

Annual Report

Agape House-Eastman Crisis Centre, Inc.
2017-2018



www.agapehouse.ca

Table of Contents

Agenda General Meeting Agenda_____	2
Board of Directors' Message_____	3
Treasurer's Message_____	4
Executive Director's Message_____	5
Board of Directors_____	6
Agape House Staff_____	7
Message from Family Violence Prevention Program_____	7
Our Philosophy and Objectives_____	8-9
Our Strategic Plan_____	10-11
AGM Minutes 2016-2017_____	12
Programs and Information_____	13-15
Special Thank You – Donors and Supporters_____	16
Thank You – Volunteers and Community Partners_____	17
Quick Facts – Domestic Violence_____	18
Audited Financial Statements_____	Appendix

Cover image: Colleen Watchorn-Paint the Night Away fundraiser for Agape House, 2017

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING AGENDA

6:30 P.M.

- Welcome and Introductions –Board of Directors
- Staff and Volunteer Recognition, and Community Awards – Executive Director

6:45 P.M.

1. Call to Order of 2017-2018 Annual General Meeting
2. Acceptance of 2017-2018 Annual General Meeting Agenda
3. Minutes of 2016-2017 Annual General Meeting
4. Message from the Board President
5. Auditor's Report presented by Nadine Perrin, Treasurer
6. Appointment of Auditor
7. Appointment of new Board members

7:10 P.M.

Closing Remarks – Board of Directors

7:15 P.M.

Adjournment of Meeting

REFRESHMENTS



MESSAGE from the BOARD of DIRECTORS

Agape House – Eastman Crisis Centre Inc. continues to play a key role in Southeast Manitoba in providing a safe haven for abused women and their children. We continue to see a significant number of women and children supported by our staff and the services the shelter provides. These services are a vital part of our society that promotes healthier families and stronger communities.

On behalf of the Board of Directors and myself, we would like to formally thank Tracy Whitby for her dedication and commitment to the shelter's fiscal management and overall leadership. We truly appreciate all of your hard work and tireless hours you spend going the extra mile to ensure the staff and clients are well served.

The Board also recognizes and applauds the staff's unwavering dedication to carrying out the mission and direction of the organization. From the bottom of our hearts, Thank You! Thank you for your outstanding service to our clients every day. Thank you for your teamwork including the volunteering you do. Moreover, thank you for your commitment to our organization. You are all valued members of what I feel is one of the most important teams in the city.

I would also like to thank the entire Board of Directors for your support to me in this position as I've been learning the role. Without this great group of people that I fondly call my friends, I don't know if I would have been able to carry on. Your commitment to carry out our mission and to better the organization is evident in all you do. So, thank you!

This last year the shelter received considerable public recognition, enhancing our community presence. This has brought increased clients through our doors as well as increased monetary donations that are greatly appreciated. Together, our mission is carried out on a daily basis. Women and their children who rely on our services are able to resume a healthy family life due to the generosity of our donors. This past year also included new Board Member recruitment. I am pleased to announce and welcome Nadine Perrin who has accepted the executive role as Treasurer as well as Deanne Bergen as new Board Member. We will be continuing the recruitment of another Board Member and the Board position of Vice President remains unfilled. Our goal this year will be to shore up the vacancy, looking for the best candidate to fill the Board positions.

The Board and I look forward to continued success with the organization and are truly grateful for the committed relationships we have developed. Not only within the organization but also within all levels of the government as well as private, corporate and community support.

On behalf of the entire Board of Directors,

Val Fehr – Board President
Agape House – Eastman Crisis Centre, Inc.



Board Treasurer's Message

The Eastman Crisis Centre is a valued and necessary member of our community. We provide safe shelter, counselling both on and off-site for adults and children in need, and support for those in our community that are experiencing crisis. We are grateful to be supported directly by donations of all types: monetary, gifts-in-kind, and volunteer hours. They are all critical in helping Agape House achieve its mission each day. Thank you to all who have donated in any way throughout the 2017-2018 fiscal year.

