



Annual REPORT 2026

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A MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

This past year has been one of growth, hope, and exciting new beginnings for L'Arche Edmonton. As our community continues to evolve, we have remained focused on creating more opportunities for people with intellectual disabilities to experience belonging, purpose, and meaningful relationships. Every milestone we celebrate and every new initiative we undertake is rooted in our commitment to building a community where everyone is valued and has a place to belong.

One of our most exciting priorities has been the development of Ted House as our future Community Centre. This welcoming space will become the home of our Day Program, administrative offices, and a place where our community can gather, learn, celebrate, and grow together. We are also looking forward to renewing our Day Program with new opportunities for creativity, learning, and meaningful participation. At the same time, we continue preparing for the opening of Villa St. Joseph, expanding accessible housing opportunities for adults with intellectual disabilities.

Another highlight of the year was our second annual Culture Fest. It was inspiring to see this celebration continue to grow, bringing people together to celebrate culture, diversity, and community while raising funds in support of this year's Ted House Community Centre project. My sincere thanks go to our sponsors, volunteers, performers, donors, and everyone who helped make the event such a success. We look forward to seeing Culture Fest continue to grow as an annual celebration that brings our wider community together in support of L'Arche Edmonton. One of the greatest privileges of my role is witnessing the everyday moments that often go unseen—acts of kindness, shared laughter, growing friendships, and the countless ways people care for one another. Those moments remind me that relationships remain at the heart of L'Arche.

Thank you to our Core Members, families, guardians, employees, volunteers, donors, partners, and friends for believing in the mission of L'Arche Edmonton. Your generosity and commitment continue to shape our community and make this work possible.

Together, we are building more than homes and programs—we are building a community where every person is known, valued, and belongs.

Sincerely,
Mwando Mubanga
Community Leader / Executive Director



OUR LEADERSHIP TEAM & BOARD

LEADERSHIP TEAM



Mwando Mubanga
Community Leader /
Executive Director



Vinh Le
Human Resources
Coordinator



Monika Antal
Homes & Programs
Coordinator



Honey Jose-Leon
Training, Accreditation
& Policy Coordinator

BOARD OF DIRECTORS



Annalisa Baer
Chair



Owen Edmondson
Board
Treasurer



Janice Taylor
Member



**Kathleen (Kathy)
MacIsaac**
Secretary



Karima Ewig
Member



Dr. Ted Purcell
Member



Mike Gormley
Member



Dan Donnelly
Member

Together, we lead with heart.



WHO WE ARE

Established in 1972, L'Arche Edmonton, known to many as Shalom Community, has a rich history as the second L'Arche community founded in Canada. At the heart of our journey are mutual relationships, trust in God, and a shared commitment to building an inclusive and caring community.

Today, five L'Arche homes in Edmonton and Sherwood Park provide welcoming spaces where people with and without intellectual disabilities share daily life together. Our Day Program offers additional opportunities for creative expression, meaningful participation, and the development of relationships both within and beyond our community.

L'Arche Edmonton is dedicated to fostering a true sense of belonging and celebrating the unique gifts, talents, and contributions of every person who chooses to live and work alongside us.

OUR MISSION IS TO...

- Make known the gifts of people with intellectual disabilities, revealed through mutually transforming relationships.
- Foster an environment in community that responds to the changing needs of our members, whilst being faithful to the core values of our founding story.
- Engage in our diverse cultures, working together toward a more human society

IDENTITY STATEMENT

We are people with and without intellectual disabilities, sharing life in communities belonging to an International Federation. Mutual relationships and trust in God are at the heart of our journey together.

We celebrate the unique value of every person and recognise our need of one another.

OUR CORE VALUES

We are committed to the dignity of every person. People with intellectual disabilities have insights, leadership, and gifts that society needs.

We value sharing life together with all our differences. We live the call and challenge of community.

We value our relationship with the whole of creation. Caring for the Earth is part of caring for each other.

Spirituality and the search for meaning are fundamental to the fullness of life. L'Arche is originally rooted in the Christian Gospel and continues to take root in and be shaped by different traditions, philosophies, and practices. By sharing this journey together and opening ourselves to welcome such diversity, we deepen our own inner life.

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES 2025-2029

Our community is guided by a four-year Action Plan that helps us grow intentionally, embrace change, remain visible, and stay vibrant.

- Create opportunities for core members to contribute their voices & lead (ie core members council, community decisions, events etc)
- Enhanced support, & training to meet changing needs — i.e. complex behavioral & medical needs.

01 Growing Intentionally

Focus on the growth and development of core members, assistants/personnel, and the Board of Directors to ensure quality of life, strong leadership, and effective governance.

