

Greetings from the Chairperson and Executive Director

Our 25th year was a transformational one for RainCity Housing and Support Society.

We have an updated identity, new projects on the go, expanded services, staff and budgets, and a heightened sense of purpose and responsibility to house and support those people in our community who are living with mental illness, addiction and other challenges.

Twenty-five years ago, we opened as an emergency shelter in Vancouver's Downtown Eastside. Our former name, Triage Emergency Services & Care Society, spoke to the life-and-death struggle we faced on a daily basis as we delivered shelter and care to people living with mental illness and addiction.

Today we are leading the way in innovative service delivery to the homeless community, creating collaborative, supportive environments that empower our clients to take charge of their own lives. We provide a range of supports to people living with mental illness, addiction and other challenges - permanent housing, women's housing, transitional housing, low-barrier housing, abstinence-based housing, community outreach, food services and life skills support – and we've expanded our programs and services outside of the Downtown Eastside.

We have celebrated some major milestones over the past 12 months!

In January 2008 we launched our updated identity and our new name – RainCity Housing and Support Society. The organization needed an identity that reflected where we're going. RainCity Housing speaks to what we do – provide housing and support services for people. Our new look and messaging reflect our commitment to respecting and supporting our clients, and support our vision of "a home for every person".

After a devastating fire in 2006, The Vivian has been rebuilt and reopened in July 2007. For the residents, women who represent the most marginalized, vulnerable members of our society, having their home back meant a return to safety, security and community.

Our Fraser Street facility, supporting people who want to live a substance-free life, opened in August 2007. Residents of Fraser Street are living in harmony with their neighbours, with many of them working, going to school, volunteering and making a positive contribution to the community.

Looking ahead, we've got even more exciting things on the horizon...

New projects are scheduled to open over the next year which will provide more than 150 additional suites for people currently living without adequate shelter, safety or support.

With the Vivian re-opened, we are now looking at ways we can support those women ready to transition from this program or women who need housing but are not served by our current projects.

With the success of the Fraser Street facility, we're planning to develop an additional abstinence-based, concurrent disorders facility outside of the Downtown Eastside, and we plan to develop an independent living program to support our post-Fraser Street clients.

And of course, we continue to look for innovative, forward-thinking ways to expand and improve our existing family of programs and services. With increasing public awareness and concern about homelessness, the urgency - and support - for the work we're doing here at RainCity Housing continues to grow.

But we wouldn't be able to do any of this without our wonderful volunteers, partners and donors, our dedicated and committed staff and Board, and most importantly, our clients, who put their trust in RainCity Housing to create a supportive, caring environment where they can gain greater independence and an improved quality of life. We will never break that trust.



Beverly Gallagher
Chairperson
RainCity Housing and Support Society



Mark Smith
Executive Director
RainCity Housing and Support Society

Summarized Statement of Financial Position

	2008 \$	2007 \$
Current Assets	2,734,501	4,008,292
Capital Assets	22,802,628	11,895,901
Restricted Cash	136,460	131,167
Total Assets	25,673,589	16,035,360
Current Liabilities	6,435,505	3,392,282
Long Term Debt	12,454,590	7,660,470
Deferred Contributions	6,125,009	4,116,210
Surplus	658,485	866,398
Total Liabilities	25,673,589	16,035,360

Summarized Statement of Operations

Revenue	6,478,429	5,438,385
Expenditures		
Direct Program	4,707,469	4,331,704
Society Fund	1,311,406	590,283
Amortization of Capital Assets	585,850	320,829
Total Expenditures	6,604,725	5,242,816
Excess of Revenue (Expenditures over Revenue)	(126,296)	196,569

You can obtain a complete copy of our annual audited financial statements by contacting us at 604.215.3047 or info@raincityhousing.org

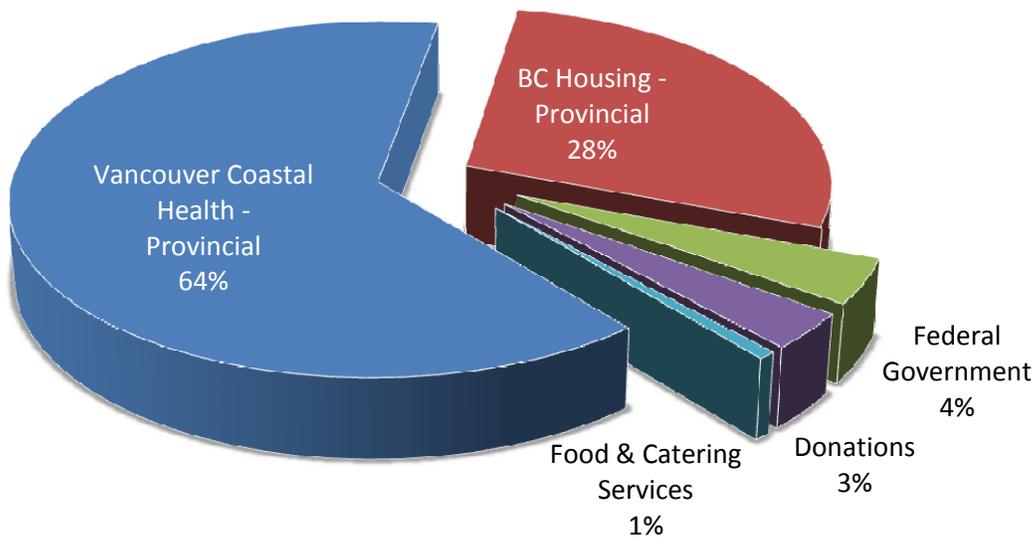
Myth

It's impossible for an individual person to make a difference in ending homelessness.

