

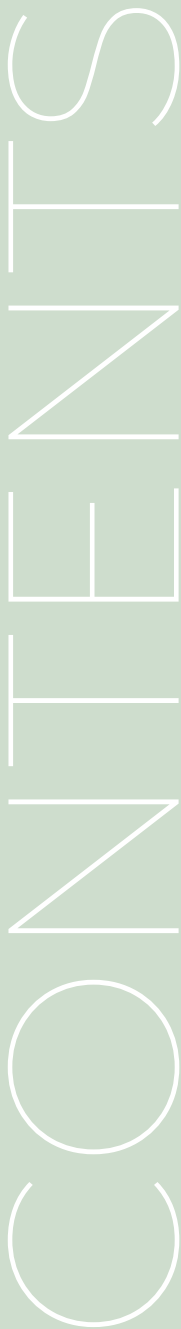
FEELS LIKE HOME NEWCOMERS



ANNUAL REPORT 2023

[FEELSLIKEHOMENEWCOMERS.CA](https://feelslikehomenewcomers.ca)

Table of Contents



01.	Table of Contents
02.	A Message from our Board Chair
03.	About us
04.	FLH Milestones
05.	FLH by the Numbers
06.	Client Impact Story
07.	Foundations Program
08.	Building Blocks Program
09.	Baby's Best Brain Program
10.	Shelter Outreach Program
11.	School's Out Afterschool Program
12.	Financial Review
13.	Ride For Refuge
14.	Our Partners
15.	Thank You

MESSAGE FROM OUR BOARD CHAIR

Feels Like Home Newcomers Society (FLH) was established with a shared commitment to fostering the success of newcomer families in Canada. This year, I am deeply inspired by the dedication and hard work of our board members, staff, volunteers, and the steadfast support of our donors, partners, and the community.

Our core mission centers on creating a welcoming and secure environment for newcomers, offering vital resources, education, and opportunities to empower families to enrich our nation's cultural and economic tapestry. Our programs, covering early childhood, English language proficiency, food security, and outreach, have positively impacted numerous families this year.

Furthermore, we are excited to announce our partnership with the United Way of British Columbia to provide the United Way School's Out Program for school-aged newcomer children. We have actively cultivated strong community bonds, collaborating with local businesses, community organizations, and government agencies to expand our reach and resources.

FLH is deeply honored to be a part of the Surrey community, where we have witnessed remarkable stories of perseverance and accomplishment among the families we support. As we look forward, we are filled with anticipation and optimism, as we see numerous opportunities to broaden our reach, enhance our programs, and create a lasting impact on the lives of newcomer families.

I extend my heartfelt gratitude to our entire team, the dedicated board of directors, and all individuals and organizations who have contributed to our journey. Your unwavering support has been the driving force behind our work as a new nonprofit organization in Surrey. Together, we are poised to continue crafting a brighter future for newcomers to Canada in the years to come.





“ We are filled
with anticipation
and optimism ... ”

WELCOME!

FLH is thrilled to be sharing with you our FIRST EVER Annual Report - a testament to our unwavering commitment to fostering a brighter, more diverse and inclusive future for everyone in our community. As we reflect on a remarkable year, we invite you to embark on a journey through our organization's endeavors and accomplishments. At Feels Like Home Newcomers, we're not just in the business of supporting newcomer refugees; we're architects of hope, builders of bridges, and champions of new beginnings. Join us as we navigate the pathways of progress we have made over the past several months, celebrating the incredible milestones we've collectively achieved in welcoming and empowering newcomers in our community.

