

Building Partnerships

ANNUAL REPORT
2006/07

VICTORIA WOMEN'S
Transition House
 SOCIETY



shelter

SAFETY
respect

transition
education

COMMUNITY

peace

future

new
beginnings

hope



shelter

SAFETY
respect

transition
education

COMMUNITY

peace
future

new
beginnings

hope

Strategic Plan and Directions, 2006-2009

Vision

A community free of relationship violence and abuse.

Mission

Victoria Women's Transition House Society, working collaboratively, provides shelter, support, counselling and education to women of all ages, with or without children, so that they can live free from the effects of abuse in intimate relationships. The Society strives to prevent and eliminate abuse through education, advocacy and partnerships.

Broad Goals

- Provide transitional shelter for women of all ages, with or without children, who have recently experienced, or are experiencing, abuse in intimate relationships.
- Provide individual counselling, support groups, information, referrals, advocacy and other services to women of all ages and children who have experienced abuse in intimate relationships.
- Promote community responsibility for the prevention and elimination of abuse of women in intimate relationships.
- Operate a sustainable organization.

Strategic Priorities, 2007-2008

- Establish Harrison Place supportive programming and operations during first year of occupancy
- Focus on communications and education to increase awareness of the issue of violence against women and services through workshops, community-based presentations, using media and the internet to communicate and educate
- Increase financial sustainability by increasing number of donors, depth and volume of donations, and planning
- Refine management, board and volunteer development, financial operations and budget processes
- Explore innovative domestic violence response programming and new shelter opportunities

“It made me have faith again; knowing there are people out there who will help others.”

New Resident – Harrison Place

2006/07 Board of Directors

Linda Angus
Adrienne Betty, Co-Chair
Elaine Bobolo
Maureen Bomford
Robin Copeland
Linda Dallas
Teresa Dawe
Sheila Gallagher, Co-Chair
Loreen Gardner
Janet Heino
Lilian Morton
Barbara Strachan

Leadership Team

Carolyn Fast, Executive Director
Parm Kroad, Program Director
Elzbie Jazwinski, Community & Children's Program Manager
Sara Park, Director of Development
Mariruth Morton, Shelter Program Manager

“ I feel empowered by being around all these other women, to know we are not alone and there is help out there – thank you for giving me hope. ”

Client – Older Women's Program

Table of Contents

| | |
|-------------------------------------|----|
| Message from the Executive Director | 2 |
| Message from the Board | 3 |
| Our Programs and Services | 4 |
| 2006/07 Program Statistics | 5 |
| Highlights, Updates and Milestones | 6 |
| A Donor Profile | 11 |
| Our Volunteers | 12 |
| One Client's Story | 14 |
| Financial Summary | 15 |
| Acknowledgements | 16 |
| Thank you to our Partners | 18 |

Contact Information

Crisis Line

(250) 385-6611

Community Office
Suite 100
3060 Cedar Hill Rd.
Victoria BC
V8T 3J5

P (250) 592-2927
F (250) 592-9279
E info@vwth.bc.ca

*Shelter
Business Line*
(250) 380-7527

www.transitionhouse.net

shelter
 SAFETY
 respect
 transition
 education
 COMMUNITY
 peace
 future
 new
 beginnings
 hope

Message from the Executive Director

Greetings:

Partnerships are essential to building a sustainable future for Victoria Women’s Transition House, as well a future of change and opportunity for the women and children we serve.

In an increasingly complex society, building connections and collaborative relationships become ever more important in our efforts to address the issue of violence against women. No single answer or approach will create the change that we need. Only through working together can we develop a holistic response to violence – to creating a safe and equal society for all.

In my role at Transition House, I am honoured to have a bird’s eye view of the partnerships that come together from all quarters each year – funders, donors, board, staff, volunteers, community agencies, and corporate citizens. The women and children who come to Transition House play a role, too, in providing feedback on the services they receive to help us change, grow and innovate.

This past year, Harrison Place has been one of the most prominent examples of partnership at Transition House. Many funding partners came together to create a beautiful building, community partners have joined forces to begin to build a unique program for older women, and operational partnerships will continue as we begin to live and work in our new facility.

Other exciting partnerships are developing around a program working with fathers, with senior women, with new housing prospects and in increasing our communications and education activities in the community. We look forward to developing these connections in the year to come.

Our partnerships with you, our supporters, continue to inspire all of us at Transition House. We feel we are not working alone – there are many people behind each one of us. Together we will continue to build an agency that is responsive to the needs of our clients and that can contribute to our vision of a “community free of relationship violence and abuse.”

Thank you for your partnerships this year.

