



2019-2020
AGM
Annual General Report

Huronia Transition Homes
(La Maison Rosewood Shelter, Athena's Sexual Assault
Counselling & Advocacy Centre, Choices for Children and
Operation Grow)

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OUR MISSION

We believe that all violence against all women and children must end. We are community members who are committed to education, advocacy, harm reduction, and poverty reduction as a means to end violence. HURONIA TRANSITION HOMES is also committed to providing shelter and support to abused women and their children and to providing counselling to women survivors of sexual assault and socioeconomic opportunities through social enterprise.

BELIEFS AND AIMS

Huronian Transition Homes exists to serve women and children dealing with violence and abuse. We are here only to serve those women and children. Our understanding and analysis of violence and our role in ending it is based and framed by this belief.

Violence against women is a global social reality. It is used to control women and is a symptom of women's ongoing inequality.

Violence against women is a human rights issue. Perpetrators— both individual and systemic— must be held accountable for the violence they engage in, whether explicitly or implicitly. At the same time, women's response to the violence they experience should not be criminalized or pathologized.

All of us are responsible for working to end violence against women and children so that all women will have the right and freedom to live and act as they choose.

We use an intersectional feminist framework (IFF). This framework attempts to understand how multiple forces work together and interact to reinforce conditions of inequality and social exclusion. An IFF examines how factors including socio-economic status, race, class, gender, sexualities, health, ability, geographic location, refugee and immigrant status combine with broader historical and current systems of discrimination such as colonialism and globalization to simultaneously determine inequalities among individuals and groups.

It supports our work to reduce barriers to major social systems faced by many women.

We bring a harm reduction philosophy to our work. This means we meet people where they are at with compassion, understanding and knowledge, providing support and resources foster connection.

We make every attempt to understand and respect women's diverse life experiences and the impact of violence on their lives.

While we understand the primary mandate is the provision of direct services to women and children, we locate that work in the broader context of the community, provincial, national and international movement to eradicate violence against women and children.

Where their philosophies, beliefs and aims are compatible with ours, we belong to, work with and support relevant provincial, national and international groups and associations.

We understand that some women face greater challenges and more barriers because of their lived realities, and we work to make our properties and services as accessible as possible to all women as well as to educate ourselves and our community about issues of oppression, discrimination and accessibility.

Based on these beliefs and aims, how we do our work is constantly evolving as we understand more about the needs of women and children we serve.

HURONIA TRANSITION HOMES

BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2019-2020

Chairperson

Heather Henderson

Vice-Chair

Vacant

Secretary/Treasurer

Judy Larmand

Members At Large

Barbara Ann Chidiac
Annabelle Groves
Samantha Docherty
Lorraine Hebner
Alice Louise Stafford-Golisky
Thea Jones
Shawn Pollock
Victoria Ellery

Executive Director

Kathy Willis

Huron Transition Homes
Minutes of Annual General Meeting For 2018-2019

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held November 25, 2019 at Operation Grow, 436 Bay St., Midland, Ontario, at 5:30 p.m.

Meeting called to order at 5:35 p.m. by Heather Henderson, Chairperson.

Members: Heather Henderson; Annabelle Groves; Louise Stafford; Jessica Connell; Samantha Docherty;

Regrets: Elke Bews; Amber Wilson-Linley (Senior Program Advisor, Area Responsible for Women's Issues, Ministry of Children, Community and Social Services); Sharmila Pathmanathan (Manager Programs and Integration, Area Responsible for Women's Issues, Ministry of Children, Community and Social Services); Jennifer Jackson (Central Regional Program Consultant, Ministry of the Attorney General); Mona-Lise Barriault (Program Supervisor, Ministry of Children, Community, and Social Services); Kathy Willis (Executive Director); Barbara Ann Chidiac
Lorraine Hebner

Auditors: Kerri Graham CA; BDO

Guests: Haily MacDonald (Director of Operations); Annick Brown (Shelter Supervisor, La Maison Rosewood Shelter); Katie Palmer (Supervisor of OG); MJ Agostini (Office Manager)

Recorder of Minutes: MJ Agostini

1. Welcome

The Chairperson called the meeting to order and welcomed guests.

