

# Voices for Change

## Project Impact Summary | 2018 – 2020

A three part poverty reduction project aimed at reducing vulnerability and increasing resiliency to poverty for adult low wage earners, low income children, families and youth in Nelson, BC through:

- opportunities to engage socially and professionally in community
- providing cash or cash like benefits
- financial skills training



### People & Connection

**495 individuals** (291 adults, 8 youth, 196 children) vulnerable to or living in poverty engaged in the project, which included increased opportunities to engage socially and professionally in community.



### Income Benefits

**\$70,000** (47% of project funding) in the form of cash and non-cash, tangible benefits was placed in the hands of people vulnerable to or experiencing poverty.



### Skill Development

**1,000+ hours** of skill building, mentoring, financial literacy and employment training opportunities were provided.



### Multi-Sectoral Community Support & Engagement

**118 organizations and individuals across 11 sectors** collaborated, contributed and engaged in project planning and delivery, including business, government and residents.

### Participant Voices

#### Benefits Incubator Project:

"I live pay cheque to pay cheque, and this showed me that my employer sees that. This allowed me to spend money on personal products which usually come out of my food budget".

#### Financial Literacy Project:

"I didn't know about tax free savings accounts or how to optimize my credit score. I used my newfound knowledge (as well as the supplements I received) to pay off my loan and open a savings account".

#### Community Cafes Project:

"I'm simply so grateful that they were offered. I felt less lonely and was a better parent as a result. Every one I attended taught me something. Each time I walked away with new knowledge, connections and ideas".

Read the full summary report at: [bestnelson.org/voices-for-change](http://bestnelson.org/voices-for-change)

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