Carolyn Fast
 Executive Director



Carolyn Fast, Executive Director with Parm Kroad, Program Director and Susan Robinson, Harrison Place Coordinator

Message from the Board

This has been a challenging and successful year for the Victoria Women's Transition House Society. As we reflect upon our challenges and accomplishments, a common theme becomes clear: *A focus on Partnerships that Matter!*

Harrison Place was built, thanks to many partnerships. What started as a dream became a reality that began with the generosity of the Harrison Brothers and their planned gift for Transition House. This gift became a springboard for partnerships between the Board, Staff, Funders, Donors and the community who subsequently made this project happen. Conversations that started and ended with "Harrison Place" culminated in the occupancy of the first eleven residents at the end of March. Carolyn Fast and the leadership team worked tirelessly to make the dream of Harrison Place a reality.

Our Strategic Plan had a major review in 2005/06. Our plan identifies strategic partnerships and will continue to be used as a planning guide and filter for our daily work. We will also use it to help us monitor our progress and performance. Our Strategic Plan, our Operational Plan and our Resource Development Plan link together to form a framework for the agency and a guide for developing partnership opportunities.

Resource Development and increased pressure on resources and funding are major challenges that Transition House and our partners face. We know we must steward existing relationships and partnerships in order to be successful. However, we also look ahead with anticipation as we foster new partnerships that will help us ensure sustainability and build for the future.



Sheila Gallagher and Adrienne Betty with the Honourable Ida Chong, MLA, at the Ribbon-Cutting Ceremony for Harrison Place.

Finally, we would like to recognize and thank our Funders, Donors, our Staff, our Volunteers and the Community. You all work tirelessly, with loyalty and commitment, to make a difference in the lives of so many. Many thanks!

Adrienne Betty
Co-Chair

Sheila Gallagher
Co-Chair

“Thank you so much for giving me a chance to get my life back. Without Transition House, I would be on the street.”

Former Shelter resident

Did you know...

The Victoria Women's Transition House Society provides safe shelter, counselling and support for women, with or without children, experiencing violence and abuse in intimate relationships.



shelter

SAFETY
respect

transition
education

COMMUNITY

peace

future

new
beginnings

hope

Our Programs and Services

- 24 Hour Crisis Line:
250-385-6611
- Emergency Shelter for Women and Children
- Children Who Witness Abuse Program
- Spousal Assault Victim Support Program
- Domestic Violence Emergency Response Services (DVERS)
- Stopping the Violence Program
- Harrison Place Transitional Housing for Older Women
- Older Women's Outreach/ Safe Home Program
- Volunteer Program
- Training and Community Education

Please call our Community Office at (250) 592-2927 if you have any questions about any of our programs or services.

“Thank you for being a lifeline for me and all the other women and children who come to you for help.”

Former Shelter resident

2006/07 Program Statistics

Shelter Programs

- 154 women sheltered
- 96 children sheltered
- 150 women were over 19 years of age
- 4 women were under 19 years of age
- The Shelter was full/over capacity 92 nights
- 376 Women and 238 Children were referred to the Shelter but not served immediately due to insufficient space, outside of mandate, special needs, & other reasons.

Children Who Witness Abuse Program

- 189 children were in the program
- 127 caregivers were involved in the program
- 11 children attended Summer Camp
- 17 community presentations

Stopping the Violence Program

- 204 women were individually counselled
- 39 weekly group sessions
- 529 individual sessions
- 170 referrals

Spousal Assault Victim Support Program

- 464 referrals to the Program

24-Hour Crisis Line

- 1,721 crisis calls

Older Women's Outreach/ Safe Home Program

- 89 women were served
- 37 women participated in groups

Public Education

- 120 presentations to schools, community and professionals

Volunteer Program

Total number of volunteers: 70

- Shelter Volunteers: 31
- Crisis Line Volunteers: 13
- Special Services Volunteers: 9
- Board of Directors: 12
- Community Office Volunteers: 5

Facts and Stats

Between 50,000 & 70,000 school-aged children in BC are estimated to have witnessed their mothers being struck.

—Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics



shelter

SAFETY
respect

transition
education

COMMUNITY

peace
future

new
beginnings

hope

Highlights, Updates and Milestones

Children Who Witness Abuse

The Children Who Witness Abuse (CWWA) program has been fortunate to receive funding from the BC/Yukon Society of Transition Houses and the Chris Spencer Foundation to enable us to continue delivering the Violence Is Preventable (VIP) program, a province-wide initiative linking CWWA programs with schools. In doing so, we will continue to work together with schools to ensure that children and youth who have felt the impact of violence in their lives will have access to the services that will support them and their families.

