

A close-up photograph of a person's hand holding a paintbrush, applying paint to a canvas. The background is a vibrant, multi-colored abstract pattern in shades of blue, green, yellow, and red. The text is overlaid on the top half of the image.

JohnHoward

The John Howard Society of North Island

Annual Report 2017-2018

Building Safer and Healthier Communities

Annual Report 2017 - 2018

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*On the cover: 'Kids' Art for KidStart' photo by
Megan Lawrence*

Our Mission

We provide programs and support to help children, youth, and families lead safer, healthier lives.



'Healing Light - Discovery Islands' photo by Jo-Anne Johnson

Our Mandate

The John Howard Society of North Island provides services to youth, children, adults, and families with diverse needs. Our locations include offices and residential programs, but our work also takes us into schools, homes, and other parts of communities.

We have a holistic approach, recognizing that safer, healthier communities are created through the combined and diverse efforts of citizens, organizations, and governments. We work cooperatively with a broad spectrum of community agencies and committees, while also maintaining involvement in provincial and national organizations that seek to address the social needs of Canadians.

Who We Are

The John Howard Society has served community justice and social services needs on northern Vancouver Island for 51 years. Beginning as a branch of The John Howard Society of Vancouver Island in 1967, the organization was incorporated as The John Howard Society of North Island in 1989. The society is named after the British prison reformer, John Howard (1726-1790). In 1962 The John Howard Society of Canada was established. There are branches and offices in more than 60 communities across Canada, provincial offices in all 10 provinces and the Northwest Territories, and a national office in Ottawa.

A non-profit society with extensive experience in providing services for youth, children, adults, and families, The John Howard Society of North Island operates numerous programs from 9 locations:

- Campbell River Community Programs/Foundry
- Courtenay Community Programs Office
- Beech Street, Campbell River
- Parksville Youth Justice
- Nanaimo Youth Justice
- Port Alberni Youth Justice
- Duncan Youth Justice
- Robron Centre, Campbell River
- Gold River and Tahsis Health Centres

John Howard programs are situated in the territories of the Kwakwaka'wakw, Nuuchahnulth, and Coast Salish peoples. John Howard has a First Nations Elders' Council to advise the agency on matters relating to culture and inclusion. The Elders help to support culturally appropriate programming within John Howard.

Our Team



76 employees



28 family caregivers



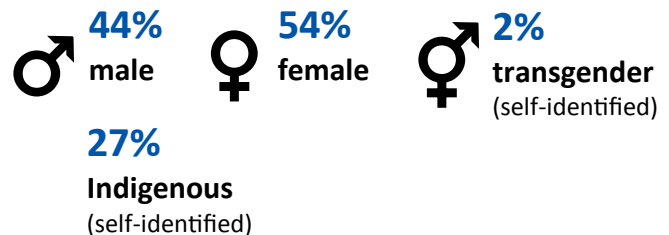
91 volunteers

Our Clients

In the past year, we served **1,507** individuals.

We also provided brief service to **1,279** additional individuals.

Those participating in our services are:



President's Report



Terry Moist

The spotlight was on the Campbell River office and Foundry during our 50th anniversary year, but has shifted dramatically to the Comox Valley in the first year of our next 50. The generous gift of the Abbeyfield House property in Courtenay and the subsequent funding from the Ministry of Children and Family Development to establish a residence and program for 10 youth facing homelessness is a much-needed resource for the Valley. BC Housing and the City of Courtenay's very recent announcement that John Howard has been chosen to operate a 46-unit facility for adults who are homeless or at risk of homelessness as part of the

Provincial Government's Rapid Response to Homelessness initiative is another very important development. These two programs will do much to increase the presence of John Howard in Courtenay.

Homelessness is surely one of our greatest contemporary social concerns and it is not surprising that we have stepped forward so boldly to address the issue. It is what we do! A secure place to live, a nutritious diet, and professional support for some of those without a home will make the community a safer place for all – part of our mission and vision statements. I want to thank, on behalf of the board, all of our staff who have been working so hard to bring these two programs to life.

In my excitement about the Courtenay office and new programs, I do not want to forget the many other excellent programs that continue to thrive and provide valuable service to those in temporary need of support. Foundry Campbell River continues to develop innovative ways to integrate services for youth and to refine its delivery systems. I'd like to officially thank Lori McKeown

for her excellent work in getting Foundry started, to wish her well in retirement, and to welcome Stacy Folk as her able replacement.

Our youth justice programs, drug and alcohol programs, mediation and counselling services, housing programs, and, of course, KidStart continue to evolve with the demands and provide the excellent help for which they are known. Thank you to all managers and staff who provide the services that you do.

In closing, it is with sadness that I acknowledge the death of a long standing member of the board of directors. Brian Kelly was forced to step down from the board for health reasons a few years ago but had served as a valuable director for 26 years. He will be missed.

It has been my honour to serve as president for the past year.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'T.L. Moist', written in a cursive style.

T.L. Moist

Executive Director's Report



Wendy Richardson

Four Years of Successes and Challenges

Four years ago, we developed a strategic goal to strengthen our organization so that it would be ready for further growth. We had four broad strategic areas: Supporting our Communities, Increasing Resiliency, Building on Excellence, and Leading the Field.

