

Supported by:



MANITOBA ASSOCIATION
OF WOMEN'S SHELTERS

Thank You to:

The **Public Health Agency of Canada** for financial contribution and support.
The **Manitoba Government**—Family Violence and Prevention Program (FVPP) for financial contribution to the DV agencies and endless support and assistance.
To all the **organizations** who have arranged fundraising events, and donated goods and financial contributions throughout the year: Discovery Toys (Easter Baskets for clients) (Melinda Ives), Shoebox campaign (Christmas box, variety of gifts and gift cards for clients), Chatters Salons (Used hair appliances for clients), Southside Ladies Open Golf Tournament, Joeys Restaurants Kenaston, Tyco Integrated Fire & Security, Winnipeg Transit, Impact Security Group, Kinette Club of Winnipeg.

A special thanks to all the **individuals** who contribute with used clothing, toiletries, and cash donations.

To the MAWS **members** who support our efforts.

Annual Report
2015-2016

MANITOBA ASSOCIATION OF WOMEN'S SHELTERS INC.
ANNUAL REPORT 2015-2016

maws.mb.ca

CHAIR REPORT 2015-2016

By Ang Braun

It has been an exciting year for a number of MAWS members due to renovations and new construction. Agape House in Steinbach and Genesis House in Winkler both had major upgrades to their facilities to better serve clients. Nova House in Selkirk is receiving a long awaited new building.

Unfortunately the fiscal year 2015 – 2016 saw a spotlight on family violence through a number of high profile murders. In the fall of 2015 Selena Keeper and Camille Runke were murdered by their partners. Selena had been unsuccessful in her application for a protection order before her ex-partner beat her to death. Camille was able to get a protection order however her ex-partner stalked and murdered her anyway. The ripple effect of these two murders was a review of the current protection order legislation with changes made to try to ensure better outcomes for victims of domestic violence.

Other progressive changes made by the government include five days of paid leave from work for domestic violence victims to deal with issues related to the violence in their lives. It is too early to tell how this will impact our clients but the removal of any obstacle facing a woman trying to leave an abusive relationship is a step in the right direction.

The new orientation manual is at work in each shelter as well as the WISH data base. This will allow MAWS to ensure best practices throughout the ten shelters and provide the most extensive data on the issues facing our clients. Thank you to Deena for her hard work on these two projects.

We have continued to work with Public Health Agency of Canada, to ensure the continuation of the Federal CAPC program which funds the children's programs in our shelters and to improve that programming. We are grateful for their continued support in our work with children and mothers. We have also been fortunate to collaborate with Healthy Child Manitoba and the Triple P parenting program. The shelters are in a unique position to provide support and mentoring to women that access our services. Working together with Healthy Child to provide practical training for staff will certainly be beneficial for our agencies and provide better outcomes to the families we serve.

Maws members and their staff have continued to enjoy a good working relationship with Family Continued on next page...

Registered Charitable No.
880786892RR0001

The Manitoba Association of Women's Shelters Inc. Financial Statements for the fiscal year ended March 31, 2016.

Independent Auditor's Report conducted by Stefan Lee Romaniuk Chartered Accountants.

"In our opinion, the financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of The Manitoba Association of Women's Shelters Inc. as at March 31, 2016 and the results of its operations and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations."

THE MANITOBA ASSOCIATION OF WOMEN'S SHELTERS INC.
Statement of Revenues and Expenditures and Changes in Net Assets For the Year Ended March 31, 2016

	Operating Fund 2016	CAPC Fund 2016	Total 2016	Total 2015
Revenue				
Public Health Agency of Canada 222,947	\$ -	\$ 222,947	\$ 222,947	\$ -
Memberships	7,600	-	7,600	6,900
Grants	4,135	-	4,135	5,429
Interest income	275	475	750	758
Donations	1,328	-	1,328	9,509
	13,338	223,422	236,760	245,543
Expenses				
Events and seminars	99	-	99	280
Shelter supplies grants	-	10,809	10,809	9,000
Shelter operating grants Standards Manual	-	178,434	178,434	178,434
Development	4,135	-	4,135	5,288
Meetings	10,495	-	10,495	9,175
Membership	525	1,500	2,025	2,105
Office	1,254	-	1,254	5,998
Professional fees	825	2,000	2,825	2,592
Personnel	7,089	23,204	30,293	34,200
Shelter training grants	-	4,500	4,500	4,500
Travel and training	881	2,500	3,381	2,918
	25,283	222,947	248,230	254,468
Net excess (deficiency) of revenue over expenses	(11,945)	475	(11,470)	(8,923)
Net assets - beginning of year	28,138	551	28,689	37,612
Net assets - end of year	\$ 16,193	\$ 1,026	\$ 17,219	\$ 28,689

