



ACCESSIBLE  
HOUSING

# COMMUNITY REPORT

2022 - 2023

# OUR VISION

A barrier-free society

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# OUR MISSION

We open doors for people to live in community with dignity through supportive living services.

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# OUR VALUES

Compassion  
Community  
Empowerment  
Excellence  
Integrity

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# What We Do

We match people's unique needs to a variety of homes and supports. Clients and residents are provided with compassionate care and support so that individuals are connected to the services, relationships and activities that help them achieve a higher level of well-being. Individuals develop a sense of hope and strength by fostering a sense of connection and belonging with the community.

## MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD CHAIR & EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

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The past year was an amazing year for Accessible Housing in which we celebrated several successes. Of course, there were challenges to overcome but we took on each trial, learning from these experiences. Early in the year, we continued to deal with challenges related to the COVID-19 pandemic and the always-changing economic issues in Calgary. Our dedicated staff worked hard to deliver programs and services to meet the needs of our clients and residents. They continue to come up with innovative ideas to improve the work that Accessible Housing does in the community, all of which add to our strength, resilience, and excellence. As we approach our 50th Anniversary, we reflect on how many changes have taken place within the organization, with the added constant being our staff, board, and community commitment to helping people with limited mobility find and thrive in appropriate accessible housing and support services.

There were many achievements in the past fiscal year, including receiving the Calgary Award for Accessibility for Inclusio, holding a BBQ at Inclusio during National Accessibility Week where we unveiled the official plaque for our gold rating in accessibility (through the Rick Hanson Foundation), and restoring public tours of Inclusio, which includes numerous elected officials. We also hosted a group from the Governor General's Canadian Leadership Conference for an afternoon to share the story of Inclusio. With the lifting of COVID-19 restrictions, planned outings and activities for the Inclusio residents resumed and we were able to begin the renovation process to create an on-site accessible gym. We are grateful to the Ministry of Community and Social Services for their ongoing support

and dedication which allows Inclusio to flourish.

Our RAD Renovations Program had an exciting year as it evolved and expanded to include a social enterprise (fee for service) model in addition to our long-standing low-income (free service) program. There was considerable learning during this time and evaluations are ongoing on how to run these two models simultaneously. The RAD team was busy out in the community, attending expos like the Kerby Expo and holding information sessions for the public and people who work in the sector.

We are also very proud of our Bridge to Home team. This program continues to grow and thrive, helping up to 77 individuals at full capacity. Thank you to Calgary Homeless Foundation for their ongoing funding and support for this program and for being a great partner when growth needs are identified. Last year, the team successfully housed many individuals and saw numerous success stories of people overcoming adversity.

In September, we were fortunate to hold our fundraising casino. Thank you to the volunteers who participated during the two days, we couldn't do it without you. Furthermore, we were able to bring back our annual fundraising gala, Dinner for Doors, in October. This event has not taken place in over three years, due to the pandemic and we were thrilled to bring it back (raising over \$10,000!). We look forward to growing and expanding the event this year; increasing overall sponsorship and sustaining the experiential event that everyone anticipates.

During the last year, we welcomed some new members to the Executive Leadership Team, including announcing

Teneille Bradley as the Executive Director. Teneille moved into the role from Director of Programs, and we look forward to her leadership and guidance in the future. Our staff and board members look forward to where Teneille and the team, take the organization and the opportunities that await.

With the current economic conditions in Calgary, along with a general lack of affordable AND accessible housing options, our work is not done. There are many opportunities to pursue and great work to be done to improve the lives of our clients and residents. We will continue to strive toward our vision of a barrier-free society. Thank you all for being part of our journey and we look forward to what is next to come.



Tara Weber  
Board Chair



Teneille Bradley  
Executive Director

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

Tara Weber, Board Chair

Sara Lambert

Aron Balakrishnan

Jill Brown

Jhumur Choudury

Uche Ezetah

Denise Froese

Lynette Klemmensen

Dave McElhanney

Clark Sevalrud

David Swanson

Anita Warnick

Thank you so much to our volunteer Board of Directors. Your time and dedication to Accessible Housing is greatly appreciated.

## OUR STAFF

Each year, Accessible Housing holds peer-nominated awards based on our values of Community, Compassion, Integrity, and Empowerment. Accessible Housing's peer-nominated awards provide an opportunity for staff to recognize their co-workers for the outstanding work they do. This year, in celebration and to recognize one another we celebrated with a Gratitude Party at the PinBar.



