



SOS CHILDREN'S
VILLAGE
BRITISH COLUMBIA



**ANNUAL
REPORT
2010**

Message from the Executive Director & Chairman of the Board



SOS Children's Villages is the world's largest non-governmental, non-denominational child welfare organization. It has existed for over 60 years with a presence in 132 nations. British Columbia is home to the only SOS Children's Village in Canada and that is something we are proud of.

Next year in 2011, SOS BC will be celebrating its 25th anniversary. It is inspiring to see what a team of dedicated volunteers, employees and donors have created over the past quarter century.

As we look forward to the next 25 years, it is important that SOS BC continues to evolve and re-define its purpose to ever improve our services. SOS BC has developed a unique program structure that focuses on two distinct areas. One being set-up based on the personalized needs of our village families and the other on outreach programs for foster families in the community. In 2010 we piloted two new outreach programs, the "Homework Club" and "Sounds of Learning" to 22 youth and children. There is a great success story featured on page 4 from the Sounds of Learning program titled "Music is what feelings sound like."

SOS BC exists to provide support services and enhancements beyond the available basic government care. With over 9,000 children in foster care in this province there is a great need for accessible and affordable programs for children and youth, with a shifting need for more advocacy on the challenges that BC families are facing. We are committed to provide home, healing and hope to local children and youth in need through our programming.

On behalf of the Board of Directors and staff, we thank you for your ongoing care, support and commitment in 2010 to SOS BC. For without you . . . none of this would be possible.

Get involved in 2011: *Volunteer. Donate. Advocate.*

Warmest Regards,



Nicole Minions
Executive Director



Reinhart Aulinger
Chairman of the Board

Every child belongs... every child matters

Celebrating 25 years



25 years ago . . .

Vancouver welcomed the world to Expo '86

Montreal took home the Stanley Cup

William Bennett handed over the premiership of British Columbia to Bill Vander Zalm

SOS Children's Village BC (Canada) Society was established!

SOS Children's Village BC is the only village in Canada. It was founded on the principle that life could be and SHOULD be better for children in the care system.

Lois and Gilles Bouchard welcomed a young woman into their lives, unaware that her life circumstances and experiences as a child in the care system would inspire them to establish what is now known as SOS BC.

"Justice will not be served until those who are unaffected are as outraged as those who are."

It is simply not enough to be empathic; but it does provide the foundation for change.

We are all capable of making life better for someone else. It only takes that first step... and the next...and the next.

Here are some of the steps we have taken in the last 25 years:

- 1986:** SOS Children's Village BC registered under BC Society Act and as a Canadian Charitable Organization.
- 1992:** The 1st SOS Treasure Cottage Thrift Store opened in Steveston
- 1994:** Village land purchased with grant provided by SOS Children's Villages International
- 1999:** The first home on the village site was officially opened by City of Surrey Mayor, Doug McCallum
- 2000-01:** The second and third homes in the village were built
- 2003/04:** The fourth and fifth homes in the village were built
- 2010:** SOS BC is as committed as ever to providing services to the most vulnerable children and families!
- 2011 and beyond:** Join us in ensuring that EVERY child matters and EVERY child belongs

25

“Music is what feelings sound like”

Highlights



“Music is what feelings sound like”

anonymous

Music is a part of our lives. Through good or bad, it's there. We use music in celebration, for comfort, to communicate and connect. It unites us, and rarely divides us.

The Sounds of Learning program was piloted in July, 2010. Our goal in implementing the program was to use music as a therapeutic tool for children and youth. The program included individual music instruction in guitar, bass, piano, drums, and voice. The final phase is focused on weekly choir sessions and songwriting.

The benefits of a music program are numerous. Through our experience, we have seen children and youth develop their skills, take an interest in a new activity, take healthy risks in learning something new in front of their peers, collaborate with one another, express their feelings and support others in doing the same. We have seen children who might not otherwise have much to do with one another, perform a duet for their friends. We have seen the children waiting at the door after school for the program to begin. We have seen their words on the whiteboards...words that are the beginning of their song. We have seen joy, excitement, commitment, perseverance, and connection.

“I didn't think I could do it”

For one boy in particular, it has been an incredible lesson in what he is capable of. Thomas is shy, and has a hard time believing in himself. Learning new things can be difficult, because he was born with Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder. But Thomas wanted to learn guitar. The music instructor made sure that Thomas had individual lessons because Thomas was apprehensive in groups. He participated in weekly sessions, and slowly, lesson by lesson, he was learning to play guitar.

Today, Thomas is learning a new song in each session. Thomas has grown from “I didn't think I could do it” to “I didn't know I was this good!”

