

HelpAge
Canada

2022-2023 Impact Report

APRIL 1ST, 2022, TO MARCH 31ST, 2023

An older Ukrainian woman attends an art class hosted at a HelpAge Community Safe Space. Morshyn, Ukraine.

A WORD FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

“Nothing for us, without us”

Too often, decisions made on behalf of older people and their communities are not made by older people and their communities – they are left out of some of the most important conversations about them. One of the core values guiding our work at HelpAge Canada is **agency and advocacy** – the idea that older people must have a voice and a choice in decisions that affect them. **Older people must be part of shaping how the world thinks, feels, and acts about aging.**

Our work serving older people in every corner of the world is about more than just meeting older peoples’ needs. **We want to break down the power dynamics that prevent older people from being part of the future of aging that they want to see.** To work together with older people for older people isn’t some kind of token gift or consolation prize – it’s one of the most powerful ways that we can raise the bar for everyone. **Everyone will get older, and when older people are heard and valued, our world is better for it.**

In Ethiopia, we helped to **train staff and volunteers and establish older person’s associations in refugee and internally displaced persons camps** in Benishangul-Gumuz, addressing gender-based violence and supporting equitable leadership and decision-making structures. In Ukraine, we provided safe shelter for older Ukrainians who had fled their homes and supported them in establishing their own older persons’ associations. In Canada, we funded innovative programs and independence-restoring services for low-income older Canadians alongside dozens of community organizations in almost every province and territory, and we delivered digital literacy programming to meet the needs of local communities in their own

context. Finally, we are proud to have been founding partners in established the Canadian Coalition Against Ageism – a nation-wide social change movement to combat ageism against older people while protecting and strengthening their human rights.

Next year, we’re going one step further when it comes to helping older people and their communities thrive. For too long, community-based seniors’ services (CBSS) organizations in Canada – who are our partners and the act as the backbone of support for older people across the country – have been going it alone. We know that they can make **a bigger impact collectively** than any one organization could make alone. That’s why, in June 2024, we’re bringing together community organizations from across Canada to for the first national summit for the community-based seniors’ services (CBSS) sector: *Claiming our Space, Naming our Future*. This history-making moment is an unprecedented milestone for the nearly **9000 CBSS organizations** across Canada as we begin the journey of establishing a coordinated pan-Canadian sector.

“Nothing for us, without us.” Thank you to all our supporters for helping us secure **a better future for older people** in Canada and around the world!

Yours truly,



Gregor Sneddon
Executive Director, HelpAge Canada



A WORD FROM OUR BOARD CHAIR

Building a kinder and more resilient society.....

Older people from all walks of life are too often **marginalized, overlooked, and undervalued** as members of our society, and the pressure to change this is growing as our population ages. Over 9000 community-based seniors' services (CBSS) organizations across the country work in a wide variety of ways to address the challenges older people face. Yet there is room for the sector to work more cohesively and collectively to coordinate services, and to provide them more efficiently and effectively. There is also room to build more pathways for organizations to share best practices, learn from each other, coordinate efforts, cooperatively develop creative and sustainable approaches to building more inclusive communities.

As a charity with national reach focused solely on older people, HelpAge Canada is uniquely placed to bring CBSS organizations together to identify our common goals, grapple with our common issues, and find new and better ways to support older people in our communities. We took meaningful steps towards this goal this year by convening thought leaders within the sector in October. Next year we will bring many more CBSS organizations together for a Summit in June 2024 to explore the opportunities and pressing issues we collectively face in the work we do for the benefit of older people.

In our international work, where crises and conflicts have escalated at a worrying pace, we continued to play a leadership role in ensuring that older people are considered and properly cared for in the delivery of emergency humanitarian responses, and in the places where they take refuge from environmental disasters or political conflicts.

Going forward, we want to do more in both Canada and abroad to support community-based initiatives that can help to prevent crises for older people, so that over time the need for emergency responses may diminish. We want to do more to support community-based initiatives that empower and celebrate older people and also strengthen intergenerational ties and learning. All these elements are foundational to restructuring value models in society that have lost sight of the wisdom and contributions of older people.

