2010.2011 Annual Report

manitoba association of women's shelters www.maws.mb.ca

Coordinator's Report By Jen Kehler

The 2010-2011 year has been one of the most exciting years to date for the Manitoba Association of Women's Shelters (MAWS). This year MAWS hosted not one, but two, awareness/fundraiser events which served as opportunities to put MAWS on the map and give a platform for women's shelters to share about the work they do. EAT LOVE SHOP took place on November 7, 2010 at the Winnipeg Convention Centre where more than 150 women of all ages attended to shop the pavilions, engage in pampering at the spa booths, win prizes and enjoy a delicious buffet, but that was just the beginning. Loreena Mckennitt dazzled the crowd with her hauntingly beautiful vocal and instrumental stylings and was also interviewed by former Blue Bomber (and EAT LOVE SHOP emcee), Troy Westwood. To top it off MLA of Kirkfield, Sharon Blady, spoke from the heart sharing her own story of violence and overcoming. It was an event to remember and all who were in attendance had nothing but praises to report! From May 8-14, 2011 MAWS hosted yet another event, DYEing 4 Change, which

MAWS Goals

- 1 To unite MB 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 children.
- 7 To promote best practices amongst member shelters.
- 8 To develop and promote provincial standards for all member shelters.

M.AWS Executive

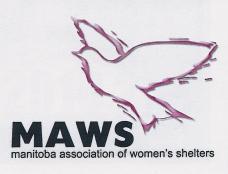
Angela Braun, Sharon Morgan - Co-Chairs
Anna Pazdzierski - Treasurer
Kari Prawdzik - Secretary
Jen Kehler - Provincial Coordinator

aimed to recruit salon professionals in the goal to end violence against women and children. The relationship between a salon professional is usually based on trust built over time. Because of the intimate and nurturing nature of the relationship a salon professional, who sees clients on a regular basis, can often spots signs of physical abuse that others may never see. Stats indicate that most battered women never call the police or go to a shelter but they usually do talk to someone they trust. This fact was the foundation behind DYEing 4 Change. This event was also a huge success with contact made with over 400 salons in MB by shelter staff. Look for the 2nd annual EAT LOVE SHOP and DYEing 4 Change events in the coming year! In addition to this, 2 incredible students from the UofW, Erhica Mintac and Christina Lin took it upon themselves to hold a fundraiser social for MAWS on April 1, 2010 raising over \$1300 in cash and another 2 boxes of clothes and toys for the shelters! It has been encouraging to see the province come along side us in the past year and we know that if continue to work hard we can have an impact on the lives of the women and children in Manitoba who are affected by domestic violence.

Who &s 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. As a direct response to evident needs of Manitoba shelters, MAWS evolved and was incorporated in 1991. The Manitoba Association of Women's Shelters now includes nine member provincially funded 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. MAWS meets monthly via skype and, at minimal, bi-annually at in-person meetings.

In the 2010-2011
year, MAVS
member shelters
provided 28,054
bednights to
women and their
children



Events Recap



From Left to Right: Parkland director Kari Prawdzik: Former Ikwe director Sharon Morgan; Genesis House director Ang Braun; Gold, platinum and multiplatinum sales award singer/ composer Loreena McKennit; Former Blue Bomber Troy Westwood; Nova House director Anna Pazdzierski

\$10.00



Ang Braun and Anna Pazdzierski



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Fundraiser Friday, April 1st, 2010 9:00pm - 2:00am All Proceeds go to the Manitoba Association of Women's Shelters Pure **Event Centre** 423 McMillian

On April 1, 2011 2 incredible students from the UofW, Christina Lin & Erhica Mintac, held a fundraiser social for MAWS raising over \$1300 in cash and an additional two boxes of clothes and toys for the shelters!

TICKET NO. 001



Co-Chair's Report

Co-Charr's Report By Ang Braun

The past year has been an exciting one for MAWS. We are celebrating our 20th anniversary as on organization. • We have been so fortunate in the past 6 years to have received support from our anonymous funder. However, it has been a goal of MAWS to become as self sufficient as possible. Therefore we have incorporated two new awareness/fundraising events in the past year. • To mark Domestic Violence Awareness month, we hosted an event called Eat Love Shop on November 7. It took place at the Winnipeg Convention Centre with a performance by special guest Loreena McKennit. To those of you that were able to attend, I know you will agree that the afternoon was magical. Participants were pampered at many stations and the auction was a great hit. Thanks to all that helped make it a success! • The DYEing 4 Change event was a provincial initiative that each of the shelters could participate in within their home communities. An invitation was extended to salon professionals to participate in an awareness campaign aimed to recruit salon professionals in the goal to end violence against women and children. They were provided with an education and awareness tool kit to share with their stylists, as well as the option of collecting funds from their clients. Over 400 salons were contacted through this campaign. MAWS was able to meet with the Minister of Family Services and Consumer Affairs, Gord Macintosh, in spring 2010. We were pleased to share with him some data that the VOICES system has produced. The data comes directly from the women that access shelter services and therefore provides the clearest indication of the women's needs and issues. It was an extremely productive meeting which touched on a variety of issues, from housing, cooccurring disorders and what may be the most effective strategy to breaking the cycle-working with children.

We were also pleased to take part in the provincial launch of domestic violence awareness month November 1 at the legislative building together with the family violence consortium and Honorable Gord Macintosh. We shared some of the initiatives that shelters are taking across the province with a focus on education, awareness and prevention. • MAWS took the time to provide some training to ED's with an invitation extended to our affiliate members on Women in Leadership. It was an excellent presentation, with many moments of understanding and insight. Maws also spent some time developing a fund development strategy, and evaluation of current events. • There have been some very exciting developments over the past two years on the national level. The development and growth of the national network has been amazing. A Canadian conference was hosted this year, and we look forward to an international conference in Washington DC in February 2012. • Along with the many changes this year there has been some farewells. Our long term coordinator Jennifer Hagedorn has left the MAWS organization. I would like to thank Jennifer Hagedorn for her many years of commitment and hard work with the MAWS organization. We wish her well. Jennifer Kehler came on board with MAWS as an interim coordinator. I also would like to share my appreciation for Jennifer Kehler's hard work. We begin this new fiscal year with a new coordinator Nikki Trimble. We welcome her aboard and look forward to working with her. • I would like to thank all of the ED's that I have had the opportunity to work with as Co-chair/Chair over the past 4 years. It has been a great experience and I look forward to contributing as a director. The work of MAWS and each individual shelter can be exhausting and exhilarating at the same time. We are stronger together and our collective voices will not be silent as we continue to work at ending domestic violence in our communities.

MAWS Stats

- MAWS member shelters provided care to 845 women and 912 children who accessed shelter services as residential clients
- MAWS member shelters provided care to 747 women and 132 children who accessed shelter services as non-residential clients
- MAWS member shelters provided care to 396 women and 94 children who accessed shelter services as follow-up clients
- MAWS member shelters provided a total of 28,054 bednights to women and their children
- MAWS member shelters attended to 6,369 crisis line calls