This past fiscal year brought its own challenges and rewards. We continue to struggle with a financing model that pays according to overnight usage of the shelter, but does not directly fund outpatient counselling. There are discussions about changing the funding criteria in the future, but this is still in the discussion stage. As well, we are in negotiations with our Union and do not know what the financial impact will be in the future.

Agape House has completed its fiscal year with a small loss of \$(3,678). This is a 73% improvement over last year's deficiency of revenues over expenses of \$(13,652). We are still having to rely on fundraising efforts and donations to cover operational and programming expenses. Thankfully, we have had only a slight decrease in donations from the previous year (\$70,332 – 2018; \$72,200 – 2017).

Significant accounting transactions for the year were:

1. The sale of Land that had been purchased in 2014. The original intent was to build a new Shelter on the land, but through fundraising and grants, we have been able to improve our existing Shelter so it better serves the needs of our clients. A decision to sell the land was made in early 2017. Net proceeds resulted in a loss of \$16,074.
2. The hiring of a new accounting firm to perform our annual Audit. The Independent Auditor's Report and the financial statement package were prepared by Gislason Targownik Peters CPAs. A complete copy is included with the Eastman Crisis Centre Annual Report.
3. The hiring of an Executive Director, Ms. Tracy Whitby. Tracy was the Executive Administrator prior to being hired as the Executive Director. Her knowledge of the administrative processes of the Eastman Crisis Centre has been very helpful over and above her work as the Executive Director.
4. A new Treasurer on the Board of Directors. I am new to the Board this year, having joined in November of 2017. I'd like to thank Allana Wyness, the previous Treasurer, for her patience and assistance while I was learning my new role. It is very gratifying to be a part of this Board and the Eastman Crisis Centre, and I appreciate the opportunity to contribute.

Regards,

Nadine Perrin, CPA, CGA, MBA
Treasurer, Eastman Crisis Centre Inc



Executive Director's Message

Dear Board of Directors, Shelter Staff, Funders and Community Supporters,

The mission of Agape House is to empower women and children to live enriched lives free of abuse. Our vision is to provide a safe place to grow. As a non-profit organization, we know that we would not be able to operate without help from our community. Fortunately, our community provides tremendous support – for this, we are truly thankful. Over this past year, we have been overwhelmingly grateful for the support from our Board of directors, community partners, fellow agencies and generous volunteers. They have supported our work with substantial donations of knowledge, time, services to the shelter, and monetary donations. With this assistance, in 2017-2018 Agape House raised over \$70,000 in revenue; our work would not be possible without these contributions.

This year has been full of new beginnings, collaborations, and connections! We strived to build relationships with our community partners and fellow agencies. With the help of these new partnerships, we were fortunate to offer many new programs to our clients and community members. Working together to better serve the most vulnerable members of our community. Along with our increased public presence, we increased the number of families served. We look forward to build upon this momentum to offer further programming this upcoming year.

Agape House is privileged to have many positive supports. I would like to thank the dedicated group of individuals holding positions on our Board. They each bring vast knowledge and connections to our agency and generously give their time and energy to ensure our success. I feel fortunate to work alongside our dedicated and hard-working staff. They each give generously of themselves and so often go beyond for the betterment of our clients. In addition, the ongoing encouragement and direction received from our funder (Family Violence Prevention Program) and from the Manitoba Association of Women's Shelters (MAWS) members. Thank you – together we are making a difference!

It has been a great pleasure and honour to serve our region as Executive Director these past months. I have worked with Agape House for almost a decade. I began by providing the accounting services as a contractor and then transitioned to hold a permanent position as the Office Administrator. The consistent support I have received from our devoted Board of Directors and Staff during my transition into the role as Executive Director has been overwhelming – I am incredibly grateful for the knowledge and reassurance I've received. I have a passion for watching our clients rebuild their lives and am inspired by the strength and resilience they hold. It's so important that we work together to support each other and do our best to accomplish the mission of Agape House and it makes me proud to be a part of that.

Respectfully submitted,

Tracy Whitby, Executive Director
Agape House-Eastman Crisis Centre, Inc.



