

Blind Beginnings Society

ANNUAL 2022 REPORT



2022 was a year of tremendous learning, growth, and change.

We emerged from COVID-19, with most restrictions lifted and many of our programs able to return to in-person. We began to learn which of our programs were best suited to return to being run in person and which ones were best to continue virtual. We surveyed our families and learned how to best build a hybrid model of program delivery in order to increase our reach throughout the province. We said fond goodbyes to some of our virtual programming while we developed new innovative programs that our families were interested in.

We wanted to continue to be able to service communities outside of the Lower Mainland, so we brought on new staff members in the Vancouver and Okanagan regions that allowed us to supplement virtual programming with in-person events on a monthly basis.

2022 was also a year of continued organizational growth with the addition of new staff members and continued improvements to streamline our administrative systems. This, along with the adoption of a co-leadership model, has brought Blind Beginnings into its next stage of maturity.

Butterflies can't see their wings.

**They can't see how truly
beautiful they are.**

But everyone else can.



OUR VISION

Our vision includes a world where seeing things differently inspires LIMITLESS possibilities.

OUR MISSION

Our mission is to inspire children and youth who are blind or partially sighted and their families, providing diverse programs, experiences, counselling, peer support and opportunities for them to create fulfilling lives.

OUR VALUES

- Build a diverse and inclusive community
- Value and respect all abilities
- Lead by example
- Empower through growth and learning
- Challenge the limits of possibility
- Adapt and persevere

OUR COMMITMENT

Blind Beginnings embraces diversity and inclusive practices in all aspects of our programming and organizational operations. Along with addressing disability, our inclusive practices reflect a commitment to anti-racism and reconciliation, and respect for differences of opinions and beliefs, gender identity, religious and cultural differences, and socio-economic status.

OUR ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Blind Beginnings acknowledges that we carry out our programs throughout the lands of Indigenous nations across the province. We would also like to acknowledge that our office is located on the unceded homelands of the Qiqéyt (Qayqayt) First Nation.



Directors' Message

Looking back on 2022, the theme of the year was discovery. As we returned to some in-person programs we discovered which virtual programs must be permanent, and which in-person programs must return. Our support groups have remained virtual as this is more accessible for all of our youth and families regardless of where they live in BC.

Providing virtual programming helped us to discover more families who could benefit from our services, and many new youth and families have joined us this year. Meeting in person is also essential for creating that community of support and introducing positive blind role models, so family retreats, summer camps, and family community discovery outings will continue to be in-person. We recognize that our families outside Metro-Vancouver also need ongoing opportunities to connect in-person so we hired staff in **Kamloops** and on **Vancouver Island** and are now offering Community Discovery outings regularly in those locations as well.

We decided to move to a co-leadership model and discovered that works really well for us. Last May Shawn became **Director of Programs and Community Engagement**, and Lia became the **Director of Finance and Administration**. This co-leadership model allows both Shawn and Lia to focus on the areas they are strongest and has helped to strengthen and grow the organization and expand programs. We have also discovered that through our Limitless podcast and blog, we have been able to do more to raise awareness as to the capabilities of people who are blind or partially sighted. Listeners of our podcast tune in from all across Canada and internationally across 10 countries.

A highlight of our year was our Limitless Beauty Fashion Show where 9 of our youth discovered that you don't need to see to be able to be a model in a fashion show. After attending a Fashion Camp last summer, these youth participated in our first ever Limitless Beauty Fashion Show during Fashion Week in October. Accessible Media will be releasing a documentary about this event soon and we look forward to being able to share that with our supporters. This event was yet another example of the limitless potential of our children and youth.

As you review this Annual Report, please remember that none of this would be possible without the continued support of our donors, volunteers, and our youth and families.

With gratitude,

Shawn & Lia



Shawn Marsolais
**Director of Programs and
Community Engagement**



Lia Dicicco
**Director of Finance
and Administration**

Message from the PRESIDENT OF THE BOARD



At Blind Beginnings, we like to gently push others outside their comfort zone and to challenge perceived limitations. By doing this, we can be a catalyst for growth and evolution.