Activities

These priorities are not just goals — they are pathways to ensure that L'Arche Edmonton remains a place of belonging, resilience, and growth for decades to come.

02 Embracing Change Creatively

Develop new models of support (such as Supported Independent Living, Respite, and expanded Day Program), plan for accessible properties, and create a welcoming Community Centre hub.

Activities

- Welcome new core members with new approaches — SIL, Respite, etc.
- A strong ongoing property development committee for short & long-term planning re accessibility.
- Create a visioning committee for a new Community Centre — to become a Hub for day program, office, community building.



STRATEGIC PRIORITIES 2025-2029

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03 Being Visible

Increase awareness of L'Arche Edmonton through communications, partnerships, donor stewardship, fundraising initiatives, and strong advocacy within the disability sector.

Activities

- Create opportunities for core members to contribute their voices & lead (ie core members council, community decisions, events etc)
- Enhanced support, & training to meet changing needs — i.e. complex behavioral & medical needs.

04 Living Vibrantly

Strengthen community and spiritual life, honor diverse expressions of faith, and inspire through storytelling, national engagement, and relational connections.

Activities

- Develop regular community events to foster connections within the community, with friends, volunteers, etc.
- Offer opportunities individually and collectively to reflect on the L'Arche experience (e.g., retreats, team-building, circles of learning)
- Develop tools for storytelling to share our stories.
- Invite core members, assistants, and personnel to participate in regional and national events and initiatives.
- Develop tools for storytelling to share our stories



YEAR IN REVIEW

Daily Moments of Connection



CET Accreditation
L'Arche Edmonton successfully maintained the accreditation for Level 1 Complex Support Designation through Creating Excellence Together survey by Alberta Council of Disability Services for March 2026-March 2029.

Community Events



Culture-Fest

Culture-Fest is L'Arche Edmonton's largest annual fundraiser and a vibrant celebration of the diverse cultures that make up our community. Guests enjoy delicious food, outstanding entertainment, a silent auction, and opportunities to build meaningful connections. Supported by many valued partners and sponsors, including our gracious host, the Santa Maria Goretti Centre, Culture-Fest brings people together in a spirit of belonging, celebration, and community.



Summer Games

L'Arche Western Region Summer Games brought together six Western Canadian L'Arche communities for a joyful celebration of friendship, connection, and fun. Participants enjoyed games in the beautiful Kananaskis setting, and created lasting memories including an unforgettable water fight! It was a wonderful time that strengthened relationships across the region and reminded us of our bonds together as L'Arche communities.



Community Vacations

This year, L'Arche Edmonton enjoyed staycation fun, with each home planning local outings and activities around the city. From exploring local attractions to sharing special experiences together, community members created lasting memories while celebrating friendship, connection, and belonging close to home.



Community Retreat

Led by Jenn Power, our retreat centered on the theme of Sharing Our Stories. Community members came together for a day that included meaningful music, story sharing, and a special anniversary celebration. Highlights included hearing from long-time community members, a reminder of how powerful personal stories are in drawing people in and keeping them connected. The day was full but energizing, and it marked an important milestone as one of the first retreats the community has held in a long time.



Christmas Pageant

Christmas season starts with this cherished tradition. We never know exactly what will happen, but somehow our annual pageant is always just right. If you haven't been, we invite you to join us and experience the Christmas story in a memorable and deeply moving way. The beauty of the evening lies not in a flawless production, but in the authenticity, joy, and shared sense of wonder that emerge each year as we celebrate the Christmas story together.

STORIES OF IMPACT



Creating opportunities for core members to contribute their voices & lead

Dallas & Jennifer: Voice & Choice

Over the past year, Dallas and Jhen have continued to grow together through both the joys and challenges of sharing life at L'Arche Edmonton. Memorable highlights included attending Culture-Fest and participating in the Western Region Summer Games, where they embraced new experiences, built confidence, and created lasting memories. They also faced the significant disruption caused by the recent flood at Little Flower House, drawing on the strength, resilience, and deep sense of belonging found within their home and the L'Arche community.

This September, Dallas and Jhen will take part in L'Arche Canada's Voice & Choice leadership training in Saskatoon. Bringing together partners from L'Arche communities across Western Canada, the Voice & Choice training explores leadership and self-advocacy, and aims to strengthen the voices of people with intellectual disabilities. They look forward to learning alongside peers from across the region and bringing their learning back to L'Arche Edmonton, further strengthening our commitment to creating meaningful opportunities for core members to share their voices, shape community life, and lead.