PROVINCIAL CAPC REPORT

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

Provincial CAPC Project 2015/16 Outcomes:

During 2015/16 shelters reached 825 families who had children between the ages of 0-6 years old.

Playgroups

3872 children and caregivers attended 1429 playgroups

Counselling / Support Groups:

245 Counselling sessions were provided to 145 children
782 children attended 340 support groups

Parenting Programs

252 parenting sessions were provided to 530 caregivers
615 counselling sessions were provided to 334 mom's

Referrals

1306 referrals were made to benefit mothers and children

Advocacy

Shelter staff intervened 346 times to advocate for mothers and children

"I love this daycare staff especially for my baby girl. She loves her teachers and we like how respectful they are and know what they are doing with the children. You have an awesome daycare staff so professional and courteous. Sorry for my spelling isn't correct."

*- Manitoba Shelter Client ,
Excerpt from CAPC Surveys 2016*

Continued Chair Report by Ang Braun...

Violence Prevention Program staff. The trainings funded by FVPP fit well with the needs identified by the agencies. The additional support to the agencies is very much appreciated and provides our agencies with the ability to be more effective when working with clients.

I was very fortunate to be able to attend the 3rd World Conference of Womens Shelters in the Netherlands in November 2015. There were 1000 delegates from 115 countries represented. The theme was Connect & Act to End Violence Against Women. It seems that many of the issues facing shelters in Manitoba are the same across Canada, but also across the globe. Issues related to poverty, safe affordable housing, protection orders, addictions, mental health supports, and transportation are all on the radar. There were some great presentations and promising practices around housing first models, trauma informed delivery of services, and supportive mothering in the context of domestic violence. It was an amazing and powerful experience to take part in.

The 2015 Data Count of the Global Network of Women's Shelters was released. 2497 shelters and agencies in 46 countries took part. It states that on one day, 53,230 women and 34,794 children sought and acquired shelter services. However, 7,337 women and 4,410 children were turned away due to limited resources and capacity. On the final day a Call to Action to end violence against women and girls was agreed to by all participants. You can find it here <http://worldshelterconference.org/en/news/call-for-action,-connect-and-act/56/>

MAWS would like to thank all of the individuals and organization who have supported both MAWS and individual shelters by means of cash donation or gifts. Shelters rely on community donations to help fund their programs and services. In addition, clients depend on the kindness of others for donations of household supplies, clothing, food and holiday presents.

On behalf of the MAWS board I would like to express our gratitude to Deena Brock for her dedication to the MAWS organization. She understands the work of both urban and rural shelters, the idiosyncrasies of each unique community, and is flexible to meet the needs of each one of our agencies. She is effective in representing the needs of abused women in Manitoba to funders, government and stakeholders. Thank you for being such a strong advocate for abused women and children in Manitoba.

PROVINCIAL COORDINATORS REPORT 2015-2016

By Deena Brock

MAWS continues to work, often in the background supporting domestic violence shelters and agencies in Manitoba. So 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 donation to the shelters. Melinda Ives, Independent Team Leader from Discovery Toys has worked tirelessly to raise donations to build Easter baskets and Christmas gift donations to distribute to all the provincial shelters. Impact Security Group is collecting cell phones and Tyco Integrated Fire & Security gathered used clothing. Southside Ladies Golf League fundraised and made a large monetary donation. Joey Restaurants Kenaston named MAWS as the recipient for their Scoop of Care fundraiser for August. We received \$1.00 from each ice cream sold. Also we receive many calls and emails from caring individuals who want to donate everything from toiletries, business clothes, cell phones and financial donations for distribution to MAWS and the shelters.

