

ANNUAL REPORT

2019 • 2020



 **Parcours Program**

 **Sac à dos Program**

 **Passeport pour ma réussite Program**

 **Support measures for Families**

SOMMAIRE

2	Contents
3	Message from the Chair of the Board of Directors and the Executive Director
4	About TE – Mission – Goals – Values – Timeline
5	Sociodemographic Portrait of Verdun and TE Youths
6	Programs and Services
8	Parcours Program
10	Sac à dos Program
12	Passeport pour ma réussite Program
14	Support measures for Families
15	New Special COVID-19 Programming
16	Special Events and Activities
17	Volunteers and Trainees
18	Governance and Community and Democratic Life
19	Board of Directors
20	Toujours ensemble Team
22	Financial Situation
23	Donors and Partners

MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AND CHAIR OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Dear Partners, Friends and Loyal Donors,

FOR 40 YEARS NOW, TOUJOURS ENSEMBLE (TE) HAS PROUDLY OFFERED ITS SUPPORT TO VERDUN YOUTHS AND THEIR FAMILIES. YEAR 2019-2020 WAS MARKED BY NOT ONLY MANY CHALLENGES AND THINGS TO REFLECT ON BUT ALSO THE FESTIVITIES FOR OUR 40th ANNIVERSARY.

From extracurricular activities to financial and social support, everything we do has the same goal: help young people succeed at and stay in school. Prevention is still our best tool, and we are convinced more than ever of the need for our mission and the importance of intervening early in young people's school careers. Over the years, thousands of young people have benefited from our services and programs. In this pivotal year, and out of a constant concern to improve our response to young people's needs, TE has taken stock of its accomplishments and is already preparing for the future.

Last year, we also reinforced the continuum of services that we provide. The Passeport pour ma réussite Program now serves a larger territory and reaches even more Verdun young people, including some who live in L'Île-des-Sœurs. Sac à dos was officially set up at four primary schools, and the program is currently planning for its financial sustainability for 2020-2024. The Parcours Program completely revamped its summer programming, and access to activities has increased. The school lunch service kept up its momentum and continued to support youths and families in our neighbourhood despite the many disruptions in public funding for food aid in disadvantaged areas.

For TE's 40th anniversary, a committee was created and many celebrations were held from September 2019 to March 2020. TE acknowledges the contribution of all of our young people, employees, volunteers, members of the Board of Directors, donors and other contributors who are committed to our mission.

All our plans were turned upside down by the COVID-19 crisis. On March 13, 2020, TE had to close its offices, and our young people could no longer access our buildings. Mentoring, tutoring, recreational activities, and school lunches were all put on hold. The alumni reunion party was postponed, and the sugar shack, year-end gala and graduation celebration were all canceled. United in adversity, the team rolled up its sleeves to adapt to the new situation. They showed resilience and creativity to put together new virtual programming in record time and launched "La MarmiTe" to meet immediate food needs. Everyone had to quickly get used to working remotely to stay connected with families. Despite the uncertainty surrounding COVID-19 and the unknowns about what the next few months will bring, TE intends to seize this opportunity to renew itself and do things differently.

Toujours ensemble warmly thanks its partners and donors for their invaluable trust and the community for its unwavering support of our mission. Your involvement at our side plays a key role, and you have our immense thanks. I also want to express our gratitude to our team, volunteers, and Board members for all the work you accomplished this past year. Thank you for caring about the success of our young people. Together, we will continue to positively impact their lives.

Enjoy our annual report!

Sigrid Ellefsen
Chair of the Board

Bineta Ba
Executive Director



ABOUT TOUJOURS ENSEMBLE

Toujours ensemble (TE) is a community organization that is celebrating its 40th anniversary this year. Founded in Westmount in 1979 and established in Verdun since 1986, TE offers academic, social and financial support to young people in this borough aged 6 to 17 who enroll during the school year. TE also provides assistance to other Verdun youths and their families, who represent over 1,000 people a year.

MISSION

Help Verdun youths cope with academic, family, economic and social issues through educational and recreational activities that help them develop their potential. Toujours ensemble provides a structured and safe environment that allows our staff to support young people and that gives them a unique opportunity to create connections and develop a sense of belonging. The team tailors its services and adapts to the needs of participants to better address their concerns and allow them to discover their interests.

GOALS

- 1 Support young people's personal, social and educational development
- 2 Encourage academic perseverance

VALUES

- › Cooperation
- › Curiosity
- › Self-esteem
- › Honesty
- › Social involvement
- › Perseverance
- › Respect

SOCIODEMOGRAPHIC PROFILE

SNAPSHOT of the territory*

POPULATION

- Nearly 70,000 people live in the borough.
- Population growth of 4.6% between 2011 and 2016

EDUCATION LEVEL, INCOME, AND UNEMPLOYMENT RATE

- 13.8% of people aged 15 and older do not have a certificate, diploma or degree (Montreal: 16.9%).
- The majority of households have only one source of financial support: out of the borough's 33,995 households, 22,825 (67%) have only one person who financially supports the family.
- 40% of children in the Wellington-de-l'Église sector do not have the tools they need to start school (Montreal: 29%).
- School dropout rate of 25%, compared to 21% in Montreal (2012-2013), despite a clear improvement in this rate over the past ten years.