Board of Directors 2017-2018

Board Executive

Val Fehr - President

Nadine Perrin, Treasurer (beginning two-year term; joined mid-year as Treasurer)

Carmelle Friesen – Secretary

Board Members

Deanne Bergen – Member (beginning two-year term; joined mid-year)

Cyndy Friesen - Member

Constable Dennis Redikop – Member

Christy Seniuk – Member

Joyce Vogan-Plett – Member

Thank you to our Volunteer Board Members!

*A warm welcome to our incoming board members: **Nadine Perrin** and **Deanne Bergen**. Thank you to **Val Fehr** for accepting the role of President, **Carmelle Friesen** for continuing as Secretary and to **Cyndy Friesen** for staying on with Agape as a Member. Heartfelt thanks and appreciation to our out-going Board Members: **Ashley Hayward** (Past President) and **Allana Wyness** (Treasurer) – your generous sharing of time and talent has been of immeasurable value, and you will be missed. Special appreciation to those board members who have accepted committee positions with the board.*

“Shelters and transition houses are much more than refuges from violence – they are places where women rebuild their lives. They are safe transitional homes for women to reconnect with themselves and their children, and plan ways to move forward in a life of safety and security.

Shelter workers provide services to women and children who are often the most marginalized. These women may be experiencing intergenerational trauma, addiction, and/or mental health concerns. They may be newly arrived immigrants or refugees, have difficulty securing housing, or be involved with a child custody case.”

~ Womens’ Shelters Canada, 2017

Agape House Staff 2017-2018

Management:

Tracy Whitby, Executive Director

Melissa Decelles, Office Administrator

Follow-up/Interim Housing/Community Outreach:

Candice Perry, Counsellor-Advocate, Follow-Up/Non-Residential

Carrie Bilawchuk, Counsellor-Advocate, Outreach/Evening Program

Children's Program:

Donna Garofalo, Children's Counsellor

Women's Shelter Core Service:

Helen Wiens-Laing, Residential Counsellor

Ruby Reske-Naurocki, Counsellor-Advocate II

Shelter Support Workers:

Marjorie Ammerman, Janet Desautels, Andrea Durocher, Allyson Friesen, Lori Hart, Heather Hildebrand,

Amanda Jonas, Emily Letkeman, Melanie Martens, Amylee Moffatt, Doreen Penner, Laurie Reimer,

Alexandra Ross, Amelia Tamlin, Angela Thibodeau

Message from Family Violence Prevention Program

"The Family Violence Prevention Program and the Manitoba Status of Women would like to thank Eastman Crisis Centre for their continued efforts and commitment in supporting women and their children impacted by family violence. We also thank all staff, volunteers, and board members who give generously of their time and energy. We recognize the challenges the agencies face, and want to acknowledge the important work you do in the community. Your ability to remain flexible and creative in offering ongoing quality services does not go unnoticed. We offer a heartfelt thank you for all the work you do and will continue to provide support to Eastman Crisis Centre." ~ Beth Ulrich, Executive Director of Manitoba Status of Women

Canadian Shelter Statistics – A day in the life of Canada’s shelters

- On one day in Canada, 215 shelters housed and helped 1807 women and 1587 children
- An additional 1806 women and 657 were supported by outreach on the same day
- 47% of shelters were full; 75% of residential service requests could not be accommodated
- Researchers found that while threats to the safety of a household pet increased women’s desire to leave, 56% delayed leaving due to concern about pet’s safety. 47% would have left earlier if could have brought pet to shelter with them.
- Shelters are contacted by a steady flow of women seeking safety for their pets as part of their own process of leaving abuse.

Source: Shelter Voices, June 2018, Women’s Shelters Canada

“A lot of women see pets as their family, and will refuse to leave their abusive situation without them, especially when the abuser uses the pet as a pawn.” ~ shelter respondent

Source: Shelter Voices, June 2018, Women’s Shelters Canada

Agape House - Our Philosophy

1. Physical, emotional and/or sexual abuse is damaging and should not be tolerated in our communities
2. Families can be source of security and growth where positive attitudes and behaviours are learned
3. Communities can be encouraged to respond to victims and abusers in a way that stops violence and promotes healing.

