

# YOUR IMPACT IN 2024.

“We took care of our child, and you took care of us.”

– Frannie





# WHY WE LOVE YOU.

Dear Nicola Wealth,

Have we told you lately how much we love partnering with you?

Our programs have grown and evolved in remarkable ways again this year, and it's because of you that this year-to-year increasing impact was possible. Families navigating childhood cancer and blood disorders consistently tell us that the practical, tangible support provided across WCK programs changes their experience, leaving them equipped to manage each day. They feel the community's care with every meal, Port Shirt, support session, and beyond.

This work really matters. We're so glad to be doing it with you, and we can't wait to see what's possible in 2025.



Leslie Grover, WCK Board Chair





# YOU FED KIDS AND PARENTS IN THE HOSPITAL.

We learned from families that the WCK meal options meant their children on treatment always had something palatable and tasty available to eat, as soon as they felt able to eat. This sustained them through treatment and helped to overcome the impact of treatment on their appetites.

Parents kept telling us that WCK meals were their own personal “lifesaver meals.” Being able to nourish themselves, and knowing that a community around them cares for their wellbeing, meant the world to them.



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*It's difficult to get to the grocery store while also being present with your sick child. Food isn't the priority, and yet, it's key to a successful recovery.*

Oncology parent



**WE DELIVER UP TO**

**500**

**MEALS & SNACKS  
TO HOSPITALS  
EVERY WEEK**



**APPROXIMATELY**

**1,200**

**CHILDREN AND  
FAMILY MEMBERS  
WILL EAT A WCK  
MEAL IN 2024**



# YOU MADE LIFE BACK AT HOME SO MUCH EASIER.

Your support meant we could lessen the burden for **199 family members** who were adjusting to life back at home by keeping their freezers filled with nourishing meals. Thank you for relieving their mental and physical load. You equipped them to spend more quality, stress-free time together and to focus on caring for their kids.



*WCK removed a huge pressure, because we didn't have family nearby to fill in the gaps. I was isolated and exhausted, so having people take care of me through food – so that my attention could be on my child – was incredible.*

Oncology parent



**360**

**BOXES WILL BE  
DELIVERED TO  
HOMES ACROSS  
BC IN 2024**



**6,500**

**FAMILY MEALS  
WILL BE  
DELIVERED IN  
2024**



Levi and his mom and dad enjoying a meal together at home



# YOU MADE TREATMENT MORE COMFORTABLE.

Research shows that receiving port treatment can be one of the most distressing parts of a child's cancer journey, but providing comfort and dignity makes a lasting impact on their experience.

Because of your support, we gifted more families with more Port Shirts than ever before, and they kept telling us how they made treatment more comfortable for their kids, giving them back a much-needed sense of control.



Mikaela rocking her Port Shirt



*Our girl has been living in her Port Shirt and simply loves it!!! We are so grateful to be gifted this shirt to make her experience just a little better.*

Gabrielle

## PORT SHIRTS IN 2024:



# 180

SHIRTS WILL BE  
DELIVERED



# 30%

MORE SHIRTS  
THAN 2023



# YOU MADE CAMP MAGICAL.

Childhood cancer and blood disorders isolate kids, but at WCK City Camp, they finally find a place where their diagnosis isn't the centre of attention. Here, kids are free to create delightful chaos, make friends, and laugh until their bellies hurt – all while staying under close medical supervision, sleeping in their own bed at night, and not missing important appointments.

Over the years, you've helped create a magical experience for over **160 different kids** at City Camp. Research shows that children often lose out on regular childhood experiences due to their diagnosis and treatment, and it's at camp where those formative experiences are restored.



*I cannot thank you enough for creating such a vibrant and nurturing environment. The memories and friendships my child made at City Camp will undoubtedly last a lifetime.*

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**60**

**KIDS ATTENDED  
IN-PERSON CAMP**



**144**

**HOURS OF FUN**



The epic City Camp Water Fight of 2024



# YOU SUPPORTED YOUNG PEOPLE.

By supporting The Club program, you enabled **39 young adults** to access year-round support in a way that fits their unique needs. Diagnoses of PTSD are common when survivors become young adults, and having cancer places children at significant risk of long-term social and emotional difficulties. They've experienced significant trauma early on in life.

The Club uses a youth work approach through gentle, low-barrier programming which improves participants' sense of safety in the world. They are equipped to build supportive peer relationships and enter adult life with more resilience and an enhanced sense of wellbeing. Thanks to you, we made life feel manageable and the world feel safer for some incredible young people as they begin to navigate adult life.



*My mom always told me I'm not alone. At The Club, I was finally able to see that. We were able to share our experiences in a safe space. I felt more happy with myself and more open to sharing with friends about what I deal with behind-the-scenes.*

Kayla



# YOU SHOWED UP FOR CAREGIVERS.

We have learned from our families – and from research – that parents are known as "hidden patients." Their significant needs at a distressing time usually go unmet because the focus of interventions and resources is on their sick child. We also know that, by supporting their psychosocial, emotional, and informational needs, we can prevent the caregiver exhaustion that is evidenced to lead to mental health difficulties.

Thanks to your support, we were able to hire a Mental Health Resource Coordinator this year, and expand mental health programming. **We went from supporting 11 caregivers in 2023 to over 131 so far in 2024.** Ongoing funding will resource us to continue to expand our reach and launch a comprehensive new Peer Support program for caregivers in 2025.



*Thank you from the bottom of our hearts for this crucial support.*

Oncology parent

*Things are getting better with your support.*

Oncology parent



# 2024 WAS ANOTHER YEAR OF GROWTH.

**Thank you for sticking with us** – that’s what’s made it possible for us to step up and meet the needs of families across B.C. by growing our crucial programs.

## NUMBER OF FOOD ITEMS DELIVERED TO HOSPITALS & HOMES



## CAREGIVERS SUPPORTED THROUGH MENTAL HEALTH PROGRAMS



## PORT SHIRTS DELIVERED



WCK’s challenge following 2023’s incredible year of growth was to sustain a scaled-up level of service provision across all programs.

Not only did we achieve this, but we brought mental health programming to life and saw even more growth and evolution of our established programs.

Thank you for resourcing us to support more families with more in-depth and comprehensive support. It’s a game changer.





# LET'S STICK TOGETHER

## WCK BUDGET COMPARED TO 5 YEARS AGO

2020

246,000

2025 (est.)

909,000

This remarkable growth in WCK impact is all thanks to incredible, passionate partners like you who know the difference that practical support makes for our families. We depend on partners who understand how crucial sustainable funding is to keep going and keep growing. **Want to help us do more?** For every new family that walks the oncology floors of BC Children's Hospital in 2025, let's be there for them in their toughest moments.



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*My son finishes treatment tomorrow. After 805 days, he is ringing the bell at his big party this weekend. Your kindness has truly blessed our family over this long, grueling time. You have given our family so much. Thank you to WCK and all your incredible, generous donors.*

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# WCK.

WEST COAST KIDS  
CANCER FOUNDATION