### AND THE AWARD GOES TO...

#### COMPASSION

*Chelsee*

#### EMPOWERMENT

*Michele*

#### INTEGRITY

*N'mamah*

#### COMMUNITY

*Jessica & Kirsten*

#### PEOPLE'S CHOICE

*Stavros*



## CHINOOK HOUSE

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Accessible Housing together with the leading affordable housing provider, Calgary Housing Company, continue to combine efforts to support clients with accessibility needs. Accessible Housing staff work closely with five of our most long-term clients. Although mostly independent, these clients do require a modest amount of night-time and morning assistance as well as potential emergency overnight care.

Our Chinook House program serves three men and two women with an average age of 58. The oldest is 66 years old and the youngest is 48. The average length of stay is 24 years.

## RAD RENOVATIONS

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Over the course of the year, **88 modifications** were completed.

**21 Porch Lifts | 5 Exterior Ramps | 22 Stairlifts | 28 Accessible Showers | 2 Accessible Toilets  
1 Accessible Sink | 2 Exterior Pathways | 1 Exterior Handrails | 2 Interior Handrails**

The RAD (Residential Accessible Design) Renovations Program assists individuals with limited mobility and low income with the process of completing accessibility renovations within their home so they have the opportunity to safely stay in their current home. The program includes services such as:

- Home assessment for accessibility
- Sourcing of and navigation of applying for funding assistance
- Collaborating with the individual's circle of support such as caregivers, family, Occupational Therapists, Seniors Workers, Translators, landlords
- Accessibility construction design
- Working with a verified pool of pre-screened accessibility contractors
- Construction oversight

The RAD Renovations Program has also broadened their demographic reach to assist individuals with limited mobility who do not qualify for low-income funding, in addition to commercial businesses and organizations in need of accessibility consulting.

## BRIDGE TO HOME

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Over the course of the year, **77 individuals** were served in the program.

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**Bridge to Home** is a housing first program focused on recovery. We work with individuals that have limited mobility and are chronically homeless while following these principles:

- Immediate access to suitable housing
- Choice and self-determination
- Recovery orientation
- Individualized and client-driven supports
- Social and Community integration

We move people who experience homelessness into independent and permanent housing as quickly as possible, and then provide them with additional services and supports as needed. This includes rental subsidies and case management, with the focus of meaningful community engagement and supportive relationships.

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**17 individuals are paying their full rent independently**

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## 15 Graduations

The clients are now independently thriving in community, within an affordable property that meets their mobility needs.

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Accessible Housing's Bridge to Home Program is made possible thanks to the **Calgary Homeless Foundation**. The Bridge to Home team is incredibly fortunate to work with amazing referring partners and community partners that ensure our clients have a home. **Norfolk Housing Association, Horizon Housing, Calgary Housing Company, Trinity Place Foundation of Alberta, Healthy Home Property Services, Kanas Shelter Corporation, Fireside Property Group** and **Forward Housing** provide accessible and affordable housing for our clients. Bridge to Home clients also receive essential furniture such as couches, microwaves and lamps from **Calgary Inter-faith Furniture Society, Calgary Drop-In & Rehab Centre - Donation Centre, and Women in Need Society (WINS)**.

## INCLUSIO

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Inclusio is a fully accessible, supportive living home for 45 adults with limited mobility who require some assistance with activities of daily living but also value autonomy and independence.

The engineering and architecture was specifically designed with the needs of residents in mind and includes features such as:

- Wellness room with custom, accessible tub;
- Fully and professionally catered meals in community dining area;
- On-site care, support and maintenance 24-hours per day;
- Shared living space with electric fireplaces and televisions on every floor;
- Beautiful, open concept patios overlooking Confederation Park;
- Kitchenette and private washroom in every suite; and
- Custom, accessible cabinetry and appliances in each suite.

Smart technology throughout the entire residence including push button and voice activated:

- Window coverings
- Garbage bins
- In-suite lighting
- Suite doors

### **Building/Service Improvement Projects**

Inclusio completed building and service improvement projects to better support residents and extend the life of the building:

a) Lowering of suite kitchenette counters to better support accessibility for residents who sit lower in manual wheelchairs.

b) Installation of additional cladding on walls and pillars in the common areas to protect against regular damage by wheelchairs.

c) Installation of voice announcement software in the elevators to improve accessibility features for sight impaired residents.

d) Telus-provided Internet and TV services were transferred to a new platform which provides residents with more services and more personal control over their Internet and TV upgrades.