Agape House-Eastman Crisis Centre Objectives

1. To provide an accessible, safe environment to abused women and their children.
2. To provide services that are client-focused and client-directed.
3. To provide education on physical, emotional and/or sexual abuse and their effects on women and children.
4. To provide an opportunity for the community to participate in events that raises awareness of issues surrounding the abuse of women and children

Meeting our Objectives

Agape House-Eastman Crisis Centre offers the following programs and services:

- Women’s abuse shelter which operates 24 hours per day, 7 days per week, providing a safe place for women and their children in times of crisis – all services are provided at no cost
- We operate a 24-hour, toll-free regional crisis line which offers crisis counselling and referrals to appropriate resources
- For residential clients - which are those that stay in the shelter - we offer crisis and ongoing counselling, assistance with medical, legal, and social services, and the basic daily provisions: food, clothing and personal hygiene items at no cost
- We run support groups for women on various topics, including dealing with abuse, parenting support, and self- esteem (residential and non-residential)
- Non-residential services are for women who may not have a need to stay in shelter - they can access free counselling services and supports for a variety of issues
- Our outreach program provides services such as counselling, information, referrals, and support groups to women and youth in our catchment area - outreach also promotes general awareness of our shelter, along with its services and programs
- We have two interim housing units which are in place to help women make the transition toward independent living, while allowing for access to support services
- We offer no-cost public education workshops, presentations and services in our region, while promoting general awareness of our shelter services and programs, and of domestic violence issues
- We work proactively with all other agencies in the South Eastman region, Winnipeg and within the Province of Manitoba to address issues of domestic violence and abuse

There are women who go back to their spouses when their time is up because it’s a toss up between homelessness and having a roof over your head. No women should be put in the situation where they have nowhere else to turn but possible death from a spouse.” ~

Shelter user and abuse survivor

Source: Shelter Voices, June 2017, Women’s Shelters Canada

Agape House Strategic Plan

Introduction

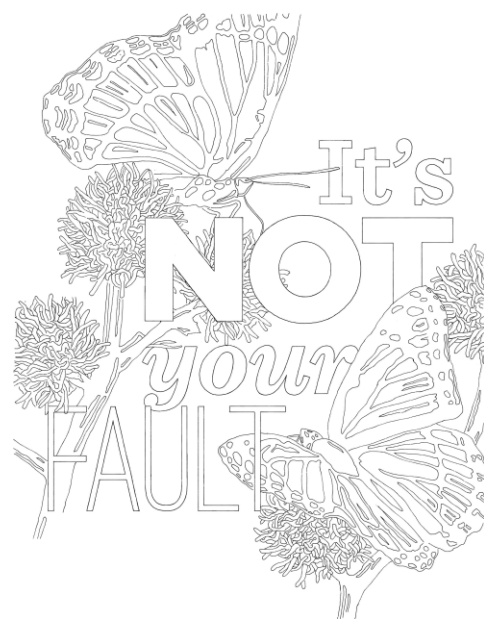
In 2014, Agape House-Eastman Crisis Centre, Inc. contracted the services of ROAR Leadership Consultants Inc. to assist in the development of a three-year (2014-2017) strategic plan. Board members, administration and staff of Agape House participated in two evenings of facilitated planning, August 19 and 20, 2014 in Steinbach, Manitoba. This provided the framework for the development of a strategic plan.

In June 2015 a board committee was created, and a first draft of the plan was presented to the Board on September 30, 2015. A final draft, amended to extend from October 2015 until October 2017, was approved by the Board.

Agape House-Eastman Crisis Centre Background

Agape House-Eastman Crisis Centre Inc. is a charitable, non-profit organization funded through a grant from the Manitoba Provincial Government Department of Family Services; as well as through community donations and fundraising. Located in Steinbach, Manitoba, Agape House-Eastman Crisis Centre is one of ten women's crisis shelters in the province, and serves Southeast Manitoba, one of the largest catchment areas.