A big thank you to Healthy Child Manitoba who funded Positive Parenting Program—Triple P training for the children's counselors in all the provincial shelters across the province. Triple P is certification training that concentrates on facilitating positive nurturing relationships that has been proven to be very successful for women and children.

MAWS was given the opportunity to provide input into a research project through Athabasca University titled Evaluating Economic and Social Outcomes of an Integrated Restorative Justice Model. This project will ultimately form recommendations to improve systems and outcomes for domestic violence situations in Canada.

Continued next page...



Annie Quintin, Scoop of Care Coordinator for Joey's Restaurant—Kenaston

SHELTER VOICES CANADA SURVEY RESULTS - 2016

"416 women and children reached out for shelter at 234 transition houses and shelters on a single day. Of that 416, 111 were able to become new residents, while 305 women and children had to be turned away due to lack of capacity. This means that 73% of potential new residents could not be accommodated that day."

"Of the shelters Canada-wide who do have access to housing programs, 96% reported a waiting period of over one month, 68% reported a waiting period of over three months, and 36% reported a waiting period of over six months."

"73% of shelters identified the increasing complexity of women's needs as one of their top three challenges—the most identified challenge by a large margin. Shelters tell us that women's shelters and transition houses have increasingly become the front lines for addressing trauma-induced mental health concerns and coping mechanisms such as substance abuse. This adds to the challenge of supporting women and children in transition. "

"Nearly 76% of the shelters responding to the survey have relied on food donations to meet the needs of women during resident [sic] in shelter or to assist them when leaving the shelter."

Shelter Voices data provided by CNWSTH—Canadian Network of Women's Shelters and Transition Houses.

"They know they are helping women to stay safe but at the same time they recognize that when a woman decides to leave an abuser she may be choosing a life of poverty, inadequate housing, etc. So it's hard to support women to leave while knowing what risks her future may hold." —Shelter Worker excerpt from Shelter Voices 2016

SHELTER STATISTICS

- In the 2015—2016 fiscal year shelters provided 39,792 bed nights to adults and their children
- Shelters provided care to 1229 adults and 1122 children who accessed shelter services as residential clients
- Of these clients, the average stay was 9.1 nights and clients attended an average of 7 counselling sessions
- Of the residential clients 64 adults and 130 children resided after leaving shelter in Interim Housing units for a total of 15,974 bednights
- Shelters provided care to 315 adults and 47 children who accessed shelter services as non residential clients
- Shelters provided care to 313 adults and 23 children who accessed shelter services as follow-up clients
- Shelters attended to 12,737 crisis line calls

Notes: Numbers do not include second stage shelter statistics (Alpha House and Bravestone Centre). Numbers include DV shelters and the Men's Resource Centre (Winnipeg), Not all shelters have Interim Housing Data provided by FVPP (Family Violence Prevention Program)



Meeting with Honourable Patty Hajdu, Minister of Status of Women Canada far left and Honourable Rochelle Squires, Provincial Minister responsible for Francophone Affairs and Status of Women far right in Winnipeg to speak with experts and advocates to develop and implement a federal strategy against gender-based violence.

SHELTER VOICES MANITOBA 2016

On one day in Manitoba in 2016, a survey was done with 14 emergency and second stage shelters who helped 157 women and 154 children.

- In the last 6 months all but 3 shelters had to rely on food donations to meet the needs of women while in the shelter or in assisting them upon leaving
- 67 women and 79 children were accommodated at a shelter in Manitoba
- 3 women and 6 children were turned away from shelter due to lack of space (*space was found at another shelter or if safe in a motel*)
- 3 shelters were full
- 7 women and 10 children were new clients (*clients who have not been in shelter before or have not been in shelter in the last fiscal year*)
- In the last 6 months all but one shelter received women from outside of the province
- In the last year all shelters had received a women from outside of the province
- The average waiting period for housing for women leaving shelter is 3 to 6 months with 1 to 3 months as a close second
- Staff identified the major challenges faced by the shelter in 2016 in order of frequency;
 - *Increasing complexity of needs of women requiring services*
 - *Diminishing/Stagnant government funding*
 - *Lack of financial security (stability of funding)*
 - *Low wages for staff/staff retention*

