



ANNUAL
REPORT
2021-2022



70 YEARS OF HISTORY
AT BENEDICT LABRE

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INTRODUCTION

WORD FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

70 years... that's something to celebrate. It is with great pride and above all a great honour that I am able to contribute to this history by adding a few stones which is not only moving, but extremely gratifying. On my behalf, and also on behalf of the Board of Directors, the staff, the volunteers and the thousands of people who visit the organization each year, we thank you for being with us to mark this important moment in the history, but also in the pursuit of the actions of Benedict Labre in the field of homelessness.



Andréane Desilets

Executive Director

MEMBERS OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD

Santiago Garcia-Rejon

President

Danielle Olofsson

Vice-president

Cadet Fleurilus

Secretary

Emmanuel Valery Tchamba

Treasurer

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD

Francesca Taddeo

Mathieu Davoine-Tousignant

Michel Primeau

Sarah Harding

Liam Mayes

Franco San Gregorio

Cadet Fleurius

Meetings

Advisory Committee : 4 meetings

Atwater Committee : 5 meetings

HR Committee : 3 meetings

Executive Committee : 9 meetings

The annual general meeting was postponed



A WORD FOR THE 70TH

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I would like to acknowledge the exceptional and essential work of the Benedict Labre House team. The organization has been present in our area for 70 years and offers adapted responses to homelessness needs in the Sud-Ouest. The Atwater project supported by the City of Montreal and the Sud-Ouest Borough is a testament to the determination and hard work of the entire Benedict Labre team.

Your commitment has a long-term impact on our community. I thank you for your dedication to improving the living conditions of people in vulnerable situations, for fighting against social inequalities, and for promoting better physical and mental health by placing people at the heart of your interventions. Your contribution is greatly appreciated and necessary for our entire community.



Benoit Dorais

*Mayor of the South-West Borough
Vice-president of the executive committee
Member of the agglomeration council*

OUR ORGANIZATION

MISSION AND VALUES

OUR MISSION

To be an inclusive place that provides the necessary support, services and resources to the most vulnerable population in order to improve living conditions for everyone.

OUR VALUES

Respect, humanism, openness, integrity and equality



OUR MANDATES

- To be a harmonious and empowering community home for people in need,
- To work for social justice by encouraging peaceful relationships,
- To help communities take care of their members, notably by serving them meals, by offering the necessary support for their social reintegration and by encouraging the reinforcement of their self-esteem,
- To promote involvement and networking among individuals, businesses and corporations working in similar fields and, in some cases, to provide financial assistance.

By 2023, when the new House opens its doors :

- To complement the services offered at Benedict Labre House day center for people who are homeless or at risk of homelessness, to offer residential units for rent to people with low or modest incomes; to establish, maintain and manage one or more transitional or permanent community housing projects for people who are homeless or at risk of homelessness and who are experiencing various issues;
- To provide a supportive and stimulating living environment for people who are homeless or at risk of homelessness and who are dealing with various realities such as addiction, stabilized or unstabilized mental health, behavioural problems, emotional and social isolation, etc., in order to help and support them in achieving their goals
- To help the resident rediscover their own resources and untapped potential;
- To offer residents a continuum of services and residential stability to users. It will be an additional lever of intervention in a global approach with a marginalized population, including the Indigenous community;
- To consolidate partnerships and service corridors in line with the needs of our residents and service users.
- To allow each resident to progress individually according to their ability to evolve and their personal rhythm in order to promote as much autonomy as possible.

OUR ORGANIZATION OUR TEAM

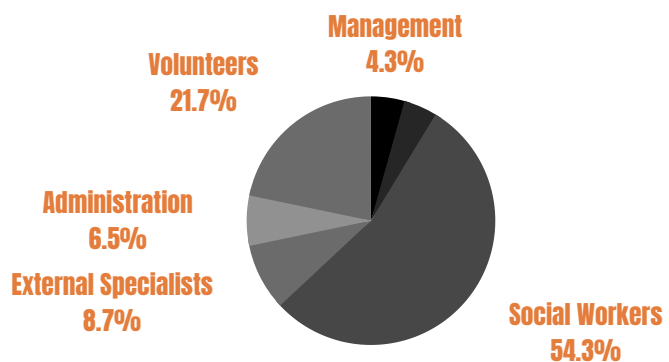
The team that makes the organization's mission possible

The year 2021-2022 marked a year of stabilization and consolidation both in our services and in our team.

Among the team, social workers on the floor, clinical coordinators allowing for follow-ups and meetings to increase the efficiency of our projects and an outstanding administration that makes all our daily activities possible.



Julie, Project manager of our Propulsion program for the year 2020-21



Our daytime social workers who support the National Day of Truth and Reconciliation on September 30, 2021

An organization such as Benedict Labre House, offering human services, requires an array of specialists and support staff.

Essential needs are important to consider and none of these should be overlooked. This is why we work hard to ensure that our organization provides the support and services that each individual deserves with dignity.

