

# ANNUAL REPORT

2024



#### 2024 - The Year in Review

2024 was truly a landmark year for CLICK – the 20<sup>th</sup> year after our small, totally volunteer-run charitable foundation was launched in 2004 in the heart of the inner city at Britannia Secondary School. Some notable Vancouverites were in attendance: then-mayor of Vancouver Larry Campbell, businessman and philanthropist Milton Wong and BC Lions legend Lui Passaglia, who kicked a football to officially start CLICK's important work.

That work remains centered on a clear objective: to raise awareness and funds for programs supporting children and youth living in poverty in Vancouver. Each consecutive year since 2004 has seen an increase in the funds disbursed to programs that count on CLICK to help the most at-risk and vulnerable children in Vancouver. 2024 was no exception with a total of \$380,990 raised and \$231,565 disbursed to worthy programs, bringing the total directed to programs since 2004 to \$1,741,300.

What produced this success are two key factors. The generosity of our donors and community partners has allowed us to increase our support to programs year over year. Add to this CLICK board members' knowledge of where and how donations can help children and youth the most and CLICK's effectiveness is greatly enhanced.

Sadly, the child poverty crisis in Vancouver continues unabated. The high cost of housing and food makes life very difficult and highly stressful for working poor parents and their children. Keenly aware of this, the CLICK board continues to work hard to seek support for children and youth who deserve – despite poverty – to live their best lives.

Brenda Penton, Board President



#### **HIGHLIGHTS OF 2024 INCLUDE:**

- In May CLICK's 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary was celebrated during the City of Vancouver-proclaimed Inner City Kids Week with CLICK's Definitely Not a Gala community event at beautiful Heritage Hall.
- In August community partner Hope Couture six Vancouver women who use their love of fashion to help local charities raised funds for CLICK at Horse Power, a high-end fashion show at Southlands Riding Club.
- In October CLICK's premier fundraising event, the Dinner to Make a Difference, was once again held at the award-winning Café Medina restaurant in downtown Vancouver.
- In December, the CLICK board once again proactively purchased grocery gift cards for select schools for distribution to working poor families in time for the holiday season. A total of 350 cards valued at \$35,000 were given to 26 elementary and secondary schools. Principals, who distributed the cards to parents, were extremely grateful to CLICK for this support.



CLICK co-founders
Alva Jenson (left) and
Catherine Atyeo
celebrating 20 years of
making a difference in
children's lives.

### **Making a Difference**

In 2024, CLICK once again made a significant difference in the lives of children and youth living in poverty by funding programs that make a daily difference in their lives.



\*based on reporting by the program applicants

### **Reports from Funded Programs**

Organizations that receive CLICK funding are required to report on how the funds were applied. Here are a few examples.

#### Theatre Replacement: PantoLand and PantoTown

The East Vancouver Panto-themed summer camp is run by Theatre Replacement, the theatre company that produces the much-loved East Van Panto every December. In 2024 CLICK funds provided scholarships for children who otherwise would not be able to attend Participants enjoyed an unforgettable 2 weeks filled with creativity, laughter, and growth, opening doors they never imagined possible.





# **Killarney Community Centre:** Friday Foodies

Friday Foodies is a cooking program for youth ages 13-16. Each week youth are challenged to prepare a different menu item. By developing participants' cooking and baking skills the program aims to improve food security among youth in the area.

CLICK's grant provided the program with funds to help purchase needed groceries and supplies.

# Collingwood Neighbourhood House: Friday Night Programs

The CLICK grant was used to provide a healthy meal for youth who attend the Friday night drop-in programming as part of the various youth programs run by Collingwood Neighbourhood House.

Cooking provides program participants with a safe place to practice basic math concepts, while building language skills and self-confidence that lay the foundation for healthy eating habits and social relationships with peers/allies. Every week 80-120 youth participate in the programs. Everyone feels like they belong because they can laugh and interact with peers, make new friends, and try new and delicious cultural recipes.



#### **Grateful for our Donors**

In 2024 the CLICK team's efforts resulted in more Vancouverites being introduced to CLICK and its important work in helping the city's most vulnerable, at-risk children.



"I am an enthusiastic CLICK supporter. CLICK is a volunteer-run, non-profit organization that provides necessary funding to needy organizations supporting Vancouver kids living in poverty. The work done by CLICK is needed now more than ever." Leslie Lee

## Hope Couture...fashion helping community

For the third year in a row, CLICK got a major boost in its fundraising efforts from Hope Couture – six Vancouver friends who organize fashion shows for deserving charities. In 2024 the Hope Couture women organized an event at Southlands Riding School with a Western theme. Guests saw stunning fashions from top Vancouver fashion houses Bacci's and Boboli. They also heard from a young lawyer, Sally Zhao, who with help from CLICK and other support was able to fulfill her education and career goals.



The funds raised by the Hope Couture group made a significant difference to what CLICK was able to disburse to programs in the fall. The CLICK team is deeply grateful to these six women who care and put so much effort into helping highly vulnerable children in our city. They understand that these children deserve a chance to have a stable and successful future.

## 2024 Financial Synopsis

Amount Raised: \$380,990 Grants Disbursed: \$231,565

**Fundraising Costs to Revenue: 8%** 

Administrative Costs: 2.1 % of revenue

# The CLICK Board: Fuelled by Commitment and Passion

CLICK's work in raising funds and awareness to support children living in poverty in Vancouver is accomplished by our volunteer board who come from a variety of backgrounds. While we had several volunteers to help with special events and projects in 2024, CLICK has never had any paid staff. Our board puts in hundreds of volunteer hours every year because we know what a big difference CLICK support makes to kids in need.

Brenda Penton, *President*Catherine Atyeo, *Founder/Vice President*Annie Ehman, *Secretary*Shane MacArthur, *Treasurer*Karen Stanley, *Donor Liaison* 

Mike Evans, *Grants Co-Chair*Ron Scott, *Grants Co-Chair*Angelina Dean, , *Social Media*Lisa Wong, *Director at Large*Vivian Chow, *Director at Large* 

#### **Mission Statement**

CLICK envisions a Vancouver where a child's life is not determined by their postal code or household income. Every child in our city should have a safe place to go after school, access to healthy meals and the opportunity to pursue their dreams and goals and succeed in life.

## **CONNECT**

# CLICK welcomes your interest and support.

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f CLICKtoKids

CLICK: Contributing to Lives of Inner City Kids Society is a registered Canadian charity.

Registered Charity No. 860301886RR0001

