

The Pas Committee for Women in Crisis

Aurora House & My Sister's House



JOYOUS CELEBRATION-

Special thanks to artist, Margaret Warfield, who so graciously permitted use of her works in acrylic, clay and word to convey the joy and celebration of survivors, life and the work that we do. Her works can be viewed on facebook, *Art that Touches the Soul* or at www.margaretwarfield.net

Annual Report 2015/16

ANNUAL REPORT 2015/2016

The Pas Committee for Women in Crisis, Inc



BOX 3779 THE PAS, MANITOBA R9A 1S4

BUSINESS: 623-7427 FAX: 623-3901 CRISIS: 623-5497 Email: auroratp@mts.net Facebook: Aurora House

TOLL FREE nearest Manitoba shelter: 1-877-977-0007

Website: www.Aurorahouse-sharethecare.com

September 2016

Board of Directors

Carla Craig
Joanne Wyman

Chairperson
Vice Chair

Members at Large:

Cindy Helstrom	Marianne Curran	Donna Tumak
Doris Gardiner		Krista Dicecco

Resigned prior to September. Lori Hunter,
Cathy Bruneau, Devra Poitra

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Staff

Dawna Pritchard
Marcia M.
Debbie F.
Sandra M.
Jody W.
Barb D/Robin N. .

Executive Director
Administrative Assistant
Family Violence Counsellor
Follow-up
Child Support Counsellor
Crisis Intervention

Casuals: Crystal M. , Joanne N., Mackenzie T. , Angie G., , Elsie D., Joyce B. , Sheila P.

.Contract maintenance: Norm Thrones

Best wishes to former staff : Andrea B., Mary S. Jamie N.,
Charlotte W., Pam W. Alyssa M.. Marguerite N

Summer students 2015: Joanne and Kirsten

Summer students 2016: Sarah C., Danielle G., Carey H., Anna N.

Many thanks to our many volunteers, donors
and sponsors. Their work and contributions to
Aurora House and My Sister's House are truly
appreciated.



94 volunteers
contributed
1310 hours of
service. This
includes the
time volun-

teered by staff, Board & individuals in pro-
gramming, meetings, fund raising, and special
events. When possible, we avail ourselves of
the fine option program and student place-
ments.

Community Board of Directors

Although the Government of Manitoba is a significant participant, it is the Community Board that is the heart and soul of the operation. It was the individuals who gathered together to address a community issue that led to the incorporation of a new charitable non-profit agency intended to address domestic violence in The Pas. This event preceded a strong government presence. With time and growth in government involvement, the basic structure remains the same - that the driving force of the agency is the Board of Directors.

The Board is elected from community membership to a two-year renewable term. The election and the rules of governance are dictated by the Constitution (also known as the bylaws of the Corporation). The bylaws, originally created and adopted by the membership at the time of incorporation, can only be changed at Annual Meetings or special meetings of the membership. The bylaws dictate quorum, maximum size of the Board, banking, and job descriptions for the Board. Members are given an orientation and must ensure compliance with the guidelines for conflict of interest. The role of the Board is primarily to oversee the agency's finances, to ensure accountability to the Government, funders and the community, and to set policy and direction. They do not normally play a role in day-to-day operations, delegating that authority to the Executive Director. The Board as overseers of Management also hear and address grievances from the community and clients that cannot be settled by The Executive Director, are involved in the second stage of the grievance process regarding staff, and are ultimately responsible for important personnel issues. The Board normally meets monthly, approximately 11 times throughout the year.

Greetings From The Family Violence Prevention Program

from Acting Executive Director, Tracy Moore

On behalf of the Family Violence Prevention Program, we thank The Pas Committee for Women in Crisis Inc. (Aurora House) for their continued efforts and commitment to working with those impacted by family violence. We recognize and commend board members and staff for their dedication to meeting the changing needs of the community and offer our congratulations for a successful year of programming. We look forward to continuing our partnership and extend best wishes to board, staff and volunteers as you begin a new year.

Board Report

Carla Craig, Chairperson

Thank-you for being honoured this year. It has been a very rewarding experience sitting on a Board such as this. The staff and Board are all dedicated and committed to ensure that the shelter is a place of safety for those affected by domestic violence. If not for these dedicated women and the many donations and grants available the shelter would not be able to offer this safe place.

This year has been a busy one with negotiations and the addition of new Board members.

Thanks to the staff for the hard work- you make a difference



We are so proud that Carla was recognized with the Lieutenant Governor's Volunteer Service award. This acknowledges not only Carla personally, but the incredible work done by Board members of women's shelters throughout the province.

TEEN DATING VIOLENCE: KNOW THE WARNING SIGNS

- Seems afraid to disagree with his or her boyfriend or girlfriend; always does what partner wants.
- Excessive text messaging, phone calling, emailing or visiting with boyfriend or girlfriend.
- Stops hanging out with friends or participating in family activities.
- Starts having declining grades or missing school.
- Has injuries he/she tries to cover up or can't explain.

FUTURES
WITHOUT VIOLENCE
www.futureswithoutviolence.org

MANITOBA ASSOCIATION OF WOMEN'S SHELTERS

Submitted by Deena Brock

Manitoba Association of Women's Shelters (MAWS) continues to work, often in the background supporting domestic violence shelters and agencies in Manitoba. It's always exciting when we are contacted by people who want to help in some way the victims of violence. Over the year we have distributed donations from Winnipeg Chatter's Hair Salons who run a campaign each spring collecting used hair appliances for donations to the shelters. Melinda Ives, Independent Team Leader from Discovery Toys has worked tirelessly to raise enough donations to build Easter baskets and Christmas gift donations to distribute them to the provincial shelters. Additionally companies and individuals have gathered used cell phones, toiletries, business clothes and monetary donations for distribution to MAWS and the shelters. This generosity is gratefully accepted and very much needed.

MAWS is always working to build relationships and we're happy to welcome Willow Place Shelter operating in Winnipeg to our membership this past year. Willow Place is a large provincially funded shelter replacing Osborne House. Willow Place is one of the shelters that is receiving much needed renovations and has been relocated during this process. In addition two other shelters are undergoing major renovations, both Genesis House in Winkler and Agape House in Steinbach are temporarily relocated. Nova House in Selkirk is a very busy shelter and has been able to generate the financial donations needed to build a new shelter that will more effectively support the volume of clientele. Last fall MAWS released the Orientation Manual for Shelter Workers in Manitoba. This manual provides orientation to

shelter operations for new staff as well as a reference for existing staff. Some shelters experience a large turnover in staff and it takes considerable time and effort to train the new staff. This manual will assist in the process by helping support new staff in processes, procedures and methods of shelter operation. Next steps involve the creation of a Counsellor's Toolkit and a Children's Worker Orientation Manual.

ShelterSafe.ca <https://www.sheltersafe.ca/> a new website for anyone looking for domestic violence shelters within Canada was launched last June in Toronto. This is one of many projects the Canadian Network of Women's Shelters and Transitions Houses (CNWSTH) is working on; of which MAWS is a founding board member. The National Action Plan to End Violence Against Women has received some interest by the Federal government and we hope it will move forward under the direction of the CNWSTH. The Network has been very busy working to help shelters and victims in Canada by providing a strong unified voice at the national level. They work to increase awareness to ensure that policies, legislation and regulations are informed by the experiences and insights of the members. Please visit their website <http://endvaw.ca/> for more information.

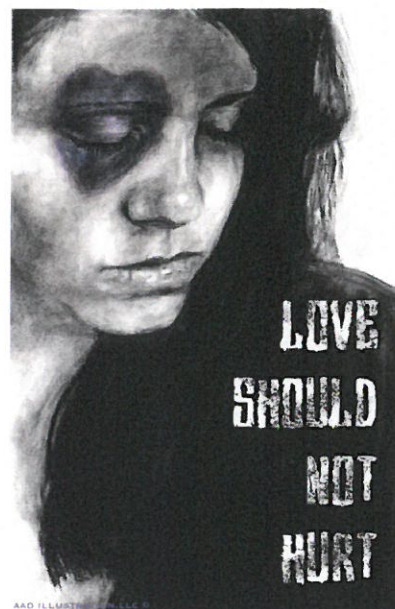
Please help support your local shelter and MAWS by liking and sharing the MAWS Facebook page and sign up to the MAWS blog on our website www.maws.mb.ca.



Teen Dating and Domestic Violence

YOU ARE
NOT HIS
PROPERTY.

If it doesn't feel right,
it probably isn't.

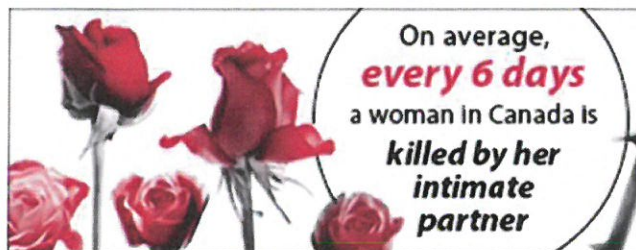


THE PROVINCIAL VIEW AND BEYOND...