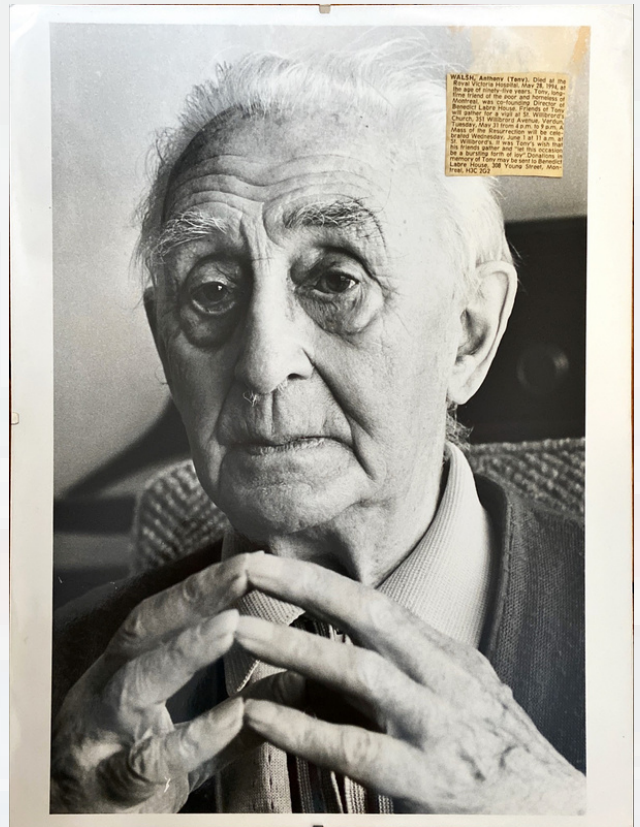
OUR HISTORY

BENEDICT LABRE FROM 1952 TO TODAY



ANTONY WALSH, founder of the Benedict Labre House

Under the influence of Dorothy Day, a dedicated activist and journalist, Tony Walsh had the idea of creating an environment of sharing and mutual aid. In an effort to help the poorest in the neighborhood, Tony Walsh came into contact with James G. Shaw, Dr. Magnus Seng, Patricia Conners, and others. Shaw, Dr. Magnus Seng, Patricia Conners and Steven Hagarty. Together they founded the Benedict Labre House in 1952 in Griffintown. Together they chose the name Benedict Labre House simply by looking in the Bible: "They checked the Bible for the day of the feast. It turned out to be St. Benedict's. It was a wonderful coincidence considering the mission of the organization they were planning to open." (Jim Martin, 2012) The Benedict Labre House (Benedict Labre) was, at that time, a shelter for a dozen elderly men he had met on the streets of the neighborhood. Walsh created a shelter on the upper floor of 418 de La Gauchetière Street.



(1) QUOTE FROM GERRY PASCALE, BOOKLET "60 YEARS OF BENEDICT LABRE HOUSE", PAGE 33

In the beginning, it was a soup kitchen, a place to sleep: "[...] The first thing I noticed was the poverty of the House. It was heated with wood. We slept on the third floor with lots of blankets. The second floor had a room for clothes, and there was a library room. The second floor was for meals. Everyone had small tasks to do. [...]" said Gerry Pascal, who was one of the first volunteers. Tony Walsh left in 1967 and it was Bob O'Callaghan, Rick Batistuzzi and Joanabbey Sack who ran the house until 1970, when Gerry Pascal took over as director of the house. He was the first director after Tony Walsh. Over the years, the House has been transformed. Gerry Pascal participated in various movements across Canada in order to gain a critical and grounded perspective on helping people experiencing homelessness. He continued to apply the concept of voluntary poverty, where between communities, they share goods.

OVER THE YEARS

BENEDICT LABRE FROM 1952 TO TODAY

In **1955**, the organization moved from Gauchetière Street to 122 Duke Street and finally settled on Young Street. Meals were served and a checkroom was available to visitors.

Between **1995** and **2002**, Cheryl Debanne was the director of the Benedict Labre House. When she started, the main services were meal service and coat check service. There was no social intervention or counseling. She incorporated yard gardening, art classes and bike repairs.

The house is transformed from year to year, the director of the House lived on the 3rd floor and was fed from the food that the House received. The House is managed mainly by the values of mutual aid and sharing of goods.

In the **1980's**, due to deinstitutionalization and the economic recession, the need for homelessness grew. During this decade, the House became a day center and students lived on the 3rd floor in exchange for volunteer work. Over time, the services adapted.

Between **1985-1987**, Director Steve Sims focused on renovating the House on Young Street. He believed that the House should be a welcoming place to add comfort.

1997 marks the beginning of the program to support people who use drugs (Anna Malorni), there were support groups and meetings.

Warm clothes and meals are still offered during the day. Volunteers are at the center of the House's actions.



2008

Santiago Garcia-Rejon, who is now the president of the Board of Directors, became the director of the Benedict Labre House. Under his direction, volunteers and a social worker supported the activities. It is still possible to see the users' committee in place. A committee where service users can express their needs. The move from Young Street to St-Zotique Church was considered in order to better meet the needs expressed.

2016 - 2018

Andréane Desilets, the current Executive Director, is taking on the role of Director of the Benedict Labre House. Some social workers will join the team in order to better respond and support the population served. Several summer jobs are opening up.

2018 - 2022



Labre House is moving to 4561 Notre-Dame West to provide a better location for intervention. With the new location, the capacity of the service increases. We were able to reach a different clientele while still reaching our service users on Young Street. The House now welcomes close to one hundred people per day.

