



THE
WOMEN'S CENTRE
GREY BRUCE

Annual REPORT



2021/2022

table

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NOTE FROM OUR

Executive Director

This year marks 40 years of The Women's Centre Grey Bruce (TWC). Violence against women remains an important issue all around the globe, and we are proud to continue to provide supports and services for women, children, and youth in our community. This year, we dedicate the 2021/2022 Annual Report to the historic women who have had a hand in making Grey Bruce a safer place for women, children, and youth throughout the past 40 years.

As the COVID-19 pandemic trickled into 2022, we continued to see an influx of women, children, and youth who were isolated and forced to stay home with their abusers because of pandemic restrictions, need our services. Like last year, we continued to field more crisis calls than the year before.

Our only option at TWC, was to adapt. Quickly, we retrofitted our Shelter and Second Stage housing to ensure we were not only meeting physical distancing restrictions, but also expanding our capacity to house more women, children, and youth than ever before.

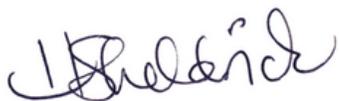
The pandemic has shone a spotlight on domestic violence showing us that home is not safe for all Canadians and highlighted a need for more programs and services so we can reach more women, especially those in other marginalized groups. Indigenous women, members of the 2SLGBTQ+AA community, immigrant women, and women of colour continue to be disproportionately affected by Intimate Partner Violence (IPV).

Our focus is to continue to find new and innovate ways to identify those who need our services, and to improve those services so that **all** women, children, youth have a safe place to go when they need help.

While we have come far in 40 years, we anticipate continued demand for our services as women, children, and youth turn to us for safety. Your support remains vital to our ability to meet their needs.

Thank you for your commitment to The Women's Centre Grey Bruce.

I look forward to our continued partnership.



HEATHER SHELDRIK



Board & Leadership



Natalie Barber
CHAIR



Alissa Angel
VICE-CHAIR



Lingzi Layman
TREASURER



Amy Deschamps
DIRECTOR



**Mary Lynne
Kennedy-McGregor**
CHAIR



Kate Vanderwielen
DIRECTOR



Erica Wepler
DIRECTOR



Heather Sheldrick
Executive Secretary/
Director



Mary Thompson
Housing Program & Human
Resources Manager



Krystal Stukas
Fund Development &
Communications Manager



Kathie Cole
Team Lead, Anti-Human
Trafficking Program
for Youth



Joyce Ann Johnston
Team Lead, Violence
Against Women Shelter



Our Services

Public education about abuse and women's issues is shared with community partners including schools, community groups, and service clubs.

Family Court support is provided in partnership with other community agencies to support abused women while they navigate through the Family Court system.

The **Anti-Human Trafficking Program for Youth** includes counselling, outreach, and housing for at-risk youth under 18 years of age.

The Shelter is a twenty-bed facility with security and main floor accessibility offering twenty-four hour crisis intervention and supportive counselling.

Second Stage Residential Program is a safe ten-unit townhouse complex that provides transitional and supportive counselling within a geared-to-income rent program.

Walk-in **crisis support** is available twenty-four hours per day at the Shelter and during business hours at Second Stage. Trained staff provide phone and text crisis support, information and referrals for women, children, and youth in crisis, twenty-four hours per day.

Individual and group **counselling** is available at the Shelter and Second Stage, for all women regardless of their situation. The **outreach program** assists women in the community and clients staying at Second Stage connect with local support and services.

OUR MISSION

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

OUR VISION

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

Year in Review

SECOND STAGE RESIDENTIAL PROGRAM

Thanks to funding from Grey County, during the 2021/2022 fiscal year, we completed converting two of our Second Stage Residential Program family units into four individual units.

Our Second Stage Residential Program allows residents to meet regularly and enjoy the benefits of support, socialization, and life-skills building, like financial literacy. The program creates an environment in which women can commit to building safer and violence-free futures.

Traditionally, these units were geared to women with children, but this construction means that we can extend the program to include single women who have experienced abuse or violence.

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY

This year, to continue celebrating women in the Grey Bruce, after our second virtual International Women's Day event and auction, we asked community members to nominate outstanding women who are working to combat gender-based violence in their daily lives.

In the weeks between International Women's Day and Mother's Day we featured eight outstanding community members, their stories, and how they are making Grey Bruce a safer place for women, children, and youth on our social media accounts.

Thank you to our nominees, and their nominators, for sharing their stories and continuing to inspire change within the community. To read their stories, check out our social media accounts, and look for archived "Women Wednesday's" posts.

