

Therapeutic Community Farm (TCF)

A Long-Term Solution to the Revolving Door
of Addiction, Homelessness, and Incarceration



Time, Structure, and Purpose Change Lives

Across British Columbia, many people who want recovery and stability leave treatment, corrections, or homelessness services without the long-term support needed to rebuild independent lives. Short-term interventions can help stabilize a crisis, but lasting recovery requires time, structure, meaningful responsibility, and a place to belong. When these elements are missing, people are too often left to navigate recovery alone – despite strong motivation to change.

The **Therapeutic Community (TC)** model provides exactly that: the time, accountability, and community-driven purpose required to turn motivation into a new way of life. Recognized globally as an evidence-based practice, TCs have a proven track record of transforming lives in both urban and rural settings by treating recovery as a social process, not just a clinical one.

(TCF)

THE SOLUTION

A Therapeutic Community Farm

This start-up **Therapeutic Community Farm (TCF)** in Nanoose Bay on Vancouver Island will offer a transformative pathway rooted in the globally recognized TC model. It is a **minimum two-year, peer-led residential community** where individuals committed to recovery live, work, and grow together in a structured, values-based environment.

TCF is not a shelter or a short-term treatment episode. It is a **bridge to lasting independence** – designed to support sustained recovery, employment readiness, and successful reintegration into community life.

Residents participate fully in the daily operation of the farm and community, learning to take responsibility for themselves and one another while building practical skills aligned with real labour-market demand.



A PROVEN DELIVERY PARTNER

Port Alberni Shelter Society

(PASS)

Streetohome has partnered with the **Port Alberni Shelter Society (PASS)** to operate the Nanoose Bay TCF. PASS is a registered charity with more than **45 years of experience** delivering housing, recovery, and supportive community-based programs. PASS's work is grounded in the belief that long-term recovery happens in community – not in isolation.



WHY PASS MATTERS

Existing Experience

PASS operates Shelter Farm, British Columbia's only women's therapeutic recovery community farm – located just outside Port Alberni.

Knowledgeable Leadership

PASS brings deep operational expertise in trauma-informed care, peer leadership, and community accountability.

Clear Roles

Streetohome facilitated the acquisition of the Nanoose Bay property and is providing seed funding and start-up capital; PASS will operate the program and social enterprises.

This partnership combines
capital readiness with proven program delivery.

Work as Therapy

At the heart of TCF is a simple but powerful idea: **work is the therapy.** Through shared responsibility and meaningful daily work, residents develop confidence, discipline, and a sense of belonging – while gaining skills that translate directly into employment.

CORE WORK STREAMS INCLUDE:



Nanoose Bay Farm

Greenhouse vegetable production, farmers' market operations, land stewardship, and poultry and animal care, providing hands-on experience in sustainable agriculture.



Property & Yard Maintenance

Commercial landscaping and facilities maintenance, building practical, in-demand skills applicable across multiple industries.



Culinary Arts

Bread baking, food processing, and value-added food production that develop technical skills while supporting social enterprise initiatives.



Future Phase

Agro-Tourism

Workshops, retreats, and farm-based learning experiences that connect the broader community to the mission while generating earned revenue.

This approach mirrors real-world labour expectations while reinforcing accountability, teamwork, and pride in contribution.

Building Independence

The Therapeutic Community Farm is built on **four integrated pillars** that work together to support lasting recovery, employability, and reintegration.

1

Community as Method: Restoring Dignity and Belonging

At the heart of the TCF is the therapeutic power of community itself. For many residents, this is the first experience of a healthy, pro-social “family” – a place where they learn to care for others and to be cared for in return.

Simple, everyday responsibilities carry profound meaning. Caring for animals, tending land, maintaining shared spaces, or mentoring a peer may be the first time a resident has been entrusted with responsibility for another living being or recognized for contributing positively to a group. These experiences help strip away stigma, rebuild self-worth, and restore a sense of humanity.

The model also intentionally teaches social norms and life experiences that many residents have never had access to – from workplace behaviour and mutual respect to participating confidently in broader community life. This process of becoming fully human again is foundational to sustained recovery.

2

Peer Leadership

Residents progress through increasing levels of responsibility, with senior residents mentoring newcomers. This builds leadership capacity, mutual accountability, and a culture where individuals are responsible not only for themselves, but for one another.

3

Meaningful Work & Social Enterprise

Daily work is central to recovery. Residents participate in real, productive labour that builds employable skills, pride, and dignity, while generating earned revenue that reduces long-term reliance on philanthropy.

4

Structure, Accountability & Life Skills

Clear expectations, routines, and consequences create psychological safety and predictability. Residents receive practical training in financial literacy, conflict resolution, healthy routines, and independent living – skills essential for long-term stability.

Together, these elements create the conditions for lasting recovery, meaningful employment, housing stability, and genuine reintegration into society.

Readiness & Timeline

Streetohome is committed to launching a world-class model informed by international best practice.

Key milestones include:

TROSA Study Trip

Streetohome hosted a study trip to TROSA (North Carolina), a leading therapeutic community integrating mental health and substance use recovery.

Operational Seed Funding

Streetohome is finalizing an operational four-year seed funding grant with PASS.

Property Agreement

A Property Gift Agreement, based on prescribed multi-year deliverables is under consideration with a donor.

Launch Target

The Nanoose Bay TCF is aiming to begin operations for the **2026 growing season**.

With the property secured, an experienced operator in place, and funding well advanced, the project is ready to move from vision to reality.

While each resident's journey is unique, the TCF model is designed to deliver strong outcomes.

EXPECTED IMPACT

- ▶ Sustained recovery and reduced relapse
- ▶ Increased employment readiness and workforce participation
- ▶ Reduced involvement with the justice and emergency healthcare systems
- ▶ Long-term housing stability
- ▶ A replicable rural recovery model for British Columbia

This is a **systems-level intervention** with benefits that extend well beyond the individuals served.

Investment Opportunity



Streetohome has committed to raising **\$5.45 million** to launch the TCF in Nanoose Bay and bring it to operational stability.



Funding Status

Total Project Commitment: \$5,450,000

Fundraised to Date: \$3,750,000

Remaining to Raise: \$1,700,000

To bring the first Therapeutic Community Farm on Vancouver Island to life, we are seeking partners to help bridge the final \$1.7 million funding gap. This is more than a capital contribution; it is an investment in a permanent shift in how we approach recovery in British Columbia.



A Five-Year Path to Self-Sufficiency

The TCF is designed to transition from philanthropic support to earned revenue through social enterprise growth.

YEAR	PHASE	FINANCIAL OUTLOOK
Year 1	Launch	Start-up costs covered by Streetohome seed funding
Year 3	Growth	Social enterprise revenue reaches ~\$300,000
Year 5	Sustainable	Projected ~\$650,000 in earned revenue; fully self-sustaining

An Invitation

This is a chance to invest in a model that restores dignity, builds skills, and proves that long-term recovery is not only possible – but practical, scalable, and cost-effective.



The Therapeutic Community Farm on Vancouver Island represents a rare opportunity to seed a proven model that transforms lives while reducing long-term public costs. Streethome envisions this as the first of many Therapeutic Community Farms across the province. To ensure this impact grows, PASS is committed to sharing the program model, financials, and outcome data, providing a blueprint for others to build upon across British Columbia.

Help us bridge the final \$1.7M gap

With your support, we can make second chances real, and lasting.



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