Coming soon

Building the new house from scratch will allow us to expand our service offering and add a housing component for which there is a great need in the community.

PROGRAMS AND SERVICES

DAY CENTER

During the 2020-2021 year, we rethought the organization of the day center, whether it was in terms of reorganizing the space or our work practices. **Maintaining the changes we made in the new year**, we continued to reinforce the application of sanitary measures, we also continued our education and awareness of protective practices in the face of Covid-19.

Our intervention workers have always deployed a lot of energy, tools and means in order to maintain and apply our intervention values in the face of the limits imposed by the pandemic. We have noted the emergence of issues concomitant with the pandemic and homelessness such as consumerism, mental health, access to housing and care.

This year, the Benedict Labre House remained **true to their mandate of being a safe and welcoming place for all**. Our service users were able to continue to come in to rest, eat and wash. While our service users no longer have the option of coming to use a computer, we were able to reinstall an entertainment area with a connected television for a few months before the Omicron variant appeared. Many people have appreciated being able to reconnect with the news and culture of the world.

The face of homelessness has changed. These changes are confirmed from year to year and the 2020-2021 period is no exception. The precariousness of the living conditions of people experiencing homelessness is much more often complicated by mental health and addiction issues.

These changes invite us to improve our service offer, whether it be through the creation of partnerships (HEPCO, CLSC des faubourgs' homelessness team, CRDM), through the addition or expansion of internal services at Benedict Labre House (Propulsion and exchange office) or through the assistance provided by our volunteers in all non-clinical matters.

We have also seen a growing number of people who find themselves **for the first time facing a situation of homelessness or financial distress**; whether it is because of the phenomenon of renovation, the loss of a job, or the inability to find housing that is accessible to their budget after the end of a lease. These people are added to the pool of people already present, increasing the workload of our workers and the capacity of our partners to help, who are strongly affected by the consequences of the pandemic and by cruel financial difficulties.



The day center is a place of unconditional welcome where everyone is free to be who they are. We make our space available to people so that they can find or rediscover a social link with the social workers, other visitors or to reconnect with their families and friends. The social workers have a role on two levels, the collective and the individual.

PROGRAMS AND SERVICES

DAY CENTER

The reopening of shops and public spaces, if it allowed some of our visitors to regain access to indoor rest areas, food services etc... the most marginalized **vulnerable people** who did not have an up-to-date vaccination passport, were refused access. The lack of available overnight spaces in shelters on the coldest of winter nights has been a major concern for both the team and our service users.

These issues have caused major suffering, which we have dealt with and which, unfortunately, have sometimes escalated into a full-blown crisis situation in our resource.

However, through the compassion and hard work of our intervention workers, volunteers and partners, we believe we **have a place in which our visitors can have a moment of comfort and respite.**

More than **100,000** interventions per year

- 10% of these interventions are **medical** (physical/mental health, sexology, overdose prevention)
- 60% are for **maintaining relationships/listening** and interpersonal skills
- 15% are for **showers and meals**
- 10% are for **housing and accommodation** issues

As mentioned above, mental health and addiction have always been a reality at Benedict Labre House. Although our intervention workers are trained to intervene in this context, we continue to see an increase in the number of people with mental health issues, as well as a worsening of symptoms in those we already know. The same situation is happening with people who are using substances; we continue to see a decrease in the quality of such substances and an increase in the complexity of accessing them without Fentanyl. To address these issues, the intervention team has been trained in the use of Naloxone and now offers Fentanyl test kits in **an effort to reduce the risk of overdose.**

THE DAY CENTER, THE ENTRY POINT TO OUR SERVICES

Meals and snacks
Shower
Checkroom service (clothing)
Pre-employability program
Overdose prevention program
Barber service
Activities and entertainment
Rest area
Computer, telephone and television
Psychological services
Psychosocial support
Socialization space



PROGRAMS AND SERVICES

DAY CENTER

The arrival of winter brought an observable state of exhaustion among our service users, this led us to create, an area reserved for sleeping. This small space, composed of about ten cots, is used every day and often by people unable to find a safe place rest outside our resource.

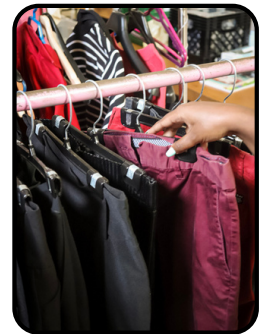
Concerning our activities, we have maintained access to board games as well as the monthly bingo tournament. We had the chance to do the annual sugar shack outing during the pre-pandemic period. The intervention workers and visitors are also looking forward to resuming our annual apple picking activity.

The year was marked by big changes in our statistics. COVID-19 has allowed us to change the way we count our visitors. Indeed, the number of visitors allowed inside has greatly varied with the sanitary measures in place. We went from an unlimited number of visitors to only 50 visitors allowed indoors at a time, and then we eventually progressed to about 60. As you can imagine, we had to use our imagination to rearrange our space to accommodate as many people as possible, while respecting the changing sanitary measures.

**WE WELCOME
APPROXIMATELY 1900
PEOPLE PER MONTH**

**FOR A TOTAL OF 23,000
PEOPLE PER YEAR.**

Of these, **85% of visitors identify as male and 15% identify as female** (a 5% increase in the female population). 35% of these individuals are over the age of 55.