SNAPSHOT of TE

OUR PARTICIPANTS

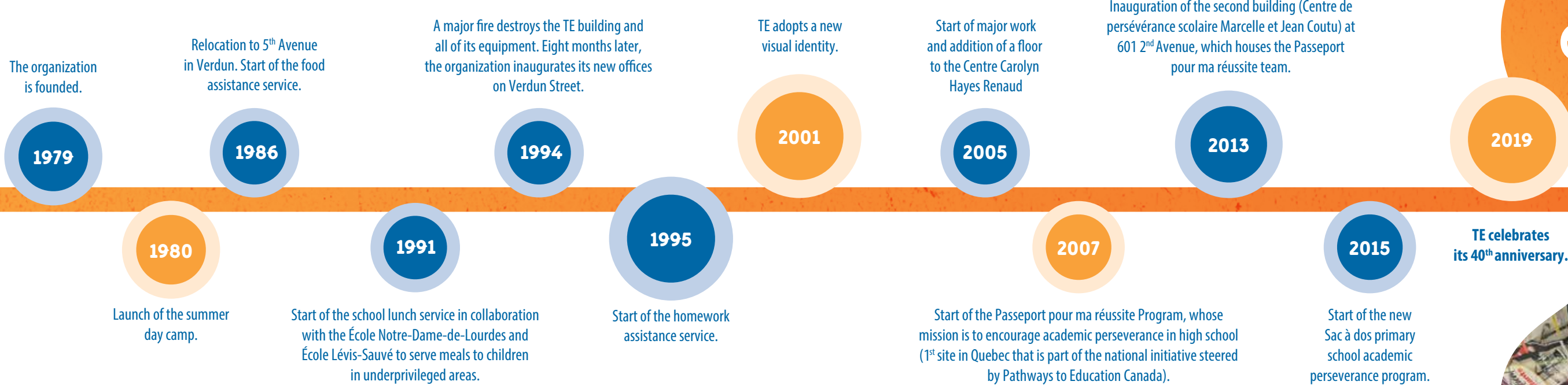
- 51% girls, 49% boys
- 41% elementary students
- 59% high school students
- 99.5% of the above high school students are enrolled in the Passeport pour ma réussite Program
- 5% of our youths live outside Verdun—L'Île-des-Sœurs

FAMILIES

- 27% are single-parent families
- 58% live on a low income
- 70% of participants were born in Quebec (Canada)

*Source: Profil sociodémographique 2016, Arrondissement de Verdun, Montréal en statistiques, Ville de Montréal; Québec Survey of Child Development in Kindergarten (2012), Ministère de l'Éducation et de l'Enseignement supérieur.

TIMELINE



PROGRAMS AND SERVICES

DEDICATED TEAM

- 28 PERMANENT EMPLOYEES
- 8 TEMPORARY EMPLOYEES
- 221 VOLUNTEERS
- 3 ADULTS RECEIVING SOCIAL INTEGRATION ASSISTANCE

Parcours Program

- Extracurricular and leisure activity program for youths aged 9 to 17
- Fun and educational workshops, Sports, Summer program, Camps

131
YOUTHS

Sac à dos Program

- Primary Cycle 2 and 3 academic perseverance program
- Academic support, Reading workshops, Fun and educational workshops

93
YOUTHS

Passeport pour ma réussite Program

- High school academic perseverance program
- Academic support, Social support, Mentoring support, Financial support

230
YOUTHS

Support measures for Families

SCHOOL LUNCH SERVICE
12,000 balanced and nutritious meals served during the school year to 60 primary students from low-income families

CHRISTMAS CAMPAIGN
191 food baskets given to families and 25 sponsored TE families

BACK-TO-SCHOOL SUPPORT
School supplies given out to over 300 youths



ULTIMATE BENEFIT

VERDUN YOUTHS WHO COME TO TE BECOME ACTIVE, RESPONSIBLE AND ENGAGED ADULTS.



PROGRAM COORDINATION COMMITTEE

MANDATE

- Participate in the strategic development of programs.
- Increase harmonization between programs and improve service continuity.

OUR MAIN PROJECTS AND HIGHLIGHTS FOR 2019-2020

DATABASE:

- Ongoing work to implement the database, create practical tools for staff, and develop statistical analysis for management.
- Staff training.

VOLUNTEER MANAGEMENT:

A volunteer recognition system is being developed.

EVALUATION OF THE SERVICE CONTINUUM:

The impact assessment process has been postponed (implementation planned for 2020-2021).

THE INTERVENTION FRAMEWORK WAS IMPLEMENTED

in January 2020 in all programs and an Intervention Guide was drafted to guide the teams' approach.

IMPACTS



SOCIAL SKILLS
DEVELOPMENT



EDUCATION
ABOUT HEALTHY
LIFESTYLES



GREATER
INDEPENDENCE



INCREASED
MOTIVATION
FOR SCHOOL



INCREASED
HIGH SCHOOL
GRADUATION RATE

GOALS

Provide young people with a welcoming and active environment that lets them socialize and develop their creativity, independence and sense of responsibility.

