



A year
we'll never
forget.



In the face of incredibly challenging obstacles, we've accomplished so much together.

As an organization, LiveDifferent stewards the generosity of individuals, businesses, and foundations. We carry your gifts into the world to make a difference in the lives of others and do everything we can to maximize impact.

It is always humbling to be part of such a kind and caring community of people, but this year was extra special. In the following pages, you will read about how your support has empowered youth in Canada, helped families receive dry and safe homes, and been used to educate and nourish students in a small hillside community in Haiti.

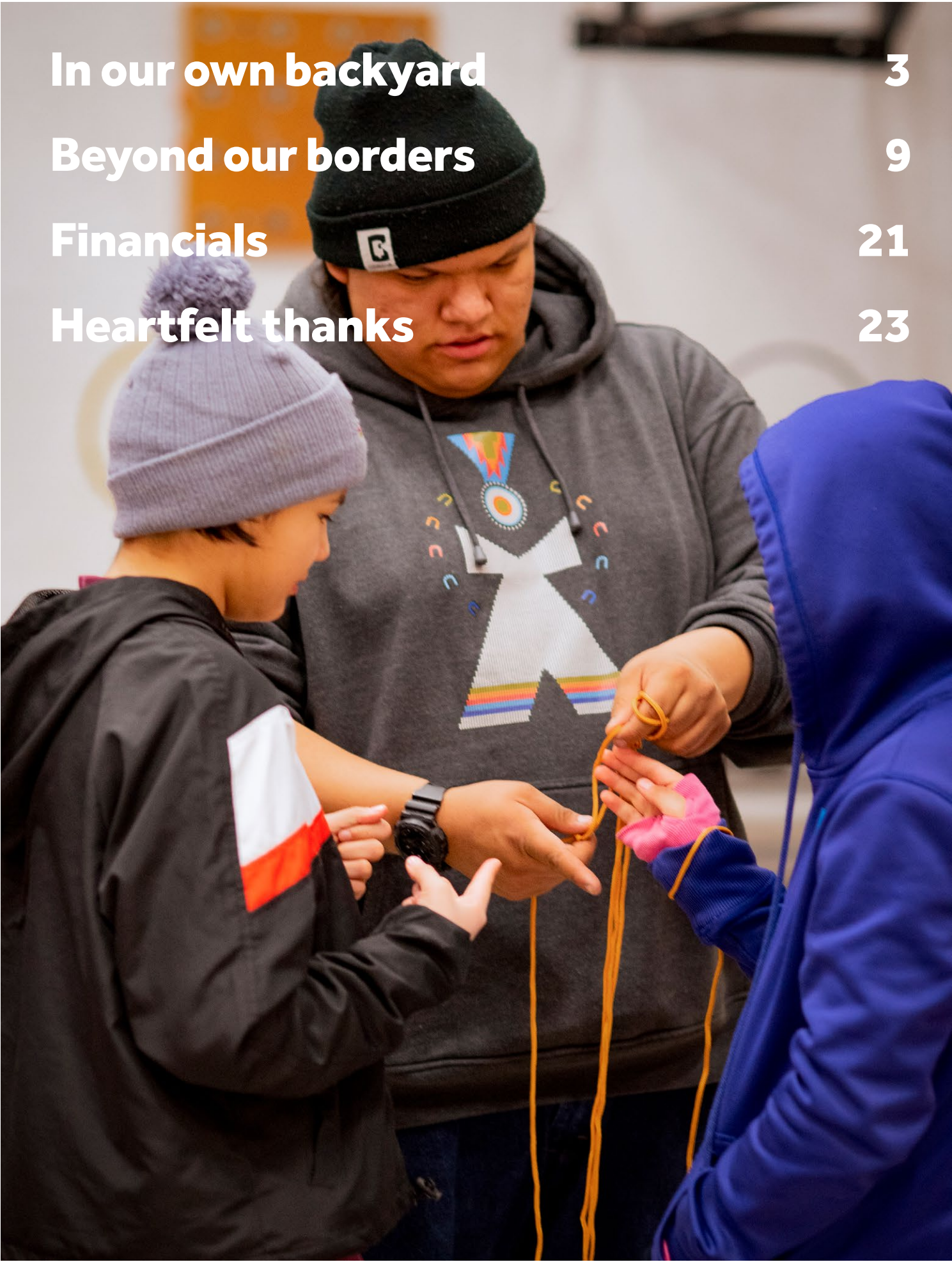
Our twentieth year in operation was unquestionably challenging, but we are incredibly grateful for each of you who partnered with us to help make a difference in the lives of others.

