



**2018 - 2019
Annual Report**

Table of Contents

About Us	2
Message from the Board and CEO	3
Client Voice Committee	4
BVC Scholarships	4
Financial Reporting	5
10 Big Things	6
Meet Damien and Sabrina	8
Our Year in Review	10

Our Mission

The DDRC promotes awareness and supports communities to include persons with developmental disabilities, thereby strengthening communities for all citizens.

Our Vision

Everyone Belongs.



The Developmental Disabilities Resource Centre (DDRC) of Calgary is a non-profit, registered, charitable organization dedicated to facilitating the inclusion of people with developmental disabilities in the community in real and meaningful ways.

Operating under the direction of a volunteer Board of Directors, the DDRC's activities are funded through government contracts, fee-for-service programs, fundraising events, corporate partnerships, and individual donations.

Our business number is 10683 0060 RR0001.

Message from the Board and CEO



Prentice Dent
President, Board of Directors

“

On display in this annual report, are the possibilities afforded when people have an opportunity to fulfill their potential. In pursuit of their goals, DDRC clients like Damien and Sabrina showcase what determination and perseverance can accomplish. These achievements continue to inspire the DDRC Board of Directors and encourage us to look forward, set goals, and invest in the future of the Agency and inclusion.

“

Each year, we work to facilitate structured and natural supports for DDRC clients to live, work, and enjoy their communities. When people with developmental disabilities are included and valued, their independence flourishes and all of our lives are better for it. Thank you to all who support the DDRC and the work being done to make Calgary a place where everyone belongs™.

Helen Cowie
Chief Executive Officer



2018 - 2019 Board of Directors

President/Chair:	Prentice Dent	Director:	Tom Christie
Vice President:	Tom Shindruk	Director:	Ali Waissi
Treasurer:	Shawna Taylor	CEO:	Helen Cowie
Secretary:	Kyle Guild		

Client Voice Committee

The Client Voice Committee (CVC) is proud to represent and advocate in the interest of all DDRC clients. The committee hosts annual events such as a BBQ, and cupcake cafés to connect with clients and employees, engage with peers on matters that impact them, and promote their initiatives.

This year, the Client Voice Committee received an Inclusion Award for their work advocating for all DDRC clients.



BVC Scholarships



In 2018, the DDRC established a scholarship program at Bow Valley College, an initiative that provides academic awards to two (2) students enrolled in the Disability Studies diploma program and to two (2) students with developmental disabilities.

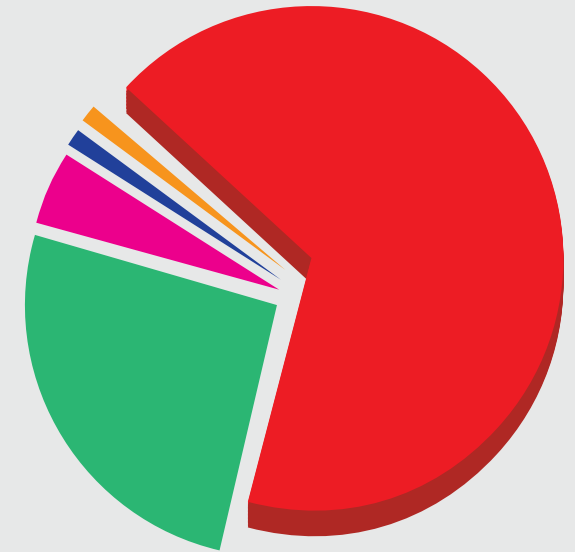
This is the first year of a three (3) year commitment from the DDRC to support students from Bow Valley College to pursue their academic goals without financial burdens. Recipients of the DDRC's scholarship each receive \$2,500. Congratulations to 2018 winners Aaron Blood, Noor Borhot, Sarah Pang, and Fe San Jose.

One of this year's recipients, DDRC client Noor Borhot, completed her first college credit class and has been accepted into the fall 2019 Disability Studies class. Wanting to help others, Noor explains she chose to apply for the disability studies program because, "I want to change someone else's life and let them know they can do it, because I have."

Financial Reporting

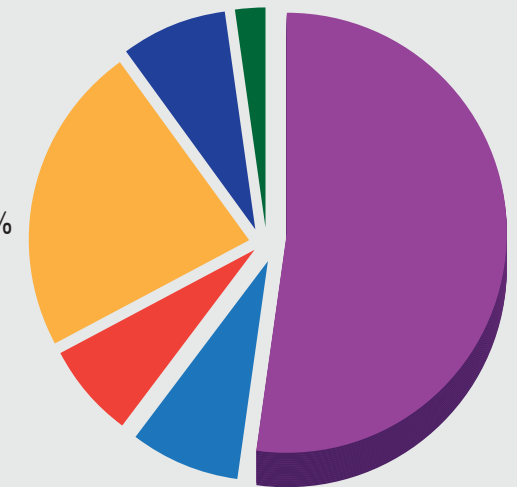
REVENUE

- PDD DIRECT SERVICES - 68%
- PDD DELIVERY - 26%
- FSCD DELIVERY - 5%
- FEES FOR SERVICE - < 1%
- OTHER FUNDING - < 1%



EXPENDITURES

- PROGRAM COMPENSATION - 53%
- PROGRAM ADMIN COMPENSATION - 8%
- EMPLOYEE BENEFITS - 7%
- SUPPORT ALLOWANCE OVERNIGHT RESPITE - 23%
- SERVICE & MATERIALS - 7%
- BUILDING & FACILITIES MAINTENANCE - 2%



