



## MA MAWI WI CHI ITATA CENTRE

*We all work together to help one another.*



# ANNUAL REPORT 2020 - 2021

### EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Many of our teachings describe how we are interconnected to the land, water, air, animals and each other. These teachings are so relevant to describe this past year and the countless stories of 'all our relations' coming together to protect one another. Our response was quick and moved immediately to supporting our community. We deeply miss our community members and can't wait to get back to our relationships where we honour your gifts and strengths.

We acknowledge the hard work of our staff teams who delivered over 168,000 hampers to families, continued to provide care and protection to our children and families, on-going support in youth leadership and moving to virtual programming to promote wellness, education and supports. A special thank you also to everyone who participated in the development of our Strategic Plan!

This was an extremely challenging year and brought out the best in people within and outside of our organization-true Champions! It is a gift to see so many come together to care for and protect one another. This was possible because of our Board of Directors' leadership, incredible staff team, dedicated volunteers, committed sister organizations, generous donors and funding partners who all stood beside us and became our Helpers! We are forever grateful!

In Friendship,  
Diane Redsky, Executive Director

### CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

It is another great honour and privilege to acknowledge the heart medicine work of the Ma Mawi Wi Chi Itata Centre this past year. Once again, we showed our love and care for our community with our actions and continue to be guided by our teachings to 'walk our talk'. This past year has been especially challenging for our community and we humbly acknowledge our family members who have passed on to the Spirit World and to our relatives young and old impacted by this pandemic.

Honouring Resiliency is this year's theme and represents the Heart and Spirit of our community and how our culture, language and values to care for one another makes us strong and stronger together. This theme also aligns with the development of our new 5-year Strategic Plan appropriately entitled: Honouring Indigenous Knowledge which will focus on grounding ourselves even more in our values and strength-based approaches to community care. We look forward to continuing to create opportunities to build a 'new normal', a future where we are ALL thrive.

Our achievements are possible due to our collective relationships working together. A special thank you to our staff, volunteers, donors, funding partners, sister organizations and all board members. Together we are stronger!

Respectfully,  
Dodie Jordaan, Chairperson





## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**Yvonne (Dodie) Jordaan**, Chairperson  
**Gary DeLaronde**, Vice-Chairperson  
**Jeffrey Betker**, Treasurer  
**Mary Mahler**, Secretary

**Angelina Pelletier**  
**Dennis Boulanger**  
**Madeline Mousseau**  
**Marcel Boulanger**

**Marilyn Paul**  
**Natalie Daniels**  
**Nikketa Campbell**  
**Thomas Parenteau**

**Sacred Seven Youth Council**  
**Danielle Andrews**  
**Dora Garneau**  
**Christy Hatch**

## HONOURING RESILIENCY | 2020-2021 PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

### COVID-19 Emergency Response

#### Food Kit Program

- Community Care sites transitioned to support the food hamper program in March 2020.
- Distributed over 168,000 food kits to families, couples and individuals experiencing food and income insecurity.
- An average of 1,800 households and 3,800 children accessed the program each week.

#### Urban Indigenous COVID Rapid Testing Site

- Gathering Place for Truth and Reconciliation at 445 King transitioned to a COVID testing site in April 2021.
- The site can administer 200 tests daily and provide additional supports to 180 individuals and families each day.
- The wrap-around support services include isolation planning, food support, traditional medicine, mental health supports and more.

#### Urban Indigenous COVID Vaccination Centre

- A vaccination site opened at Win Gardner Place - 363 McGregor in April 2021 that will administer 360+ doses per day.
- The site also provides community with food, traditional medicine, mental health supports, advocacy, post appointment follow-ups and assist with second dose bookings.

### Windy Hill Training & Healing Lodge

- Construction of the new lodge is almost complete.
- Interior planning, furnishing, and landscaping are in progress with the site planned to open in 2021 pending current public health orders.

### 2021-2025 Strategic Planning

- Consultations and planning is now complete.
- Final document is close to completion and is planned to launch in 2021.

### Christmas Hamper Drive

- Distributed holiday food hampers and Christmas gifts to 200 families and 593 children.

### Youth Programs

- Launched Coffee, Tea, and We to check-in and deliver hot beverages, snacks, traditional medicines, and other gifts to Elders throughout the pandemic.
- Hosted 2021 Virtual Youth Powwow.
- Hosted Youth for Truth and Reconciliation Virtual Showcase Event.
- Launched virtual programming that included a powwow club, jigging, makeup tutorials, self-care and healthy choices, and truth and reconciliation.

