

**SOULS HARBOUR RESCUE MISSION** 

# Annual Report

## 2020-2021

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### Michelle Porter

### An unexpected life season

Never in my lifetime would I have thought that leading and growing an organization during a global pandemic would be something I could add to my resume, but here we are.

The year was like none other. When the world retreated in fear, Souls Harbour forged ahead into the fire. Our team refused to be knocked down, and said they would work for free if need be to keep our core services. I am humbled and grateful to captain this rescue ship and see God's Mighty Hand at work.





Souls Harbour rescues people from poverty, addiction and despair by offering emergency help such as food, clothing and shelter, life-changing programs and a message of hope.



#### **Core Values**

**Charity:** a practical program or individual act of love done to help those in need – love and good deeds.

**Evangelism:** sharing the good news of salvation with the Mission residents and guests – our priority.

**Discipleship:** training new believers at the Mission to grow in the knowledge and grace of Christ and to become active in Christian (church) fellowship.

**Expansion:** refers to expanding the quality and variety of Mission services to the community as the Lord provides the vision and means – a movement, not an institution.

\*No one is refused service based on their religious preferences



One of the most difficult things about the pandemic has been our limited Gospel witness. Because we are not permitted to sit anyone inside for meals, we have limited interaction with guests at the door. We try to make it count with a few encouraging words, daily prayer with an individual who is visibly suffering, and twice weekly tracts in lunch bags.

For a long time, we were the only soup kitchen who remained open, and our meal service increased greatly, as we served people from Dartmouth, Fairview, and other suburbs. We are likely to see a sharp drop in numbers when we reopen, although some may continue to come, now that they know we are here. In Bridgewater and Truro, numbers have increased for similar reasons, but also due to new community collaborations.



97% Staff Retention

56% Increase in sales at Mission Mart

03 - Year in Review



We have also been able to reopen Free-Mart in Halifax and Truro, providing basic needs of clothing, hygiene and household goods. We have seen an influx of newcomers and their children during this time.

Until we were able to reopen, we ran all three locations as Bridgewater does, providing needs upon request. Now, guests come in and shop for themselves again (masked and distanced.) Once Phase 5 comes, we will freely reopen Halifax Free-Mart 5 days a week to match the drop-in hours.

When I started at Mission Mart, my faith was pretty shaky. I wasn't as close to God as I should've been but over the past 2.5 years I have seen Gods work in every single one of us. My faith is stronger than ever and my relationship with God is rock solid. The sky is the limit!!

- Purchased Mission Mart
- Shelter inspections passed
- 22 summer student grants

#### Tabitha

- Women's Home purchased
- Meal service tripled
- Ken's book published

04 - Year in Review

If we are thrown into the blazing furnace, the God we serve is able to deliver us from it, and He will deliver us... The furnace was so hot that the flames of the fire killed the soldiers who took up Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego, and these three men, firmly tied, fell into the blazing furnace... The fire had not harmed their bodies, nor was a hair of their heads singed; their robes were not scorched, and there was no smell of fire on them...Then the king promoted Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego in the province of Babylon.

Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego in the fiery furnace, Book of Daniel, Chapter 3



## Financial Highlights

#### This year, we paid off:

- Cunard St mortgage
- Mission Mart loan
- Truro mortgage

To see our independent auditor's report & full financial statements for June 2021, click **HERE** 

For the public portion of our most recent T3010 Return, including compensation reports, please visit the CRA's website by clicking <u>**HERE**</u>



50% Increase in General Income

\$2.9M

Awarded

05 - Financial Highlights



## **Forging Ahead**

#### **Overnight Programs**

We are on the cusp of receiving the occupancy permit at the Men's Shelter, and both the Men's Shelter and Women's Home are set to open in Phase 5. Ken is working on programming, hiring, and training staff.

#### Sackville Drop In Centre

We have completed the community needs assessment and recommend the opportunity to begin this outreach using the free gym and kitchen provided by Rock Church.

#### Women's Apartment Building

A federal grant was awarded to build a 12unit Women's Home to open in 2022, which will create a campus in West Chezzetcook with our recently purchased property.

#### **Mission Mart 2**

This is still in the works for Bedford Commons - income for all our expansion projects!





## Let's stay connected



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