The Provincial Government and The Family Violence Prevention Program continues to be a prime source of support. Thanks to Nadine who was our external agency co-ordinator, who offered invaluable assistance and who now is on maternity leave. Tracy Moore, FVPP Director, has been an exceptional contributor ensuring training opportunities and regular monthly teleconferences among the agencies. The Province continues to play a lead role in observing November as Domestic Violence Prevention Month. **This fall, the Blue Bombers continue to be actively involved in the campaign.** The 1-877-977-0007 telephone routing service continues through the province and MTS. Also on a provincial basis, **The Manitoba Association of Women's Shelters** is of valuable assistance to our agency. The **Department of Justice** continues operation of the Cell Phone Program. Protection Order Designates continue to enhance the availability of a Protection Order. Workplace education initiatives had been offered through the department of justice. We look forward to working with the new Government and anticipate visits from the Minister Responsible for the Status of Women this fall. Mb. Housing provides the facility and general operations and via the Shelter Enhancement Program allowed for necessary renovations to My Sister's House.

Federally, the Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous women and Girls has been launched. Jean Folster Place opened in Norway House and Nelson House is exploring options, **The Community Action Program for Children, (under the Public Health Agency of Canada)** continues. MAWS has the project contract, and provided shelters with a significant contribution to Children's Support Programs. **Status of Women** has provided financial support for operations of a National Network of shelters. Other Federal involvement continues through the National Clearing House on Domestic Violence, Statistics Canada, and the Department of Justice. **The Native Women's Association** has undertaken the "Sisters in Spirit" initiative.

Globally, Amnesty International, The World Health Organization, Unifem, governments and non-government agencies are addressing issues of gender violence. Consolidating various branches, UN Women is in the forefront of providing information. Many non-government agencies, such as V-day and the One Billion Rising, focus awareness upon gender violence.



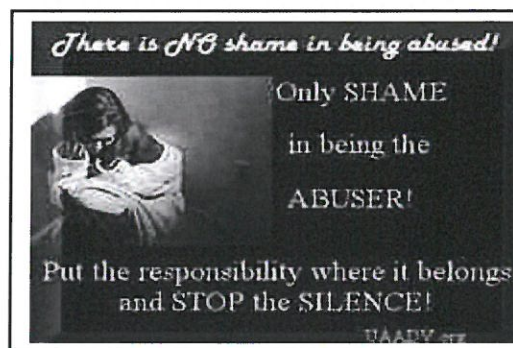
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

As this report is being printed, our community is facing some serious and unforeseen economic downturns. Economic stress can be a factor in contributing to domestic violence so we are preparing for increased utilization locally. Although confidentiality is THE most stringent of our policies, there is a fear among individuals in all small communities that personal lives will be revealed and shared with individuals whom they know. I can only emphasize that confidentiality is our priority and that there should be no shame in being a victim/survivor. We see challenges as opportunities for enhancing our services and for increasing community awareness. We are already forging partnerships with other agencies to conduct information campaigns.

At the board level, the shelter greatly benefitted from the years of dedication and involvement of Lori, Cathy and Devra and they shall be greatly missed. The agency is grateful that new board members with passion for the issue have been recruited. In addition, we celebrate Carla Craig being honoured with the Lieutenant Governor's Volunteer Service Award.

Staffing and recruiting remains a challenge as well. Staff are to be commended for assuming additional responsibility to ensure provision of service. The negotiation process can strain relationships so it is testament to staff commitment that the purpose and objectives of the agency remains a constant priority. It is also a relief to have the contract renewed so that Board, staff and management can concentrate upon public education, improving services, and policy development.

As always, I am deeply indebted to The Board, the Staff, The Manitoba Association of Women's Shelters, Family Violence Prevention Program, Employment and Income Assistance, Manitoba Housing, our donors and our local community and its agencies for their support.





MISSION STATEMENT

The Pas Committee for Women in Crisis exists to address the issue of Domestic Violence. Whether a woman and her children require a safe haven from an immediate abusive situation or the woman is seeking to create change in her life, Aurora House and My Sister's House exist to empower the woman, providing programs and resources that promote and facilitate growth, self esteem and understanding of the personal power to independently make choices. We offer safe haven, education, information and resources that women and their children require. A 24-hour, 7-days/week crisis line is available to all citizens of the Norman region.

HIGHLIGHTS 2015/16

One of the most significant expenditures was the renovations and roof repair to My Sister's House and we were fortunate in obtaining funding through the Shelter Enhancement Program administered through Manitoba Housing. Financially, we experienced a deficit this year even though occupancy exceeded projections. The Walk a Mile in Her Shoes generated less revenue than 2012, but continues to create public awareness. OCN Blizzards and the Health Care Community were exceptional contributors. Significant donations were received from Shopper's Drug Mart, Autopac, All Charities and the Canadian Women's Foundation/Shelter from the Storm. Connie Kaldor has kindly permitted use of her lyrics to promote our seed sale project. Jewellery was purchased from African shelters and from Nepal. **Board and Staff.** Negotiations successfully concluded in November of 2015- a year of work since the last contract expired in September of 2014, Online training through webinars and courses were used extensively. . Other training included threat assessment, Anger Solutions, protection orders, communications and respectful workplace. John Koop Harder provided exceptional training on client service. We had successful summer student participation. Although regrettably two long-term Board members resigned due to work demands, we have acquired some excellent new board members. Some of the staff have experienced significant personal stress in their lives, increasing our reliance on the fluctuating casual pool.

Client Operations – We have explored alternative modes in counselling techniques. The Wish database is being maintained. One session of Anger Solutions was delivered offsite.

Community Involvement and Education. We have partnered with the Kawchetonanow Centre of OCN, Best Beginnings, The Family Resource Centre, the Homeless Shelter, Mary Duncan School, Victim of Crime Services, and awareness campaigns on both suicide & senior abuse. A highlight was partnering with Citizens Against Sexual Exploitation in which two sessions with Mary Lobson was offered to schools and community, with a day of training on technological threats/cyber stalking for our staff and collaborative agencies. The Annual Report is used throughout the year as an orientation and PR tool. **Internet presence** has been established. Aurora House has an active accounts with Facebook and a website dedicated to fundraising- www.aurorahouse-sharethecare.com

GOALS FOR 2016/17

- ◆ Review and reorganize group delivery for both residential and follow-up clients with a more formalized structure
- ◆ Partner with other agencies for training, event planning, community involvement including grant development
- ◆ On-going training, in person, on-line for staff development
- ◆ Monitor the effects of major economic downturns locally upon shelter utilization
- ◆ Work towards responding to the changing demographics of our community
- ◆ Organize and obtain funding for a northern conference of women's shelters and resource centres.
- ◆ Revise client handbook and staff handbook
- ◆ Develop publicity materials such as a new brochure, wallet sized card and a power point presentation, expanding our visits to collaborative agencies
- ◆ On-going strategic planning & implementation
- ◆ Supplement the casual employees with new trainees and to develop succession strategies
- ◆ Increase membership
- ◆ Maintain or increase the donation levels. Fundraisers include marketing our international goods, "Hoping for Spring" (a partnership with Vesey's of PEI to sell seeds and spring bulbs), and our h "Walk a Mile in Her Shoes" event.
- ◆ Continue evolution of policies and procedures
- ◆ Develop mechanisms to overcome the issues facing us with respect to client transport in northern Manitoba
- ◆ Facility enhancements to be completed (playground, relaxation room, storage)
- ◆ Establish relationships with Child and Family Caring Agency as protocols and procedures are redesigned



Missing and Murdered Women and Girls

Background on the inquiry

Indigenous women and girls in Canada are disproportionately affected by all forms of violence. Although Indigenous women make up 4 per cent of Canada's female population, 16 per cent of all women murdered in Canada between 1980 and 2012 were Indigenous.

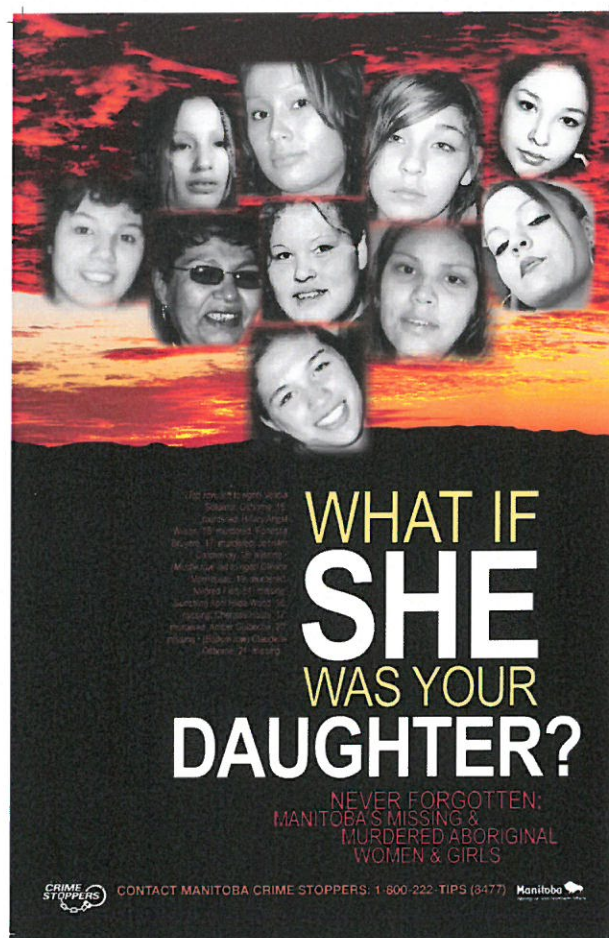
In 2004, Amnesty International released *Stolen Sisters: A Human Rights Response to Violence and Discrimination against Indigenous Women in Canada* (PDF only). With funding from the federal government, the Native Women's Association of Canada (NWAC) began the Sisters in Spirit initiative, with the aim of gathering important statistics and raising awareness of this issue. In 2010, the NWAC's report identified 582 missing and murdered Indigenous women and girls from across Canada. The Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP)'s 2014 *Missing and Murdered Aboriginal Women: An Operational Overview* identified a total of 1,181 missing and murdered Indigenous women and girls. The RCMP's operational overview also found that while homicide rates for non-Indigenous women in Canada are declining, the homicide rate for Indigenous women has remained unchanged.

