



CARMICHAEL  
OUTREACH

23 -  
24



# ANNUAL REPORT

CARMICHAEL OUTREACH INC.  
1510 12TH AVE, REGINA, SK. S4P 0L5  
P: 306-757-2235 | F: 306-757-2205  
INFO@CARMICHAELOUTREACH.CA  
WWW.CARMICHAELOUTREACH.CA

# A YEAR IN REVIEW

610 intakes for Carmichael programs

Over 7000 hours of volunteer time

260 laundry appointments book

465 showers provided



## Table of Contents

INTRODUCTION

PROGRAMMING

FUNDRAISING

PARTNERS

# INTRODUCTORY

Dear Partners and Supporters,

I'm Tyler Gelsinger, the Executive Director of Carmichael Outreach. Reflecting on my journey since joining the organization in 2021, I'm grateful for the incredible experiences we've shared. This past year has brought notable changes, including the opening of our warming center and the launch of our new strategic plan.

I want to extend my heartfelt gratitude to all our partners and supporters who have remained dedicated throughout the year. Your unwavering belief in our mission is essential to the community, and without your support, we wouldn't be able to offer the range of programs and services we do.

Additionally, I wish to thank the community members who rely on our services. The last couple of years have posed significant challenges, and your patience and understanding as we navigated these times have been invaluable. We are fortunate to serve such outstanding individuals.

Looking ahead, I am genuinely excited about the opportunities that lie before us. Thank you for your continued support and belief in our mission.

With sincere appreciation,



Tyler Gelsinger  
Executive Director  
Carmichael Outreach

---

## WHO ARE WE??

### VISION:

**AN OPEN DOOR EMBRACING AND SUPPORTING THOSE IN NEED!**

### MISSION:

**THROUGH COLLABORATION WITH THE COMMUNITY, WE PROVIDE FRONTLINE SERVICES AND SUPPORT TO THOSE IN NEED.**

### VALUES:

**RESPECT  
TRUST  
INTEGRITY  
COMMUNITY**



# INTRODUCTORY

Report from the Board Chair

The period between July 1, 2023 and June 30, 2024 saw the introduction of a new major program – the winter warming centre - which is the largest new program Carmichael has had in a long while.

While the City continues to deal with the continuing crises circulating around poverty related issues including houselessness, addictions, undersupply of shelter spaces, and many others, the Province and City both came forward with funding to address one important facet of the overall public safety concern – that is a cold weather strategy to prevent suffering and injury due to cold. The Warming Centre was finally introduced in January (after what had been a fortunately mild autumn), meaning that persons without a warm place to stay could come in from the cold temporarily for the night.

The funding provided allowed Carmichael to open the Centre's main floor through the night, from January to May, allowing staff and volunteers to maintain a safe place for persons to go through the coldest months.

This upcoming winter, the City has again committed to funding the space, this time from Nov 1 through April 30.

Additionally, the Board began another round of strategic planning towards the end of the year, which is currently continuing. The challenges that face the organization continue to change and evolve, so it is important that the organization evolves right along with them. Initially board members identified 4 key areas: programs & services, funding, advocacy, and staff & culture. What Carmichael does in these 4 areas will be what determines how well we are able to help the persons in our community cope with the burden of poverty, in the unique ways in which people experience it. We are hopeful that we will soon be able to get the help and input of staff and volunteers, so that we can collectively improve the way in which Carmichael provides assistance to members of our community.

That support is likely to change over time, and become more complex, and that only reinforces the need for the understanding that we're all working at this together. No matter who is working here at a given time, or in what role, either as staff, or board, or volunteer, or otherwise, there is always going to be a community that needs our support.

Carmichael has always, since I've been associated with it, attracted a great deal of talent, energy, and empathy. All of the best attributes of community in my mind, and not always easy to find. I think that says a great deal about the people here tonight, whatever the personal reasons you each have for being here. So, thank you to everyone for joining us tonight, for the help you have given throughout the year, and for the help that you're considering for next year.