The Children Who Witness Abuse program is also partnering with the Family Violence Project, a treatment program for abusive men, in the “Fantastic Fathers” pilot project. This is a parent education initiative for men who have been abusive to their partners.

Throughout the year staff presented sessions on dating violence prevention at local high schools, as well as public awareness sessions on the effects on children and adolescents of being exposed to domestic violence.

Children Who Witness Abuse Summer Camp Program

In addition to our ongoing children’s programs, each summer we provide a day camp for children who have witnessed violence. For most children this is the first time they have attended any type of camp and it’s an enriching and healing experience for the 11–15 year olds who attend one of the two two-week long sessions. This is an extremely popular program and the children who attend the summer camp do so at no cost. The budget for this program is funded by grants and donations, and the cost per child for this camp experience is \$430.

Christmas Hamper Program

Each year our Christmas Hamper Program continues to grow and this year was no exception. We delivered 82 hampers to Transition House clients. This tradition depends on the dedication of Board Members, Staff, Volunteers, and the generous gifts from donors in our community. The hamper recipients were overwhelmed and appreciated the beautiful hampers they received. We are very grateful to the many businesses, government departments, and individuals who sponsored Transition House families.

“ I give because this is my community – and it is my job to give back to children and women in my community that need help now! ”

VWTH Spectrum of Hope Member

Sidney Older Women's Program

Through a Community Action for Women's Safety Grant, Victoria Women's Transition House offered three 8-week counsellor facilitated support and education groups for 17 women 45+ in Sidney. The project involved partnerships with the Vancouver Island Health Authority, the Shoal Centre, Beacon Services, Sidney Silver Threads and the Sidney Community Response Network. A public education campaign including several presentations and publications increased community awareness of abuse of older women. A formal evaluation of the project was conducted, revealing the participants gained from the support and education and reinforcing the need for these services in Sidney.

Critical Matters

On Saturday, January 27, eight speakers came together for an afternoon of inspiration as they shared stories addressing matters critical to health and happiness. Silken Laumann spoke about her road to recovery and to an Olympic medal following her tragic rowing accident in 1992. Neal Petersen talked about his extraordinary adventures while sailing solo around the world on his home-built boat. Dr. Gabor Maté shared the latest scientific findings on the role stress plays in an array of diseases.

Money generated through event ticket sales went directly to support four Victoria charities including over \$3,000 benefiting the Victoria Women's Transition House Shelter Program. It is with thanks to Trenton Financial for generously providing the resources to bring Critical Matters to Victoria and for making a difference in our community by supporting local charities.

Victoria Ladies Charity Golf Tournament

On June 29, 2006 the annual Victoria Golf Club Ladies Charity Tournament teed off to support the Victoria Women's Transition House. The Tournament is in its 11th year and we are proud to be the recipient of the proceeds collected from the event.

"I know I speak for all of us here at Transition House when I say that we feel incredibly honoured to have had the support of the Victoria Golf Club Ladies' Charity Tournament," says Carolyn Fast, Executive Director. "We are proud to operate in a community full of people dedicated to stopping violence and abuse."

With 70% of the overall funding for Transition House coming from government, partnerships with community donors are critical to the agency.

Over the past six years this tournament has raised over \$180,000 enabling Transition House to go beyond the basics and offer a broader and deeper range of services that empower women to move beyond their abusive situations to safe and hopeful lives.

“We are proud to operate in a community full of people dedicated to stopping violence and abuse.”

Carolyn Fast, VWTH Executive Director

Last Year...

Over 1,000 women and their children were directly helped through our Shelter and counselling programs.

250 women and children were provided safe shelter.

We attended to over 1,700 crisis calls from abused women and children in abusive homes, and family and friends of abused women.



Art Break

The purpose of the Art Break program is to provide the residents of the Shelter with a fun and creative opportunity to explore the visual arts. We believe that the visual arts can serve as a valuable tool in allowing both women and children to express their emotions during a difficult time, provide an opportunity to tell their stories in a different way, learn new skills and art techniques, as well as access their creative potential. Art Break is also a time for mothers and their children to engage in a positive and enriching activity together. The Art Break program has been an inspiration and a source of comfort for the women and children who come through the House.

