

30th ANNUAL REPORT

MAWS
MANITOBA ASSOCIATION OF WOMEN'S SHELTERS

www.maws.mb.ca

Executive Team

Angela Braun, Sharon Morgan - Co-Chairs
Anna Pazdzierski - Treasurer
Kari Prawdzik - Secretary
Jennifer Hagedorn - Provincial Coordinator

COORDINATOR'S REPORT

by
jennifer hagedorn

After nine years as Coordinator, I am amazed to see the progress we have made at National and International levels in the last two years. After years of dreaming and planning we are becoming a very cohesive group. I am pleased to announce the formation of the Canadian Network of Women's Shelters and Transition Houses. The National organization is housed in Ottawa and includes representatives from ten provinces, two territories, and the National Aboriginal Circle on Family Violence. Our Executive director, Tracy Gierman, brings a wealth of knowledge and experience in National Networks and the inner workings of Ottawa. We are excited to tackle the tough National issues that affect women's shelters in Canada. Watch for the first ever National Conference for Women's shelters coming in 2011, hosted by the new Network!

How technology impacts survivors of abuse is a hot topic these days. Cyber-stalking, Techno-stalking, and on line bullying are all over the media. Fortunately, MAWS and its member agencies are on the forefront of these new tools in domestic violence. Joining forces with the National Network to End Domestic Violence in the United States we have brought vital training and information back to Manitoba. We are also partnering with British Columbia, Quebec, and SafetyNet USA to bring a Canadian SafetyNet to reality. The availability of training, resources, and information for shelters and survivors of violence is crucial in our new digital world. I would like to thank all the women who dedicate so much time and effort to ensure that MAWS continues to be a voice for shelters in Manitoba. Whether it's providing training, developing new resources, sharing common struggles, speaking with a collective voice, or raising public awareness of the issues; we continue to work side by side to end violence in Manitoba!!

MAWS GOALS

- 1 To unite Manitoba shelters and provide a central body to facilitate communication.
- 2 To provide a unified voice for women and children who have experienced violence.
- 3 To foster networking and information sharing among shelters and between other agencies that work to eliminate all forms of violence.
- 4 To assist in acquiring resources for member shelters.
- 5 To encourage the assistance of other service agencies, voluntary organizations, private industry, and government in addressing issues of violence against women and children.
- 6 To promote public education around violence against women and children.
- 7 To promote best practices among member shelters.
- 8 To develop and promote provincial standards for all shelters.

Who Is MAWS?

In the mid 1980's, women's shelters in the province of Manitoba began to work together to provide support, reduce the isolation of shelter directors, and stop the competition between shelters for funding dollars. The organization evolved, and was incorporated in 1991 as The Manitoba Association of Women's Shelters. Membership now includes nine provincially funded women's shelters. MAWS has grown over the years and now includes support for front line staff, volunteers, board members, and management.

MAWS members are the shelters themselves, each shelter chooses a designate to sit on the board of MAWS. Designates can be executive directors, board members, or staff. Often times a board member and a Director will attend MAWS meetings, although each shelter only has one vote.

Clients who self report:	Range	Average
Completed high school	22% -50%	36%
Have a medical diagnosis of a physical illness	22% -39%	30%
Have a medical diagnosis of mental illness	19% -40%	26%
Are on medication while in shelter programs	26% -48%	38%
Have been to treatment for addictions	5% -41%	25%
Have been in abusive relationships prior to the current one	39% -68%	52%
Currently have a court order in place due to the abuse	13% -27%	20%
Have requested police intervention in the last six months	27% -36%	39%
Have lost income in the last year due to abuse	15% -33%	26%
Are currently pregnant	5% -18%	10%

Snapshot of Demographical Data from VOICES database system April 1 2008 to March 31, 2010.

Data Compiled from seven shelters representing all regions of the Province of Manitoba. Range indicates shelter with highest and lowest reporting. Average is average among all seven shelters.