This year, we took our own advice to heart and pushed ourselves to try new ideas and ways of doing things. Although at times it felt scary, we went ahead as a team, and

supported each other through challenges.

In October, we held our first ever Limitless Beauty Fashion Show, where our youth walked the runway with confidence and style. This event epitomized our dedication to breaking barriers and redefining what is possible for youth who are blind or partially sighted. It also served as a one-of-a-kind program giving youth an opportunity to find their own sense of style.

We held an unforgettable Gala in May, where our supporters fueled our mission with their unwavering generosity. Their commitment serves as a testament to the impact we have made and the great work we continue to do. We also continued to venture beyond the Lower Mainland, engaging with families and communities across the province through meaningful and fun programs.

This year we learned that there is much to be gained beyond the comfort zone. We must continue to advance past our bounds in order to advance our vision of limitless potential.

Thanks to our staff and volunteers for working tirelessly in pursuit of our cause, and thanks to our families for trusting us in the process.

With heartfelt gratitude,

Maria Zeldis
President, Board of Directors

Message from the YOUTH REPRESENTATIVE



This past year was one that demonstrated the true resilience of Blind Beginnings. In the past few years, we had a majority of our programming happening online, however, due to many aspects of life going back to normal, we were able to transition to more in person activities than we have had in the past three years. Many of the youth were excited to take part in in-person camps, such as Camp

Hornby, where the youth were able to engage in so many fun activities, and were able to create lasting memories. Another highlight of the year was our annual in-person Youth Leadership Weekend, where several of the new youth leaders to Blind Beginnings were able to connect in person, and practice several independent skills training activities.

The year also brought the youths' passion to take part in a few projects. The Limitless Fashion Show was a great success, due to the dedication of our youth, staff, and membership at large. It helped the youth gain valuable skills, such as confidence and understanding their fashion sense, as well as allowing the public to see the truly limitless potential of youth that are blind and partially sighted.

In addition to our in person programming and activities, we continued providing online programs, such as creating confidence, creating connections, and monthly youth leadership meetings. These allowed the youth to remain engaged with one another, and take part in wonderful volunteering opportunities throughout the year.

Overall, this year has allowed us to open up our programming to more in person activities, similar to prior years, in addition to maintaining the flexibility and ease of online programming. We had several exciting events and opportunities for the youth to engage with, and we hope to keep this momentum going in the years to come.

Ishita Bhatia
Board Youth Representative

THE *Blind Beginnings* TEAM



Shawn Marsolais
*Director of Programs and
Community Engagement*

Lia Diccio
*Director of Finance and
Administration*

Keisha Anderson
Programs Coordinator

Rob Mineault
Communications
Coordinator

Ariadna Gomez
Administration and
Volunteer Manager

Dougie Dow
Youth Programs
Coordinator

Bruce Taylor
Family Programs
Coordinator

Randi Poitras
Administrative Assistant

Bo the Wonder Dog
Good Boy

(l-r) Bo the Wonder Dog, Keisha Anderson, Bruce Taylor, Shawn Marsoalis, Randi Poitras, Lia Diccio, Rob Mineault, Dougie Dow, Ariadna Gomez



THEORY OF CHANGE

Our theory of change requires parents, children, teachers and society to adopt a positive perspective of blindness. When this happens, children and youth who are blind or partially sighted will live a more fulfilling life. Blind Beginnings, through its programs and services, is working toward a world where seeing things differently inspires limitless possibilities, where children can reach their potential, without being held back by perceived limitations.

We're Changing Perspectives

Historically, people have negative stereotypes of blindness, lacking the understanding of the abilities of people who are blind. Even parents of a child who is blind or partially sighted can have these negative stereotypes and doubts that their child can grow up to be independent, capable and employable, resulting in feelings of hopelessness.

Blind Beginnings shifts these negative perceptions of blindness from the past by supporting the child/youth who is blind and their immediate family, as well as working to change society's perceptions of blindness.

This greater understanding will result in parents being more likely to already know a positive blind role model when their child is born, resulting in parents' views of blindness being more accurate, less negative and deficit based. They will assume their child who is blind will be able to achieve the same things as a sighted child. With these raised expectations, they will encourage and support their child to pursue their dreams and goals.