Ten **big** Things

2018 - 2019

1

33,000+ e-mails sent by Client Service Coordinators (CSCs), connecting DDRC clients, networks, and employees to program schedules and community activities

2

12,800 PDD respite support hours and 13,902 FSCD respite support hours provided by the DDRC's Comprehensive Care team

3

145 clients and families received PBS (Positive Behaviour Support) services for complex needs, behaviour plans, and Triple P supports

4

8 clients supported with augmentative communications plans in the DDRC's new LINK program

5

82 ILS (Integrated Living Services) clients living in in their homes with supportive roommates

6

12 new clients joined the DDRC's CHOICES team in 2018-2019 to pursue their goals in recreation, community exploration, and various employment and volunteer roles

7

500+ guests at the 2018 Inclusion Awards, more than 2,200 pancakes served at the DDRC's Stampede Breakfast, and \$34,000 raised for the LINK program at the annual Vipond Charity Golf Classic

8

62 DDRC PACE clients supported to find careers, attend school, volunteer, work on resumes, and explore their goals

9

80 Learning & Leadership workshops, events, courses, and classes attended by DDRC clients, learning and working on life skills

10

24K visitors to DDRC.ca to learn about DDRC services, clients, and career opportunities

Damien

Damien didn't always fit in. He didn't always know who to trust or how to build healthy relationships. And he didn't always have goals or plans for his future—until now.

A year ago, Damien and his DDRC Integrated Living Practitioner (ILP) Melvin were strangers meeting for the first time. Today, they're planning an upcoming vacation in California, a bucket list trip for Damien and an opportunity to see his idol, RuPaul, at DragCon.

Damien didn't think going to DragCon was possible before meeting Melvin. He didn't know what steps he needed to take to make his dream a reality. With some help from Melvin, Damien learned to separate needs from wants. Together, they created a monthly budget, and now, Damien regularly contributes to his savings. In developing these financial skills, Damien planned his first vacation involving airplane travel, and has begun saving for his retirement!

From the moment Melvin and his husband Chad learned the DDRC was looking for a supportive roommate for Damien, they felt this was the right fit. As a couple involved in the LGBTQ2S+ and disability communities, to Melvin, "It sounded perfect for us." Melvin and Chad have created a comfortable and stable home environment for Damien and they have helped Damien connect with the LGBTQ2S+ community in a healthy and safe manner. He's part of a LGBTQ2S+ swim club that meets a couple of times a week, and he's participated in Pride Parades in Calgary and Banff. As a regular performer at local drag shows he says "when I throw on my, dress, heels, makeup, and wig I feel empowered." These experiences have helped Damien feel more comfortable and confident with who he is.

While being part of the LGBTQ2S+ community is important to Damien, he also contributes immensely to other communities. He's a dedicated employee celebrating 15 years with Safeway this year. He's a determined student at Bow Valley College, where his perfect attendance record was recognized. He's a compassionate volunteer at the Drop-In and Rehab Centre. "To me, I'm all these different things," Damien explains, and the truth is he is. Damien is a man who has found his place.



Sabrina

We are encouraged to dream big — to dream about where we want to go, who we want to be, and what we want to do. Sabrina has dreamed of working in childcare since high school, and this year, with support from the DDRC's PACE Team, she accomplished her education goal and is one step closer to realizing her dream career in childcare development.

Sabrina's dreams were inspired from her natural abilities and skills learned from time spent looking after her younger cousins. She found children's smiles contagious, and working with them helped her stay in a positive mood. When Sabrina joined the PACE Team, she worked with Community Resource Workers (CRWs) to lay out the steps she needed to follow to achieve her dreams.



The first few months were spent investigating the qualifications and training needed to pursue her dream career. To meet the Bow Valley College (BVC) requirements to be admitted to the Early Learning and Child Care program, Sabrina needed to upgrade a course. Looking back, Sabrina reveals, "I didn't find it easy," but having a trusted CRW who went to class with her and believed in her, helped Sabrina become confident in her own abilities.

No goal worth achieving comes easy, and Sabrina's journey in pursuit of her dreams was not without adversity. Once upgraded, she hoped to enroll in the BVC program right away, but was disappointed to be waitlisted, needing to wait a year for a spot in the program. This disappointment only strengthened Sabrina's determination, and soon she began volunteering at a childcare facility to gain experience. A hard worker, Sabrina also began volunteering at MRUKids summer camps, working with elementary aged children and leading activities.

Nearly a year after applying for the Early Learning and Child Care program, Sabrina got the news she had been waiting for; her application was accepted and she would start her program. Now, in year two of the program and just months from graduation, she reflects on the early days of her diploma.

"I wasn't a big fan of group projects. I was excluded because [other group members] thought I wasn't capable because of my disability," Sabrina shares. "But there are a lot of group projects in my program," and it was important make sure group members "realize I do have a voice."



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