



SMALL DONATIONS REPORT

2021 – 2022

*Prepared by the Small Donations Committee:
September 15, 2022*



Our Mission

The Small Donations Committee receives and reviews funding requests, up to \$10,000, from registered charitable organizations in Calgary and area. Any request over \$5,000 requires approval of the Board. Funds are primarily provided for projects and programs that support children, youth at risk, seniors, literacy, mental health, poverty reduction and other needs that may be identified from time to time. The Committee prefers proposals that, over time, will provide ongoing benefit to the community and not require on-going financial support from the Rotary Club of Calgary Downtown.



Funding Requests

The Small Donations Committee was formed well before the turn of the century with a mandate to focus on smaller community-based projects. Early records are not easily available but we know that since 2009, Small Donations has provided \$405,542 in funding to 118 organizations. This year Small Donations added to that total by providing \$40,000 to an additional 10 organizations.

› Can Praxis - \$4,000

Can Praxis provides intensive therapy programs for Canadian Veterans and First Responders suffering from Operational Stress Injury, including Post Traumatic Stress Disorder. Their programs teach lasting skills and strategies through experiential learning and dialogue, using a combination of psychoeducation, counselling, peer-support, and Equine-Assisted Therapy. Our donation helped remove some of the financial barriers that prevent people from getting the help they need.



INCREASING WOMEN'S ECONOMIC STABILITY

A series of workshops providing information and resources on



Restoring lives, preventing crime, and strengthening communities through

Engagement

Wrap-around supports, individualistic goals and rapport building

Encouragement

Access to resources, education, skill building and improving knowledge

Empowerment

Independence, self-determined, and self-sufficient



› Calgary John Howard Society - \$5,000

With funding from Small Donations, Calgary John Howard Society is providing a series of financial literacy workshops focused on increasing women's economic stability. Financial literacy is a core skill required for women working towards independent living in the community after being incarcerated. These workshops provide basic education around budgeting and saving as well as securing and maintaining housing, employment, banking and accessing community resources.

› Field of Crosses - \$4,000

The Rotary Night of Lights at the Field of Crosses is a special night on the day before November 11 for all Rotary Clubs in Calgary to remember the 3,500 men and women from Southern Alberta and the 120,000 other Canadians who made the ultimate sacrifice fighting for our freedom. Each November, the Field of Crosses creates an amazing tribute alongside Memorial Drive with thousands of crosses inscribed with the name of a fallen soldier and a lit candle in front of each cross. We are grateful for their sacrifice.



› Wellspring Calgary - \$5,000

Wellspring ensures no one has to face cancer alone. Through evidence-informed programs offered free of charge, Wellspring meets the emotional and restorative needs of people living with cancer and their families. As Wellspring re-launches in-person services, Rotary is supporting its transition to a blended model of in-person and online service delivery that will extend its reach to all of Southern Alberta. Wellspring is 100% community funded with trained volunteers providing over 12,000 hours of support each year.



› Bethany Care - \$3,000

Rotary helped Bethany Care bring i2NL touch screen technology to its long-term residents. This interactive technology is designed to engage seniors with hundreds of therapeutic programs that are specifically curated for seniors experiencing physical and cognitive decline. Therapists include i2NL as part of a resident's physical or cognitive therapy plan.

› Community Kitchens - \$7,500

Small Donations collaborated with 10 other Calgary Rotary Clubs to provide funding for Community Kitchens to acquire a new refrigerated food truck. Community Kitchens provides emergency food to low income Calgarians with a particular emphasis on fresh produce and perishable foods. The refrigerated truck picks up perishable foods from throughout the City, and delivers it to its food centre where volunteers package "good food boxes" for families and community partners.



› Reading Wings - \$4,000

Reading Wings provides on-line learning tools that help parents and communities learn how to coach their children to read and write. With matched funding from a private donor, our Club stepped in to provide funding support to help carry on this work after the founder of Reading Wings passed away last year. Reading Wings on-line learning tools help children experience the joy of reading not only in our local community but throughout the world.

› Rise Calgary - \$5,000

Rise Calgary supports low-income families as well as people experiencing homelessness or sleeping rough. One way they support their clients is by providing emergency food resources when all other avenues have been exhausted. Needs were particularly acute during the pandemic. Small Donations provided funding to re-stock food and pantry supplies with practicum students helping with the heavy lifting.



› Genesis Centre - \$500

One of Calgary's Hubs is located in the Genesis Centre in north east Calgary. Our five-year Signature Legacy Project with the Hubs was completed this earlier this year and Small Donations helped the Genesis Centre celebrate its 10th Anniversary by providing a small amount for some celebration costs.



› Closer to Home - \$2,000

Closer to Home's Summer in the City provides kids ages 8 - 14 with a fun summer experience where they can create friendships within the community while learning essential values and life skills at a summer day camp. Our financial support is being used for transportation for field trips, arts and craft supplies, and food for snacks and lunches. Closer To Home serves families experiencing financial, language and socio-cultural barriers by facilitating family growth and belonging in the community.

Rotary Club of Calgary
Downtown

Prepared by the Small Donations Committee
for the Rotary Club of Calgary Downtown:

Michael Pierson – Chair
Diane Macdonald
Allison Schulz
Allan McMillan
Craig Tervit
Bill Gillott
Bryan Pinney

T: 403.398.9969

E: rotaryclubofcalgary.org