Building Our Relationship with Golden Greenhouse

This year, we were delighted to deepen our longstanding relationship with Golden Greenhouse. The new owners, Vivian and Mike Miketon, generously continued the cherished tradition of welcoming L'Arche Edmonton on July 1 to select from their remaining plant stock.

Their warm hospitality made us feel truly at home. We are deeply grateful for their generosity and look forward to building many more memories together through this special partnership.



With so many impactful stories this year it is hard to choose just a few to highlight:

Voices for Ability Radio

Mwando was recently invited for an interview with **Voices 4 Ability Radio**, Canada's first internet based radio station dedicated to individuals with disabilities, their caregivers and allies. The interview explores how L'Arche Edmonton fosters inclusive communities where we share daily life, build meaningful relationships, and promote belonging, independence, and diversity. Listen to the interview [here!](#)

Edmonton Oil Kings

A number of core members and assistants were able to take in **Oil Kings** games this year thanks to their generous donation of tickets. We sincerely appreciate this support and the opportunities it provided for fun and community engagement.



Santa Maria Goretti Centre

The **Santa Maria Goretti Centre** donated their truly beautiful hall for our Culture-Fest fundraiser. Their generosity, attention to detail, and planning support helped to make our event successful, and we are happy to say that we already have the hall booked again for next year. See you there!



L'ARCHE®
Edmonton

Our Impact in Numbers

COMMUNITY



26

Core
Members



80

Employees



5

Homes

VOLUNTEERS & STUDENTS



19

Volunteers



27

Practicum
Students



5800

Volunteer and
Practicum Hours

PROGRAMS & EVENTS



15

Events Held

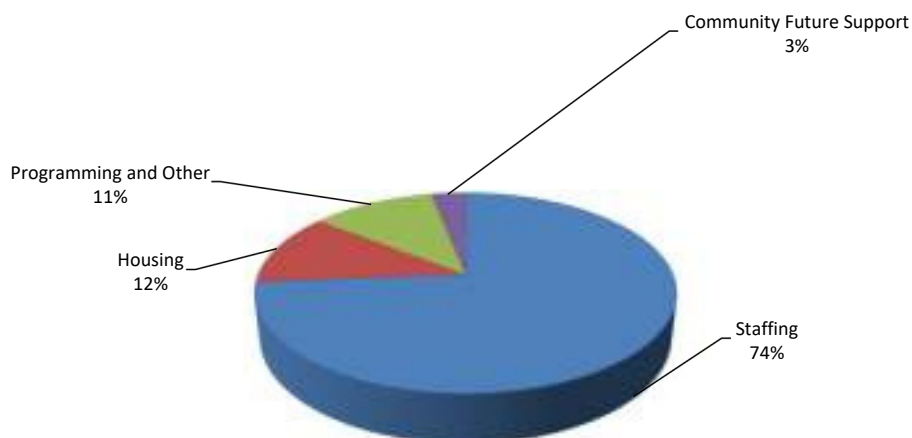


14

Community Gatherings

L'Arche Association of Edmonton
Statement of Operations Revenue and Expenses
For the year ended March 31, 2026

	2026	2025	Difference
Revenue			
Provincial Government & Subsidies	2,553,162	2,330,830	222,332
Private Donations	243,316	413,034	(169,718)
Room and Board	422,796	402,388	20,408
Gain on Sale of Capital Property	-	321,702	(321,702)
Other	93,892	109,332	(15,440)
Long Term Investment Gain (Loss)	27,996	24,834	3,162
	<u>3,341,162</u>	<u>3,602,120</u>	
Expenses and Reserve Transfers			
Staffing	2,466,805	2,388,741	(78,064)
Housing	390,418	450,564	60,146
Programming and Other	379,633	361,561	(18,072)
Community Future Support	104,306	401,254	296,948
	<u>3,341,162</u>	<u>3,602,120</u>	



THANK YOU TO OUR SUPPORTERS

Corporate & Event Sponsors



Grants & Foundations



Community Partners



Our Volunteers

To every volunteer who gave their time, energy, and heart this year — thank you. Your presence in our community makes all the difference. Whether you joined us for an event, shared a meal, donated items, or simply showed up with a smile, you helped make L'Arche Edmonton a place of belonging. You mean the world to us and we are grateful for each of you.



WHAT'S NEXT?

Villa St. Joseph

One of our most significant priorities this year has been the development of Villa St. Joseph. From overseeing renovations to preparing for the transition, this project has represented months of planning and collaboration. Villa St. Joseph will provide a beautiful new home for some of our members and strengthen our ability to support our community for years to come.