SUMMER PROGRAM

Since moving to Verdun in 1986, Toujours ensemble has run an eight-week summer day camp for neighbourhood youths. To better meet the needs of the community's young people and families, Toujours ensemble decided in 2018 to completely revamp its summer program. After consulting with the team and its participants, parents and community partners, TE created a brand-new summer program in 2019. Three major changes were made:

- Lower-cost summer programming for parents.
- A format that is part of a continuum of intervention for youths who are followed during the school year.
- Flexibility in activity access (students can register for a day, a week, or longer depending on their needs and those of their parents)

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

Parcours is a recreation-based intervention program for youths aged 9 to 17. Its rich and diverse programming provides something for every taste and interest. After school, the students can come to the "Floor" to share, talk, have fun, and learn in a safe and friendly environment. At their second home, as they like to call it, these young people get to share a quiet snack before joining one of the supervised fun and educational workshops in art, science, cooking, sports, computers, and more. They can also choose free time (to play board games, ping-pong or foosball), do their homework, or read one of the 2,000 books in our library.

The program also organizes medium-term projects (annual trip and gala) as well as monthly weekend outings. The team runs a camp during the Thanksgiving break and another one during March break. Many family activities take place throughout the year, such as a sugar shack, Christmas dinner, and the haunted house, which is very popular on Halloween!

Note: Students in the Passeport pour ma réussite Program and the Sac à dos Program can access activities in the Parcours Program.

TESTIMONIALS

"I love board games because I get to play with other kids. I really like special activities like sword fighting; it's so fun. At Parcours, I can see my friends outside of school, and it's a place just for me. I'm really happy when we can go down to the basement to play pool and the Wii. I often build Legos, and I love showing my constructions to the adults who work at Parcours.", Marco Xavier, Participant

"I really like that we can draw what we want, because you can express your feelings through art. Making art takes a lot of time and patience. It also takes a lot of imagination and creativity. I really enjoy it, and it's a great hobby for me.", Angélie, Participant

IMPACTS

BENEFITS OF ART WORKSHOPS

This activity program focuses heavily on multiple forms of art, such as visual art, crafts, circus arts, and cultural visits. The social circus workshops also let our young people express themselves differently by letting them expand their physical and social abilities. Physical expression lets young people become aware of their bodies, move around in space, and pay attention to what they feel.

They also go on field trips to the city and cultural centers throughout the year, such as to museums, the movies, or festivals. Every month, every week, and every day, the Parcours team helps young people develop their creativity while promoting their independence and self-knowledge and encouraging them to develop new social skills.

STATISTICS

160 youths
registered

60 % youths
from TE families

An average of 50 youths
per day

TESTIMONIALS

"The activities were so cool. I had the best summer vacation ever."
Young Participant

"The camp helped my two boys develop their independence. This was the first time they managed on their own in the neighbourhood, and I think it was good for them. The variety of activities offered was also a plus. We also really liked the flexibility of the new format." Parents of Participants

STATISTICS FOR THE 2019-2020 SCHOOL YEAR

131 youth registered
Average age = 11 years old



40% girls
60 % boys

Place of residence:

- Verdun: 96%
- Other neighbourhoods: 4%





Sac à dos Program

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The Sac à dos Program is run in partnership with 4 primary schools in Verdun: École Lévis-Sauvé, École Chanoine-Joseph-Théorêt, École Notre-Dame-de-Lourdes and École Notre-Dame-des-Sept-Douleurs. The program usually accepts children from Grade 3 to Grade 6.

Sac à dos combines a school-family-community approach with one-on-one and group activities. For 33 weeks, the team organizes bi-weekly group activities for two and a half hours. Each school has 1 or 2 groups of 15 pupils. These activities consist of 5 periods that start at the end of the school day: transition, homework, reading, fun and educational activities, and daily recap.

Each student also gets an action plan with goals based on a needs analysis and discussions between staff, parents and teachers.

PROGRAM SUSTAINABILITY

The Sac à dos Program now has a capacity of 90 youths for 6 staff members. For 2020-2021, the program capacity will stay at 90 youths, and an increase to 120 is being studied for the year after.

STATISTICS FOR THE 2019-2020 SCHOOL YEAR:

As of April 1, 2020, just before the lockdown, 78 youths were enrolled in the program.

93 registrations from September 2019 to March 2020

15 students left the program during the year. Reasons: Parent/student decision as the program did not meet the parent's/student's needs OR disciplinary measures to improve the atmosphere in some Sac à dos groups.

GOALS

Contribute to the academic success of primary school students by working toward 3 goals:

- 1 Create work methods
- 2 Develop a love of reading
- 3 Improve social skills

A TYPICAL DAY AT SAC À DOS



30 MIN.

Transition period



45 MIN.

Academic support



15 MIN.

Reading workshop



45 MIN.

Fun and educational workshop



15 MIN.

Daily recap



**50 girls and 43 boys/
93 youths**

IMPACTS

ACTION PLANS

Due to the pandemic and the government's stay-at-home orders, schools were closed on March 12. The team quickly realized that it would be difficult to maintain the goals in the pupils action plans. Our staff decided to immediately carry out the final evaluation of the action plans created for 2019-2020. Most goals were therefore identified as ongoing.

• **75 action plans / 113 goals**

INTER-SCHOOL PLAY: CHILDREN LOVED IT

Several times a year, our youth workers plan a more long-term project (3 to 5 weeks) for the fun and educational workshops. The idea is to help young people reach a goal that makes them feel good about themselves.

