worked alongside thousands of people to increase safety, strengthen stability, foster connection, and create opportunities for growth. Whether helping a family through a difficult time, providing safety for women and children escaping violence, supporting a young person's mental health, ensuring access to food, or helping someone secure stable housing, our work addressed immediate needs while creating the conditions for long-term well-being.

Thousands of Sunshine Coast residents accessed SCCSS services this year. Ninety-five percent felt welcomed, ninety-seven percent said our services improved their lives or the lives of their families, and ninety-eight percent reported a positive overall experience. These outcomes go beyond satisfaction—they demonstrate that people found hope, stability, and support to move forward.

This was also a year of significant transformation. We completed our Community Well-being Framework, providing a clear vision for how we measure and communicate our impact. We strengthened our

internal systems, advanced strategic priorities, and continued investing in the people and infrastructure that support our work.

We also continued to move two transformational community initiatives forward. Despite unexpected challenges, [Building Together](#) remained a priority, bringing us closer to delivering affordable housing and integrated community services for generations to come. We also made important progress toward [Foundry Sunshine Coast](#), where young people will access integrated health, wellness, and social services in one welcoming location.

As we look to the year ahead, our focus shifts from planning to implementation. We will advance Building Together and Foundry, embed our Community Well-being Framework throughout the organization, strengthen partnerships, and advocate for the resources our community needs. At the same time, we remain committed to high-quality, person-centred services that respond to today's realities while building a stronger future.

None of this would be possible without our employees, volunteers, Board of Directors, Indigenous partners, municipalities, health and education partners, funders, donors, and community supporters. Thank you for your trust, collaboration, and belief in this work.

As you read this report, we encourage you to look beyond the numbers. Every statistic represents a person who felt safer, a family that found stability, a young person who discovered hope, or a neighbour who became more connected because our community chose to invest in their well-being.

That is the impact of this organization—work that strengthens individual lives and the resilience, health, and future of the Sunshine Coast.

2025-26 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President and Board Chair | Patricia York
Vice Chair | Chelsea Cooledge
Treasurer | Linda Iverson

Board Members | Andy Jones-Cox | Kayla Blok
Michelle Schmidt | Bianca Jaegge | Kim Fenton
Ariane Fleischmann | Nicole Hagedorn

Our Community Well-being Framework

Everyone wants to live in a community where people are healthy, safe, and connected.

At SCCSS, we recognize that health and quality of life are shaped by more than access to medical care alone. They are influenced by the everyday conditions people experience - including housing, food security, income, safety, social connection, and access to support.

Many of these challenges are deeply interconnected and shaped by broader systemic issues including poverty, gender-based violence, housing shortages, discrimination, and barriers to accessing services.

By strengthening the conditions that support well-being, SCCSS helps create healthier, safer, and more resilient communities.

OUR IMPACT AREAS



OUR OUTCOMES



Safety



Stability



Connection

OUR IMPACT OPENING DOORS TO HOPE

Rylan's story

Before connecting with SCCSS, Rylan was living in a mental health group home, navigating challenges with limited independence and few opportunities for connection. His world felt small, and it was difficult to imagine a different path forward.

That began to change when he found **Arrowhead Clubhouse**. What started as showing up for a meal became a place where he felt welcomed and valued. Over time, he rebuilt confidence, established routines, and found a sense of belonging.

A turning point came when Rylan moved into **Legacy Housing**. With a stable and independent place to live, he could focus on his health, build relationships, and move ahead.

Today, Rylan works as a peer support worker and volunteers at Arrowhead and our **Food Bank** program, supporting others while continuing to build a life grounded in stability, purpose, and connection.



“Having a place where people show up, connect, and support each other changed everything for me.”

RYLAN - LEGACY HOUSING RESIDENT, VOLUNTEER

Maria's story

After a car accident, Maria, a long-time Sunshine Coast resident, was encouraged by her doctor to move into assisted living. As a senior, she wanted to remain in the home she loved but was feeling isolated and unsure how she would manage on her own.

Through **Better at Home**, SCCSS's program supporting seniors to live safely and independently at home, Maria found the practical support she needed to remain in her community.

Hope, our Better at Home program assistant, encouraged Maria to join one of our **Community Food programs**, where she found new friendships, connection, and a renewed sense of belonging.

Today, Maria continues to live independently in her own home. She says the support has helped her feel “normal again.” Instead of watching the world go by from her window, she is back out in her community, building relationships, enjoying life, and staying connected to the people around her.



“I feel like I'm normal again. It's so nice to be back out in the world.”