Children and youth are empowered and confident in their abilities. Society has a greater acceptance and understanding which leads to inclusivity and people who are blind being integrated into a wide range of jobs and all aspects of society.



EARLY INTERVENTION

Our Early Intervention Program was designed for families raising pre-school age children who are blind or partially sighted. Through this program we offer workshops for parents, concept building activities for children, support groups and Early Intervention Retreats for the entire family. The Early Intervention program not only provides information, resources, and emotional support but also serves as a crucial networking and support opportunity for the families raising children who are blind or partially sighted in BC.

PROGRAM NEED

We believe that connecting with parents at an early stage may help to shift a negative perception of blindness to one of possibility. Through stories, songs, and hands-on craft making, parents of babies, toddlers and preschoolers learn how to make these activities come alive for their children and to connect with other parents also raising a young child with a vision impairment.



We offer Early Beginnings and Accessible Story Time as part of a contract for service with

**VISION LOSS
REHABILITATION**
CANADA

with funds provided by the Ministry of Children and Families.

Accessible Story Time was in partnership with

PRCVI :: ::

PROGRAM GOALS

- Provide information and resources for parents from a Vision Specialist from Vision Loss Rehabilitation Canada.
- Give parents an opportunity to socialize babies and introduce them to songs and stories.
- Provide emotional support to parents and reduce feelings of isolation.
- To raise parents' expectations of their child so they support their child in reaching his/her potential.
- To provide Blind Beginnings families with opportunities to meet each other to learn from and support each other.



For the first time our son connected with another child who shares his diagnosis. He made a deep connection and we were able to chat through the complexities of his condition with another family who understood our journey. He also got to hold and try using a white cane for the first time and he was obsessed! He was saying 'sweep, sweep, sweep' for days afterward and it was incredible to watch him feel some mastery over his environment with the help of this mobility aid.

- Parent of a child who is partially sighted

COMMUNITY DISCOVERY

Through educational workshops, recreational clubs and community outings, blind or partially sighted children are exposed to skill-building activities, experiences, and hands-on learning that support cognitive and motor development, communication, independent travel, and socialization. While children increase independence and self-esteem, parents access resources to help their child discover and develop their true capacities.



PROGRAM NEED

Community Discovery was created to address serious issues children who are blind or partially sighted face growing up – they often have unnecessary limits placed on them by teachers, society and even their own families who are trying to protect them from getting hurt or don't know how to adapt an activity to be done without sight. As a result, children who are blind or partially sighted often grow up not participating in physical activity at school and are hesitant to try new experiences. This impacts their self-confidence, their physical health and their social and emotional health. Community Discovery outings provide children who are blind or partially sighted with the time and opportunities for hands-on exploration, which they require in order to learn new concepts in the world or experience a new activity.



PROGRAM GOALS

- To raise the personal expectations of children who are blind or partially sighted with respect to what they believe they can do, leading to increased self-confidence and new skills development.
- To provide a hands-on means for children and youth who are blind or partially sighted to learn basic concepts, at their own pace.
- To provide children who are blind or partially sighted with opportunities to improve motor skills and build interest in lifelong physical activity by experiencing sports and leisure activities with their families.
- To raise parents' expectations of their child so they support their child in reaching his/her potential.
- To provide Blind Beginnings families with opportunities to meet each other to learn from and support each other.

2022 DISCOVERIES

- An outing to **Kamloops Art Party**
- Went to **Playland** in **Vancouver**
- Visited **Aldor Acres** Pumpkin Patch and Petting Zoo in **Langley**.
- **BC Wildlife Park** excursion in **Kamloops**
- Visited **Dan's Farm and Country Market** on **Vancouver Island**
- Hosted a Bowling party at **Capri Lanes Bowling Alley** in **Kelowna**.
- Hosted the Annual Blind Beginnings Holiday Party in **New Westminster**.
- Partnered with **Canadian Blind Hockey** to offer several ice skating sessions in **Comox** and **Victoria**.