Ted Bradshaw House

In the coming months, L'Arche Edmonton will begin renovations to Ted Bradshaw House, creating a more welcoming and functional space for our community needs. Once renovations are complete, the offices and day program will move into the building, establishing a dedicated hub for programs, administration, volunteer engagement, and community gatherings. This transition represents an important investment in the future of our community, and we are all looking forward to our new space.

Day Program Growth

The Day Program embraced an exciting new chapter this year with the upcoming move to a new space that will support continued growth and opportunity. While the transition brings both excitement and uncertainty, the team has approached it with the same spirit that defines our community: "Mixed emotions—excited and nervous for the move. But together, we'll face it with courage." Guided by encouragement like "We can do this, Day Program team!", everyone has worked together to make the move a success, creating a welcoming new home where members can continue to learn, connect, and thrive.



Culture Fest

Our second annual Culture-Fest saw remarkable growth this year, bringing together more supporters, sponsors, and community members than ever before. The event raised \$18,000 toward the Ted House renovation. What began as a celebration of culture and inclusion has become L'Arche Edmonton's signature fundraising event, strengthening both our community connections and our ability to advance our mission.



The future is bright!

Get Involved

There are so many ways to be part of our community!

→ **Donate** [Donate Now Canada Helps - L'ARCHE ASSOCIATION OF EDMONTON](#)

Your gift directly supports community living and inclusion.

By Mail: Send cheques payable to :
L'Arche Association of Edmonton
10310 – 56 Street NW Edmonton,
AB T6A 2J2

→ **Volunteer**

Share your time and talents with our community members.

→ **Attend Culture Fest**

Join our signature fundraiser and celebrate together. Keep a spot in your calendar for early May, 2027!

→ **Follow Us on Social Media**

Stay connected and help spread the word.

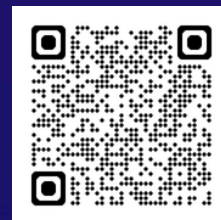
→ **Become a Community Partner**

Build lasting relationships with L'Arche Edmonton.

Ready to join us?

 www.larcheedmonton.org
 info@larcheedmonton.org
 780-474-2662
 [LA'rche Edmonton](#)
 [LA'rche Edmonton](#)

Support us!





**Halloween at the Office
and Day Program**



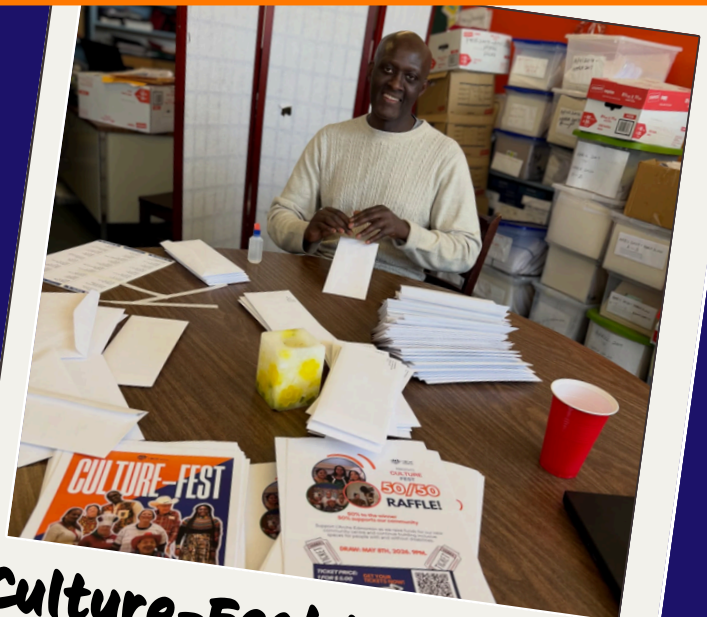
Pat's Birthday

Thank you to our Team Leaders, Assistants, and Personnel

We extend our gratitude to our team leaders, assistants, and all personnel whose dedication, compassion, and high standards sustain daily life at L'Arche Edmonton. Through their commitment to building meaningful relationships and fostering connection, they help create a vibrant community where everyone is known, valued, and belongs.



**Community Retreat -
tree designed by Yurii**



**Culture-Fest Invitations
Mail-Out**



Culture-Fest Fun



Canada Day

Thank you to L'Arche Edmonton's Core Members

At the heart of our journey together are Core Members. Through their gifts, leadership, and unique contributions, we learn, grow, and flourish as a community. Thank you to each of you for sharing your gifts of celebration, relationship, and sincerity, and for continually reminding us of our purpose and the values that bring us together.



Prayer Night



Christmas Pageant