The highlight of the year was the inter-school play, which was performed in spring 2019 and whose goals were to **help our participants develop communication and planning skills as well as mutual respect. The interaction between the 4 Sac à dos schools also helped the students develop a sense of belonging to the program.**

Casting of the roles was done by staff in the 4 schools. Everyone then practiced their scene from the children's play based on *Alice in Wonderland*. The children then made the costumes and sets themselves. During the second-last period of the project, the students filmed each other performing their scenes, which were later edited together to create the final production. To end the activity on a high note, the students were all invited to a red-carpet event to watch their collective movie together.

Many children discovered a talent for the stage and developed a new interest in the theater. On the red carpet, many said they were very proud of the end result and were happy to meet the other Sac à dos groups.

TESTIMONIALS

"My daughter has made a lot of progress thanks to support from Sac à dos: she does her homework by herself and has improved her grades because she takes more time to do things right. Thank you for these 2 years of help!" Mother of an NDL student

"I really appreciate how Sac à dos has helped me with my life as a mom with a small business and two children. Your staff keep an eye on my kids' homework and make sure the children get the interaction they need after school." Mother of two ND7D students

"The Sac à dos Program has helped my children in so many ways. They have improved their self-control and gained academic independence. My two boys have also improved socially thanks to Sac à dos. I've noticed that they have less and less trouble interacting with others. As a parent, I feel supported and helped by the program staff. I love that we can easily work on the same things, because it gives the children stability and a routine, which helps them a lot." Mother of two students from the CJT and NDL schools



e Passeport pour ma réussite Program

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

Offered in partnership with Pathways to Education Canada, the program ultimately aims to break the cycle of poverty through education. The Passeport team works with each student individually to develop a tailored support plan, based on four interconnected pillars, to help them achieve their goals.

MENTORING SUPPORT

A team of six Student-Parent Support Workers (SPSW) act as educational motivators and as school-family-community liaisons throughout the student's high school path. Experience has shown that this significant relationship with staff is a powerful way to encourage young people to participate in the program.

SOCIAL SUPPORT (MENTORING)

Mentorships are varied and change annually to meet the emerging interests and needs of these youths depending on their stage of development. The team developed group activities such as Dungeons and Dragons, a book club, a DIY activity, or a bike repair shop.

Until last year, career mentoring was delivered by program lead. Since April 2019, the SPSW have offered this service with the Carrefour Jeunesse Emploi and school

guidance counsellors. Along with providing one-on-one coaching, mentors talk with young people about possible professions and career paths. One group also took a series of employability workshops with the Boston Consulting Group, which was an opportunity to connect young people with inspiring role models. However, the workshops were discontinued in March 2020 due to the pandemic.

ACADEMIC SUPPORT (TUTORING)

Passeport pour ma réussite staff work with schools to ensure that the tutoring service complements what students learn in the classroom. These tutoring sessions are impactful encounters between dedicated volunteers and young people eager to learn. On top of getting homework help, they learn a work methodology and develop self-confidence and independence.

FINANCIAL SUPPORT

Financial support reduces the financial barriers to education based on family needs (food aid, uniforms and school fees, transportation costs, purchase of glasses or clothing, activity fees, post-secondary bursaries, etc.). Financial support is provided by our program partner, Pathways to Education Canada.

GOALS

Passeport pour ma réussite is an academic perseverance program that gives tools to high school students in low-income communities that remove barriers to education, help them graduate from high school, and allow them to pursue post-secondary education.

IMPACTS

Out of the **36** students who finished the program, **33** graduated from high school and **3** are pursuing continuing education. At least **27** of these students were accepted to CEGEP.

TESTIMONIALS

"You have no idea how grateful I am for all the great things you are teaching our young people! TE is simply extraordinary! I'm a single parent who has gone through so many ups and downs that led me to Verdun and TE. I have to say, this was the BEST thing that could have happened to me and my 3 boys! Thank you a hundred billion times over." Mother of a participant

ECO-SMOOTHIES

For a second year, the Éco-Smoothies production and sales project introduced **11** youths between the ages of 12 and 17 to the world of entrepreneurship through their first job opportunity in the form of a student co-op.

- • Smoothie sales and donations: \$1,500
- • Meeting hours (committees): 270
- • Work hours: 310
- • Volunteer hours: 120

"...the COOP is cool. I'm proud of my work because I did my best." Participant, 14 years old
"...it helps you make new friends." Participant, 14 years old
"...it enhances your self-confidence, sense of initiative, and responsibility." Participant, 15 years old

STATISTICS FOR THE 2019-2020 SCHOOL YEAR

104 NEW ENROLLMENTS, FOR A TOTAL OF 230 HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS.

180 in regular classes (Secondary 1 to 5) and 50 in welcome classes, special classes, and training for a semiskilled trade

13 partner schools / 87% of students from École secondaire Monseigneur-Richard (Verdun)