There are no simple or quick fixes when it comes to building the sense of connection individuals have to themselves and to others, including older people in their lives and communities. We firmly believe, though, that the solutions to even the most complex national and global problems can only lie in making progress one individual and one community at a time. More inclusive communities, which understand and value each member knowing that we are all interconnected, are **essential to building a kinder and more resilient society.**

Sincerely,



Amy Westland
Board Chair, HelpAge Canada





Our vision is simple: we want to see a world in which all older persons lead **secure, healthy, active, and dignified** lives.

Our mission: HelpAge Canada supports community-based initiatives through its partnerships across Canada and abroad to **improve the lives of older persons and their communities**. We empower older people who are vulnerable, isolated, or lonely by developing innovative programs and collaborations to **foster a world in which all persons can age with dignity**.

How We're Changing the Aging Landscape

Health and wellness: we empower grassroots organizations with the **critical funding and expertise they need to keep uplifting the health and wellness of older adults in their communities** — from ensuring individuals like Marie-Paule receive a much-needed wheelchair to funding community programs like SPC Ottawa's multicultural social outings that get older people out of the house and smiling.

Aging in place: according to the National Institute of Health, **over three-quarters of all adults over the age of 50 want to age in their own communities**, but being able to age in place isn't as simple as having an accessible home. Lack of transportation options, inadequate digital literacy, the risk of isolation and loneliness, and limited opportunities for community-based care all prevent older adults from realizing their desire to age in place. Each of our programs tackles one or more of these barriers, and we work in communities to implement solutions now that are helping keep older people in their homes and communities.

Digital literacy: too many older people are being **left out or left behind in our increasingly digital world**. We're partnering with experts in digital learning and community-based organizations to make sure older people can use technology in ways that matter to them – whether that's booking a flu shot online or video calling a grandchild – and eliminating barriers to accessing tech for low-income older adults by providing devices, data plans, and one-to-one coaching, so that older people can access everything the web has to offer **safely and confidently**.

Humanitarian relief: we believe that humanitarian crises don't end until they end for everyone – including older people. We support humanitarian response that's **tailored to the unique challenges older adults face in a crisis**, and **advocate for the inclusion of older people** in discussions about global response.



Health and Wellness



Aging in Place



Digital Literacy



Humanitarian Relief



At the centre of everything we do: older people and their communities.

Community-based seniors' services (CBSS) organizations are the backbone of support for older people worldwide. They have unmatched knowledge of what the older people in their communities need and what needs to change so that older people can participate fully. That's why **we're dedicated to supporting CBSS organizations – from grants to networking opportunities and so much more.** We advocate for CBSS organizations on the national stage, so that they can get the funding, recognition, and support they need to keep serving older people in their communities.

Did you know that there are more than **8,000 CBSS organizations across Canada**, spanning every province and territory? Over 80% of an older person's health outcomes can be traced to social factors such as **inclusion, participation in the community, connectedness, opportunities for physical activity**, and more.

• Change starts where you **live**,
and **we're putting people and communities first**



Our Programs

Age Better awards community organizations grants to provide low-income older Canadians with mobility and communications devices, well-being services, and innovative social programs.

Canada HomeShare brings communities together, addresses ageism, and lessens the impact of Canada's housing crisis by matching older home providers with students or other older adults to rent a room at an affordable rate.

Let's Connect provides digital education, learning resources, technological devices, data plans, and support to community organizations to improve older Canadians' ability to navigate our ever-changing, connected world.

Can Move ensures that aging Canadians and the organizations that support them are part of the inclusive transportation discussion by uniting community stakeholders, government leaders, experts in transportation, academics, and concerned older Canadians.

Current humanitarian efforts struggle to reach older people in crisis, so we work closely with dedicated local partners in crisis-affected areas as part of our **Global Response** to provide interventions that respond to older people's most pressing needs.

Sponsor A Grandparent was spearheaded in the 1985 with the aim to build a deeper connection between Canadians and older persons across the globe. A monthly gift provides more than just financial support – it fosters a direct connection between older people around the world and compassionate Canadians.