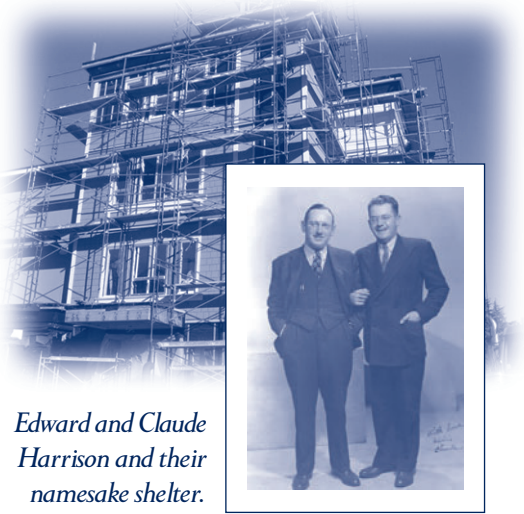
Since the first Art Break class on February 4, 2006 we have had weekly exhibits at the Shelter. At the first class, the residents made self-portraits and three participants submitted their post cards to the Art Gallery of Ontario exhibit, "In Your Face." Each session focuses on a theme and a demonstration of an art technique that explores the use of different media. Many of the art supplies for this program will need to be obtained through donations in order for the full potential of this program to be realized.



*"A Safe Place" Painting by young child
Shelter Art Break Program, Spring 2007*

Toy Tea

Victoria's Toy Tea, began three years ago with an idea and great enthusiasm. When Carolyn Taylor and Anne Gustavson decided to emulate a very successful event that takes place each year in Montreal, they knew there would be a great response in Victoria. "Victoria is the perfect place for the Toy Tea," said Carolyn. "Women in Victoria want to help children in need. This is about women helping women and children." At the Toy Tea in December 2006, 502 toys along with cash gifts were donated to several charities including Transition House. The Shelter Children's Program, the Children Who Witness Abuse Program and the Christmas Hamper Program were all recipients of beautiful toys and games for children to enjoy. Plans are already underway for the 2007 Toy Tea.



Edward and Claude Harrison and their namesake shelter.



Site Meeting

Harrison Place

The past year has seen the accomplishment of the number one goal in our 2006–2009 Strategic Priorities – the construction of Harrison Place. Harrison Place, our supportive, transitional housing project for mature single women, ages 45 – 65, has been in the planning and building stages for the past five years.

Of the five identified outcomes for Harrison Place, three have been achieved with the opening of the building:

- Improved access to supportive transitional housing for mature single women who have left abusive relationships
- Increased supply of affordable housing units (23) in Greater Victoria, and
- Development of a successful public/private partnership to build affordable housing.

The final two outcomes will be measured and evaluated as the programming portion of our project gets underway:

- Development of a successful model of third stage housing, and
- Stabilized housing, increased self-sufficiency, skills development, community integration, connection to community support systems, and a future of healthy relationship choices.

Since April 1, 2006, construction (started in February 2006) sped along, with occupancy permits achieved on March 30, 2007. On March 31, 2007, 13 women moved into their brand new suites. The building is

beautiful and has provided much needed housing for women who have struggled to find stability in their lives.

Funding partnerships developed during the construction phase mean that our building is fully paid for at opening – no mortgage! This will allow all units to be rented at affordable and rent-geared-to-income rates. This is a tremendous accomplishment, only achieved with the generosity of our funders. Thank you!

As staff begins to put into place the supportive programming elements, we already see a change in the perspectives and attitude of many of the women who have moved into the building. They are facing a new future, supported by safe, affordable shelter and warm, welcoming staff.

At time of writing this report, 20 women have moved into the building, a grand opening has occurred and additional grant funding has been secured to ensure that staffing requirements can be sustained throughout the first year of operations.

Thanks to all the partners who helped to create our beautiful facility and open pathways toward a new future for the women who will come to live with us.

“Harrison Place is a new beginning for me – it offers hope that I will be safe and secure for a while. It gives me time to reflect on my life, to focus on my health and well-being and get strong.”

Resident



shelter

SAFETY
respect

transition
education

COMMUNITY

peace
future

new
beginnings

hope

Playing to Heal Program – Playground at the Shelter

Young children at the Shelter can experience long periods of confinement indoors, sitting quietly with their mothers while they try to discover how to turn their lives around. Studies show that restricting young children's activity can lead to diminishing physical coordination, lack of self-confidence, and cognitive delays. While living in a shared space, children in shelters need safe and challenging outdoor play areas to help counteract the otherwise restrictive environment.

The Playing to Heal program has created an outdoor play environment at the Shelter that provides children with an outlet to help them meet their physical, emotional,

behavioral and mental needs. The new play structure and surface will allow children to physically challenge themselves and provides an opportunity for moms to playfully interact with their children in a safe environment.

Through funding from the Queen Alexandra Foundation, the Shelter Enhancement Program administered by the Canadian Mortgage and Housing Corporation, in partnership and collaboration with the City of Victoria and the ongoing participation of the organizing committee, this project has been successfully funded, developed, and completed!



New playground and surface, backyard of Shelter.