Mike Staines  
Carmichael Board Chair

# PROGRAMMING

## Kitchen

In the 2023-2024 period, our Food Security Programming reached a significant milestone in our mission to alleviate food insecurity in our community. Our primary goal has been to provide guests with access to wholesome and nutritious meals, and this initiative has been essential in addressing this critical issue.

Central to our success has been the generous food donations from our dedicated local partners. These collaborations have been vital to our efforts, and we would like to express our heartfelt gratitude to the following organizations for their steadfast support: Red Lobster, KFC, Olive Garden, Save-On Foods, the Loop Program, Sysco, Ready Bake, Reach, London Drugs, Lakeview Foods, and many others. Their ongoing contributions have been crucial for our program, allowing us to make a real difference in the lives of those facing food insecurity.

We are deeply appreciative of the continued support from these partners, not only in the past year but also in previous years. Their dedication to our mission has empowered us to effectively address food insecurity and provide essential assistance to those in need.



## Boutique

At our boutique, we proudly welcome around 60 guests each day, facilitating connections with approximately 13,000 items every month. Our diverse inventory ranges from warm winter coats to breezy summer shorts, ensuring that our guests have access to clothing suitable for every season. More importantly, our boutique plays a critical role in providing essential hygiene products, diapers, and milk to families in need.

This indispensable service is only possible thanks to the generous support of our community. We are incredibly fortunate to have hundreds of dedicated community members who choose to donate items to our cause. Their selfless contributions enable us to fulfill our mission of providing not just clothing, but also vital essentials to those who rely on our assistance.

We cannot emphasize enough how grateful we are for this overwhelming support; it is the driving force behind our efforts to make a positive impact on the lives of those we serve. Each donation, no matter how small, helps create a ripple effect of kindness and compassion in our community. Together, we are not just offering items; we are building a network of care and support that empowers individuals and families to thrive.

If you'd like to learn more about our work or how you can help, please reach out. Together, we can continue to make a meaningful difference in the lives of those who need it most.

# PROGRAMMING



## Housing & Support

Our dedicated housing team is involved in a wide array of activities aimed at addressing homelessness and providing essential support to our clients. These activities include:

1. **Weekly Housing List:** Our team develops and regularly publishes a comprehensive housing list, ensuring that our clients have access to the latest housing options.
2. **Housing Assistance:** We assist clients in their quest to secure suitable housing, offering guidance and support throughout the process.
3. **Move-In Support:** When clients successfully find housing, we provide practical assistance to help them transition into their new homes smoothly.
4. **Home Essential Items:** We aid clients in locating and obtaining necessary items for their homes, including bedding, dishes, and other essential household items.
5. **Advocacy for Clients:** Our team advocates on behalf of our clients, helping them navigate complex housing and social service systems, and ensuring their voices are heard.
6. **Emergency Hampers:** We provide emergency hampers to clients facing immediate food insecurity, offering vital support during challenging times.
7. **Wellness Checks:** We conduct wellness checks to ensure our clients' health and safety, offering peace of mind and assistance when needed.
8. **Follow-Up Support:** We offer ongoing support to clients to help them maintain housing stability and address any issues that may arise.

Our Housing & Support program is essential to our mission of preventing and alleviating homelessness in our community. We work closely with individuals who are currently experiencing or at risk of homelessness, focusing on helping them find and sustain affordable housing. While this may seem straightforward, it often involves navigating complex challenges. Our dedicated housing team is committed to meeting clients where they are and tailoring support to their unique needs.

The primary funding for this program comes from the Federal Government's Reaching Homes (RH) Strategy. This significant financial support enables us to continue our crucial work in the community, making a meaningful impact by reducing homelessness and providing individuals with the resources and guidance they need to build stable, fulfilling lives.

With the backing of our generous supporters, our comprehensive approach empowers us to make a real difference. Together, we are not only reducing homelessness but also offering the essential support that helps individuals embark on a journey toward stability and success.