• • •



Age Better
Investing in Wellness

by HelpAge Canada

• • •



Canada
HomeShare™

by HelpAge Canada

• • •



Let's Connect
Digital Literacy

by HelpAge Canada

• • •



Can Move
Inclusive Transportation

by HelpAge Canada

• • •



Global Response
Relief & Development

by HelpAge Canada

• • •



Sponsor
A Grandparent

by HelpAge Canada

Helping Older People in Canada

Transforming Men's Mental Health

In the past year, HelpAge Canada teamed up with the United Way of British Columbia and Men's Sheds Canada to spread the word about Men's Sheds – a type of safe space where older men can come together, work on projects that make a difference to them and to their communities, and form lasting friendships. We've helped to start **over a dozen Men's Sheds across Canada** with Men's Sheds Start-Up Grants and fund new projects for existing Men's Sheds. Together, we have a lofty goal: **we want to see Men's Sheds in every province and territory across Canada.**

From Tools to Tech – Kerby Tech Shed's Story

The Kerby Tech Shed started when Bob, and his wife, moved to Calgary from Ottawa in 2018 after retirement. Moving two provinces away is a big change, and Bob was eager to put down roots in his new community. That's when he got connected with Unison at Kerby Centre – a multi-service organization that offers a wide range of services and programs to older Calgarians to help them thrive, and after learning about Men's Sheds from another Shed in Calgary, one thing became clear to Bob: **the Kerby Centre needed a Men's Shed of their own!**

You might notice the unique name of the Men's Shed at Kerby Centre: "Kerby Tech Shed." While many Men's Sheds typically focus on woodworking and bicycle repairs, Bob quickly realized that the men at Kerby Centre had a distinct passion for technology:

"We did realize that doing bikes at Kerby wasn't optimized – we sent over all the bike repair equipment we had to Calgary, we also realized that the group at Kerby was more technically inclined as opposed to [working with] metal or wood." This revelation flipped the switch from Kerby Men's Shed to Kerby Tech Shed – **a space where men can gather and discover all things tech.**

When asked why this group is an important addition to older men's lives, Bob shared, "A lot of men, their whole life is centered around work. Once you're not working anymore, it's like **"now where do I go?"** You can only go grocery shopping so many times! **The Men's Shed is a place for men to go, so they can continue to be in touch with society."**

Creating a space where men can come together, debate over projects, collaborate, and build a community has proven to be incredibly valuable for the older men at Kerby Tech Shed, and Bob, a retiree himself, noted: "Research shows us that men don't open up to strangers, they don't open up to their significant others, but **they will open up with other men** – not necessarily on the first day, first hour, or first week, but after a while, they will open up. They form a camaraderie. If we haven't seen someone in a while, we will check in on them. Just by getting in touch with them, maybe we can help them."

Thanks to a Men's Shed Project Grant from HelpAge Canada, Kerby Tech Shed was able to purchase a GoPro Camera to capture footage to help tell others about the Kerby Centre and the Kerby Tech Shed.

“

For the men at Kerby Tech Shed, the Shed is more than just a weekly meeting – **it's a creative outlet where men can innovate together.**



Empowering Communities to Thrive

Through our Age Better (formerly *Seniors Can!*) granting initiatives in 2022, HelpAge Canada supported **23 community-based organizations** in delivering innovative social programs, equipment and services that foster well-being for older people. From **a walker that helped to restore an older Manitoban's independence** to a **mobile fresh food market that brought healthy ingredients to dozens of older Montreal residents**, we're helping Canadians across the country to age better!

The Healing Power of Music: U-Tunes brings Musical Therapy to Older Manitobans

It's music to our ears! U-Tunes, a program lead by a musical therapist and hosted by U-Turn Parkinson's in Winnipeg, MB, gives Manitobans living with Parkinson's disease the chance to stretch, move, and connect with one another through music classes.

Gary Dikkema, a u-Tunes participant, spoke to what the program means to him:

"My voice has really suffered in the past year or two because COVID came along, and I refused to go out. Doing U-Tunes, though, it's started to get a little stronger again."

*You always meet somebody there who you can talk to, rub shoulders with, and find out how they're doing, so in effect, **U-Tunes is also a support group**. It gives you a chance to go out there and sing – **to be a star!***

U-Tunes is offered both online and in-person and is **completely free to participants**. Check out our YouTube channel to see the full video about U-Tunes and the difference it's making in the lives of older people living with Parkinson's disease.

Age Better funded programs and services helped **more than 2,100 older Canadians** in 2022.

We gave **over \$200,000 to community-based organizations** who are the backbone of support for older people in their communities.