CREATING CONFIDENCE

The Creating Confidence Program was designed to help children and youth who are blind or partially sighted build self-confidence, self-acceptance and independence. Over a series of workshop sessions, children learn to develop skills and confidence. Some of the topics covered are Independent Living Skills, technology use, how to use and understand body language, facial expressions, gestures, and personal space. Youth also learn how to prepare their look according to the social situation, how to help others feel at ease with their visual impairment, and how to behave in a variety of social and professional settings.



PROGRAM NEED

For children approaching adolescence, fitting-in becomes important and often youth look to their friends and peers to build confidence and self-acceptance. Youth who are blind or partially sighted don't have this point of reference, so developing personal style can be very challenging. Youth who are blind or partially sighted face many challenges that hinder their career success. This can be attributed to many factors including: low self-confidence, social challenges, and misconceptions held by employers and the general public about the abilities and potential of people who are blind or partially sighted.



PROGRAM GOALS

- To fill the gaps in what youth learn in school including independent living skills
- To boost self-acceptance and confidence.
- To learn how to effectively communicate with sighted peers
- To develop friendships with peers who are blind or partially sighted
- To help youth who are blind or partially sighted take steps toward career choice and successful employment.
- To make available confidence and skill-building workshops to all children and youth who are blind or partially sighted in BC
- To provide children and families with opportunities to meet each other and benefit from shared experience and peer support



CREATING CONFIDENCE FASHION SHOW TRAINING CAMP

The Limitless Beauty Fashion Show Training Camp took place on August 8 - 10, 2022 and was the first Blind Beginnings program of its kind. It was a program that fit within the Creating Confidence category, but also served as the first part of a unique advocacy and fundraising event - The **Limitless Beauty Fashion Show**. The intent of the Fashion Show was to showcase the fashion and style of models who were blind and partially sighted while integrating seamlessly with the Creating Confidence mandate - it was an opportunity for Blind Beginnings youth to learn about fashion and beauty and discover their own ways to express themselves through it.

See the details of the Limitless Beauty Fashion Show on page 20.



YOUTH LEADERSHIP & PRE-EMPLOYMENT

A first-of-its-kind in BC, the Youth Leadership & Pre-employment Program prepares youth who are blind or partially sighted for their future transition to work and adult life. While the youth build employment and life skills, they also learn to see their true abilities and to not be held back by limits set by others. The program is designed to provide direct training and practical experience in leadership, team building, public speaking, communication, and career planning and also provides youth with opportunities to volunteer in order to help build valuable skills and confidence.



PROGRAM NEED

Youth who are blind or partially sighted face many challenges that hinder their career success, as indicated by the national unemployment rate of approximately 70 percent. While there are employment readiness training programs for individuals with disabilities, there are no other programs specific to blindness or visual impairment. Furthermore, youth who are blind or partially sighted often experience low self-confidence and social challenges that negatively impact their search for employment and career development.

It's such an amazing opportunity to not feel alone in vision loss. In the past I was often scared off by anything that required a time-commitment or had the word leadership, in it, but these sessions continually became the highlight of my week because connecting with others with vision loss and having discussions around being a disabled young person made me feel seen and understood in a way that I simply can't be in my regular circles.

- Youth Leadership Weekend Participant

PROGRAM GOALS

- To provide youth who are blind or partially sighted with skill-building training and practical experience that supports their employability and career success.
- To help youth who are blind or partially sighted set higher personal goals and increase self-confidence to improve their chances of employability and career success.
- To teach youth who are blind or partially sighted how to put their friends, co-workers, bosses and others at ease with their blindness to support their success at work.
- To educate the public about blindness to increase expectations and inclusivity for youth who are blind in the workplace and in the community.



YOUTH VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES 2022

- **Family Holiday Party.** Blind Beginnings held a Family Holiday Party in-person on December 10. Youth Leaders and Alumni were invited to help plan and run this event and also act as positive role models for families and younger blind and partially-sighted attendees.
- **CNIB Family Fun Days.** Blind Beginnings Program Coordinators attended in different parts of BC and each had Blind Beginnings Youth Leaders assisting them at the info booths.
- **Kids Connect.** Youth leaders were invited to our Kids Connect program which is a support group for children 7-12. Youth Leaders came to act as role models, lead activities and connect with the kids.
- **Contributing to Limitless Content.** This includes writing blog articles for the Limitless Blog and co-hosting duties on the Limitless Podcast.
- **Educational Public Speaking About Blindness.** Providing blindness presentations in the community.

