



2020 ANNUAL REPORT



Cover art by Gabe Denis, Port Hope. Acrylic on canvas.

GREEN WOOD COALITION
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Message from Green Wood Coalition



Chair
Caleb Carisse

Community Members, Families, and Friends:

Thank you for your continued support, financial contributions, volunteer hours, compassion and confidence in the work Green Wood Coalition is doing in our community.

2020 was a difficult year. COVID-19 took its toll on every person, business, organization and community.

For us, it was a year of exploration and learning:

- As the pandemic hit, Green Wood staff were part of establishing a temporary emergency shelter in Cobourg, facing daily challenges, both new and old.
- We expanded food security services and participated in launching a trial housing program in conjunction with Transition House and Northumberland County, aimed at permanently housing individuals.
- We partnered with Northumberland County to provide a warming room for the winter months,

providing as many as 18 individuals a place to feel safe and sheltered from the cold.

- And additional contributions made it possible for Green Wood to expand our staff to include part-time peer support workers (people with lived experience) to continue to reach those who are homeless, hurting and hungry.

Thank you to our staff, who have endured difficult circumstances, remained strong in uncertain times and continue to find the drive to carry on the call of community development.

As we emerge from this pandemic, our future as a non-profit organization remains strong. As a board, we will take the necessary time to pause, reflect, and learn from our experiences in 2020 to continue to build a community that is inclusive for all.



Executive Director
David Sheffield

Why we are here

The waves of the pandemic have shifted our shoreline but have not eroded Green Wood's commitment to a community-driven approach to caring for each other. We met urgent needs and worked creatively with other agencies to ensure that folks who were struggling with homelessness, isolation and hunger were not forgotten.

We were buoyed by the encouragement and support of you, our wider Green Wood family. That support kept us going and won't be forgotten.

As these shifts exposed the inequities in our society, it wasn't easy to witness the pain and suffering of neighbours at the most vulnerable edge of our community.

Many of the institutions set up to help people haven't included their voices in planning. These structures often miss the mark when it comes to tackling the root causes. While we saw incredible endurance and resilience among friends who were without a home and unwell in many ways, they should not be asked to carry such a burden for society.

Rather than becoming discouraged, we see an opportunity to demonstrate how the many gifts and strengths of a community like ours can be activated. We must find new ways of thinking creatively and doing inclusively, but that's why you and I are here. Together, we will move forward to live as a compassionate and equitable community.

Our Board of Directors

Caleb Carisse – Board Chair

Kerri Kightley – Vice-chair

Peter Nairn – Treasurer

Jeff Caine – Secretary

Arlene Howells

Jay Sherwin

Patricia Sinnott

Phil Redford

2020: A year of radical disruption

JANUARY



We hit the year running. A new RedPath Addition Recovery group for street-involved folks begins, tickets go on sale for **IMAGINATE**, our one-day social justice conference, and a screening of **CommUNITY** focuses attention on the difference a compassionate community can make in combating the opioid crisis.

FEBRUARY



We gather every Wednesday, as we have for more than a decade, sharing a meal and good conversation. On Feb. 22, over 200 walkers line the streets of Port Hope to raise awareness and money to support our street-level outreach. **Coldest Night of the Year** exceeds its goal, showing we're a community that cares about its most vulnerable residents.

MARCH



Veteran street nurse, Cathy Crowe, returns to her home town to address homelessness through a healthcare lens, as the numbers of marginally housed individuals grows locally. The opioid epidemic continues to claim lives, leaving behind family and friends to mourn in silence. At a community-led vigil, **They Were Here**, on March 8, we gather in front of Victoria Hall to shatter the stigma, share our stories and honour those we have lost and those who remember them.