Tim Hague, Founder, U-Turn Parkinsons



In 2022, **145 Elders** participated in Connected Elders & Youth across the Kivalliq region, representing **37% of the 65+ population** in the Kivalliq region.

We delivered **57 individual sessions** across **7 communities in Nunavut**.

Sparking Older Canadians' Digital Learning

We delivered two exciting initiatives this past year that share one big goal: **kickstart older Canadian's digital learning journeys** and set them on a path to **become safe and confident online**.

Dig-IT is a digital literacy initiative designed alongside community-based organizations across Canada that provides organizations with tablets, data plans, and easy-to-follow workbooks from Gluu Society – a nonprofit that specializes in digital literacy training for older adults – to help low-income older individuals learn how to use devices to connect with loved ones and more easily access apps and services that empower them to live independently. Participants take courses at their own pace, and digital coaches assisted by phone to answer tech-related questions and help participants brush up on what they'd learned so far.



This year, **over 4,581 lessons** and **743 support calls** were completed as part of Dig-IT.



We launched in **10 communities across Canada**, providing valuable resources for digital engagement and learning experiences nationally.

Connected Elders and Youth (CEY) is an intergenerational digital literacy initiative uniquely tailored for Nunavut. The program pairs youth and Elders to support Elders in building digital literacy skills across seven communities in the Kivalliq region. Learning modules are unique to northern life and encompass the Inuit principles for societal values. The program equips younger participants with lifelong employment skills while helping older participants learn new technologies.

Advancing Age-Friendly Transportation Solutions

Spotlight on the 2022 F.A.S.T. Track Innovation Summit

Only 6% of older Canadians can use public transportation as their primary mode of transportation due to accessibility issues with public transit, and **1 in 5** older Canadians do not drive because of physical limitations or safety concerns. On top of that, **1 in 5 older Canadians** has mobility challenges that make walking **difficult or impossible**. So how are older adults getting out of the house? Many are not – but F.A.S.T. Track is working to change that by getting innovative transportation ideas and solutions off the drawing board and into communities.

By uniting community stakeholders and connecting with government leaders, experts in transportation, academics studying aging, and concerned older citizens, HelpAge Canada is **mobilizing knowledge and innovative ideas** to create **better transportation options for older adults**.

Canada's first ever conference on seniors' transportation, **The F.A.S.T. Track Innovation Summit**, was held with 240 attendees on May 12th, 2022.

HelpAge Canada is proud to support the recipients of the six awards remitted at the Summit. The following are the 2022 F.A.S.T. Track scale and test award recipients:

SCALE AWARDS are **innovative solutions** that are already in place and making an impact on seniors' transportation.



Granisle Transportation Service A community shuttle bus that provides older people in the very remote village of Granisle, BC, with transportation to shopping, services, and medical care over 100km away. The shuttle provided over 1100 trips in 2021, and was also used to deliver over 1400 hot meals and complete over 300 grocery and prescription deliveries.

York Region Transit's Mobility On-Request 65+ Recognizing that many older community members were not comfortable walking to bus stops and riding large conventional buses, York Region Transit began offering an on-demand service for people 65 and older, leveraging their fleet of smaller para-transit buses. This service provides short trips that allow older people to safely and comfortably go out to get groceries and pick up prescriptions.

Sou'West Nova Transit Association's Beyond Point-A to Point-B The Sou'West Nova Transit Association is doing more than getting people from point A to point B! They have created a province-wide transportation dispatch system through partnerships with 19 transportation providers and Seniors Safety Services, utilizing volunteer drivers, fleet cars, an accessible minivan, and an accessible van.



TEST AWARDS are **innovative ideas** to improve seniors' transportation that have not yet been implemented.

South Vancouver Neighbourhood House (SVNH) and Mount Pleasant Neighbourhood House (MPNH) CAST combined transportation program. CAST is an innovative idea to combine the SVNH and MPNH which will allow both organizations to leverage shared resources and address the challenge of volunteer acquisition.

Our Greenway Conservancy & Toronto Council on Aging Seniors e-trike & e-rickshaw program plans to fill the gap in transportation infrastructure by connecting older Torontonians to a free electric bicycle and electric rickshaw service. With a successful pilot completed in northwestern Toronto, they hope this solution will benefit both older people and the environment.

