

# Annual Report 2019



Changing Lives With YOUR Care and Support





## Our Mission

# Helping People

As a multi-cultural Christian outreach and community centre, The Lighthouse demonstrates God's love by offering unconditional hospitality, by sharing our resources and by helping people in need.

We offer an atmosphere of respect, dignity and security in order to address spiritual, emotional and physical needs, all in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

## Our Vision

# Changing Lives

To establish and maintain well-being, safety, dignity and community for individuals and families affected by poverty, migration stress, injustice and violence.

---

## The Lighthouse during COVID-19

In light of Ontario's state of emergency in response to the Covid-19 global pandemic, we as The Lighthouse Community Centre, are dedicated to the continued service of those in need. We have modified our programs to run essential services safely and in adherence to changing laws and the advice of the Government of Canada.

Currently, The Lighthouse continues to run a modified food bank hamper program, digitally modified psychotherapy, as well as a modified income tax clinic (no in person appointments). In light of this change, we recognize that things look different in regards to our 2020 plan and so we are trusting in God for provision, protection and peace while also maintaining necessary safety measures. Please continue to support and hold The Lighthouse, it's clients, volunteers, partners and staff in prayer. Thank you.

**Front cover image:** Summer Camp - Vietnamese Ministry

The Lighthouse Annual Report 2019 - 2

## Table of Contents

### Page 2

Mission, Vision, Holistic Approach, Ways to Get Involved

### Page 3

Message from the Chair of the Board and Executive Director

### Page 4-5

Stats and Photos

### Page 6

Stories of Change and Financials

### Page 7

Facts and Figures

### Page 8

A Peek into 2019

## Ways to Get Involved

- Get a team together to help do repairs at The Lighthouse
- Organize your own fundraising event
- Find out how to be a Lighthouse Keeper
- Invite someone from The Lighthouse to talk about a ministry
- Organize a food drive for the food bank
- Invite someone to facilitate a workshop
- Organize a group visit to a LH program or seasonal event
- Join the Board of Directors

# Message from the Chair of the Board and the Executive Director

Dear Friends and Supporters,

2019 was an exciting year for The Lighthouse. We continued to follow-up on our 50 year celebration. We have seen God's faithfulness throughout the first 50 years and we continue to see his faithfulness in 2019. The Lord continues to bless The Lighthouse as it helps many individuals in the Greater Toronto Area. We have staff that are committed to helping others thrive and volunteers who support the various programs offered at The Lighthouse.

The ministry of The Lighthouse continues to flourish under God's grace. We know we are called to help individuals who are refugees, newcomers and low-income individuals. We provide community and share love, information, services, a listening ear and so much more. We are present for individuals who come for assistance.

Our Vision, **"Helping People Changing Lives"** allows The Lighthouse to make an impact on others. The Lighthouse has impacted many lives. In 2019 alone, we have impacted the lives of 10,700 individuals who came seeking refuge, assistance, advice or just a listening ear.

With the work we do with refugees, newcomers and low-income people, we see God's powerful hand at work and how the Lord continues to provide many blessings. We are a witness to God's love among those who are hungry, hurting and homeless. Here are some examples of this amazing work:

- Provided 4780 grocery hampers to those who came to the Food Bank
- Offered meals to over 1500 people through various programs at The Lighthouse
- Provided 5 students a learning and work experience through placements at The Lighthouse
- Provided volunteer opportunities to over 230 volunteers
- Paid down our line of credit by \$25,000
- Received a \$5,000 grant from Youth Philanthropy Initiative
- Provided leadership training to leaders in the Korean Community

In this report, you'll see stories of men, women and children who sought assistance from The Lighthouse. This is made possible by you and your support!



Roger Visser  
Chair of the Board

A handwritten signature in blue ink.



Rob Datema  
Executive Director

A handwritten signature in blue ink.

## Our Board of Directors:

Alisa Velthuizen  
Ed Boekee  
Ed Sikkema  
Juan Rojo - Secretary  
Roger Visser  
Theody Corton  
Wendy Helleman

# ENHANCING SKILLS & RESOURCES

This section includes graduates from courses, workshops and training programs. We are also including the graduates from the Leadership Training & Development Program.