Before this month is over, we've postponed events indefinitely and shut down all group programs including weekly Community Dinners, Art Hive and RedPath. The impact of this thing we're learning about - COVID-19 - is profound. On March 14, we issue this statement:

"Green Wood is a community, and this is a time when we need to look after one another. We feel community gatherings are not wise at this time. We will continue to help vulnerable members of our community access food through food banks and free community meals, make hygiene and harm reduction supplies available to those who need them and connect people to up-to-date information. These are difficult times."

- Board Chair Caleb Carisse

APRIL



The streets have emptied as businesses, public facilities and services lock down. Our staff **stays on the street**, connecting people with food and protection from the elements. We strategize with Northumberland County and Transition House as they open a temporary shelter at Cobourg Collegiate Institute. We support day shifts until additional staff can be hired. We lobby the Town of Cobourg for access to public washrooms, and port-a-potties are installed downtown.

2020: A year of radical disruption

MAY



Three months into the pandemic, we miss human-to-human contact. Our first Facebook Live **Community 101** attempts to create connection by inviting an Indigenous artist, a homelessness strategist and a home-schooling mom to discuss what we're feeling and the questions we need to ask to build a more equitable recovery. "We're all in this together" becomes the mantra of the day, but we ask, are we? In spite of everything that's happening, we plant our community garden.

JUNE



The pandemic is taking its toll on those who are being made most vulnerable, denying them the meagre supports they once had and pushing people further into the margins. Substance use and overdoses are increasing. We double down through our street-level outreach to deliver food, hygiene supplies, harm reduction tools like Naloxone kits, and comfort. Two peer support workers join our team, as work on the front-lines becomes exhausting.

JULY



Food is at the heart of our belief system. People have a right not to go hungry and a need for the sense of belonging sitting down to eat together brings. We can't replace our tradition of weekly **Community Dinners**, but we can pick up some of the pieces. With the support of organizations, businesses and volunteers we're preparing and delivering 100 meals a week, checking in on folks, sharing a laugh and addressing immediate needs. Our community garden flourishes.

AUGUST



We're living in a time of radical disruption, working harder than ever to connect with people, and re-inventing ourselves to adapt old ideas and introduce new ones. **Collaboration** has never been more important. We work with partner agencies to initiate a peer support worker program and develop new ways of addressing the growing need for shelter and housing. Drive-by art shows become a thing.

"We've seen a lot of gaps in our health care systems, our elder care system and social services. There's a lot of learning and growing for us to do as communities and as a society to care for each other in a better way."

- Rev. Neil Ellis

2020: A year of radical disruption

SEPTEMBER



We are overwhelmed by people's generosity and offers of help. Artists donate the proceeds of their work, restaurants offer food, and when fundraisers are cancelled, a Port Hope Mom and her three sons bake a slew of apples pies, sell them to friends and donate the proceeds to support our work. At our lowest times, this community lifts us up.

OCTOBER



As summer ends and concern turns to the cold months ahead, we streamline our **home-delivered meal** program in Port Hope to do our best to stay connected. With produce from the gardens of community members and our own plot, we turn out some amazing meals!

NOVEMBER



COVID-19 has starkly exposed the structural gaps we knew existed in society. Our three-part, online film series featuring **Us & Them**, **Conviction** and **PUSH**, confronts the issues of homelessness, poverty, substance dependency and mental health, inspiring us to imagine a different world that supports vulnerable individuals rather than victimizing, criminalizing and casting them aside. We are able to reschedule **IMAGINATE** speaker, Senator Kim Pate, to join us for this series, and internationally acclaimed singer/songwriter Martyn Joseph performs live online from Cardiff, Wales.

