

Communitas

**ANNUAL REPORT
2024-2025**



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2. Looking Forward (2025-2026)

Budget

Direction of the organization

Board of Directors

Overview

This past year (2024-2025), Communitas marked its twenty-fifth year of supporting community in Montreal. We continue to celebrate Communitas' mission through fostering a community in which everyone has equal status.

As we move into a new fiscal year (2025-2026), we bid farewell to two of our long-standing board members, Pauline and Donald. We thank them for the years of dedication, compassion, and leadership they have devoted to our community. We welcome in their place two new, first-time board members - Leigh and Nicholas, and look forward to the gifts they will bring alongside our returning board members: Jeri, Michele, Rosalie, Sabrina, and Steve.

We extend a special thanks to our donors without whom we could not carry out our work and thank them for their extraordinary generosity in 2024-2025.

We extend our gratitude to all who assume leadership roles in the many activities of Communitas, and feel blessed for the continued dedication of our volunteers, members and partners. Communitas would not be Communitas without you.

Highlights

Communitas Art Show

Restorative Justice Week

Christmas Card Drive

Table Talk Chili Challenge

Games Day

Internships

Annual Consultation with Membership

Annual General Meeting

COMMUNITAS ACTIVITIES

2024-2025

An Overview



THE ART FAIR







THE ART FAIR

This year Communitas hosted its first ever Art Fair! This event was a huge fundraising success! Here are the highlights:

- Donated Art Auction
- Artists from our community (both inside and outside the prisons)
- Artists and donors recieved tax receipts
- TOTAL FUNDS RAISED; \$6,520



OPEN DOOR



OPEN DOOR

- 51 hybrid meetings welcoming Montrealers and zoomers from across North America
- Traditional justice topics (Restorative Justice Week, Prisoners' Justice Day, Citizens' Rights versus the Police)
- New and unusual evenings: an Olympic athlete, nuclear energy, the wild world of addictions, transactional psychology
- An enthusiastic welcome of newcomers
- Less than 10 Open Door books left for sale
- Golden Escort Drivers bring our members from FTC 600, FTC 6099 and Archambault



	2017 -2108	2018 -2019	2019 -2020	2020 - 2021	2021 - 2022	2022 -2023	2023 -2024	2024 -2025
Escorted out of the pens	192	204	172	0	0	126	234	198
Returned to community	493	386		408	349	416	453	490
Volunteers	695	768	1071 Combined	904	887	856 (483+373 Zoom)	740 (503+237 Zoom)	760 (572+188 Zoom)
TOTAL	1380	1358	1243	1243	1236	1398	1427	1448

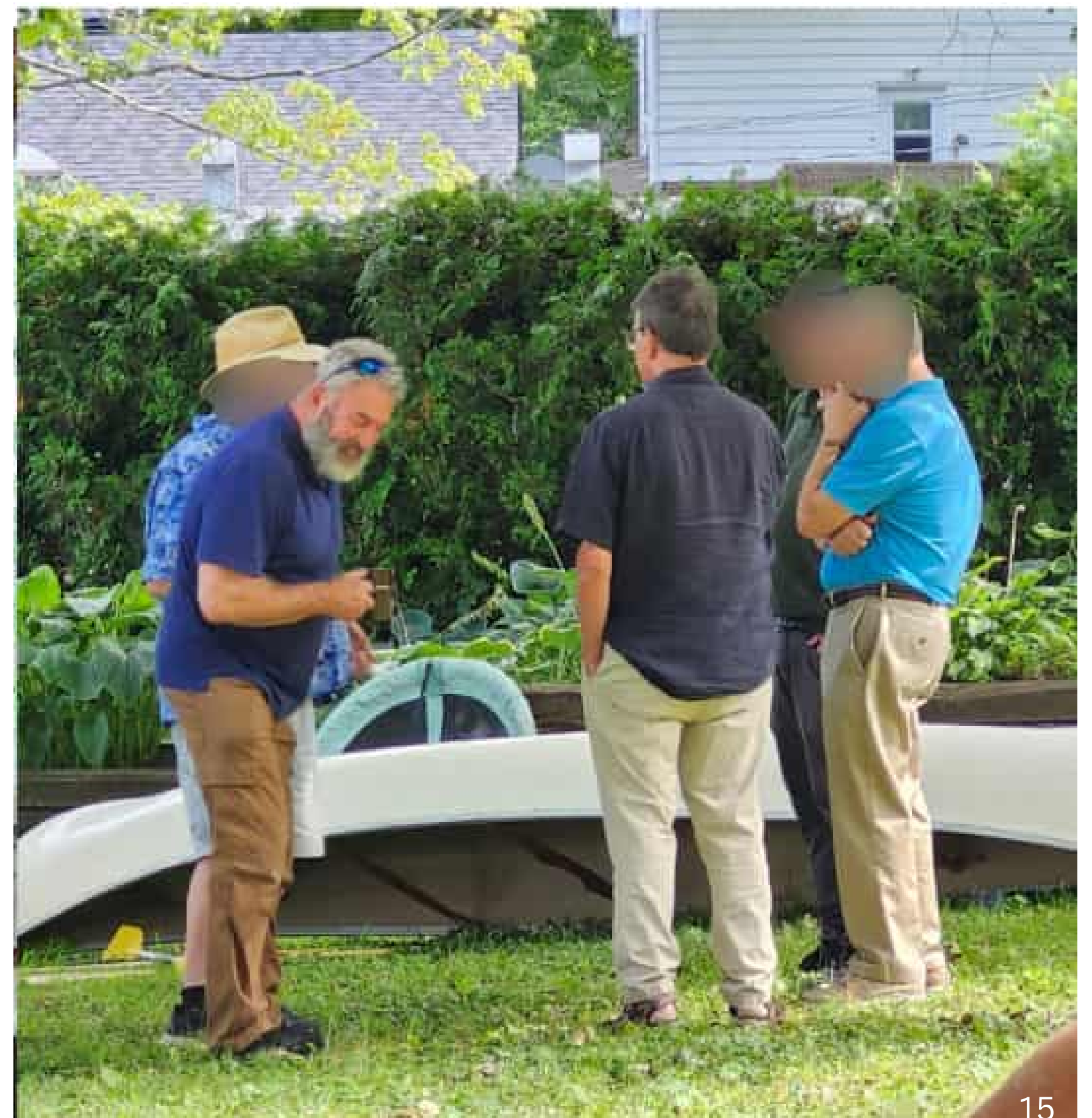
OPEN DOOR ATTENDANCE





2024 SUMMER PICNIC









2024 CHRISTMAS PARTY







RINGING IN THE NEW YEAR



Table Talk

At Table Talk, there really is such a thing as a free lunch! Held every Friday at noon at our office in the undercroft, we offer an opportunity for social interaction and open conversation. The Chefs cook for everyone: bring your appetite!





Table Talk

5 April 2024 –
28 March 2025

NUMBER OF EX-
PRISONERS
PARTICIPATING: 445

NUMBER OF
VOLUNTEERS
PARTICIPATING: 579

NUMBER OF TABLE TALK
MEETINGS: 52

TOTAL ATTENDANCE:
1024







After Table Talk Games Day!