2. Quorum

Quorum was established.

3. Approval of Agenda

Moved by: Annabelle Groves
Seconded by: Louise Stafford

*To accept the agenda as presented. **Carried***

4. Approval of June 21, 2018 AGM Minutes

Heather Henderson referred to the June 21, 2018 Annual General Meeting Minutes and requested that they be adopted as presented.

Moved by: Heather Henderson

Seconded by: Louise Stafford

*To accept the minutes of the June 21, 2018 Annual General Meeting as presented. **Carried.***

5. Chairperson's Report

Heather Henderson presented the Chairperson's annual report.

Moved by: Heather Henderson

Seconded by: Louise Stafford

*To accept the Chairperson's report as written in the Annual Report. **Carried***

6. Treasurer's Report

Annabelle presented the Treasurer's annual report.

Moved by: Annabelle Groves

Seconded by: Heather Henderson

*To accept the Treasurer's report as written in the Annual Report. **Carried***

Annabelle introduced Kerri Graham, who presented the audited financial statements for the 2018/2019 year.

Annabelle referred to the audited Financial Statements of the 2018/2019 year for the following motion:

Moved by: Annabelle Groves

Seconded by: Heather Henderson

*To accept the Audited Financial Statements for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2018 as presented. **Carried.***

Annabelle thanked Kerri Graham Chartered Accountant for their accounting services over the years. Annabelle noted that a request for proposal for auditing requirements will be created. Once proposals are received, a general meeting to appoint an Auditor for 2018/19 will be called.

7. Operation Grow Working Group Report

Jacquie presented the Operation Grow Working Group annual report.

Moved by: Jacquie Skinner

Seconded by: Louise Stafford

*To accept the Operation Grow Working Group report as written in the Annual Report. **Carried***

8. Executive Director's Report

Haily McDonalds on behalf of Kathy Willis presented the Executive Director's Annual Report for approval.

Moved by: Annabelle Groves

Seconded by: Heather Henderson

*To accept the Executive Director's report as written in the Annual Report. **Carried***

9. Nominating Committee Report

Heather Henderson presented candidates for election: Louise Stafford for Vice-Chair, Shawn Pollock as a member and Heather Henderson for Chair

9.1. Call for Nominations

Heather Henderson called for nominations from the floor three times. There were no nominations from the floor and nominations were closed.

9.2. Elections

Moved by: Heather Henderson

Seconded by: Annabelle Grove

That the following candidates are acclaimed to the Board of Directors; Louise Stafford, Shawn Pollock and Heather Henderson *Carried*

10. New Business

There is no new business.

11. Acknowledgement of retiring members

The Chairperson acknowledged that Annabelle Grove retiring from the Board. The Chairperson thanked Annabelle for her service on the Board of Directors, for the hard work and her time and expertise as Treasurer and to the Finance Committee.

12. Adjournment

Moved by: Heather Henderson

*That the meeting be adjourned at 6:05 p.m. **Carried***

Chairperson

Secretary-Treasurer

Chairperson's Report



As in previous years, a look back at the last fiscal year reminds us how exciting, innovative, leading-edge and ground-breaking the work and reach of HTH is. And, when I say “ground-breaking”, it is, once again, meant literally. This is my final report as chair of the board. When I think back to my 4 years as chair, I wonder whether HTH should have sought a chair with a background in construction. At any rate, the organization has continued to support the building trades. The work on the Transitional Housing Residence for the Anti-Human Trafficking Program was completed in mid-2019. In August of 2019, we celebrated the opening of the Transitional Housing Residence for the Anti-Human Trafficking Program. It was the completion of the Transitional Housing Residence that spurred us to embark on renovations of the shelter residence. Rosewood looked tired and a bit shabby in comparison to the new residence. The women we serve deserve a residence that is welcoming and functional. The kitchen, bathrooms and common spaces as well as the Crisis Counsellors’ office were in need of updating. So....Kathy and her team were in the final months of 2019, busy with floor plans and cost estimates once again. The approvals for the renovations were completed near the end of the fiscal year.