ASK Friendship Society Affordable Bus Rental Program would facilitate bus rentals between organizations and businesses who own wheelchair-accessible buses to seniors' services organizations who do not have an accessible vehicle of their own. This service would allow existing resources to be leveraged, providing both a source of revenue to bus owners, and an affordable, accessible transportation option to organizations serving older people.



*“Better at Home benefitted from F.A.S.T Track to support our clients’ travel for medical services, grocery, and prescription pickup to the neighboring communities. As a community that has limited services, HelpAge Canada’s support was instrumental in **assisting our older residents’ health and wellness.**”*

– Angela Robertson, Granisle Transportation Service, Lower Mainland, BC

Helping Older People Around the World

Responding to Catastrophic Floods in Pakistan

In June 2022, Pakistan began experiencing heavier-than-ever rainfall in provinces across the country, and the floods followed were described as **biblical in nature** by media outlets worldwide. Entire villages were swept away, and with over **a third of the country underwater**, people were in desperate need of aid. Even after the flood subsided, standing water left older people **especially vulnerable to malaria and other water-borne diseases**, and food, clean drinking water, and medicine became difficult to come by.

HelpAge Canada quickly stepped up to help older Pakistanis and their families, raising roughly \$3000 thanks to generous donors. We met with the Pakistani High Commissioner that fall to discuss intervention for older people whose lives had been upended by the floods, and Hamza Ansari, Global Partnerships Lead, visited Pakistan in 2023 to discuss how HelpAge can expand its work in Pakistan to support refugees and internally displaced persons.

Our on-the-ground partner, HelpAge Pakistan, delivered **mosquito nets, essential medicines, clean water, food**, and other critical items to **80 older people**, helping them begin to recover after losing their homes, communities, and livelihoods.





Delivering Aid to Earthquake-Struck Regions in Türkiye and Syria

On February 23rd, 2023, Southeast Türkiye and northwest Syria experienced a devastating earthquake measuring 7.8 on the Richter Scale – the region's deadliest quake in over 50 years. **Over 50,000 people lost their lives**, and many more people were forced to flee their villages after homes were destroyed. The earthquake's impact was especially disastrous in Syria, a country that is already facing a protracted and chronically underfunded humanitarian crisis caused by 12 years of conflict.

Many older people's assistive devices – which are essential for them to be able to carry out day-to-day tasks like **talking with friends and family, keeping up with hygiene, and staying active** – were damaged or had to be left behind after the disaster.



The Syrian Expatriate Medical Association (SEMA) partnered with HelpAge Canada to provide older people with critical medical and mobility devices, and together, we gave **60 older people** in the Aleppo region who had been displaced by the earthquake assistive devices such as **hearing aids, walkers, toilet chairs**, and more.

Access to assistive devices, especially after a crisis, is essential to helping older adults stay **active, independent, and engaged**. The aid we delivered alongside SEMA reduced the negative impacts on the wellbeing and mental health of older people who had been displaced by the earthquake, ensuring that they do not become isolated because they do not have the support they need to connect with others and carry out everyday tasks.

Safeguarding the health and wellbeing of older Ukrainians

HelpAge Canada's Executive Director Visits Older People in Ukraine

When the full-scale invasion of Ukraine by Russian forces started in February 2022, HelpAge had already been active in Ukraine for several years – **300 staff and volunteers** were supporting older people along the line of contact in Donetsk and Luhansk since 2014, and HelpAge was one of five international non-governmental organizations identified by the UN Refugee Agency (UNHCR) in the region when the invasion began.

With an outpouring of support from government, foundations, and generous individuals, HelpAge received funding from Global Affairs Canada, the Canada-Ukraine Foundation, Islamic Relief Canada, the Primate's World Relief and Development Fund (PWRDF), and generous Canadians, quickly securing **over \$6M of funding to support on-the-ground partners in Moldova, Poland, and throughout Ukraine** who were providing life-saving aid to Ukrainians fleeing war zones. HelpAge quickly established Community Safe Spaces in Ukrainian cities – a place where older Ukrainians and their families could seek shelter, find information about missing loved ones, receive counselling, take part in recreational programs, and access psychosocial and medical support. We supported the outfitting and restoration of Collection Centres – shelters that house thousands of displaced Ukrainians fleeing the eastern part of the country. Most of these buildings are dilapidated and lack basic amenities like functioning washrooms, clean running water, and kitchens, so HelpAge worked to revitalize them into adequate living spaces by making washrooms accessible, repairing broken windows, restoring kitchens, buying generators and providing utility support, food, hygiene products and basic amenities.

