

Annual Report 2016/2017



Our Vision

Women and children will live in safety regardless of their circumstances and our community will recognize and work to eliminate abuse and violence.

Executive Message

This past year we have been fortunate for the support that has been given to The Women's Centre, of which we are thankful. The support from the community comes in many forms. We receive material items in response to our social media appeals. The donation of time by our committed volunteers, to financial support from individuals, companies, the faith community, special interest groups, and service clubs.

The need is present for women and their children who are experiencing abuse and/or violence or those at risk of experiencing. Shelter services do indeed save the lives of women and their children.

Our thanks is extended to Grey County Social Housing which has provided financial support to the housing component of our Second Stage program and to the shelter as well. Grey County assisted us in receiving grant funding for the replacement of ten front doors at Second Stage. The Grey County Housing and the Social Services staff are appreciated community partners.

We are grateful to Grey Bruce Community Foundation that has continued to demonstrate recognition for our services by awarding our organization with community grants.

Our gratitude and thanks are extended to The Ministry of Community and Social Services and the Ministry of the Attorney General for the program funding. The Regional Office staff are valued partners in our work to end the violence against women.

In the present we celebrate the women and the children of our community of Grey Bruce and that The Women's Centre services are available for them. Let me be clear to one and all, we are not celebrating that our services are still needed.

We celebrate and acknowledge the dedication of our volunteer Board of Directors to provide governance. We would like to extend our appreciation to Julie Lipsett who continued in an advisory capacity.

The present and past staff of The Women's Centre are to be celebrated. There is a definite resolution, a bond of women working to help women in our community. One realizes that the work that is being done by the whole will be much greater than the sum of the parts.

As we prepare for the future crucial conversations need to be had with the community, the government and our funders. The shelter in all her glory nestled on the west hill with her aching joints is quietly aging in place. A capital building fund has been established. A new shelter is not just a want, but rather a need. Change is coming our way.

Be Thankful for our past, Celebrate in the present, Prepare for the future.

Andréa Dedrick, Board Chair

Patty Kelly, Executive Director

Statement of Financial Position and Operations

For information on the Statement of Financial Position as of March 31 please contact info@thewomenscentre.org

Community Development

We start each fiscal year with Walk a Mile in Her Shoes®. Men walk in red heels to bring awareness to the subject of ending violence against women. November brings the "Wrapped in Courage" provincial scarf campaign. It was great to see Grey Bruce show their community spirit wearing their purple scarves. Thank you to all around the community who were part of this! Then our fiscal year ends with International Women's Day. We partnered with The Business Enterprise Centre to have, yet again, a sold out venue to celebrate and honour women throughout the world with Dr. Suzanne Kearns as our keynote speaker.

Our Mission

The Women's Centre is a safer place for women and their children.

We are innovative, caring leaders in providing secure shelter, crisis intervention, safety planning, counselling and transition services for women and children affected by abuse in Grey and Bruce Counties.

We support women and their children as they build safe and sustainable lives free from abuse and violence.

We are experienced in providing accessible, woman-centred and compassionate services.

We are committed to accountability, self-evaluation and ethical practices.

We share our own expertise and welcome the expertise of others in our community to address the complex factors that perpetuate abuse and violence.

We are committed to mobilizing our community to uphold and advance equality, self-determination and the elimination of violence. We can only achieve this through cultivation of partnerships with others who share these values.

Our Services

The Shelter is a 13 bed facility with security and main floor accessibility offering 24 hour crisis intervention, supportive counselling and transitional housing services.

Walk in Crisis Support is available 24 hours a day at the Shelter location and during business hours at Second Stage when staff are available.

Help and Information operated by trained staff 24 hours a day provides telephone support, information and referrals for women in crisis.

Individual & Group Supportive Counselling offers short and long term support for ALL women regardless of their situation. Available at the Second Stage and Shelter sites.

The Transitional Outreach Program assists ALL women to connect with support and services in the community. Support is offered to women leaving the Shelter, Second Stage residents and women living in the community.

Second Stage Housing is a 10 unit townhouse building providing transitional and supportive counselling with a 'rent geared to income' housing program. Safety continues as a priority for women and their children.

Public Education on abuse and women's issues is available to the school system, service clubs/groups, faith groups, the general public and other community partners.

Family Court Support Worker Program is provided in partnership with other service providers to support abused women and men by helping them to navigate the Family Court System.

2016/2017 Statistics

Total shelter Residents: 168

Children Shelter Residents: 59

Women Shelter Residents: 109

Number of Residential Stay days: 3,807

Outreach Women and Children: 383

Crisis & Support Calls: 1,512

Women & Children at Second Stage: 32

 Number of Women: 13

 Number of Children: 19

Family Court Support Program (Grey County): 205

Board of Directors

Chairperson: Andréa Dedrick

Vice-Chairperson: Denise Freeman

Treasurer: Edward Barker

Secretary: Patty Kelly

Directors: Ruby Frank, Curry Humphreys, Lara Javalyn (retired), Edward Marchewka, Debbie McKague

Board Assistant: Valerie Porter

Executive Director: Patty Kelly

Board Committees

Executive Committee: Andréa Dedrick, Edward Barker, Denise Freeman, Patty Kelly

Board Development (Nominating) Committee: Denise Freeman (Chair), Ruby Frank, Lara Javalyn

Finance & Facility Committee: Edward Barker (Chair), Patty Kelly, Edward Marchewka, Debbie McKague, Khrys Timmerman

Fundraising Committee: Denise Freeman (Chair), Curry Humphreys, Patty Kelly, Teresa Timmerman

Our Services

- Safe Shelter in Grey County
- Second Stage Program
- Housing & Transportation Support
- Outreach Counselling Services
- Safety Planning
- Family Court

Tel: 519-376-0755

Fax: 519-376-3026

Crisis Help Lines

519-371-1600

1-800-265-3722

Shelter, Outreach Services & Second stage Housing

519376-0755

For more information contact:

The Women's Centre Grey and Bruce Inc.

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www.thewomenscentre.org

Facebook: [TWCgreybruce](https://www.facebook.com/TWCgreybruce)

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