Take Back the Night (in September, 2019) was, as always, inspirational and well-attended. The December 6 Vigil was well-attended and a moving and powerful evening. The board thanks the staff of HTH for organizing these important community events.

Athena’s, Choices for Children and Maison Rosewood Shelter continued to be in high demand and operate at capacity, an ongoing testament, along with client feedback, to the quality of services. High use also reminds us that our work of ending all violence against all women is not finished. Since it opened, the Transitional Housing Residence has been at or near capacity. Over 100 women became members of OG, participated in training and have engaged in ensuring, through their feedback, that OG continues to evolve to better meet the needs of its members.

The board has continued its commitment to its own development through regular educational sessions on a range of topics relevant to its governance role. In the spring of 2019, the board was pleased to have a presentation by Elly Green of Georgian College. Elly provided us with an overview of SENCO (Social Enterprise Network Central Ontario). In late May, OG hosted a SENCO film event that featured the documentary *The Social Shift* as well as a panel presentation. In September, the Board had its annual retreat, where we focused on our fiduciary responsibilities and worked to better understand the financial reporting for HTH. HTH is fortunate to receive funding from a number of different provincial, federal and local funders. But all of the different funders have different reporting requirements, so keeping on top of the many reporting frameworks is a challenge.

In June 2019, we said good-bye to Board Member and Vice-chair, Jessica Connell. Jessica was appointed as an adjudicator at the Ontario Human Rights Tribunal and could no longer continue with the Board. We know that our loss is the Tribunal's gain and more importantly a gain for those who seek justice from the Tribunal. We were fortunate to welcome Shawn Pollack to the board. Shawn comes to us with many years' experience with the Victim Witness Assistance Program, both as a front-line worker and then as a manager. Currently, Shawn is with the OPP in the capacity of manager of the Uniform Recruitment Unit.

In March, we were all faced with the reality of the COVID-19 Pandemic. Kathy and her team very quickly established protocols, procedures and practices that would allow service to continue and minimize risk to the women we serve and to all staff.

HTH continues to partner with many service providers, both in north Simcoe and throughout the county. In addition, HTH continues to be a leader in the province for its innovative programs and initiatives. The work is dependent on the hard work, vision and strategic thinking of Kathy and her whole team. To them, we extend our gratitude. As always, we are inspired by the courage of the women we serve. It has been my privilege to serve as chair of the board of HTH.

Respectfully submitted,

Heather Henderson
Chairperson

Treasurer's Report

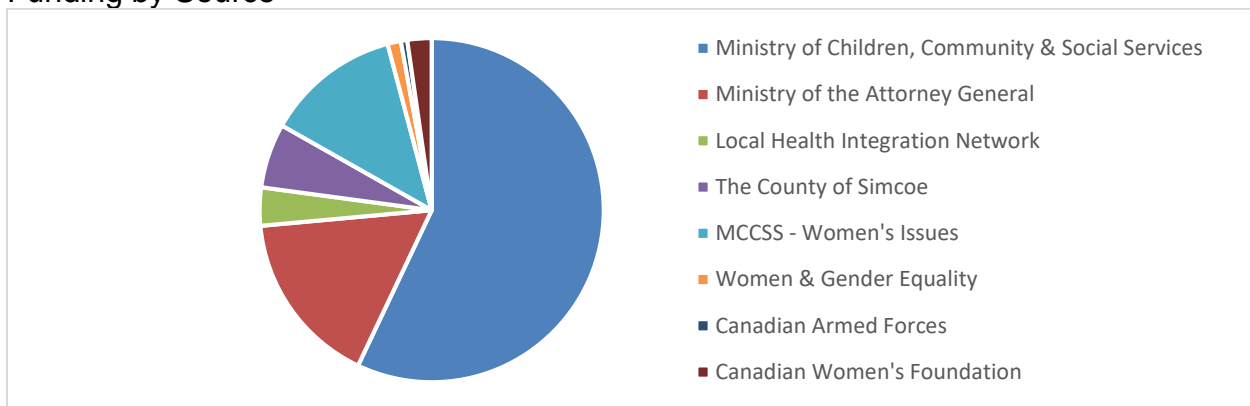


As presented by the audit team at BDO, our financial position at the end of the fiscal year was strong.