# COUNSELLING AND ADVOCACY

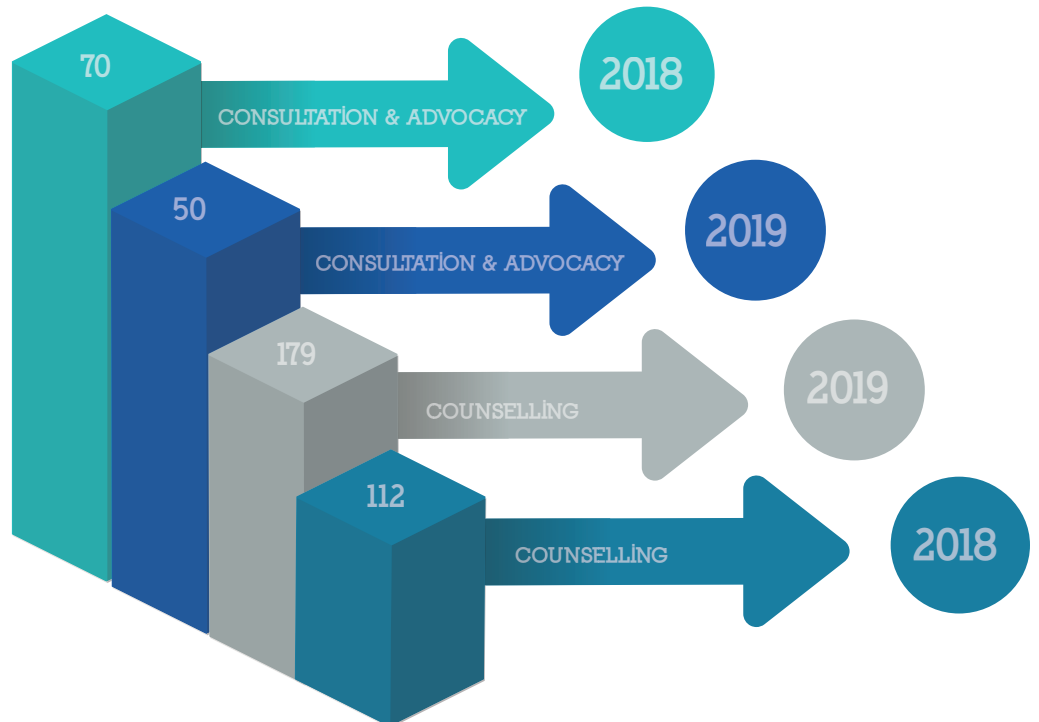
This section includes people who received consultation and advocacy services, as well as those who received counselling services.