DECEMBER

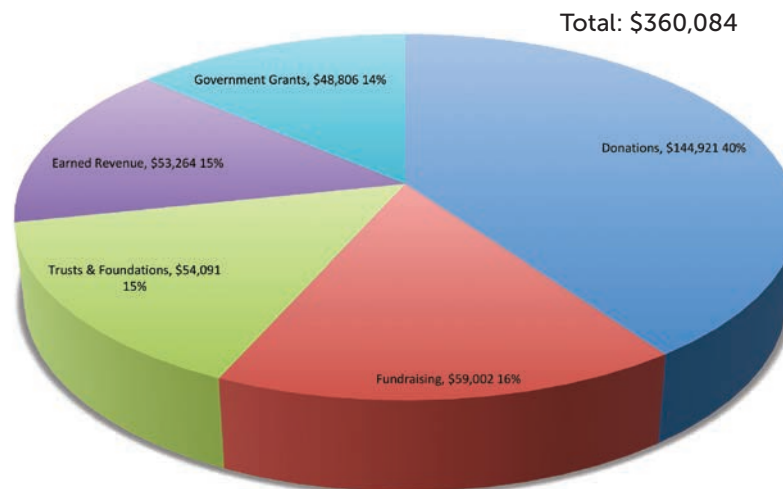


We end this difficult year on notes of hope. Vowing no one would be left out in the cold this winter, we open overnight and daytime **warming rooms** in partnership with the County of Northumberland and St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church. We host in-person (when possible) and online learning sessions for staff and community members and work together to meet needs through the holiday season.

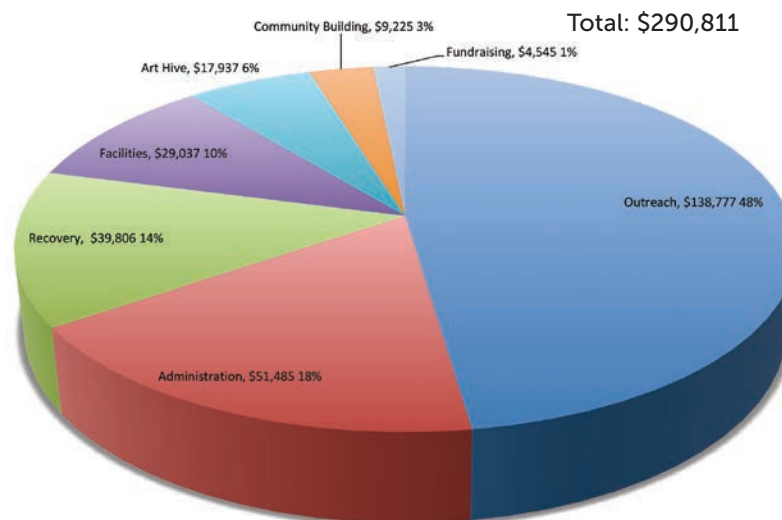
Our annual **Street to Stability** campaign receives a significant boost from Port Hope native and global harm reduction expert, David Sweanor, who offers a dollar-matching fundraising challenge. Having dedicated his life to making a difference through philanthropy and policy reform, he inspires us all.

In David's words, *"It all comes back to compassion....if you can save a life, how can you justify not doing it?"*

Green Wood Coalition 2020 Income



Green Wood Coalition 2020 Expenses



There are so many ways you can support our work.

Visit www.greenwoodcoalition.com
and click **DONATE NOW** to learn more.

To you, with gratitude...

Not a day has gone by over the past year when someone didn't pose the question, What can I do to help? You saw the need, amplified in these turbulent times, and offered your time and resources. While the pandemic limited our ability to call upon others to help, we want you to know how much your support, concern and care means to us. We truly are an exceptional community.