Good programs and services do not have to look complicated to succeed; they can look as simple as a boy and his guitar.

We have seen their words on the whiteboards . . .
we have seen joy, excitement, commitment,
perseverance, and connection . . .



2010 Highlights at a Glance

It seems that every day we hear news of another tragedy; another reason why we should consider ourselves fortunate. Indeed, looking back we had much to celebrate; here are some of our favourite memories:

FEBRUARY A time of great celebration while our Olympic athletes competed and experienced tremendous success! It was also a time of great pride for all of us while the eyes of the world were awestruck by the beauty of our province and the amazing character of its inhabitants. For some, there was an awakening; a new appreciation of our First Nations people and the magnificence of their culture. SOS Children's Village BC works with children in the foster care system, of which approximately 50% are Aboriginal. Despite a history of pain, these children represent resilience and a future full of opportunity.

JUNE The first annual “end of school” carnival where children congratulated each other on completing another year of school by donning sumo suits and stepping into the ring. Currently, only 21% of children in care graduate from grade 12 within six years of beginning grade 8. This year, SOS BC celebrated two graduations; two out of two. With the right environment and support, these children can and will succeed!

JULY The **Sounds of Learning Program** kicked off with introductory instrument lessons for the children and youth. The 12-month program, a pilot initiative, brought children and youth together through their shared love of music. The program evolved from introduction to individual and group lessons. Considering that over 35% of children in care become involved in the criminal justice system, we are proud that these children choose to connect through pro-social activities, reducing risk factors and instead building a sense of belonging and accountability to one another.

SEPTEMBER Despite its less than intriguing title, the **Homework Club** started before it was scheduled to because of the interest from the children and youth. School success, for many children in care is not attainable, with more than 50% being identified as having special needs. However, statistics only speak to the gaps in service, and our Homework Club is a direct response to this gap. The Homework Club was piloted on the village site and has had steady attendance from day one, with each child showing improvement in their learning consistently.

2010

2010 Events

■ SOS BC Walk/Run

This year kicked off the second annual SOS BC Walk/Run in May 2010 put on by "Friends of SOS BC", a third-party group of volunteers. This event continues to grow annually and this year the run raised over \$17,000 in support of SOS Children's Village BC.

■ Umbro Boot Drive

A night of giving to support SOS BC

On September 5th at the Whitecaps game, the Umbro boot drive was held. At the end of the night SOS BC had collected over 125 pairs of boots which were sold at our thrift stores. Thank you to Umbro, the Vancouver Whitecaps, and all of our volunteers for their support of a very successful evening.

■ Vancouver Chinatown Lioness Club

Vancouver Chinatown Lioness Club organized and hosted the LOVE, CARE, DREAM dinner on November 6th for SOS Children and raised \$11,500.



The LOVE, CARE, DREAM dinner hosted by the Vancouver Chinatown Lioness Club

■ Parade of Trees

Thank you to everyone who supported the Parade of Trees presented by RE/MAX and the Holiday Bash presented by Coast Capital Savings that took place during the month of December 2010. Together we raised over \$40,000 to support our Fostering Growth program. Congratulations to the Lynn Valley Lions Club and Purdy's Chocolates for being voted the best decorated trees in 2010.



Liz Harris and fellow stiletto run participants reveal their "soles" for the inaugural White Rock Stiletto Run.

■ Inaugural White Rock Stiletto Run

This was the inaugural year for the White Rock Stiletto run in July 2010. This was a third-party event where 100% of the proceeds from Registration went directly to SOS BC.

■ G&F Financial Golf Tournament

G&F Financial Group's Annual Charity Golf Tournament was held on September 13th and raised over \$24,000 for SOS Children's Village BC. This is the second year that the event has been held in support of SOS Children's Village BC. Richard Davies, Chief Executive Officer of G&F Financial Group, noted that "G&F takes great pride in the contribution that the credit union makes to local charities and is particularly proud to be associated with an organization like SOS Children's Village who provide such a unique supporting environment for youth."

■ Kiewit

The staff at Kiewit Flatiron General Partnership are busy... busy building bridges and roads. You can see their trucks everywhere and if you look closely into those trucks in December, you might be surprised to see Christmas Elves! This Christmas, for the 2nd year, the staff at Kiewit are building more than bridges and roads; they are building hope for kids. The Kiewit Toy drive is something to marvel at. Last year, Ryan Layfield and Travis Hermanson delivered two truckloads of gifts to share with the children we work with.

