

# TAKE CARE

BGO's Annual Philanthropy Report

2022/2023

THE ESSENCE  
OF BGO  
INSPIRED

PROJECT  
DESTINED FOR  
GREATNESS

BGO'S TREE  
PLANTING ON  
A GROWTH  
SPURT

CONNECTIONS  
TO COMMUNITY



# Foreword

When *BGO Inspired* was first established in 2021, the intention was to build a corporate philanthropy program that captured the spirit of generosity and care that our employees embody, and the sentiments that bond them to the communities where they live and work. That spirit is now at the heart of what makes *BGO Inspired* move, but in 2022 we tapped into something equally potent that is expanding the impact of our program in ways we hadn't considered: our competitive drive.

## By the numbers

**1500**

Employees

**USD \$864,300**

Total Value of Donations  
from BGO in 2022

**166**

Charities we  
Supported

The passion that our BGO colleagues bring to their work fuels a competitive spirit and a high-performance mentality that has pushed the boundaries of our program into exciting, fresh territory. It's a mindset that draws from our every day fiduciary approach, and when applied to our charitable mission, we are yielding exponential results where \$1 donated by BGO is often generating multiples more.

Creative partnerships, active campaigns, and employee-fueled endeavors are what make our program fly, but the clients we have the privilege of serving are taking us to new heights. Together, we are realizing the powerful ways in which a building can be so much more than just its structural elements. They can become beacons of hope and launchpads for opportunity when we channel the caring spirit of everyday people to animate the spaces we manage on behalf of our clients. Whether that comes in the form of supporting young, Black entrepreneurs taking their first steps towards becoming business owners, reaching out to youth at risk with critical and timely support, turning our walls into canvases for mental health support, or celebrating milestone moments with tree planting that make the time we spend last forever, *BGO Inspired* is leveraging goodwill from every corner to show how seeding underserved communities with time and resources helps them to flourish.

The pages of this report are just a few of our proudest moments in a banner year for our philanthropy program. Our hope is that through our stories and strategies, our impact will continue to grow, and along the way, we'll attract more likeminded partners and fund new initiatives that deliver hope to where it is most needed.

**Rahim Ladha**

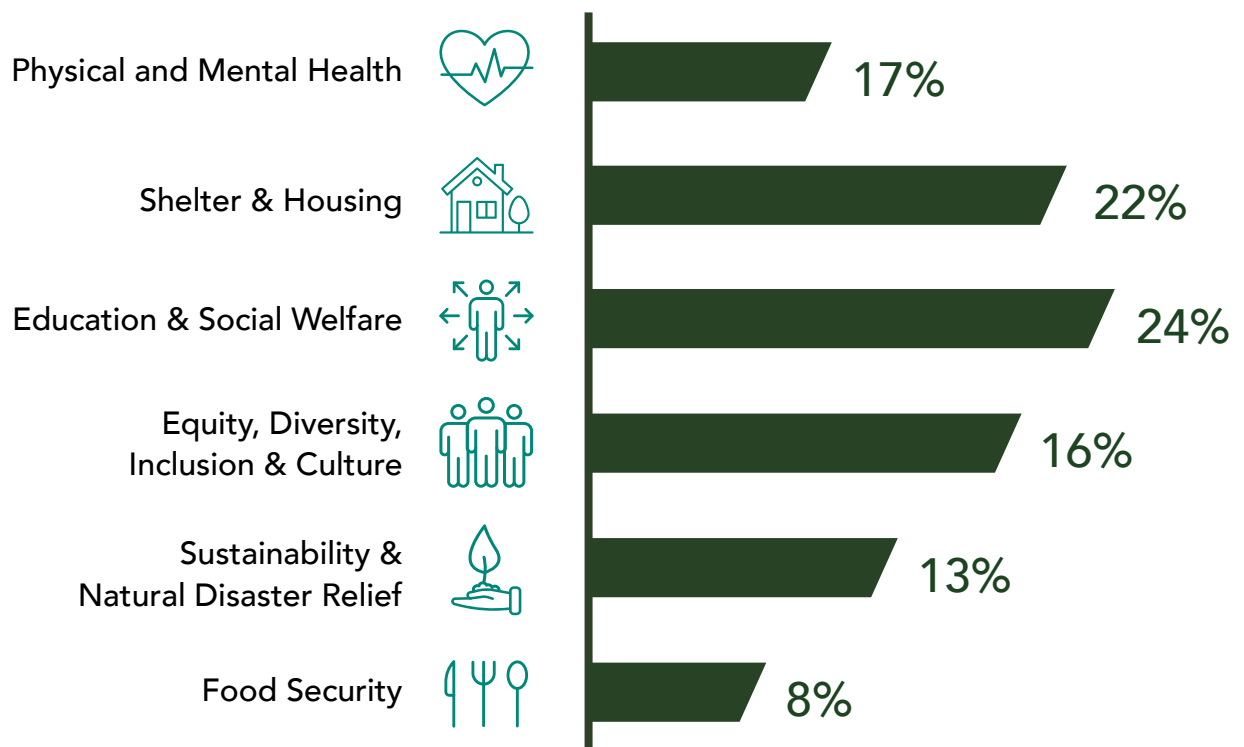
Global Head of Communications and Philanthropy