SUMMER CAMP

Blind Beginnings' Summer Camp Program offers children and youth who are blind or partially sighted opportunities to challenge personal limits, develop new skills and increase self-confidence through summer camps and physical activities. Through observation, parents begin to see their child's true capacities and lift unnecessary limits, thus allowing the child to develop undiscovered talents and increase independence.

PROGRAM NEED

Children who are blind or partially sighted often have unnecessary limits placed on them by teachers, society and even their own families. As a result, these children can underestimate their own abilities, which can directly impact their physical pursuits. When children who are blind or partially sighted are not given the opportunity to try physical challenges at a young age, they often grow up hesitant to try new experiences, thus impacting their self-confidence.



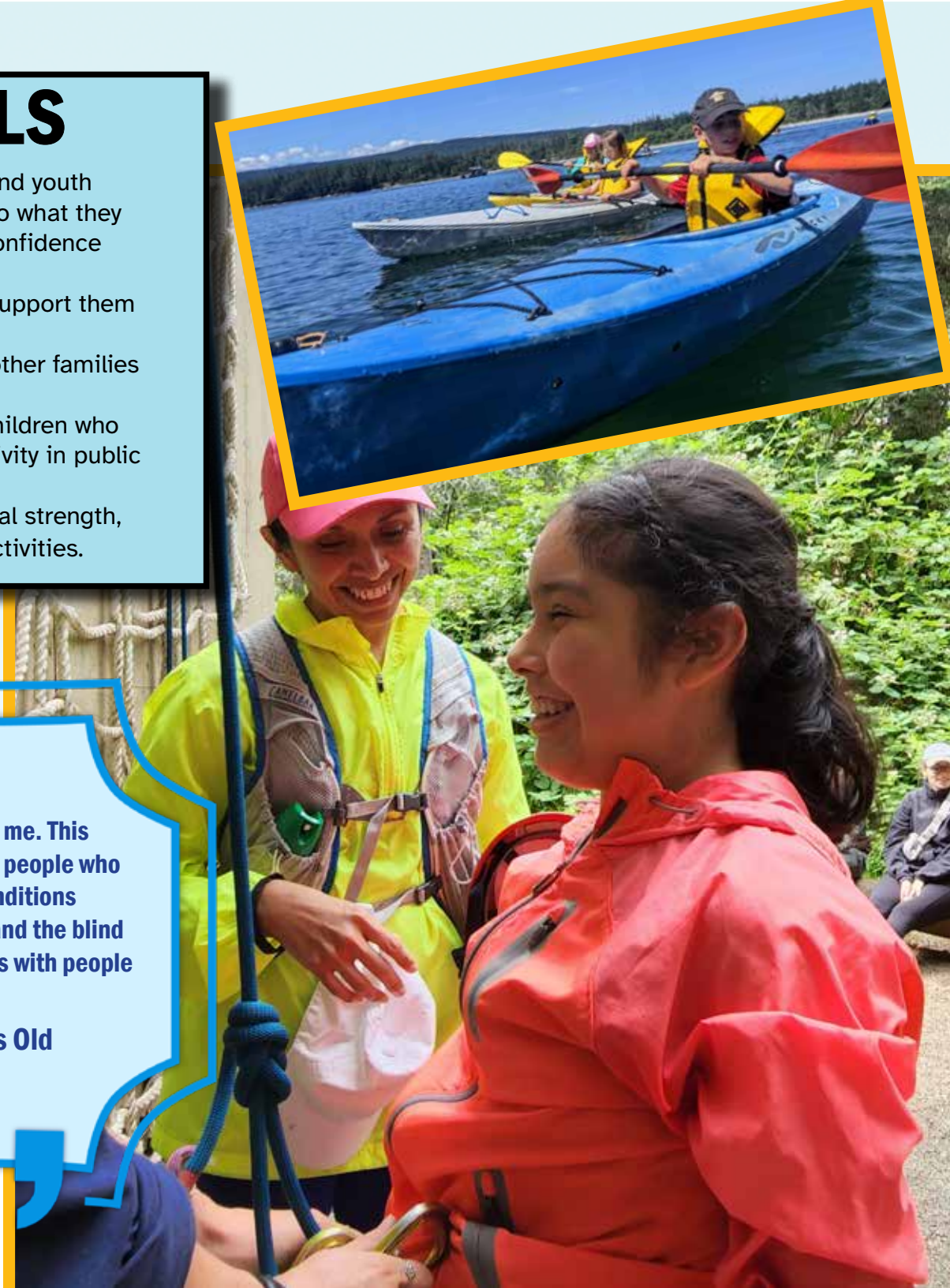
PROGRAM GOALS

- To raise the personal expectations of children and youth who are blind or partially sighted, with respect to what they believe they can do, leading to increased self-confidence and new skills development.
- To raise parents' expectations of their child to support them in reaching their full potential.
- To provide families with opportunities to meet other families to learn from and support each other.
- To increase community awareness about how children who are blind learn, thus leading to increased inclusivity in public programs and venues.
- To challenge physical limits and improve physical strength, thereby increasing overall interest in physical activities.



Camp Hornby was an amazing experience for me. This camp was a way for me to connect with other people who have similar if not worse and some better conditions than myself, I was able to learn and understand the blind community better and also make connections with people and feel a part of the community.

- Camp Hornby Camper, 14 Years Old



COUNSELLING & SUPPORT

Today in British Columbia, there are approximately 750 families raising children who are blind or partially sighted and 45 additional families each year with children who are newly diagnosed. Blind Beginnings wants to ensure that families have access to available early intervention support, children have a place to connect with their peers, and that all families know where to get information and can connect with blindness professionals and other families who have begun the journey before them. Support is provided through individual counselling to children, youth, and parents, as well as through several support groups; **Kids Connect**, our **Junior Support Group** for kids 7 - 12, and our **Seeing Things Differently Support Groups** for parents and youth.