Enclosed you'll find stories of impact and numbers that are based on our fiscal year beginning September 1, 2019, to August 31, 2020.

With respect,



Charles Roberts
Chief Executive Officer
LiveDifferent



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In our own backyard

School
programming
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School programming

181

Schools and communities visited

75,678

Students reached

LiveDifferent has one of Canada's largest face to face youth audiences, including a team that focuses on bringing programming to Indigenous communities. To date, LiveDifferent has impacted 1.6 million students across Canada.

WE HAVE LEARNED OVER THE YEARS THAT OUR MESSAGE IS ONLY AS STRONG AS OUR ABILITY TO LIVE IT OUT IN OUR OWN LIVES. IN 2019/2020, OUR STAFF AND INTERNS DID AN INCREDIBLE JOB OF EMBODYING WHAT IT MEANS TO LIVE DIFFERENT IN THEIR ACTIONS TOWARD EACH OTHER AND, IN TURN, IMPACTED THOUSANDS OF YOUNG PEOPLE ACROSS CANADA. WE HAVE SEEN HOW WE CAN ACCOMPLISH SO MUCH TOGETHER WHEN WE LOVE AND TAKE CARE OF EACH OTHER.



Johnny Henderson
Director of Canadian Programming

The story we tell ourselves is powerful.

When you tell youth that they are not alone, amazing things happen.

—
You have the power to turn your past experiences into growth and find purpose in positively impacting the lives of those around you! This was the underlying message behind our theme for the 2019/2020 school year called *Own Your Story*.

Three teams, made up of enthusiastic and caring interns, brought this powerful message to schools and communities across Canada by using personal, in-person storytelling combined with videos and activities.

Featured videos from the programming centred around the stories of former professional hockey player Jordin Tootoo and Laura Delano from the Inner Compass Initiative.