Donor Profile - Dr. Ken Williams



Dr. Ken Williams is an avid reader. The books lining his shelves include Howard Zinn, Noam Chomsky, Naomi Klein, Edward Abby, Bill Moyers, a tale of Galileo, and a recent Homer-Dixon. The titles reflect his passion for exploring alternative perspectives on social issues and viewing history through a critical lens, and an interest in promoting a society free of violence and racism. Ken seems to enjoy asking uncomfortable questions that penetrate to the deeper roots of a situation. One of the legacies he is funding is a series at the university featuring speakers who will provoke thought, raise awareness, and challenge the status quo.

It was in the logging camps where he worked in his formative years, in the risky role of high rigger, climbing 200 feet to top a tree, that he learned lessons that laid the foundation for his life work and philanthropy: standards of practice, personal and collective responsibility, accountability, seeking the truth hidden beneath the veneer, and the confidence to stand alone even under pressure. He met many mentors who whet his appetite for social justice and developed lifelong friendships. Four of his buddies worked and helped pay his way through medical school, imprinting deep within him the important lesson of supporting others to give them a hand up.

He practiced medicine for eight years in Invermere in the East Kootenays. Restless to make a difference on a larger scale, he applied to Yale to study public health and hospital management. After completion, he launched an impressive and diverse career, holding various teaching and faculty positions, serving as administrator of various hospitals, later working as Medical

Administrator to over 800 Catholic hospitals. He set up a consulting business where he worked with corporate boards throughout the United States and Canada and frequently exposed lack of accountability and inadequate leadership in medical facilities. He retired to a vineyard in Napa Valley, but later returned to Canada when Joy, his partner of 49 years, developed Parkinson's disease. He softens when he speaks of Joy, who had a tremendous influence in the choice to support the Parkinson Society as well as several organizations that address women's issues.

A conversation with Ken is rich with salty humour, insight, and stories that reflect a love of life. At a lively age of 92 he is full of life, passion and loves to learn. He has written a delightfully entertaining memoir about his family life, work and extensive travels aptly titled *Bunkhouse to Boardroom... and stirring things up a bit*.

As a benefactor, Dr. Williams is very thoughtful and selective about what he supports, and focuses on well-run organizations that demonstrate they are taking action. He wants to see his money going to help promote change and rectify injustices. He attended the grand opening of Harrison Place and was impressed that many diverse community players were able to connect to create this project. As well as being a frequent donor, Ken has left a legacy for Transition House through a bequest and has specified that it go to the Victoria Women's Transition House Society Fund, held at The Victoria Foundation, which he believes will contribute to the sustainability of the organization.

Ken encourages other partners to explore the endowment as an option for their annual gifts and planned gifts. If you would like to learn more about the *Victoria Women's Transition House Society Fund* contact our Resource Development team at 592-2927 ext. 14.



shelter

SAFETY
respect

transition
education

COMMUNITY

peace
future

new
beginnings

hope

*Facts and
Stats*

Six in 10
Canadians know
or have known
someone who
has experienced
family violence.

—2002 EKOS Research
Associates study

Our Volunteers

Thank you, Joan Dayton!

Joan Dayton has reached a milestone of donating over 1,000 volunteer hours to VWTH. She has been a dependable shopper for the Shelter for eight years, but is famous for the warmth she brings each week to the residents, volunteers and staff.

Joan, a registered nurse, worked for the Pension Corporation and facilitated workshops to assist women to advance in government. In the 1970s she ran for schoolboard, but later decided to focus her energy towards less political environments.

Volunteering has been a part of her life since she was a teenager. Among her many volunteer activities, she has been a Director for Habitat for Humanity, helped set up a food co-op, participated in the Mother's March, and is currently involved in the mentoring program at George Jay Elementary. "Volunteering is a way to be part of the community and show appreciation for what we have."



Marcia, Women's Counsellor, presenting Joan Dayton (left) with the CFAA Citation Rose earlier this year.

"My initial incentive for getting involved at VWTH was to help and make a difference – even to one person." But Joan finds you get as much as you give. "I am often inspired by women who are residents at the Shelter, women who show strength and wisdom."

She enjoys her relationship with the staff and other volunteers – "they are people who think about things." Joan believes Victoria is very fortunate to have the Shelter available, and is impressed with the degree of all-round help the residents have available to them.

“The Volunteers are amazing. They made me feel so supported and took a load off me during a difficult time.”