As a crisis intervention facility, Agape House's main activities include providing emergency shelter for victims of domestic violence, operating a 24-hour toll-free crisis line; as well as providing counselling, referral, follow-up, and out-reach services. The shelter has operated since 1985, and currently has sixteen beds. In an average year, the shelter will have over 1,500 bednights and will support more than 150 clients (a "bednight" occurs every time a woman or child sleep in a shelter bed). Additionally, staff respond to an average of over 1,000 crisis calls in a typical year.



Our Strategic Plan

Vision | Mission | Beliefs | Values

Our Vision

“A safe place to grow.”

Our Mission

The mission of Agape House-Eastman Crisis Centre, Inc. is to empower women and children experiencing family violence by providing safe shelter, information, counselling, and ongoing support.

We Believe

1. Abuse is damaging and should not be tolerated.
2. Women and children have the right to make informed decisions that will assist them in leading lives free from abuse.
3. Families can be a source of security and growth where positive attitudes and behaviours are learned.
4. Communities can respond to victims in a way that stops violence and promotes healing.

Our Core Ethical Values

1. Respect
2. Compassion
3. Confidentiality
4. Integrity

Our Goals

1. To provide an accessible, safe environment to abused women and children.
2. To provide consistent, quality services that are client-focused, client-directed
3. To provide information to the community that raises awareness of issues surrounding the abuse of women and children.
4. To establish sustainable funding strategies.
5. To pursue a capital campaign, while addressing the need for improved facilities and expanded services
6. To maintain a stable and respectful workplace
7. To provide enriching work opportunities for all staff
8. To provide meaningful volunteer opportunities for board and community members

Minutes from the 2016-2017 AGM

6:30 p.m.

- **Welcome and introductions – Board of Directors**
- **Staff and Volunteer Recognition, and Community Awards – Executive Director**

6:45 p.m.

1. **Call to order of 2016-2017 Annual General Meeting**
Motion: Cyndy Friesen, Second Val Fehr. All in favour.
2. **Acceptance of 2016-2017 Annual General Meeting Agenda**
Motion to accept agenda: Cyndy Friesen. Second: Dennis Redikop. All in favour.
3. **Minutes of 2015-2016 Annual General Meeting**
Motion to accept 2015-2016 minutes: Cyndy Friesen. Second: Dennis Redikop. All in favour.
4. **Message from the Board Co-Presidents:** Cyndy Friesen and Ashley Hayward
5. **Auditor's Report presented by Allana Wyness, Treasurer**
Motion to accept financials as presented Allana Wyness. Second: Christy Seniuk. All in favour.
6. **Appointment of Auditor**
Motion to appoint GTP as auditor for 2017-2018: Allana Wyness. Second: Val Fehr. All in favour.
7. **Appointment of New Board Members**
Motion to nominate Christy Seniuk (Member), Allana Wyness (Treasurer), and Dennis Redikop (Member), Cyndy Friesen. Second: Val Fehr. All in favour.
8. **Questions from the floor?**
None

7:10 p.m.

Closing Remarks – Board of Directors

7:15 p.m.