Program Spotlight

THE YOUTH HUB

A calming relaxation and play room suitable for children and youth, an outdoor play area, and access to toys, books, games, movies and computers to help children feel more at home in their new surroundings.

At The Women's Centre we work hard to ensure that children and youth who have experienced or witnessed violence receive mental health support through a trauma-informed lens.

Our counselling and support program is available for children and youth who have witnessed or experienced violence in their home.

Children and youth can be seen at the Second Stage Residential Program site in Owen Sound, in their school, or at other locations in the Grey Bruce community. Supports for mothers are also available.

Referrals can be made by a parent, school, or a staff member. Priority status is based on urgency, circumstances, and availability of resources. Our organization will obtain consent from families to share information with other community organizations if needed, to provide additional support.

“ I absolutely love my role as a Child and Youth Worker with The Women's Centre. Children and youth's long-term health and overall well-being can be impacted greatly when they've experienced or witnessed violence or abuse.

In my role, I get to provide children and youth with a space that is safe, accepting and, encouraging where they can work on their social, emotional, and behavioural needs. Children and youth need support to navigate through hard times and ensure their strengths are recognized and their needs are advocated for. I feel extremely lucky to be able to foster overall change in those I work with.

Some of my proudest moments have been working with clients who I have watched struggle, develop their strengths, goals, and increase enjoyment in their life. ”

Lindsay Brown

Child and Youth Worker



Financials

2021/2022

THE WOMEN'S CENTRE (GREY & BRUCE) INC.
(Summary of financial statements)

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION
As of March 31

	2022	2021
ASSETS		
Cash	\$993,799	\$766,789
Accounts Receivable	\$21,799	\$88,892
HST Receivable	\$79,734	\$15,846
Investments	\$383,408	\$503,645
Prepaid Expenses	\$27,089	\$15,297
	\$1,505,829	\$1,390,469
LIABILITIES		
Accounts Payable and Accrued Liabilities	\$118,066	\$192,160
Government Remittances Payable	\$13,163	\$2,348
Current Portion of Mortgage Payable	\$45,800	\$43,184
	\$177,029	\$237,692
Mortgage Payable	\$31,792	\$77,088
Deferred Contributions (Property & Equipment)	\$1,141,433	\$980,188
Deferred Contributions (Other)	\$71,994	\$99,416
	\$1,422,248	\$1,394,384
FUND BALANCES		
Operating Fund	\$11,685	\$10,247
Capital Assets	\$197,604	\$168,841
Restricted Housing Replacement and Maintenance	\$325,045	\$292,720
Internally Restricted Funds	\$300,000	\$300,000
Donation Fund	\$666,108	\$493,692
	\$1,500,442	\$1,265,500
	\$2,922,690	\$2,659,884

Financials

2021/2022

STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS

April 1 to March 31

	2021/2022	2020/2021
REVENUE		
Provincial/Federal Grants	\$1,675,137	\$1,068,482
County of Grey	\$193,963	\$193,321
Donations and Fundraising	\$404,229	\$373,848
Other	\$108,275	\$176,498
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	\$2,381,604	\$1,812,149
EXPENSES		
Salaries and Benefits	\$1,228,635	\$939,019
Amortization	\$6,483	\$14,434
Other Program Costs	\$890,332	\$514,627
Fundraising and Other	\$39,738	\$36,416
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	\$2,165,188	\$1,531,496
Surplus (Deficit) Before Amortization	\$216,416	\$295,087
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Surplus (Deficit)	\$202,617	\$280,653
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Thank You!

\$25,000+

Canadian Women's Foundation | Grey County | Ministry of Children, Community and Social Services | Women's Shelters Canada | Ontario Trillium Foundation

\$10,000+

Shoppers Drug Mart Life Foundation | Grey Birch Foundation | WomanACT | Timothy D. Mayer Charitable Foundation | Tim Horton's | Community Foundation Grey Bruce | The Home Depot Foundation

\$5,000+

Information and Communications Technology Council | Power Workers' Union Bruce Equity Committee | St. John's United Church | Elizabeth Wilson | Stephanie Stuart-Vanderburg | Caframo Ltd | Bruce Power L.P. | Charlene Codner

\$2,500+

United Way of Grey Bruce | South End Fellowship Baptist Church | Scott Crowther | Dennis Stier | Royal LePage Locations North | Tricia Pool

“A huge thank you for helping me. Your staff and shelter saved my life, I love you all for everything. Beautiful, caring staff. I will miss them.”