Former Shelter Resident

We rely on the dedication of over 70 volunteers at Transition House . . . We would like to recognize our long term volunteers:

- Betty Brown was awarded the Centre of Aging Valued Elder Recognition Award last year
- Joan Dayton has volunteered since March 1999 and has dedicated over 1000 hours
- Elizabeth Cretney has been volunteering for 10 years and has dedicated over 1000 hours
- Kay Alexander has volunteered over 858 hours
- Susan Ehman has volunteered since 2002 and dedicated over 735 hours
- Tammy Dickeson has volunteered since 2001 and dedicated over 550 hours
- Jan McFarland over 405 hours
- Helen Dubas over 362 hours
- Lori Polukoshko over 360 hours
- Tamara Thorpe has volunteered since 2001 and dedicated over 325 hours
- Su Pomeroy over 310 hours
- Renne Lorme has volunteered since 2003 and dedicated over 280 hours
- Imogen Burr has volunteered since 2004 and dedicated over 233 hours
- 2 volunteers have reached the 200 hour mark this year: Pari Ahanj-Masooleh and Lorraine Collett
- We have a number of Volunteers who have dedicated over 100 hours: Anna Escher, Mary Lou Hendry, Grace Wong, Louise Carlow, Irene Watts, Sharon Stewart

Thank you all!!



The Board of Directors – all volunteers – recognize the staff on Valentine’s Day, 2007.

“Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world; indeed, it’s the only thing that ever has.”

Margaret Mead



shelter

SAFETY
respect

transition
education

COMMUNITY

peace
future

new
beginnings

hope

Facts and
Stats

There are over 10
reported spousal
assaults in BC
each day.

–Police & Crime statistics
2000

BC reported
highest on
violence against
women

–Statistics Canada 1993

One Client's Story

There is poignancy in Marie's recollection of her childhood. Her parents were busy working to create the trappings of a home, but ironically the lessons Marie learned were women's traditional roles as subservient, staying silent about abuse, and even denial that it was happening.

Domestic abuse was prevalent in the mill community where she grew up, but a heavy veil of silence hung thick. "I know my best friend's father beat her mother, but no one said anything. It wasn't talked about. My husband's mother endured abuse. But she had nowhere to go." The first transition houses weren't a refuge for women until the mid 1970s, and the prevailing culture was not supportive of women leaving their marriage. "She often would stay weekends with her mother just for a break and for support. In those days very few couples separated."

Marie escaped by leaving town. "After my marriage broke-up, I left town with a young daughter in-tow to search for something better. Little did I know, what I was searching for was inside of me, and always had been. I can see that now looking back." Marie went on to face some of the same experiences in other communities and the story of her life includes several abusive partners.

How has this past abuse impacted Marie? "I have been in situations where I have been at risk because of lack of self-worth and self-esteem. I have faced many challenges, physically, emotionally and financially."

Fortunately for Marie, when she was in an abusive situation two years ago, she was able to connect with transition house services. She was welcomed and pleased to find there were specific services for older women. Marie considered her options and applied for a spot at Harrison Place. She

was successful and one of the first tenants to move in.

Marie values the sense of community she feels in being part of Harrison Place. "I am so grateful to be here. To have a bedroom! There are little touches, such as a light switch by the bed that make it feel luxurious." She loves the location – it's near buses, shopping and services. "It is also a community, a place where I can connect with other women. We've already been on outings together, and share with one another."

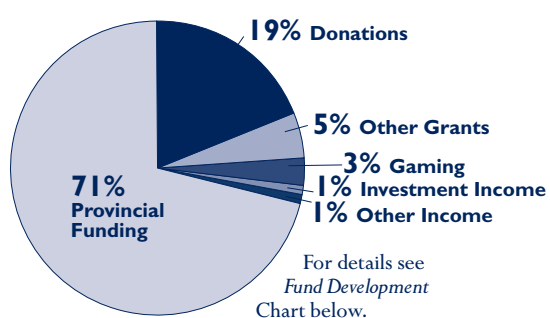
Marie is also proud to have her grandchildren visit her new home. She recalls visiting her grandparents and the joy she felt as a child when asked to participate in household duties – sweeping, going to the grocers for items. When she assigns her grandchildren a few chores, she is giving a gift from her past – being an integral part of the workings of the home, and teaching them they are capable and can contribute.

As Marie speaks today, she feels positive and optimistic about her future and safe and secure at Harrison Place. "This is so much more than a physical, comfortable shelter. As well as addressing those basic needs, it will allow me an opportunity to reflect on my life. I've made a commitment to take advantage of what is being offered, and grow – rebuild my self-esteem and take care of my health and well-being. It all comes down to valuing one's life and facing ones fears and then... Harrison Place."