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### **Resident Care Delivery and Wellbeing**

The Inclusio operational team continued to work closely with AHS to improve the Inclusio intake processes, client care, service delivery and better collaboration between all parties at Inclusio.

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### **About the Residents**

Average age - 46 years

Youngest Resident - 20 years

Oldest Resident - 67 years



## INCLUSIO



On June 15, 2022 Inclusio received 'The Award for Accessibility' by the City of Calgary.

This Award is given each year to a building or facility in Calgary which has exceeded the minimum requirements "Accessibility" of the National Building Code, Alberta edition, for accessibility by persons with disabilities.

Inclusio remains to be the first and only multi-unit residential building in Canada to receive Rick Hansen Foundation Gold Certification level for high standards of accessibility

With the lifting of COVID-19 CMOH Orders, Inclusio opened up again for public tours, touring various groups through the building – showcasing Inclusio's accessibility features and supportive living services, including:

- University of Calgary MBA students working with the Cerebral Palsy Kids & Families Association to research accessible housing solutions
- Alberta Health – Continuing Care branch researching innovative continuing care solutions
- Spinal Cord Injury Alberta
- The Governor General's Canadian Leadership Conference
- The Rick Hansen Foundation for Accessibility
- University of Calgary Architecture students
- PLAN Calgary



## COMMUNITY EVENTS

Every year Accessible Housing staff and residents gather together to celebrate a variety of events throughout the community. This year we celebrated a number of days including Red Shirt Day, Neighbour Day and Pride. We also took part in the Calgary Marathon and Inclusio hosted their annual Stampede Breakfast while Bridge to Home volunteered at the Norfolk Housing Stampede Breakfast. We love our Accessible Housing Calgary community!



## DINNER FOR DOORS CHARITY GALA

Last years Dinner for Doors charity event was a huge success. The one night charity event was held on Oct 27, 2022 at Silver Springs Golf Course and raised over \$10,000 in proceeds through a raffle, silent auction and balloon pop. The inaugural Dinner for Doors was held in 2014, to a sold out crowd and prior to the pandemic, Dinner for Doors was an annual event. For more information **visit [www.dinnerfordoors.ca](http://www.dinnerfordoors.ca)**



Thank you to Connect First Credit Union and XL103 for their sponsorships.



## WAYS TO GIVE

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### **Online and Monthly Donations**

Visit [www.accessiblehousing.ca](http://www.accessiblehousing.ca) and make a donation by credit card through CanadaHelps. If you prefer to make your donations by cheque please visit our office or mail your cheque to the address on the back of this report.

**Volunteer** for casino days or volunteer to help out at an event.

**Sponsor or attend** an event hosted by Accessible Housing such as Dinner for Doors.

### **Leave a Legacy**

Work with your financial or estate planner to leave a donation in your estate. With planned giving you may leave a lasting legacy and give more than you ever thought possible.

### **Skip the Depot**

Register with Skip the Depot, select Accessible Housing as your charity, have your bottles picked up for free at your home or office then the funds are sent directly to us. Tax receipts are issued by Accessible Housing for eligible donations.

### **Gift of Securities**

Work with your financial advisor or broker to arrange a donation of publicly traded securities. Charities benefit from the entire amount of the gift and the donor will not have capital gains tax on the appreciated value of the securities.

### **Donate a Car**

A simple process that makes it easy to donate your vehicle to charity. Donate a Car handles the selling process, Accessible Housing receives the funds as a donation and the donor (you) get a charitable tax receipt. Visit [www.donateacar.ca](http://www.donateacar.ca)

### **In-Honour, Recognition or Memorial Donation**

Make your donation to Accessible Housing and let us know if it's In-Honour, Recognition or Memorial gift; you will receive the tax receipt and the person or family member will receive a card with your personalized message.

### **Create a fundraiser on Facebook**

An easy way to support Accessible Housing and you can get all of your friends involved. Set up the fundraiser through your Facebook account, select your charity then just share with your network. There are no processing fees on the donations.

## THANK YOU

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Many thanks to all of the donors, funders, volunteers, sponsors and friends who have supported our work. Through your thoughtful generosity, Calgarians with limited mobility are able to thrive in community because they have a home.