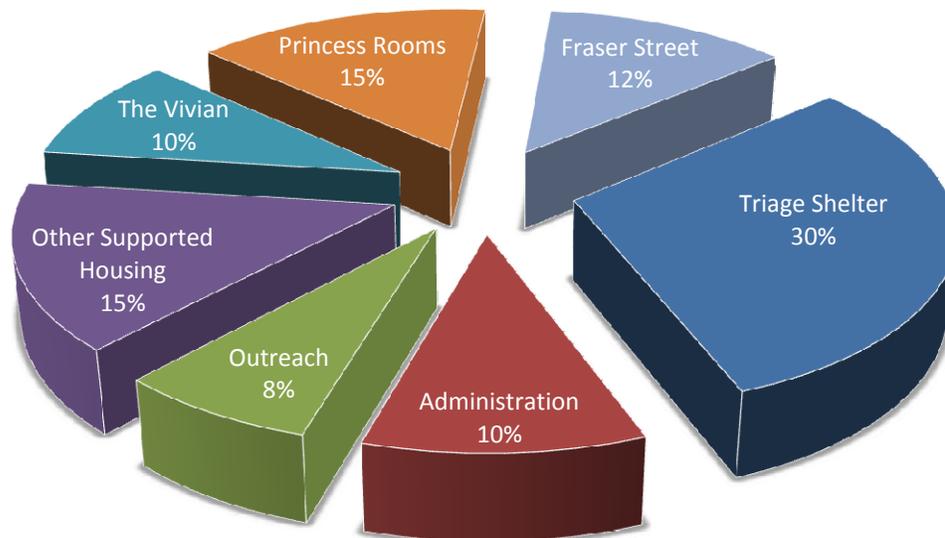
Fact

RainCity Housing's programs succeed in ending homelessness by working intrepidly and tirelessly with each individual. And RainCity Housing's programs have been so successful because of our strong community support - because one donor at a time has made a commitment to be part of the solution to homelessness. Your individual donations really do make a difference, bridging the gap of government funding and providing the men and women we serve with the one-on-one support they need to settle into a meaningful life. Just as importantly, your contributions show our clients that their community supports them as they work to move forward in their lives.

Where the Dollars Come From:



Where the Dollars Go:



Evolution of a Caring Philosophy

The mission of RainCity Housing is to advance social equity by building upon the strengths of our community and of each individual. Through innovative practices we provide housing and support, promote health and facilitate hope, opportunity and change for people living with mental illness, addictions and other challenges.

A major shift in the philosophy of the organization in 1999 led RainCity Housing to seek out best practices from all over the world and adapt them to the unique needs of our own community. We are committed to always doing better – to improve and build on what works best – to cast the net wide for new ideas that help us to continue to be a leader in providing solutions to end homelessness.

“The easy part is getting people indoors. The hard part is to help them settle into a meaningful life.” Greg Richmond, Associate Director

- 1982 The **Triage Shelter** opens at Main Street and Prior, founded as a program of the St. James Community Services Society.
- 1990 Triage Emergency Services and Care Society incorporates and becomes an independent non-profit organization.
- 1993 Construction of **WindChimes Apartments** providing permanent, long-term housing for chronically homeless men and women.
- Triage Shelter relocates to newly constructed building at 707 Powell Street.
- **Community Financial Administration Program** commences to help the homeless community in managing their money.
- **Community Medication Program** commences to facilitate client management of their medications.
- **Community Meal Program** begins, currently providing over 60,000 meals annually to the homeless community.
- 1999 Client-Centred Approach adopted to better assist clients to settle into a meaningful life.
- 2000 Organizational adoption of **Harm Reduction** philosophy to assist clients to recognize and reduce potential harm in their lives.
- Partnership with Neighbourhood Housing Society commences for people requiring less support to maintain their home.
- 1982 Federal grant received for purchase of the **Princess Rooms**, our first low-barrier **Housing First** program for the most at-risk, chronically homeless.
- 1982 Private sector funding received for Princess Rooms as seed money for a cutting edge pilot low-barrier housing program.
- Organization adopts **Strengths Model** to help clients identify and achieve their goals and experience an improved quality of life.
- 2003 First fundraiser luncheon, eventually evolves to become the annual **Shining a Light on Homelessness** event.
- 2004 **Concurrent Disorders Outreach Team** initiated to help the chronically homeless break the cycle of homelessness, instability and poor health.
- Private sector funding received to purchase **The Vivian**, the first women’s only housing and support program of its kind in Vancouver.
- Vancouver Coastal Health commits to ongoing funding for Princess Rooms to make low-barrier housing pilot project a permanent program.
- 2006 **Killarney Gardens** opens in May, our first housing and support program located outside of the Downtown Eastside.
- **Homelessness Outreach Team** begins to help homeless people access programs that will assist them in securing stable housing.
- Fire at the Vivian, the 24 women residents are relocated into other housing programs.
- Grant received to purchase a van and a car for staff to take clients on outings such as to medical appointments.
- 2007 **Fraser Street** facility opens, providing supported housing for people with mental illness and addictions who have chosen to live substance-free.
- Vivian reconstruction completed and re-opens in July.
- **MacLean Park** opens, providing support for 20 adults in the Chinatown area.
- 2008 Triage changes its name to **RainCity Housing and Support Society** to reflect the growth of our programs and services.

Thank you for the enormous support from the community that continues to move us closer to our shared vision of a home for every person.