**MEAL PROGRAM  
(PILOT)**

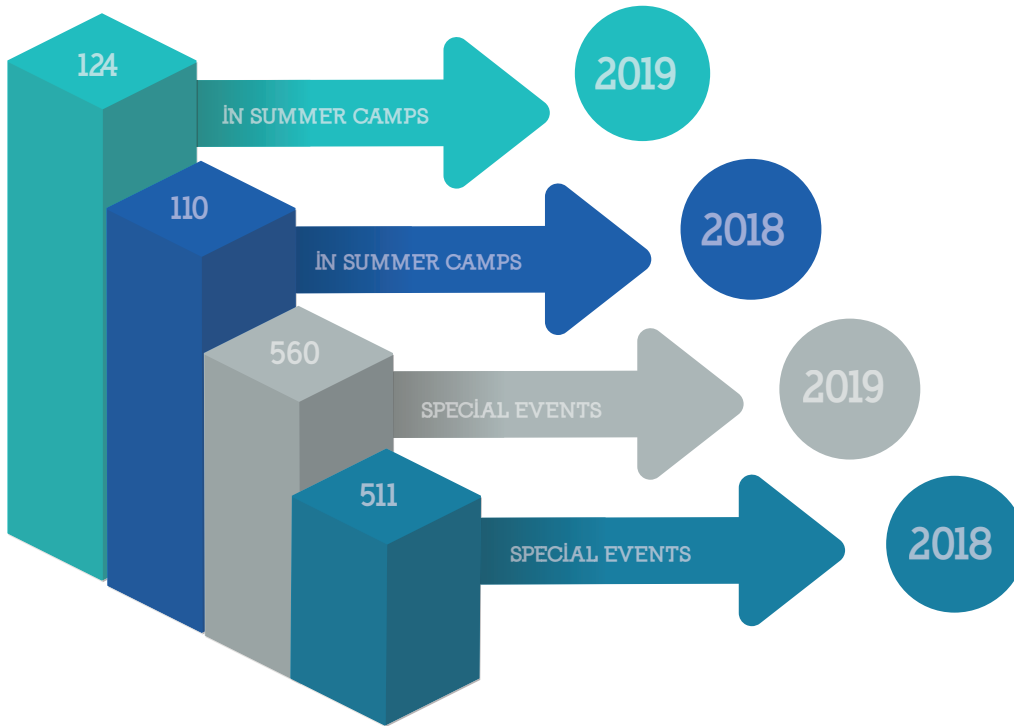
**3356**

NUMBER OF MEALS  
SERVED IN 2019



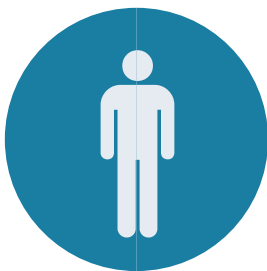
# STRENGTHENING FAMILIES

This section includes adults and children who participated in Summer camps, as well as those who participated in special events.



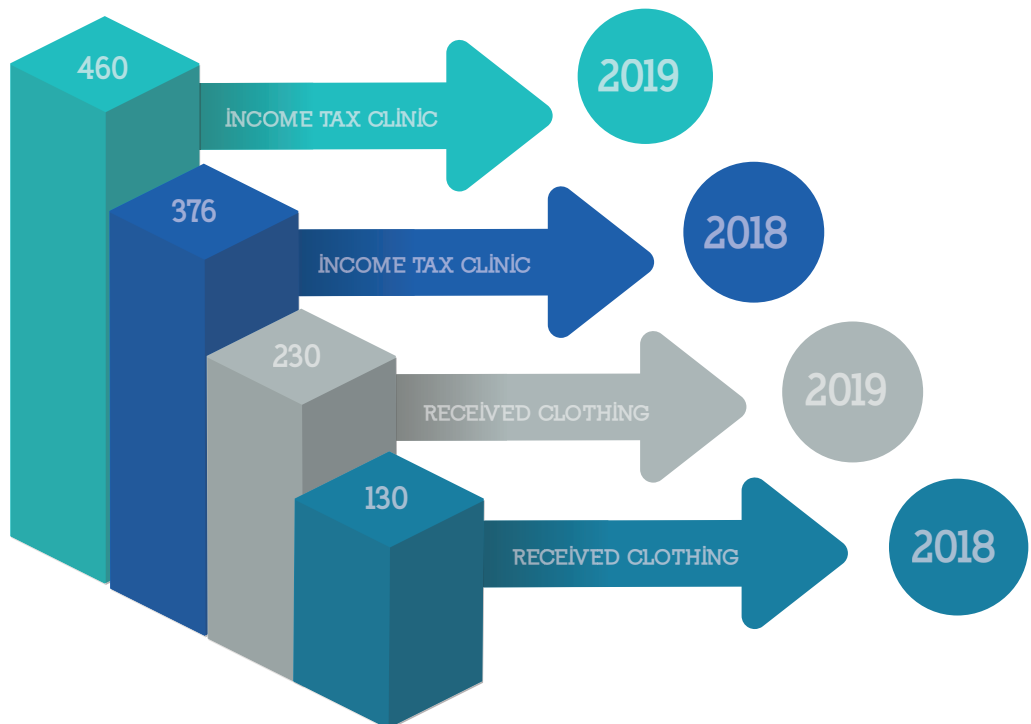
# PROVIDING SERVICES

This section contains the number of people who benefited from the income tax clinic, as well as those who received clothing.