	2022 -2023	2023 -2024	2024-2025
Number of Table Talk meetings	39	51	52
Returned to community	146	364	445
Volunteers	311	437	579
TOTAL	457	801	1024

TABLE TALK ATTENDANCE



IN-REACH

Montee St. Francois Medium Security Institution (FTC6099)

In-Reach:

Number of visits for one-on-one consultations: 4

Number of men visited one-on-one: 11

Gospel Zone:

Total number of men seen at FTC6099: 218. No of
volunteer visits: 83

Montee St. Francois Minimum Security Institution (FTC600)

Total number of men seen: 89. No of volunteer visits: 63

Archambault Minimum Security Institution

Total number of men seen: 20. No of volunteer visits: 18



THE GOSPEL ZONE

Visits to the Prison Chapels

**A Meaningful Space to Build
Community**

Number of Meetings: 39

Number of Volunteers: 164

**Number of Men Visited in Prison Chapels:
390**

Circles

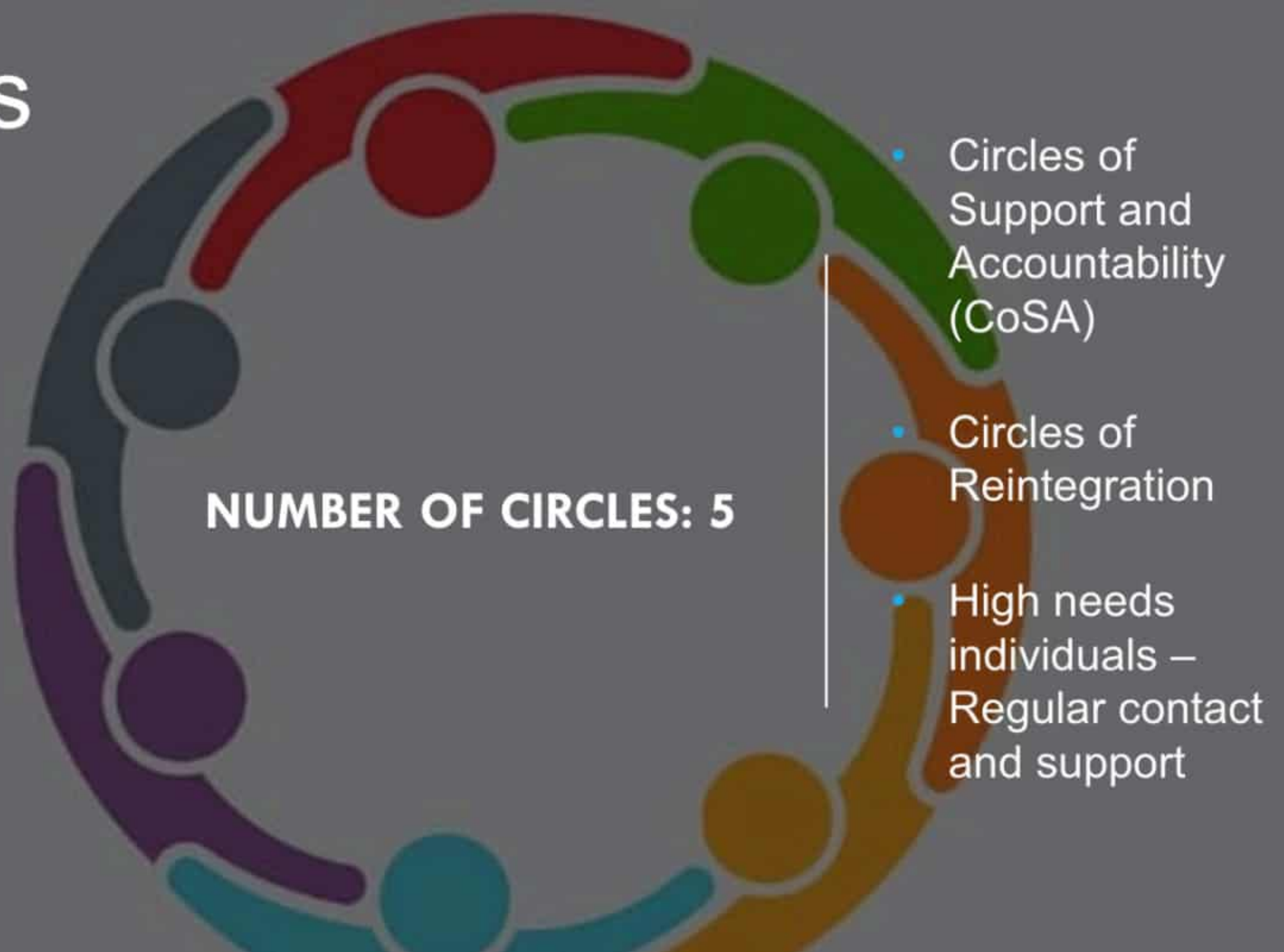


Table Talk has always represented the very essence of community at Communitas! Not even Covid or broken water pipes has been able to undermine the deep bond that has formed over the years, first at the old office on Notre Dame Street, then at the Undercroft, and now, temporarily at least, at Fulford Hall.

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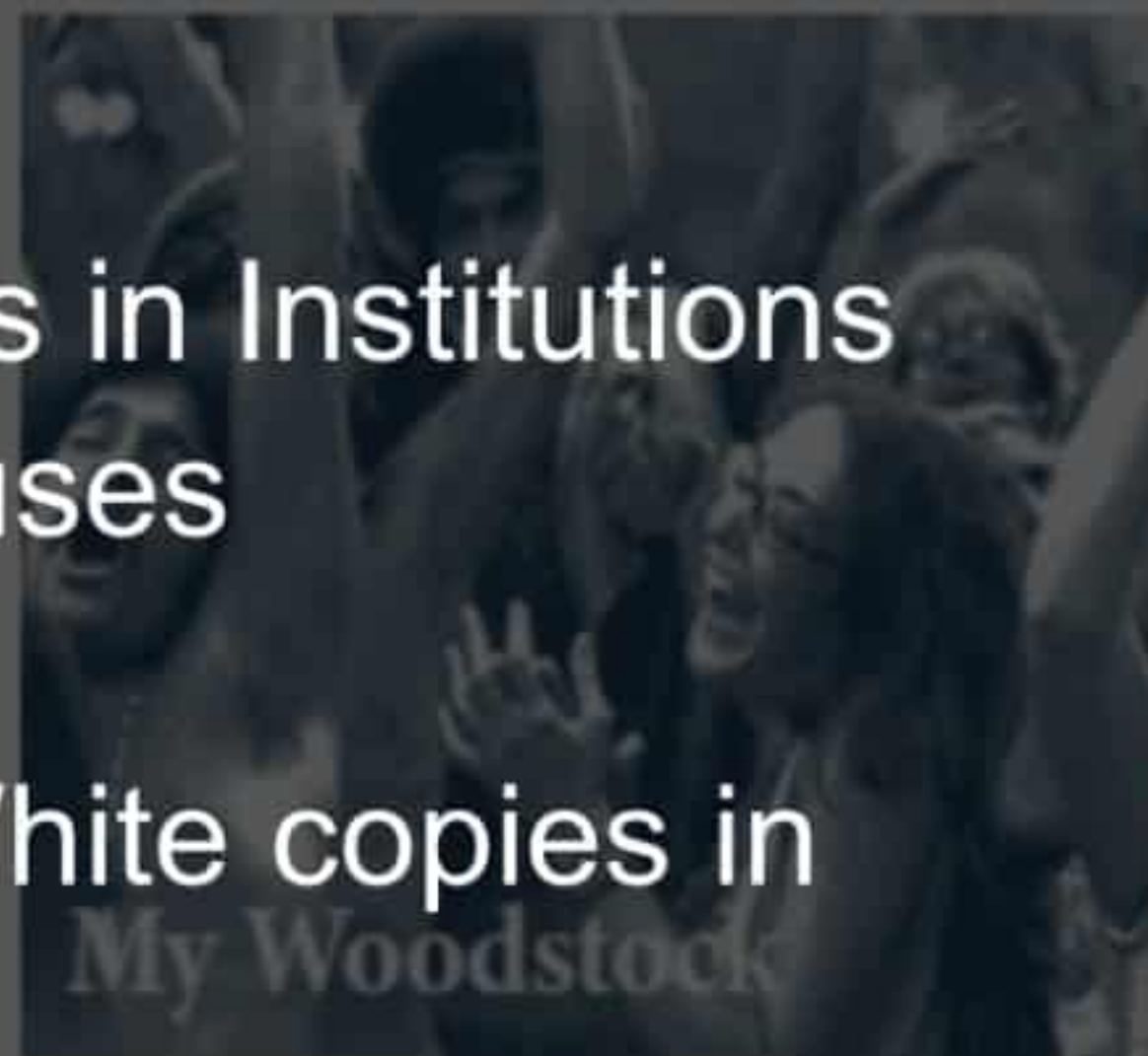
3 issues