### FUNDERS

Calgary Homeless Foundation  
Government of Alberta - Ministry of  
Community and Social Services  
Government of Alberta - Community Initiatives  
Program  
Alberta Social Housing Corporation  
Calgary Foundation  
City of Calgary

### DINNER FOR DOORS SPONSORS

Connect First Credit Union  
XL103

**Thank you to our RAD Renovations  
accessibility contractors and vendors!**

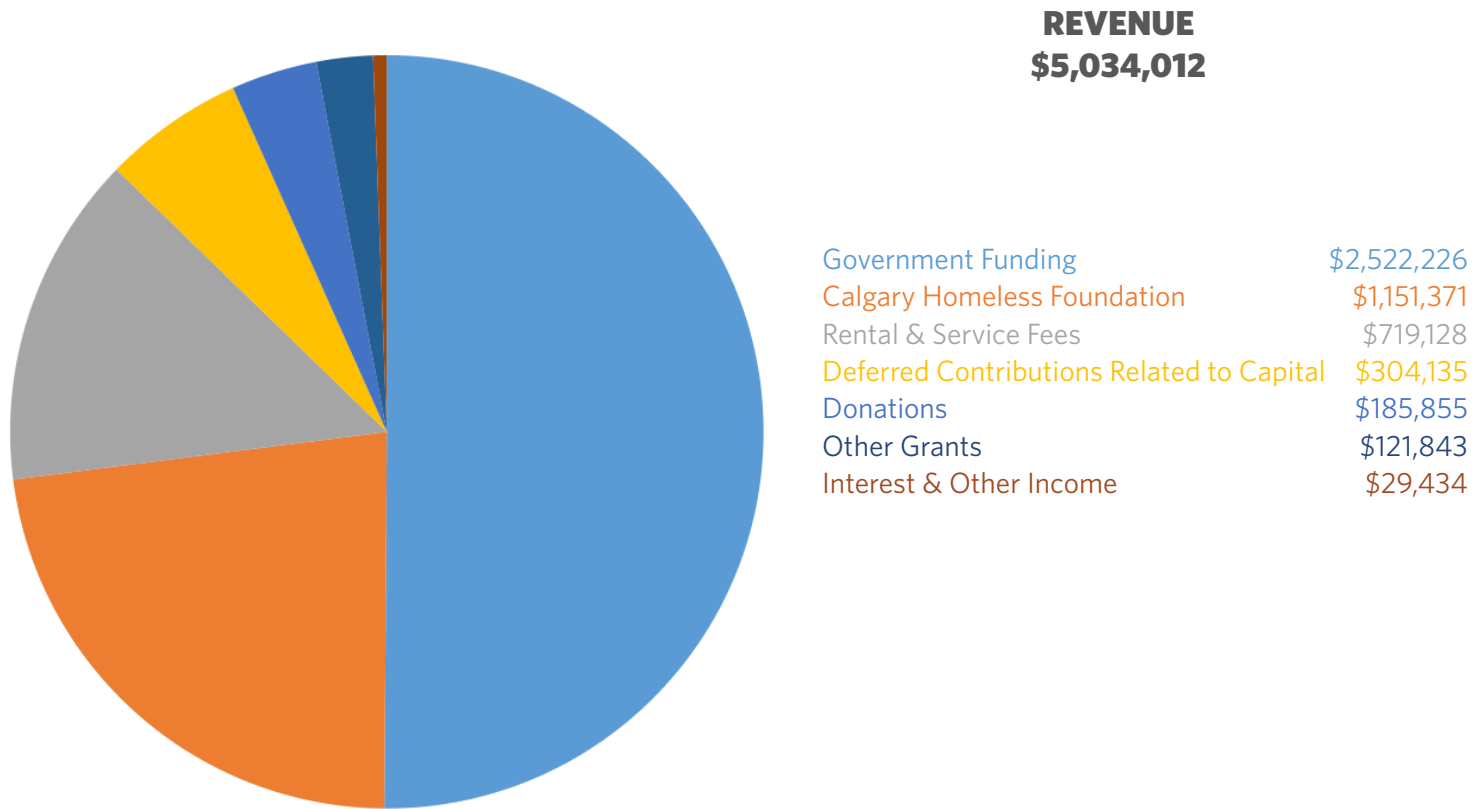
### PARTNERS

Alberta Health Services  
Calgary Housing Company  
Cerebral Palsy Association  
Cerebral Palsy Kids and Family Calgary  
Easter Seals Alberta  
Forward Housing  
HomeSpace Society  
Horizon Housing  
Included By Design  
Kanas Shelter Corporation  
MS Society of Canada  
Muscular Dystrophy Canada  
Norfolk Housing Association  
Project Warmth Society of Alberta  
Residential Access Modification Program (RAMP)  
Senior Home Adaptation and Repair Program (SHARP)  
Trinity Place Foundation of Alberta