Supporting Our Communities

Foundry Campbell River opened its doors in our newly renovated space in spring 2017. Young people ages 12 to 24 can visit Foundry Campbell River for a much-needed range of services comprising: mental health and/or addictions counselling, primary care including

a walk-in youth clinic, employment services, peer support and navigation, assistance with housing and independent living skills, an LGBTQ2S+ group and trans care, help with family conflict, and various groups and activities such as yoga and Smart Recovery. These services are offered thanks to both our staff and our community partners like NIEFS, MCFD, Island Health, Sasamans, SD72, and the local Division of Family Practice. A total of 729 individual youth received services at Foundry in our first year. On average, each youth visited Foundry three times. The most commonly requested services were mental health and substance use. Funding and support for Foundry Campbell River comes from the Provincial Government and Foundry Central who are dedicated to opening Foundry centres across BC to ensure that all young people have access to mental health and other services in a low barrier, friendly environment.

Another focus of our strategic plan was to identify potential housing for youth in the Comox Valley. This proved challenging because of a lack of suitable buildings coming

on the market. Then, in the fall of 2017, we were immensely grateful to be the recipient of the donation of the former Abbeyfield House from the Courtenay Abbeyfield House Society. This beautiful building has 10 independent suites and extensive common areas including a kitchen, dining room, laundry, sitting area, and games room. We have been working with MCFD to staff the facility and expect to open it soon for housing for young people who are transitioning to adulthood and have nowhere to live. The new facility will be known as The Station, a name chosen by youth and representing the start of a new journey.

High rents and a shortage of rental housing has caused an increase in the homeless population in many communities. In Campbell River, we contract with BC Housing to deliver Homeless Outreach and Prevention programs, which provide outreach to the soup kitchen, the hospital, the library, and other locations. From its start, two and a half years ago, this has become one of our busiest programs and we are grateful to BC Housing for an increase in

Executive Director's Report

funding to add extra staff and rent supplements. Many of our clients facing homelessness have disability challenges, so we have installed a lift to help both parents with strollers and individuals who have difficulty with our stairs to access our second floor.

Receiving feedback from young people to guide program development can be challenging and we have had mixed successes over the years. However, feedback from clients has led to the installation of a laundry facility at Barnett House funded by The Home Depot's Orange Door Project; an improvement in our ability to connect electronically with clients through texting and social media; and the addition of day programming to two of our residential programs, making it easier to accommodate young people who are not yet ready to attend public school.

Increasing Resiliency

We operate in a political, social, and economic climate that is constantly changing, so it is important for organizations like ours to have the resiliency and resources to survive, adapt, and thrive in this environment.

Although our focus for many years was on youth justice programming, during the last few years we have diversified by adding housing programs and mental health programs. We continue to be grateful to the volunteers, funders, and champions who support KidStart, our mentoring program for children and youth ages 6-18.



Foundry Campbell River's waiting area.

Another way that we have worked to create financial flexibility has been to move from renting space for our programs to owning and developing facilities that meet the needs of our clients and staff. The acquisition of 140 10th Avenue in Campbell River was key to the development of Foundry services. In the renovation of this building, we were lucky to work with a forward-thinking, innovative designer, Denise Mitchell Interiors, who understood how to create a warm and inviting space through

the use of natural materials that give the facility a home-like atmosphere.

Building on Excellence

Hiring and retaining skilled, enthusiastic, and committed staff remains an important goal. The quality of the service we provide to clients is dependent on the excellence of our counsellors, outreach staff, support staff, carehomes, and volunteers.

Annually, we ask staff for feedback on various aspects of their employment at John Howard. More than 90% of staff feel that we have in place good or excellent processes and responses to stressful situations. Staff report being very satisfied with our collaboration with community partners in the provision of service to clients. "It's been my experience that JHSNI has worked hard over the past decade to develop strong working relationships with our community service providers and that these relationships are grounded in recognition of the high standards and credibility of the service we provide to our clients." (Staff Satisfaction Survey, 2017).

Executive Director's Report

Strengthening our internal and external communication systems led to a rebranding exercise that included a new website. We have added Facebook pages dedicated to KidStart and Foundry Campbell River to increase the efficiency with which we distribute important information to the public.

With the opening of Foundry, we have taken a lead in providing specialized mental health training including hosting early psychosis training; brief solution-focused counselling; comprehensive leading-edge, gender-affirming care; and advanced training in family therapy.

Leading the Field

We highly value and encourage our talented and dedicated staff team who are ready to go the extra mile for their clients and are open to learning and using innovative approaches that are solidly based in research and best practice. Thanks to our extraordinary staff, we are able to help many young people whose specific challenges have made it difficult, historically, for them to receive the care and support they needed. This has made it possible, for example, for us to offer gender-affirming care

for trans youth, as well as provide space in our residential programs for young people on methadone, who are former gang members, or who are pregnant or have infants.

Foundry's model is an innovative approach to wellness services for young people. The inviting, friendly design of our new space has made it comfortable, attractive, and safe for young people. Our services are low barrier, meaning that young people can come to walk-in sessions without needing an appointment or a referral. We offer truly integrated, collaborative care, with counsellors, health care practitioners, and outreach staff working together for each client.