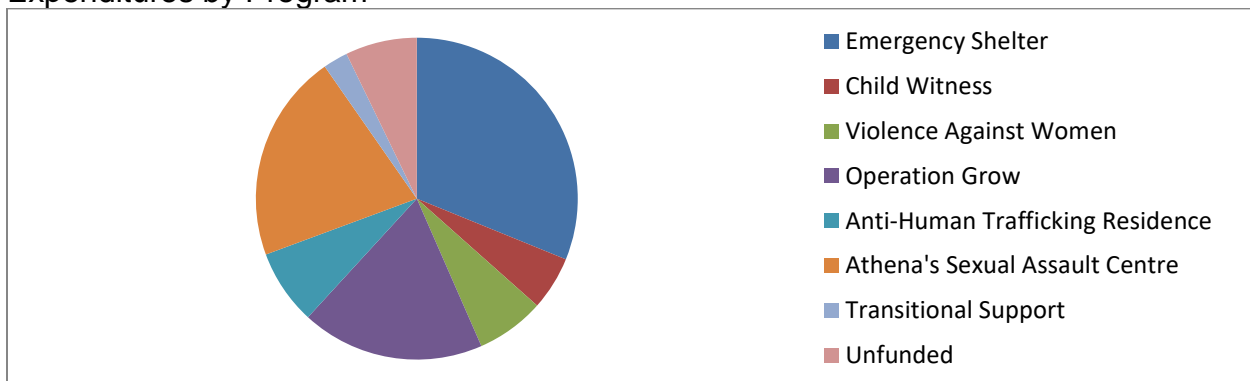
Summary Statement of Operations for the Year Ending March 31, 2020	
Total Revenue from all Sources	\$ 2,838,767
Total Expenditures	\$ 2,873,349
Net Deficit	-\$ 34,582

Total organizational funding for the year was \$2,838,767, predominantly funded by Provincial & Federal Ministries. On behalf of the organization, I would like to thank our funders – the Ministry of the Attorney General, the Ministry of Children & Community Social Services, the Ministry of the Status of Women, the Local Health Integration Network, and the County of Simcoe – for their ongoing financial support. In addition, we entered into a new multi-year funding agreement with the Canadian Armed Forces to assist with projects related to Athena's Sexual Assault & Counselling Centre. We gratefully acknowledge their ongoing support.

Funding by Source



Expenditures by Program



The investments held with Leon Fraser earned 5% (before management fees). During the year it was decided to move the investment account to Cardinal Capital Management, a move that took place subsequent to year end. While the market valuation of our investments was decreased due to a COVID-related market down-turn in March, subsequent to Year End they have had a full recovery.

Royal LePage has committed to a donation of \$20,000 to finance the construction of a kennel at our shelter location. This will allow our clients to bring their pets with them when accessing services if needed. This construction is being completed along with the renovation of the Shelter with the financial support from the Ministry of Community & Social Services.

The end of the Fiscal Year was marked by the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, and we would like to express our gratitude to both the Federal Government, and the Ministry of Community & Social Services for their additional financial support as it relates to the year just ended, and the current fiscal year. In addition, we would like to thank all our funders for their understanding and additional time allotted for financial reporting during this time of increased workload.

Respectfully Submitted

Independent Auditor's Report



Tel: 705 726 6331
Fax: 705 722 6588
www.bdo.ca

BDO Canada LLP
300 Lakeshore Drive
Suite 300
Barré, ON L4N 0B4
Canada

Independent Auditor's Report

To the Board of Directors of Huronia Transition Homes

Qualified Opinion

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of Huronia Transition Homes (the "organization"), which comprise the statement of financial position as at March 31, 2020, and the statements of operations, changes in fund balances, and cash flows for the year then ended, and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies.

