

## REENA: IMPACTING LIVES ANNUAL REPORT 2018-2019



# Mission

Reena is a non-profit organization which promotes dignity, individuality, independence, personal growth and community inclusion for people with developmental disabilities within a framework of Jewish culture and values.



# Values

CARE

Chesed Ve Tzedek Compassion and Justice

### LEADERSHIP

Tikun Olam Repair The World

### **EMPOWERMENT**

V'ahavta L'reacha Kamocha Value Others As You Value Yourself

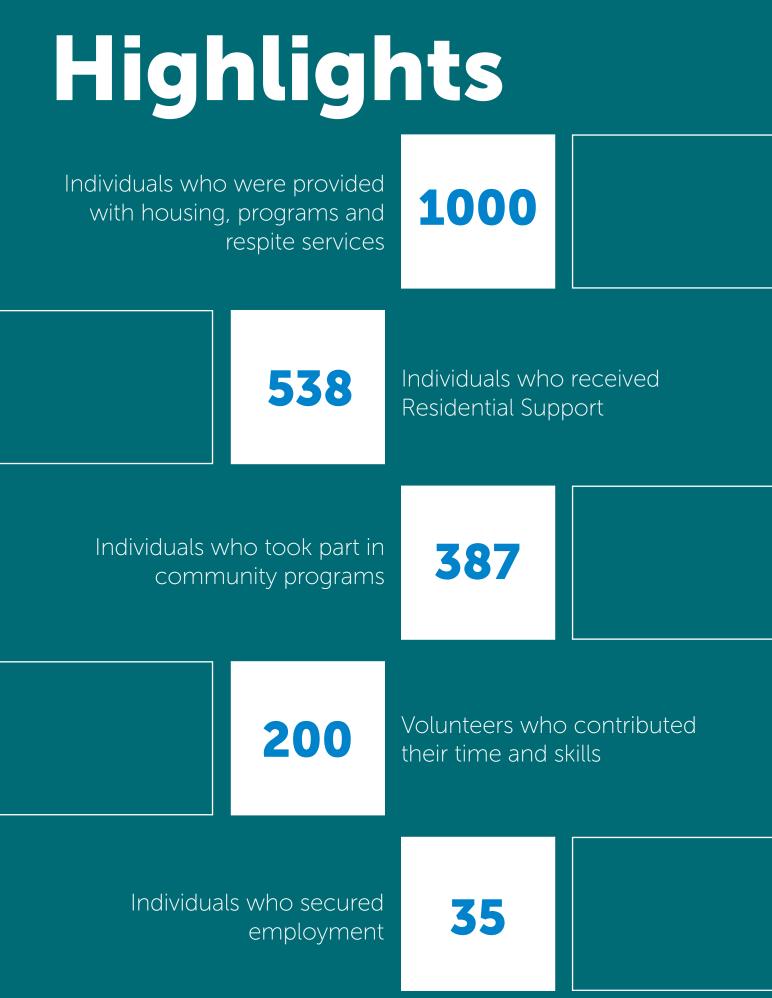
### ACCESSIBILITY

Lifnei Iver Lo Teeten Michshol Remove Barriers

### RESPECT

Kvod Habriyot Honour Our Humanity





## **A United Reena:** Reena Group of Charities

#### Message from the Executive Team

In early 2018, in an attempt to define the relationship between Reena, Batay Reena and Reena Foundation, a lawyer coined the phrase, "The Reena Group of Charities". The term has since spread to all our discussions as it reflects the integrated nature of our work together as three charitable entities with one common vision. Our collective efforts have led to one of the most successful years in Reena's history and have enabled us to expand services and supports consistent with Reena's mission; "promoting dignity, individuality, independence, personal growth and community inclusion for people with developmental disabilities within a framework of Jewish culture and values".

The senior team has worked tirelessly to coordinate and maximize opportunities to improve services and change lives. These efforts have included an expanding array of day programs, in particular advancing services that support employment, independent living and increased social engagement.