MISSION AND VISION

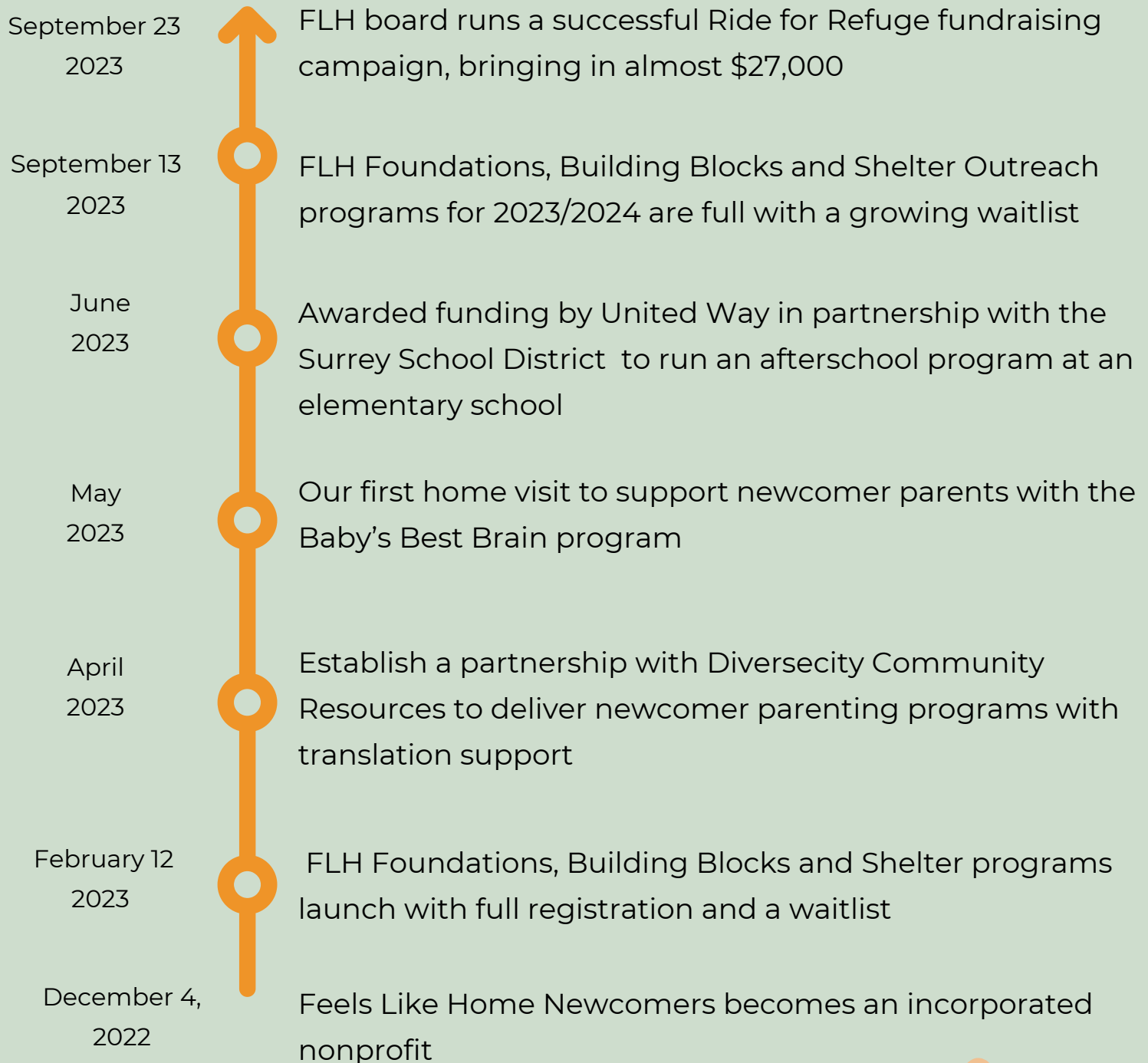
Feels Like Home Newcomers **welcomes**, **empowers**, and **supports** newcomer refugees and vulnerable immigrants as they take steps to build the life they desire in Canada.

Through our programs and services, we promote, nurture, and actively facilitate an environment where everyone experiences a strong sense of **belonging**, where each individual is **supported** and **empowered** to live the life they desire.



FLH Milestones

Building Hope from the Ground Up



Three women are standing outdoors on a grassy area with trees in the background. They are all wearing blue long-sleeved shirts and have their arms raised in a celebratory gesture. The woman on the left has blonde hair and is wearing black leggings. The woman in the center has dark hair and is wearing a blue t-shirt with a graphic, a lanyard with a badge, and jeans. The woman on the right has dark hair and is wearing white pants. They all appear to be smiling and shouting with joy.

**In our first 11 months
and with a dedicated
team of 9 staff members,
20 volunteers, and 12
community partners
we...**

FLH BY THE NUMBERS

...delivered 400
bags of organic
veggies and 160
boxes of
groceries

...held
235 hours of
language classes,
park days, field
trips, and
parenting
sessions

**...welcomed
249 refugee
newcomers from 8
countries, speaking
6 different
languages**

...rescued
21,916 pounds
of food

...shared 55
story times
with 32
children over
26 weeks

CLIENT IMPACT STORY



With the assistance of a Pashto translator, we would like to share the story of Khalida's journey to Canada.

My name is Khalida and my family's journey began in Jalalabad city, Nangarhar province, Afghanistan.

Life there had become unbearable. War had stolen our security and left us in constant danger. All we wished for was a chance at life, and to escape the turmoil.

Through the Canadian government-assisted refugee program, we found a pathway to hope. Our path led us to Islamabad, Pakistan, where my husband and I as well as our 2 young children patiently waited for seven months to receive the necessary documents. On December 14, 2022, we finally arrived in Toronto.

Canada, while welcoming, has its own set of challenges. We find ourselves in a different culture and environment, requiring significant adjustments. We have started our journey of learning the English language knowing it is the key to overcoming the obstacles we face. Feels Like Home Newcomers helps me and my children learn English which makes it easier to do simple things like go shopping, seek medical care, take transit and have conversations.

In Afghanistan, life for us was an endless struggle. Basic necessities were luxuries we could only dream of. We lacked food, furniture, proper clothes, and comfortable shoes. Hygiene accessories were scarce, and our children knew little joy, as there were no toys or books. Our girls were denied an education, and even the boys' schools were far from what they should have been. It is difficult for us as our loved ones are still trapped in danger, without jobs or the promise of education.

Here, in Canada, our family has found a chance to build a life that is safe, and full of opportunities. For that, we are grateful to Canada and to Feels Like Home Newcomers.