125 girls / 105 boys,
average age of 14

NEXT YEAR'S
TARGET:
280
YOUTHS



NEW: ESMR POINT OF SERVICE

Our programming is constantly evolving to meet the needs of youth. This is why a point of service was deployed at the École secondaire Monseigneur-Richard, the program's main school partner, in fall 2019. An experienced SPSW works there exclusively and runs three tutoring sessions per week. The project helps **36** young people (**16** girls and **20** boys) who live in L'Île-des-Sœurs (a first!) and who come mainly from welcome classes. Given the great success of the project, the goal is to increase the participant number to **80** next year.

e Support measures for Families

SCHOOL LUNCH SERVICE

For nearly 30 years, Toujours ensemble has been helping to improve food security through its school lunch service. In collaboration with the Commission scolaire Marguerite-Bourgeoys, dozens of students at the École Lévis-Sauvé and École Notre-Dame-de-Lourdes elementary schools get a balanced and nutritious meal at school every day. Older students come to eat at Toujours ensemble, while younger students receive a boxed lunch directly at school. This service does more than just provide meals, as the students also get time to enjoy themselves and rest so that they are ready to go back to learning in the afternoon.

SERVICE STATISTICS FOR THE 2019-2020 SCHOOL YEAR

- Over **60** students in Grades 1 to 6 who come from low-income families.
- Nearly **7,000** meals served or delivered and prepared entirely in our kitchen.
- Hundreds of hours of recreational and support activities provided by our lunch monitors and youth workers.

IMPACTS ON YOUNG PEOPLE

- Increased concentration and attention in class
- Education about healthy diets
- Discovery of new foods and recipes

“PAAS-ACTION” SOCIAL SUPPORT AND ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

The school lunch service has three kitchen helpers thanks to the PAAS-ACTION social integration program. Beside receiving some much appreciated assistance, TE helps reintegrate adults into the job market through a stimulating work environment where they can develop useful skills they can use in the near future.

DISTRIBUTION OF SCHOOL BAGS

This year, over 300 students started the school year off right thanks to the generosity and loyalty of the Gewurz Family Foundation, the Optimist Club of Verdun, committed volunteer and donor Pascale Cotnoir, along with many other donors. Two important initiatives in August were highly appreciated by children and parents alike:

- **School store:** Over 60 elementary and secondary school students came to pick out their backpacks, lunch boxes, and school supplies at Toujours ensemble, which was transformed into a school store for the occasion.
- **Optimist Club of Verdun:** Optimist Club volunteers filled backpacks with school supplies before handing them out to hundreds of students identified by their elementary schools.

CHRISTMAS CAMPAIGN

Over **750** people spent the holidays the way they were meant to be enjoyed thanks to the generosity and loyalty of hundreds of donors and nearly **60** volunteers.

- **191 families (613 people)** received a food basket of perishable and non-perishable food items.
- **25 sponsored families (114 people)** received a basket of food and personalized gifts.
- **20 families (40 people)** received a \$125 cheque from The Gazette Christmas Fund.

NEW COVID-19 PROGRAMMING

On March 13, 2020, Toujours ensemble temporarily closed its doors in response to the government's COVID-19 recommendations. The entire team had to work hard to reorganize its regular activities and maintain support for youth, families and the community. Based on a needs analysis of 300 families, TE came up with a whole new slate of activities that started April 14 with the launch of its online programming and its brand-new La Marmite meal service.

LA MARMITE

Following the temporary closure of academic institutions, the school lunch service, which normally serves about 60 students from two elementary schools in the neighbourhood, was revamped to continue providing these young people and their families with food assistance during the crisis. Named La Marmite, this new service reached three times as many people during this critical period.

From Monday to Friday, the Toujours ensemble team cooks and delivers 200 meals a day to people's homes in strict compliance with public health guidelines. Fun and educational materials (books, crossword puzzles, coloring sheets, a TE diary) are added to the deliveries to let children keep learning while having fun.

VIRTUAL PROGRAMMING

The organization put its imagination into overdrive to come up with a brand-new weekly online schedule of fun and educational YouTube videos, Zoom activities and discussions, and virtual French classes. Support and information workshops were also created for parents.

OTHER SUPPORTS: Mentoring, personalized and financial supports were maintained throughout the crisis from day one.



VOLUNTEERS

Number of volunteers during the year: **221** (including 10 Board members)
Number of volunteer hours during the year: **1924**

VOLUNTEERS IN PROGRAMS

Every week, our loyal and dedicated volunteers help out during academic support hours (tutoring, homework help, etc.) and are there for students during the school lunch periods.

54

(including 9 during the COVID-19 period)

VOLUNTEERS FOR A DAY

TE counts on many volunteers to help the team prepare and run activities.

33

CORPORATE VOLUNTEERS

Given the rise in corporate social responsibility, employees at companies are increasingly encouraged to donate their time to a community organization. This year, TE was pleased to welcome six groups from Desjardins during their co-op week, one group of interns from MNP, and another group of Greater Montreal district managers from Scotiabank.

124

TESTIMONIAL

"If I succeed with at least one student on any given night, this means one fewer failing grade and a way to keep the student in school that much longer. By improving their self-esteem and decreasing their stress, we improve their chances for success." André, Passeport pour ma réussite Program



TRAINEES

TE is proud to offer diverse internship opportunities and help train the next generation of workers. Our trainees also help everyone develop innovative ideas and share knowledge and skills. Since September 2019, 9 trainees have come to hone their knowledge at TE.