SOU'WESTER

Hello to all
Communitas
members and to
the Sou'Wester
readership!

150 colour copies in Institutions
and Halfway Houses

150 Black and White copies in
the community



People are always impressed when you tell them that you attended Woodstock. Since only half a million attended the festival, back in 1969, you're considered part of the elite if you were there. To get a first-hand account of the festival, read 'My Woodstock' by the author of the book.

Been Wrong So Long
It Feels Like Right:
Book Review

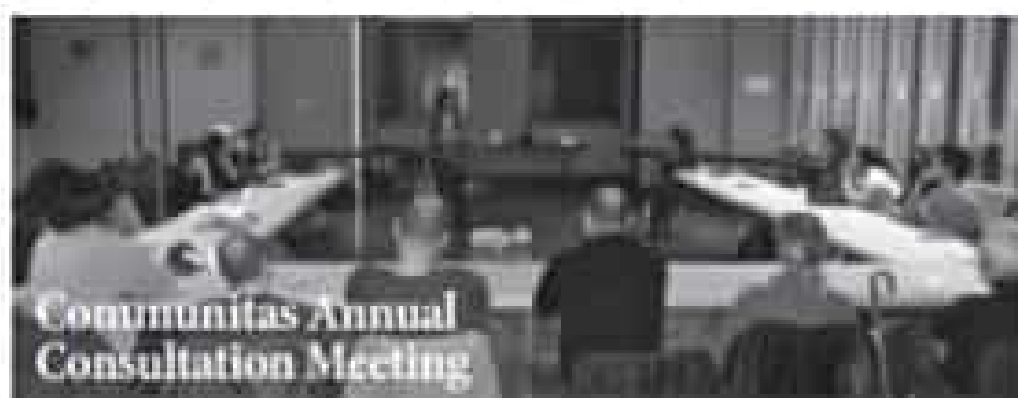
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Mostly Legal
When Probably
Isn't Enough

page 9

An Interview
with Bob M.

page 10



Communitas members participated in a very generative, enthusiastic, and collaborative consultation at our Annual Consultation at Open Door on April 22nd. This conversation was particularly fruitful as we had a diverse group of member representatives, all contributing their perspectives on how we can better meet our membership needs and strengthen our activities.

The participants were divided into 5 groups of approximately 8 per group and

given the following three questions to consider:

1. What needs of yours could Communitas fill that we currently aren't? How could we do it?
2. How do we advance those and other brainstorming ideas?
3. What do you see other groups doing that Communitas could try?

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**The 2025
Communitas
Annual General
Meeting –
May 21, 2025**

A Message
from Sophie

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Mostly Legal
Season's Greetings

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An Interview
with Jared

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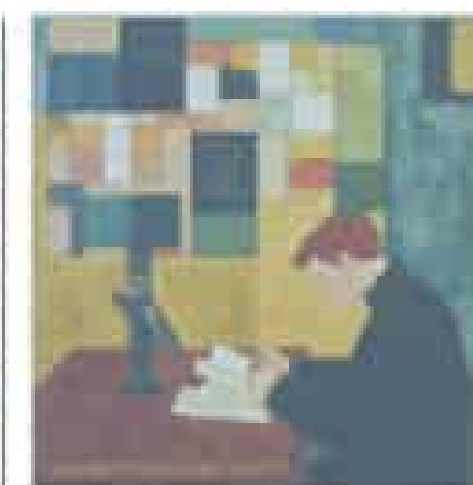
December 17th, 2024

This year's Christmas party was described by more than one of the attendees as "awesome". The prevailing mood from the get-go was joyful and uplifting; we celebrated being together. We welcomed seventy-one guests, more than ever before. It was a really great that committed volunteers, people from half-way houses, parolees who came from their own homes and day gentlemen who came from "inside". We

were thrilled to see them, and grateful to Hattie, our volunteer driver who brought them to us.

With her usual grace and elegance, I've acted as Maître d'. The programme began with a Grace by Rosalie, a volunteer, beautiful and simple, for us all. When I've asked for announcements, Mike stood up to announce that he had just been paroled and there was a tension of joy in the room.