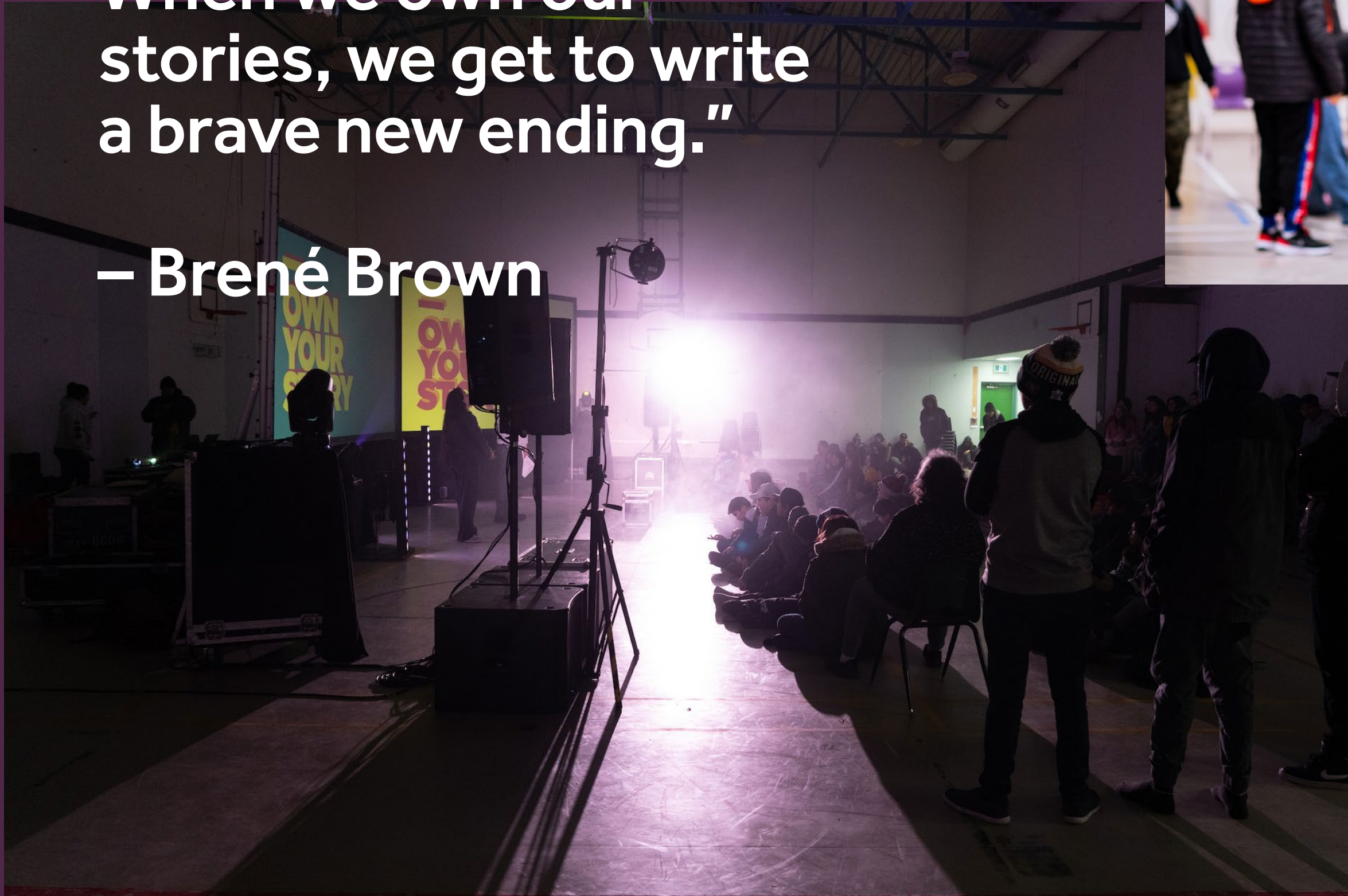
We also created programming for teachers to take the learning further in their classrooms, and we equipped schools with digital resources to send home to parents.

In total, our teams were able to reach more than 75,678 students from over 181 communities across Canada before the pandemic shut everything down.



“When we deny our stories, they define us. When we own our stories, we get to write a brave new ending.”

– Brené Brown



Ice Roads Tour

6,153 Kilometers on ice.

**Nisichawayasihk
Cree Nation**
NELSON HOUSE, MB

150 STUDENTS AT PRESENTATION

**Tataskweyak
Cree Nation**
SPLIT LAKE, MB

250 STUDENTS AT PRESENTATION

**York Factory
First Nation**
YORK LANDING, MB

42 STUDENTS AT PRESENTATION

**Bunibonibee
Cree Nation**
OXFORD HOUSE, MB

200 STUDENTS AT PRESENTATION

**Cross Lake
First Nation**
CROSS LAKE, MB

37 STUDENTS AT PRESENTATION

**Manto Sipi Cree
First Nation**
GOD'S RIVER, MB

73 STUDENTS AT PRESENTATION

**God's Lake Narrows
First Nation**
GOD'S LAKE NARROWS, MB

75 STUDENTS AT PRESENTATION

**Wasagamack
First Nation**
WASAGAMACK, MB

120 STUDENTS AT PRESENTATION

**Garden Hill
First Nation**
GARDEN HILL, MB

300 STUDENTS AT PRESENTATION

**St. Theresa Point
First Nation**
ST. THERESA POINT, MB

140 STUDENTS AT PRESENTATION

Manitoba

It was a difficult year in many ways, but before the coronavirus officially became a widespread concern and caused us all to go into various forms of lockdown, we were able to finish our third annual Ice Road Tour—reaching 1,557 students from 11 communities in the process.