\$1-249 Community Builders

Anonymous (18)
Anonymous in honour of Brenda Jensen
Anonymous in honour of Jan Bale
Anonymous in honour of Mary Surman
Anonymous in memory of Jeff O'Neill
89.7 Truly Local Radio
Adrienne Walker
Alan Fletcher
Alexandra Kucharczyk
Allan Mackenzie
Alyson King
Amelia & Jeff Bray
Amy Penny
Andra Zondervan
Anne Flindall-Cross
Anne Mulvaney
Anne Newman
Anne O'Regan in honour of Kaye Torrie
Anne Rawson
Arthur Dalgarno in memory of Jeff O'Neill
Bert & Janet Sedgwick
Berylanne Carisse in memory of Jeff O'Neill
Bonnie McCool
Brent Wilcox
Brian Shaver in memory of Jeff O'Neill
Bruce Bowden
Bruce Coleman in memory of Jeff O'Neill
Bruce Williamson
Cameron Christie
Canadian Nuclear Laboratories
Candace MacKenzie in honour of Bryan & Marlene Stoner
Carleigh Marjoram
Carol Farren
Carole Elliot
Carolyn Osborne
Carolyn Shaver in memory of Jeff O'Neill
Catherine Clough
Catherine Galbraith
Cathy Graham
Ceinwen Shaw in memory of Jeff O'Neill
Charlie Foran
Chris Thomson
Christa Bisanz
Claire Holloway Wadhvani
Cyndi Gilmer
Darlene Lammers
Darryl Russell
David MacDonald
David Smith in memory of Jeff O'Neill
Deb Chapman
Deborah Rutherford
Deborah Smelko
Debra Turck in memory of Jeff O'Neill
Deborah Kimmett in honour of Celia McBride
Derek Blackadder
Diana Sherwin
Diane Millington in memory of Jeff O'Neill
Diane Taylor
Dianne Legatt
Donald Newington
Doug McCann in memory of Jeff O'Neill
Douglas Norton

Eden Campbell
Elayne Linn
Elizabeth Sleight
Ellen Armstrong
ESCO (a division of Weir)
Felisa Shizgal
Frank Burns in memory of Jeff O'Neill
Frank Iacobucci
Fredrick Howe
Gail Neibergall
Heather Boerrichter
Helen Patterson
Herb Terry in memory of Jeff O'Neill
Herb Thiessen
Huguette Keeler
Ian Crawford in honour of Lindsey Edwards
Iris Milne
James Tedford in memory of Jeff O'Neill
Jamie Simmons
Jan & Rob Boycott in memory of Jeff O'Neill
Jean Bryson
Jeff Hall in honour of Shirley Hall & Bruce Elliott
Jenn Appleman
Jenni Frenke
Jennifer Pridham
Jennifer Short
Jeremy Short
Jessica Outram
Joan Gottschall in honour of Judy Herod
Joan Woods in memory of Jeff O'Neill
Joanne Bellamy
Jodi O'Sullivan
John McLellan
John Mills
John Mowat in memory of Jeff O'Neill
Jordan Appleman
Joyce Mitchell
Judith Dennison in memory of Rev. Florence Dennison-Broad
Julia Kulik
Karen & Eric Roberts
Karen Henricks
Kate Spencer
Kathryn McHolm
Kathy O'Neill in memory of Jeff O'Neill
Ken Reid in memory of Jeff O'Neill
Kerri Kightley
Kerry Marsh
Kim & Tom Rudd
Kim Shurman
Lana Missen
Laura Pineau
Laura Steen
Laureate Beta Beta Sorority
Laurie Deviney
Lee Higginson
Lesley Grant
Lesley Parrott
Linda Alcock
Linda Foxhall
Linda Mackenzie-Nicholas
Lindsey Edwards in honour of Ian Crawford
Lisa Beeke