We have actively sought ways to help improve the lives of others, locally and internationally, by extending our leadership roles in the sector. That includes establishing the first Canada Israel Inclusion Mission, hosting the Intentional Community Consortium Day on Parliament Hill, participation on the National Dementia Task Force, Co-chairing the Ontario Aging with Developmental Disabilities (OADD) Committee, Chairing the OASIS Housing Task Force and more.

We celebrate the community of staff that make The Reena Group of Charities exceptional. We have invested in recruitment, training, and new talent. Our team has grown to over 700 members who collectively and individually strive to support independence and quality living. This is often difficult as the day-to-day demands are challenging and the resources are limited. Despite these challenges we are creating new models together; enhancing systems; and advancing innovative service models.

We are looking forward to the future as we work with stakeholders to develop our 2020-2025 strategic plan; develop the Lou Fruitman Reena Residence (our newest residential housing project) and continue to partner and expand services in health and employment.

Sheila Lampert, Reena Foundation, ED Bryan Keshen, Reena, President & CEO Sandy Stemp, Reena, COO Viji Hariharan, Reena, CFO

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#### **Message from the Board Chairs**

Today, Reena is accomplishing things that were unimaginable just a decade ago. Reena continues to expand its services with new housing and innovative programs. Our collective efforts create a synergy that supports individuals and families that we work with directly and indirectly in Ontario and across Canada. Reena is amongst the lead agencies in the three most significant province-wide policy and planning entities: Ontario Agencies Supporting Individuals with Special needs (OASIS); Provincial Network for Developmental Disabilities; and the Provincial Partnership for Developmental Disabilities. In addition, Reena is a lead with the Ontario Faith and Culture Inclusion Network, the Jewish Disability Network and the Toronto Developmental Services Alliance (TDSA).

As Chairs of the Reena Group of Charities (Reena, Reena Foundation and Batay Reena), we are thankful for the coordinated effort of the Boards who have worked together to solve challenges and create new opportunities.

With a generous grant from the Trillium Foundation attained by Reena, Batay Reena and the Bernard Betel Centre joined forces to upgrade the Battle Centre kitchen. The new kitchen will be used to prepare Meals on Wheels. A contribution from Reena Foundation's J.O.I.N. subcommittee will cover the start up costs of a training program so that individuals supported by Reena will learn much needed life skills. Upon completion of the program, some will have an opportunity to gain employment in the food service industry.

Working with Reena Foundation, the Miriam and Larry Robbins Foundation made a leadership gift to create new housing for vulnerable women with developmental disabilities. Within 9 months of signing the gift agreement, through the steadfast efforts of Batay Reena, The Robbins Family Group Home was officially opened. The upcoming development of the Lou Fruitman Reena Residence combines the development strengths of Batay Reena, the operational planning skills of Reena, and the fundraising expertise of Reena Foundation.

The Reena Group of Charities has over 200 volunteers engaged in policy and service delivery. We invite you to join us in our meaningful and impactful work. Together, let us continue to journey from Strength to Strength.

Jeff Bernstein, Reena, Board Chair

Steven Justein, Reena Foundation, Board Chair Harold Seidel, Batay Reena, Board Chair



## riam br the gift s of Foundation

# 2020-2025 Strategic Plan

After five successful years of implementing our current strategic planning, Reena will once again start the process of strategic planning for the next five years. Reena's 2015 – 2020 Strategic Plan was based on being Ready to do more. Not just ready, but Reena Ready:



**Reena Ready to Work** Support employment training, coaching and placement.

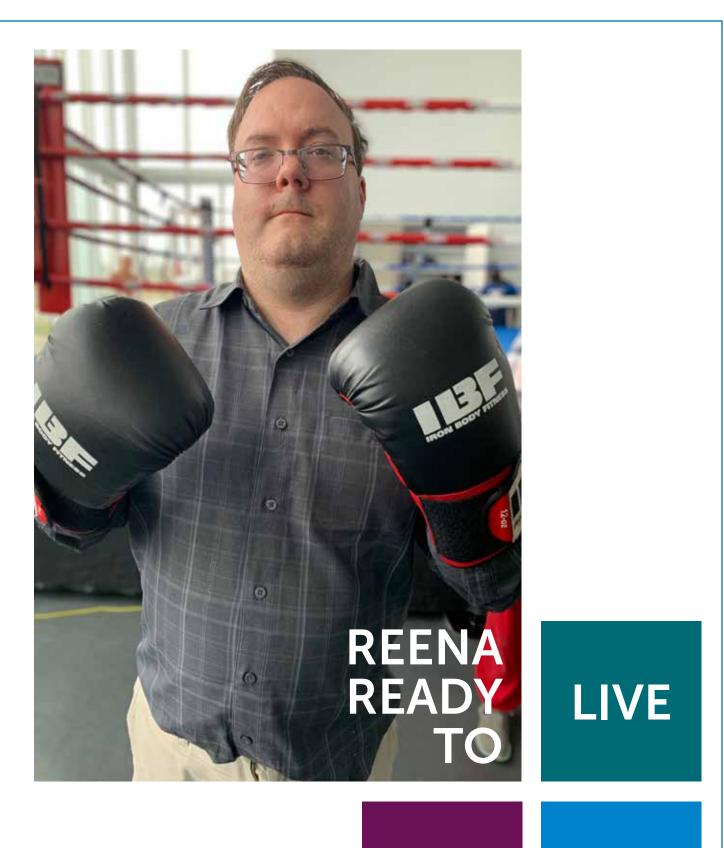


Reena Ready to Live Support a variety of housing opportunities and independent life skills.



Reena Ready to Play Support community based access including volunteering, social programs and all forms of communal engagement.

The strategic planning process includes several steps, among them: environmental scan, community consultations and stakeholders engagement. During 2019 Reena will ask for your input as we develop the strategic plan. Stay tuned for more updates.



WORK PLAY

## Reena and Bernard Betel Centre Create the Perfect Recipe

People with Developmental Disabilities and Seniors Benefit

At a ribbon-cutting ceremony held on April 5th, the newly renovated kitchen at the Toby & Henry Battle Developmental Centre opened its doors, creating the perfect recipe for the countless Reena individuals and seniors who will benefit.

The renovated kitchen, a collaboration of Reena and Bernard Betel, will allow Betel's Meals on Wheels program to relocate to Reena, where 25 people with developmental disabilities, all supported by Reena, will assist in increasing the number of meals provided to vulnerable seniors from 50,000 to 75,000 by the second year.

The kitchen will also serve as an exciting, educational and social hub, where individuals with developmental disabilities, often isolated from their communities, will come together to train for career opportunities in the food service industry, allowing them to live with the respect and dignity they so richly deserve.

Quite simply, there will never be too many cooks in this kitchen!

Thornhill MPP Gila Martow attended the ribbon-cutting along with York Centre MPP Roman Baber and Joanne Gray from the Ontario Trillium Foundation to celebrate, in person, the results of a \$150,000 Trillium Capital grant that was awarded to Reena in 2018.

Joining the MPPs at the event were Bonnie Baker, Board Chair of Bernard Betel Centre, Gail Gould, Executive Director of Bernard Betel Centre, Bryan Keshen, President and CEO of Reena and Sheila Lampert, Executive Director of Reena Foundation along with members of the Foundation's J.O.I.N. subcommittee.

"It's wonderful to see different community organizations working together to find efficiencies and better serve our community," said MPP Martow.

"We are grateful to the Ontario Trillium Foundation for investing in Reena," said Bryan Keshen. "This grant provided us with the funds necessary to strengthen our community connections and program delivery, so that more people in need can be properly supported."