# The Essence of BGO Inspired

We all have spheres of influence at BGO, and through our philanthropic mission, we are using that influence to make a difference. Connected at the intersection of the many communities that we belong to and identify with, our employees are banding together to direct the resources of BGO's global philanthropy program to ease human suffering, both near and far.

The sense of resolve from our colleagues is renewable and entrepreneurial, and is the force behind every dollar activated in support of relief and healing. *BGO Inspired* and its many achievements belong to all 1500+ of our employees whose commitment to our philanthropic mission is changing lives in so many ways.

We are intentional in our desire to donate to organizations with a primary focus on underserved and underrepresented communities, where economic and political shocks and natural catastrophe exact the hardest toll. Inspired by our diversity mission, *BGO Inspired* is leading with a hand up to impacted communities where opportunity and hope have the potential to lift generations out of historic plight.





# Employee Inspired

Our beloved employee matching program, which matches up to USD\$250 in a dollar-for-dollar co-investment alongside the donations of our BGO colleagues, is well subscribed to across our global enterprise. Once again in 2022, we supported over 70 charitable organizations.

In the final year of our Board Support program at BGO *Inspired*, we proudly supported 12 employees in their not-for-profit advocacy outside of the workplace. Their work on the boards of charitable organizations demonstrate citizenship and purpose, and were well worth investing in for 2022.



**Laura Holland**

Chair, Greater Toronto Apartment Association Charitable Foundation

*"The GTAA's mission is to be the voice of the rental housing industry in the greater Toronto area through effective advocacy, government relations, training and development, industry networking and professional services."*



**Trace Molson**

Ontario Provincial Board Member, Heart and Stroke Foundation, Advisory Board Ontario and Nunavut

*"The Heart and Stroke Foundation focuses on reducing the impact of heart disease and stroke on Canadian lives through research, education, and clinical support. Donations fund knowledge and future breakthroughs in research, and disease prevention."*



**Lori Biancamano**

Trustee, Bronx Charter School for the Arts

*"The Bronx Charter School for the Arts serves ~600 students of which over 90% are eligible for federal funding for meal programs. Their mission is to keep arts as an integral part of the curriculum to enhance academics."*

# EDI Inspired

Our Employee Resource Groups (ERGs) have become hubs for fresh thinking and emboldened action, and through our alliance with the Asian Network, Black Professionals Alliance, P.R.I.D.E., and Women’s Network, their members and allies are making a difference.

Our diversity, equity and inclusion mission is extending to community groups that have been historically underserved and underrepresented, and *BGO Inspired* is creating new channels for support and mentorship. Our bridge-building continued in 2022, and here are a few examples of where our impact was felt:



Black Professionals Alliance – Black Girls Code



Asian Network – Guru Nanak’s Free Kitchen



Women’s Network – Iranian & Kurdish Women’s Rights Organisation



PRIDE - Outright International

## CASE STUDY

### Project Destined

## PROJECT DESTINED

BGO’s relationship with Project Destined is now in its third year with no signs of slowing down. In 2022, we became the organization’s inaugural partner for the expansion of its platform into Canada for the first time. Project Destined provides underrepresented communities with top-notch training, education, and

mentoring that delivers meaningful opportunities for diverse student populations to successfully gain a foothold in the real estate industry. These paid internships, funded by partners like BGO, are opening new doors and giving hard-working, emerging talent an early glimpse into a world of possibilities.