MARIA - BETTER AT HOME PROGRAM PARTICIPANT

97%

of program participants said SCCSS made a positive difference in their life or the life of a family member.

OUR IMPACT GIVING CHILDREN A STRONG FOUNDATION

Strong beginnings create stronger futures

The early years shape a child's health, learning, relationships, and well-being for years to come. When children and families receive support early, they are better equipped to thrive.

SCCSS helps children get the strongest possible start through parenting programs, early learning opportunities, developmental supports, family resource services, and early intervention. By strengthening families and responding early, we help build children's confidence, support healthy development, and prevent small challenges from becoming larger ones.

Every child who is supported to thrive today helps build a healthier, stronger Sunshine Coast tomorrow.



“This program has really helped me adapt as a mother, and I love being able to share experiences with other mums.”

SARAH, BELLIES AND BABIES PARTICIPANT

This year

510 parents and caregivers built confidence and friendships through **Parent-Tot Drop-In**.

111 children gained strength, mobility, and independence through **Physiotherapy Services**.

95 children and families accessed inclusive supports through **Supported Child Development**.

179 new moms found encouragement and connection through **Bellies and Babies**.

275 families received trusted childcare guidance and resources through the **CCRR program**.



OUR IMPACT SUPPORTING YOUTH AND FAMILIES

Strong relationships and timely support help youth and families thrive

Young people and families can face challenges that affect their well-being, relationships, and opportunities for the future. With the right support at the right time, they are better able to navigate challenges and build resilience.

SCCSS works alongside youth and families through outreach, counselling, advocacy, family support, life-skills development, and integrated services. By strengthening relationships, building confidence, and reducing barriers to support, we help young people and families move forward.

Every young person who finds hope and every family that grows stronger contributes to a healthier, more connected Sunshine Coast.



“Having one place where young people can go for support, feel welcome, and know they won’t be judged could make such a difference. Sometimes the hardest part is just knowing where to start.”

YOUTH VOICES: FOUNDRY SUNSHINE COAST

This year

400+ youth connected with outreach, information and support through **Youth Outreach.**

17 youth gained life skills and housing support through **Youth in Transition.**

94 families strengthened parenting skills and family life through **Family Support Services.**

69 families accessed **Circle of Support** for practical strategies and support around complex developmental conditions.

660+ young people helped shape **Foundry Sunshine Coast** through community engagement sessions.



OUR IMPACT PREVENTING AND RESPONDING TO VIOLENCE

Safety is the foundation of well-being and healing

Violence can have lasting impacts on safety, health, relationships, and well-being. When people have a safe place to turn and compassionate support, they can begin to heal, rebuild their lives, and move toward a more hopeful future.

For more than four decades, SCCSS has stood alongside people experiencing violence. Through emergency shelter, outreach, counselling, advocacy, crisis response, and longer-term supports, we help people restore safety, regain stability, strengthen connections, and move forward.

Every person who finds safety, every family that begins to heal, and every cycle of violence that is interrupted contributes to a safer, healthier Sunshine Coast.



“Thank you for helping me find my voice and to walk with my head held high.”

VIOLENCE SURVIVOR, YEW TRANSITION HOUSE

This year

1,100+ calls connected people to safety through the Yew Transition House 24/7 Access Line.

507 people found information, advocacy, and support through Police Based Victim Services.

28 survivors accessed trauma-informed support through Sexual Assault Services.

123 women rebuilt safety and confidence through Women's Counselling and Outreach.

30 children with experiences of violence built resilience through the PEACE Counselling Program.





Community members came together for the inaugural Together Against Violence March, co-hosted by SCCSS and CFUW Sunshine Coast.

Communities create safety. Preventing violence takes all of us

Creating safer communities means more than responding after harm has occurred. It means building awareness, challenging harmful attitudes and behaviours, strengthening relationships, and creating a culture where people feel safe, supported, and able to seek help.

Throughout the year, SCCSS worked alongside community partners to bring people together, start conversations, and inspire action. From the inaugural **Together Against Violence March** to the **Moose Hide Campaign**, **Wear Purple Day**, and **16 Days of Activism**, these initiatives helped raise awareness and reinforce that preventing violence is a shared community responsibility.

By speaking up, learning together, supporting survivors, and strengthening connections, we can help prevent violence before it occurs and build a safer Sunshine Coast for everyone.

“Our collective efforts help raise awareness, improve prevention and strengthen support for those impacted by violence.”

