

Annual Report

2018-2019



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Report from Board and ED

Our budget increased by 35 percent as we started three new federally funded projects: Mobile Childcare, Learning Journeys and the Digital Literacy Education. With these initiatives came exciting new partnerships.

PIRS provides meaningful opportunities for newcomer women, often at difficult times in their lives. One LEAD participant shared that the program helped her see hidden skills that gave her the confidence to focus on new goals and future employment at a time when she felt she had “lost herself through her role as a mother and wife.”

We are grateful for the ongoing support of funders and donors: City of Vancouver, United Way, BC Direct Access Gaming, Health Canada, IRCC, and DECODA. Donors gave \$45,453. Your support allowed us to respond to emerging needs in the community.

We extend a heartfelt thanks to Barbara Harvey, Joanna Whalley and Irfan Reayat who are stepping off the Board but remain committed to PIRS.

We said good bye to some team members, and we are proud to see them achieve their goals. Ana Machado accepted a counselling position with Cameray Family Services and Hanan Muharram accepted a full time position in Ottawa.

The generosity and commitment of our volunteers contributed to PIRS’ success in so many ways. 90+ volunteers contributed 2,236 hours in 14 programs supporting teachers, childcare staff, and facilitators. They also were key to PIRS’ fundraising and communications efforts. This year, 11 volunteers were hired by PIRS and other organizations.

We thank the Staff, the Board, and the Consultants who work to put our Values, Vision and Mission into action.

Finally, thank you to ALL who contributed to PIRS throughout the year. Your support allowed us to continue to help women, immigrants and their families.

Jan Littler Finseth,
Chairperson, Board of Directors

Mariam Bouchoutrouch,
Executive Director

Funded by / Financé par:



Immigration, Refugees
and Citizenship Canada

Immigration, Réfugiés
et Citoyenneté Canada

Participants



1,597 participants
23 programs



50 countries
of origin



942 women, and
655 children served
68,310 hs of service to women
12,634 hs of service to children



31 languages



55% refugees (including
Refugee Claimants)

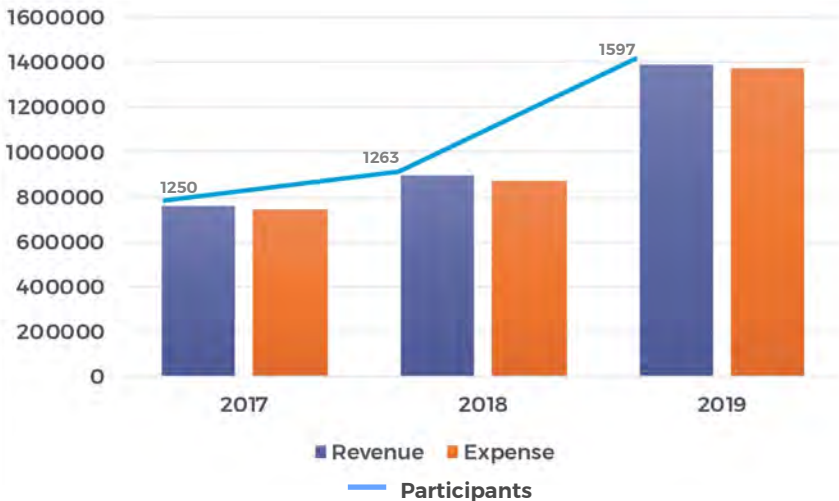


38.8% high school
education
or less (6.6% no
formal
education)



Top 10 languages spoken by participants:
Spanish, Arabic, Cantonese, Mandarin,
Tagalog, Dari, Pashto, Kurdish, Tigrinya, Hindi

Revenues and Expenses



Revenue	1,388,803
Expense	1,373,202

PIRS Programs and Initiatives

- Trauma informed community English classes for refugee and immigrant women were offered in 9 locations in Vancouver, Burnaby, New West and Surrey.
- Early Childhood and Parenting programs included the Early Years Refugee Program, Refugee StrongStart, Family Literacy Storytime and the CAPC funded ESL Parenting program.
- Women's Leadership programs included the LEAD and Building Bridges programs as well as mini conferences organized by Building Bridges participants for their facilitation practicums.
- The Childcare Training program in collaboration with VCC.
- Service Delivery Improvement projects that explore innovative ways to improve the settlement journeys of immigrant women: Trauma Training; Pop Up Childcare Social Enterprise; and, Learning Journeys, a client-centered research project.
- The Digital Literacy Education program trained trainers on how to deliver literacy to populations that experience barriers (e.g. literacy, trauma, etc.).



HIGHLIGHTS

- 70 adults attended a non-technical Hackathon we hosted to develop the idea for a Pop Up Childcare social enterprise.
- Pop Up Childcare's first customer was the Feminists Deliver Conference. PIRS' childcare team converted the Evidence Room (old Vancouver Police Station) into a childminding room.
- PIRS trained approximately 1,700 service providers via 47 presentations (workshops, webinars, conference presentations) across Canada. Service providers included instructors, settlement workers, settlement workers in schools, social workers, youth workers, counsellors, and other front line staff.
- We surpassed our \$10,000 fundraising goal during the Scotiabank Challenge.