**Information from Manitoba Shelter Voices 2016
Shelter Voices Manitoba data provided by CNWSTH –Canadian Network of Women's Shelters and Transition Houses.**

MEMBER SHELTERS

AGAPE HOUSE
 (Eastman Crisis Centre)
 Steinbach, MB 204-326.6062

AURORA HOUSE
 (The Pas Committee for Women in
 Crisis) The Pas, MB 204.623.7427

GENESIS HOUSE
 (South Central Committee on
 Family Violence) Winkler, MB
 204.325.9957

IKWE-WIDDJITIWIN
 Winnipeg, MB 204.987.2780

NOVA HOUSE
 Selkirk, MB 204.482.7882

PARKLAND CRISIS CENTRE
 Dauphin, MB 204.622.4626

PORTAGE FAMILY ABUSE
 PREVENTION CENTRE
 Portage la Prairie, MB
 204.239.5234

THOMPSON CRISIS CENTRE
 Thompson, MB 204.677.9668

WILLOW PLACE
 Winnipeg, MB 204-615-0313

YWCA WESTMAN WOMEN'S
 SHELTER- Brandon, MB
 204.727.3644



AFFILIATE MEMBERS

Second Stage Programs

ALPHA HOUSE INC.
 Winnipeg, MB 204.982.2011

BRAVESTONE CENTRE INC.
 Winnipeg, MB 204.275.2600

Resource Centres

FORT GARRY WOMEN'S
 RESOURCE CENTRE
 Winnipeg, MB 204.477.1123

INTERLAKE WOMEN'S RESOURCE
 CENTRE- Gimli, MB 204.642.8264

LAKESHORE WOMEN'S RESOURCE
 CENTRE—Ashern, MB
 204.768.3016

WOMEN'S SAFE HAVEN/
 RESOURCE SERVICE
 Flin Flon, MB 204.681.3105

ABOUT OUR MEMBERS

The work of our members is often done quietly, involving numerous hours and dedication. As a secondary witness to the clients victimization, staff working at shelters and other domestic violence agencies can suffer vicarious trauma and they can be on the receiving end of verbal and physical abuse from the clients themselves. It's a demanding and often frustrating job but rewarding, knowing that they are helping clients make positive change in their lives.

"The women we serve are taking back control over their own lives. They become more aware of their own needs, and better equipped to respond. Overall, women gain the desire to achieve an independent life and keep their children from experiencing further violence"
 - Shelter Staff, excerpt from Shelter Voices 2016

Continued Provincial Coordinators Report by Deena Brock...

Last November MAWS co-organized with Zita Somakoko an event in Winnipeg to engage the religious leaders on breaking the silence on domestic violence in the church community. Presentations were provided by the Men's Resource Centre, the Laurel Centre, Alpha House, Nova House and the Evolve Program as well as several brave victims who shared their stories to help emphasize the importance of support from the religion community.

MAWS continues to be a member of the Canadian Network of Women's Shelters and Transitions Houses. Our voice from Manitoba is present through committee work and feedback. The Network has a new initiative and training coming up in October 2016 regarding a concern faced by all shelters; co-occurring issues of addiction and mental health and providing services in a trauma informed way.

I want to take this opportunity to thank the Executive Directors and staff at shelters and domestic violence agencies. The work they do is so important and they tirelessly perform their duties with smiles even knowing that they can't "fix" every client's situation.

Visit www.maws.mb.ca to learn more about Manitoba shelters, sign up for our blog and visit us on Facebook and Twitter.

MAWS GOALS

- To provide a unified voice for women and children who have experienced violence
- To unite Manitoba shelters and provide a central body to facilitate communications
- To foster networking and information sharing among shelters and between other agencies that work to eliminate all forms of violence
- To assist in acquiring resources for member shelters
- To promote public education around violence against women and children
- To promote best practices among member shelters
- To develop and promote provincial standards for all shelters
- To foster professional development within Manitoba shelters