We are grateful to Sasamans for making it possible to have trained Elders in Residence at Foundry so that young people can meet with an Elder, share their stories, and receive support in many ways. Our Elders often join in activities such as our cooking classes which has made it easier for them to connect with young people.

We are in the process of improving our technological infrastructure to ensure continuing secure access to data that safeguards

confidentiality. We have added an IT specialist to our staff team to support our ongoing technology needs.

Conclusion

Committed to building safer and healthier communities, we have added services that support the most vulnerable amongst us, including those who are homeless and those who are struggling with mental health or addictions. We have built new and stronger partnerships, increased our assets, and augmented the skill set of our staff with cutting-edge training.

We continue to be championed by a wonderful board of directors and by other stakeholders, volunteers, and donors who contribute time, money, and energy to support the work we do. We are hugely grateful. There is still much work to do, but we are inspired by regular examples of the difference we are making to the health and safety of the communities we work in.



Wendy Richardson

JohnHoward KidStart

KidStart pairs volunteer adult mentors with children and youth ages 6-18 who could benefit from building a positive relationship with a buddy, getting out in the community, and having fun. Through the gift of time, our KidStart mentors help kids grow, thrive, and connect with the community they call home.

A Snapshot: In the past year, **89** mentees were matched with mentors who volunteered **11,163** hours.

Areas Served

Campbell River
Comox Valley
Quadra Island

Portion of John Howard budget:

3%

Staff

2 part-time employees

89 volunteers

KidStart is funded entirely through grants, donations, and Gaming funds.

KidStart participants are:

45%
♂ males
40

53%
♀ females
47

2%
♀♂ transgender
2 (self-identified)

49%
Indigenous
44 (self-identified)

From the families who gave feedback this year:

94% of children and youth have increased connection to school/ community

100% of children and youth have improved self-esteem

100% say KidStart is making a positive difference in their child's life

"My mentor has given me a lot of confidence to be brave and reach out to friends and new people."

Supports to Families

Our **Behavioural Support, Youth and Family Conflict Resolution**, and **Collaborative Planning** programs provide the support families and caregivers need when they are facing challenges.

A Snapshot: 193 families participated in one or more of our support programs.



“Myself and my husband consider our consultant at John Howard our Golden Nugget, a treasure trove of wisdom! I value the access, support, tools, and assessments we have used to plan for children and transitions. Very creative and focused.”

Families who participated are:

60%

Indigenous

250 (self-identified)

Areas Served

Campbell River
Comox Valley

Portion of John Howard budget:

7%

Staff

4 employees

The Collaborative Planning program assisted with more than **139** meetings between families and social workers, helping families understand and participate in the process.

From the families who gave feedback this year:

“I can’t believe how different it is now, compared to when I first came into your office. I can’t believe how much better I feel.”

“It has been wonderful working with you! You have taken your program and developed it into a very helpful, respectful, safe and efficient service for both our clients and our staff. It has been a pleasure to be part of your meetings.”

Independent Living for Youth



Our **Independent Living** and **Barnett House** programs provide housing and life skills support for youth.

A Snapshot: In the past year, **119** youth received support from our independent living programs.

Areas Served

Campbell River


Portion of John
Howard budget:


4%


Staff

2 employees

Independent Living and Barnett House participants are:

 **47%**
males
56

 **45%**
females
54

 **8%**
transgender
9 (self-identified)

40%
Indigenous
48 (self-identified)

From the clients who gave feedback this year:

90% of youth were
either attending school
or working

85% said their day-to-day
situation had improved

100% of youth would recommend the program to a family
member or friend

Independent Living for Youth

Youth in Care Network

Youth aging out of care face significant challenges, and over the years we have witnessed many youth struggling. The Supporting Youth Transitions project aimed to provide support by establishing a local chapter of the Federation of BC Youth in Care Networks in Campbell River.

Our goal was to create a sense of safety, optimism, and community for vulnerable youth which would in turn help to increase their resilience. Mentoring and peer support were key components of the project. Research consistently demonstrates the enormous positive impact that mentoring has on the lives of young people. We are pleased to report that this project was a success.

Group activities included a pizza party, hiking, participating in the Canada Day parade, a Christmas party at the bowling alley, games nights, taco night, and attending the BC Federation of Youth in Care Networks retreat in Squamish.

Our project coordinator and the social work team made hoodies

available to all interested youth in care. Youth collaborated on the design (below) displayed on the back. The phrase 'Stronger Together' is down one sleeve. The youth had the option of having their name on the other sleeve. The idea was that the hoodies would help create a sense of belonging and connection for youth in care. The 'Stronger Together' hoodies were very well received.



We want to acknowledge Island Health for the Community Wellness Grant that funded the project. As the project timeframe was coming to an end, Sasamans Society offered to take over as the host agency for the Federation of BC Youth in Care Networks Local to continue the important work of supporting these young people.