According to Gail Gould, "This joint culinary initiative will allow people with developmental disabilities to learn all aspects of the Food Services industry, while at the same time respond to the growing food security needs of seniors."

In addition to the generous grant from Trillium Foundation, Reena Foundation's J.O.I.N. subcommittee is generously supporting this program by funding some of the capital needs along with the important educational component. "It is important to J.O.I.N. that proceeds from the Joel Schwartz Memorial Hockey Tournament be directed to truly inclusive programs. We are so pleased to support this one." said Jonathan Schwartz, J.O.I.N. subcommittee Chair.

It has all the ingredients needed. It's a win-win scenario.

"It's wonderful to see different community organizations working together to find efficiencies and better serve our community"

- MPP Gila Martow



Left to right: Harold Seidel, Gail Gould, Gary Gladstone, Joanne Gray, Bonnie Baker, MPP Gila Martow, Bryan Keshen



Left to right: Julie Schwartz, MPP Gila Martow, Matthew Krofchick, Evan Krofchick

## **Canada Israel Inclusion Mission**

The Canada Israel Inclusion Mission travelled to Israel during February 2019 for the first time ever, to learn about their legal framework for inclusion and its enforcement, technological innovation enabling greater independence, and approaches to self-advocacy and advocacy.

The Mission was co-hosted by Reena, Holland Bloorview Kids Rehabilitation Hospital and March of Dimes Canada, and included 34 participants. Among them were several MPs who have never previously been to Israel, representatives from the different organizations and several Reena individuals.

Some of the highlights of the mission were:

- Meeting with the Canadian Ambassador to Israel, H.E. Deborah A. Lyons;
- Best practices information exchanges at Beit Issie Shapiro, Special in Uniform, ReWalk, Magen David Adom and many others; and
- Documenting accessibility successes and challenges while visiting special sites such as the helipad on the roof of the Azrieli Center and tourist sites across Israel including the Old City of Jerusalem, Masada, and much more.

The Mission was celebrated as a success and proved to be a valuable opportunity to learn more about inclusion best practices in a very short period of time.

As one of the participants so accurately described it: "After 8 days of travel and 30 sites, we no longer saw titles or labels. We were one community travelling and working together to increase inclusion in Canada and Israel."

We wish to acknowledge the sponsorship of the Azrieli Foundation and Reena Foundation's J.O.I.N. subcommittee who helped made this trip accessible.

Reena is looking forward to the second mission expected in the summer of 2020!







"We were one community travelling and working together to increase inclusion in Canada and Israel."

## **Exceptional Abilities Gala** The Lou Fruitman Reena Residence



Karla Ford & Premier Doug Ford

Kenny & Madeleine Bodenstein



Left to right: Jeffrey Shankman, Madeleine Bodenstein, David Bodenstein, Bryan Keshen & Sheila Lampert



Left to right: Hon. Michael A. Tibollo, Roman Baber, MPP, Hon. Lisa MacLeod, Cathy, Premier Doug Ford & Gila Martow, MPP



Chief of Police Mark Saunders and Consul General of Israel Galit Baram

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On November 21, 2018 Reena Foundation welcomed over 900 guests to its 3rd Exceptional Abilities Gala. This was a historic night; where Honouree, Ontario Premier Doug Ford, along with Executive Director, Sheila Lampert, announced the largest donation in Reena's 45 year history, **\$5.4 million** from the family of the late Lou Fruitman<sup>z1</sup>.

In recognition of this unprecedented gift, Reena's newest housing development will be named the *Lou Fruitman Reena Residence*.

The Gala, chaired by David Bodenstein, Madeleine Bodenstein and Jeffrey Shankman, along with master organizer Kenny Bodenstein, included a great band, incredible food, and a silent auction. The 2018 Reena Arbour Award was presented to Karla Ford.