Numerous other reports and studies on violence towards Indigenous women in Canada have identified underlying causes, such as socioeconomic factors like poverty and homelessness as well as historic factors like racism, sexism and the legacy from colonialism and the devastation caused by the residential school system. Over 1,700 recommendations for action have been made.

Many Indigenous families, communities and organizations, as well as non-governmental and international organizations, have urged the Government of Canada to take action and call a national inquiry, including the *Truth and Reconciliation Commission's Calls to Action* (PDF only).

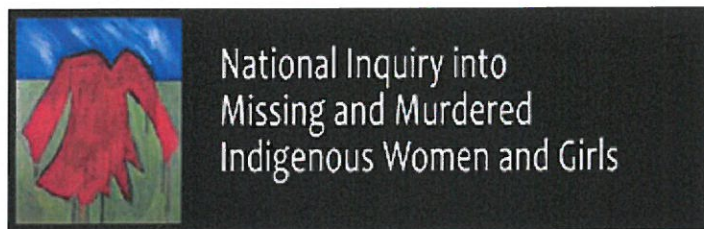
The Government of Canada is strongly committed to an inclusive and respectful engagement process that will balance a diversity of viewpoints to design an inquiry that will respond to the needs and expectations of the survivors, family members and loved ones.

On December 8, 2015, the Government of Canada announced the launch of an inquiry to seek recommendations on concrete actions to address and prevent violence against Indigenous women and girls, be-



ginning with a [pre-inquiry design process](#). Budget 2016 has committed \$40 million over two years, beginning in 2016–17, toward the National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls.

The launch of this inquiry is an important step towards a nation-to-nation relationship and a renewed sense of trust between the Government of Canada and Indigenous peoples in Canada.



Legislation to Protect Victims of Domestic Violence and Stalking

An order of protection, sometimes called a restraining order, is a legal document. It can refer to any type of court order or release conditions that are imposed by police. These orders set rules to protect one person from another. Usually, the conditions restrict contact or communication with another person. They can also restrict the ability of one person to go anywhere the other person lives, works, worships or attends school. They do not replace the need for a solid protection plan, but do provide grounds for future police intervention on your behalf.

Criminal court orders: Reporting domestic violence or stalking to police may result in criminal charges being laid against the accused. When charges are laid, conditions may be imposed that restrict the accused from making contact with the victim.. Conditions may be imposed in the following ways

- ✚ **Undertaking or Recognizance-** The accused may be released by the police on an **Undertaking**. This order comes with specific conditions that generally include no contact or communication with you. It also includes the condition that the person does not appear at or near your home or other specified places such as your work, school and place of worship. When police have concerns about an accused's release, the accused must appear before a judge or justice of the peace. If granted bail, the accused may be released on a **Recognizance Order** with similar conditions. **Undertakings** or **Recognizances** are in effect until the criminal charges are dealt with, or if the court varies (changes) or cancels the conditions. You can call the police if the accused disobeys the conditions of the order
- ✚ **In-custody Non-Communication Order:** If the accused is denied bail, the judge may order an **In-Custody Non-Communication Order**. It states that the accused cannot contact you directly or indirectly (ex: by phone or letter). In-custody orders are in effect until the accused is released from custody or when the criminal charges are finished
- ✚ **Probation orders:** are orders set by a judge when the accused is found guilty of a criminal charge and if the judge agrees it is appropriate. Conditions apply for as long as the court-ordered probation period. The maximum period of probation that can be imposed by a judge in Canada is three years. In addition to no-contact and non-attendance conditions, judges may impose other restrictions such as ordering the accused not to use alcohol and drugs and to attend counselling

Peace Bonds- is a court order that can be issued by a judge when you fear personal injury to yourself, your partner or your children or damage to your property. We normally recommend the peace bond if the abuse is with a non-partner (e.g. an acquaintance, family member). You can apply at your local Provincial Court Office for a Peace Bond. Once you have made an application in writing, you will be given a date to appear in court. The person you are seeking the order against, known as the respondent, must also appear in court on that date. If the respondent does not agree to sign the Peace Bond, a hearing will be set for another date. It can take several weeks to get an initial court date and it can take several months if a hearing must be held. Peace Bonds are issued up to a maximum of one year. There is no fee to apply for a Peace Bond. In addition, a judge can order a Peace Bond when a criminal charge against an accused is stayed (dropped) in court but the victim is still afraid and would like protective conditions to be put in place.

Family court orders, under the Family Maintenance Act, can restrict communication or contact with an ex-partner. Legal counsel is advised and legal costs are associated with this type of order.

Civil and Family court Orders: The Domestic Violence and Stalking Act offers two remedies, even if criminal charges are not being pursued:

Protection Orders are granted on an urgent basis that can be obtained by attending in person before a Judicial Justice of the Peace or on the phone with the help of the police or a protection order designate. You must fill in a written application and then answer questions under oath from the JJP. You must explain, in detail, the history of abuse/stalking and why you believe you are at risk of being harmed again in the immediate or near future. If you have dependent children who are also at risk of abuse, you can give evidence to ask that the children be included in the protective conditions. After hearing your evidence, the JJP can grant up to seven possible conditions that may be necessary for your continued safety. A Protection Order is generally in effect for three years. There is no fee to apply for this order. But there will be costs if you make an application to the Court of Queen's Bench to have it removed at a later date. Once served with the Protection Order, the respondent has 20 days to apply to have the order set aside. If this occurs, you will be given notice of the hearing and will have a chance to go to court to explain why you don't agree with the respondent's application and why the order should stay in place. Some people choose to hire a lawyer to help them with this process.

A Prevention Order application takes longer because the judge may hear evidence from both the applicant and the respondent before deciding which conditions should be ordered. A variety of conditions can be set, including restricting contact and communication with you; temporary possession of items such as furniture; and compensation for monetary losses. The order will be in effect unless it is changed or revoked by another court order. It is best to hire a lawyer to apply for a Prevention Order. A lawyer will help file the legal documents and represent your interests at the Court of Queen's Bench hearing. There are legal costs with this type of order.

Family Violence Prevention Program

Submitted by Nadine Smith, Policy Analyst

The Family Violence Prevention Program's (FVPP) objectives are to promote the elimination of family violence by providing program and administrative support to community-based agencies that offer a wide continuum of services across the province, and to change societal attitudes about issues related to family violence through public education and training.

In 2015/16, the Program provided over \$13 million to 39 community-based programs (implemented by 35 agencies) that offer services to women, men and children affected by family violence. Funded agencies and programs include:

- Ten Women's Emergency Shelters that provide safe, emergency accommodations and supportive counselling to women and their children who have experienced family violence.
- Four Residential Second-Stage Programs that offer safe, protective, affordable long-term housing and services for women leaving an abusive relationship. These programs also provide individual and group counselling, children's counselling, parenting support and information.
- Nine Women's Resource Centres that provide individual counselling, information and referral, outreach and support groups to women affected by family violence as well as educational programs, children's programming, volunteer training and community development activities.
- Sixteen specialized programs that offer a variety of unique services to those affected by family violence, as well as training and public education. These programs include legal assistance for women, immigrant women's counselling, couples counselling, children's supervised access programs, services to women and men who are survivors of childhood and/or adolescent sexual abuse, programs for men with abusive behaviours and for men, and their children, who are leaving abusive relationships, Aboriginal program for youth and families, education for youth about healthy relationships, clinical consultation and training.

A provincial toll-free information/crisis line (1-877-977-0007) offers an accessible source of information and support for individuals seeking assistance due to violence in their families or in the families of someone they are concerned about. The FVPP also offers clinical consultation and training opportunities to its funded agencies through contracts with professionals with skills in these areas.

Stephanie Longo: Reprinted with permission from The Elephant Journal..

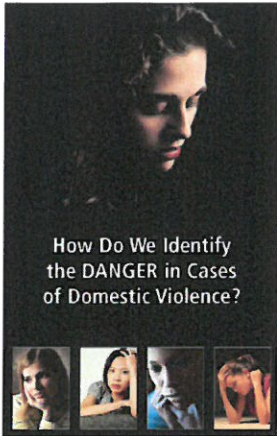
It's a role I relish. Confidante. BFF. The person who will tell it like it is to her friends with as much love as she can muster. Recently, one of my dearest friends went through a miserable break up. While she honestly loved her ex, she would routinely ignore red flags about him—even when they were staring at her straight in the face. "It can't be abuse when he isn't laying a hand on me," she would say while I would remind her that words can pierce the soul, too. When he did hit her, she said it was because he was drunk and didn't understand what he was doing and he apologized. Watching her go through this on the sidelines was painful because she was clearly suffering and those of us who love her couldn't stop it for her—only she could. As for us, we could only support her while she figured things out on her own and, fortunately, one day she did and she left him for good. Remembering my friend's strength and wishing to honor her journey in this relationship, I was inspired to write the following poem with the hopes that it will help someone else who might be going through the same thing:

*It's abuse when he says he loves you, then says you're crazy.
It's abuse when he tells other girls they are beautiful, then yells at you for getting upset.
It's abuse when he puts his hands on your hips, pulls you close, leans in and whispers in your ear, "these need to go."
It's abuse when he tells you he doesn't like how you wear your hair or how you dress.
It's abuse he says he will call, then doesn't, then gets angry with you for asking why.
It's abuse when he texts you to tell you he never loved you, then texts "just kidding" several hours later.
It's abuse when he slaps you so hard you cry out in pain after an argument.
So why did you stay?
You stayed because a part of you believed love conquered all.
You stayed because you believed every single apology, even when he continued to hurt you.
You stayed because he had you convinced that no one else would love you as much as he did.
You stayed because you wanted to believe that the man you fell in love with was hiding somewhere inside of him.
You stayed because he promised you he'd change.
You stayed because you no longer had the strength to walk away.
Until one day, you did.
You found your lost strength.
You stopped making excuses for him.
You stopped making excuses for yourself.
You put one foot in front of the other and walked out the door, vowing never to let him back into your life again.*

If you are reading this and these words resonate with you, know that you are not alone. You have people out there who do love you and who wish you nothing but the best that life has to offer. You are worth so much more than someone who can't see your value. You are a treasure and you deserve true love, not abuse of any kind. Put one foot in front of the other and walk out that door. You can do it..

PROGRAM SUMMARIES

Core Program- ming



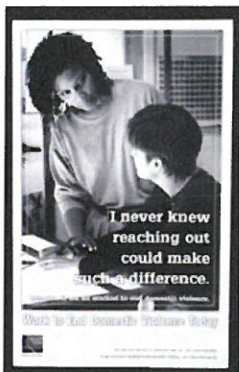
THE RESIDENTIAL PROGRAM offers a safe environment for women and their children fleeing an abusive relationship. Male victims and children are provided with counselling support and accommodation off site. Although Aurora House has historically used a broader mandate beyond intimate partner, we are pleased that the abuse by non-intimate partners is now recognized by our funder, i.e. abuse by other family members in the household, is a legitimate reason for admission to a Manitoba shelter. Counselling is provided daily on an individual basis and group sessions are held. The goal of the program is to provide support, education, and empowerment to victims of abuse. 1746 total bednights were provided 833 for adult women, 913 children. In the last year, data collection has been revised, more detailed discharge sessions are held, and efforts are being made to have consistent all day programming options. 438 hours of counselling were provided in 598 sessions. The client demographic shifted- with more clients new to shelters, younger clients, and fewer children.

THE NON-RESIDENTIAL PROGRAM offers support counselling to walk-in clients on both a regular or an as-needed basis. Appointments are encouraged to ensure the provision of child-care. Walk-in statistics indicated that 231 clients utilized the service this year, for 282 sessions or 186 hours.

THE CRISIS LINES, both local and provincial toll free, are available for telephone counselling on a 24-hour basis. The client group is diverse with respect to gender and issues. 560 counselling related calls were received, of which 292 "other calls" would be indirectly related (housing, depression, parenting). Our lines are available to men and women. We have also assumed the K Centre crisis line when requested to do so.

We are continuing to integrate a more customized and holistic service. Taking into account the individual's personal communication style, spirituality, history of abuse and daily demands, we endeavour to implement a flexible timetable of counselling, groups and education that works for the client. We are incorporating more structure into the group sessions and are accessing more community resources. Where client needs so allow, we will be conducting combined programming for the residential, non-residential and follow up clients. As with Follow-up, the Core Program has increased networking with other agencies. Team meetings, involving the client and resource people, enable us to better meet client needs.

FOLLOW-UP AND SECOND STAGE PROGRAM

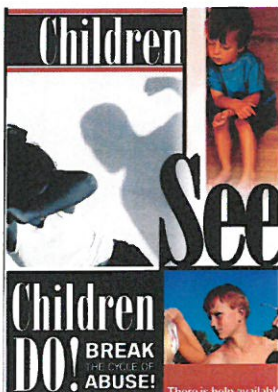


THE FOLLOW-UP PROGRAM: Services are offered to women who have left abusive relationships and are rebuilding their lives. 89 clients participated, with 114 individual counseling sessions for 60 hours. Individual clients are met with either on a regular or an as-needed basis. Group sessions are offered when clients are interested. Groups build upon life skills and self-esteem. Women who have left an abusive relationship are statistically quoted as being at greater risk for homicide. "Special team meetings" with a variety of agencies are arranged based on the individual client's needs.

PUBLIC AWARENESS was a priority with continued presentations to various agencies and community groups. A substantial portion of events focused upon clarifying our role and educating other helping agencies. One of our major concerns is increasing awareness of potential cyber threat and technology. The partnership with CASE in March of 2016 was an excellent illustration of co-operation.

MY SISTER'S HOUSE is a three apartment unit providing second stage accommodation for clients wishing to make a violence-free start. Operations commenced in January 1997, thanks to The Shelter Enhancement Program of Canada Mortgage and Housing, donations, consultation assistance, and special consideration by The Town of The Pas. The residents of the facility not only participate in all activities and services of the follow-up Program, but also are linked with the Child Support Program and with other supporting agencies. The complex affords clients with an extra measure of security and emotional support. The facility operates as a separate program for accounting purposes, generating rental revenues, and operational expenses.

CHILDREN'S SUPPORT COUNSELLING PRO- GRAM



Based on North American data, in at least 50% of families, in which there is domestic violence, the children are battered as well. Of children witnessing domestic violence, 60% of the boys grow up to be batterers, and 50% of the girls become victims. The Child Support Counselling Program provides the child with essential base contact and is available to residential, non-residential and follow-up clients. This contact is structured to assess and to meet the emotional, psychological and physical needs of the child and family. It is also used in a primary assessment capacity for referrals toward other professional intervention (such as Child & Family Services or Child and Adolescent Mental Health). Contact occurs in both group and individual settings. This enables the Child Support Counsellor to provide both a positive and accepting environment in which to engage the child(ren) in educational and therapeutic learning.

Through positive play activities and careful but open talk, the children are encouraged and enabled to work out the stress they experience. Education is concentrated on, but not limited to, forms of abuse, self-esteem, recognition and understanding of emotions, and how to make good choices for safety & health, protection planning and anger management. Academic supports are also provided for older children. A key element of the Program is maintaining a close working relationship with the mothers. They are kept up to date with the child's activities, progress, and any outstanding issues that may arise. A strong parenting component is also combined into the program. Parents are provided with skills to increase positive parenting through modeling and sharing, either on an individual basis or in group. Non-residential clients are also provided with service in the form of individual counselling, group discussions, and parenting supports upon appointment.

The Program networks closely with all other programming of the Shelter and My Sister's House, as well as external agencies. Our program receives substantial funding from the Manitoba Association of Women's Shelters CAPC Project. The Child Support Counsellor is frequently in demand to conduct informational workshops and to assist in community youth development.

Students: In the summer of 2015 students were actively engaged in shelter operations, research, childcare, producing power point presentations for use with clients, and assisting with fundraising. In 2016 we were approved for 5 positions to engage in research, updating our library and resource inventory, and assisting in fund raising. Unfortunately we were only able to fill three of the five positions.

The Cell Program commenced in November of 1998. High risk clients are supplied with a pre-programmed cell phone with which to summon help via MTS & Mb. Justice. The program has provided women with additional freedom and a sense of security.

Fund raising –(as discussed in our financial section), special activities and events are held to generate funds for capital expenditures (for towels, furniture, etc.). Projects include the sale of spring bulbs through Vesey's, candles, and African jewelry purchased at the International Conference. We have also acquired some Nepalese jewelry. By providing a fair price we have contributed to the incomes of women in other nations. Any world travelers are encouraged to think of us in their travels. Our First Walk a Mile in Her Shoes was initiated in September 2012 and has become an annual event.

Education: A number of information tables, presentations and training sessions were conducted throughout the year with various groups. We are most grateful to The Public Library for donating window space during November (which is designated as Domestic Violence Prevention Awareness Month).