Project Destined for 2023



Seattle, USA - Ballard Street Food Bank

# Community Inspired

In 2022, our global presence expanded to 14 countries and 28 cities where BGO's ambassadors formed bonds with local community organizations that delivered timely care.

**65**  
Community-level partnerships formed

**USD \$375,00**  
Total dollars committed

These grassroots initiatives have become a defining element in the distinct workplace cultures that we have cultivated in each of our cities, where the joys of team-building and working for a good cause become one and the same. Here is a look at the progress and care that we helped to deliver for our neighbors in their time of need:



EU - UpReach



EU - Pathways to Property

## CANADA



## U.S.



## EUROPE



## ASIA



Asia -Food Angel



Together, we can prevent millions of newborn deaths in India



Asia - Barakat Bundle



USA - Teaching Matters

CASE STUDY

## Kids Help Phone

In 2022, BGO established a new partnership with Kids Help Phone, Canada's only 24/7, free, confidential e-mental health service offering young people a non-judgmental space to Feel Out Loud and get support in English and French. Drawing on our expansive, Canada-wide imprint in retail, office and multi-family residential, BGO used digital screens, signage spaces, and well-placed QR codes throughout our properties

to help raise awareness of Kid Help Phone's phone, text and online resources and give more young people's feelings a place to go. Through our creative use of space and a year-end fundraising drive in collaboration with our tenants, BGO committed over C\$106,000 for youth mental health and well-being, fortifying our partnership with Kids Help Phone and unlocking hope for more young people to thrive for years to come.



Give your feelings a place to go.

[KidsHelpPhone.ca](https://www.kidshelpphone.ca)





One Tree Planted

# Globally Inspired

The programs that unify us behind a common cause and resonate beyond borders are what drive our global partnerships. Good ideas flourish from our real estate roots to inspire action that put our knowledge and passion for our industry to work to make a sustainable difference. In every market where we operate, affordable housing and the troubling degradation of the Earth's natural environment are constant preoccupations that require urgent attention.

Our partnership with **Habitat for Humanity** continues its expansion to touch more BGO cities around the world, and in 2022, we dedicated more than US\$150,000 to funding projects in Ottawa, Toronto, New York, and Tokyo. Future commitments for 2023 were also funded to build homes in

- Essex, England
- Tulare County, California, USA
- West Bengal, India
- Nazko, BC, Canada
- Andhra Pradesh, India
- Ontario, Canada in 2023.

**One Tree Planted** continues to power our mission to plant trees around the world with particular attention to regions where natural disaster or overburdened ecologies are in dire need of help. As of 2022, we have planted over 60,000 trees in 3 continents, and these commitments are securing floodplains for the future and providing valuable training and employment for local populations.



H4H - NYC



H4H - GTA



H4H - Japan





# What's in store for 2023 and beyond?

*BGO Inspired* has laid the foundation work for some truly exciting multi-year partnerships to form, which deepen both our commitment-level and the types of innovation we can introduce to our programming. Some of the best new social impact ideas are emerging from our base of volunteers who see their connection to *BGO Inspired* as something that reaches beyond time and resources; it's connected to their careers and sense of personal purpose.

We will fund these start up ideas with the same entrepreneurial vigor that drives our own firm's innovation strategies to make that energy contagious across more cities where BGO's employees are ready to step up and make a difference.

The year ahead will see us confront new demands to support communities struggling with inflation, poor access to social services, welfare, food, and a lack of educational opportunity. Our program will be tested to stretch the efficacy of our donations like never before, but *BGO Inspired* is fueled by more than financial donations. It's powered by caring through action and a deep sense of ownership for the solutions we must deliver to help our local neighbourhoods and the global village we all belong to.



BGO's Annual Philanthropy Report  
2022/2023

