

UMOJA OPERATION COMPASSION SOCIETY  
NEWCOMERS FAMILY SERVICES CENTRE

# ANNUAL REPORT 2016



Operation Compassion  
Society of British Columbia

31 December 2016

Vision: “Building strong communities; moving from newcomers to neighbours.”

Mission: “To empower immigrants and refugees to successfully integrate into an inclusive Canadian society. Internationally, we support initiatives to improve the quality of life in global communities.”

### **Chairperson Board of Director’s Report**

2016 was another successful year for Umoja Operation Compassion Society as the society continued to provide vital services to the community – success made possible through the generosity of our funders and the commitment and expertise of our staff and volunteers.

In 2016, the Board initiated the development of a strategic plan for the next 5 years, which included a refresh of Umoja’s vision and mission statements. This was a great opportunity to reflect on Umoja’s history to date and consider and plan for the future. The Board is pleased to share this updated Strategic Plan at the AGM.

Additionally, 2016 saw Umoja transition to the new Society Act and prepare to move to a new location in early 2017 to reduce our facility expenses and ensure a location central to our clients.

In closing, for each of our staff, volunteers, funders and donors, please accept the sincere gratitude of the Board of Directors for ensuring the continued success of Umoja in fulfilling its mission.

**Annette Simbabure, Board Chairperson**

### Executive Director and Staff Report

Umoja Operation Compassion Society is continuing to be relevant in addressing issues of integration and settlement in the immigrant and refugee communities around Surrey and surrounding cities. Our appreciation goes to our dedicated staff and volunteers for serving all new comers with excellence and continually displaying a high level of professionalism. Special thanks goes to our funders, the United Way of the lower Mainland, the Provincial government, and various foundations who see value in the work we do.

Below is a snap shot of how many clients we have served and the various countries they have come from, as well as the various services they have received from our society.

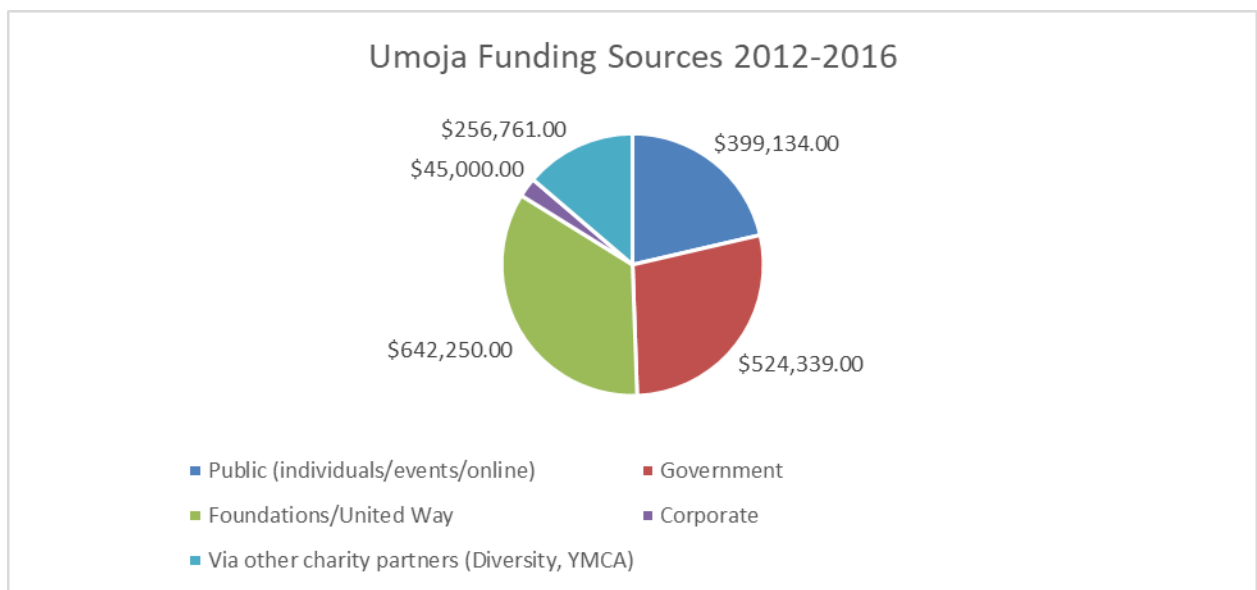
# of Children/youth	232
# of Parents/Caregivers	135
# of Families	210
# of Attendees	5,279
# of Volunteers	15
# of Program Sessions	486
# of times clients received transportation	3,185

- Literacy Program
- First Steps Parenting program
- Out of School/Life skills for kids 6 to 12 years program
- Youth program
- Drop in outreach program/success by6 program

Client Countries of Origin:

Columbia	Syria
Mexico	Democratic Republic of Congo
Iraq	Eritrea
Somalia	Ethiopia
Afghanistan	Iran
Burma	Tanzania
Vietnam	Burundi
Yemen	Cameroon
Kenya	

Our funding sources for the last 5 years from 2012 to 2016 have been steady as per the following chart. We are striving for more funding sources in order to expand our programs and reach more newcomers.



Thank you to our Board of Directors who have worked on a 5 year strategic plan that we hope will enable us to increase our funding sources and public partnerships.

Our international programs continue to thrive as we support initiatives to improve the quality of life in the developing world. We are supporting initiatives to support orphanages in the Congo at the Shiloh orphanage and in Uganda at the Rwentutu elementary school, the

Uganda medical mission and for the women’s micro finance program. All this work is made possible with the support and donations of individual Canadians who see value in the work we do.

Acknowledgement of Funders:

