



NETWORKING



ADVOCACY



PASTORAL CARE



COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

# Davenport Perth Community Ministry

## A Community Ministry of the United Church of Canada

### KBE 1 & 2

Kairos Blanket Exercise, January 31 and August 9, 2018. On January 31, Toronto Urban Native Ministry's (TUNM) Rev. Chris Harper assisted DPCM at its Kairos Blanket exercise with Elder Mimi Harder and Kairos volunteers. (Fr. Harper later became the first Treaty Six member to be an Anglican Diocesan bishop.) On August 9, Alfredo Barahona the Indigenous and Migrant Network Relations Coordinator for KAIROS, assisted us in delivering the exercise in both English and Spanish. Spanish-speaking community residents at Davenport Perth wore traditional clothes, offered prayers. A Guatemalan elder gave prayers that echoed the prayers given to the four directions by TUNM's Sandra Campbell. At the Circle, many of the Spanish-speaking members asked that we recognize their dislocation, as in exile and eviction, from the lands of their birth, connecting their experience with that of the indigenous peoples of Canada, in Turtle Island.







**Celebrations.** On Saturday, July 21, Pauline Bryant, DPCM Steering Committee member joined staff at the Festival of Faith to kick off the 43rd General Council held in Oshawa.

**Family Camp.** In 2018, 50 campers went to Five Oaks Education and Retreat Centre. The juncture of the river and the creek inspired a strong sense of spirituality among the campers.

**Vigils and Observations.** DPCM joined vigils such as the Annual Strawberry Ceremony for Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women, Girls, Trans and Two Spirit people, mmiwg2s, held February 14 at Toronto Police Headquarters. In the February gathering for the monthly memorials for those who died while homeless in Toronto, we honoured Dean Lisowick, also known as “Laser”, who was never reported missing. As a homeless man, there were many present who met and remembered him and spoke about his gentleness, his hard work and his struggle to survive. He paid \$400 a month for his share to sleep in a common area in of one his friends’ apartment before he disappeared.

**Poverty Reduction Strategy.** In March and April, we participated in the panel series to help generate the next phase of the City's Poverty Reduction Strategy.

**Tax Clinics.** DPCM offered a tax clinic for three Saturdays, April 14, 21 & 28 with DPNCHC and the government of Canada's Community Volunteer Income Tax Program (CVITP), eight volunteers completing 46 returns from community residents.

**Networks.** DPCM attended the first Toronto Nonprofit Network meeting on April 9 and with others reviewed the implications of the City's new policy on the nonprofit sector, and discussed how the nonprofit sector will guide the implementation of this policy. DPCM is also part of Faith in the City and in the life of the church, served as chair and co-chair of the Social Justice and World Affairs (SWP) and its joint meetings with the Justice and Global Issues Team (TSP) as well as the Social Justice Network of Ontario Conferences. Networking in Food Security continued when DPCM joined Resetting the Table, Food Secure Canada's 10th Assembly in November.







**Tasting Davenport Routes 2018.** Aoife and Ella continued the story of food in Davenport with a new video to add to the DPCM YouTube channel, this time focusing on community food activists and food banks.

Issues of migration, eviction, exile, food justice, gentrification, precariousness of jobs and of housing due to *reno-victions*, are among the many issues that face Davenport Perth. DPCM's role has been to bear witness and to tell these stories with courage and love and to celebrate the Creator's gifts.

**Moon Time Sisters.** On November 10, DPCM and volunteers worked with Moon Time Sisters ON and their volunteers. Veronica Brown and her mother Lesley came from Stratford, Lumy Fuentes and her brother Carlos came from Monterey, DPNCHC colleague Ana helped and took pictures. Volunteers came from the neighbourhood, some from Simcoe, York, Orillia and all other locations from the GTA, about 80 in all were coming in and out and a core of 30, poured into the sanctuary of Davenport Perth United Church, unwrapped, removed all unnecessary packaging, of feminine hygiene products, and re-packed them in 88 boxes to go to our sisters in the northern communities where prices for these are four to five times or more what we pay for them in the GTA. We also set aside a few boxes for local organizations.

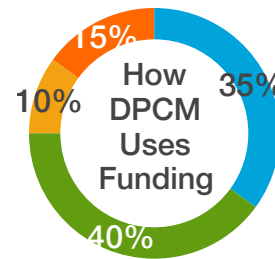
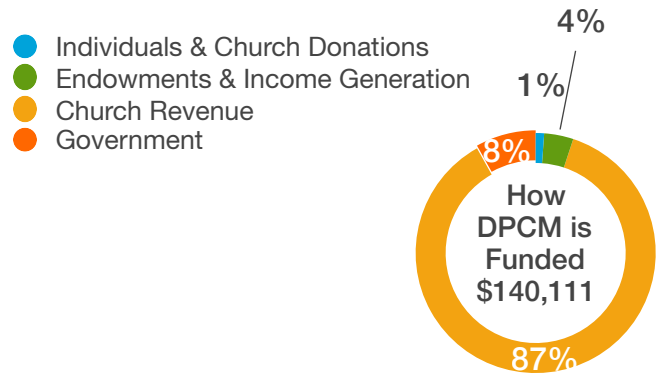
**Bread and Bricks** continue to meet Thursdays, 1-3pm in the Garden Room where participants share stories, resources and advocate for each other.

**Recovery Rocks** led by Carlos Bernardes and Stephanie along with other resident volunteers, offer a time to meet, share a meal on the 4th Saturday of each month.

**Pinch Pots** or playing with clay continues to be a great activity to hang out with friends. Hilda Centritto shows off an angel she created from one of these sessions.

**Table 91** continues to meet monthly in an effort to address community members' areas for improvement.

To all our donors and partners who together on behalf of Toronto Conference's South West Presbytery of the United Church of Canada we are grateful. Their generosity allows us to provide community development and community organizing support, offer pastoral care, and be engaged in advocacy through coalitions and networks in the Davenport Perth community.



- Pastoral Care
- Community Development
- Advocacy
- Networking

## DPCM 2018 Staff

DPCM thanks its exceptional staff, students, office and volunteer team: Dominique Brown, Ayesha Munawar, Ella Boode, Aoife O'Mahony, Ayesha Meher, Pauline Bryant, Stephanie Bailey and Tina Conlon.

## To Connect

Join our Facebook Group, Davenport Perth Community Ministry and "like" our Facebook Page: Pelham Community Hub

**To Donate** On line donations can be made in support of DPCM at Canada Helps, <https://www.canadahelps.org/en/charities/davenport-perth-community-ministry/>

## Steering Committee

- Larry King - Chair
- John Wong - Treasurer
- Stephanie Bailey
- Pauline Bryant
- Florrie Dalglish
- Lumy Fuentes
- Ferris Grant
- Courtney McFarlane
- Barbara Sheffield
- Paul Rose, *Community Ministries Commission Representative to the DPCM Steering Committee*

## Contact

**Dominique Brown**, Administrative Coordinator, [dominique.dpcm@gmail.com](mailto:dominique.dpcm@gmail.com)

**Tina Conlon**, Community Minister, [dpcommunityministry@gmail.com](mailto:dpcommunityministry@gmail.com)  
 Davenport Perth Community Ministry  
 1900 Davenport Road, Toronto, ON M6N 1B7  
 416-654-3726