Response to food insecurity

The kitchen is the heart of the Benedict Labre House. It allows us to respond quickly to the challenges of malnutrition in vulnerable populations and promotes better health for all our visitors.

Our kitchen project has a positive impact on our community. It allows us to see a reduction in food insecurity in households and in the population living in a situation of homelessness in the South West of Montreal.

The kitchen is an important work platform at the Benedict Labre House. In conjunction with the Propulsion pre-employability program, the participants of the program as well as the employees subsidized by Emploi-Québec are trained and followed by the project manager in order to integrate the MAPAQ standards and work safety. Whether it is learning about hygiene habits in a culinary context, or preparing a meal, participants develop professional and social skills that will be useful in future jobs as well as in their daily lives.

In the past year, 12 participants of the Propulsion program have grown professionally and personally at their own pace through their involvement in the kitchen. Two of them even made the leap to the Emploi-Québec program in order to further develop their kitchen skills. Moreover, this work platform is an environment of sharing and exchange between the volunteers and the participants. This helps demystify preconceived ideas about homelessness and people living in precarious situations. **Cooking together allows us to create links and to intervene in an atmosphere of trust and mutual respect.**



PROGRAMS AND SERVICES

PROPULSION

Pre-Employability program

The main objective of the Propulsion pre-employability program is to prepare participants for a successful integration into a return-to-work process. It allows a springboard towards the job market, a transition into an employability program (Emploi-Québec) or a return to school to complete their studies.

During the last year, we welcomed **19 new members, including 15 men and 4 women, the quota of participants was raised to an average of 14.** One of the highlights of this year was the transition of one of our participants to full-time permanent employment with the Epicentre (Food Bank) which shares the premises with the Benedict Labre House and which today plays an essential role in their organization.

Alternatively, one of our participants found a job as a janitor and two other participants went back to school to finish their high school diplomas. We also started the complete restructuring of the program and added a full-time intervention worker to accompany participants in their psychosocial intervention plans, in order to reach their personal objectives and to better support the participants to the end of their program.

19 PARTICIPANTS IN 2021-22



"My time at Benedict Labre House was one of the best things that ever happened to me. After 8 months of therapy, it was the best way for me to reintegrate a social life and especially a stable job. I started volunteering in June 2020, right after the lockdown. Afterwards, I was offered to be a part of the Propulsion program. This program was beneficial for me; in addition to having a stable schedule and a little extra in my wallet. Since then, I am a receptionist at the food bank. I am responsible for making appointments for the food baskets. I make sure that the food needs of the service users are taken into account. I help with the composition of the baskets. I support the volunteers in their tasks and perform any other tasks at the epicenter. This program has really allowed me to maintain a healthy lifestyle and to have a stable job as a result. Today, I am officially an employee of the Epicentre and I have achieved my goal. I am proud of my journey here and want to continue to improve my skills in this workplace!"
- Émilie, program participant

PROGRAMMES ET SERVICES

SHUTTLE SERVICE

Response to resource constraints

For a **second consecutive year**, the Benedict Labre House offered an evening shuttle service.

This service was greatly appreciated by our service users, as well as by service users from other organizations.

For people who are homeless, it can be **very worrisome to not be able to find a warm place** to spend the night. We have helped these people find comfort by taking them to shelters, as well as providing day-to-day information on the opening/closing of emergency shelters.

Again, the pandemic created a lot of uncertainty about the availability of these services; the few places available filled up within minutes of their opening. We were therefore also available to transfer people to other drop-in centers or emergency shelters.

In addition, if someone did not need transportation, we could offer them other services such as food, coffee, warm clothing, blankets, sleeping bags, and psychosocial support. We also distributed harm reduction prevention materials and provided information on practices to reduce health risks. In addition, we offered Fentanyl test kits and Naloxone kits to reduce the risk of overdose in our populations.

Through a partnership with TRAC, street workers accompanied the Benedict Labre House driver and offered a more diversified service. The shuttle was in operation **5 nights a week, with a fixed schedule from 3pm to midnight**.

Finally, to give an idea of the need for this service, the shuttle aided about **20 people per night, for a total of about 1600 people after only 4 months of service**.



A WORD FROM CLINICAL COORDINATION

This last year has been a challenging one in terms of the pandemic and the access to much needed services. As a day center, we are a safe haven for many of our service users and a gateway into mental health and addiction services. An already strained system was nearly inaccessible to many of service users many of whom who had been followed but got lost due to the strict sanitary measures put in place by the government. The current climate of the housing crisis, coupled with rising costs of living, has caused even more people to become homeless and/or have to choose between basic necessities.

Our team of devoted, highly skilled intervention workers have worked diligently to accompany our service users and help them navigate a system that is tired and broken. Working everyday, shoulder to shoulder, to support people who struggle to find a place in a system that they just don't fit into. As clinical coordinators, Valéria Doval and Francine Nadler, question, challenge, accompany and offer continued support and guidance to our intervention team through personalized supervisions, workshops and partnerships.

We work in partnership with various organizations and resources that, like us, strive to improve the lives of the people we serve. Our long-standing partnership with Doctors of the world is a great example; offering psychological services, the mobile health clinic and appointments with professionals for people who have immigration issues.