The greatest applause was saved for the late Lou Fruitman, who was represented by members of his family, including his beloved wife of 57 years, Betsy. Over 45 years ago, Lou helped Rabbi Joseph Kelman<sup>zt1</sup>, along with other generous community members, turn the dream of Reena into a reality.

Lou, who passed away in 2015, generously supported Reena from its start, despite not having a family member in need of its services. A humble man who avoided the spotlight, he would go on to become the first Treasurer and President. The Gala was truly a Fruitman Family Affair, with two of Lou's grandsons assisting Premier Ford in making the announcement. Lou's granddaughter, Amanda, spoke on behalf of the family and his youngest granddaughter, Phoebe sang "Hallelujah" accompanied by the Reena Choir.

Betsy Fruitman explained "My husband never wanted to be in the spotlight; it wasn't about him. He wanted all of the attention focused on Reena's important work. I believe he would be proud about tonight's Gala, our gift, and that the family is carrying on his legacy." Steven Justein, Chair of Reena Foundation thanked the family for their exceptional generosity. Bryan Keshen, Reena's President and CEO added, "This donation is transformative and will help Reena address the urgent need for integrated housing and support services in our community."

The new residential project will be modeled on the success of the innovative Reena Community Residence (RCR). The Reena Ready Campaign is underway to raise the balance of funds. The generosity of the Fruitman Family has accelerated the timing of this project and we have an opportunity to break ground this Fall.



Left to Right: Steven Justein and Mona Sherkin



Left to Right: Marvin Eisen and Alex Eisen

A humble man who avoided the spotlight, [Lou] would go on to become Reena's first Treasurer and President.



Marilyn Raphael & Family and Eleanor London



Ted and Tobie Bekhor



Left to right: Dr. Marla Shapiro, Robert Berger and Jenna Berger



Dr. Sylvester and Pauline Chuang and supporters from AWIN



Support the Reena Ready campaign Contact: Sheila Lampert slampert@reenafoundation.org

## **Exceptional Abilities Gala**

### Donors & Sponsors

### **THE EXCEPTIONAL ABILITIES GALA WAS PRESENTED BY:** Steeles Memorial Chapel & PACE Credit Union

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Thank you to: Steeles Memorial Chapel and PACE Credit Union, our presenting sponsors; our generous sponsors; donors; committee; volunteers and staff who gave their time, talent and support to help make this evening a success.

## **Striking for Reena**

Over the past eight years, Striking for Reena has raised over **\$1 Million dollars**. This year, we are proud to say, was the most profitable of them all, with a total of over **\$307,000** raised!

Striking provides family, friends, staff and supporters the opportunity to spend a fun-filled day together, while raising funds for Respite and Enrichment programs and other important initiatives.

Some examples include summer camps, sports teams and vans.



Reena MVP Bowlers



Striking Committee 2019

Tom Brown of CTV Toronto



Left to right: Suzanne Neumark and Top Individual Fundraiser Rachel Libfeld

### STRIKING FOR REENA WAS PRESENTED BY:

### Global Furniture Group & Teknion

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Thank you to: Global Furniture Group and Teknion, our presenting sponsors; our incredibly generous sponsors and donors; outstanding committee; bowlers; volunteers and every member of the extended Reena family!

## Striking Gives the Gift of Sight

One of the special initiatives supported this year was the gift of sight for an individual supported by Reena named Mayda. Mayda was born with 10% vision. Daily activities like reading, cooking or simply crossing the street became increasingly challenging. Within seconds of receiving a vision enhancing device, eSight, Mayda was able to see.



## **Transforming Women's Lives** The Robbins Family Group Home

On July 18, 2018, The Miriam & Larry Robbins Foundation made a leadership donation of **\$1.8 million dollars**, to allow for the purchase of a group home exclusively for women. Women with developmental disabilities are at much greater risk of abuse.

"This was a cause that really spoke to our heart," said Monty S. Robbins.

It also spoke to the heart of Toronto Maple Leaf, Mitch Marner. In addition to playing for the Leafs, Marner works to improve the lives of others through the Marner Assist Fund.