Adjournment of Meeting

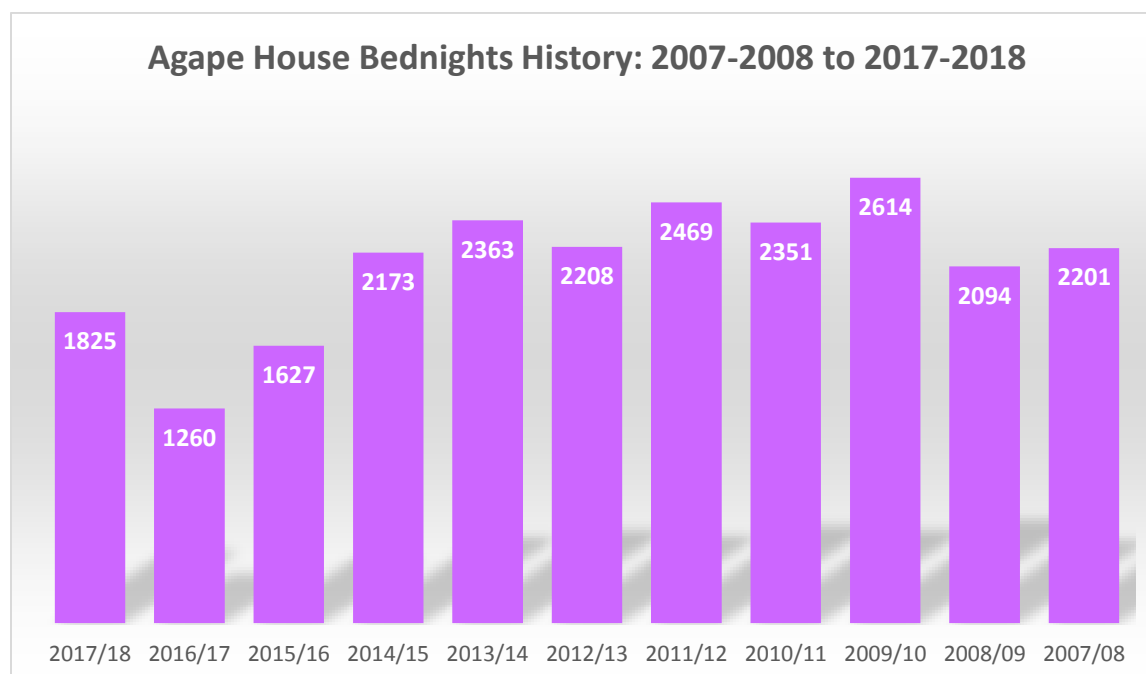
Motion to adjourn (7:15 p.m.): Cyndy Friesen. Second: Dennis Redikop. All in favour.

REFRESHMENTS

Programs and Services Information

CENTRAL SUPPORT

Central support provides financial and policy administration and management for Core Services, the Children’s Counselling Program and the Follow-up Program; maintains a 24-hour local and regional crisis line and ensures compliance with the terms and conditions as set out in the Service Purchase Agreement with the Province of Manitoba, Department of Family Services and Housing, the Standards Manual, and the Agency’s Lease Agreement with Manitoba Housing.



A bednight occurs every time a woman or child sleep in a shelter bed. During 2016-2017 Agape House operated with reduced capacity due to shelter renovations.

“Women represent 81% of police reported incidences of intimate partner violence in Manitoba in 2015.” ~ A Manitoba Women’s Advisory Council Publication, March 2018 on Violence Against Women and Children, 2017

Agape House offers **Healthy Youth Relationships (Canadian Red Cross)** in our regional school divisions.

CORE SERVICES

Residential Core Services provides a short-term, safe and supportive residential environment for women and children dealing with family violence. Support services assist women to make informed decisions towards assuming control over their lives in a non-abusive environment.

RESIDENTIAL PROGRAM	2017-2018
Total Number of Families (women with children)	22
Total Number of Women (with or without children)	66
Total Bednights (women)	966
Total Bednights (children)	859
Total Bednights	1825
Number of Clients from Steinbach area	37
Number of Women Over Age 55	4
Average Length of Stay (Days)	15.7
Number of Repeat Stays	4
Number of Clients from Outside Steinbach area	29

Crisis Line is operational 24 hours, 365 days a year. Core funding does not allow for staffing the crisis line as a separate service, but it remains a vital access component of the shelter programs, including for offering emergency shelter, supportive counselling, referrals to services and domestic abuse info.

CRISIS LINE: Emergency Intervention	2017-2018	2017-2018
Emergency Intervention	Women: 151	Men: 3
Other Abuse Counselling	Women: 24	Men: 3
Seeking Supports for Own Abusive Behaviour	Women: 16	Men: 1
Other Calls/Support	Women: 277	Men: 79
Abuse Information	Women: 51	Men: 7
Abuse Counselling	Women: 102	Men: 0
Total Logged Calls (combined genders)	714	

NON RESIDENTIAL COUNSELLING PROGRAM	2017-2018
Total Number Women:	40
Total number sessions:	137
Average number of sessions per client:	3.4

Non-Residential Core Services provide support services for abused women living outside the shelter to make informed decisions toward establishing themselves in a non-abusive environment. As with all other programming, these services are offered at no-cost, and included supportive counseling for domestic violence, advocacy, community support information and service referrals. Common needs are housing, transportation, access to services, family law, financial services, mental health, parenting, and domestic violence information and support. Anger Solutions is offered and can be customized for individual and group needs.