- Cohorte HEPCO who have been working with us for the last two years in research and treatment of Hepatitis C of the research department of the CHUM.
- Mitchell McLarnon of the Department of Education at Concordia University, who partnered with us in 2017 while he was working at McGill and continued his support of our mission until now and we hope for the years to come.
- The GRIP- Groupe de recherche et intervention psychosociale- a mobile unit that allows our service users to test their drugs and reduce the risk of overdose.
- The CRDM- Le Centre de réadaptation en dépendance de Montréal aims to improve the state of health, well-being, quality of life and social integration of people with alcohol, drug, gambling and cyber-dependence issues by working within the walls of our organization to facilitate referrals.

PROGRAMS AND SERVICES

OVERDOSE PREVENTION

In 2021, the addition of a third intervention worker has allowed the Overdose Prevention Project to flourish. The project, financed by the Direction Régionale de la Santé Publique (DRSP), now consists of 3 main activities: **(1) the exchange of harm reduction materials, (2) intervention and accompaniment and (3) the animation of workshops related to substance use.**

By surveying service users and considering their input, we have improved many of our services. Such as, increased confidentiality due to the new layout of the Overdose Prevention and Harm Reduction Site, ordering the requested materials and ensuring the presence of an intervention worker throughout the week. All of this has led to a notable increase in attendance.

When asked, a visitor stated why they chose our Harm Reduction Site rather than another:

"Other than coming to see the girls at the Site, what I like about the Benedict Labre House is that I can eat, change my socks, pick up my supplies... everything is in one place."

In an area of the city where there are few harm reduction resources, these words prove that the project is not only meeting its target but is providing a space for service users to feel a sense of belonging.



Statistics of the Overdose Prevention and Harm Reduction Site

Syringes: 4459
Crack pipes : 2821
Crystal pipe: 1064
Naloxone doses: 760
Fentanyl test: 443
Condoms: 4000

Overdose Prevention and Harm Reduction Site visits : 1762
Men: 1402
Female: 360

PROGRAMS AND SERVICES

OVERDOSE PREVENTION

In the context of the overdose crisis and the impact of the pandemic on the supply as well as the composition of the substances procured on the illicit market, it was necessary to give training on the administration of the opiate antagonist Naloxone. The training was offered to more than fifteen colleagues as well as to a hundred visitors who frequent the organization.

Among the training topics offered we also counted:

- Injection material and its prevention messages
- Safe sex material

Also, in order to facilitate the work of the team, we have created several orientation tools towards the partners who work in the field of addiction:

- Monthly calendar of partner visits and activities in the living environment;
- List of partners who can fill in when we are closed, including the holiday season;
- Referral tools for visitors whose addiction requires medical support to stop using;
- Directory of addiction therapies.

As for the success with the visitors who ask for support, we noticed that one of the **challenges of success resided in the accompaniment**: Many people wishing to improve their medical situation were discouraged by the confusion of the criteria for accessing services. In order to increase the success rate of the steps taken at the exchange office, we offer the option of accompanying them to their appointments.

Discussion Groups

Once a week, a group of 6 people came together to discuss the impact of drug use on their lives. With the help of a facilitator who animates the discussions and helps to promote valid information and self-reflection. The 19 people who participated in the workshops this year worked together to become more aware of their safe and not so safe practices in regards to their substance use and/or abuse.

What we hear most at the end of the one hour workshop is:

"It gives me a break from the streets to come here".

"An hour of self-care, seeing the positive".

"I learn a lot here but I can't say it feels good to know what's in the dope today"

PARTICIPATION TO THE PREVENTION WORKSHOPS

November 7-14 2021

Setting up the workshops Focus Group (10 participants)

November 21-27 2021

Reconnecting to yourself through music (9 participants)

December 12-19 2021

Administering naloxone (11 participants)

January 23-30 2022

Substance analysis (12 participants)

February 6-13 2022

Tools for safer drug use (12 participants)

February 20th 2022

The cycle of addiction (15 participants)

OVERDOSE PREVENTION IN THE FUTURE...

Future prospects

For the coming year, after having strengthened its core, the team will be ready to focus outwards. In developing pathways to facilitate access to medical follow-up when reducing or stopping drug use. Whether it is through substitution treatment, diagnostic exploration of physical and mental health or by offering viable choices for the residential stabilization of drug users.

Because every life counts in St-Henri;

- We plan to offer naloxone training to partners our neighbourhood to act in case of opioid overdose.
- A regular partnership is about to be established with GRIP, for substance analysis.
- As the upward curve of use of the Fixed Site increases, we anticipate a necessary expansion at the Fixed Site to meet the demand. In addition, we are in the process of writing a proposal for an Overdose Prevention Center (OPC) to address the increase in overdose cases in our neighborhoods.