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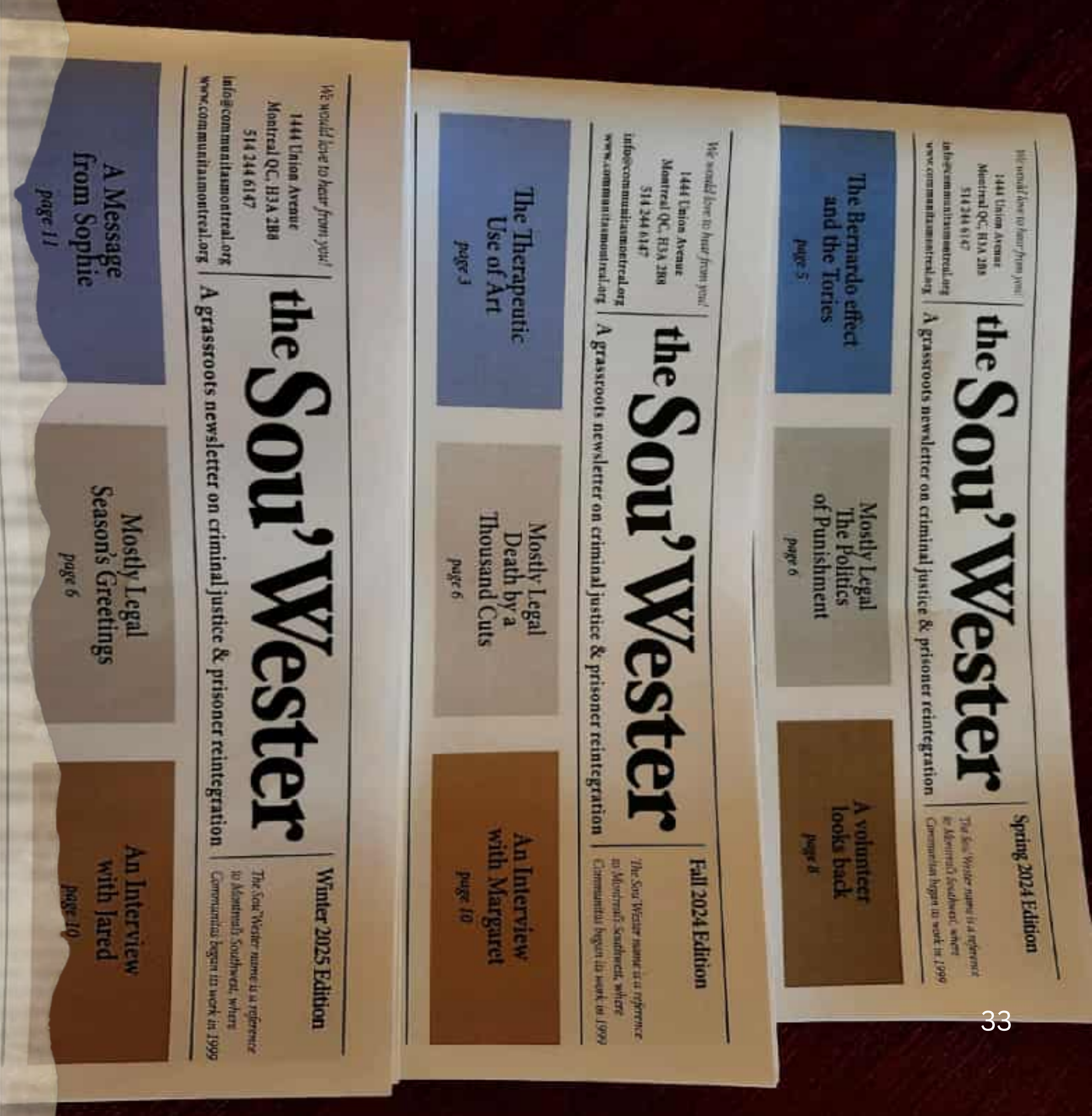
Enhance the Journey: Transcending New Year's Resolutions

Bill and I often debate ideas online or on the phone early in the morning while sipping a morning cup of coffee. The talk, one morning as the new year slipped into being, was about meaningful new year's resolutions.

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SOU'WESTER EDITORIAL COMMITTEE

- Bill
- Michele
- Margaret
- Ron
- Nico
- Leigh
- Marlyn
- Steve (ex-officio)



CHRISTMAS CARD CAMPAIGN

- 400+ cards were handwritten by Communitas members
- The cards were delivered to prisons across Quebec for inmates at Christmas 2024



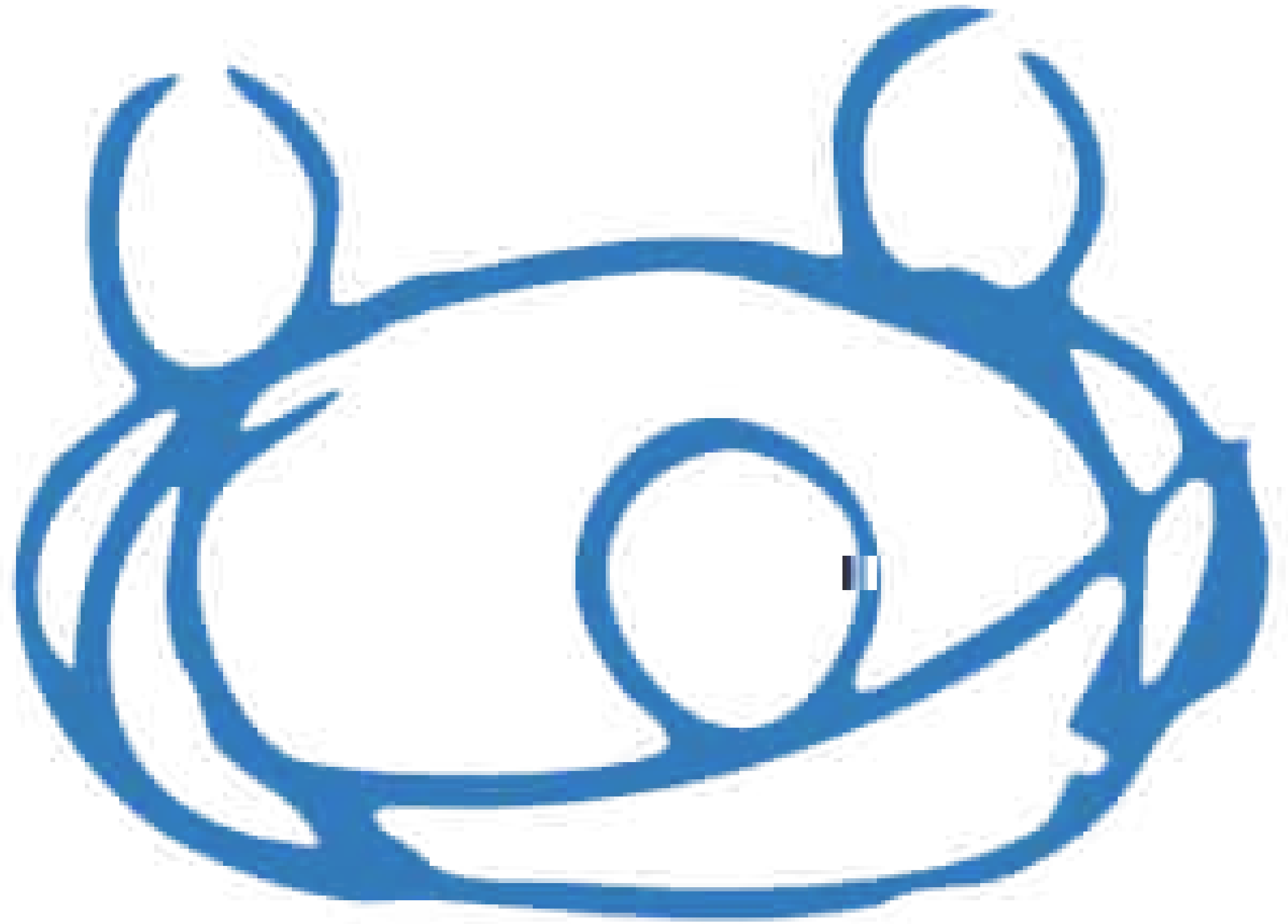




AWARDS

Communitas was recognized with an award of \$1,500 from Christ Church Cathedral for Social Justice in 2024-2025