Protection Order Designates: although all staff are expected to be familiar with Protection Orders, 4 staff are now trained and certified by the Minister of Justice to submit applications to a Magistrate for consideration in extreme situations. As a pilot project, we have expanded basic training to all staff and will be promoting additional education and resources to all applicants,

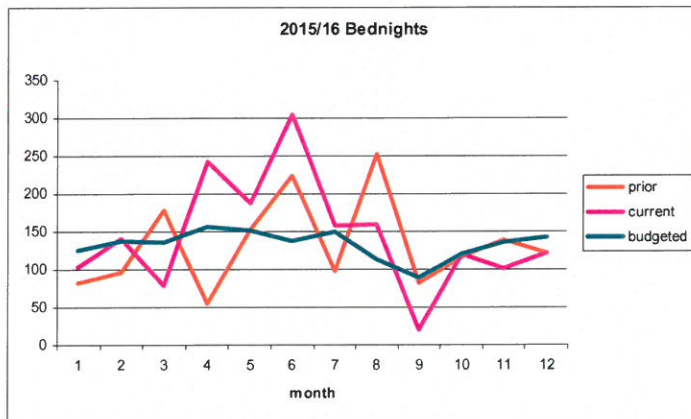
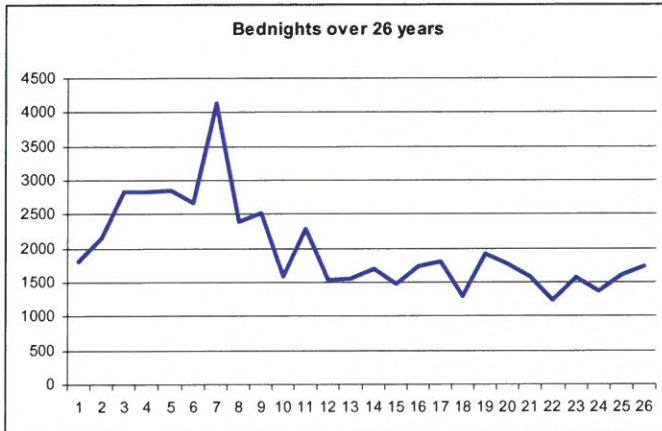
Special Projects: We expanded our media presence via Vistaprint materials, Facebook and a website. We are also implementing the "Wish" software, a database tool for better management of client files.

Special Projects & Innovations



STATISTICAL INFORMATION

This year's bednights achieved 109% of our projection, with significant fluctuations from historical monthly patterns of occupancy. Our Shelter primarily services the Norman Region of Manitoba. The nearest other facilities include Flin Flon (a Women's Resource Centre with accommodation capability up to a week's stay), Snow Lake Women's Resource Service, The Swan Valley Crisis Centre (has a second stage), and The Thompson and Dauphin Shelters. In addition to the clients of our region (including The Pas, OCN, Grand Rapids, Moose Lake, Easterville, Wanless, Cormorant), we do accommodate clients from Saskatchewan and other regions of Manitoba. Shelter to Shelter transfers occur should safety issues present.



6 WAYS YOU CAN HELP PREVENT DOMESTIC VIOLENCE EVERY DAY

1. Share resources
2. Learn more about the movement
3. Promote healthy relationships & respect
4. Ask your workplace if they have a DV program
5. Be a changemaker in your community
6. Know the facts and share them widely

Aboriginal women are particularly vulnerable to violence. Spousal homicide rates for Aboriginal women were more than eight times the rate for non-Aboriginal women.

Twenty-one per cent of victims were abused during pregnancy and their partners were among the most violent

* Assessing Violence Against Women: A Statistical Profile. Federal-Provincial-Territorial Ministers Responsible for the Status of Women. December 2002

On one day shelters in Manitoba helped 112 women and 75 children

ON ONE DAY, 242 SHELTERS IN CANADA HELPED 4,178 WOMEN AND 2,490 CHILDREN

From 2013 Shelter Voices produced by the Canadian Network of Women's Shelters and Transition Houses

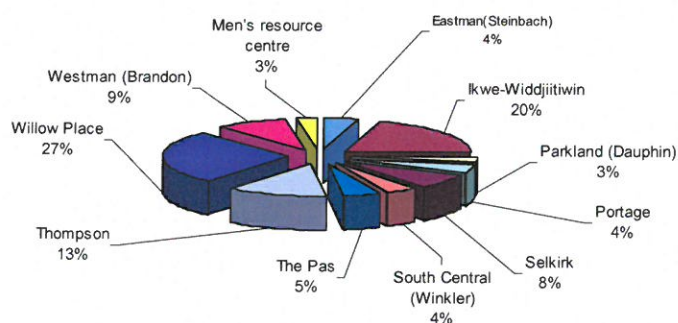
Trends in spousal homicide reflect the general decline in intimate partner homicides, with rates 53% lower than twenty years ago and 17% lower than in 2000. That said, the overall spousal homicide rates remained stable in 2010 for the fourth consecutive year. Despite annual fluctuations, rates of dating violence homicide are also lower than in the past, similar to the drops in rates of spousal homicide

Statistics Canada

FVPP 2015/16 Shelter Comparisons

	residential clients	non- residential women	women in followup	residential children	non-residential children	followup children	bed nights	ave.length of stay	crisis line
Eastman(Steinbach)	51	35	16	32	3	2	1621	11	641
Ikwe-Widdjiitiwin	217	0	62	199	0	0	7478	10	1050
Parkland (Dauphin)	31	28	11	46	5	2	927	7	1526
Portage	79	24	4	77	0	0	1523	6	459
Selkirk	72	45	33	63	6	2	2861	12	991
South Central (Win- kler)	50	4	9	65	2	1	1534	9	313
The Pas	70	48	13	78	2	2	1712	7	560
Thompson	75	10	17	118	3	9	4776	10	1538
Willow Place	409	75	123	279	0	0	9947	9	4151
Westman (Brandon)	139	46	25	158	26	5	3403	8	1508
Men's resource centre	36			7			1010	20	
2015/16 TOTAL	1229	315	313	1122	47	23	36792	9.1	12737
14/15 total	1404	377	424	1199	60	46	39856	9.0	11855

Occupancy Comparison



Statistical Notes and Summary:

- ◆ All clients are considered “new” at the onset of the fiscal year, even though they may have used shelter services in previous years. Of 66 new files, 40 had prior shelter residency. Over 90% indicated they were of Aboriginal ancestry. 8 of the new files fell within the broader definition of abuse from a non-intimate partner (e.g. parents, siblings)
- ◆ 560 counselling related calls were received (excludes agency referrals). Over 48% were domestic-violence specific, 3 from men experiencing abuse.

- ◆ Our second stage facility, *My Sister's House*, serviced eight families throughout the fiscal year.
- ◆ 12 group sessions were also held for clients plus one off site group on “anger solutions”.
- ◆ We had 113 residential clients, 231 non-residential and 89 in follow-up.
- ◆ 823 adult bednights and 913 child bednights. We did not use hotel accommodation this year.
- ◆ There are 10 provincially funded shelters, with Aurora House classified as one of the six smaller facilities.



Facts and Figures: Ending Violence against Women A pandemic in diverse forms

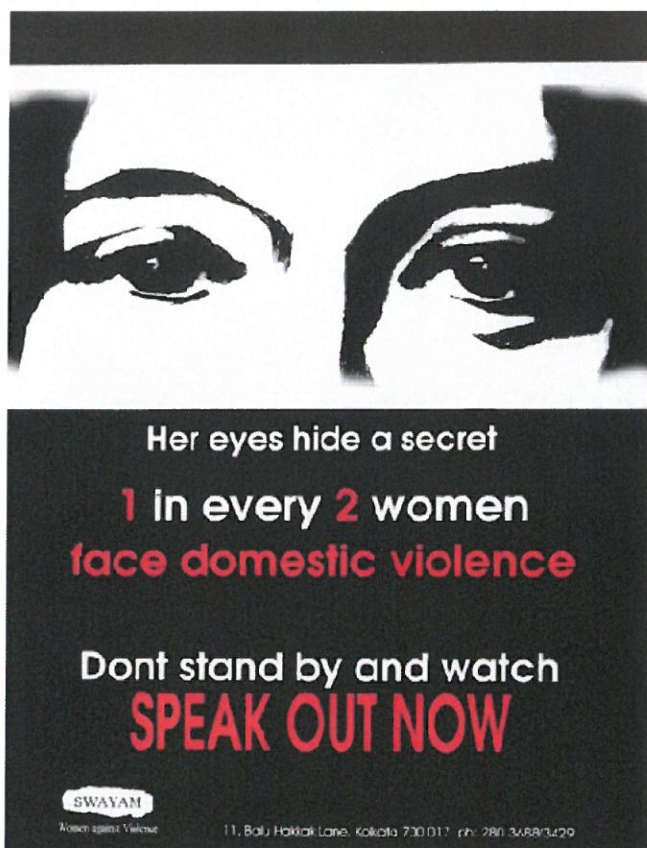
Source: UN Women website

- According to a 2013 global review of available data, 35 per cent of women worldwide have experienced either physical and/or sexual intimate partner violence or non-partner sexual violence. However, some national violence studies show that up to 70 per cent of women have experienced physical and/or sexual violence in their lifetime from an intimate partner.
- In Australia, Canada, Israel, South Africa and the United States, intimate partner violence accounts for between 40 and 70 per cent of female murder victims.
- More than 64 million girls worldwide are child brides, with 46 per cent of women aged 20–24 in South Asia and 41 per cent in West and Central Africa reporting that they married before the age of 18. Child marriage resulting in early and unwanted pregnancies poses life-threatening risks for adolescent girls; worldwide, pregnancy-related complications are the leading cause of death for 15-to-19-year-old girls.
- Approximately 140 million girls and women in the world have suffered female genital mutilation/cutting.
- Trafficking ensnares millions of women and girls in modern-day slavery. Women and girls represent 55 per cent of the estimated 20.9 million victims of forced labour worldwide, and 98 per cent of the estimated 4.5 million forced into sexual exploitation.
- Rape has been a rampant tactic in modern wars. Conservative estimates suggest that 20,000 to 50,000 women were raped during the 1992–1995 war in Bosnia and Herzegovina, while approximately 250,000 to 500,000 women and girls were targeted in the 1994 Rwandan genocide. Between 40 and 50 per cent of women in European Union countries experience unwanted sexual advances, physical contact or other forms of sexual harassment at work.
- In the United States, 83 per cent of girls aged 12 to 16 have experienced some form of sexual harassment in public schools.

