

# Jane Finch Community Ministry



Community

Annual Report  
2022



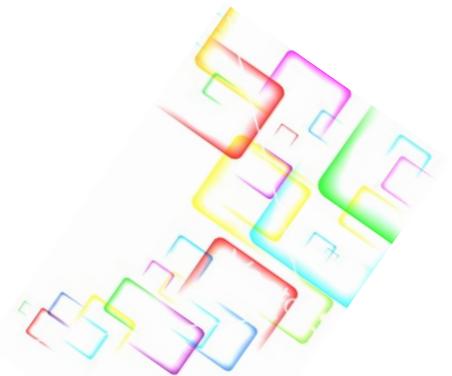
# History & Mission



The Jane Finch Ministry is a community ministry of the United Church of Canada within Shining Waters Region. Since 1982 it was situated in the middle of Toronto Community Housing's Firgrove Community. In the spring of 2017 one third of the 380 units were deemed inhabitable, due to disrepair and slated for demolition. Being that the unit the ministry was housed in, was one of them, the ministry office had to move to the adjacent Firgrove Public School in the fall of 2017. Although Firgrove is the immediate catchment area, the ministry provides support and is also involved in initiatives taking place in the larger area of Jane and Finch.

Although the community suffers from issues related to poverty and social exclusion, it is rich in culture with over 70 different languages and dialects spoken and representation from 110 nations. With the United Church's historic involvement in the Social Gospel movement and its commitment to social justice the United Church, through this ministry has tried to stand in solidarity with the Jane and Finch community in their struggles and issues since 1982.

Most of the programs and initiatives of the ministry are done in partnership with others and we are grateful for this collaborative approach in building upon the strengths and assets of the community to meet the deficit needs.



We are a ministry of pastoral presence within the culturally diverse Jane Finch Community providing support in community development, community organizing and advocacy. We are an integral part of the community, attentive to its needs and challenges but transformed by its grace and the hope of a more just society void of systemic racism and economic oppression.



# Minister's Reflections for 2022

by Barry Rieder

Working now for many years in Jane and Finch community has been uplifting and rewarding due to the incredibly gifted and caring community filled with rich diversity. My life has been truly blessed and transformed because of it. However I must say that this year was extremely hard with the shooting deaths of several young people from the community. One in May was the second son that a mother lost to gun violence. Another in the fall was a young man from Firgrove that I saw grow up over the years. He was very much a peace maker and actually lost his life because of it.

Over the years I have lost count of how many vigils that I have conducted to provide some healing for the families and community. This year was 4. During the time of Covid we actually saw a rise in shootings, with the highest amount of gun charges in Jane and Finch vs other neighbourhoods in Toronto. A long time ago I realized that gun violence is a symptom of a larger problem and that is systemic racialized poverty where young people feel a lack of hope. With the financial impact of Covid in neighbourhoods like Jane and Finch I guess one should not be too surprised that gun violence has increased while hope and despair especially amongst young black youth has decreased.



As violence in the community has continued to escalate, in addition to responding with vigils and pastoral support, the Ministry has continued to look at root causes and spend efforts in trying to increase the economic stability of the community. The Passport to Employment (PTE) program, done in conjunction with the Neighborhood Action Youth Employment Committee, provided 559 certificate trainings for youth. The program was initially funded by the Ontario Trillium Foundation but for the last couple years we were able to garner support from the TD bank as well as the Tippet and Gooder foundations and most recently from the Hendrie Trust Fund and Peter Gilgan Foundation to keep the program going. In addition to this program we are part of a Youth Collective Impact project that is trying to refine pathways to employment and careers for young people in the neighbourhood.

With Covid restrictions lifted Andrea Tabnor was able to host the 11th annual Jane Finch Unity BBQ this summer. The event promotes Unity and the ending of gun violence, bringing feuding factions of the community together in a successful way. DJ music happens through out the day, interspersed with spoken word and inspirational messages. Hamburgers, Hotdogs, Roasted Corn, BBQ'd and Jerk Chicken as well as refreshments are all free. Activities for the kids included jumpy castles, face painting, cotton candy, a dance off, soft ice cream and a video truck.

With dedicated volunteers we continued our monthly food day assisting up to 59 families and were able to provide food gift cards several months, due to grant support. Due to Covid and other respiratory illness concerns that rose in the fall, our Festive Season event was a drop-in style in which we handed out presents for the children and food boxes. In total we provided 208 meals and 93 presents.