Our Executive Director, Gregor Sneddon, visited a HelpAge Collection Centre called Miloserdiya (Ukrainian for "mercy") in Novomoskovsk, outside of Dnipro, in January 2023. **Around 200 people were housed there** at the time of our visit, and when it was first established, there were no lights, steep stairs that

proved challenging for older people to navigate, and mold from where water had leaked into the building. One room was piled high with donated children's clothing sitting in the dark; residents used flashlights to retrieve any items that could be useful. HelpAge staff and volunteers repaired the building's windows to protect residents from the cold and precipitation, and fixed the bathroom and kitchen areas to allow residents to safely bathe and prepare food.

Gregor recalled a particularly heartbreaking account from an older couple that he met while visiting Lviv: Anatolii, 66, and his wife, Tetiana, 63. After the Russian occupation pushed them out of Crimea in 2014, the couple made a new home in Mariupol, but were forced to flee again in 2022. At first, they couldn't leave the city, and with no electricity to charge their phones, **they weren't aware that fighting was taking place only a few blocks from their home** – Anatolii found some batteries and fashioned a radio receiver out of old junk. Tetiana and Anatolii fled their home like they had eight years earlier, weaving their car around roadside mines until they reached Lviv, and have been staying at a HelpAge collection centre ever since.

“

The most terrible thing was the planes that were dropping bombs. We didn't have a basement, so we had no hiding place. [Once we arrived at the HelpAge Collection Centre,] **our lives became peaceful again**, like before the war.





According to the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), there are **over 800,000 Sudanese refugees in Ethiopia**, and the country is also home to **over 3.7 million internally displaced Ethiopians**.



Creating a brighter future for refugees in Ethiopia

Civil war in Sudan and conflict in Ethiopia has meant that **tens of thousands of refugees and internally displaced persons have had to flee their homes in the past several years**. As a long-standing partner in Ethiopia, HelpAge Canada secured funding from Global Affairs Canada to help older adults and other vulnerable groups staying at refugee and internally displaced persons (IDP) camps in the Benishangul-Gumuz region recover. In 2022, we helped **over 32,000 people** – from assisting older adults in founding older persons' associations so they can lead their communities to providing safe spaces, clean water, critical eye care and nutrition programs to older and vulnerable people.

Alongside our colleagues at HelpAge Ethiopia, **we met with her Excellency Ergoge Tesfaye, Minister of Women and Social Affairs**, to discuss how we can continue to support vulnerable older adults in Ethiopia. She expressed her gratitude for Canada's support of older Ethiopians wellbeing, and we are excited to continue our work with HelpAge Global Network partners to create a better future for all people as they age in countries around the world and at home in Canada.



“ Even though life in displacement is challenging, almighty God provided me HelpAge at this camp. Chilodetes – this means **thank you** in Nuer!

- Nyapal, 96, Nguenyiel refugee camp

LEFT: HelpAge Canada meeting with Ethiopia's Minister of Women and Social Affairs, Her Excellency Ergoge Tesfaye, in January 2023.

More than just Sponsor a Grandparent: The Elder's Harvest

What a difference something as small as a tractor can make! After recurring droughts ravaged Kenya and left an estimated 5.4 million Kenyans at risk of severe food insecurity, JOOT Family Services bought land to ensure they could continue providing for those in need. There was just one problem: JOOT Family Services couldn't grow food without equipment to tend to the land.

That's when HelpAge Canada stepped up to help. Thanks to our generous supporters, we raised **over \$20,000** to give JOOT Family Services a tractor. Pictured here is Sister Paul who is thrilled that she and other volunteers can now provide fresh food and veggies to their community! Now, **older Kenyans can look forward to their harvest for years to come.**

We're advocating for the rights of older people on the world stage.