When he heard about the generosity of the Robbins Family, he was honoured to attend the cheque presentation.

Nine short months later, on April 9, 2019, Reena officially opened The Robbins Family Group Home.

Beyond creating a beautifully designed living space for 6 women, the home includes a desperately needed respite suite and a van to transport the residents.

Sheila Lampert shared some words from a mother of one of the new residents:

"It has been an extremely challenging journey raising Rachel. It has included some joyful, loving moments as well as some heart wrenching, difficult times for our family. Rachel's move into The Robbins Family Group Home is nothing short of a miracle for us. Thank you from the bottom of my heart. I feel as though Rachel and I have won the lottery."

Toronto City Councillor, James Pasternak brought remarks on behalf of Mayor John Tory. "Thank you to the Robbins Family and all the management, staff and volunteers at Reena. You represent the very best of Toronto."



Left to right: Sheila Lampert, Larry Robbins, Mitch Marner, Denise Robbins, Ashtyn Robbins, Monty S. Robbins & Jeffrey Shankman **17** Reena Annual Report 2018-2019



"This was a cause that really spoke to our heart" – Monty S. Robbins.

## **Reena Rumble**

Dustin Kazman<sup>z1</sup> was an individual supported by Reena. Among his many passions were music, art, sports and especially wrestling. On January 31, 2019, in partnership with Magen Boys Entertainment, Reena Foundation hosted Reena Rumble, a wrestling event in his memory.



Reena Rumble Committee 2019



Meet & Greet with Pro-Wrestlers

Proceeds from this inaugural event were used to purchase a van, to transport individuals to programs, outings, job placements and medical appointments. The van is truly "Fuelled by the memory of Dustin Kazman".



The Libfeld Family



Left to right: Steven Kazman & Efram Kazman



The newly renovated art space in the Reena Community Residence has been named the Dustin Michael Kazman Music & Art Studio.

## REENA RUMBLE WAS PRESENTED BY:

### Tribute Communities

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#### SPECIAL THANKS TO:

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Thank you to: Tribute Communities, our presenting sponsor; our incredibly generous sponsors and donors; guests; staff; volunteers and Magen Boys Entertainment for making Reena Rumble a night to remember!

## **Rebounds for Reena**

Our Rebounds for Reena basketball tournament raised over **\$39,000** for Reena's Respite and Enrichment programs. Proceeds were directed to the Special Olympics Basketball program and March Break Camps.

Individuals supported by Reena participated in a pre-game warm up and cheered on the 16 teams that came out in support of Reena Foundation.



16 Competitive Teams



Sitting courtside with the "Raptor"

### REBOUNDS FOR REENA WAS PRESENTED BY

Torys LLP

ALLEY-OOP SPONSORS Great Gulf & Great Gulf Consolidated Holdings Inc.



Left to Right: Shira Lev, Sheila Lampert, Hayden Cantor, Daniel Viner, Bryan Keshen, Sammy Raskin & Lana Feinstein

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Thank you to: Torys LLP, our presenting sponsor; everyone who sponsored our players; and to our partners, Lana Feinstein and the Schwartz/Reisman Centre. Special thanks to Larry and Kenny Tanenbaum and MLSE for sending the "Raptor".

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## The Lightstone Classic

Generously hosted by Maple Downs Golf & Country Club, The Lightstone Classic Men's Charity Pro-Am tournament took place on September 6, 2018.

In 2017, a new van was purchased for the Reena Community Residence in Vaughan. Proceeds from the 2018 and 2019 tournaments will be combined and directed by the Committee members to one of Reena's upcoming projects.



2018 Pros

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Left to right: Ross Arbuck, Robert Thompson, Paul Doucet, Jeff Brooke, and Head Pro Mike Moniz

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Thank you to all of our generous sponsors, donors and friends.