PROGRAM NEED

When their child is diagnosed as blind, most parents usually experience a period of mourning and a deep sense of loss for the life they imagined their child would live. The quality and frequency of services provided to new parents depends greatly on where they live, which community organizations they are referred to, and the level of education and experience of the professionals within those organizations.

Being connected to Blind Beginnings early in our family's journey has been instrumental in building a confident world view for myself as a parent of a kiddo with a visual impairment. I now feel more confident that my feelings are valid, the importance of communication and sharing, and that it's a journey shared with others.

- Seeing Things Differently Parent Support Group Participant

PROGRAM GOALS

- Reduce feelings of isolation
- Connect with others with shared life experience
- Provide emotional support
- Suggest coping strategies
- Build a community
- Provide resources
- Create opportunity for social interaction



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LIMITLESS
Blind Beginnings **PODCAST**

The **Limitless Podcast** continued to develop educational and captivating content on a weekly basis throughout the course of 2022 while building a loyal audience. Some of the year's highlights included a comprehensive look at Camp Hornby, a fascinating episode talking with people with Synesthesia (if you aren't familiar with it, look it

up, it's very cool!), a Do The Grind Blind Reunion episode, talked with a Guide Dog trainer, and had a lot of fun on our 100th episode playing Limitless Trivia with several of our superfans!

Find us wherever you listen to podcasts!



Apple Podcasts



Google Podcasts

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LIMITLESS
Blind Beginnings **BLOG**



The **Limitless Blog** gives our youth another medium in which to express themselves and give voice to topics and discussions that are important to them and that could help educate those outside of the blind or partially sighted community. We had many well written and thought provoking blogs written by youth and our Limitless Blog pages continued to be one of the most well-visited pages on the website.

