

about the chinatown seniors:

- The 200-250 seniors known to us in Chinatown/DTES speak little to no English, yet are resiliently building mutual aid networks amongst themselves.
- Over half of them have either busy minimum-wage-earning children who cannot easily take time off, have children who are out of country, or are estranged from their families.



- After many seniors moved to Canada in the 2010s, they are now among the 12.6% of seniors in B.C. reliant on public pensions, such as Old Age Security, to cover monthly rent and bills. There is often next to no money left for food.
- Seniors living in Chinatown/DTES access various types of low-cost and social housing, such as single-room occupancies (SROs), government-run public housing, or private/non-profit operated housing.

about:

Yarrow Intergenerational Society for Justice 世代同行會 supports youth and low-income immigrant seniors in Chinatown and the Downtown Eastside (DTES). We build power in our community through intergenerational relationship building, and by helping seniors overcome language and cultural barriers to services that meet their basic needs. We combine service provision and grassroots organizing, with a core belief that service work is political and that as a community, we have the tools we need to take care of one another. We empower seniors and youth to work together to improve their communities and tackle the difficult problems of oppression and violence. Our vision is of a Chinatown that is intergenerational and thriving, with accessible and culturally relevant services and an environment that cherishes our seniors and youth.

Find us on all platforms
@YarrowSociety
or visit our website at
YarrowSociety.ca



Yarrow
Intergenerational
Society for Justice
世代同行會

OUR VISION

We envision a thriving, equitable, and intergenerational community in Chinatown.

OUR MISSION

To remove barriers to health care, housing, and income access and provide services, advocacy, and education that develops youth and senior leadership and builds community power in Chinatown.



volunteer programs:

GENERAL VOLUNTEER

Volunteers join us for our intergenerational community events which include but are not limited to holiday celebrations, workshops, dragon boating, and art projects.



NOURISHING HEARTS 擇膳養心 GROCERY PROGRAM

Our dedicated volunteer team pack and deliver fully subsidized, fresh, and culturally appropriate groceries to seniors living in Chinatown and the Downtown Eastside.

HEART 2 HEART PHONE CALL PROGRAM

Volunteers are paired with a senior that they call weekly to help reduce loneliness and isolation. The calls help notify seniors of important updates such as COVID-19 information, vaccine clinics, and community events.

call for volunteers!

WWW.YARROWSOCIETY.CA/VOLUNTEER

We are looking for volunteers who speak Mandarin, Cantonese, and Chinese dialects, but all are welcome to apply. All new volunteers must attend an orientation to learn about our mission and values, volunteer responsibilities, and the context of our work in Chinatown and the Downtown Eastside.

We recognize that our community's service needs come from systemic inadequacies and inequality. Long-term inequalities require us to build power as a community and demand long-term solutions.



Help us continue cultivating intergenerational relationships, organizing for culturally competent healthcare services, and supporting the community's demands for affordable housing in Vancouver's Chinatown and DTES.

volunteer programs:

STICKY RICE COLLECTIVE 菜飯糰

Volunteers help organize intergenerational events and engage in social justice leadership in Chinatown/DTES.



CHINESE SENIORS HUB

We build strong communities among Chinese seniors through senior empowerment, peer-based outreach, tech support, recreational events, workshops, and healthy activities.



MEDICAL ACCOMPANIMENT

Seniors are paired with a volunteer to accompany and interpret at their medical appointments. Volunteers are trained in basic medical terminology and interpretation ethics.

If you have questions, please contact volunteer@yarrowsociety.ca.