The message that our team carried—how going through tough times can actually make you stronger—was received well and couldn't have come at a better time.

Through our theme *Own Your Story*, we talked about resilience and finding hope, while encouraging students to recognize the power that can be found in their own personal stories.

Youth in these communities face hardships that many of us will never experience. Using presentations, workshops, and sharing circles, we had the privilege of listening to students share and were able to tell them that we believe they can make a difference!



Circles

Meet Circles. Our new, pandemic-proof program that gives students the opportunity to connect and take action.

“IN THE MIDDLE OF ALL THE CHAOS GOING ON RIGHT NOW, IT WAS SO UPLIFTING TO HAVE SOME TIME TO LISTEN TO THESE INSPIRING STORIES. IT REALLY CHANGED THE WAY I LOOK AT MY LIFE. AHHH IT WAS SO GOOD I LOVED EVERY MINUTE!!”

— JOYA (GRADE 11 STUDENT)

Getting in front of students to challenge and inspire them to care for others has been our thing for years, but as the effects of the pandemic rippled through our Canadian programs with no clear end in sight, finding another way to reach youth during these difficult times became a priority.

We focused on our mission of empowering youth to care for each other and leaned into some things we do really well—like unpacking complex topics, sharing personal stories, and facilitating talking circles. From all of this, our LiveDifferent Circles program was born.

Through collaborative learning, dynamic video content, and the completion of a guided compassion-focused project, Circles helps youth adopt key lifestyle values and impacts communities in meaningful ways.

To learn more, visit
[LiveDifferent.com/Circles](https://livedifferent.com/Circles)

BEYOND OUR BORDERS

Beyond our borders

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Builds

204

Volunteers participated in a Build

27

Houses constructed

ALTHOUGH THE PANDEMIC BROUGHT OUR
BUILDS TO AN IMMEDIATE HALT IN MARCH,
IT WAS HEARTWARMING TO FEEL THE ENTHUSIASM
AND SUPPORT FROM VOLUNTEERS WHO
VIRTUALLY FOLLOWED ALONG AS COMMITMENTS
TO FAMILIES WERE KEPT AND HOMES WERE
BUILT BY LOCAL STAFF AND COMMUNITY
MEMBERS. WE LOOK FORWARD TO THE FUTURE
WHEN IT'S POSSIBLE TO BRING FAMILIES AND
VOLUNTEERS BACK TOGETHER IN PERSON.



Alison Willis
Director of Program Engagement



Individuals and groups have the opportunity to volunteer and help put their money to good use building houses in developing countries. We've rallied over 6,000 volunteers to help construct homes for over 500 families in need.

Bringing families home during the pandemic.



The decision about which families will receive new homes is a process that takes place alongside community leaders.

We are always very cautious not to share information too early with families who have been selected because needs and circumstances can change. However, there was nothing that could have been done differently this past Spring.

With our volunteers arriving in a matter of weeks to start building, families had been notified and were anticipating their new houses. Then, the pandemic halted all travel.

Throughout the second half of our fiscal year, on top of providing relief, our focus internationally was on helping welcome these families into their new homes, even if it meant doing it without volunteers.

Welcoming Sara, Doreteo, and their boys into their new home

For five months, the Suarez Lopez family would open the doors of their old trailer to see the cement pad that had been poured for their new home. A group of volunteers from Penticton, BC, had fundraised and were set to start construction on their house in March, but the pandemic halted all travel. During this time, their patience was tested, but seeing the spot where their new home would one day sit gave them hope.

The family was ecstatic when our staff let them know that we would be starting construction in the summer! Although the Build looked different—with face masks, hand sanitizing, social distancing, and without our enthusiastic volunteers—the same feelings of relief and joy were felt on Celebration Day as Sara, Doreteo, and their family entered their new home for the first time.