CATHERINE HANSON, PRESIDENT,
CFUW SUNSHINE COAST

JOIN US IN 2026

MARCH TO STOP VIOLENCE

AGAINST WOMEN

END GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 29

12:30–2:30 PM

Everyone welcome. Learn more at sccss.ca



Members of the Sunshine Coast Crazy Indians Brotherhood joined the March and shared song and drumming.



SCCSS staff raise awareness and share information in local schools as part of the Moose Hide Campaign.

OUR IMPACT STRENGTHENING COMMUNITY CONNECTION

Connection and belonging help communities thrive

Feeling connected to others is essential to health and well-being. Yet isolation, financial pressures, age, disability, mental health challenges, and other barriers can make it difficult for people to participate fully in community life.

Across the Sunshine Coast, SCCSS creates welcoming spaces where people can build relationships, reduce isolation, access support, and strengthen their sense of belonging. Whether through a shared meal, practical assistance, volunteering, recreation, or simply having somewhere to go, connection can be an important first step toward greater stability and well-being.

Every relationship strengthened and every person who feels they belong helps build a healthier, more connected Sunshine Coast.



“Without you guys I don’t know if I would have made it through this week.”

CARL, MEMBER, ARROWHEAD CLUBHOUSE

This year

672 households accessed nutritious food and essentials through the **Food Bank**.

216 people with mental health challenges connected through meals, activities and peer support at **Arrowhead Clubhouse**.

215 seniors received support to remain connected and independent through **Better at Home**.

916 people were connected to services and community resources through **Client Navigator**.

150 **Volunteer Program** participants strengthened community by donating their time and skills to SCCSS.





Food opens the door

Food meets an immediate need, but its impact can reach much further. A meal can reduce isolation. Groceries can relieve stress. A shared table can become the beginning of friendship, trust, and belonging.

Across SCCSS, food creates opportunities for people to connect. Through the Food Bank, community meals, Better at Home, Arrowhead Clubhouse, family programs, and youth outreach, people often come seeking practical support and discover community along the way.

Food may open the door. Connection, safety and stability help people find a way forward.

“I came here for food, but I found kindness, connection and hope. That night, I felt nourished in more ways than one.”

JOAN, PARTICIPANT, FOOD BANK

This year



20,000+ lbs of reclaimed and redistributed food



11,000+ hot meals served through Arrowhead Clubhouse



1,688 frozen meals delivered to seniors through Better at Home



93 nutritious lunches served to moms at Bellies and Babies



40 weekly meals prepared and shared through the Youth Outreach Dinner Club



OUR IMPACT PATHWAYS TO SAFE AND AFFORDABLE HOUSING

A safe, stable home changes everything

Safe and affordable housing is fundamental to health and well-being. Without it, challenges related to safety, mental health, financial security, family stability, and connection can become harder to overcome.

SCCSS helps people navigate housing challenges, prevent housing loss, and find pathways toward greater stability. Through crisis support, housing navigation, temporary shelter, and affordable housing, we work alongside people at different points in their housing journey.

Every person who finds safety and every household that gains stability is better able to move forward.



**“I’m glad you were there.
I don’t know how I would
have done this without you.”**

KEIRA, THYME SECOND STAGE HOUSING RESIDENT

This year

11 individuals and families found support to maintain stable housing through **Keeping People Housed**.

10 families found safety and support through **Thyme Second Stage** transitional housing.

8 **Legacy Housing** homes provided stable, affordable housing for people living with mental health challenges.

35 affordable homes moved closer to welcoming families through **Building Together**.





Building Together: a shared vision becoming reality

[Building Together](#) is more than a building. It is a long-term investment in the health and well-being of our community.

When complete, it will provide 35 safe and affordable homes for women and children, alongside integrated services that strengthen families, improve food security, support mental health, respond to violence, and create opportunities for connection and belonging.

After six years of planning, fundraising, and extraordinary community support, Building Together is moving closer to completion. Building Together represents what is possible when a community comes together around a common purpose: creating greater safety, stability, and connection for generations to come.

“This project reflects years of determination, generosity and belief in what is possible when we invest in the well-being of our community.”

CATHERINE LEACH,
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, SCCSS

One final opportunity to be part of Building Together

For six years, our community has helped turn the vision for Building Together into reality. As we bring our community fundraising campaign to a close at the end of 2026, there is still time to be part of this extraordinary community legacy.

Every gift helps move us closer to completing a place that will provide safe homes, essential supports, and opportunities for connection for generations to come.