LIMITLESS BEAUTY

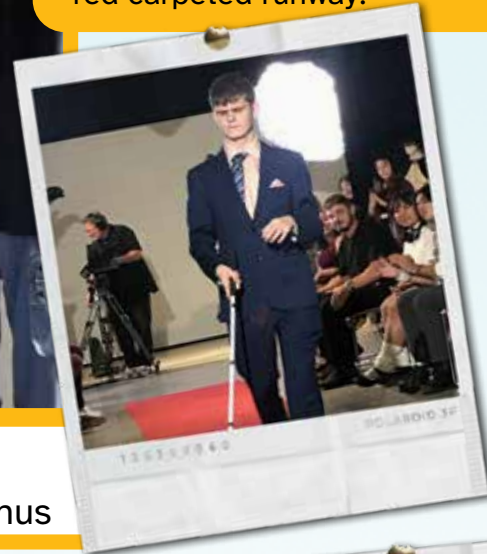
THE BLIND BEGINNINGS FASHION SHOW



The **Limitless Beauty Fashion Show** took place on **Saturday, October 18th, 2022** and was an incredible success, both as a fundraising event and as an opportunity to spread awareness and the abilities of young people who are blind or partially sighted. We filled **JIG Space** in Vancouver with excited attendees who enjoyed seeing our Limitless Beauty models walk the red carpet runway and model several outfits each. It was an incredible experience and show of support for Blind Beginnings and all the young models who stepped out of their comfort zones to walk our red carpeted runway!

OUR LIMITLESS BEAUTY MODELS

(l-r) Camryn, Nolan, Alethea, Alina, Acacia, Nika, Kadence, Aly, Cashus



GROWING POTENTIAL GALA 2022

The **Growing Potential Gala 2022** was the first in-person Gala for Blind Beginnings since 2019, held at the Pavilion Ballroom in the Sheraton Wall Centre. The night was a huge success, with over 175 attendees at who were treated to amazing food, wonderful musical performances, and incredibly moving speeches and presentations. There was a silent auction, live auction, balloon raffle, and several awards given out. All in all, the evening raised over \$60,000 for programs.

A huge thanks to the evening's co-sponsor, **Onni Group** and all our other sponsors - **PCI Developments**, **Acuitas Therapeutics**, and **AMI**.



Blind Beginnings SUPPORTERS

We continue to have a strong committed group of supporters who believe in our mission and provide financial support of our programs and services. Our Community of Supporters includes **individuals, corporations, foundations and government grants**. We value and appreciate every donation, sponsorship and grant we receive.

We also want to acknowledge and offer our gratitude to the **29** monthly donors who contributed over **\$11,375** in 2022 as well as the many other individuals whose names are not listed here.

Major Supporters



We acknowledge the financial support of the Province of British Columbia



Social
Venture
Partners



The Walsh
Foundation

\$10,001 - \$25,000



The Dorothy Ryan Estate
Fund held at
vancosouver
foundation



\$5,001 - \$10,000



Johansen Larsen Foundation



Boychuk Knoblauch
Financial Group

\$1,000 - \$5,000



The Hamber
Foundation



Lori Sheppard Memorial Fund held at
vancosouver
foundation



G&F
FINANCIAL GROUP



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Gaylene Mundy



Mamida
Holdings Inc.



Blind Beginnings VOLUNTEERS

Volunteers played a crucial role in 2022, with the return of in-person programming and events. Multiple key events such as the **Limitless Beauty Fashion Show**, **Annual Holiday Party**, and the **Growing Potential Blind Beginnings Gala** provided an opportunity to engage with our amazing volunteers and could not have been as successful as they were without their dedication and donated time and effort. Volunteers also continued to contribute to our many different committees, including our **Fundraising Committee**, **Fashion Show Committee**, **Governance Committee**, **Diversity Committee**, and **Limitless Podcast Committee**. These committees help with everything from fund development and events to policy and planning.

We also have Youth Alumni who volunteered their time and expertise through their involvement on committees, helping with programs, as well as mentoring of the current program youth. Many also contributed regularly to our **Limitless Podcast** and **Limitless Blog**.

We are so grateful to every single one of our volunteers and would not be able to do what we do without them.



Board of Directors 2022



Maria Zeldis
President



Candice Mah
Vice President



Kim Zebehazy
Secretary



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Amit Gateno
Member-at-Large



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Member-at-Large



Grant Hardy
Member-at-Large



Kathie Johnson
Member-at-Large



Richard Marrison
Member-at-Large



Ishita Bhatia
Youth Representative

1,092



HOURS IN 2022!