## PEOPLE RUNNING THE PROGRAMS

- 4 FULL TIME STAFF
- 3 PART TIME STAFF
- 226 VOLUNTEERS





# Stories of Change

*"My father would often come home and rave about this community centre he went for groceries and hot meals.. Every week it would be his highlight. When a friend of mine expressed her need for food I asked my dad where he went and together the three of us went. The minute we walked in I knew exactly why my dad comes here. It's so much more than a regular food bank people really care here. Everyone knows each other, it's an inviting place. This place oozes welcome."*

- D.B. (Neighbourhood Ministry Client)

*"I'm very thankful that you were willing to help me with my permanent resident renewal. Can I get you a coffee? I'm just so grateful that the Lighthouse would help me print this application and fill it out. I'm not very good at computers and my writing is not so good anymore. Thank you! I'm going to get you all coffees!"*

- Happy Neighbourhood Ministry Client

*"When I first started my counselling at The Lighthouse, I learned about the importance of self-control. I learned how to face parenting and marital problems by understanding different factors that affect these problems, such as, communication, finances, friends, and other relatives, etc. I learned ways to problem solve within my own personal life. Step by step, and through speaking with my counsellor, I learned how to find positive ways to cope with issues in my personal life. I went from being a mom struggling with postpartum depression constantly relying on medication alone to a confident woman who now has other ways to and understand why and what I am facing in my life journey. Through counselling at The Lighthouse I have learned new strategies to be more aware of my thoughts and actions and the control that I do have over protecting my mental health."*

- Vietnamese Ministry Client

**NOTE:** At the end of 2019, The Lighthouse had an outstanding mortgage obligation of \$100,000 and continues to work diligently in financing its operations.

## Testimonial

*"My name is Alberto and I come to the Latino seniors program that meets every Friday. I am so happy that this year we are also meeting in the winter. This group is like a family to me. I feel loved and cared for there. I am learning English and I also learn about how to live in this Canadian society. I also learned spiritual lessons which help me to feel less depressed and more grateful. The volunteers are wonderful people and the children sooth my heart"*

- Alberto (Hispanic Ministry Client)

## 2019 Finances

Total Revenue for 2019 - \$352,025	
Individual donors	\$122,707
Grants	\$5,546
Fundraising events	\$91,375
Grants/contributions from CRC Classis Toronto churches	\$53,582
Grants/gifts from other churches	\$15,124
Gifts from organizations	\$45,775
Grants from the Canadian government	\$0
Rental income	\$8,400
Other income (e.g. from other sources where no charitable receipt is issued)	\$9,516

Total Expenses for 2019 - \$330,251	
Programs	\$212,952
Building and occupancy costs	\$25,674
Administration and management	\$53,910
Promotion and fundraising	\$27,210
Interest and bank charges	\$10,505

## 2019 Facts & Figures

Program/Service	Number of People Reached/Served		
Neighbourhood Programs	2019	2018	
Food Bank	616	451	4780 total individuals served At the ending of 2018 a nearby food bank closed causing an increase in usage at the ending of the year. We saw an increase in newcomer Latin American clients
Income Tax Clinic	460	376	EFile Program
Volunteers	191	187	Included school group visits
Placement Students Supervision and Training	5	4	In 2019 the Neighbourhood ministry offered a placement to 5 different students from varying social service programs in various Ontario colleges. This has been mutually beneficial for both the Centre and students. We have enjoyed the opportunities that arise with new faces
Special Events	164	142	Neighbourhood Christmas Program 96, Neighbourhood free clothing pop up 32, Neighbourhood free clothing pop up 36
Meal Program (Pilot)	3356	530	The Meal Program and the Food Bank Program run simultaneously with each other and help to create community, and break down stigma and isolation amongst its participants. This number indicates number of meals served to all participants and has increased with word of mouth and with an increase of pre-prepared meal trays provided by Second Harvest
Hispanic Programs			
Counselling	179	112	Includes 26 cases involving individuals and family members and 107 people in 6 different groups
Consultation & Advocacy	50	70	Includes one time or ongoing consulting and advocacy
Summer Family Camp	95	89	23 families (Mom, dad and children)
Immigration Workshops	25	30	3 times in the year
Leadership Training & Development	142	74	One course: 6 full days in classroom training and a practicum. Special program for participant's children (12 kids). 5 workshops: one to three days training. Everyone receives a certificate. Number includes adults and teens
Hispanic Seniors and Intergenerational Program	40	35	Ongoing every week from April to December
Haircutting Course	15	15	Ongoing every week for 10 months. Students receive certificate
Manicure/Pedicure & Nail Decoration Course	10	23	Ongoing every week for 9 months. Students receive certificate
Acrylic Nails, Gel Nails and Make-up Workshops	40	43	3 different workshops, 3 days each in the month of July. Students receive certificate
Special Events/Celebrations	500	450	One time celebrations (Christmas; Thanksgiving; Mother's Day; Father's Day; Women's Day; Course Graduation; Volunteer Appreciation Lunch; Senior's Birthdays and Anniversaries)
Business Development	30		12 sessions given by the Colombian Consulate in partnership with The Lighthouse. Certificate included
Volunteers	35	35	Ongoing, seasonal and one time volunteers
Vietnamese Programs			
Counselling	35	30	21 cases
Women's Support Group	35	25	Once a month for 10 months
Prison Ministry	371	296	Toronto South Detention Centre
Family Summer Camp	29	21	Had a Family Camp Picnic
Special Events Celebrations	60	61	Lunar New Year, Christmas, Mother's Day
Catering Group	18	166	
Educational Workshops	35	25	3 workshops
Volunteers	0	6	