—
**Emergency Relief
and Community
Development Fund**

—
Dominican Republic

220

Families received food packages in April

218

Families and 27 local staff received food packages on May 17th

96

Families received food packages in August

—
Mexico

145

Families visited where we gathered updates of their current situation and how the house has helped their families

108

Families received packages during April and May

642 Packages = 45K Meals

642 total food packages are equivalent to approximately 45,000 meals

Food distribution became a priority throughout the spring and summer.



Through the fund, communities know that they are not alone.

For years, the Emergency Relief and Community Development Fund has been helping families when they have nowhere else to turn, but due to the effects of the pandemic, 2020 was a year unlike anything we had ever experienced.

In Mexico, families who were just getting by before the pandemic could do little but watch as their work hours were drastically reduced in the spring. Those with children were hit hardest, as schools across the country became fully remote, resulting in a lack of access to both education and nutrition.

Meanwhile, in the Dominican Republic, tourism dried up, and widespread job losses occurred that had far-reaching effects throughout the communities we work in.

We were receiving urgent requests for assistance. Thankfully, we were also hearing from people who deeply cared about these communities and were reaching out asking what they could do to help.

As families were struggling to put food on the table, our staff on the ground started taking action.

Rose and her team in Mexico began to assemble food packages and create a plan to distribute relief throughout the Baja, while Melanie started meeting with other local NGOs in the Dominican Republic to coordinate food distribution on the island.

We began using what we had in the Emergency Relief and Community Development Fund to purchase food for the distribution efforts but realized that more would be needed. After launching a fundraiser, we watched as gifts came pouring in—with a total of \$20,350 being raised to help families.

As a result of everyone's incredible generosity, we were able to distribute food packages throughout the spring and summer to over 750 families in Mexico and the Dominican Republic.

ONE FAMILY THAT RECEIVED FOOD PACKAGES HAD NOT BEEN ABLE TO WORK FOR A MONTH. THE DAY WE ARRIVED, THE COUPLE AND THEIR TWO TEENAGERS HAD GONE TO WORK FOR THE FIRST TIME. THEY WERE SO GRATEFUL FOR THE FOOD BECAUSE IT WOULD BE ANOTHER WEEK BEFORE ANY OF THEM RECEIVED A PAYCHECK.



Rose Friesen
Interim Manager of Operations, Mexico

Partnering with families in Nuevo Renacer to provide the supplies needed to rebuild.

Storms are common when you live in the middle of the hurricane belt, but every so often there are those that cause serious damage and heartache.

On Thursday, July 30th, Hurricane Isaias hit one of our partner communities in the Dominican Republic. As it passed through Nuevo Renacer, it damaged homes and left families vulnerable.

The community is filled with kind hearts and talented craftspeople who all came together to do as much as they could to help families who had been affected.

However, it wasn't just the community that rallied around the families who had been impacted. Donations came in to the Emergency Relief and Community Development Fund to support the rebuilding efforts. In total, \$4,761 was raised which was used to provide the materials needed to help repair 15 homes that had been damaged.



HURRICANE ISAIAS LEFT FAMILIES VULNERABLE IN NUEVO RENACER, BUT WE ARE SEEING BEAUTY AND STRENGTH AS THE COMMUNITY COMES TOGETHER TO HELP EACH OTHER DURING THIS DIFFICULT TIME.

WE ARE GRATEFUL FOR EVERYONE WHO CAME ALONGSIDE THE COMMUNITY TO ASSIST IN PROVIDING THE SUPPLIES THEY NEEDED TO REBUILD.



Melanie Barahona
Manager of Operations, Hispanola

Academy

7

Enrolled in program

1500+

Total hour of volunteering with
community partners/
organizations over 13 weeks

450+

Hours learning about
global issues

A gap-year program where young adults are mentored,
gain cross-cultural experience, and are transformed in their
thinking, their actions, and their focus for the future.

BEFORE I CAME TO MEXICO...I WAS TOO
SCARED OF BEING JUDGED FOR WANTING TO
TAKE ACTION AND ACTUALLY EXPRESSING
THAT I CARED.