In the Field – Program Staff

Ann Asselstine, Arlene Ordonez, Breanna Switzer (Rae), Bushra Tariq, Carol Anita Bond, Deirdre Pfaff, Dounia Mliik, Emily Hunter, Erika Infante Pizarro, Erika Landeo Torres, Eva Machalek, Guohong Xia (Anna), Hanan Muharram, Inderjit Kaur (Indi), Jennifer Sarah Lee, Jessie C. Martin Patagan, Joanna Wang, Karla Avelar, Laman Said, Leanna Inokoshi, Nadia Taj Khan, Ning Zhang, Nongkran Ho (Yuki), Qing Du (Chelsea), Rahya Habtay Mihretab, Sabrina Siddiqui, Sandra Slind, Sara Wynne, Sawsan Murad, Selamawit Hagos, Song Hee Choi (Lucy), Souad Ghomari, Suad Al-Taie, Sukhraj (Ravi) Boparai, Valeria Mancilla, Valerie Lai, Wai Lan Fong, Zarmina Mohammad Ali.

Volunteers

Aisha Khan, Amina Saeed, Alyssa Lillyman, Althea Bernardo Gracia, Amal Attar, Amira Chache, Amandeep Kaur, Amina Saeed, Arielle Berez, Arzoo Haidary, Aseel Daghestaini, Bao Zen Zhao, Bisrat Huruy, Chloe Chen, Carmela Marriane, Carly Shannon, Chava Glouberman, Christine Hwang, Connie Elbao, Danni Tu, Disha Bhatnagar, Dipanwita Mondal, Dasha Reddy, Eva Machalek, Eva Chen, Fatima Aamir, Fatima Zain, Friba Sarwari, Harpreet Kaur, Honey Ajula, Huda Alanny, Indygo Heim, Jaskiran Gakhal, Jiehui Dong (Dora), Judith. A. Scott, Kate Barnett, Kelly Muco, Laila Telawi, Liza Caluza, Laurie Grant, Layla Alwarwani, Lulu Yan Hua Shen, Manal Almasri, Maria Cardona, Margaret Lei, Marialejandra Reyes, Mariana Gassman, Maria Mua, Minerva Silhy, Mihret Yargalem, Moghzan, Mun Yee Chong, Naila Ismaiyalopv, Neda Al-Saqqa, Nilapha Khotjak (Jade), Nongkran Ho (Yuki), Rachel Cheang, Razzan Kittani, Roquia Ahmadi, Roupina Sarkiss, Rubina Ruby, Samantha Sailisbury, Samira Nanou, Selamawit Petros, Sera Horricks, Siemeen Fayez, Sharon Babu, Stephanie Machado, Shagufa Paiker, Suad Al Taie, Susan Pinkham, Takwa Sultana Jahan, Tammy Ho, Thanh Vo, Tayeba Jalal, Theresa Deering, Wendy Yuan, Wai Lan Fong, Winnie Lao, Yu Qing Qi (Phoebe), Zahra Mahdian, Zahra Jilali.

Board Members

Chairperson
Vice Chairperson
Past Chair
Co-Treasurer
Co-Treasurer
Secretary
Director
Director
Director
Director

Jan Littler Finseth
Suzanne Saatchi
Joanna Whalley
Michelle Chen
Suzanne Saatchi
Kathy Price
Cyda Chud
Barbara Harvey
Shaughnessy Sturdy
Irfan Reayat

In the Office – Core Staff

Executive Director
Mariam Bouchoutrouch

Managers
Naiely Cabrera - Operations
and Programs

Martha Scully - Pop Up
Childcare

Diana Jeffries - Training
Marcela Mancilla-Fuller -
Programs

Coordinators
Ana Machado / Patricia
Lomelli - Childcare

Jugnoo Salahuddin -
Volunteers

Inderjit Kaur -
Instruction

Tarana Sultan -
Women's
Development

Erika Infante Pizarro -
Pop Up Childcare

Office Administrator
Maliha Mayeed

Marketing and
Communications
Coordinator
Karin Konstantynowicz /
Irina Iordache

Researcher
Serah Gazali

Intake Worker
Lola Kharma

Accountant
Enkel Backoffice Solutions

IT Support
Ross Tremblay



Program Partners

Partnerships allow us to extend our mission and do more with less. This year partners provided **\$66,779** worth of in-kind space. We thank ALL of our partners and collaborators and would like to acknowledge the following:

Burnaby School District

- Stride Avenue Community School
- Edmonds Community School

Neighbourhood Houses

- Burnaby Neighbourhood House

Vancouver School Board

- StrongStart Program and the seven schools that host PIRS programs

- Family Services of Greater Vancouver
- Immigrant Services Society of BC
- MOSAIC
- South Vancouver Family Place
- Options Community Services
- UMOJA Society
- DiverseCity
- Vancouver Community College
- Minerva BC
- Work With Us Foundation
- The Shoe Project



PIRS Mission Statement

Empower immigrant and refugee women and children to fully participate in Canadian life through neighbourhood-based programs.