*Every effort has been made to ensure this list is accurate. If we have missed you, please accept our sincere apologies.*

## FINANCIALS - YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2023

Accessible Housing is able to run a variety of programs through the support of many different people, funders, donors and commitments from government.



### ASSETS

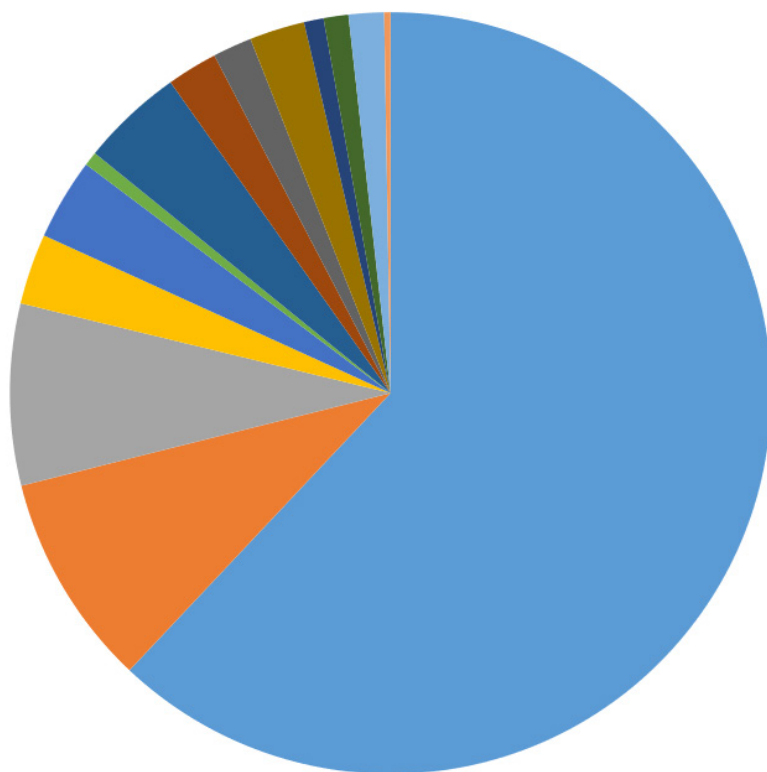
Current Assets	\$	1,118,294
Long-term Investment	\$	1,260,796
Property & Equipment	\$	13,471,642
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>15,850,732</b>

### LIABILITIES

Current Liabilities	\$	744,735
Long Term Liabilities	\$	10,997,800
Net Assets	\$	4,108,197
<b>Total Liabilities and Net Assets</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>15,850,732</b>

## FINANCIALS - YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2023

### EXPENSES \$4,946,274



Salaries & Benefits	\$3,068,129
Amortization	\$448,140
Client Programs	\$380,926
Facility & Maintenance	\$148,426
Telephone & Utilities	\$170,901
Interest & Long Term Debt	\$29,612
Food Services	\$214,954
Office Rental	\$106,333
Office & Administrative	\$82,152
Professional Fees	\$115,904
Staff Training & Travel	\$41,328
Software & IT	\$51,940
Insurance	\$74,287
Fund Development	\$13,242

### COVID INCOME & EXPENSES

Grants & Subsidies	\$35,932
Wages	\$9,152
Other costs	\$19,853

For our audited financial statements, visit [accessiblehousing.ca](https://accessiblehousing.ca)



Many thanks to the team members who helped compile this year's Community Report.

#215, 1212 31 Ave NE  
Calgary, AB, T2E7S8

Phone: 403.282.1872  
Fax: 403.284.0304

Charitable Registration Number 10668-2032-RR0001

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Situated on Treaty 7 territory and home of the Kainai, Piikani, Siksika,  
Tsuut'ina, Stoney-Nakoda Tribes and Metis Nation, Region3.