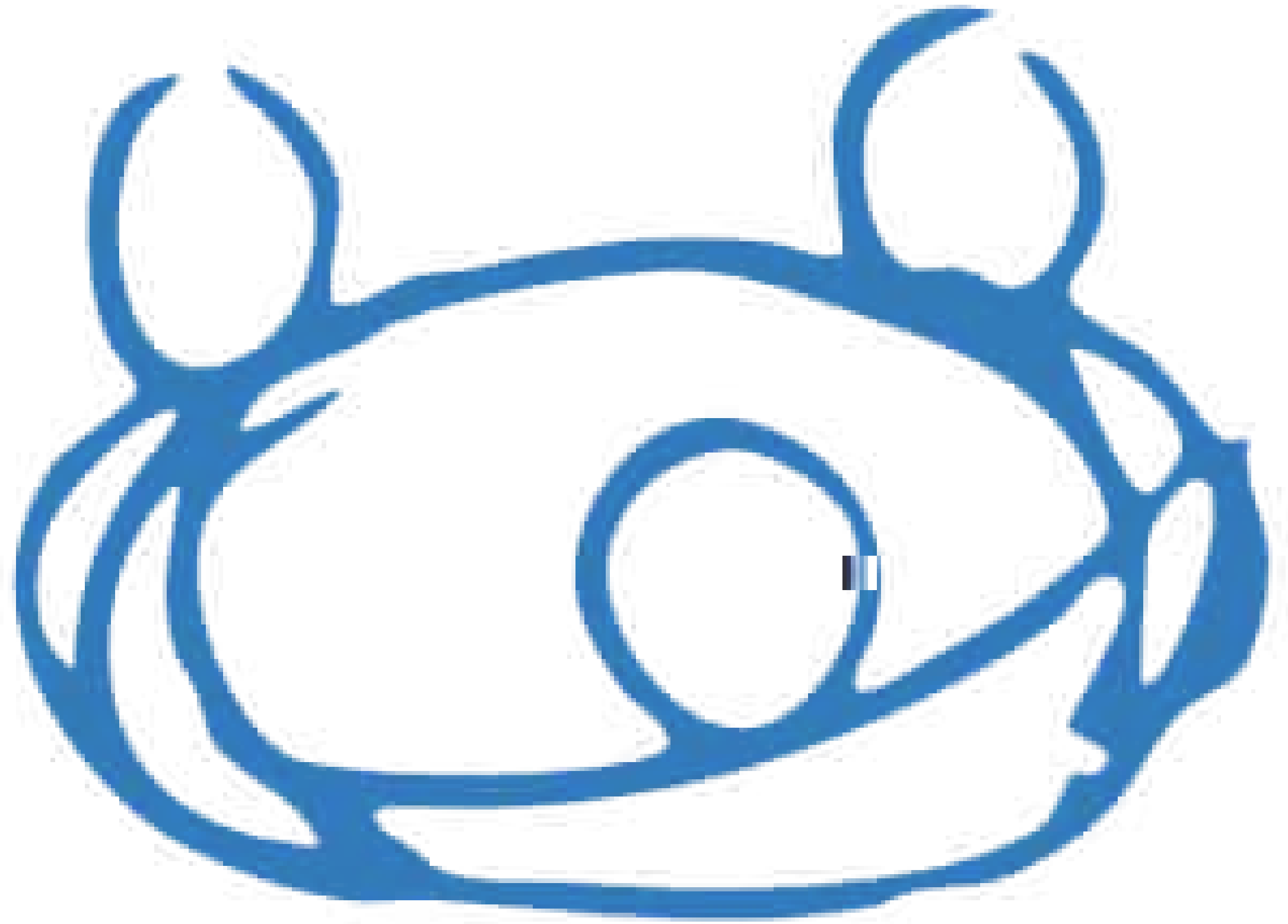




BOARD OF DIRECTORS

MEETINGS (7): **6: ONLINE** **1: IN PERSON**

- May 16, 2024
- Jul 3, 2024
- Jul 20, 2024
- Sep 25, 2024
- Nov 6, 2024
- Feb. 5, 2025
- Mar 5, 2025



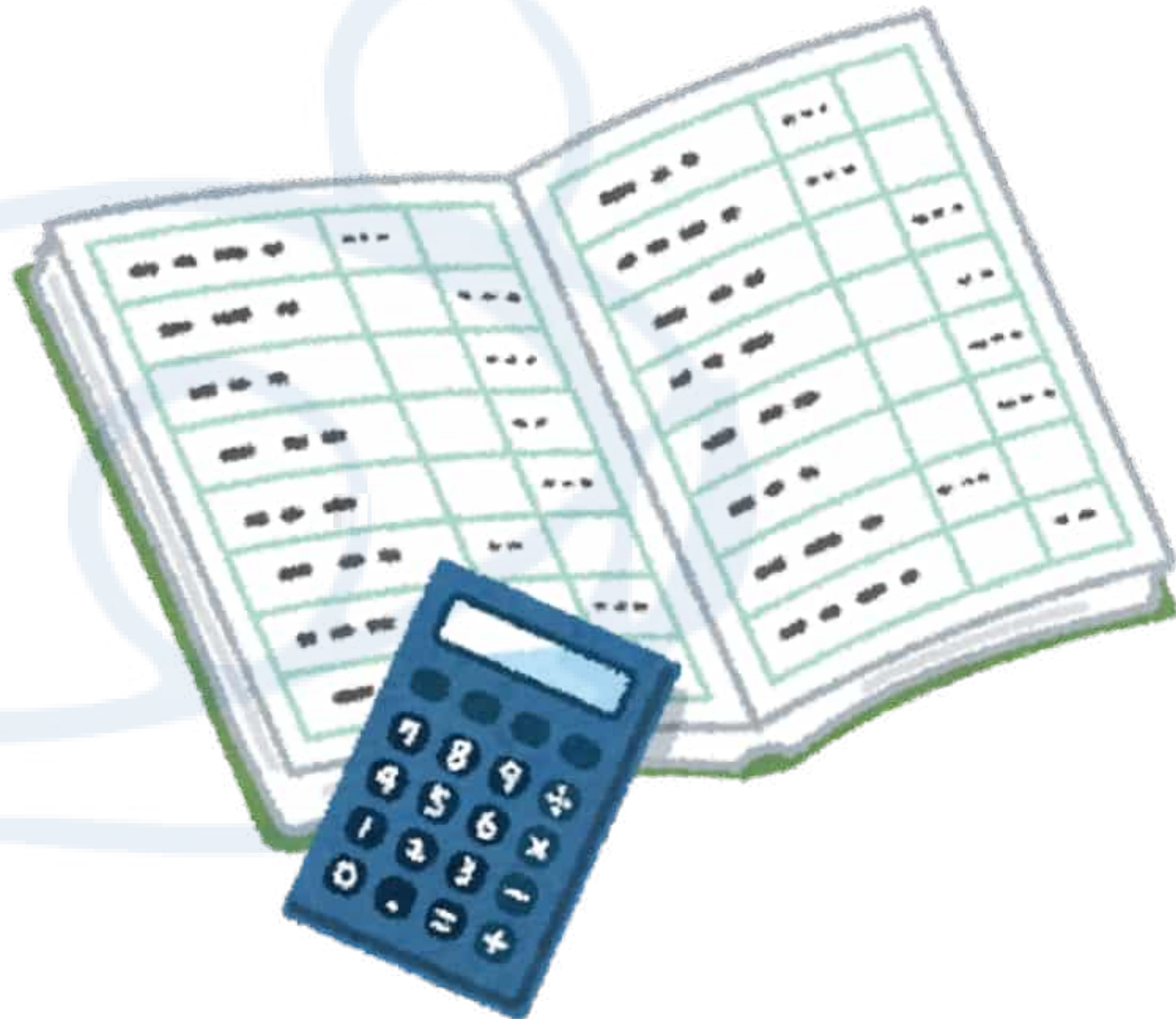
COORDINATION TEAM

(STEERING COMMITTEE)

MEETINGS (43):

- MEMBERS: Bill, Jeri, Michelle, Sophie.
- MEETINGS: Weekly
- OBJECTIVES: Plan activities and ensure that everything is under control.
- REPORTING TO: Board of Directors monthly.