Lori Groves
Lorne Sawatsky
Louise Whitney
Luke Despatie
Lydia Smith
Lynn Templer
Mandeep Badesha
Margaret Allison in memory of Jeff O'Neill
Margaret Allison
Margaret McAulay
Margot Collins in honour of Andrea Mathieson
Maria Lopez
Marianne Marusic
Marie Prins
Mark Finnan
Marlene Amos
Marta Cooper Burt
Mary Ann Tevlin
Mary Coleman
Mary E. Clark
Mary Gillis
Mary Guerard
Mary Johnsen
Mary Ladky
Mary Shaw-Rimington in memory of Colin Shaw-Rimington
Mary Surman
Mary-Jo Bathe
Maryland Clayton
Matt Herod in honour of Judy Herod
Matthew Ness
Maureen Cavan
Meaghan Adams Legal Professional Corporation
Meaghan Barrett
Meaghan MacDonald
Megan Swaine
Miles Bowman
Murray Harris
Nicola Joseph
Nicole Beatty
Nienke Merbis-Jorg
Northumberland Family Respite Services
Pam MacDougall
Pam Tate
Patricia Manson
Patricia White in memory of Lyn Cook
Pearl Cann
Peeranut Visetsuth
Peter Morrison in honour of Lena & William Smyth
Rachel Barreca in honour of her grandfathers, Victor and Ralph.
Rachel Rashotte
Rebecca Baptista
Rebecca Gondos in honour of Logan Cusson
Rhoda Bellamy
Richard Krozonouski
Richard Shapcott
Robert & Judith Saye
Robert Gibson in memory of Jeff O'Neill
Robert Hardie
Roberta Thorn
Rona Donefer
Rose Cantwell
Ruth & Bob Kerr
Sally Wade
Sandra Sorensen
Sara Thompson
Sarah Jane McCrae
Sarah Norris Andrews in honour of Lyss Warmland
Sarah Phoenix-O'Neill in memory of Jeff O'Neill
Saskia Tomkins
Scott Bery
Shane Timms in memory of Jeff O'Neill
Shannon Linton

Shawn O'Neill in memory of Jeff O'Neill
 Shawna Ross
 Sophie Kneisel
 Stan & Hanne Blecher
 Stuart Ross
 Sue Throop
 Susan McLellan
 Susan Rafuse in memory of Jeff O'Neill
 Suzanne Stickley
 Taryn Bulsara
 Taylor Nelson
 Taylor Oballa Murray Leyland LLP in memory of
 Jeff O'Neill
 Teresa French
 Thomas Box
 Tom Lawson
 Tom Shea
 Tracy Huffman
 Trinity College School
 Trisha Lichtenberger in memory of Dylan Lichtenberger
 United Way of Greater Toronto
 Vikki Brannan
 Wendy Anderson
 Wendy Goodes in memory of Jeff O'Neill
 Wilfred Day
 William & Shirley Moebus in memory of Jeff O'Neill
 Yvonne Lush

\$250-\$999 Advocates

Anonymous (2)
 Alastair McKeating
 Albert Schultz
 Alicia Ough
 Arlene Penlington
 Arno & Tracy Henkel
 Astrid Hudson
 Bette Laderoute
 Brenda Clark
 Brian Gates
 Caleb Carisse
 Carol Rolph
 Carol Stevens
 Carole Payne
 Carole Stirling
 Celia McBride
 Century 21 All-Pro Realty
 Cheryl Rice
 Christ the Servant Church
 Christine Flindall
 Daryl Sheffield
 David Brister
 David Turner
 Dennis Keiser in memory of Jeff O'Neill
 Diane Pickett
 Dr. Shari Kirsh
 Emily Taylor
 Eternal Hope Spiritualist Centre
 Fran Campbell
 Fred Moore
 Good Lovelies
 Grace Christian Reformed Church
 Grant & Jeanine Carson