ACADEMY HAS ALLOWED ME TO REALIZE
THAT IN THESE SITUATIONS, I SHOULD NOT
CARE WHAT OTHER PEOPLE THINK OF
ME AND MY ACTIONS. MY TRUE FRIENDS AND
FAMILY, WHO SHARE SIMILAR VALUES AS
I DO WILL UNDERSTAND AND ACKNOWLEDGE
MY EFFORTS FOR WANTING TO MAKE
A CHANGE IN THESE SITUATIONS, FOR
THE BETTER.

PHYLLIS ELSIR

“I am beyond thankful for my experience down in Mexico, and I can honestly say it has made me a better person. I don’t know where I’d be right now without having this time spent with LiveDifferent.”

– Lauren Buist



Projects

10

Years of École L'Union

80+

Families have their main source
of income coming from the construction
of the Freedom Village

HAITI FACED SOME MAJOR ISSUES THIS PAST YEAR, WITH POLITICAL UNREST AND COVID BEING JUST TWO OF THEM. EVEN SO, THE AMAZING TEAM ON THE GROUND WAS ABLE TO CONTINUE PROVIDING EDUCATION AND OUR NUTRITION PROGRAM TO THE STUDENTS AND STAFF AT ECOLE L'UNION FOR MOST OF THE YEAR. PROGRESS HAS CONTINUED AT THE FREEDOM VILLAGE WITH ONLY SOME MINOR DISRUPTIONS AND DELAYS.



Brett Dyrland
Director of International Operations

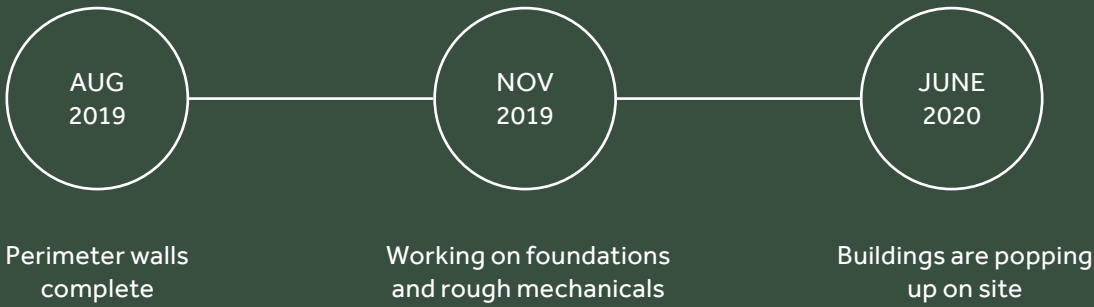
These are larger humanitarian projects which are funded, constructed, and sustained by the generous LiveDifferent community. Ongoing projects include the Trades Learning Centre in Mexico and École L'Union and Freedom Village in Haiti.





There has been remarkable progress made on the Freedom Village during these exceptional circumstances.

One day very soon, young girls will find a safe place to heal, grow, and flourish.



In September 2019, we were working on perimeter walls and setting up the ground for the building to sit on. One year later, most of the retaining walls were up, rough mechanicals were nearing completion, and the structure of four of the guesthouse rooms had been finished.

It is an incredible accomplishment, especially when you consider the obstacles that this project faced in moving forward. Civil unrest caused riots, fuel shortages, and currency fluctuations. Then, once that was in the rearview mirror, the pandemic shut down the project for nearly three months.

These transitions were difficult, but thankfully the project took great strides forward throughout the year, and we are still on track to open the gates and welcome young girls into a safe place to call home by the end of 2021.

116
Days of school

26K
Meals Served

260
Families received
food packages

27K
Meals distributed
via food packages

349
Hygiene kits
distributed

#LoveLegacy supported the students of École L'Union through it all.



The kids are chasing their dreams,
one school day at a time.

Not long after the 2019/2020 school year began at Ecole L'Union, large protests and riots sprung up across Haiti with the aim of disrupting everyday life. Although they mainly took place in the bigger cities, these protests caused fuel shortages, safety concerns, and they ultimately resulted in school closures across the country.