CHILDREN'S PROGRAM

The Children's Program provides support for the children of abused women while they are residents in shelter and after leaving shelter. The program is intended to assist child witnesses to "break the secret" of abuse and understand the dynamics of abuse in the context of family relationships. Non-residential services include counselling and parenting support (Triple P Parenting). Outreach work includes Healthy Youth Relationships (Red Cross, certified staff).

CHILDREN'S PROGRAM	2017-2018
Children's Bednights	966
Number of Children in Shelter Program	58
Total Children Aged Six and Younger	30

FOLLOW-UP and COMMUNITY OUTREACH PROGRAMS

Follow-up services assist former clients of the shelter who have left an abusive relationship and are planning long-term and on-going changes toward an independent lifestyle and the development of non-abusive relationships. Follow-up services ensure a continuum of support and are available to women after the crisis stage has passed; until they are established in the community. Community Outreach Services provides counselling, education and awareness information; and other supports within our catchment area.

FOLLOW UP PROGRAM	2017-2018
Total Number Women	7
Total Number of Counselling Sessions	43
New Follow Up Clients	6
Total Interim Housing Clients	16

Partners, Donors and Collateral Agencies

The Family Violence Prevention Program provides the primary funding and overall coordination of shelter services in the province. We are grateful for their continued support.

We would like to thank Manitoba Housing and Community Development for their support of our physical structure and for supporting women in finding affordable housing options. To our sister shelters, resource centers and community partners, the circle of support is stronger because of you; thank you.

We are privileged to be part of a community that acknowledges the need for our services in southeast Manitoba. Our caring community supports abused woman and children in so many ways: through financial support, by volunteering, by providing regular monthly food donations, and through generous donations of clothing, toiletries, furnishings, household supplies, and more.

TOGETHER WE CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE!

Special Thank You to our Donors and Supporters

DONORS

Canadian Women's Foundation - donor

Dairy Queen, Steinbach – donor

EG Penner Building Centres - donor

Granny's Poultry Co-op Ltd - donor

Valerie Hiebert - donor

HyLife Ltd: 2018 Recipient of Community Partner Award

Loewen's Body Shop – donor

Damian Penner - donor

Renee and Eileen Penner – donors

Jennifer Rea - donor

RM of Hanover - donor

Simone Penner – donor

Stan and Debbie Penner – donors

Southland Community Church – 2017 Recipient of Lead with Love Award, donors

Steinbach & Area Gardening Club - donor

Steinbach Credit Union – 2017 Recipient of Community Partner Award, donor

Steinbach Dental Corporation - donor

Steinbach Hatchery & Feeds Ltd. - donor

Steinbach United Church – 2017 Recipient of Lead with Love Award

St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church - donor

Ethel Teetaert: 2018 Recipient of the Lead with Love Award

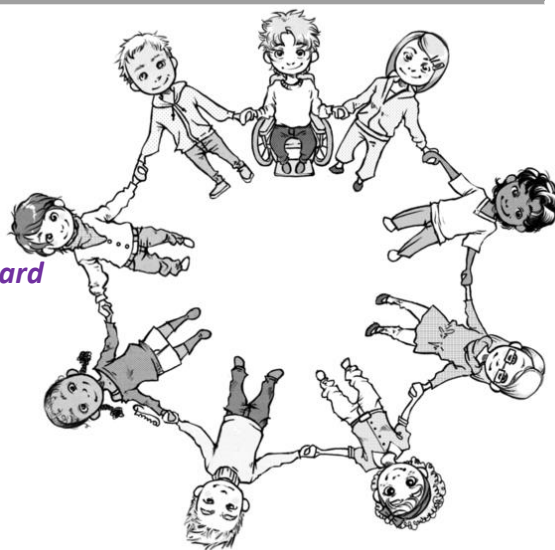
The Scrapbook Cottage – donor

Thou Mayest Inc. - donor

Valeant Pharmaceuticals - donor

Henry Van De Velde, Penny Carbernel – donors

Agape House is grateful to all donors – every donation makes a difference! The listed donors have donated a value of \$500 or more in the past year. THANK YOU!