Extra vulnerabilities Women in urban areas are twice as likely as men to experience violence, particularly in developing countries.

- In New Delhi, a 2010 study found that 66 per cent of women report experiencing sexual harassment between two and five times during the past year.
- Women are already two to four times more likely than men to become infected with HIV during intercourse. Forced sex or rape increases this risk by limiting condom use and causing physical injuries. In the United States, 11.8 per cent of new HIV infections among women more than 20 years old during the previous year were attributed to intimate partner violence.

See more at: <http://www.unwomen.org/en/what-we-do/ending-violence-against-women/facts-and-figures#sthash.YBgF2K4.dpuf>



Websites of interest

Canadian:

<http://www.phac-aspc.gc.ca> www.maws.mb.ca
www.manitoba.ca/capc.org www.swc-cfc.gc.ca
www.homefrontcalgary.com www.whiteribbon.ca
www.sistersinspirit.ca
www.acws.ca (Alberta council on the Status of Women)
<http://www.statcan.gc.ca/pub/85-224-x/2010000/aftertoc-aprestdm2-eng.htm>
<http://www.gov.mb.ca/justice/domestic/prevent.html>
<http://www.manitoba.ca/stoptheviolence/toolkit.html>
<http://www.manitoba.ca/stoptheviolence/lgbttq.html>

International

www.amnesty.ca www.unwomen.org
www.mincava.umn.edu www.ncvc.org
www.austdvclearinghouse.unsw www.heforshe.org
<http://savnotoviolence.org>
www.onebillionrising.org
<http://imagineingequality.imow.org> International Museum of Women
<http://www.youtube.com/user/heforshe>

Featured artists & Poster tour

Paul Lachine - www.growing.com/nonviolent/art/plachine
 Margaret Warfield: www.margaretwarfield.net
 Rita Loyd <http://www.nurturingart.com>
 Poster tour: www.dvposters365.net

What is Family Violence? From Manitoba.ca, Family Violence Prevention Program website

<http://www.gov.mb.ca/fs/fvpp/pubs/brochure.pdf>http://www.gov.mb.ca/asset_library/en/stoptheviolence2013/brochure.pdf

- Family violence is actual or threatened physical, sexual, psychological, emotional or financial abuse directed toward a family member.
- It includes intimate partner abuse, as well as abuse that is directed to others in a family relationship, such as so-called honour-based violence.
- An intimate relationship can be between people who are married, living together, dating, separated or divorced.
- Violence can happen in any family and affects women and men of all ages, cultures, income levels, religions, professions and abilities.

Common Types of Abuse:

Physical

Examples of Family Violence/Abusive Behaviours:

Unwanted physical contact - slapping, pinching, punching, pushing, kicking, hair-pulling, burning, biting, and cutting

Sexual

Unwanted sexual contact - sexual touching, forced sex, forced humiliating acts, offensive sexual comments, control of birth control, or being forced to watch or take part in sexual acts with a third party

Psychological/Emotional

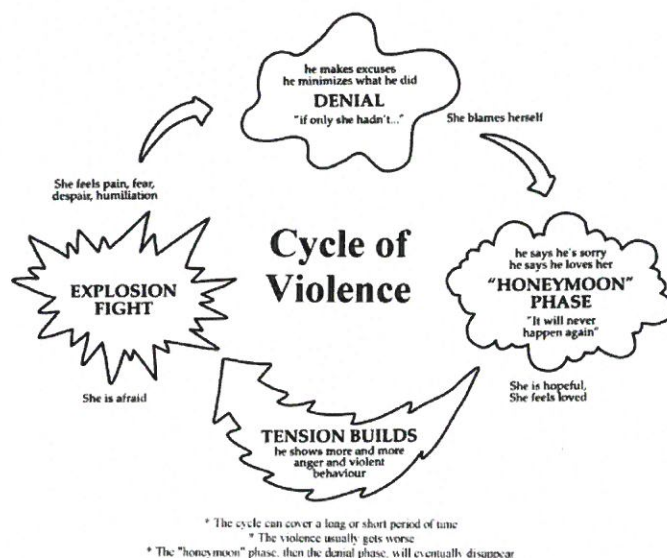
Being forced, by another person, to watch or take part in behaviour that is psychologically/emotionally harmful - threats, humiliation, put-downs, name-calling

Financial

Use of financial information or other resources (ex: property, possessions) to control and cause harm to another person

"Honour" Based Violence Fear of or actual forced marriage, controlling sexual activity, false imprisonment, forced abortion.

Groups at Risk: People most likely to be abused are: women, children, older adults and persons with disabilities. Because these groups are often seen as having less power and control, they are often at greater risk. While personal or job stress, alcohol/drug use, and tough economic times are not the cause of family violence, they can often make it worse. Family violence, including "honour"-based violence, cuts across all cultures, nationalities, faith groups and communities. **Without help, abusive relationships only get WORSE**



He takes me shopping
then takes my money

He takes me to the doctor
then denies me medication

He helps me to bed
then rapes me

He tells me he loves me
and that no-one else would



Disabled women and domestic violence – it's time to take action

ARE YOU IN A HEALTHY RELATIONSHIP?

Learn the signs of an unhealthy or abusive relationship and **BREAK THE SILENCE.**

Leaving an abusive relationship is difficult enough – it's even harder if you are a disabled woman – especially if your abuser is also your carer.

There is help and support available:

Go to www.womensaid.org.uk for the Women's Aid Survivor's Handbook, available in 11 languages and audio version, as well as the UK Domestic Abuse Directory.

www.womensaid.org.uk/disability

Published by the Women's Aid Federation of England (WAFE) Registered Charity No. 1054045. WAFE Registered No. 1054045

women's aid
until women & children are safe
www.womensaid.org.uk

Freephone 24 Hour National Domestic Violence Helpline 0808 2000 247

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Overall, funding for The Pas Committee for Women in Crisis is derived from four main sources:

1. **Family Violence Prevention Program of The Manitoba Government-** provides for programming, facility and staffing, allocating specific amounts to each Cost Centre. The branch also is responsible for ensuring standards and monitoring our progress. The Service Purchase Agreement with the Branch is one of the primary contractual obligations of the Corporation. With a few exceptions, no capital expenditures are allowed.

2. **Employment and Incomes Assistance** provides a per diem for every bednight (intended to cover extra staffing and food). Special needs specific to clients (transport, medications, emergency clothing) is also financed through Employment and Income Assistance. This portion of our income is totally dependent upon utilization of the shelter.

3. Child Caring Agencies and The Department of Justice may also purchase lodging at a **per diem for clients. As a designated place of safety**, we can provide emergency foster care to a child. In some situations, these agencies are billed for additional workers required to care for children.

4. **Fund Raising, Donations, and Project Grants** constitute a wide range of revenue sources, e.g. rents for Second Stage accommodation, raffles, specific project grants, memberships, GST rebate, merchant discounts, and donations. It is this category which supplies the essential funds for capital purchases (towels, resources for program-

ming), van insurance & maintenance and offsets programming deficits. We are fortunate to have been part of the Manitoba Association of Women's Shelters' CAPC Project. Revenue from this particular grant has been essential for the majority of the Child Support Counselling Program.