HelpAge Canada is a Member of Cooperation Canada



A leader since its inception in 1968, **Cooperation Canada** brings together civil society organizations working in the international development and humanitarian sector, convening sector leaders, influencing policy, and building capacity. HelpAge Canada was proud to have been admitted as a member this past year – we'll be leveraging our connections with other members and policy makers to **expand our and the HelpAge Global Network's reach and bring older people's rights to the forefront of the humanitarian conversation.** We also participate at the United Nations as a member of the Open-Ended Working Group on Ageing to **strengthen the protection of human rights for older people worldwide.**

JOOT Family Services is a community organization in Ahero, Kenya, that supports over **700 destitute older people** in rural communities.

This tractor has given over **700 older people agency and security** in the unimaginable drought and famine facing western Kenya.



How We Use Your Donations to Make Lasting Change

Canadian Programs

\$952,531.76



Age Better
Investing in Wellness

by HelpAge Canada



Canada HomeShare™

by HelpAge Canada



Let's Connect
Digital Literacy

by HelpAge Canada



Can Move
Inclusive Transportation

by HelpAge Canada

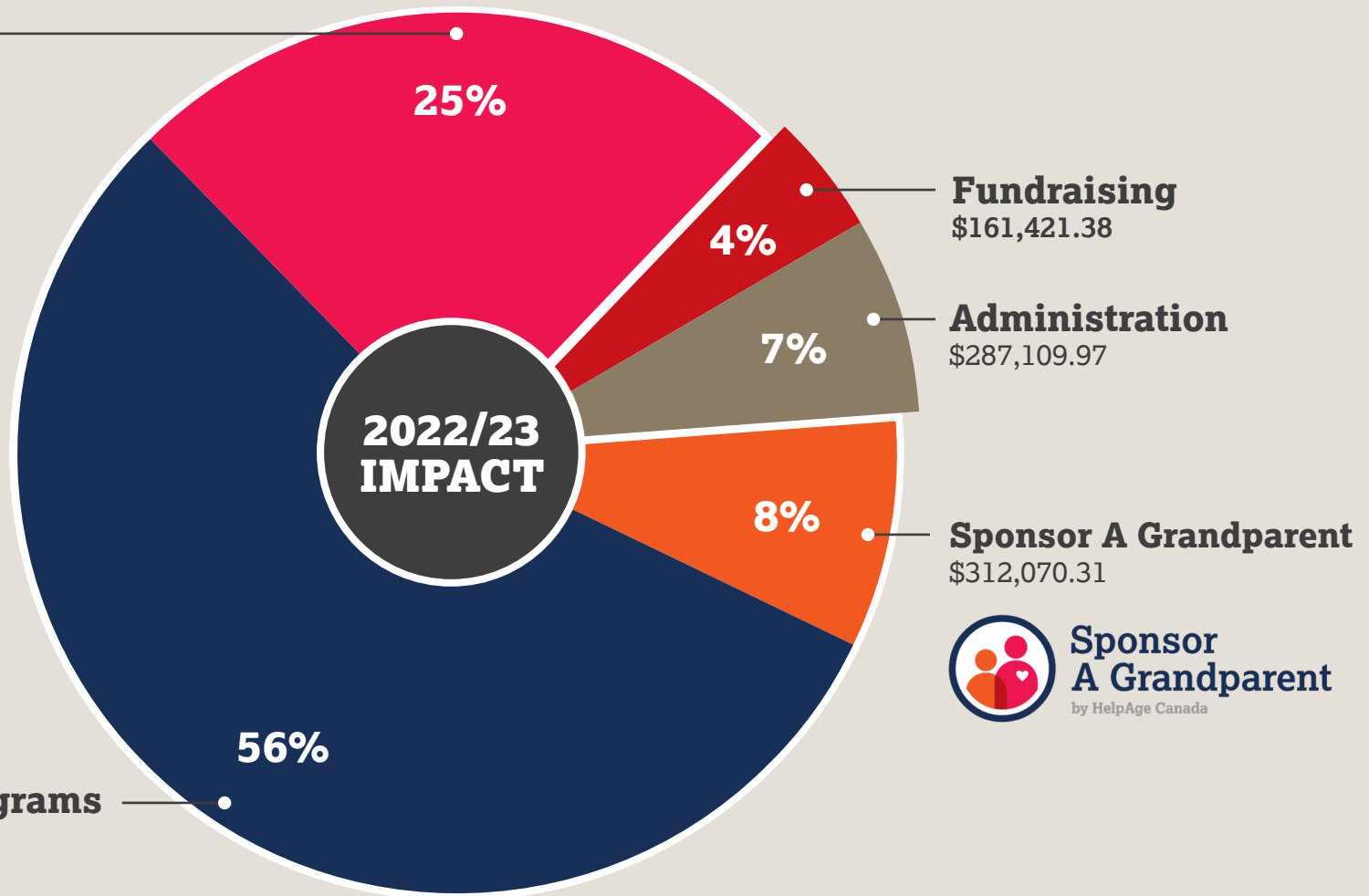
International Programs

\$2,142,743.30



Global Response
Relief & Development

by HelpAge Canada



Sponsor A Grandparent

by HelpAge Canada

Our 2022-2023 Team



Gregor Sneddon
Executive Director
Ottawa, ON



Nicole Perry
Director, National Programs
Ottawa, ON



Raza M. Mirza, PhD.
Director, National Partnerships
and Knowledge Mobilization
Toronto, ON



Hamza Ansari
Lead, Global Partnerships
Toronto, ON



Cassandra Colombi
Manager, Finance
Ottawa, ON



Stephanie Desjardins
Manager, Fundraising
Ottawa, ON



Kristen Lonergan
Manager, Communications
Ottawa, ON



Felicity Watson
Executive Assistant
Ottawa, ON



Simon Bikai
Coordinator, Finance
Ottawa, ON



Adriana (Danya) Wasyluk
Coordinator, Fundraising
Ottawa, ON

Our 2022-2023 Board of Directors



Amy Westland
Chairperson
Ottawa, ON



Kahir Lalji
Vice Chairperson
Vancouver, BC



Laura Dempsey
Secretary
Toronto, ON



William Morphet
Treasurer
Ottawa, ON



Simon Cheesman
Director
Toronto, ON



Christine Vilcocq