Barnett House

Caitlyn* moved into Barnett House, our transitional youth housing facility in Campbell River, at age 17. Before living at Barnett House, she was couch surfing at a friend's house out of town (even though her school is in Campbell River) because she had nowhere else to stay. Thanks to Barnett House, she is now succeeding at school and working part time. *Name has been changed to protect privacy.

Cooking Group



Cooking Group at Foundry

Our Independent Living counsellor provided a weekly cooking group to introduce young people to new recipes and show them how easy it can be to eat healthy food. It was also an opportunity to socialize and learn about collaborating as a group.

Substance Use



Our **Substance Use Counselling, 180°, Youth Outreach, Youth and Family Counselling,** and **Alcohol & Drug Prevention & Early Intervention** programs provide support for youth and families.

A Snapshot: In the past year, **276** youth and family members received substance use services, and outreach workers had an additional **1,029** supportive contacts with youth.

Areas Served

Campbell River
Comox Valley
Gold River
Tahsis

Portion of John Howard budget:

18%

Staff

10 employees

Substance Use Services clients are:

♂ **33%**
males
91

♀ **66%**
females
184

♀ **1%**
transgender
1 (self-identified)

38%
Indigenous
105 (self-identified)

From the youth who gave feedback this year:

100% of Gold River youth respondents said they would refer a friend or family member to the program

94% of youth reported that their situation is better since meeting their outreach worker

Substance Use

Gold River Connections

Our Gold River Youth and Family Counselling services are part of both the school-based team and the health clinic's patient team. Our counsellor strengthened the bond between the program and the Gold River school community this year. The secondary school helped her create a counselling room to make it easier to hold sessions on site and to acknowledge "how valuable the service is that you provide to the students." Our counsellor also delivered a number of educational events and assisted with a social emotional group for young women.

Opioid Crisis Response

The increased use of heroin and fentanyl in the province has made its way to our Youth and Family Substance Use Services. More clients are presenting with a goal of seeking assistance for reducing or eliminating their use of opioids. To meet that goal, we have started to build better bridges to the services provided by the crisis nurses at the hospitals and to the local methadone clinics. We are supporting those youth who have

chosen Suboxone as a way to support their abstinence. As well, we are exploring how their family physicians can support them for ease of access and confidentiality. Several John Howard staff have taken the Naloxone training in the past year and are providing the training and kits to community members on request.



Games/Activity Nights

In Campbell River, youth outreach workers hosted a weekly games/activity night on Thursdays at Foundry for young people ages 12-24. The youth engaged in a variety of activities from games to art, and also enjoyed a few community outings including a beach fire and disk golf. Youth helped to plan the events throughout the months. The facilitators were also able to connect the participants with community resources to meet any needs that they expressed.

Youth Outreach Connections

New referrals to our Youth Outreach program in the Comox Valley increased by 44% over last year. Most of the referrals came from the school district and community agencies. This year's primary need for resources and service provision was in the area of substance use and mental health services. One parent said, "We always trusted John Howard. And one day our dreams came true! Our daughter's journey began and ended with your love and support. Her path continues in her recovery at a residential treatment centre. We can't thank you enough for guiding and educating us throughout."

Drug and Alcohol Prevention

A five-session program for Grades 6-9 and interactive dialogue-based sessions for older students were held in Comox Valley schools, with a total of 438 students attending. John Howard staff designed and facilitated the program. Studies show education related to harmful substance use may prevent use entirely, or can delay the onset of use leading to more positive outcomes.

Mental Health



Our **Child and Family Mental Health Outreach** and **Foundry Mental Health Counselling** programs provide support and counselling for children, youth, and families.

A Snapshot: In the past year, **311** children, youth, and families received mental health services.

Areas Served

Comox Valley
Campbell River

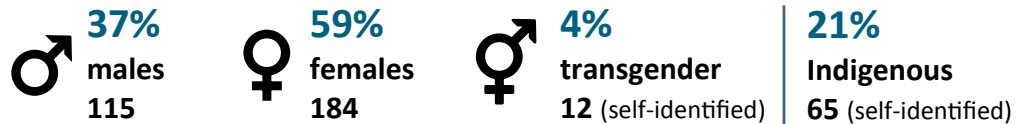
Portion of John
Howard budget:

11%

Staff

5 employees

Mental health services participants are:



Feedback from a Foundry client:

“I love the flexibility of walk-in counselling and the very welcoming atmosphere—from the front desk ladies, to the décor, to the things to do on the tables, to the tea and snacks—but most of all I loved how comfortable and valid the counsellors always made me feel.”

Mental Health

Foundry Removes Barriers

Foundry mental health counsellors liaise with community agencies to discuss what supports youth are needing through collaborative care. Foundry works diligently to strengthen relationships with our community partners so barriers are removed and youth receive timely supports. Case consultations take place amongst John Howard's team and partner agencies to put together a comprehensive picture of the youths' challenges and strengths.

Walk-In Counselling

Youth can access walk-in counselling at Foundry. The intent of walk-in is to provide immediate service so when a youth or caregiver needs help there is an experienced counsellor available. When a young person presents with mild to moderate depression and anxiety, the intake counsellors offer short-term solution focused counselling. Through counselling supports; offering youth the opportunity to engage in mindfulness drop-in groups, such as yoga; and linking

clients with the different programs running at Foundry, our counsellors have witnessed young people transform from feeling hopeless to invested and engaged in life. Foundry offers walk-in counselling Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays from 2 pm to 6 pm. We have three counsellors available to assist the high volume of youth and caregivers needing this service.