TOUJOURS ENSEMBLE EVENTS AND SPECIAL ACTIVITIES

Every year, TE organizes activities and carries out fundraising outside of its regular program. During its 40th anniversary year, celebrations were held alongside our usual activities.



40th ANNIVERSARY BBQ

To kick off a long list of 40th anniversary festivities, TE organized a big family BBQ on Sunday, September 8, 2019 in Arthur-Therrien Park, where the Verdun community came together to celebrate with our donors, volunteers and staff. Nearly 200 people came to enjoy some delicious BBQ, activities for young and old (crafts, face painting, reading corner, fair rides, a ping-pong table, sword fighting), along with a photo booth, skateboard workshop, youth bike repairs, the musical stylings of DJ Collin, and a door prize draw.

40th ANNIVERSARY CAMPAIGN

To continue its work to prevent school drop outs, TE launched a \$1-million fundraising campaign in 2019 to provide solid and continuous support over 5 years to 250 young people through the Sac à dos academic perseverance program. A campaign cabinet was set up to support the organization, and many partners and donors joined forces to support Verdun youth. Before the lockdown, 76% of the target had been met. A huge THANK YOU to our partners for their generosity and loyalty!

FAMILY CHRISTMAS DINNER

Every year, TE organizes a traditional Christmas dinner for our young people and their families. This year, 100 people gathered on December 6, 2019 to partake in a wonderful feast cooked up by our staff. The kids not only got to dance and sing with their friends and family but also received a gift from Santa.

HOOKED ON SCHOOL DAYS (HSD)

For a 10th year, Toujours ensemble celebrated HSD from February 17 to 22, 2020. After 40 years of commitment, Toujours ensemble organized activities with the theme "Our Actions, A+ in Their Success."

PARTNER ACTIVITIES

Toujours ensemble can count on the generosity of many individuals and organizations that take the initiative to raise funds in their communities to benefit Verdun youth. Many thanks to:

- The Association Moto-Tourisme de Verdun (AMTV) for organizing various activities, such as scratch cards and the Poker Run, to fund school lunches.
- Trainees from MNP for helping out with things like the muffin sale to fund new activities and facilities in the new basement for teens.
- Cheryl Hankinson for her Gingerbread Campaign and to everyone who approached their networks to ask people to sponsor families and hand out Christmas baskets: Louise Rousseau, François Guy, Marc Edwards, Luc Sabourin, Yannick Carron, Paysafe Services Canada Inc. and GE Lighting Solutions.
- Richard J. Renaud for his major annual Christmas campaign.
- Carolyn H. Renaud for her Sac à dos Program campaign.

COVID-19 POSTPONEMENTS AND CANCELLATIONS

- Postponed: TE Alumni Reunion
- Cancelled: Sugar Shack, TE Gala, Graduation Celebration, and Annual Trip



GOVERNANCE

AND COMMUNITY AND DEMOCRATIC LIFE

With strong roots in Verdun, TE works closely with community stakeholders to meet the needs of children and teens aged 6 to 17. By identifying the different needs of these youths, our team can provide tailored services that spark their interests and address their concerns. Since its inception, TE has helped thousands of young people persevere in their educational pathways and personal lives while developing their full potential.

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

TE is engaged in the community in different ways to better respond to the needs of neighbourhood young people and families.

ROUNDTABLES

- Regroupement des organismes communautaires québécois de lutte au décrochage (ROCLD)
- Concertation en développement social de Verdun
- Table de l'action communautaire (TAC)
- Comité sécurité alimentaire de Verdun
- Table de concertation jeunesse (youth roundtable, 6 to 17)
- Table de concertation jeunesse (youth roundtable, 16 to 30)

COLLABORATION WITH OTHER ORGANIZATIONS

- Dawson Boys & Girls Club
- Réseau d'entraide de Verdun
- L'Ancre des Jeunes
- Grandir Sans Frontière
- L'Institut des troubles d'apprentissage – Station d'apprentissage
- Verdun Circus School

SCHOOL GOVERNING BOARD

- École secondaire Monseigneur-Richard
- École primaire Chanoine-Joseph-Théorêt
- École primaire Lévis-Sauvé
- École primaire Notre-Dame-des-Sept-Douleurs

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

TE's annual general meeting was held on June 20, 2019. In addition to electing the Board of Directors and meeting our administrative responsibilities, we also provided a yearly report to our members, partners and volunteers. Fourteen out of twenty-eight members attended.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Our Board members, who are elected at the annual general meeting for a period of two years, come from different professional areas and care about the success of young people. Board members promote the general interests of the corporation and see to its financial stability. In 2019-2020, the Board of Directors met seven times.

WORKING COMMITTEES

The Working Committees below were active in 2019-2020:

- Development Committee
- Governance Committee
- Programs Committee
- Finance Committee

The mandate of these committees is to support TE's general management in the execution of day- to-day operations.