VOICES
SYSTEM

Revenue		Expenses	
Memberships	\$6,900.00	CAPC	
Interest Earned	\$332.00	Shelter Payments	\$182,934.00
Anon Donor	\$45,000.00	Prog Manager	\$22,204.00
Health Canada Grant	\$208,138.00	Total	\$205,138.00
Foundation Grants	\$15,000.00		
Summer job Grant	\$4,664.00	Database	
GST Rebate	\$2,350.00	Hosting Costs	\$2,531.00
Miscellaneous	\$8,173.00	Upgrades	\$50,060.00
Shelter Contributions	\$29,000.00	Total	\$52,591.00
Total Revenue	\$319,557.00		
		Administration	
		Staff	\$43,677.00
		Meetings	\$7,865.00
		Travel	\$2,763.00
		Other	\$3,463.00
		MetaSoft Membership	\$5,035.00
		Training	\$1,905.00
Total Expenses	\$322,437.00	Total	\$64,708.00
Total Revenue	\$319,557.00		

CHAIR'S ANNUAL REPORT

by
angela braun

2009/2010 has been an exciting year for the MAWS organization. We are celebrating our 19th year as an association.

There have been some major strides in the movement to create a national organization for shelters across Canada. An executive Director has been hired and we await anxiously news of a national conference in 2011 where shelters from across Canada can get together and share best practices, and brainstorm solutions to shared challenges.

The foresight of our coordinator Jennifer Hagedorn has kept MAWS a step ahead when it comes to technology

safety. MAWS has been able to provide training to many agencies funded by family violence prevention as well as the shelters. This will serve our clients well in the ever changing world of technology.

MAWS is excited to be planning a gala event for November to mark domestic violence awareness month. We anticipate that it will raise the profile of the work of MAWS as well as the ongoing struggle against domestic violence. Please keep your eyes open for more information about his event.

While we know that there is still much work to be done, it is important to take the time to recognize the progress we have made. We will continue to strive to eradicate violence against women and children. With your support we can make this dream a reality.

Provincial CAPC Program 09/10 Outcomes

Counselling/Support Group:

89% of caregivers reported the program helped their children understand how to be safe

86% of caregivers reported the program helped their children learn how to safety plan

67% of caregivers reported the program helped their children understand abuse

Play Groups:

100% of caregivers reported the program increased time in play with other children

93% of caregivers surveyed reported an increase in cooperation with other children

93% of caregivers surveyed reported an increase in sharing with other children

Parenting Programs:

75% of caregivers report an increase in knowledge of the relationship between violence and parenting practices

76% of caregivers reported learning about safety planning

86% of caregivers reported learning about healthy relationships

64% of caregivers reported learning about the effects of abuse on children

75% of caregivers reported learning how abuse affects parenting

CAPC stands for Community Action Program for Children and is funded by the Public Health Agency of Canada. CAPC recognizes that communities are able to identify and respond to the needs of their children, and so each project has been developed to meet the needs of their community. There are fourteen CAPC projects in Manitoba, all sharing the same goal: to enhance the well-being of children aged 0-6, living in conditions of risk.

MAWS MEMBER SHELTERS

Agape House (Eastman Crisis Centre) - Steinbach

Aurora House (The Pas Committee For Women in Crisis) - The Pas

Genesis House (South Central Committee on Family Violence) –Winkler

Ikwe-Widdjitiwin – Winnipeg

Nova House – Selkirk

Portage Family Abuse Prevention Centre – Portage la Prairie

Parkland Crisis Centre - Dauphin

Thompson Crisis Centre – Thompson

YWCA Westman Women's Shelter – Brandon

MAWS AFFILIATE MEMBERS

ALPHA House Project - Winnipeg

Fort Garry Women's Resource Centre - Winnipeg

Pluri-elles - Winnipeg

WISH Inc. - Winnipeg

Interlake Women's Resource Centre - Gimli

Women's Resource Centre - Flin Flon

Thank You!

To our anonymous funder. Without their operational support we could not continue the work we do.

To the Public Health Agency of Canada for their financial contribution and endless support and assistance.

To The Manitoba Government and Family Violence Prevention Program for their continued support of our members.

To our membership who make all we do possible.