FOUNDATIONS

LANGUAGE AND LIFE SKILLS PROGRAM



Opening DOORS to
new horizons



BUILDING BLOCKS

EARLY YEARS PROGRAM



BUILDING BRIGHTER
FUTURES

UNLOCKING THE POTENTIAL



BABY'S BEST BRAIN PROGRAM

SHELTER OUTREACH PROGRAM



NURTURING HOPE
ONE MEAL
AT A TIME



SCHOOL'S OUT PROGRAM



BUILDING
BELONGING,
CONNECTION, AND
AWARENESS

FINANCIAL REVIEW

FISCAL YEAR 2023 JANUARY - PRESENT

Total Raised: \$117,445

REVENUE

Grants

Van City \$ 650

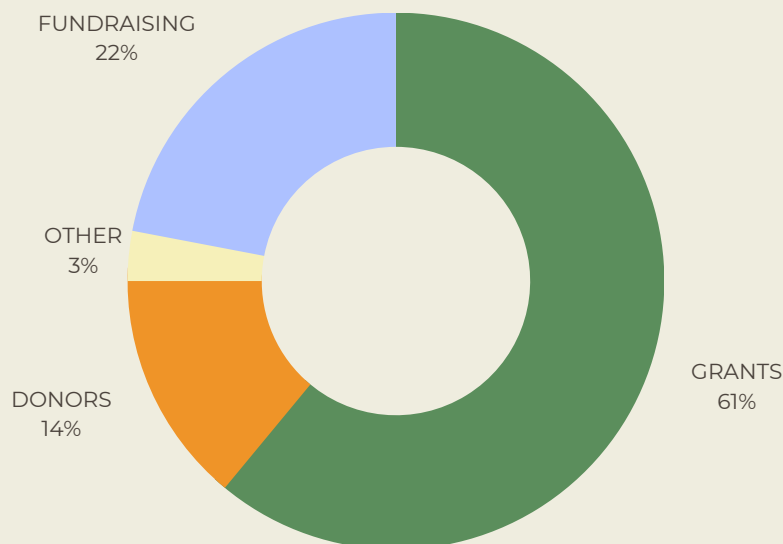
Schools Out \$ 70,000

Individual Donors \$ 17,021

Fundraising \$ 26,607

Other \$ 3,167

Total **\$117,445**



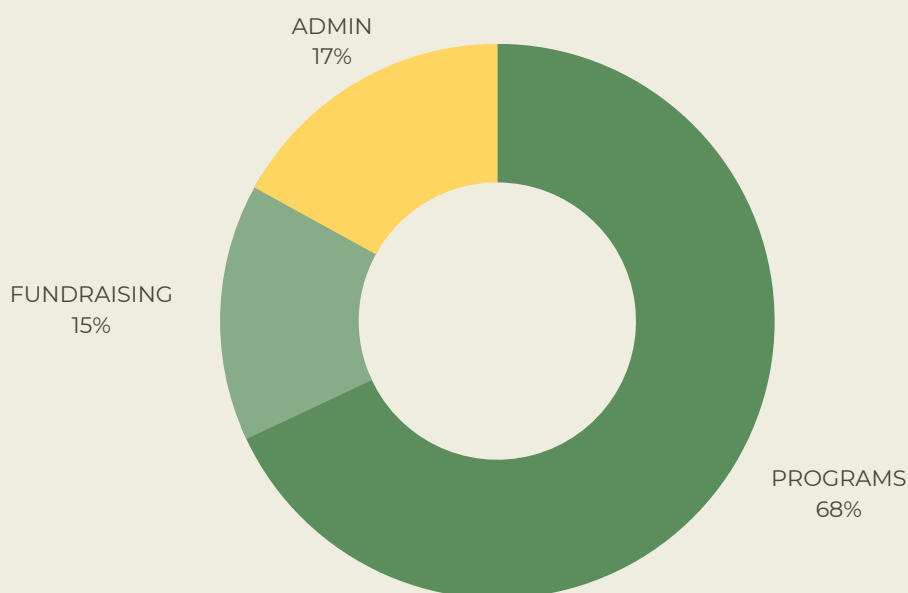
EXPENSES

Programs \$29,340

Fundraising \$ 6651

Admin \$ 7,606

Total **\$ 43,597**



RIDE FOR REFUGE



FLH BOARD MEMBERS ARE PLEASED TO REPORT OUR FIRST ANNUAL FUNDRAISER WAS A BIG SUCCESS, RAISING OVER **\$26,000**.

THANK YOU TO ALL OUR SPONSORS, DONORS, PARTICIPANTS AND VOLUNTEERS!



FLH WOULDN'T EXIST
WITHOUT THE GENEROUS
SUPPORT OF OUR
DONORS, PARTNERS AND
ADVOCATES

THANK YOU!



United Way
British Columbia

Working with communities in BC's
Interior, Lower Mainland, Central
& Northern Vancouver Island



DIVERSEcity
community resources society





Thank you

Feels Like Home Newcomers
www.feelslikehomenewcomers.ca
778-723-HOME (4663)