In our opinion, except for the possible effects of the matter described in the *Basis for Qualified Opinion* section of our report, the accompanying financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the organization as at March 31, 2020, and its results of operations and cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations.

Basis for Qualified Opinion

In common with many not-for-profit organizations, the organization derives revenues from donations and fundraising, the completeness of which is not susceptible to satisfactory audit verification. Accordingly, verification of these revenues was limited to the amounts recorded in the records of the organization. Therefore, we were not able to determine whether any adjustments might be necessary to donation and fundraising revenues, excess of revenues over expenses, and cash flows from operations for the years ended March 31, 2020 and 2019, current assets as at March 31, 2020 and 2019, and fund balances as at April 1 and March 31 for both the 2020 and 2019 years. Our audit opinion on the financial statements for the year ended March 31, 2019 was modified accordingly because of the possible effects of this limitation in scope.

We conducted our audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements* section of our report. We are independent of the organization in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in Canada, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our qualified opinion.

Unaudited Information

We have not audited, reviewed or otherwise attempted to verify the accuracy or completeness of the schedule on page 17 of the organization's financial statements.

Responsibilities of Management and Those Charged with Governance for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations, and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, management is responsible for assessing the organization's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless management either intends to liquidate the organization or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

Independent Auditor's Report (continued)



Those charged with governance are responsible for overseeing the organization's financial reporting process.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

As part of an audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards, we exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the organization's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by management.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of management's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the organization's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the organization to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

BDO Canada LLP

Chartered Professional Accountants, Licensed Public Accountants

Barrie, Ontario
June 24, 2020



HURONIA TRANSITION HOMES

PROPOSED MOTION:

Moved by: Judy Larmand
Seconded by:

That the Audited Statements for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2020 be accepted as presented.



HURONIA TRANSITION HOMES

PROPOSED MOTION:

Moved by: Judy Larmand
Seconded by:

That BDO is appointed as Auditors for Huronia Transition Homes for the fiscal 2020/21.



Executive Director's Report

What a year, what an unprecedented time we are living in, what an incredible dedicated group of women I have the privilege to work with, and what a tenacious group of women that we serve. When the pandemic created international turmoil, the team at HTH formed a united front in a commitment to keep services open to the women that we serve; Recognizing immediately that the stress of a pandemic would only result in increased violence against women. The hard-work and dedication of the HTH team during the COVID-19 pandemic has once again reminded me how fortunate our organization is to work with such incredible women.

Prior to the chaos caused by the pandemic in March, HTH has another incredible year of growth and stability. The anti-human trafficking program completed the construction of its longer-term residence. This project received federal, provincial, county, municipal and community support, including a generous donation from the Georgian Bay Gals that Give to help furnish the building. This new program has not been without its challenges and I thank the staff at Rosewood shelter and the Program Supervisors Kelly Redmond, Sarah Hull and Annick Brown for their flexibility during construction, adaptability with the program, and commitment to the women we serve.

Athena's was successful in their application for funding through the Canadian Armed Forces Sexual Assault Centre Contribution Fund. Over the next four years our organization will be working to increase access to supports for sexual violence for individuals affiliated with the Canadian armed forces. Athena's program finally stabilized from its growth, and is now successfully providing intimate partner violence counselling across the county. Thank you to everyone at Athena's and the Program Supervisor Cassie Roberts for all your hard work and commitment to learning.

This year Operation Grow (OG) was able to finally overcome its HVAC issues, and in May the farm re-opened with great success. The retail store is open five days a week, room rentals were booked daily (pre COVID-19), and membership to the paid-apprenticeship program reached capacity. To further increase capacity at OG, HTH received a grant from the federal department of Women and Gender Equality.

OG continues to prove itself as a very strategic decision for HTH, even during the COVID-19 pandemic the social enterprise was quickly able to pivot its business operations from room rentals which had to be cancelled to catering meals for the shelter which was unable to prepare food on-site. I want to thank the staff at OG and the Program Supervisor Katie Palmer for their commitment to help stabilize and build the social enterprise.

OG has continues to expand the profile of HTH, generating new opportunities to engage the public on issues of violence against women and fostering new innovative partnerships. Notably HTH was invited to speak on the social enterprise at the Guelph Sciences Symposium and the Central Region Violence Against Women Symposium at

Sir Wilfred Laurier University. As HTH's profile continues to grow across the province, the organization had the opportunity to host various dignitaries including the Minister of Children Community and Social Services Todd Smith, Minister of the Attorney General Doug Downey, Minister of Finance Rob Phillips and Associate Minister of Women's Issues Jill Dunlop. Additionally, HTH was invited to participate at both the provincial roundtable on human trafficking, and roundtable on mental health and addiction.

HTH continues to participate on several committees including: Central Region Children's Aid Society/ Violence Against Women Committee, Simcoe County's Children's Aid Society/Violence Against Women Collaboration Committee, Simcoe County Violence Against Women Coordinating Committee, Social Enterprise Network of Central Ontario, North Simcoe Alliance to End Homelessness, Domestic Assault Response Team (Barrie), Domestic Assault Response Team (Midland), COMPASS (Midland), Situation Table (Midland), Situation Table (Barrie), Anti-Human Trafficking Coalition of Simcoe County, Francophone Human Trafficking Coalition, Barrie Police Sexual Violence Review Committee and the Ontario Provincial Police Sexual Violence Review Committee.

Research was conducted during the year in order to develop a new senior leadership structure for HTH. As a result, we have added the position of Director of Finance and I am pleased to welcome Marian Brown to the team. Her skills and experience are a welcome addition to the organization.

This year has delivered many challenges and HTH continues to thrive and grow. Haily MacDonald Director of Operations kept projects and commitments moving forward. She has done an amazing job supporting the Program Supervisors and she continues to be a fierce advocate.

Finally, I want to thank the Board of Directors who provide ongoing strategic leadership to HTH. The Board is always willing to take risks, and invest in HTH's growth. This year our Board made the commitment begin renovating the women's shelter.

The dedication and work the team at HTH puts into its mandate to end all violence against all women is inspiring, and I know that the work our organization does creates meaningful and everlasting positive change in the lives of women. I remain committed to continue harnessing this energy to guide HTH into having an even greater impact!

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy Willis
Executive Director



HURONIA TRANSITION HOMES

PROGRAMS REVIEW 2019/2020

All Programs of HTH are offered within an integrated harm reduction and intersectional feminist framework.

La Maison Rosewood Shelter



Service area: North Simcoe
Emergency shelter for
abused women and their
children.

La Maison Rosewood offers
safe and secure shelter for
women and their children
experiencing abuse and/or homelessness. The shelter is
equipped with 20 beds and operates 24 hours per day,
365 days per year. The average stay is approximately
eight weeks, services are available in French and English
and include individual counselling, legal advocacy,
emergency transportation, resources and referral
information and psychoeducational support groups.

75 women served
38 children served

Exchange Works

In keeping with HTH's commitment to harm reduction, the organization participates in the Simcoe Muskoka District Health Units Exchange Works program. This program provides sterile injection and inhalation kits, offers resources to women, and serves as a drop-off location for used equipment, to ensure safe disposal. Sterile equipment and other harm reduction supplies are available 24 hours per day at La Maison Rosewood shelter, and during hours of operation throughout our other programs.

1643 women served

Distribution of equipment:

- 3484 injection kits
- 1802 stem kits
- 770 bowl kits
- 1107 sharps containers

10,170 needles returned

Crisis Line

La Maison Rosewood Shelter operates a 24/7, telephone crisis line for women in the community. Staffed by crisis counsellors, the crisis line provides immediate emotional support, crisis intervention, development of safety plans; this service also connects women with community resource information and referrals to appropriate community agencies and resources.

599 crisis calls

Outreach Program

The outreach program provides service to women in the North Simcoe community who are experiencing abuse from an intimate partner. The outreach counsellor provides individual counselling support, information, advocacy and psychoeducational support groups.

143 women served
in outreach program

The legal advocate is available to assist women in both navigating the legal system and understanding their legal rights. The legal advocate assists with document preparation, provides advocacy, and provides accompaniment to and from court and/or other legal appointments.