Much of the work of the ministry is through coalitions and networks with most focusing on how to increase the economic well being of the community. I am grateful for these partnerships and the dedicated change makers in the community

# Initiatives of the Ministry



The Ministry provides information and referral to people who drop by the office or phone in. A variety of issues are dealt with such as legal matters, immigration, housing concerns, employment, schooling, skills training, parental support, conflict mediation, access to food, translation, etc..

Pastoral care includes supportive listening, crisis counseling, grief counseling, hospital visitation, conducting funerals, vigils or memorials, house blessings and naming ceremonies.

With support from the United Church's Gift with Vision

- ◆ 200 backpacks with supplies were assembled and given out to children and youth in Firgrove, the Syrian Community at 4500 Jane St., at a homeless event downtown and a community group called M Power Excellence.



With financial support from the TD bank, Hendrie Trust fund as well as Tippet, Gooder and Peter Gilgan foundations we provided, through the Passport to Employment program we provided,

- ◆ 559 pre-employment training for youth in 5 schools as well as youth out of school and out of work. These Ontario recognized certificate based trainings included customer service, high five (working with children), food handling, smart serve, fork lift and first aid training. We also provided workshops on resume building and interview skills.

With the support from North York Harvest Foodbank and dedicated volunteers

- ◆ 59 families were provided food support with our monthly food day

In addition to this, over \$6,000 was provided in gift cards to support people impacted financially by Covid

With support from the Chum CP24 Christmas Wish Foundation, Humber Valley United and 31 Division of Toronto Police Services

- ◆ 63 families were provided Xmas gifts for 150 children

This year for the Festive Season celebration we provided 208 boxed meals that people could take home and 93 gifts bought for children and Toronto Star boxes for children given out.

# Initiatives of the Ministry

Community development initiatives that the ministry provided financial and in some cases organizing support to include: Firgrove Learning & Innovation Community Centre's summer program, Pardon Project with a youth servicing organization called PEACH, Jane Finch Unity BBQ, fundraising for the late Jack Walters-Loor Family and Funeral support for Ozman Bangura.

Coalitions, Collaboratives and Networks that the Ministry was involved in:

- ◆ Black Creek Community Collaborative
- ◆ Black Creek Financial Action Network
- ◆ Jane Finch Crisis Support Network
- ◆ Community Arts Hub Organizing Committee
- ◆ Neighbourhood Action Youth Employment Committee
- ◆ Jane Finch Youth Employment Collective Impact project

Church Involvement:

- ◆ United Church's Anti-racism Common Table
- ◆ United Church's Guaranteed Livable Income campaign



Thanks to all who have contributed either time or financial support for the work of the Jane Finch Community Ministry.

A special thanks to Lorraine Anderson (Office Coordinator/program support), Halima Abdela (Admin support/Bookkeeper) Marilyn Quashie, Hazel Reis, Margaret Nti, Carlis Dunbar ( Food Day Coordinators), Tamara Jeremie and Tajiio Smith (Passport to Employment Coordinators), Andrea Tabnor (Jane Finch Unity) Maryan Hilowle (Coordinator of the Back to School Drive), Matthew Fox (BCCC/NAYEC Coordinator), Dyanne Marlok (Social Justice Placement Student) .



Thanks to the Jane Finch Steering Committee and the Board of the Community Ministries for its support, guidance and governance.

Also special thanks to the former Toronto West and South West Presbytery for creating and supporting ministries like this and for the core financial support from the Presbyteries of Toronto Conference Corporation, Shining Waters Regional Council of the United Church as well as the United Church Mission and Service Fund which allows this ministry to happen.



# Funding

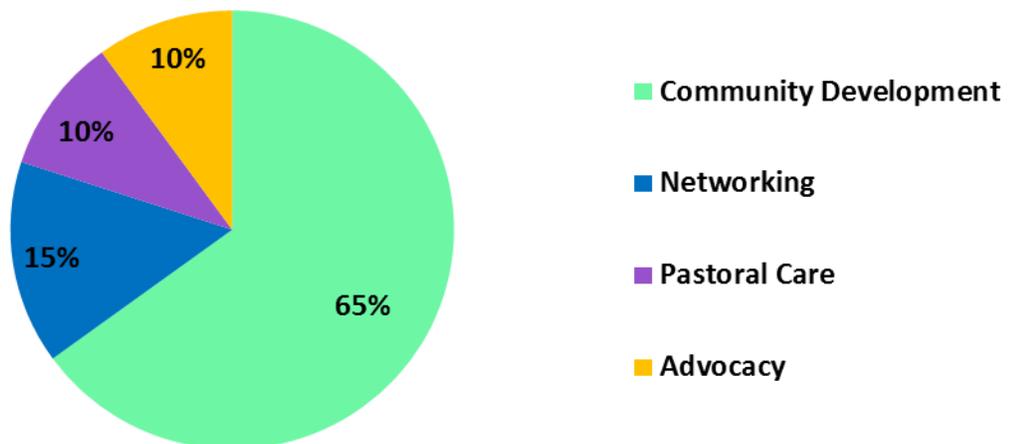
## Condensed Statement of Revenue and Expense

