

FCSS ANNUAL REPORT

2021



2021 FCSS BOARD MEMBERS

Councillor Jeff Bourne, Village of Delburne
Councillor Michael Dawe, City of Red Deer
Councillor Vesna Higham, City of Red Deer
Councillor Connie Huelsman, Red Deer County
Councillor Philip Massier, Red Deer County
Councillor Tyrone Muller, Town of Penhold, Vice-Chair
Mayor Leah Nelson, Village of Elnora
Colleen Bredo, Citizen Representative
Valdene Callin, Citizen Representative
Gordon Thomas, Citizen Representative
Milt Williams, Citizen Representative
Councillor Sandy Gamble, Town of Bowden
Sheyi Olubowale, Citizen Representative
Dick Lemke, Citizen Representative
Councillor Victor Doerksen, City of Red Deer
Councillor Lonny Kennett, Red Deer County
Mayor Jul Bissell, Village of Elnora

2021 Safe & Healthy Communities Staff – City of Red Deer
2021 Regional Partners – FCSS Staff



THANK YOU



VOLUNTEERS

1,029

VOLUNTEER HOURS

HOURS

23,658

TOTAL VOLUNTEER CONTRIBUTION
MEASURED AT \$20/HOUR

\$473,160

PEOPLE SERVED

INTERNAL AND EXTERNALLY FUNDED PROJECTS

Municipality	People Served
City of Red Deer	10,487
Town of Penhold	3,778
Red Deer County	2,961
Town of Bowden	1,615
Village of Delburne	779
Village of Elnora	515
Other/Not reported	6,750
Total (Reported)	26,885

DEMOGRAPHICS SERVED

	People Served
Children and Youth	10,697
Adults	9,583
Seniors	2,225
Other/Not reported	4,380
Total	26,885

FUNDING CATEGORY

Administration	336,808
Adult & Family Services	238,000
Children & Youth Services	1,412,828
Indigenous Community Services	1,412,828
Seniors Services	471,962
Community Development Initiatives	1,111,553
FCSS Regional Project	2,408
Spark (Neighbour grants)	9,198
Agency Capacity Building	13,540
Reconnect grant	64,785
Total	3,851,082

SOURCES OF FUNDING

Total Funding	3,851,075
Province of Alberta	3,080,868
City of Red Deer	523,699
Red Deer County	149,539
Town of Penhold	50,249
Town of Bowden	18,675
Village of Delburne	14,628
Village of Elnora	13,417



See inside for how FCSS
adapted programming during
the COVID-19 pandemic.

Responding to COVID

2021 was another devastating year for many as the second year experiencing Covid impacts. This was especially felt in the drop of community activities and increasing social isolation.

In response FCSS Red Deer & District introduced the Reconnect grant, to rebuild community and repair some of the relationships damaged the last 2 years. This grant was for community-led projects, and 13 projects were supported.

TOTAL GRANTED

64,785

TOTAL GATHERINGS

84

ATTENDANCE

1,780

Reconnect Community Projects

All the projects were focused on connecting and reconnecting neighbours and community members of many backgrounds and ages through events, mentorship, and skill development activities. The activities brought old and new faces together through:

- Bike Repair Cafe
- Community Fair & Community Cafes w/ mentorships
- Coffee in the park
- BBQ food/drinks Free adult drop-in exercise classes
- Free Gym / Family Games
- Skate camps
- Door prizes
- Games: life sized Jenga, Bocci ball, outdoor badminton, Lawn games
- Community concerts
- Sharing groups: experiences, stories, cultures
- Party with Santa
- Sewing Project
- Community Sidewalk Mural

All grantees also completed a 5-week Community Leadership Program, where they shared lessons and challenges as they ran their projects, on how to know who is in your community, reach new people, deepen relationships, and host activities that are welcoming to all. There are now many new citizen leaders that have continued to create community far beyond their projects.



Child & Youth Projects

Pooled indicator

12,474 children and youth were served by the following projects in 2021. Within these children and youth, 64% reported increased self-esteem, which is a significant improvement over 2019/2020 (42%).