Revenue	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16
Family Violence Prevention	396600	401000	401000
Employment & Income Assistance	43805	53038	55044
CAPC (Community Action Program for Children by Public Health Agency of Canada)	21326	21376	22150
Second Stage	14879	13657	44145
Other Revenue	68222	54699	40554
Total	544832	543770	562893
Expense	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16
wages/staff benefits	401907	391098	427382
client/programs	34903	45019	36913
admin, training & other	36488	39713	30516
professional fees	6476	7324	7129
telephone	7996	7782	7391
Second Stage	14631	23058	47927
insurance	10731	13520	10522
Total	513132	527514	567780

Interpretative Notes:

The salaries were affected due to the retroactive pay resulting from a year of negotiations plus the book keeping/audit requirement to reflect accrued holidays that would be paid out should the corporation be dissolved on April 1. . In 1996/97 a change occurred within the first quarter in the way the "facility" or rent was paid. Family Violence Prevention Program started payment directly to Manitoba Housing and Renewal Corporation. In 1995/96 the facility constituted \$58,700 of the government support. Readers are encouraged to review The Auditor's Report for specific data. Although fundraising may be required to cover some client costs, most client costs can be billed to Employment and Income assistance. A billable bednight generates \$29.76 revenue, of which this year averages \$15.50 in client care costs. The remainder is applied to staffing, overheads, and resources. Transport and some special needs are reimbursable through billings.

Copies of draft **2015/16 Audit Report** are available at the Annual General Meeting, and final copies upon request. The audited report must, in accordance with Family Violence Prevention Program Reporting Requirements, be broken down as per cost centres. The Cost Centres are:

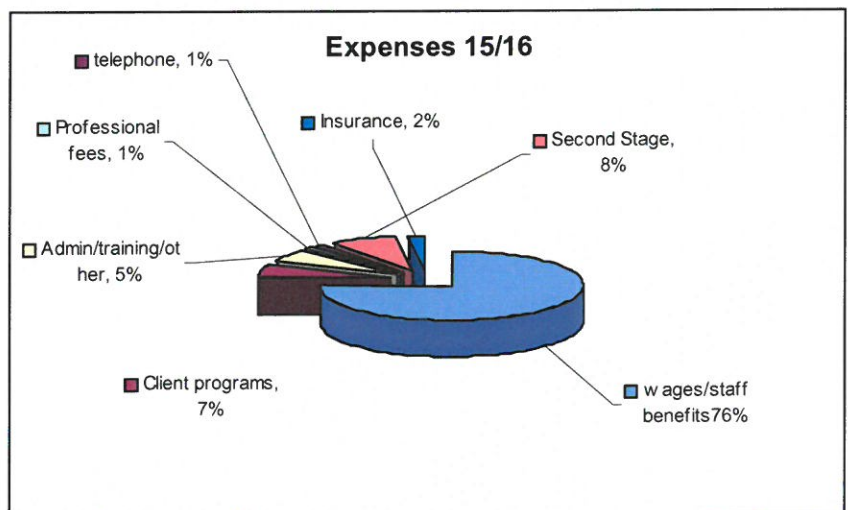
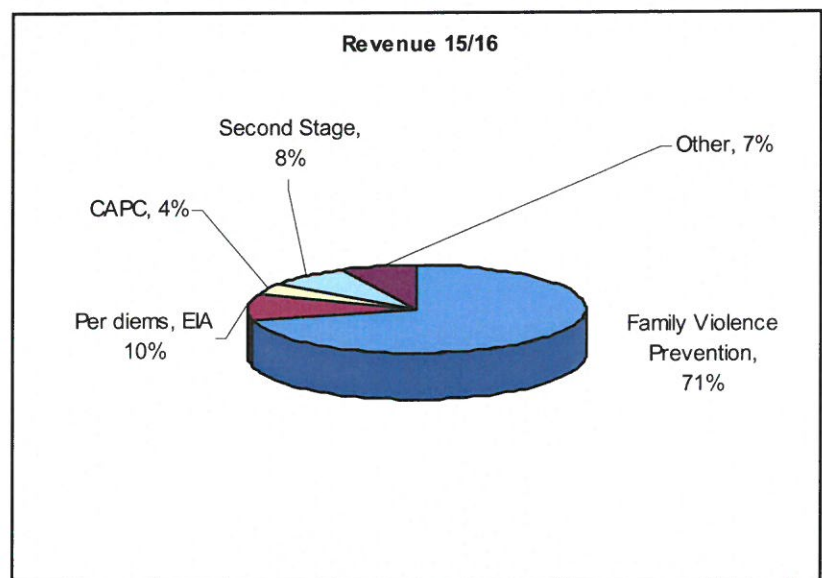
- ◆ **Central (admin , staff and facility)**
- ◆ **Core (client care and counselling staff)**
- ◆ **Child Support Counselling**
- ◆ **Follow-up Counselling (one staff position is now allocated to Core)**
- ◆ **Projects: (Second Stage, other, fundraising which includes capital expenditures & fund raising costs).**

Each cost centre contains wage/salary and client/programming components. This annual report has isolated and regrouped expenses to highlight changes and trends. The audit indicates a deficit \$4887 this year. This was due to additional training costs and retroactive pay resulting from the year delay in concluding the union contract. We have a substantial pre-existing surplus which can be applied to these costs. The overhead costs associated with operating a 24-hour facility and crisis line remain high. If residential use is low, revenues do not match expenses. Salaries constitute 71% of our expenses, understandable in that we are a 24-hour counselling service provider.



Fundraising:

Our survival is highly dependent upon our ability to obtain donations and to hold successful fundraising events.. In addition to CAPC reported separately in the audit, donations, grants, fundraising and memberships amounted to \$37400.. Our contributors included **Manitoba All Charities Campaign , Moffat foundation, Blennerhassett Foundation , Mb. Public Insurance, Mb. Hydro, Vesev's bulb sales, Canadian Women's Foundation and retailer discounts..** The **Royal Bank Foundation**, the **Margaret Laurence Chair for Women's Studies** and the grants from **Pfizer** and the **Morrow Foundations** have been placed in deferred revenue (shown in the Balance sheet of the audit) for future expenditures. Items and services in kind do not enter the audit but are reported at fair market value in the report to Revenue Canada. We would like to especially acknowledge the gifts of Gary Mitton, a former resident of the Pas who has contributed through Canada Helps over the years.



Thank-you!!

The generous donations by individuals, organizations, and businesses of their time, materials, and funds have been crucial to the operations of The Pas Committee for Women in Crisis. We are grateful for these gifts from the community and from our many anonymous donors. So many of you appear on this list year after year! **Gary Mitton, Canadian Women's Foundation, , Manitoba Public Insurance, Mofat Foundation, Blennerhassett Foundation and the All Charities Campaign** deserve specific acknowledgement this year. The Order of the Eastern Star provided us with knitted slippers. We apologize for any inadvertent omissions and errors in spelling. All gifts are greatly appreciated.

Special thanks to artist, Margaret Warfield, who so graciously permitted use of her works in acrylic, clay and word to convey the joy and celebration of survivors, life and the work that we do. Her works can be viewed on facebook, *Art that Touches the Soul* or at www.margaretwarfield.net

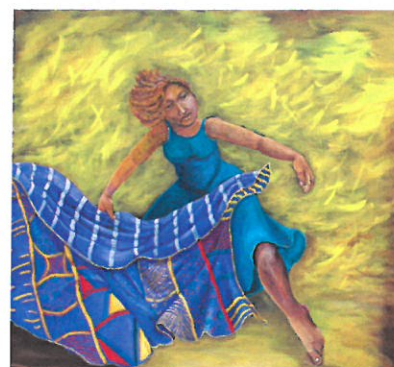
Jordis Abrahamson
All Charities Campaign
Chris Anderson
Francis Anderson
Kris Anderson
Mrs. Anderson
Sandy Anderson
Anderson Hotel & Suites
Anglican Church
Anne
Annie
Mr. & Mrs. Arnold
Mr. & Mrs. Aylmer Arnold
Laura Atkins
Autopac
Avery
Dale Ballantyne
Martina Ballantyne
Patti Banks
Barbara
Constable Bercier
Best Beginnings/Baby & Me
Jim Blake
Mr. & Mrs. Jim Blake
Blennerhassett Foundation
Cathy Bruneau
Sharon Burley
Mr. Butler
Canada Helps
Canada Women's Foundation
Carman
Elaine Carriere
Marlene Carriere

Gerry Chambers
Cheryl
Christ Church
Colleen
Community Action Program for Children
Jeff Constant
Lena Constant
Jarren & Tanya Courchene
Courtney
Carla Craig
Michelle Cudmore
Cupe Local 8600
Marianne Curran
Dayna
Laura Decapalon
Krista DiCecco
Discovery Toys
Liz Dodds
Doris
Lorie Doucette
Alan Ducharme
Isabella Duff
Employment and Income Assistance
Evelyn
Family Violence Prevention Program
Kelly Ferguson
Debbie Fiddler
First Books
E. Fisher
Flin Flon Safe Haven

Corrina Gamblin
Gardewine Transport
Doris Gardiner
Bobbi Gazayou
Girl Guides
Golden Agers
Gord
Angie Govereau
Angie & Katie Govereau
The Grub Box
Corrina Gramlyn
Sandra Halcrow
Susan Harper
Susan Harrison
Carma Hawley
Marlene Head
Julie Heinz
Cindy Helstom
Penny Helstrom
Herizons Magazine
Brooke Hooper
Ian
Melinda Ives
Darlene Jackson
Mr. & Mrs. Jackson
Jackson Family
Josie Jebb
Joyce
Cecil K.
Connie Kaldor
Kawechetonanow Centre