BOARD

OF DIRECTORS



SIGRID ELLEFSEN
Chair of the Board
Telus, Sales Director – Business Solutions
Member of the Board since 2011
Member of the Board since 2011



FRANÇOIS GUY
Vice-Chair
CIBC Wood Gundy, First Vice-President,
Investment Advisor
Member of the Board since 2007



LUC SABOURIN
Treasurer
Coca-Cola Refreshments Ltd.,
Finance-Recycling Manager,
Canadian Business Unit
Member of the Board since 2012



PASCALE BÉDARD
Secretary
Counsel specializing in civil law,
commercial law, civil liability, and insurance
Member of the Board since 2009



KIM DE BAENE
Nexus Innovations, Project Manager
and Product Owner
Member of the Board since 2018



SYLVIE CONROY
Toujours ensemble Parent
Administrative assistant, SODEC
Member of the Board since 2019



PAULE DESGROSEILLIERS
Retired teacher, researcher and
educational management consultant
Member of the Board since 2018



MARC EDWARDS
Kane Biotech Inc., CEO
Member of the Board since 2005



MARIE-CLAUDE JALBERT
Jarislowsky, Fraser Limited,
Chief Financial Officer
Member of the Board since 2012



SONIA TAIRI
Former Toujours ensemble participant
Lawyer, Legal Department, Ville de Laval
Member of the Board since 2019

TOUJOURS ENSEMBLE TEAM

ADMINISTRATION

- **Bineta Ba** - Executive Director
- **Véronique Beaulac** - Development Coordinator
- **Alison Vigoureux** - Communications Officer (maternity leave replacement)
- **Christine Vallières** - Communications Officer (on maternity leave)
- **Tamara Speth** - Administrative Assistant

PARCOURS PROGRAM

- **Maxime Leroy** - Coordinator of the Parcours Program and School Lunch Service
- **Marie-Josée Legault** - Youth Worker and School Lunch Service Manager
- **Daniel Champagne** - Youth Worker
- **Charlotte Di Marco** – Youth Worker
- **Chloé Giard-Montpetit** - Youth Worker
- **Joey Gutierrez-Gosselin** - Youth Worker and support for the school lunch service
- **Yannick Caron** - Youth Worker

SAC À DOS PROGRAM

- **Mariana Caloca**, Coordinator (on maternity leave)
- **Christine Loiselle** - Team Leader
- **Soraya Calixte** - Youth Worker
- **Myriam Courtemanche** - Youth Worker
- **Gacelène Jean-Louis** - Youth Worker
- **Wisely Marie Louis** - Youth Worker
- **Janique Lachapelle** - Youth Worker
- **Marion Rognin** - Youth Worker

PASSEPORT POUR MA RÉUSSITE PROGRAM

- **Elizabeth Robillard** - Program Coordinator
- **Johanne Kingsbury** - Youth Worker Coordinator
- **Joanne Paquette** - Administrative Assistant and Scholarship Coordinator
- **Mélissa Cardinal** - Student-Parent Support Worker
- **Laurence Côté** - Student-Parent Support Worker
- **Monica-Andrea Correa** - Student-Parent Support Worker
- **Paul Derache** - Tutoring Coordinator
- **Julie Felx** - Student-Parent Support Worker
- **Andrew Marchand** - Student-Parent Support Worker
- **Audrey Sarrazin** - Student-Parent Support Worker

SCHOOL LUNCH SERVICE

- **Steve Doucet** - Cook, Trainer for PAAS-Action (socio-vocational integration team)
- **Sylvie Hamel** - Support for school lunches and homework assistance
- **Audrey Labrecque*** - School Lunch Monitor
- **Johanne Théroux*** - School Lunch Monitor

* Part-time employees

Toujours ensemble thanks our 8 summer camp employees for making this year's camp experience a memorable one for our youths. TE is also grateful to the employees who left us during the year: Sylvie Racine, Elhadji Bathily, François Nguyen and Éline Lapointe.



FINANCIAL SITUATION

YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2020

	2020	2019
	\$	\$
REVENUES		
Grants	932,631	823,667
Financial contributions	375,671	385,034
Donations	877,058	672,697
Self-funding and other income	84,603	121,893
	2,269,963	2,003,291
EXPENSES		
Administration	338,697	442,329
Passeport pour ma réussite Program	706,730	649,665
Parcours Program		
Extracurricular program	288,717	256,538
Summer program	93,586	103,164
Sac à dos Program	219,501	184,319
School lunch service	134,109	114,125
Christmas campaign	23,073	30,135
	1,804,413	1,780,275
EXCESS OF REVENUE OVER EXPENSES BEFORE CAPITAL EXPENDITURES AND CLAIM-RELATED EXPENSES	465,550	223,016
EXPENSES RELATED TO CAPITAL ASSETS		
Amortization of tangible capital assets	215,208	213,211
Amortization of deferred contributions	(3,083)	(3,471)
	212,125	209,740
CLAIM-RELATED EXPENSES		
Compensation received from insurers after an incident	(4,120)	(23,697)
Renovations in the Renaud rooms	42,970	
	38,850	(23,697)
EXCESS OF REVENUES OVER EXPENSES	214,575	36,973

DONORS AND PARTNERS

Thanks to the generosity and loyalty of the following donors, partners and contributors, hundreds of young people were able to develop their full potential.