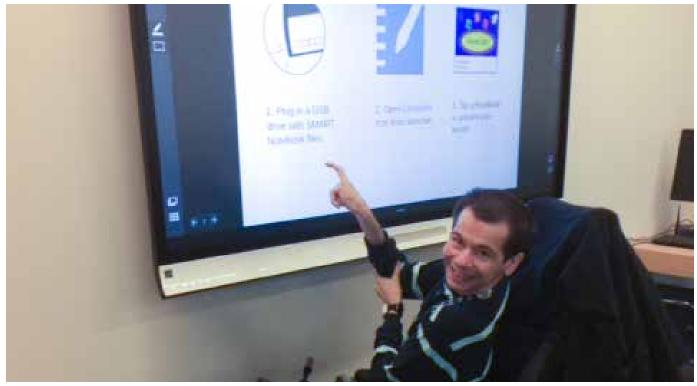
## **Swinging for Reena**

Swinging for Reena, the annual golf tournament hosted by Tribute Communities has raised over \$1.3 million.

Proceeds have paid for a wheelchair accessible van, renovations to the Toby & Henry Battle Developmental Centre and many of our programs including technology and summer camps.



Left to right: Sheila Lampert, Steven Libfeld, Steven Justein, Rachel Libfeld



Smart Board purchased through the proceeds raised at the event **23** Reena Annual Report 2018-2019

#### Thank you to all our generous donors, sponsors and players!

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## **Endowment Funds**

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## Reena Summary Financial Statements Year ended March 31, 2019

Summary statement of financial position

As at March 31, 2019

ASSETS	2019	2018
	\$	\$
Cash and investments	2,790,447	2,181,506
Due from Batay Reena	96,957	
Due from Reena Foundation	49,654	
Other current assets	3,265,012	4,451,940
Prepaid lease expense	664,110	654,211
Capital assets	22,659,785	22,633,305
Totals	29,525,965	29,920,962

#### LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCES

Other current liabilities	9,417,538	5 722 958
Mortgages payable and replacement reserve	5,465,430	5,722,958
	14,882,968	15,859,757
Fund balances	14,642,997	14,061,205
Totals	29,525,965	29,920,962

# Summary statement of operations & changes in net assets

Year ended March 31, 2019

REVENUE	2019	2018
	\$	\$
Government grants	41,312,985	38,666,084
Rent, additional services and user fees	7,481,739	7,332,458
Other income	1,038,058	718,299
Total	49,832,782	46,716,841
EXPENSES		
Salaries, contract wages and related costs	36,819,847	34,263,646
Food and supplies, accommodation, renovations and support for individuals' personal needs	7,618,627	7,274,212
Interest on mortgages	159,331	171,842
Purchased services and professional fees	3,216,894	3,053,282
Other	1,317,465	1,026,430
Total	49,132,164	45,789,412
Excess of revenue over expenses before the undernoted	700,618	927,429
Pay equity expense	(796,108)	(1,026,873)
Amortization of capital assets	(431,184)	( 436,785)
Grant from Batay Reena		50,000
Grant from Reena Foundation	622,466	660,169
Excess of expenses over revenue for the year	95,792	173,940
Net assets, beginning of year	14,061,205	13,887,265
Capital Contribution from Reena Foundation	486,000	
Net assets, end of year	14,642,997	14,061,205

## Summary statement of cash flows

Year ended March 31, 2019

CASH FLOWS	2019	2018
	\$	\$
Cash provided by operating activities	1,439,569	835,465
Cash used in investing activities	(288,977)	(88,205)
Cash used in financing activities	(541,651)	( 547,054)
Net increase (decrease) in cash and investments	608,941	200,206
Cash and investments, beginning of year	2,181,506	1,981,300
Cash and investments, end of year	2,790,447	2,181,506

For complete audited financial statements, please call (905) 763-8254 x 3027



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#### REENA

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927 CLARK AVENUE WEST THORNHILL, ON L4J 8G6

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