FINANCIAL REPORTS 2024-2025

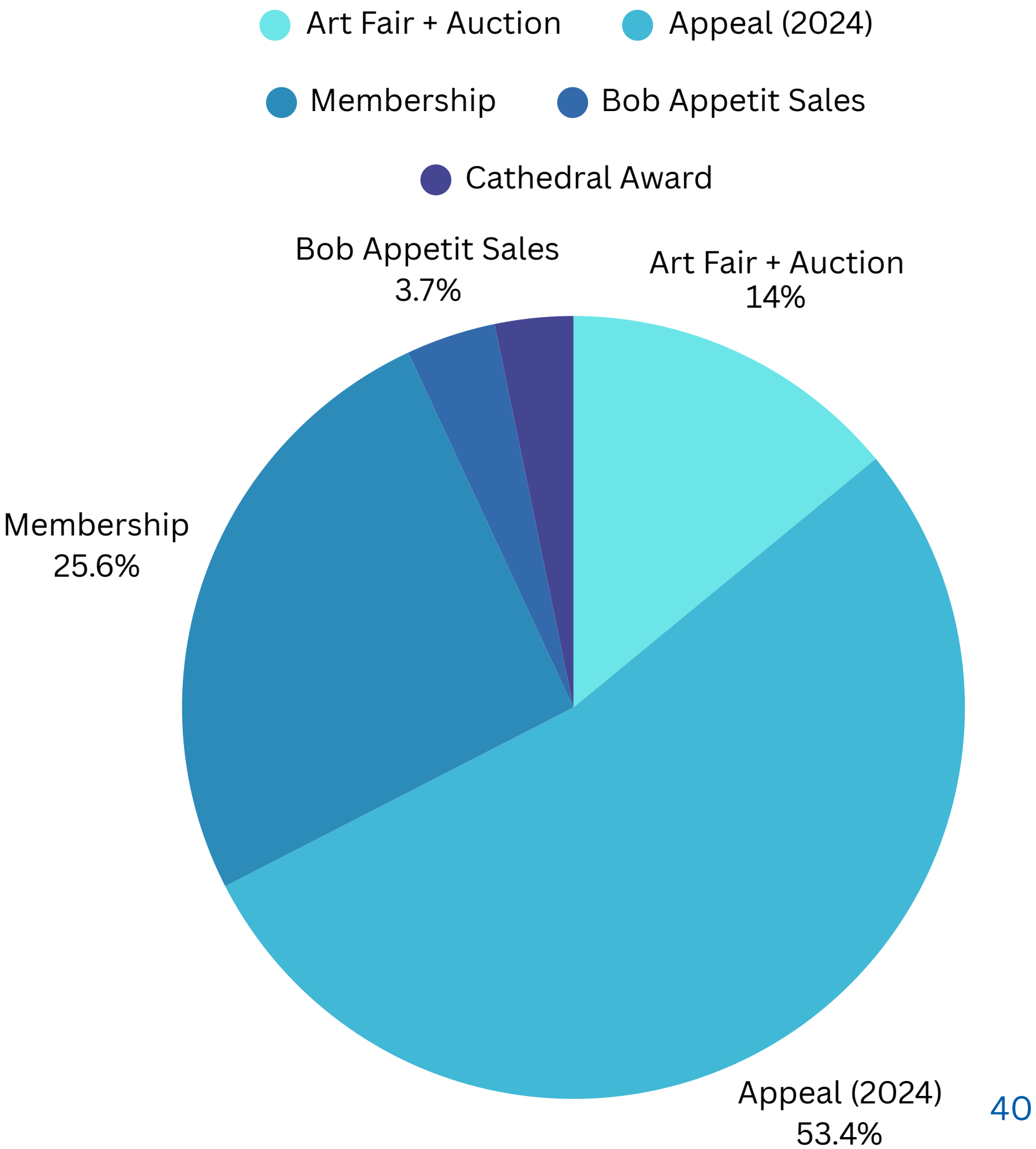


DONATIONS:

2024-2025

REVENUES	
DONATIONS - ART FAIR AND AUCTION	\$ 6,520
DONATIONS - FINANCIAL APPEAL (2024)	\$24,794
DONATIONS - OTHER (Membership etc.)	\$15,110
TOTAL	\$ 46,424

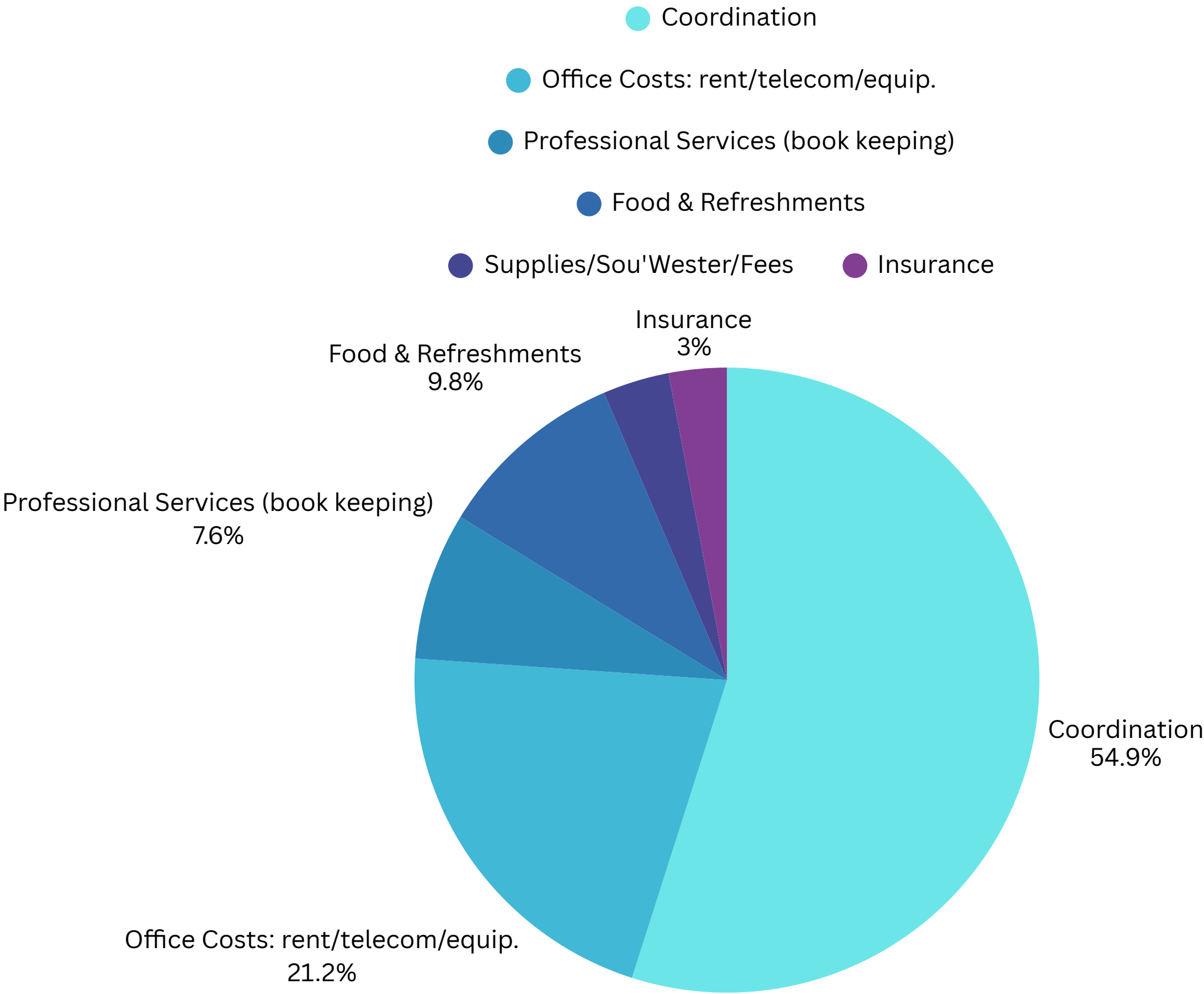
*Donations under “Other” includes \$1,720 received from the sale of “Bob Appetite” as well as the award of \$1500 received from the Cathedral for Communitas’ work in Social Justice.