Impact

2010 Impact: SOS BC Individuals & Families Served



- 30 Children lived in the SOS BC Children's Village and;
- 6 Families benefitted from financial subsidies
- 35 Children received therapeutic services
- 23 Children attended camps
- 31 Children benefitted from the Literacy & Learning Clubs
- 14 Children participated in the Sounds of Learning Program
- 18 Individual recreational programs funded
- 30 Families received support through Caregiver support services
- 85 Children received support through Caregiver support services

Financials

2010 Financials*

Program Revenues

Designated Grants & Donations	\$331,114
Rent Recovery	\$87,000
Service Contracts	\$126,700
BC Gaming	\$ 44,000

Total Program Revenues \$589,514

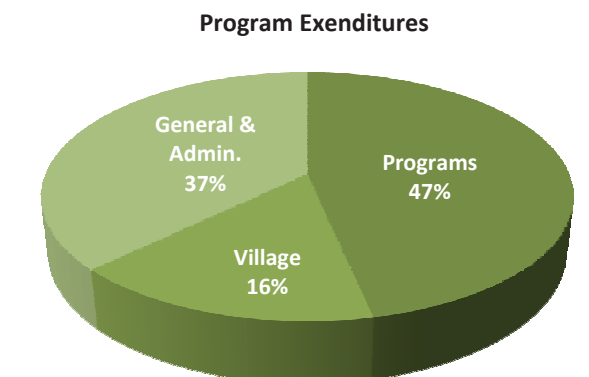
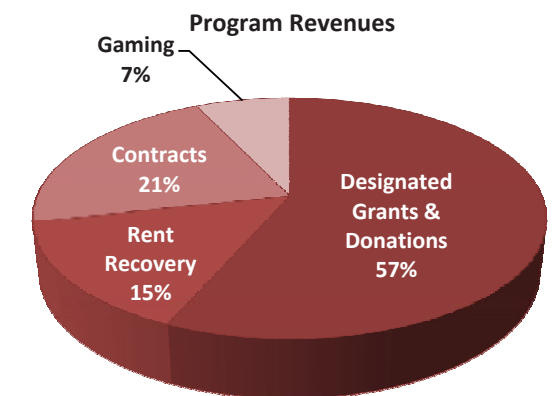
Program Expenditures

Direct Programs	\$260,796
Children's Village site	\$89,711
General & Administration	\$208,117

Total Program Expenditures \$558,624

Net reserve at year end = \$30,890

*Program related only



THANK YOU

FOR IMPROVING CHILD CARE THOUGHOUT BC AND BEYOND . . .

Our sincere appreciation to the generous donors who have contributed \$1,000 or more between January 1, 2010 and December 31, 2010 to support children in need. Your contributions have funded vital programs that enhance the development and healing of foster children by addressing their physical, social, emotional, and spiritual needs. Thank you.

\$1,000 - \$9,999

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Beachcomber Hot Tubs
Gilles & Lois Bouchard
Paul & Sally Bouchard
CanWest Global Foundation
Capilano Volkswagen Audi
Coast Capital Savings Foundation
Edith Lando Charitable Foundation
Grouse Mountain Resorts
Helijet International Incorporated
Home Depot Canada Foundation
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Independent Order of Odd Fellows, Progress Lodge #81
JMP Autowerks
Klaue & Hideko Kittel
Lynn Valley Lions Club
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SOS Children's Villages Canada
Stewart, Aulinger & Company
Teldon International Community Foundation
Telus Corporation - Community Engagement
Terasen Gas
Ian Thomas
Jo Tonita
United Way
Vancity, Morgan Creek Branch
West Coast Title Search Ltd.

\$10,000 - \$49,999

Reinhart & Elvira Aulinger
Coast Capital Savings
Friends of SOS Children's Village BC - Richmond
G & F Financial Group
HSBC - Futures First Program
John Hardie Mitchell Family Foundation
Loyal Protestant Association
McKesson Foundation
In loving memory of Mark and Diane Sonne
Variety - The Children's Charity of BC
Vancouver Chinatown Lioness Club

\$50,000 PLUS

Milan & Maureen Ilich Foundation



SOS Children's Village

Board Members: 2010

Reinhart Aulinger
Tina Coleman
Manfred Bartel
Gilles Bouchard
Hardy Dhaliwal
Joanne Griffiths
Ken Haertling
Jo Tonita

TO SPEAK TO A SOS CHILDREN'S
VILLAGE BC REPRESENTATIVE
PERSONALLY AND CONFIDENTIALLY:
604.574.2964

DONATIONS CAN BE SENT TO:
SOS Children's Village BC
102 - 5830 176A St
Surrey, BC V3S 4H5
Or donate online at www.sosbc.org

GIFTS GENERATE TAX CREDITS:
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Receipts for tax purposes are issued
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SOS Children's Village BC staff will
be pleased to process your donation
using your VISA or MasterCard.