THE YEAR

23 000

PLUS VISITORS TO OUR CENTRE

900

PLUS PEOPLE REACHED THROUGH OUR SHUTTLE SERVICE

150

SLEEPING BAGS DISTRIBUTED DURING THE YEAR

IN NUMBERS

70 YEARS SERVICES AND SUPPORT TO VULNERABLE POPULATIONS

2300 PLUS VISITORS PER MONTH

15000 PLUS PREVENTION MATERIAL DISTRIBUTED

1000 NEW FACES AMONG OUR VISITORS

OUR EVENTS IN 2021

La Rue en fête

Despite the bad weather, our first edition of La Rue en Fête was a success. Complimented by the good spirits of our employees, visitors, volunteers and pedestrians, we enjoyed a beautiful August afternoon. The House is always eager to contribute to the mental wellbeing of our community, when it can. For this reason, we organized an event that aimed to bring a little joy to the Saint-Henri community. The festive atmosphere, further enchanted by a DJ, the community participated in a fundraiser for the House through the purchase of Benedict Labre "merch" like clothes and bags.

Giving Tuesday!

For a second time, the "Down with the Cold" fundraiser took place at the Benedict Labre House. Throughout the month of November, for #GivingTuesday, the community had the opportunity to warm up the most vulnerable population with monetary donations that allowed us to purchase winter backpacks. One winter backpack contained two pairs of socks, underwear, snacks, a toque, a pair of gloves, a blanket, jogging pants, a bag, a hoodie and a hand warmer.

While we will never be able to prevent snowstorms or temperatures that reach -40 degrees Celsius, we can contribute to the accessibility of a minimum of comfort to help survive our winters.

Thanks to your kind souls, the Benedict Labre House has distributed 80 winter backpacks. 80 people who are currently living in a homeless situation had the confidence to face the winter with essential items. All this thanks to the involvement of our beautiful community! We couldn't be more grateful for the success of our second #GivingTuesday.



DAY TRIP 2022

Sugar Shack

After a very long wait and dozens of requests from our visitors, our famous sugar shack outing was once again planned! In March 2022, we had the chance to invite some visitors for a sugar shack outing at Sucre Farsa in Saint-Eustache. . A very appreciated activity, which was put on hold during the pandemic.

On the way there, you could feel the excitement in the air. Everyone was happy to be able to go, both service users and staff. In all, about fifty people participated. It was a great atmosphere for everyone to create new opportunities to bond and get off the streets for a day.

In addition, the challenge of who can eat the most sugar pie came back with a bang. After the meal, we visited the small farm and enjoyed bus ride back to the House, where participants either fell asleep or compared scores in the sugar pie contest.

In organizing the sugar shack, our main objective was to keep the activity as accessible as possible. We asked our service users for minor contribution to offset the increased cost the activity due to the pandemic.



OUR SUPPORTERS

THE SUPPORTERS OF THE CAUSE

Benedict Labre House team would like to thank the generosity of its donors and partners. The support provided to our mission makes possible our actions and services that support the most vulnerable Montrealers. Thanks also to all the donors who wished to remain anonymous.

The Altruist \$50,000 +

CIUSSS
Centraide du Grand Montréal
Ministère de la Santé et des Services sociaux
Vers un Chez Soi
Ville de Montréal
Direction régionale de santé publique (DRSP)
FNF Canada

The Visionary \$20,000 - \$49,000

Fondation Hewitt
Caisse Desjardins du Sud-Ouest de Montréal
Emploi-Québec
Emploi d'Été Canada

The Charitable \$10,000 - \$19,999

Fondation Echo
Montreal St-Patrick's Foundation
Telus Friendly Future Foundation
Susan Porteus

The Benevolent \$3,000 - \$9,999

Rachel Ship Foundation
Helping Others Fund - St. Edward's
Mazon Canada
The Barwick Family Foundation
152245 Canada Inc.
Eric T. Webster Foundation
John Patrick Colfer Family Foundation
Danielle Miller Olofsson
H&R Block
Lionel Carmant
Jean Boulet
Maria Teresa Borys
Rio Tinto Alcan Inc.

The Ambassador \$500 - \$2,999

Tracey Beaton
Denis Beauchamp
Michael Bronstetter
Bryan Carroll
John James Cloran
Janet McLean
Florence & Edward Patenaude
Susan Perreault
Geraldine & Edward Perry
Society of the Sacred Heart (Canada)
Social Action Committee - St. Edmunds
Elizabeth Danowski
Fabrique St-Boniface Church
Andrew Dias
Santiago Garcia Rejon
119438 Canada Inc.
Shannon Lemm
Gerguson Family Foundation
DMA Architectes Sencrl
Dominique Anglade
Rona Nadler
Elena Lee
Simon Jolin-Barrette
Riverside
Fondation de la Corporation des
Concessionnaires d'Automobiles de Montréal
Fabrique de la Paroisse St-Luc
Chantale Rouleau
Première Église Spirituelle de Montréal
Antonio Di Schiavi
Harleen Singh Luthra
École Sacré-Cœur de Montréal

The Friend \$300 - \$499

Michael J. Laverty
Rosemary Macdonald
Dennis & Mary Denis MacManus
Lorna Townson
Maggy Berezuk
Judith Coelho
Sophie-Gabrielle Thibeaut
Alexandra Petter
Francesca Taddeo
George Blott
George Lortie
Karen McLarnon
Tamera Thibodeau
Li Chen
Heritage

OUR SUPPORTERS

THE SUPPORTERS OF THE CAUSE

A special mention to Moisson Montreal who allowed us to make the food security project possible. In total, food donations totalled **\$557,369.83** during the year, or 96 597.89 kg.