Snowboarding Builds Confidence



A snowboarding skills day camp at Forbidden Plateau donated by JumpCamp in March 2018 was a huge hit with members of a boys' group based at Lake Trail Secondary in Courtenay. Most of the boys had never snowboarded before, but by the end of the four-hour camp they were successfully doing jumps. Their instructors, teacher, and

counsellor gave them constant encouragement as they learned, and the remarkable progress they made filled them with feelings of confidence and self-worth. The group for boys ages 13-14 provides support in the areas of emotional regulation, mentorship, and healthy activities. It is a collaboration between John Howard, Child and Youth Mental Health, and Lake Trail Secondary. The group has benefitted the boys in many ways, including keeping them connected to school and improving their attendance.

LGBTQ2S+ Youth Group

The LGBTQ2S+ youth group has been meeting on a weekly basis at Foundry, and promotes mental wellness by reducing isolation and fostering connection. The group had the opportunity to offer many initiatives this year, including hosting monthly community dinners that allow our youth to feel supported within the larger community. Group members have also participated in various activities and workshops based on their interests. Grants from Island Health and Trans Care BC help support this group.

Youth Justice



Our **Headstart Boys Program, Oasis Girls Program, Intensive Support and Supervision (ISSP), Youth Forensic Psychiatric Services, Compass,** and **Bail Bed** programs provide a wide range of services from residential programs to community-based one-to-one support.

A Snapshot: In the past year, **189** youth accessed our youth justice services.

Areas Served

Campbell River
Comox Valley
Duncan
Parksville
Nanaimo
Port Alberni
Port Hardy


**Portion of John
Howard budget:**


50%


Staff

26 employees

Youth Justice participants are:

 **71%**
males
134

 **28%**
females
54

 **1%**
transgender
1 (self-identified)

37%
Indigenous
69 (self-identified)

From the clients who gave feedback this year:

95% of Oasis and Headstart clients felt they had benefited from the program.

“She always had really good advice that helped.” - ISSP client

“The worker does a really good job. He’s really funny and gets me to appointments on time. He’s an awesome guy and I’ll miss working with him.” - ISSP client

Youth Justice

Transitions

We received funding to run a three-month 'Youth and Family Transition Counsellor' pilot position in December. The counsellor escorted youth on their home visits and helped them to connect with resources and support systems within their community of origin. This assists with a smoother transition back home when their time with us is completed and provides a greater chance of young people being successful as they move forward with their lives. Feedback from youth, family, and professionals was very positive during the pilot and we were delighted that, when the pilot was over, we received ongoing funding for this position.

Culturally Responsive Practice

Indigenous youth made up 35% of the young people in our Headstart and Oasis programs this year. We endeavour to ensure that all youth in the programs, whether Indigenous or not, have the opportunity to learn about and experience First Nations' values, beliefs, and traditions during their time with us. Over the past year,

youth participated in the following activities:

- Making button blankets
- Girls' group with Alberta Billy, Kathi Camilleri, and/or Susan Landell: sharing of cultural stories and knowledge, smudging, making smudge wands, and other sharing of culture.



- Garden tour at David Somerville's (local Elder)
- Sweat Lodge Ceremony with David Somerville
- Attended events at the Big House
- Building Bridges workshop with Kathi Camilleri
- Carving lessons with Darryl Bourque, Métis artist
- Volunteering at the Elders' Conference
- Volunteering/participating in Tribal Journeys

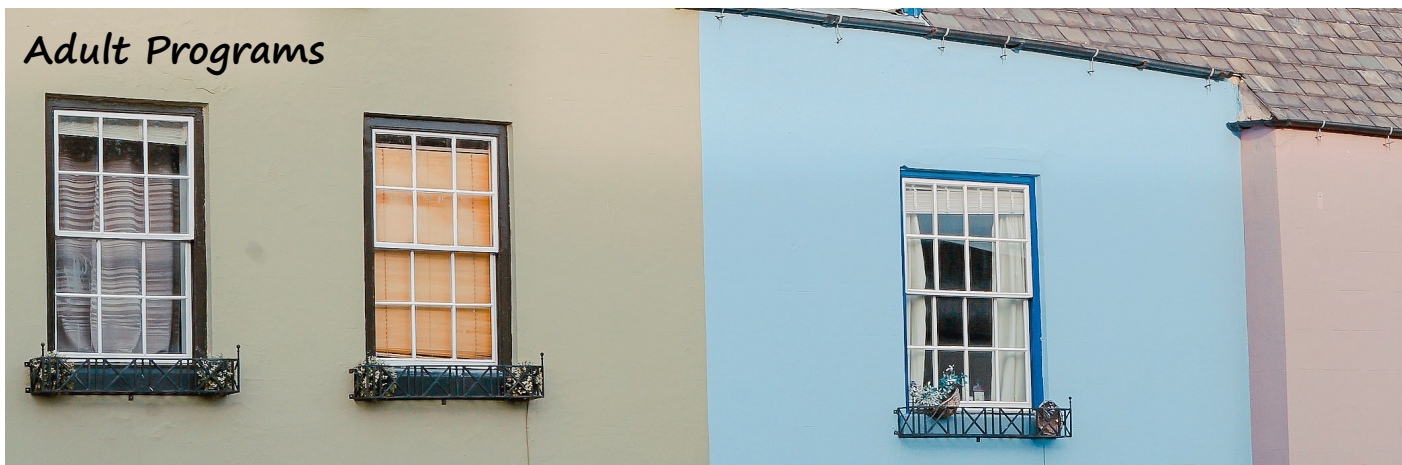
We currently have two full-time Indigenous caregivers, and make every attempt to ensure that Indigenous youth are placed in these homes. Three of our nine

