
THE JOURNEY

TACKLING SOCIAL EXCLUSION HEAD-ON



How Fraser is building a community where *everyone* belongs and thrives.

FRASER LTD'S MISSION

Supporting children, youth and adults on their life's journey toward independence.

- CHILDREN'S SERVICES –
- TRANSITIONAL YOUTH SERVICES –
- ADULT SERVICES –
- VALLEY HOPE
COUNSELING SERVICES –

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with Sandra Leyland

The poem "Outwitted" by Edwin Markam, 1852-1940, speaks directly to his belief that love is big enough to include everyone.

*"He drew a circle that shut me out -
Heretic, rebel, a thing to flout.
But love and I had the wit to win:
We drew a circle that took him in."*



Finding a way to include those not always welcome in society has become our trademark. In modern-day, it is often referred to as inclusion and it has been the foundation of our values and philosophy at Fraser, Ltd. for over 130 years.

Through these efforts, we at Fraser have drawn many circles to include those perceived to be on the fringe of our society. In 1893 we began addressing the needs of young unwed mothers and their children. A building was erected in 1911 with money from a philanthropist named Charles Crittenton.

The original building now known as The Butler House still stands and is home to youth and young adults seeking shelter through our permanent supportive housing. Alongside of this historic building will be the NEW Stepping Stones Resource Center, (SSRC). The resource center provides an opportunity for community collaboration and partnerships to form a unique opportunity for participants and service providers to have a one-stop location for meeting with those at risk of homelessness, trafficking, or incarceration. This location is also available to those in need to obtain case management services, learning opportunities, emergency shelter, counseling, laundry, and internet services. Located on a city bus route it is easily accessible. It is our answer to completing a circle of care that takes in those who need us the most.

The SSRC is an innovative approach to meeting the needs of at-risk youth early in their lives. Mitigating risk by providing choice and opportunity, the SSRC positively impacts those in poverty and those with mental and physical health issues.

We still need financial assistance to wrap up construction efforts. Your donations are welcome and appreciated by 1,300 youth and community service providers who utilize the space. We are a like-minded community of non-profits who recognize the value of working together to address the needs of disenfranchised populations.

We are forever grateful for local business and private support.

Sandra Leyland
CEO & President, Fraser, Ltd.



BREAKING DOWN BARRIERS

Addressing Social Exclusion in Our Community

Imagine being on the outside looking in. You see people going about their daily lives—working, socializing and building their futures—but there’s an invisible wall keeping you from joining them. For many in our community, this isn’t just a feeling; it’s a reality. At Fraser, Ltd., we witness this every day. The people we serve—children, youth and adults with disabilities or facing other challenges—often find themselves pushed to the edges of society. This exclusion not only affects their access to basic needs but also their sense of belonging and hope for the future.

It’s more than simply being left out. It’s a painful experience of being shut out from opportunities and resources; when someone can’t find their way to stable housing, pursue education or access healthcare.

Over time, this exclusion can lead to isolation. They lose access to the connections, jobs and support systems that most of us rely on. The deeper someone falls into this isolation, the harder it is to come back.

There are powerful forces that push individuals away from the center of society, isolating them on the fringes. One of the most devastating forces is poverty. Poverty limits every aspect of life—where you can live, how much food you can buy, whether you can afford healthcare or even if you can keep your children in school. It traps people in a cycle of unmet needs, leaving them disconnected from opportunities that could change their situation. Then there’s poor health, both physical and mental.

When your health is compromised, you may no longer be able to work, socialize or leave the house without assistance. Imagine trying to navigate daily life when your body or mind isn’t cooperating. The isolation that comes with poor health can be suffocating, pulling people further

away from the help they need to survive, let alone thrive.

Discrimination is another force that can push people to the sidelines. Whether it’s based on race, gender, disability or another factor, discrimination creates barriers to education, jobs and social services, which makes it nearly impossible for someone to move forward. When people are constantly reminded they don’t belong, it becomes harder and harder to find a path to inclusion.

What happens when someone is pulled too far from the center of society?

For some, the feelings of frustration and hopelessness become overwhelming, pushing them toward risky or even criminal activity in an effort to survive or feel a sense of control. This cycle of exclusion can continue for generations if no one steps in to break it. Social exclusion doesn’t just harm individuals—it weakens the entire community.

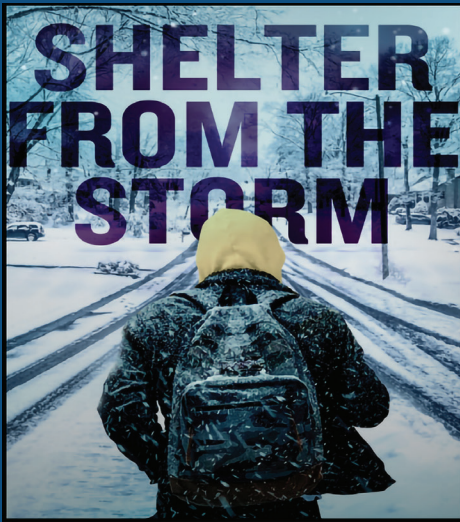
We understand these challenges are complex and deeply intertwined. That’s why our approach is holistic, offering personalized support that addresses all aspects of a person’s life. Whether it’s housing, basic needs, healthcare or skills training, we meet individuals where they are and help them build toward a better future.

It’s not about just offering services—it’s about offering hope. Our independent living, transitional youth and childcare programs bring people back into the community by offering them the tools, support, and encouragement they need to succeed.

No one should be left behind. Together, we can create a community where everyone has the chance to succeed, regardless of their starting point.



2902 University Drive South
Fargo, ND 58103



Scan the QR code to help us finish strong and provide a warm, welcoming space for our community's homeless youth



Supporting Youth Through Winter, Building for the Future

The current Stepping Stones Resource Center will open extended hours this winter, but we need your help to complete the new center!

As winter sets in, Fraser, Ltd. will once again provide extended hours at our Stepping Stones Resource Center, ensuring that homeless and at-risk youth have a safe, warm place to go. While we're grateful for the support we've received, we are still working to close the funding gap for the new Stepping Stones Resource Center. This new facility will allow us to offer even more resources and support for our youth, creating a brighter future for those in need.



Fraser, Ltd. Presents:

Festival of Trees
November 8th–December 6th

Cookies with the Claus Family
November 29th 1pm–4pm

At the FARGODOME

Find more details on Facebook & fraserltd.org

24TH ANNUAL FRASER, LTD.
FESTIVAL OF TREES