FINANCIAL SUMMARY

Blind Beginnings' financial position remained strong during 2022. We had a **significant increase in revenues and expenses compared to 2021** as we were able to provide in person programming again with the lifting of pandemic restrictions. The majority of our revenue came from **grants, donations and sponsorships**. We continued to provide service for Early Intervention support as a subcontractor through a contract with Vision Loss Rehab BC and the Ministry of Children and Family Development. Blind Beginnings also earned revenue from **membership fees, workshop fees and through fundraising events**, most notably an in person Gala.

The total revenues for 2022 were **\$564,868** and the total expenses were **\$531,786** which left us with an excess of revenue over expenses of **\$33,082**.

Blind Beginnings saw an **increase in overall expenses** in 2022 compared to 2021 with **increased in person program expenses** and the **hiring of additional staff to deliver programs**.

TOTAL 2022 REVENUE - \$564,868	Percentage of Total Revenue	
Donations and Sponsorships	\$210,545	37%
Grants	\$234,195	41%
Contract Fees	\$75,000	13%
Fundraising Events	\$32,805	6%
Earned & Miscellaneous	\$12,323	2%

TOTAL 2022 EXPENSES - \$531,786	Percentage of Total Expenses	
Salaries and contracts	\$360,087	68%
Facility Rentals	\$53,524	10%
Material & Supplies, Activity Costs, Program Travel	\$40,761	8%
Event Services	\$28,230	5%
Office, Insurance & Amortization, Bank fees	\$26,115	5%
Technology & Systems	\$6,074	1%
Professional Fees	\$10,113	2%
Bursaries	\$5,000	1%
Outreach, Advertising & In Kind Expense	\$1,882	Less than 1%

For a full copy of our Financial Statements please contact lia@blindbeginnings.ca

HOW TO GET INVOLVED



Encourage your friends or family to sign up as **monthly donors**. These ongoing donations will help us build sustainable funding into the future.



Share with your networks that Blind Beginnings is available and excited to provide workshops and presentations on blindness to schools, community programs, or businesses. Help us work to shift the perspective of what it means to be blind or partially sighted!



Join our volunteer committees such as the Fundraising Committee. Help us plan fun and profitable fundraising events. Can't help us plan our events? Attend instead!



Follow us on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter and share our posts with your friends and followers often and encourage them to do the same. This will help us reach more families, raise awareness, and increase funding.



Subscribe, listen, and share our weekly Blind Beginnings Limitless Podcast and Limitless Blog. You can find both on our website at www.blindbeginnings.ca.



Host a fundraising event to raise funds on behalf of Blind Beginnings. Contact lia@blindbeginnings.ca for approval, guidelines, and information on how we can help support your event.



Sign up to our email list and keep up to date on all Blind Beginnings events and news.

Limitless potential is all we see.

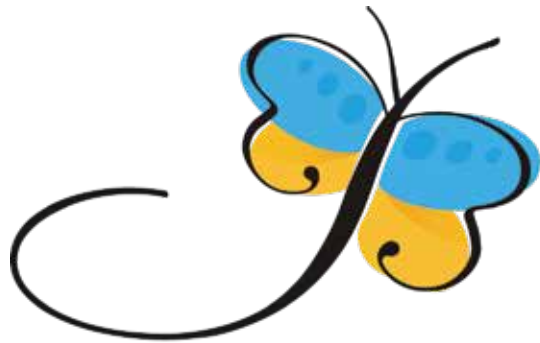


Blind Beginnings Society
227 Sixth Street
New Westminster, BC V3L 3A5

Tel: 604.434.7243
Toll Free: 1.866.736.8620

info@blindbeginnings.ca
www.blindbeginnings.ca

Charitable Registration #: 81329-0616-RR0001



Blind Beginnings



Read the **Limitless Blog** at <https://www.blindbeginnings.ca/limitless-blog/>

Listen to the **Limitless Podcast** at <https://www.blindbeginnings.ca/limitless>

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