Director
Montreal, QC



Rosalie Gelderman
Director
Edmonton, AB



Don Hefler
Director
Ottawa, ON



Jessie-Lee Wallace
Director
Ottawa, ON



Kyle Shimon
Director
Ottawa, ON



**Michael Chrostowski,
PhD.** Director
Whitby, ON



**Anthony
Kupferschmidt**
Director
Vancouver, BC



Jenviev Azzolin
Director
Montreal, QC

A Look Ahead at Next Year

Join us for the 2024 Community-Based Seniors' Services (CBSS) Sector Summit!

Nearly every community in Canada has one or more CBSS organizations, lead by dedicated volunteers and staff, who are a lifeline to the older Canadians they serve. Provincial and territorial CBSS sectors are working together to establish a unified, coordinated national CBSS sector, and from June 2nd to 4th, 2024, in the nation's capital, we're hosting the 2024 CBSS Sector Summit – *Claiming our Space, Naming our Future* – to make that vision a reality. Join us for this history-making event!

A first-of-its-kind event, the 2024 summit gathers stakeholders from across the country to share knowledge, resources, and expertise. The summit serves as an entry point for grassroots organizations to gain a fuller picture of aging in Canada, providing new opportunities for partnerships and growth.

The CBSS sector faces different challenges and situations from province to province and territory to territory. Drawing from our unique experiences, the 2024 summit is an intentional, dedicated space to establish the needs & priorities of the sector as a whole.

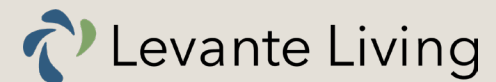
We will raise our collective voice to declare our sector's place in the ageing landscape in Canada, setting the tone for our relationship with government bodies, other sectors, and with older Canadians for years to come.

Claiming our Space, *Naming our Future*

June 2nd to 4th, 2024 | Ottawa, ON



Thank you to our Funders



John and Susanne Graham



*...along with our Founding Program Partner and thousands of generous individuals around the world. **Thank you for your support!***

Stay in Touch!

Sign-up for our [newsletter](#).

Financial Statements for April 2022 - March 2023 have been prepared and verified by the accounting firm Bakertilly. Reports available [here](#).

Registered Charity Number 118955921 RR0001.

205-1300 Carling Ave., Ottawa, ON K1Z 7L2 | 613-232-0727 | 1-800-648-1111