A special thank you to the volunteers. In particular, to all those who prepare meals each week including :

- Tess et Cie (3 times per month)
 - Thuy et Cie (1 time a month)
 - Le Réchaud bus (1-2 times per month)
 - Sharon (2-3 times per year)
 - The Saint-Henri fire station
 - Bread and Beyond (4 times a week)
 - Saint-Parish Church
 - Le P'tit bonheur St-Bruno (donations every 2 weeks and sandwiches)
 - Délice Tasty Treat
 - Maison de l'environnement (redistribution of frozen meals from hospitals to be reheated (once a week)
 - Spicebros
 - Maison de l'environnement
- and more...



OUR SUPPORTERS

VOLUNTEERING

Volunteers at Benedict Labre House are a fundamental part of our operation. We could not function the way we need to without them.

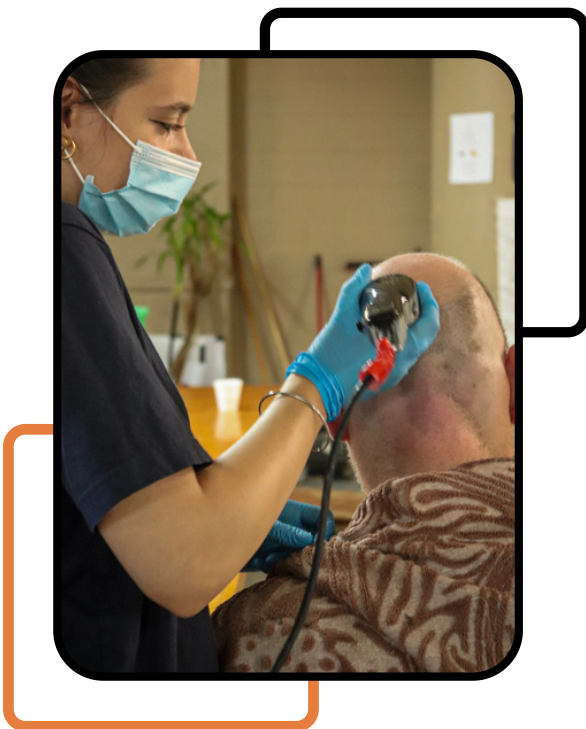
We have several platforms available for people interested in volunteering: we have our clothing service, which is open every day (except Mondays and Fridays) from 10am to 3pm. We operate on a donation basis. It is therefore important to regularly clean and sort the clothes, while welcoming service users who receive t-shirts, pants, underwear, hoodies, shoes, etc.

The second platform is in the kitchen, the heart of our organization. Volunteers help prepare and serve meals throughout the day.

Recently, we have recently added a third platform, our volunteer barbers. We have volunteer barbers who graciously come to cut our service users' hair and beards. Volunteers barbers bring their own equipment and work from 10am to 2pm once to twice a week depending on their availabilities. It is a very popular service among our guests.

Last but not least, we have our meal teams. These are teams of volunteers who bring ready-made meals and serve them to our service users, some of our meal teams have been volunteering with us for the last 40 years.

On a monthly basis, we can easily count more than 100 volunteer hours through these platforms.



OUR SUPPORTERS PARTNERS

COMMUNITY PARTNERS

TRAC
RAPSIM
AJOI
RICOCHET
SSH
ACTION GARDIEN
CACV
CDSV (CONCERTATION ET DÉVELOPPEMENT SOCIAL DE VERDUN)
GRIP MONTRÉAL (MENSUEL)
MÉDECINS DU MONDE (HEBDOMADAIRE)
REGARD COLLECTIF (CLINIQUE DE LA VUE : CORRIDOR DE SERVICES)
SPCA
TOMS
RSIQ
RIOCM
L'ANONYME

NETWORK PARTNERS

CIUSSS
CLINIQUE ITINÉRANCE (HEBDOMADAIRE)
UMF VERDUN
CRDM
HEPCO
CHUM



A big thank you to the SPCA, always ready to help us. With incredible generosity, their donations provide food, toys and accessories to all the furry companions. In collaboration with the City of Montreal, through the Mittens program, spay/neuter and microchipping services are offered at a reduced cost.



A special mention to Lufas Farms Inc. for supporting our families with the direct donation program. This year, more than 20 households benefited from weekly access to fresh, local and responsible food.



We would also like to thank Concordia University, which for several years now has allowed several interns to develop numerous skills within our organization. The interns are indispensable in the actions and evolution of the organization.

OUR SUPPORTERS

IMPLICATIONS

COMMITTEES AND TABLES

Development of health service corridors (assistant director)

Pause due to staff turnover among the people at the table in the network

Verdun Homelessness Committee (management), Precarity Committee (management), St-Henri Homelessness Committee (management)

These 3 committees are represented by the management of NBL, the neighbourhoods 15 and 16, the boroughs concerned, the TRAC, sometimes the housing committees of the neighbourhoods concerned and the consultation tables of the neighbourhoods concerned such as SSH, Action Gardien and CDSV) and the meetings are held every 3 weeks. In addition, the cohabitation committee has been integrated into the precariousness committee

RAPSIM health committee (assistant director)

2 representations for discussion on the ministerial action plan. Meetings focused on the development of service corridors in physical and mental care in the Sud-Ouest. The objective is to facilitate access to services for people who come to the organization and to allow workers to have an easy and clear way to refer people to existing services.