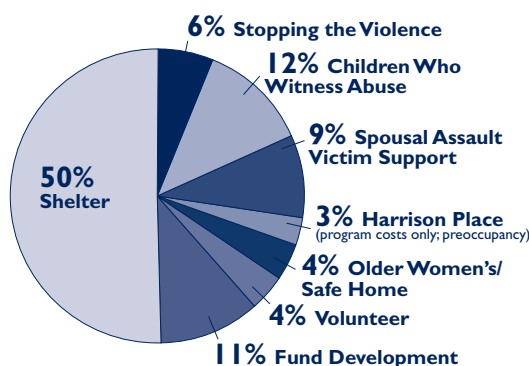
Marie's story illustrates how easily women can get trapped in a complex maze connected with abuse. It is a pathway fraught with dead ends: poverty, ill-health, anxiety, depression, fear, low self-esteem, inadequate and unsafe housing; inflexible workplace demands, inter-generational abuse and not having had healthy relationships and open communication model.

Fiscal Year 2006/2007

How We Raise Our Money

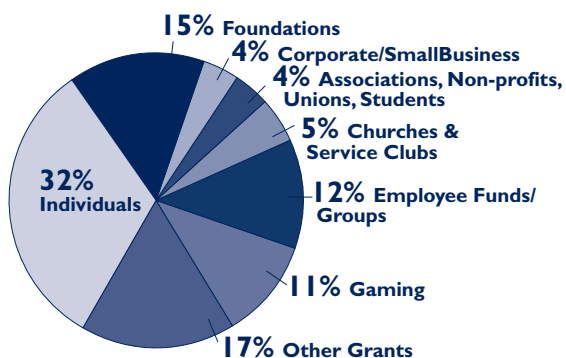


How We Spend Our Money By Program



Fund Development Details

Contributions by Type



Number of Gifts Processed

| | 2007 | 2006 |
|---|------|------|
| Individuals | 1325 | 1205 |
| Foundations | 15 | 10 |
| Corporate/Small Business | 98 | 99 |
| Associations, Non-profits, Unions, Students | 40 | 53 |
| Churches & Service Clubs | 68 | 92 |
| Employee Funds/Groups | 19 | 25 |
| Gaming | 1 | 1 |
| Other Grants | 4 | 2 |

Note: Summary and full audited financial statements are available upon request.

If you would like to learn more about our programs and services, and our current fund development initiatives and ways you can partner with us, please contact our Fund Development team at 592-2927 ext. 14.



Acknowledgements - Partners in Transition

Our Donors are our Partners, and we wish to thank all of them for their generosity.

Our Sustaining Partners

Sustaining Partners are a select group of donors who pledge a monthly contribution to support the women and children at Victoria Women’s Transition House. Monthly giving is convenient, easy and very cost effective. Your monthly gifts gives you the satisfaction of knowing you are making a difference.

The constant support of these donors provides a regular, dependable and predictable source of income, ensuring sustainability and assisting in planning various programs and financial commitments. For this reason we wish to honor our monthly donors who support us with steady income throughout the year. The following are donors who have given monthly gifts between April 1, 2006 and March 31, 2007.

- | | | |
|-----------------------|----------------------|-------------------------|
| Teresa Albrecht | Jane Hollis | Jeannie Owens |
| Patricia Bewley | Karen Hurley | Mary June Pettyfer |
| Ria W Bos | Christina King | Jack Price |
| Beverly Brookman | Susan J. Lane | June and James Rogers |
| Pat Burns | Karen Lindsay | Anne and Eric Sherwood |
| Linda Dallas | Linda Maasch | Barbara Strachan |
| Yvonne L Diemer-Koehn | Nancy Macdonald | Betty E Taylor |
| Carolyn Fast | Dorothy Mathews-Dana | Don Thiers |
| Mary Anne Foote | Kathleen McCann | Pat Tilly |
| Alix Freiburger | Janet McGregor | Karen Uldall-Ekman |
| Sue Gilbert | Patricia McMullen | Miriam Vos-Guenter |
| Liz Gipson | Thelma Midori | Jennifer Waelti-Walters |
| Roderick Glover | Valerie Mieras | |
| Bram Goldwater | Frances Moore | |
| JL Griffin | Melodie Murray | |
| Oz & Lucille Hollands | Patricia O’Brien | |

Note: Some of the Sustaining Partners give at the Spectrum of Hope level of \$500+ /year.

Online Giving

Transition House has teamed with CanadaHelps.org to offer the option for donors to give online. Visit our website at www.transitionhouse.net and click on “Donate Now,” a fast, safe and secure way to make your gift.

“We make a living by what we get, we make a life by what we give.”
Winston Churchill

Spectrum of Hope Members

Members of the Spectrum of Hope are a select group of Donors who offer donations of \$500 or more to support our work. Transition House offers special recognition to these donors who make such a significant contribution to our success. The following are donors who have given major gifts between April 1, 2006 and March 31, 2007.