- Client -

\$1,000+

Riddell Contracting Ltd. | John Brennan | Monica Sauvac | Amelia Langeman | Kellie Haslam | Unifor International Department | Becky Middlebrook | SD Real Estate Inc. | Ontario Association of Interval and Transitional Houses | Deniz Akyurekli | The Best You | Brittany Mossy | Aecon Utilities | Tetra Tech Canada Inc. | Bert Leeder | Home Decor and More by Rhonda Kirk | Benevity Inc. | Anne Cathrae | Rotary Club of Meaford | Kathy Beattie | Nadia Danyluk | Judy Kitto | Jacobus Macintyre | Terri Hope | Ayton Normanby Lioness Club | M. Elizabeth McKinlay | David McLaren | Ann Bolton | Everett Hall | Shannon Cameron | Retired Teachers of Ontario Bruce Grey Dufferin District 10 | Mark Roberts | Sweet Adelines International Blue Water Chapter | Kerry Connelly | Natasha Marchewka | Cathryn Kennedy | Katherine Barton | GM Diemert Architect Inc. | St. John Lutheran Church Women

Despite many of our fundraising efforts being impacted by the shutdowns, the community support was astounding and has provided a strong foundation to start the current fiscal year.

Thank you to both the provincial and federal governments for their COVID-19 relief funds.

Thanks also to the individuals, service clubs, foundations, and corporations, that made our work possible through their generous contributions. Listed here are those who gifted \$1,000 or more.

Thank you for directly impacting the lives of more than 1,500 women and children who accessed our services. You continue to help them build safe and sustainable lives free from abuse and violence.

Looking Forward

40 YEARS OF THE WOMEN'S CENTRE

2022 marks 40 years of The Women's Centre Grey Bruce. As an organization, we have been reflecting on how far we have come since our inception and remember how integral the hard work of women in the community was to getting our feet off the ground.

In the early 1980s, Denise, a McMaster University Sociology student, was the Feasibility Study Project Manager tasked with researching the need for a women's shelter in Owen Sound.

Denise spent the early part of her contract visiting several Ontario shelters to learn the requirements needed to establish a local women's shelter. Denise researched available properties and met with several media outlets, with a goal of raising awareness for the need of a women's shelter.

Working alongside two other students to compile data to submit to the Ontario Government for consideration for provincial funding, Denise was instrumental in The Women's Centre Grey Bruce being established in 1982.

As we move forward and think about the future of the organization, we can't help but be grateful for Denise and her fellow student's hard work 40 years ago. Without outstanding women in the community, like Denise, we would not be here today.

OUR STRATEGIC PLAN

As the impact of the pandemic continues to be felt, and the organization looks ahead to post-pandemic realities, strategic planning will consider how to move forward with key learnings and within continued health and safety parameters.

In consideration of The Women's Centre's current strengths, challenges, and opportunities, the following have been identified as strategic priority areas for the organization over the next three years:

- Optimizing Organizational Resources
- Building Holistic Supports through Enhanced Community Engagement
- Continuing to Build Community Response to Human Trafficking
- Assessing the Organizational Brand

Statistics

2021 | 2022



99
Women supported
in court



397
Days of pet stays



Days of
residential stays
2644



124
Women received
counselling support



110
Women and
children stayed
in the shelter



118
Women accessed
outreach programs

800
Safety plans
developed



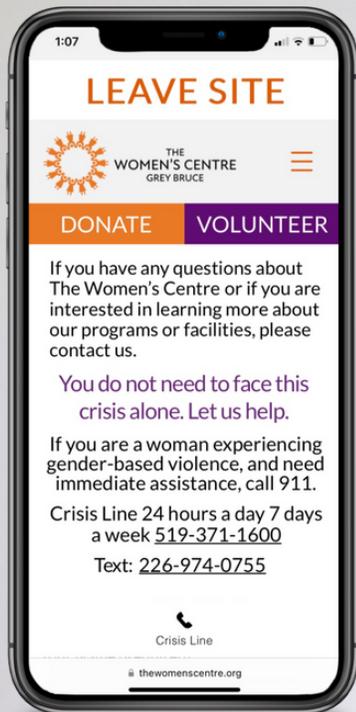
38
Women and children
lived in transitional
housing



1312
Crisis calls and
texts received



THE
WOMEN'S CENTRE
GREY BRUCE



www.thewomenscentre.org



-  facebook.com/twcgreybruce
-  linkedin.com/company/twcgreybruce
-  instagram.com/twcgreybruce

The Women's Centre Grey Bruce

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