full-time staff members are Indigenous which has greatly supported our commitment to provide First Nations youth with a culturally responsive and respectful environment.

ISSP

The Intensive Support and Supervision Program plays a positive role in helping youth to successfully complete the conditions of their court order, thereby decreasing recidivism. 88% of youth on the ISSP caseloads this year successfully completed their court orders; 70% did not spend any time in custody; and 58% had no new charges. Community partners appreciate ISSP services and highlight the importance this role plays in supporting the successes of the often marginalized youth we serve. Clients expressed how much they valued having ISSP workers to talk to and the support they provide with emotional health. A large number of clients also appreciate having rides and food, particularly as many live in small communities with minimal transportation and their families do not have adequate food.

Adult Programs



Our **Homeless Outreach and Prevention** and **Community Living BC Outreach** programs provide assistance in the areas of housing, daily living, and accessing supports.

A Snapshot: In the past year, **440** clients participated in our adult programs.

Areas Served

Campbell River
Comox Valley


**Portion of John
Howard budget:**


7%


Staff

7 employees

Participants in our adult programs are:

 **55%**
males
241

 **44%**
females
197

 **1%**
transgender
2 (self-identified)

48%
Indigenous
209 (self-identified)

Program News:

The Homeless Outreach and Prevention program provided **624** rental supplements. 14% of clients were age 60+.

There were **311** new clients in the Homeless Outreach and Prevention program this year.

Feedback from a female client, age 56, who secured stable housing:

“Thank you from the bottom of my heart. What a relief to have you as a support.”

Adult Programs

Preventing Homelessness

The Homeless Outreach Program (HOP) and Homeless Prevention Program (HPP) focused on the prevention of homelessness by targeting services to individuals and families who were considered absolutely homeless (40%), hidden homeless (12%), at risk of homelessness (37%), homeless due to crisis (10%), or other (1%). Services are funded by BC Housing and include short-term financial supplements, case planning (support tailored to individuals' needs), and external referrals. Workers connect with individuals and families, wherever they are at, to provide information and support.

The program was able to help when the Quinsam Hotel was destroyed in a fire on June 28, 2017. Special funding was arranged for 10 people displaced by the fire and we were able to help them find alternate housing.

Housing: First Step to Change

A 42-year-old Indigenous client in our Homeless Prevention Program had been living with family in over-crowded conditions and couldn't

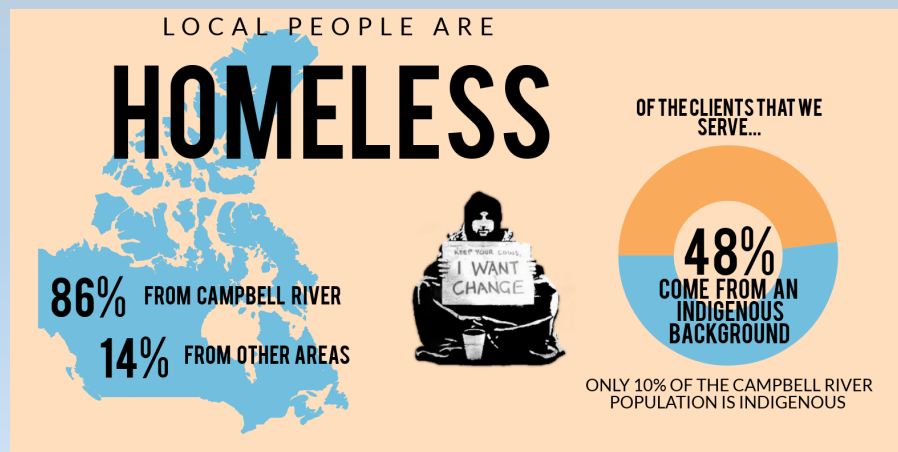
get his addiction under control. We helped him secure tenancy at the Harbourside Inn and assisted him with rent supplements for five months. During this time he chose to get help with his addiction. He is now employed and has found other housing which he fully pays for on his own.

We helped another client, who is 33 years old and had been restricted from the shelter, connect with services to get help with his addiction. After he completed a 28-day recovery program, we were able to help him secure housing that met with his probation restrictions and was approved by his probation officer. He has remained housed and sober, and is now employed.

CLBC Outreach

The Community Living BC Outreach program continues to provide one-to-one support to service recipients in the Comox Valley and Campbell River. For the past year, personal supports to enhance clients' quality of life focused on community inclusion, life skills development, vocational skills, and health promotion.