Income	2022 Actual	2022 Budget	2021 Audited
Foundations and Grants	166,095	225,150	113,593
Church Revenue	154,607	151,791	181,749
Donations	18,281	6,600	6,491
Fundraising/Income Generation	18,060	16,600	12,982
Government Sources	7,482	16,706	9,737
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>364,524</b>	<b>416,847</b>	<b>324,552</b>
<b>Expenses</b>			
Salaries and Benefits	188,734	240,377	181,158
Program	96,078	86,882	71,821
Purchased Services	49,791	72,600	13,865
Administration	24,871	28,990	24,871
<b>Total Expense</b>	<b>366,832</b>	<b>428,849</b>	<b>291,715</b>
<b>Surplus / ( Deficit)</b>	<b>( 3,014)</b>	<b>(12,002)</b>	<b>32,835</b>

\* Surplus in 2021, due to underspending during Covid and investment income from PTCC, to be used in 2022 -2024



## How Jane Finch Community Ministry uses funding



Full Financial Reports Available Upon Request

# Funders & Partners



United Churches  
Bloordale  
Humber Valley



SHINING WATERS  
REGIONAL COUNCIL  
The United Church of Canada



**Benefaction Foundation**

**Hendrie Trust**



**Gooder Foundation**



**United Way**  
Greater Toronto

**Tippet Foundation**

gifts with vision



**Peter Gilgan**  
Foundation

**NAYEC**

Neighbourhood Action Youth Employment Committee



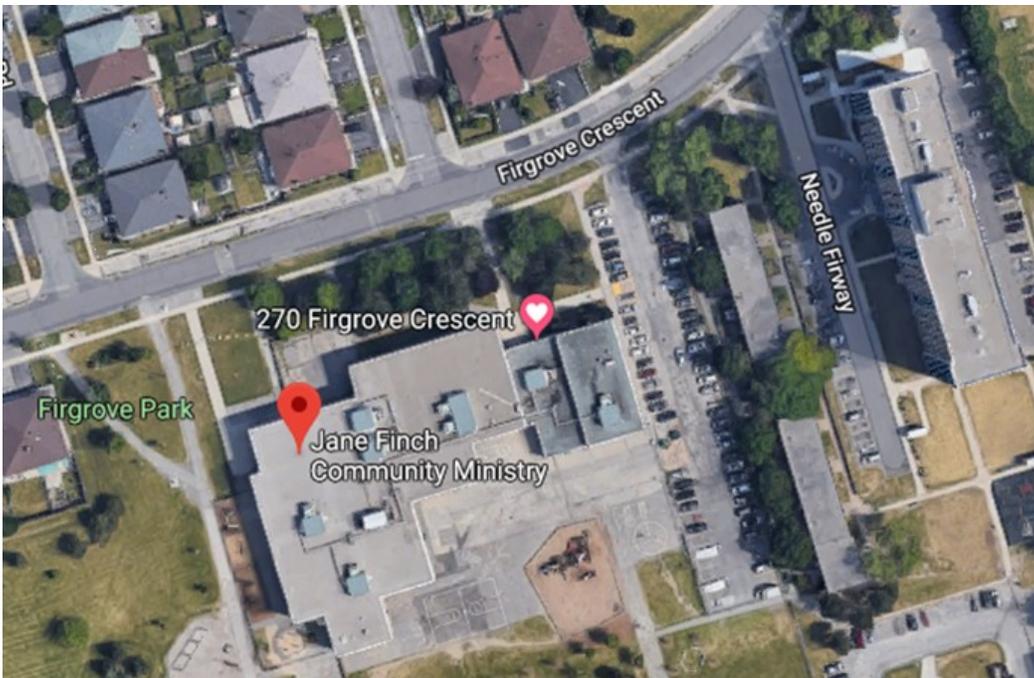
Toronto Community Housing



# Jane Finch Community Ministry



## Annual Report 2022



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