EXPENSES:

2024-2025

EXPENSE ITEM	
Coordination	\$ 23,178
Office costs-Rent/Telcom/Equip.	\$ 8,940
Professional services Bookkeeping	\$ 3,225
Food & refreshments	\$ 4,147
Supplies/Sou'Wester/Fees	\$ 1,450
Insurance	\$ 1,265
TOTAL	\$ 42,205



COMMUNITAS 2024-2025 INCOME STATEMENT

(for the year that ended 31
March 2025 (unaudited))

For the first time
Communitas has a positive
balance due to the
fundraising achieved in
2024.

		2024-2025
REVENUES		
DONATIONS		22,986.85
MEMBERSHIP FEES		23,437.16
Sub-Total		46,424.01
OPERATING EXPENSES		
Coordination		23,177.91
Professional fees		3,224.70
Rent		6,155.00
Telecommunications/Web Hosting		978.92
Office supplies		480.37
Telephone		1,325.89
Insurance		1,265.43
Printing & Editing & Subscriptions		1,416.75
Food and Refreshment		4,068.03
Transportation		78.89
Fees/Donations/Bank Interest		33.30
Sub-Total		42,205.19
EXCESS OF REVENUES OVER EXPENSES		4,218.82

COMMUNITAS

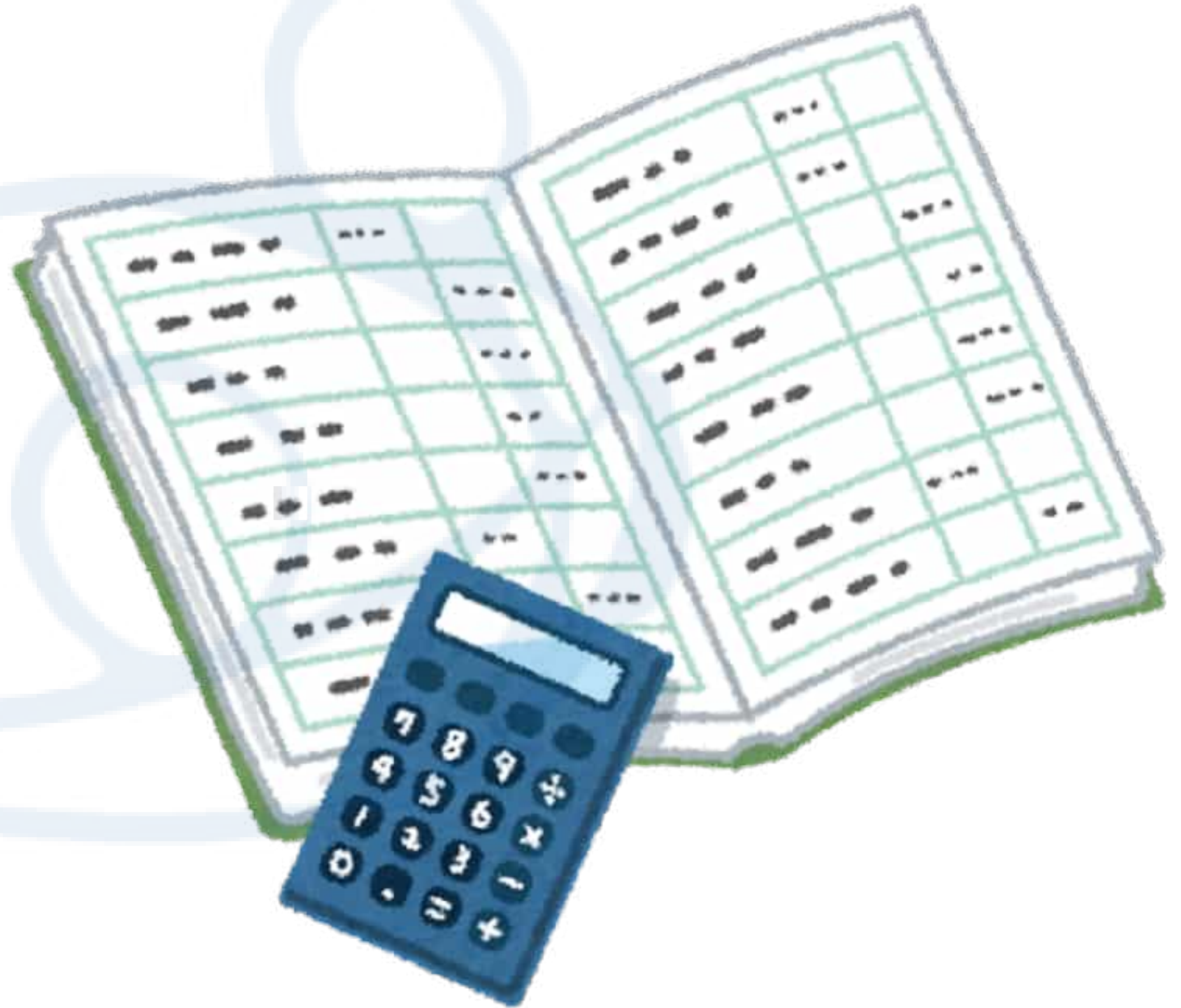
2024-2025

BALANCE SHEET

as of 31 March 2025

ASSETS	TOTAL	
	CAD	CAD
SHORT TERM ASSETS		
Current Account	42,705.67	
Qualifying Share	5.00	
Total on Hand		42,710.67
Pre-paid Charges		1,088.45
Total <u>Short Term Assets</u>		43,799.12
TOTAL ASSETS		43,799.12
LIABILITIES		
Current Liabilities		
Accounts Payables		-12.68
Accrued Liabilities		80.08
GST/HST paid on purchases		-758.57
GST paid on purchases		-1,513.38
Total <u>Short Term Liabilities</u>		-2,204.55
TOTAL LIABILITY		-2,204.55
EQUITY		
Capital		
Retained Results from Prev. Exerc.		41,784.85
Net Earnings		4,218.82
Total - Capital		46,003.67
TOTAL EQUITY		46,003.67
LIABILITY AND EQUITY		43,799.12