Projects funded

Benalto Playschool
Benalto Playschool

Bowden Play and Learn
Bowden Playschool

Central Alberta Refuge Effort
Immigrant Youth Program

Chinook's Edge School Division
Family School Wellness Program

Delburne Playschool Society
Delburne Playschool Program

Elnora Playschool
Playschool

Red Deer Catholic Regional Schools
Family School Enhancement Counsellors

Red Deer Public School District
Community Liaison Worker

Spruce View Rural Child Care Society
Spruce View Playschool

Town of Penhold
Penhold Youth Club

YMCA of Northern Alberta
Universal Access

Youth HQ
Big Brothers & Big Sisters of Red Deer & District

Youth HQ
Boys & Girls Club of Red Deer & District

Example of impact

From an Indigenous guardian:

"Thanks so much for being there for him [my brother]. I appreciate you so much! Kids like my brother need people like you in the schools rooting for them through all their struggles. Thanks for never passing judgment and always being there for him and me."

– Red Deer Catholic Family School Enhancement Counsellor

From a parent:

"My kiddos ... they talked the whole way home and again this morning about the huge impact this Blanket Exercise had on their knowledge of history. As a parent, to be honest, I was expecting them to be late and this was an opportunity of a lifetime for them to go and hear a story we all too often have never been taught. I want to thank-you all for making the choice to work with my kids' multiple times a week. They know and they feel blessed by your care and for making them feel matter when they don't always get that same message from their peers at school."

– Youth HQ/Boys and Girls Club



Adult & Family Projects

Pooled indicator

1,259 adults were served by the following projects in 2021. Across these participants, 35% of adults reported increased optimism (i.e. an improvement in feeling good about their future).

Projects funded

Red Deer Family Service Bureau
Family Counselling

Shalom Counseling
Strengthening Emotional and Relational Wellness for Individuals and Families

Example of impact

From a mother whose son was experiencing anxiety, depression, and relationship challenges:

"My son has returned to his happy, teasing, quick-witted, fun-loving boy he was created to be. He is not checking in on me every 2 minutes, he is sleeping in his own bed and room, he is allowing me to go do errands and have meetings away from home without him having to come with me. My husband and I have decided to have the kids at home learning from an online platform so (my son) has been at home as well, he misses his friends but is becoming a driven self-learner. I am so grateful for you and your influence into our son's situation. I was afraid when we started sessions with you that I may have to use medication to calm his fears but with your help he has been able to fight out of a place of fear every moment. Thank you for all you have done to support (my son)."

– Shalom Counselling



Seniors Projects

Pooled indicator

1,224 seniors were served by Senior serving organizations. Of these seniors, 64% reported an improvement in available social supports.

Projects funded

Golden Circle Senior Resource Centre
Golden Circle Outreach

Red Deer Family Service Bureau
Home Support Program

Red Deer Meals on Wheels
Meals on Wheels Red Deer

Example of impact

From a senior to a volunteer:

"You don't just bring meals you bring happiness."

– Red Deer Meals on Wheels

"We got a call from the Red Deer Cancer Clinic, one of their senior patients needed help and our outreach worker went to meet him... He came into our office with a note "To the staff at Golden Circle thank you for making me feel welcomed during the holiday season a part of a family. It felt like and I just wish to express my gratitude for your sincerity and kindness especially Teri my case worker thank you for being there for me with my best regards..."

– Golden Circle



Indigenous Projects

Pooled indicator

In 2021, funded projects served 3,334 self-identified Indigenous community members across the Indigenous funding stream and 33% reported feeling a greater sense of belonging in the Indigenous community.

Projects funded

Urban Aboriginal Voices Society
Community Facilitator

Red Deer Dance Troupe Society
Revitalizing the Circle

Example of impact

"One of our Fire Within Youth who completed two fancy bustles for his regalia to compete in a Powwow Special in Lethbridge, AB and took 3rd place. This youth continues to step up and lead community dance virtually as well as in person. The passion he has for his culture and overall health and wellness continues to shine through this pandemic. We're very proud of his accomplishments in the last year! He is always willing to give a hand to support the work of the Red Deer Aboriginal Dance Troupe and strives to do his personal best in everything he does."

– Aboriginal Dance Troupe

New initiative created within Domain group:

"There are few Indigenous cultural supports for Indigenous peoples in Red Deer. Indigenous peoples who are actively pursuing good mental health and personal development goals through Indigenous cultural alternatives and options is not an available option. In traditional Indigenous societies in Alberta, the role of Elders is a crucial role in supporting education and learning, sharing tradition, knowledge, culture, values and lessons through oral teachings and role modelling."

– Urban Aboriginal Voices Society



FCSS Projects

Meet Me at the Park

SPARC Red Deer

Meet the Street

Downtown Business Association

Fractal Lab

Recharge Community Association Project

Red Deer Lights the Night

Mural Festival

REconnect Learning Series

Year of Garden Projects

High Risk Youth Coalition