Make your gift by December 31, 2026
Visit buildingtogether-sccss.ca



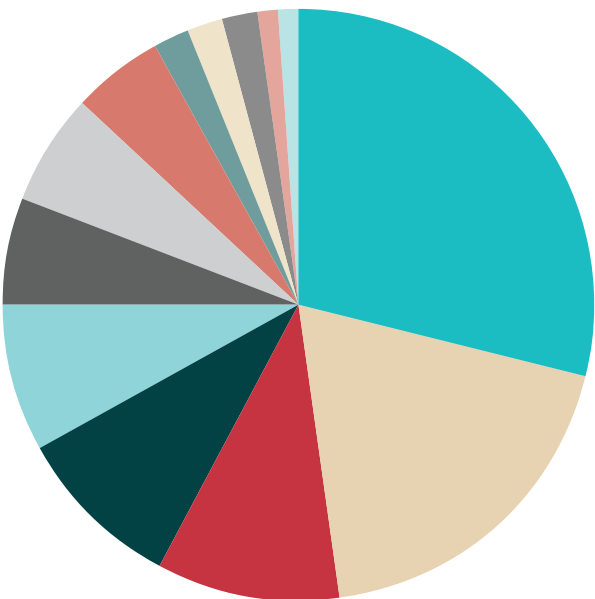
Financial overview

The following financial summary shows how we manage the resources entrusted to us and invest them in programs and services that strengthen safety, stability, and connection across the Sunshine Coast. As an independent, community-based charitable organization, SCCSS is accountable to the people we serve, our funders and donors, our Board of Directors, and regulatory and accreditation bodies. We are responsible for using funds carefully, providing safe and effective services, and ensuring our work makes a meaningful difference in our community.

Total revenue \$8,718,717

For the financial year ending March 31, 2026

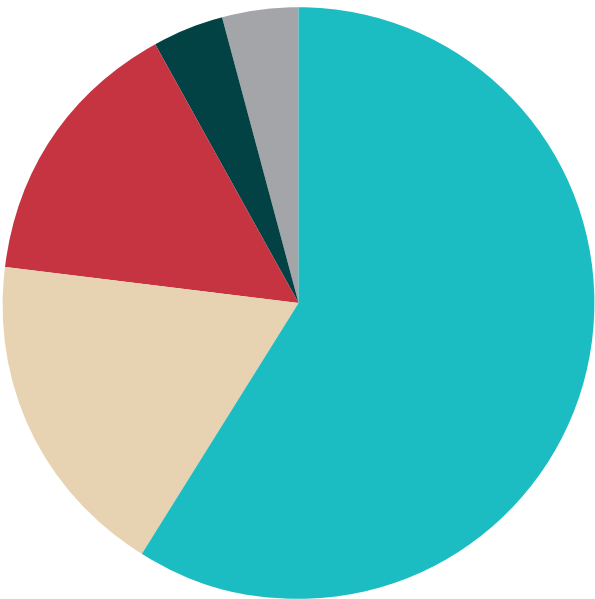
Provincial – MCFD	29%
Provincial – BC Housing	19%
Donations	10%
Provincial – BC Health Authorities	9%
Grants	8%
Provincial – Education & Child Care	6%
Provincial – Public Safety & Solicitor General	6%
Other revenue	5%
Municipal	2%
Social enterprise	2%
Transfer from reserve	2%
Provincial – Gaming	1%
Federal	1%



Total expenses \$8,718,717

For the financial year ending March 31, 2026

Program delivery – salaries & benefits	59%
Program delivery – program/client support	18%
Society operations – HR, Finance, IT and Governance	15%
Fundraising and communications	4%
Building operations	4%



THANK YOU TOGETHER WE'RE OPENING THE DOORS TO HOPE



Because of you, our community is stronger

This year, hundreds of volunteers, donors, partners, businesses, foundations and community members stood alongside SCCSS to strengthen safety, stability and connection across the Sunshine Coast.

Your generosity helped provide safe homes, support families, reduce isolation, prevent violence and ensure people could access the services they needed, when they needed them most.

Together, we're building a stronger, more connected community and opening doors to hope for generations to come.

This year

150 volunteers donated 10,000+ hours of their time and skills.

803 donors contributed \$1,304,668 in support of our programs.

118 businesses and local organizations contributed to our programs.

15 successful grant applications helped strengthen our capacity.

Thank you to everyone who gave their time, expertise, resources and compassion this year. Your support helps build a stronger Sunshine Coast.





Sunshine Coast Community Services

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



SUNSHINE COAST COMMUNITY SERVICES SOCIETY (SCCSS)

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Charitable Registration Number: 10805 2630 RR0001



SCCSS has been CARF accredited since 2005.