# PROGRAMMING

## Harm Reduction

We're excited to share that we are continuing our partnerships with 4 Directions and the Omega Nurses. Our dedication to hosting a variety of harm reduction and prevention initiatives on our premises remains strong. We are committed to the health and well-being of our community and take pride in offering on-site services that address various aspects of health and safety.

At our facility, we provide the following essential services:

**COVID-19 Testing:** In our ongoing effort to combat the COVID-19 pandemic, we are pleased to offer on-site testing for the virus. Our experienced staff ensures a safe and efficient testing process for our community members.

**COVID-19 Vaccinations:** We continue to provide access to COVID-19 vaccinations, supporting public health efforts to achieve widespread vaccination and build immunity against the virus.

**Influenza Vaccinations:** As part of our commitment to seasonal health, we offer influenza vaccinations to help prevent the spread of the flu and protect the health of our community.

**Street Project:** Operates the needle exchange program and Needle Drop Box locations; for injection drug users. Provides condoms, lube, sharps containers, sterile water, ties, and filters.

**Naloxone Kits:** We understand the importance of harm reduction and offer Naloxone kits, a vital tool in reversing opioid overdoses. These kits save lives and play a crucial role in our harm reduction strategy.

**HIV Testing Kits:** We are proud to introduce HIV testing kits as part of our services. Regular HIV testing is crucial for early detection and treatment, and our new offering underscores our commitment to comprehensive health care.

**Pregnancy Test (New):** By ensuring that individuals can access pregnancy tests, we contribute to better health outcomes and overall community well-being.

**Omega Nurses:** Is a national Not-For-Profit organization that provides specialized patient care in many therapeutic areas.

## Warming Center

In 2023-2024, we proudly opened our warming center for the first time, responding to the urgent need for a safe and welcoming space during cold nights. The overnight center operates 12 hours a day, from 7 PM to 7 AM, ensuring that individuals experiencing homelessness have a warm place to stay when they have nowhere else to go. Our dedicated team provides not only a warming space but also essential resources and support, fostering a sense of community and safety for all who enter. By offering this vital service, we aim to help our neighbors in need and create a more compassionate environment for everyone.



# FUNDRAISING

"Play With Your Food" was an unforgettable highlight of this year, and we are immensely grateful to each and every person who contributed to its success, whether through donations, purchasing raffle tickets, or participating in the event. We extend our heartfelt thanks to all of you for making it such a remarkable experience.



over  
**\$69,510.28**  
from Play With Your Food

We want to highlight the impressive work being done at the University of Regina, especially by the Hill Business Students Society, with their annual "5 Days for the Homeless Campaign." This remarkable initiative showcases their resilience and commitment to tackling homelessness. Their efforts inspire us all and remind us that compassion and social responsibility can flourish, even in difficult times. We sincerely thank the Hill Business Students Society and the entire 5 Days team for their steadfast dedication and for exemplifying proactive and impactful community involvement.



Carmichael Outreach extends our heartfelt gratitude to our exceptional fundraising partners. Throughout the year, your support through fundraising events and collaborations has been pivotal in advancing our mission. A significant portion of our revenue comes from these initiatives, enabling the continued success of our programs within the community.

Our commitment to providing essential services and support to those in need relies heavily on the generosity and dedication of our partners. The funds raised not only sustain our current operations but also empower us to expand our outreach efforts, making a lasting, positive impact on the lives of individuals in our community.

We deeply appreciate the unwavering support of our fundraising partners, who stand with us in our mission to create a brighter and more inclusive future. Together, we can build a stronger and more prosperous community for all.

almost  
**\$473,184.31**  
in general donations

over  
**\$80,933.50**  
from Christmas  
Appeal donations

over  
**\$505,938.11**  
in various government  
grants

# PARTNERS



HARVARD MEDIA  
— A HILL COMPANY —

REBELLION



5 Days  
for the Homeless



City of Regina