Greg & Suzanne Burns
 Heather Roy
 Highland Shores Children's Aid Society
 Husson Limited
 Ian McDonald
 Jade Calver
 Jasper Hoogendam
 Jeannie Maidens
 Jemma Racine
 Jennifer Ito
 Joni Overton-Jung
 Kelly Ambrose
 Kim & Jason Orchard
 Kristina & Peter Nairn in memory of Jeff O'Neill
 Kristy Bailley
 Laurie Carr in honour of Lyss Warmland
 Linda Armstrong
 Liz Jefferson in memory of Daryl Sharp
 and Judy Jefferson
 Mac Bradden
 Madeleine Thibault-Smith
 Maureen Tambeau
 Michelle Cunningham-Langevin
 Missy McLean
 Nora Camps
 Olympus Burger
 Pamela Christie
 Patrick Gray
 Pauline O'Dwyer
 Peter Madgett
 Petra Polok-Leffler
 Port Hope Community Health Centre
 Port Hope Duplicate Bridge Club
 Port Hope United Church
 Preston & Margaret Merrill
 Rachel Percy
 Rhonda Warner
 Ron & Dorothy Sheffield
 Rosewood Estates
 Ruth Clark Activity Centre
 Ruth Redelmeier
 Sandra Smith
 Sharon Anderson
 Shaun O'Reilly
 Shirley Robinson in honour of Elizabeth "Lilly" Gill
 St. John's Anglican Church
 St. Paul's Presbyterian Church
 St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church
 Stephanie MacKenzie
 Steve Went
 Sue West
 Ted Williams
 Valerie Mancktelow
 Whale Family Chiropractic
 William Bickle in honour of Addie Beale
 WMS Presbyterian Church of Canada

\$1000-\$2499 Innovators
 Andrew Stewart's RBC Volunteer Team
 Arlene & Robb Howells
 Beverley Jane Pinchin
 Carla Abrams

Carol Antione-Ronson
 David & Elizabeth Sheffield
 David Walsh
 Erin Brown
 Ernest Rouse
 Fidelity Investments Canada
 Herb's Plumbing & Heating
 Holistic Family Wellness Centre
 Jay Sherwin
 Joanne Allen
 Ken & Yvonne O'Neill
 Kristy MacDonald
 Marci & James Edwards
 Maureen Pollard
 Max LeMarchant
 Michael Duck & Judita Pamfil
 Ontario Line Clearing
 Part-Time CFO Services
 Patricia Sinnott
 Pecan Foundation
 Pineridge Hiking Club
 Rebecca Crilly
 Shane Watson
 Sharyn Hessin
 St. Mark's Anglican Church
 Sue & Jeff Essig
 Sunrise Rotary
 Susan Main
 Thomas Copeland
 Tony Pulla
 Trade Tech Industries
 Wilma Van Barneveld

\$2500-4999 Activators

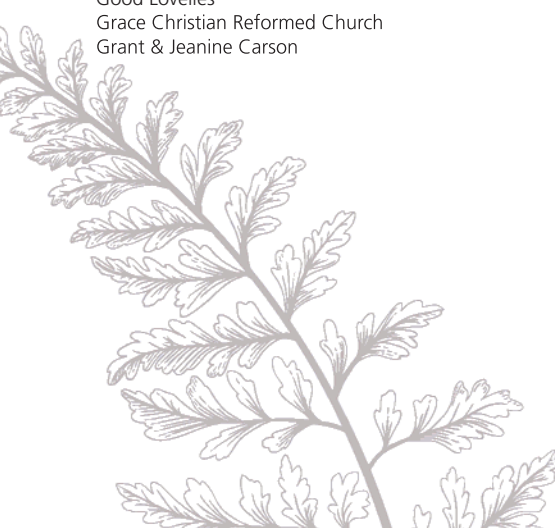
ACME Electric
 Brian Oliver
 Judy Herod
 Louise Ferrie-Blecher
 Mac & Sally Bradden Foundation
 Rotary Club of Port Hope
 Ted & Hilda Van Netten

\$5000-\$9999 Change Makers

Anonymous
 Andrew Weldon
 Cameco
 David & Kathy Richardson
 KNOR Foundation - 100+ Women Who Care
 Saskatoon Community Foundation

\$10,000+ Impact Leaders

Blue Sea Foundation
 County of Northumberland - Community & Social
 Services
 Durham Community Foundation
 Habitat for Humanity Northumberland
 Municipality of Port Hope
 Northumberland United Way
 PARN - Your Community AIDS Resource Network
 Sweanor Family Fund



"Each one of us can create a better world by just being kind to one another. A little bit of kindness, one smile or one nice word can really make a difference to a person."

Janice MacDonald