# A Peek into 2020

Wow! What a year we had in 2019 at The Lighthouse. We look forward to the change and growth that will take place in 2020! This year we will continue to strengthen our programming and services. We will continue to address the needs of newcomers, low-income individuals and families with our holistic model for healing and wellness. We will continue to offer assistance to "refugee sponsoring churches." We aim to help refugees, newcomers and low-income individuals strive for a healthy life.

Here are some of the goals for 2020 we hope will enhance what is being done at The Lighthouse. These goals will encourage us to provide effective and meaningful programming for the clients we serve. We strive to be a presence to the community.

We will provide communication tools to help promote The Lighthouse and to aid churches and individuals to learn more about work of The Lighthouse.

- Provide new brochures highlighting different programs at The Lighthouse
- Provide new display Boards
- Provide promotional videos to help share the ministry of The Lighthouse

We will expand and strengthen our programs and services

- Recruit, train and evaluate volunteers
- Evaluate current programs to determine how they can have a greater impact for those participating

We will increase and diversify our funding to ensure ongoing financial stability

- Continue to submit grant proposals and look for new proposals
- Develop a strategic plan to find other revenue sources
- Continue to nurture relationships with supporting churches of The Lighthouse
- Continue to develop partnerships with new churches

We will provide some time for visioning with a focus on the future of The Lighthouse

- Spending time in prayer searching for the Lord's direction
- Focusing on succession planning for staff and programs
- Focusing on new opportunities to aid more individuals
- Focusing on ways to strengthen existing programs

In 2020, we ask for your continued support through donations and prayers. We ask that you continue to pray for The Lighthouse as it serves refugees, newcomers and low-income individuals.

## Please give generously

The Lighthouse is dependent on the generosity of caring like-minded individuals, churches and businesses to continue its programs and services.

Donations can be made online at [www.canadahelps.org](http://www.canadahelps.org). CanadaHelps offers the ability to give anonymously and securely through credit card or interact payments. Online gifts are receipted instantly by email by CanadaHelps.

Cheques payable to The Lighthouse can be mailed or delivered to the address indicated below. Consider giving through pre-authorized remittance (PAR). This steady stream of revenue helps The Lighthouse plan more effectively for the future.\*

Consider making a bequest, establishing an endowment or otherwise including The Lighthouse in your planned giving and estate planning.\*

Receipts in respect of donations in any calendar year are issued on or prior to the last day of January in the immediately following calendar year (except donations through CanadaHelps).

It continues to be a challenge to meet the growing needs of the communities we serve. Please consider making a gift that will ensure The Lighthouse continues to help people and change lives for years to come!

\* Contact Rob Datema at [rob@lighthousecentre.ca](mailto:rob@lighthousecentre.ca) for more information.



1008 Bathurst Street, Toronto, ON M5R 3G7  
T. 416 535 6262 | F. 416 535 3293 | [www.lighthousecentre.ca](http://www.lighthousecentre.ca)  
BN 13036 3740 RR0001

'Like' us on Facebook:  
[www.facebook.com/thelighthouseontario](http://www.facebook.com/thelighthouseontario)