Transitional Support Program

This program provides support to women residing in the North Simcoe community who are exiting abusive intimate partner relationships. The transitional support worker assists women in applying for housing and social assistance where appropriate and assists with social system navigation. This program supports women's short and long term personal goals through advocacy, information and appropriate community agency referrals.

107 women served
in Transitional
Support Program

Child Support Program

This program provides support, counselling and advocacy as well as recreational and craft activities for children residing at the shelter with their mothers. Additionally, Child Support Workers provide support and counselling for women around parenting issues and challenges, as well as assuming care of children while mothers attend appointments.

Human Trafficking Program

HTH has a specialized program for women who have or are at imminent risk of being sex trafficked. The program uses a case management model to support and guide women to access services needed. Services include extended shelter stay, coordinated for each woman as directed by her, system navigation for medical, legal, and housing services, internal referral protocol to ensure quick access to all of HTH programs, and advocacy and accompaniment to all appointments.

24 women served

Choices for Children

Serving: Simcoe County



Choices for Children is a county-wide program designed to provide psychoeducation and support for children aged 5-15 who have been exposed to abuse against their mothers. This program provides a safe, supportive and respectful environment where children and their mothers are encouraged to explore and discuss their feelings, develop new understandings of abuse and learn coping strategies.

The mothers' group offers women an opportunity to discuss how the witnessing of violence has affected their children, to connect with one another around a common experience, to share resources, and to learn about the weekly content of the children's program. Women are offered assistance in developing strategies to help support and validate the experiences of their children. The ultimate goal is to strengthen the bond between the woman and her child(ren). Individual support is offered to women and their children before, during and after the group for duration of approximately 3 months.

84 moms served
128 children served

Athena's Sexual Assault Counselling & Advocacy Centre

Serving: Simcoe County



Crisis Line

Athena's Sexual Assault Counselling and Advocacy Centre operates a 24/7 telephone crisis line for women who have experienced abuse. Staffed by crisis counsellors, the crisis line provides immediate emotional support, crisis intervention and the development of safety plans. This service also connects women with community resource information and referrals to appropriate community agencies and resources.

996 crisis calls

Crisis Counselling

This program provides individual counselling to women aged 16 and over who have experienced sexual abuse as children and/or as adults. Crisis Counsellors assist women in exploring the impacts of sexual abuse through a trauma-informed lens. Services are offered individually for a period of up to 6 months. Crisis counsellors support women in working towards self-directed goals and provide community resource information, referrals to services, advocacy, and accompaniment to appointments as requested.

260 women served

In-Depth Sexual Abuse Counselling

This program provides one to one counselling to women aged 16 and over who have experienced sexual abuse as children and/or as adults. In depth counsellors assist women in exploring the impacts of sexual abuse through a trauma-informed lens. Services are offered individually for a period of up to 9 months. In depth counsellors support women in working towards self-directed goals and provide community resource information, referrals to services, advocacy, and accompaniment to appointments as requested.

117 women served

In-Depth Partner Abuse Counselling

This program provides one to one counselling to women aged 16 and over who have experienced abuse from an intimate partner. In depth counsellors assist women in exploring the impacts of partner abuse through a trauma-informed lens. Services are offered individually for a period of up to 9 months. In depth counsellors support women in working towards self-directed goals and provide community resource information, referrals to services, advocacy, and accompaniment to appointments as requested.

111 women served

Community Development

The Community Development Coordinator develops and delivers public education workshops and awareness events regarding the issue of violence against women. Services to the community include public speaking engagements, workshops and training as requested.

96 workshops
1403 participants

Operation Grow



76 members

Operation Grow is a social enterprise holistically designed to reduce poverty, isolation, food scarcity, and the impacts of trauma for women with a lived experience of violence. Women engaged at Operation Grow become members and have access to a paid apprenticeship program, trauma informed yoga, cooking and nutrition workshops, and other wellness and skill building workshops, daily drop in, and affordable fresh greens from the vertical farm.