It wasn't until the beginning of December 2019 that the children were able to return to school—without uniforms, for extra precaution. With all of the children learning and receiving nutrition, we thought that the worst was behind us. But then in March, the first few cases of COVID-19 showed up in Haiti.

There was a fear that as jobs dried up and Haitians returned home from working in tourist areas throughout the Dominican Republic, their fragile healthcare system would be overwhelmed. Schools were forced to close and the community of Calvaire struggled during this time. As the situation got worse, hygiene kits and food packages were distributed to the children and their families.

We were relieved when, on July 20th, the doors of school were opened and the students returned to the classroom.

The current school year, which is our 10th in operation, officially began on October 12th with over 350 students enrolled. Through education and the nutrition program, they are growing and learning each day—and it's all thanks to our community of #LoveLegacy supporters.

As it currently stands, there is a significant shortfall in funding to maintain all the work that is being done to support these students. Our goal is to take great strides in ensuring sustainability for years to come.

If you would like to support children in their journey to leave poverty behind by becoming a #LoveLegacy supporter, visit LiveDifferent.com/LoveLegacy to join our community as a monthly sponsor.



“To be honest, there has always been some kind of turmoil in previous years but the past instabilities can’t be compared to this year’s, especially with the breakout of the COVID-19.”

— Branthson



—
Ecole L'Union's
2019/2020 school
year at a glance

AUG
2019

The school year begins,
with 375 students
enrolled

NOV
2019

Protests shut down
schools across Haiti

DEC
2019

Classes resume
at École L'Union

MAR
2020

Haiti closes all schools
due to the pandemic

MAY
2020

Hygiene kits and
food packages were
distributed to children
and their families

JUL
2020

The school reopens and
all of the students return
to class

SEPT
2020

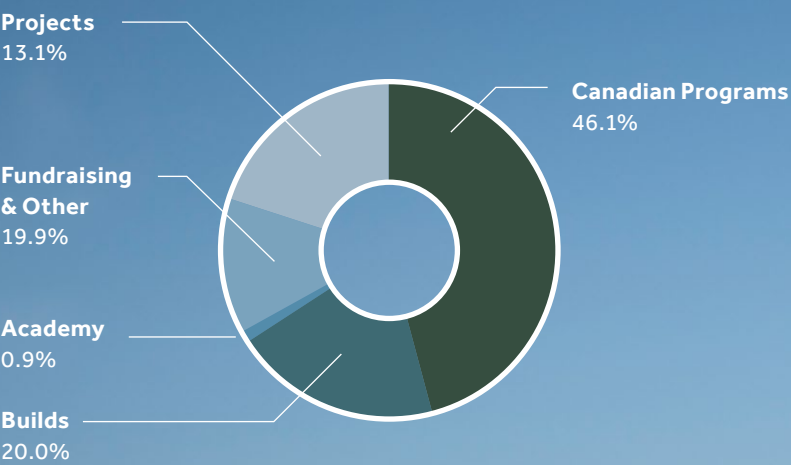
The children officially
finish their school year

FIN — Financials



Revenue

Total
\$2,625,398

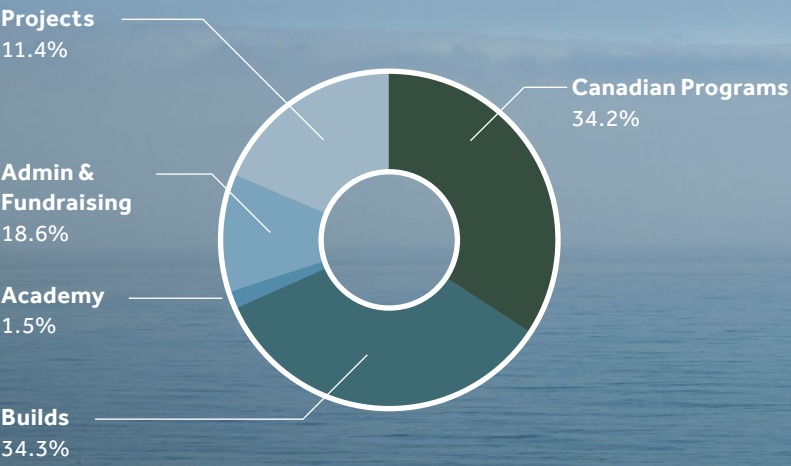


Top Three Revenue Sources	
2019 Gala	19.9%
Significant Partners	19.7%
Government Grants (Federal Wage Subsidy)	19.1%