Kayla & friends
Jenny Keller
Kikiwak Inn
Simone Kirkness
Trevor & Brook Lane
Rosanna Lathlin
Sylvia Lathlin
Lorri Lotta
Cordelia Luce
Marian Lucien
Lynette
Vicki Macduff
Don Macinchuk
June MacLeod
Kim MacLeod
Vanessa MacLeod
Don Maksymchuk
Marion
Kevin Martin
Marcia Martin
Michelle Martin
Mary-ann
Mb. Assoc. of Women's Shelters
Mb. Fire Fighters
Mb. Hydro
Mb. Public Insurance
MPIC Rural UWay
Mb. Public Insurance Denim Day
Mrs. McLeod
Melanie
Linda Melnyk

*And We
Dance-
Margaret
Warfield*



Janet Merasty
 Karen Merasty
 Kendra Merasty
 Barb Metcalfe
 Joan Milner
 Gary Mitton
 Moffatt Family Foundation
 Patty Molyneaux
 Penny Muskego
 Robin Nabess
 Elaine Nasekapow
 Mr. & Mrs. Nechvtal
 Nona
 Northern Store
 OCN Health Authority
 Order of the Eastern Star
 Gloria Orton
 Darlene Pielak
 Eva Pielak
 Devra Poitra
 Dawna Pritchard
 Purse Brigade
 RCMP- The Pas, OCN, Moose
 Lake
 Doris Reed
 Kiera Reimer
 Sheila & Brian Roque
 Mary Sayese
 Service Canada
 Jill Scott
 Scott & Vern
 Shelly
 Shelter Enhancement Project
 Shirley
 Shoebox Project
 Shoppers Drug Mart
 Shoppers Drug Mart Head Office
 Jason Smith
 Snow Lake Family Resource
 Centre
 Janet Stahl
 Stolz Family
 The Pas Corrections
 The Pas Family Resource Centre
 Theresa Mackenzie
 Thomas
 Thompson Crisis Centre
 Lena Thorne
 Russell Thorne
 Donna Tumak
 University College of the North
 Vesey's Bulbs
 Viola
 Lauren Wadelius
 Mr. Wadelius
 Jennifer Ward
 Warehouse One
 Westminster United church
 Eva Whitmore
 Trudy Wright
 Joanne Wyman
 Holly Young
 Lucinda Young
 Trudy Young
 Martha Zebchuk



www.walkamileinher shoes.org

Walk a Mile in Her Shoes®

**THE INTERNATIONAL MEN'S MARCH
 TO STOP RAPE, SEXUAL ASSAULT & GENDER VIOLENCE**

Frank Baird created Walk a Mile in Her Shoes® in 2001. What started out as a small group of men daring to totter around a park has grown to become a world-wide movement with tens of thousands of men raising millions of dollars for local rape crisis centers, domestic violence shelters and other sexualized violence education, prevention and remediation programs. Walk a Mile in Her Shoes® Events are political and performance art with public, personal and existential messages. At a Walk a Mile in Her Shoes® Event there is no distinction between performer and audience. Our mission is to create a unique and powerful public experience that educates individuals and communities about the causes of sexualized violence, provides them with prevention and remediation strategies and empowers them to further develop and implement these knowledges and skills interpersonally and politically. www.walkamileinher shoes.org, Events are held in Thompson, Brandon and Flin Flon. We are grateful to Safe Haven in Flin Flon who hosts the event in August at the Trout Festival. Our inventory of the custom shoes are shared between Aurora House and Safe Haven to minimize the costs.

MARCHERS 2015

Brett Hanson
 Darren Cook
 Ron Ranville
 Blizzard Boys
 Brandon Bartley
 Camacho Lathlin
 Dawson Anderson
 Brendon Barron
 Daylon Campbell
 Lantz Hiebert
 Brody Claeys
 Chris Nicolai
 Dr. Hirandi
 Derek Logan
 Don Barkman
 Dr. Golchin
 Tommy Adams
 Charles Gregoire
 Shane R
 Rick Nicholson
 Chris Marsh

DONORS

Jordis Abrahamson
 Bryce Atkinson
 B&C Power Products
 Al Babey
 Don Barkman
 K. Bate
 B Benson
 Jamey Bergson
 Kevin Bernstrom
 Kulraj Bhatti
 Trevor Blake
 Cynthia Bugua
 Kevin Carlson
 Jennifer Cartwright
 Ann Marie Clark
 Tanis Clarkson
 L. Cluff
 Brent Colgan
 Annie Colwell
 V. Comerford
 Carla Constant
 Aaron Crowe
 Riza Cuevas
 Marriane Curran
 Adam Davidson
 Scott Didskalny
 Shirley Ducharme
 Extra Foods Pharmacy
 Kelly Fergusson
 Stephanie Foure
 Leah Friesen
 Anev Gardinor
 Danielle Geddes
 Amy Gladstone
 Kellie Graveline
 Kellie Graveline
 Crystal Gregoire
 Sandra Halcrow
 Danny Halpin
 Kerwash Harend
 Ainsley Hebert
 Hemauer Funeral Home
 Dr. Kourosh Hirandi
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 Anna Hosta
 Davis Hunter
 Serena Hurst
 Andrea Jackson
 June Jackson
 Keith Jaeger
 Donna Janzen
 Edwin Jebb
 Curtis Kerr
 Shawna Ketcheson
 Kinsemen Club of The Pas
 Brian Kuo
 Erin Lagace
 K. Larkins
 D. Lechelt
 Caemen Levenspee
 Carmen Levesque
 Dawn Libbrecht
 Linda Long
 Hether Mackenzie
 Patti Marin
 Darron Markus
 Shane McAree

Peter McAree
 Trevor McCorkill
 Carrie McDuff
 Sheri McPhee
 Leigh-Ann Mighton
 Amy Mink
 Jack Modriyga
 Evelyn Murray
 N Neny
 Janice Neufeld
 Janice Neufeld
 Jo Newman
 Amber Nolette
 Cathy Olynik
 D. Osborlle
 Giovanni Perusini
 Kelly Petryk
 Melissa Pevie
 Denise Pfund
 Amera Razool
 Ron Ranville
 S. Reader
 G. Renner
 Bev Rivalin
 Dave Roberts
 Margaret Robinson
 Derrick Sanderson
 Diane Sanderson
 Jessica Sawicki
 J Sayele
 Cheryl Scott
 M Sellioni
 Angie Shawaga
 Kelsi Smith
 Tamara Stevens
 Carmelle Stevenson
 Shirley Streit
 Super 8 Motel
 Russell Thane
 Kathleen Thronin
 Bruce Trampe
 Mandi Uffelman
 Riley Wasichok
 Bernice Wasyllynkla
 Jade Watts
 Lori Weiman
 Dayna Wlasichuk
 Pat Wotherspoon
 Bev Yacentiuk
 Marg

Domestic Violence and The Pas

Aurora House: Its Origins

In 1982, The Pas Committee for Women in Crisis was incorporated as a result of grassroots discussion. In the late 1970's a group of lawyers in The Pas felt helpless in meeting the immediate needs of battered clients. There was no place for victims to seek safety and respite from on-going beatings and abuse. Through these efforts, The Pas Committee for Women in Crisis evolved. First operating as a crisis line, the committee, with the assistance of the Province then acquired the historic Harvey rooms. The old shelter, with its multi level architecture was replaced with the new shelter which was constructed on the same site thanks to Manitoba Housing. The province committed more dollars towards the general operations eliminating the dependence upon "federal make-work projects". Since start-up, there have been both gains and cutbacks in the grants and per diems. We have previously received increases to allow for wage parity, pension, the addition of a second follow-up position, and additional hours for the child program.

In 1994, funding was made available through Canada Mortgage and Housing to acquire a second facility, a three-apartment complex, named "My Sister's House". The Pas Committee's intent was to provide longer term (or second stage housing) for clients who needed safe accommodation and longer term programming as they re-established their lives in a violence-free environment. Your local community and the Government of Manitoba demonstrate a continued commitment to providing resources to assist families affected by domestic violence



If you or someone you know is
experiencing abuse, call
1-877-977-0007
to be connected to the shelter
nearest you.

How YOU can help

- **Buy a membership.** Your \$5 membership fee shows you care and entitles you to vote at Annual General Meetings.
- **Volunteer.** – Assist with fund raising events, become a Board member, offer to assist in attending court with victims, provide support services to clients
- **Organize events** that assist in increasing awareness of domestic violence and the role of shelters. Invite the Shelter to provide information to groups or service agencies that you are involved with.
- **Teach your children** communication, empathy and non-violent methods of conflict resolution. Self-esteem is critical to healthy development of individuals.
- **Donate** materials, service or cash. We accept clothing, toys and household goods for our clients. Some items we can convert to cash. Towels and pyjamas are especially welcome. Anything we cannot use is donated to other charities and non-profit agencies or converted to cash.
- **Listen and support the victims of abuse.** Encourage them to seek help. You can call a shelter on their behalf

*Be-Cause" is my name. I am
free to be who I am, without
limitations. I face each day
filled with expectations of the
possibilities that await me on
my journey.*

Clay sculptures of Margaret Warfield.