BUDGET 2025-2026



Communitas Budget		2024-2025	Budget Proposal 2025-2026
Expenses			
Salaries		26,634	26,634
Assistant Coordinator J		9,319	9,319
Assistant Coordinator B		17,315	17,315
Administrative Expenses		1,197	1,197
Insurance		1,553	3,000
Office Equipment		390	300
Rent & Utilities		6,504	6,504
Rent		6,000	6,000
Phone & Internet		504	504
Supplies, materials, postage, printing, etc.		2,000	2,000
Technical services (bookkeeping)		2,069	2,759
Travel and Living Expenses		-	-
Volunteer Recruitment and Training			
Training/Appreciation		750	750
Communitas Activities			
Open Door			
Honoraria - Speakers		100	50
Refreshments		2,000	1,000
Drivers Reimbursement		120	120
Table Talk			
Food and Beverage		2,600	3,000
Fundraising event		1,000	1,000
TOTAL EXPENSES		46,918	48,314
Projected Revenue			
Revenue Item			
Donations & Fundraising Target		30,000	30,000
TOTAL REVENUE		30,000	30,000
TOTAL EXPENSES		46,918	48,314
SURPLUS OR DEFICIT	-	16,918	- 18,314

2025-26

CONSULTATION

GOALS

- Fundraising to be prioritized/Corporate grants
- Paid Volunteer Coordinator
- Increased networking with other organizations
- Escort Drivers to be prioritized/Weekend outings
- Establish Table Talk as a ETA/UTA destination with CSC
- Develop training/handbook on life outside of prison
e.g. use of metro; banks; cellphone; internet
- Increased visibility of Communitas in the public
- Celebrate our Open Door 25th Anniversary

BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2025-2026

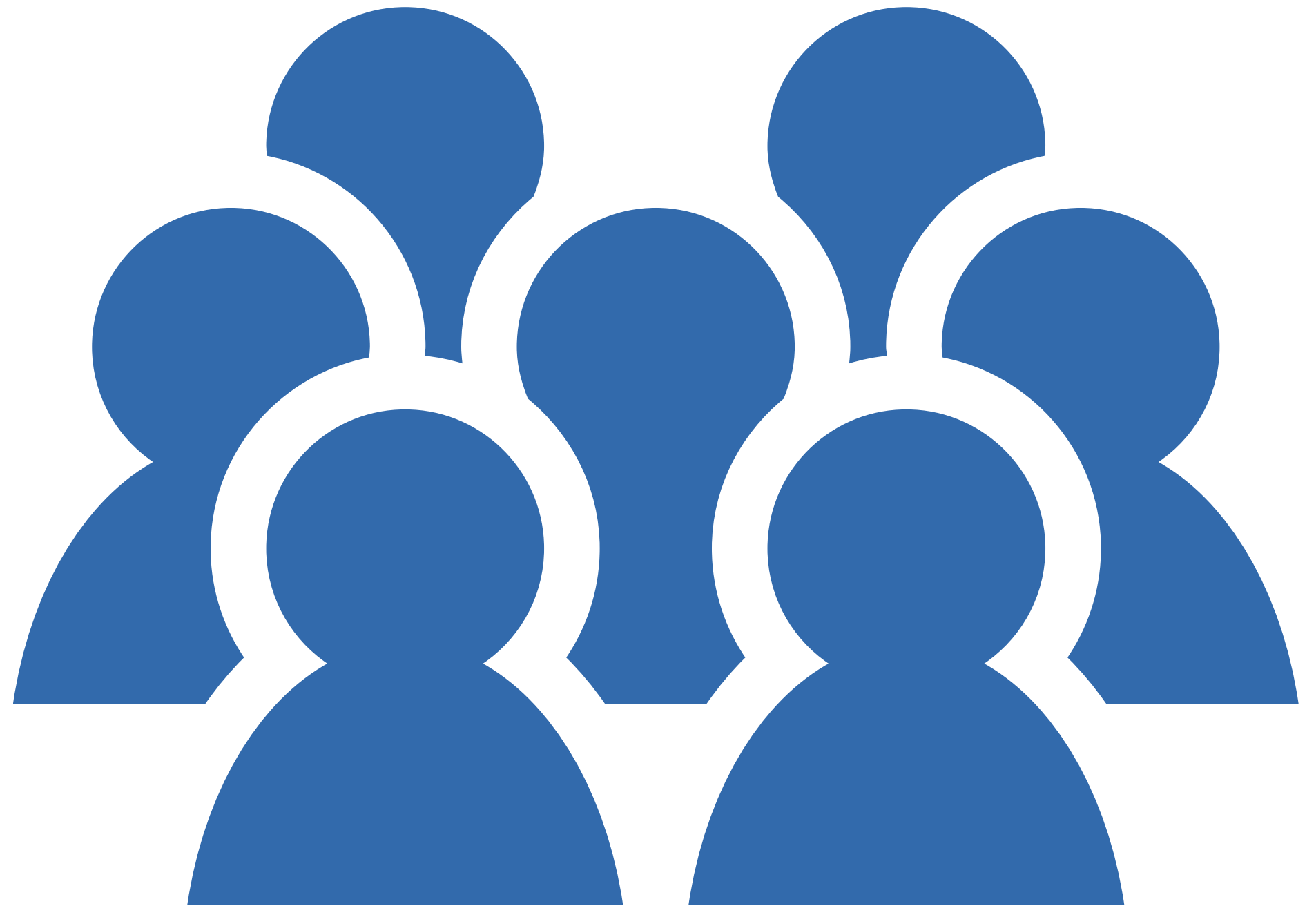
Welcome to our 2025-2026 Board:
**Jeri, Leigh, Michele, Nicholas,
Rosalie, Sabrina, Steve.**

Re-elected (5):

Jeri, Michele, Rosalie, Sabrina,
Steve

Newly elected (2):

Leigh, Nicholas



THANK YOU TO OUR DEPARTING BOARD MEMBERS

Pauline

Pauline has been on the Board for the past 5 years and her experience on other Boards that she has been on has brought much appreciated knowledge to the Communitas Board

Donald

Donald joined the Board two years ago and his insight into matters in the prison and outside it has been invaluable in our deliberations.

Special thanks to...

- Bishop Mary and Dean Bertrand of the Anglican Diocese of Montreal and Christ Church Cathedral
- Chaplains Sabrina, Jacinthe, Laurent, Tim, Benoit, Constantine and Felix
- Volunteer Coordinator –Sophie
- Bob Morell and “Bob Appetit”
- Pauline and Donald - departing Board members
- Our many volunteers and members who support our work financially, spiritually, and through the many hours of their time freely given...

THANK YOU