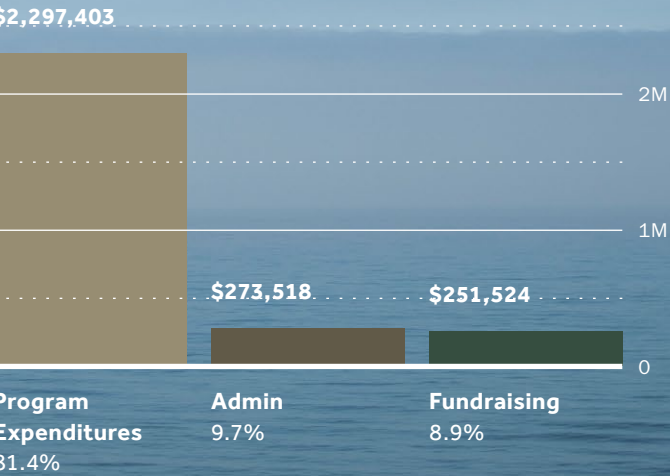
Net Assets	
2019/2020	(\$84,027)
2018/2019	\$113,019

Program Expenditures

Total
\$2,822,444



Allocation of Expenses



DESPITE THE MANY CHALLENGES WE HAVE FACED THIS YEAR, I AM COMFORTED TO HAVE OBSERVED HOW COMPASSIONATE AND GENEROUS THE ENTIRE LIVEDIFFERENT COMMUNITY IS. AS WE MOVE FORWARD STRATEGICALLY, WE CONTINUE TO MAXIMIZE EVERY DOLLAR THAT FLOWS THROUGH OUR HANDS SO WE CAN HAVE THE GREATEST IMPACT POSSIBLE THROUGHOUT ALL OF OUR PROGRAM AREAS.



Derek Boyce
Director of Finance

THE HEADT.

Heartfelt thanks

AS THE CHAIR OF THE BOARD, I COULDN'T BE MORE PROUD TO WATCH THE TEAM'S RESPONSE TO THE PANDEMIC. FUELLED BY THE SUPPORT OF VOLUNTEERS AND PARTNERS, THEY WERE ABLE TO DEVELOP A WHOLE NEW PROGRAM TO SUPPORT YOUTH HERE IN CANADA WHILE FINDING NEW WAYS TO CARE FOR OUR GLOBAL NEIGHBOURS.



Kerry Brandt
Chairman of the Board

Thank you for helping us do what we do.

(We Couldn't Do It Without You)

The foundation for everything LiveDifferent does is a strong conviction that our greatest life is lived in the service of others.

This conviction brings us to serve students from coast to coast and to some of the most remote northern communities in Canada. It leads us to provide education and nutrition to the youth of Calvaire, a hillside community in Haiti. It has been the fuel to rally over 6,000 volunteers to complete more than 500 life-changing projects including building homes, schools, and medical clinics.

At our 2019 gala, we were able to fully fund the construction of one of our most exciting projects to date—the Freedom Village. This special place will help young girls find their way out of exploitation and into a safe place where they can heal and grow.

2019 marked our first year of bringing our gala to our home base of Hamilton, Ontario. This is something we've been hoping to do for many years, and we were excited to finally make that a reality.

We are extremely humbled and excited to celebrate that we had a record-breaking gala year with \$787,827 coming in to support our work in Canada and Haiti!

From the bottom of our hearts, thank you!



Jon Plett
Director of Development





LiveDifferent