- 152245 Canada Inc.
 - 1832 Asset Management L.P.
 - 7287551 Canada Inc.
 - Accès physio
 - Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada - Infrastructure and Equipment Improvement Fund
 - ALDO GROUP
 - Aliments Krispy Kernels / Yum Chips
 - Association Moto-Tourisme de Verdon
 - Bank of Montreal - BMO Financial Group
 - Bertrand Family Foundation
 - BNP PARIBAS
 - Bonanza Lalumière
 - Boralex Inc.
 - Boréal Technique
 - Café Chez Charlotte
 - Caisse Desjardins de L'Île-des-Sœurs-Verdon
 - Canada Summer Jobs Program
 - Canderel
 - Capinabel
 - Centraide of Greater Montreal
 - Chamandy Foundation
 - Charcuterie de Tours
 - CIUSSS du Centre-Sud-de-l'Île-de-Montréal - Youth Living Environments Program
 - Claudine and Stephen Bronfman Family Foundation
 - Clinique Isabelle Huot
 - Coca-Cola Refreshments Ltd.
 - Commission scolaire Marguerite- Bourgeoys
 - Courchesne Larose
 - Crèmes Boboule
 - Cultur'dough Cookies
 - Desjardins Foundation
 - Design M3béton Inc.
 - Desnoyers recherche de cadres
 - DJS Holdings Ltd.
 - Druide informatique
 - Dunsky Expertise en énergie
 - École primaire Chanoine-Joseph-Théorêt
 - Eric T. Webster Foundation
 - Firstpower Investments Inc.
- Fonds Marie-François
 - Fromagerie Copette & Cie
 - Fruiterie Vert Pomme
 - GE Lighting Solutions
 - Giant Tiger LaSalle
 - Groupe Martel
 - Hexavest
 - Hylcan Foundation
 - Hyundai Saint-Constant
 - IGA Champagne
 - Individual Investment Corporation
 - Isabelle Melançon, MNA for Verdon
 - Jacques Francoeur Foundation
 - Jacques Lessard Foundation
 - J. Jodoin Électrique Inc.
 - John Dobson Foundation (The)
 - La Cantine pour Tous
 - Literacy Foundation
 - Lallemand Inc.
 - Librairie de Verdon
 - M. H. Grover & Sons Ltd.
 - Manulife
 - Marché La Gazelle
 - Macdonald Stewart Foundation
 - Marcelle and Jean Coutu Foundation
 - Marché Tondreau
 - Maxwell Cummings Family Foundation
 - Michel Brutti Foundation
 - Ministère de l'Éducation et de l'Enseignement supérieur
 - Mirella and Lino Saputo Foundation
 - MNP LLP
 - Moisson Montréal
 - Molson Coors
 - Montreal Alouettes Foundation
 - Montreal Hooked on School
 - Morris and Rosalind Goodman Family Foundation
 - Nan and Jack Wiseman Family Foundation
 - National Bank - National Bank Volunteer Program
 - Nomad Logic Inc.
 - Normandin Beaudry, Gestion privée Inc.
 - Œuvres Régis-Vernet - Sisters of the Presentation of Mary
- Pathways to Education Canada
 - Paysafe Services Canada Inc.
 - PBI Actuarial Consultants Ltd
 - Pinafore Corporation
 - Placements ExpressA Inc.
 - Première Moisson Atwater
 - President's Choice Children's Charity
 - René Malo Foundation
 - Réseau d'entraide de Verdon
 - Restaurant New Verdon
 - R. Howard Webster Foundation
 - Richelieu Verdon Foundation
 - Roasters Foundation
 - RONA Inc.
 - Scotiabank
 - SDC Wellington
 - Second Harvest
 - Skateboards for Hope
 - SML Stainless Steel Group Quebec
 - Stephen and Lillian Vineberg Family Foundation
 - Stratus Foundation
 - Symcor Inc.
 - TELUS Friendly Future Foundation
 - The Brothers of Christian Instruction
 - The David Family Foundation
 - The Gazette Christmas Fund
 - The George Hogg Family Foundation
 - The Master Group
 - The Mireille and Murray Steinberg Family Foundation
 - The Tenaquip Foundation
 - Toujours Ensemble Foundation
 - UPS National
 - Urbania TV 3108 - Zone Franche II
 - Verdon Borough - Fonds québécois d'initiatives sociales
 - Vignoble Rivière du chène
 - VR Soulière
 - WCPD Foundation
 - Zeller Family Foundation

ON BEHALF OF ALL TOUJOURS ENSEMBLE YOUTHS, WE ALSO WANT TO THANK OUR HUNDREDS OF INDIVIDUAL DONORS, PARTNERS AND CONTRIBUTORS FOR THEIR INVALUABLE SUPPORT.

**"THANK YOU FOR
BELIEVING IN THE SUCCESS
OF YOUNG PEOPLE AND
CONTRIBUTING TO OUR MISSION.
TOGETHER, WE ARE MAKING
A DIFFERENCE."**



TOUJOURS ENSEMBLE

Centre Carolyn Hayes Renaud

4926 Verdun Street, Verdun, Quebec H4G 1N3

T 514 761-7867 • www.toujoursensemble.org



[toujoursensemble](https://www.facebook.com/toujoursensemble)



[company/toujours-ensemble](https://www.linkedin.com/company/toujours-ensemble)



[TjrsEnsembleOrg](https://twitter.com/TjrsEnsembleOrg)



[toujours_ensemble_org](https://www.instagram.com/toujours_ensemble_org)



[ToujoursensembleOrg](https://www.youtube.com/ToujoursensembleOrg)