Urban Security Table (Housing Project Manager)

Committee made up of the SPVM, the borough, elected officials and some local community actors in order to work on issues such as cohabitation, dismantling, as well as promoting living together

Salsa Committee (Kitchen project manager)

In connection with the activities of the kitchen, we participated in the committee of health and food safety (now SALSA) of St-Henri. Our participation at this table was beneficial because we were able to talk about malnutrition, food insecurity, as well as the issues that people in a homeless situation face in relation to food. We also participated in an emergency food cell that met weekly to ensure that the food needs of the neighbourhood were met. The pandemic has also allowed us to create and consolidate several food partnerships with local actors; we are very grateful for this!

RAPSIM Housing Committee (management)

Committee working on regional issues related to housing policies. Collaboration on the brief on community support for transitional housing.

Construction

Since February 2022, the construction process of our new house has begun and will be completed in the fall of 2023. In close collaboration with the City of Montreal's housing department and the Sud-Ouest borough, we were able to make this project a reality.

We worked hard to obtain 82% of the total cost of the project through the Accès-Logis financing program.

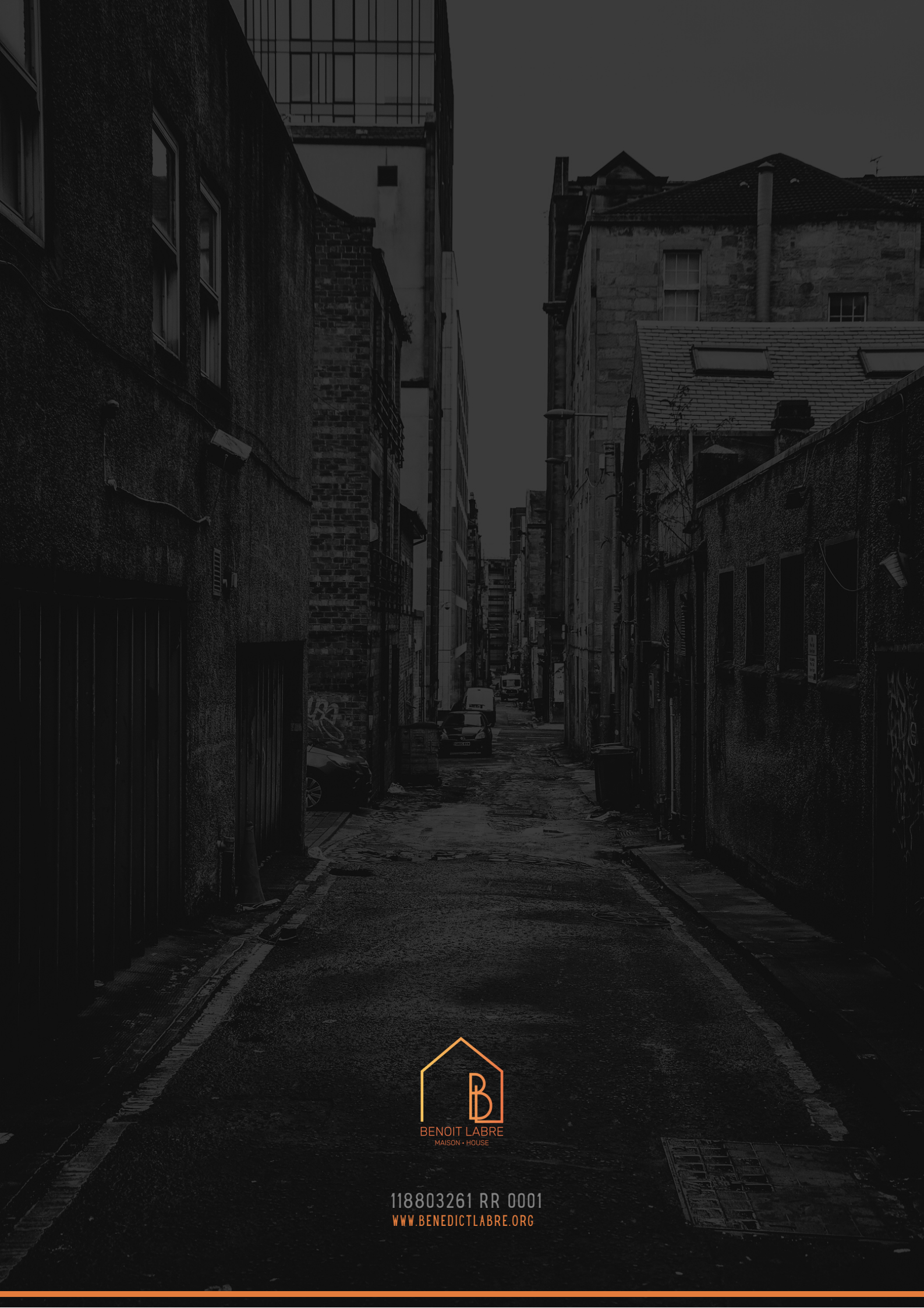


Location

The new building has been redesigned to make our spaces accessible and safe for all and to meet the growing needs of our community.

Resources

The new Benedict Labre House will have 36 apartments on 3 floors that will include a private room with community follow-up. In addition to the day center, there will be an Overdose Prevention Center (OPC).



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