SUPPORTERS

Barkman Concrete – Recipient of 2018 Community Partner Award

Barkman partnered with Agape House to create a beautiful space to reflect called our Memorial Garden

Best Sleep Centre Steinbach – Recipient of 2016 Community Partner Award

Best Sleep Centre accepts clothing and household donations for Agape House

The Canadian Women's Foundation (through Winners, Steinbach) – clothing and household goods

Carillon News – supporter, our sincere thanks for helping us reach out to community

Derksen Printers – donated print services, AGM report 2017-2018

Golden West Radio – supporter, our thanks for helping us share our message

Steinbach MCC Community Assistance Centre, Inc. – supporter with client start-up needs

Maurices, Steinbach – donator of clothing and household goods.

THANK YOU to our Volunteers and Community Partners

VOLUNTEERS

Cheryl Palmer – 2018 Recipient of Helping Hands Award

A hard-working and compassionate foot care nurse, Cheryl tirelessly volunteers professional services for our clients and staff. Thanks for your generosity and valuable service!

Shear Effects – 2018 Recipient of Lead with Love Award

Led by Amanda and Ewald, the Shear Effects team generously volunteered their time and space to offer a special Spa Day event for our clients. Our heartfelt appreciation for making our families feel amazing!

Melanie Brémaud – 2017 Recipient of Helping Hands Award

Melanie has assisted our staff with the Annual Teddy Bear Fun Day (Tbfd) for the past five years. She also volunteers her time to offer “Nobody’s Perfect” parenting to our clients.

Melissa and Gilles Decelles – events, repairs, lawn care and much more! Melissa recruits family, friends and neighbours for our events! Gilles was the *2015 Recipient of the Helping Hands Award!*

Les and Annette Schewe – 2016 Recipients of the Helping Hands Award

Master gardener Annette and her spouse, Les, have generously committed to support our staff at both our shelter and the interim housing properties.

Men’s Cell – Pastor Joel Nedohin, Southland Church – 2017 Recipients of Lead with Love Award

Yard clean up, repairs, furniture moving, carpentry and more – angels walk among us; thank you!

To our amazing service PARTNERS – thank you!

Addictions Foundation Manitoba

Borderland School Division

Child and Family Services Steinbach

Crisis Stabilization Unit Steinbach

Eastman Immigration Services

Eastman Region Assessment Committee (ERAC)

Family Violence Prevention Program

Family Violence Consortium of Manitoba

Ginew Wellness Centre

Headstart Steinbach

Hanover School Division

Manitoba Association of Women’s Shelters

Manitoba Moon Voices

RCMP Steinbach Detachment

Seine River School Division

Sexual Exploitation Strategy Manitoba (Tracia’s Trust)

Steinbach Community Outreach

Steinbach Family Resource Centre

Southern Chiefs Organization

South Eastman Employment Synergy Network (SEES)

Southern Health Authority

Today House

Vita and District Interagency Committee

Women’s Shelters Canada – Shelter Safe (formerly Canadian Network of Women’s Shelters and Transition Houses)

Quick Facts – Domestic Violence

Did you know that?

- Violence includes physical abuse, sexual abuse, emotional abuse, verbal abuse, financial abuse, spiritual abuse, and criminal harassment/stalking
- 80% of Canadians believe the next generation of women is just as or more likely to experience sexual assault.
- 300 women and children are turned away from shelters on any given night in Canada because they are full.
- 1.5 million women in Canada live on a low income.
- 36% to 14%: The drop in the percentage of girls who say they feel confident between Grades 6 and 10.
- 60%: Women are 60% less likely than men to move from middle management to executive ranks.

(Source: Canadian Women's Foundation, The Facts, 2018)