Corporations, Organizations, Churches & Foundations

20 VIC Management Inc
Allen and Loreen
Vandekerkhove Family
Foundation
BC Housing and
Management Commission
Canada Mortgage and
Housing Corporation
Canada Post Depot 3
Capital Regional District –
Regional Housing Trust
Fund
CAW Canada – Social
Justice Fund
Chris Spencer Foundation
Construction Association of
Victoria
Farwest Communications
Hudson's Bay Company
Indigo Sky Graphic Design
Investors Group Financial
Services
Kinetic Construction
Knights of Columbus –
Saanich Pen. Council 9703
Ladies Auxiliary Fraternal
Order of Eagles #12
London Drugs Foundation
The K & M Matheson
Memorial Trust
Ministry of Children and
Family Development
Ministry of Community
Services – STV Branch
Ministry of Public Safety and
Solicitor General
Needs of Victorians Society
Oakdale Estates

Pender Island Gas Service
Provincial Employees
Community Services Fund
Queen Alexandra
Foundation for Children
Real Estate Foundation of
BC
Royal LePage Shelter
Foundation
Sara Spencer Foundation
Searidge Management
Service Canada
Sierra Systems Group Inc
Silk Road Aromatherapy &
Tea Co.
St. Andrews Presbyterian
Thrift Shop
St. Margaret's School
The Sisters of Saint Ann
UFCW Local 1518
Women's Committee
United Way of Greater
Victoria
VanCity Savings Credit
Union
Victoria Golf Club Ladies
Charity Tournament
Victoria Foundation – Youth
in Philanthropy Program
Victoria Foundation –
United Commercial
Traveller's Fund
Victoria Foundation – Zonta
Club of Victoria/Olga
Bartello Fund
Vivid Solutions Inc.
Wellington West Capital Inc.
WSI
Anonymous: 6

Individuals

Estate of Beatrice Evelyn
Johnston-Cullen

Gordon and Rosalyn
Alexander
Margaret R. Allen
Adrienne Betty
Gary and Susan Braley
Kristina Campbell
Shirley Dawson
Jim McDaniel and Sue Dier
Odette Drackley
Jessie Edwards
Tilly Enriquez
K Ann Feyrer
Ryan Fieldhouse
Brett French
Sheila Gallagher
Carol Greenlees
Susan Griffin
Janey Gudewill
Fernande Harrison
Estate of Edward Harrison
Karen Kissinger
Trina Lee
Gwen MacKay
Estate of Ethel Beaumont
McFarlane
Janet McGregor
Nancy Morison
Gail Mudie
David Nicholson
Gerry and Valerie
Niederlinski
Donna Robertson
June and James Rogers
Walter Schibli
Nadia Schneider
Duncan M Stewart
Dalmar F Tracy
Dr. Jennifer Waelti-Walters
Dr. Ken J. Williams
Brock Windsor

Facts and Stats

In Canada, 2.6 million women per year experience violence at the hands of a current or past relationship partner. These women come from all walks of life and are of all ages.

– Police & Crime statistics
2000

Please note: we have endeavored to make the acknowledgement lists as complete and accurate as possible. We sincerely apologize for any errors or omissions, and ask you to please contact Fund Development at 592-2927 ext 14, with any questions or comments.



shelter

SAFETY
respect

transition
education

COMMUNITY

peace

future

new
beginnings

hope

Thank you to Our Partners!

On behalf of the Victoria Women's Transition House, we would like to extend our sincere thanks for your ongoing support.

Your generosity and compassion will help to ensure that our programs and services are available to support women and children in making that brave step to live violence free.

You should all be proud of the contribution you made last year as you partnered with us as a:

- Donor
- Board member
- Volunteer
- Client
- Ambassador
- Staff member

Major Funders and Donors for 2006/07

Ministry of Community Services

Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General

Ministry for Children and Family Development

BC Housing and Management Commission

Capital Regional District – Regional Housing Trust Fund

CMHC

The Harrison Estate

Provincial Employees Community Services Fund

The Queen Alexandra Foundation

Searidge Management

The Real Estate Foundation of British Columbia

Service Canada

The Sharon Stewart Fund

The Vandekerkhove Family Foundation

The Victoria Foundation

Victoria Golf Club Ladies Charity Tournament

Many thanks for your funding, special grants and your generous donations!

Thank you to everyone who has contributed money, goods, services and time to Victoria Women's Transition House.

“I give because the women deserve a better hand than they have been dealt and it's the only way I can help, little as it is.”

VWTH Sustaining Partner

Printed by
Digital Direct Printing
on recycled paper.