One client said, "As one of the few fortunate people who are blessed with your time, I can say you are an amazing worker—easy to talk to, funny, helpful, supportive, and always fun to spend time with. Our weekly visits give me something to look forward to. You are a great worker and a wonderful person."



Making a Difference



Gwen and Jeff Gordon

“We like the idea of making a difference in someone’s life,” said Gwen Gordon, when asked why she and her husband, Jeff, chose to become caregivers for The John Howard Society of North Island.

As caregivers for our Headstart, Oasis, 180°, and Compass programs since the spring of 2015, Gwen and Jeff have indeed had the opportunity to make a difference. Before they became caregivers for John Howard, Jeff and Gwen had talked about becoming a foster home. Jeff’s family took in foster children when he was growing up.

As well as having many years of experience in the service industry, Gwen has worked with youth in the past, volunteering at the Teen Centre in the Campbell River Community Centre. She also taught after school programs for children 6-12 years old and worked

at one of the local daycares. When her children were young she volunteered regularly at their school.

Until a few years ago, however, Gwen and Jeff were too busy to contemplate caregiving. Then, life circumstances enabled them to switch gears. Jeff worked as an auto body painter for most of his adult life as well as being a professional singer since his teens. His auto body work was very physically demanding and he ended up having surgery on his shoulder. After that he could no longer paint cars. A long-time friend who is a counsellor for John Howard suggested to Jeff and Gwen that they would be a good fit for caregiving, and they didn’t think twice.

Since they started providing a home for youth, Jeff has been the full-time caregiver. Until a recent layoff, Gwen continued her work in the service industry, managing pubs and catering. Jeff and Gwen do long-term, short-term, and respite caregiving.

While caregiving is a full-time job, Jeff and Gwen appreciate the financial benefit and the freedom

that it provides in their personal lives. They can work on their house, cycle, go out for lunch, take the youth bowling, visit with friends, go to movies or garage sales, and more. Jeff and Gwen try to involve the youth in their daily activities.

“We may go to a movie, go for a walk, play some video games, or watch TV. It depends on the youth. Some love the outdoors and others prefer indoor activities,” Gwen explained.

When asked about the unique aspects of caregiving, Gwen said every youth is different and comes with their own personal challenges.

“John Howard provides ongoing training and daily support to deal with any issues that may arise.”

To others who are considering becoming caregivers, Gwen would like to share that it is a great opportunity.

“Spending time with the youth gives us companionship and an opportunity to teach as well as learn.”

News from John Howard

Spirit of John Howard Award

The Spirit of John Howard Award recognizes individuals who make a major contribution to the young people we serve, our communities, and The John Howard Society of North Island.



Alberta Billy receiving her Spirit of John Howard Award

In 2017 one of our Spirit of John Howard Awards went to Alberta Billy, a member of the We Wai Kai Nation on Quadra Island and an active participant on John Howard's First Nations Elders' Council. In 1981, at a time when no one was talking about it, Alberta made history by standing before the leaders of the United Church of Canada and saying, "The United Church owes Native peoples of Canada an apology for what you did to them in residential school." Many will say this was the beginning of the work

towards reconciliation that we are seeing unfold in Canada right now. At John Howard, Alberta connects with youth in our programs on a regular basis, gives traditional openings at events, and contributes enthusiastically to the work of our Elders' Council.

We also gave a Spirit of John Howard Award to the Cagna family. This family has been supporting participants in our Youth and Family Substance Use Services program in the Comox Valley for more than 10 years. Through the family's annual donations, youth are able to benefit from supports and services they may not otherwise be able to access. Over the years the Cagna family's donations have supported groups for youth, healthy activities, and transportation to detox and supportive recovery programs. Peggy and Larry Cagna accepted the award on behalf of their son, Kevin. Kevin Cagna was 22 years old when he passed away in a motor vehicle accident in 2005. Kevin was a gentle soul who was loyal to his family and friends, and who stood up for others who were being treated unfairly or bullied. As someone who accessed

counselling services at John Howard for his use of substances, Kevin expressed to his mother a desire to help other youth by sharing his experiences in the hopes his story would help them to make positive choices. Sadly, Kevin did not get the chance to do that, so his family has been honouring his wish to help others.

Courtenay Youth Housing



Thanks to a generous gift of the former Abbeyfield House from the Abbeyfield House Society, John Howard has a new youth housing facility in Courtenay called The Station. The name was chosen by youth and evokes the idea of a place to start the journey for the next stage of your life, or to take a break and go in another direction. The Station will open following renovations funded by the Comox Valley Regional District and the Comox Valley Community Foundation. Thank you to all who have made this dream possible!