### Spirit of Peace

- Supported over 1,800 participants through virtual and hybrid programming.
- Developed new curriculum guide that is being finalized and will launch in 2022.
- Hosted a virtual Family Violence Prevention Awareness campaign in November that featured traditional teachings, self-care challenges, family supports and advocacy.

### Caring for Our Relatives

- Hosted virtual summer and winter activity camps for youth in care.
- Continued to support youth, children in care, and their families through the Indigenous care home programs, youth care homes, and youth housing.

### Nagijeung Abinoojik

- Launched new community helper initiative to keep Winnipeg North End families together.

### Wi Che Win - Housing First

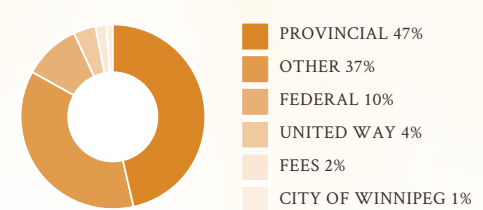
- Provided on-going support to 121 participants.
- Assisted 22 additional participants with emergency housing due to COVID-19.
- The Village Project secured funding and is planning to break ground Summer 2021, with an opening planned for Fall 2021.

### Outreach

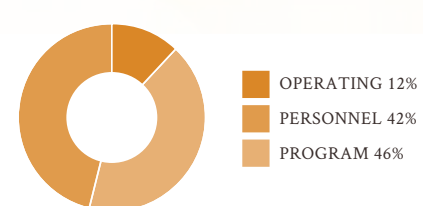
- Provided one-to-one support, harm reduction kits, emergency food, hygiene supplies, and transportation to over 2,000 individuals including youth missing and/or at risk for exploitation.

## REVENUES & EXPENSES

### Breakdown of Sources



### Breakdown of Expenses



## Chi-Miigwech, Kinanâskomitin, and Thank You for your continued support!

## FUNDERS

Anonymous Foundation  
BellMTS  
Brands Canada  
Breakfast Clubs of Canada  
Canadian Women's Foundation  
City of Winnipeg  
Oshki Annishinabe Nigaaniwak  
Chalmers Neighborhood Renewal Corporation  
Community Foundations of Canada  
Dakota Ojibway Child and Family Services  
End Homelessness Winnipeg  
Employment and Social Development Canada  
New Horizons for Seniors  
Canada Summer Jobs  
Canada Service Corps

Government of Canada  
Public Health Agency of Canada  
Department of Canadian Heritage  
Manitoba Status of Women Secretariat  
MMIWG Secretariat  
Urban Programming for Indigenous Peoples  
Indigenous Services Canada  
First Nations and Inuit Health Branch  
Kinsmen Club of Winnipeg  
Lawson Foundation  
Manitoba Hockey Hall of Fame  
Manitoba Métis Federation  
MusiCounts TD Community Music Program  
National Association of Friendship Centres

Northern Manitoba Food, Culture, and Community Collaboration  
Province of Manitoba  
Department of Families  
Manitoba Justice - Lighthouses  
Healthy Child Manitoba  
Building Sustainable Communities  
Child and Youth Services Division  
Indigenous and Northern Relations  
Urban Green Team  
Second Harvest Food Rescue  
Tides Canada  
The Winnipeg Foundation  
United Way of Winnipeg  
Winnipeg Harvest  
Winnipeg Regional Health Authority

## DONORS & VOLUNTEERS

We want to send our community of donors and volunteers a heartfelt chi-miigwech for your unending support during this very challenging year.

This year marked a record number of donations through Canada Helps and a fantastic amount of individuals and businesses fundraising on our behalf. We had community members dropping cheques off at our door to support our COVID-19 emergency response efforts and helping ensure our families had a network of support during an unprecedented year of lock downs and restrictions.

Our community provided countless in-kind donations, helping us break some of the financial barriers magnified during the pandemic. With your help, we were able to supply our staff and community with personal protective equipment (PPE), cleaning supplies, food, personal care items, clothing, footwear, baby supplies and a considerable amount of masks, including a beautiful collection of homemade masks sewn by local artisans.

The food hamper program has an inspiring list of volunteers to thank this year who are still showing up each week to deliver food to our families. We received an overwhelming response to our call for volunteers during our Christmas Hamper Drive, with a lineup of cars around the block and deliveries completed in record time. With your help, we did our best to create some sense of normalcy for our children, youth, and families over the holidays.

We also received countless messages, letters, and cards of encouragement and gratitude this year that truly lifted the spirits of our Ma Mawi Wi Chi Itata family.

This year, we saw the community show up for community each week, sharing in the gifts of reciprocity and fully embodying the Spirit of our name - *we all work together to help one another*. We look forward to the day we can honour you all in person and celebrate the strengths and resilience that have been amplified within our community this past year.