Our Funders and Donors 2017-2018

Government

- BC Housing
- Community Living BC
- Ministry of Children and Family Development
- Vancouver Island Health Authority

Capital Funding

- Providence Health

John Howard KidStart Grants

- Children's Health Foundation of Vancouver Island
- Province of BC-Gaming
- Service Canada-Canada Summer Jobs
- United Way Central & Northern Vancouver Island

John Howard KidStart Champions

Gold (\$100/month)

- Altrusa International of Campbell River
- Balfe/Somers Wealth Management of RBC Dominion Securities
- CEP Chinook Local #630
- CIBC Wood Gundy
- Colleen Ross
- Cory Evans
- Curtis Wright
- Florence Robertson
- Fraternal Order of Eagles #3097 Ladies Auxiliary
- IZCO Technology Solutions
- Jay Havelaar & Leanne Wood
- Judith Hayes

- Judy Storr
- Ken Beattie
- Moeller Matthews Chartered Professional Accountants
- Wakhsh Contracting Ltd.
- Wendy Richardson
- Willow Point Lions

Silver (\$50/month)

- Alan Storr
- Campbell River City Hall employees
- Healthyway Natural Foods
- Investors Group
- Kathi Camilleri
- Lori McKeown
- Terry Moist & Patricia Trasolini

Bronze (\$25/month)

- Amanda Chickite
- Arva Nagy
- Barbara de Bastiani
- Busy B's Glass
- Campbell River Hyundai
- Campbell River Oldtimers Hockey Club
- Colin Brownlee
- Comox Valley Monarch Lions
- Dr. Kerry and Colleen Baerg
- Kira Neumann
- Marion Waters
- Mary Catherine Williams
- Mason Walker, RE/MAX Ocean Pacific Realty
- On the Rocks Climbing Gym
- Patricia Davis

- Tanya Storr
- Tara Jordan
- Tracy Jones

Youth Housing Grants

- Comox Valley Community Foundation
- The Home Depot Canada Foundation

Other Grants

- Community Safety and Crime Prevention
- Courtenay Drug Strategy Committee
- Federation of BC Youth in Care Networks Holiday Dinner Grant
- Island Health-Community Wellness
- Trans Care BC

Other Donations Over \$500

- B. MacLeod
- Campbell River Daybreak Rotary
- Carihi Grad Legacy
- City of Campbell River
- City of Courtenay
- Island Phoenix Chorus
- KidStart Clothing Donations
- Microsoft
- Timberline Secondary
- Women for Women 5k - 10k

Heartfelt thanks to our many other individual, business, and group donors who are too many to list.

Thank you for helping us build safer and healthier communities!

Financial Information

Statement of Financial Position – March 31, 2018

	<u>2018</u>	<u>2017</u>
Assets	\$	\$
Current Assets	1,664,556	1,611,952
Investments	2,900	2,900
Property and Equipment	3,582,548	2,027,948
	<u>5,250,004</u>	<u>3,642,800</u>
Liabilities		
Current Liabilities	959,437	1,151,371
Long Term Debt	384,705	402,258
Deferred Capital Contributions	1,032,367	- - -
	<u>2,376,509</u>	<u>1,553,629</u>
Net Assets		
Equity In Property And Equipment	2,148,028	1,608,842
Internally Restricted	32,573	32,248
Unrestricted	692,894	448,081
	<u>2,873,495</u>	<u>2,089,171</u>
	<u>5,250,004</u>	<u>3,642,800</u>

Statement of Operations year ended March 31, 2018

	<u>2018</u>	<u>2017</u>
Funding	\$	\$
Government contracts	5,426,873	4,985,070
Unearned revenue	(11,434)	(293,550)
Grant revenue	82,239	521,380
Rental revenue	92,951	88,035
Donations and fundraising revenue	109,993	105,489
Deferred Capital Contribution	20,865	- - -
Gaming revenue	43,343	46,982
Miscellaneous revenue	99,646	31,759
	<u>5,864,476</u>	<u>5,485,165</u>
Expenditure		
Wages and benefits	3,784,994	3,257,280
Family caregiver fees and expenses	394,364	356,904
Programs	550,164	540,006
Administrative	45,332	63,822
Amortization	153,250	103,903
Facilities	263,079	277,278
Rental supplements	188,613	176,015
Interest on long term debt	14,295	14,873
	<u>5,394,091</u>	<u>4,790,081</u>
Excess of revenue over expenditure	<u>470,385</u>	<u>695,084</u>

Audited financial statements available on request.



www.jhsni.bc.ca

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www.facebook.com/JHSNI

www.facebook.com/KidStartJohnHoward

www.facebook.com/foundrycampbellriver

Ask about our CARF accreditation



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Make a Difference!

The John Howard Society of North Island welcomes donations to support our work in building safer, healthier communities. Your contribution will help us to make a difference in the lives of vulnerable children, youth, adults, and families.



Photo by Bluetree Photography

Three of our initiatives that currently need support are KidStart, Foundry Campbell River, and the Youth Enhancement Fund.

John Howard KidStart is a preventative volunteer mentoring program focusing on the positive development of children and youth ages 6-18.

Foundry Campbell River is our multi-service centre for young people and families, offering primary care, mental health and substance use counselling, and social services.

The Youth Enhancement Fund pays for special expenses for young people that are not covered by other funds, including urgent dental care, emergency groceries and transportation, and job readiness expenses.

Donations can be mailed, dropped off in person, or made online: www.jhsni.bc.ca

The John Howard Society of North Island is a registered charity. Registration #10754252RR0001.