

GENESIS HOUSE 34th ANNUAL REPORT 2017/2018

South Central Committee on Family Violence, Inc.

Genesis House

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Angela Braun
Executive Director

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Community

The goal of Genesis House is that people in south central Manitoba will be able to live their lives free of domestic violence. We believe that all people should be safe with the people they love in their own homes.

This year for Domestic Violence Awareness month we tried something a little different. We hosted a screening of the documentary "A Better Man". Invitations were sent out to service providers that we often connect with in providing programming to begin a dialogue about domestic violence. The documentary focuses on the past relationship of Attiya and Steve. Attiya, co-director of the film, initiates a meeting with Steve to see how he recalls their relationship from 22 years ago and if he might take responsibility for his abusive actions. The film depicts the healing and revelation that can take place when men take responsibility for their abuse. It engages the audience to examine their roles in challenging domestic violence.



Approximately 20 people came together representing public health, policing, mental health, education, media, and the new comer community to view the film and participate in meaningful discussion.

The group had many questions about Steve; where was he now, who had hurt him in the past, how has his journey progressed? There was also questions about what community supports might have been engaged for Attiya 22 years ago and would that look different today? They also identified some ideas that may help engage community such as: shift our language, provide programs and supports for people that have chosen violence in the past, healthy relationship programs for youth, enlist men as allies to support non violence, engage public more through community discussions, use social media for campaigns to promote non violence. The discussion was exciting and one message heard loudly was we must keep talking!

Report from the Chair-Laura Matychuk

I have had the good fortune of being the chairperson for Genesis House this past year. Cheryl Braun, past chair, made the transition easier by staying on another year. We are also very fortunate to have the continual support of Ang Braun as our Executive Director. We could not do what we do without her. This past year has been a bit of a rebuilding year for the board. We have had a couple of new members join us this year. We are very grateful for each of them and the strengths they bring. As mentioned we started the

year down a few board members so we had to look at doing a few things differently. Our annual Women's Day event was replaced by a Trivia Night fundraiser. It was very well attended, and we made some money in the process. We were the recipients of Legend's Car Club Drag Races fundraiser in August. We are very appreciative of their support. We completed Union bargaining with the staff this spring. That is tough work especially because of the funding predicament we find ourselves in. It has been 10 years since Gene-

sis House had a funding increase from the government and yet we are still expected to provide all the same services we did 10 years ago. The board has spent a lot of time this past year strategizing funding options. Ang and the staff continue their good work with those who find themselves in need of Genesis House services. It would be awesome if they could work themselves out of their jobs, but I think we have a little ways to go.





PHYSICAL OR SEXUAL VIOLENCE IS A PUBLIC HEALTH PROBLEM THAT AFFECTS MORE THAN ONE THIRD OF ALL WOMEN GLOBALLY.

In one day across Canada

215 shelters helped

5419 women and 2901

children.

Women's Shelters Canada

“Often it isn’t the initiating trauma that creates seemingly insurmountable pain, but the lack of support after.”

S. Kelley Harrell



30 Children from the Winkler area took part in the kids camp which is a partnership of the Winkler Recreation Department and Genesis House.

Women—Program Highlights

Genesis House is a voluntary program for women that are experiencing abuse by an intimate partner. There is no charge to access our programs, and women may access by calling the crisis line.

Staff will complete a risk assessment and safety planning with the client. If she chooses to access the shelter she will be given a bedroom to share with her children, as well as basic hygiene products. While the woman is in shelter all of her basic needs will be met. Women’s bednights for 2017/2018 were 650. This year we also had 11 male bednights.

Women can take part in Genesis House through non-residential programs as well. The staff’s role is to listen and validate the woman’s experience, ensure that she understands her rights and her options and provide opportunities to make informed decisions about her future.

This year the data we have collected regarding the women that have used our services reflected the most frequent types of abuse:

- 14% emotional
- 13% verbal
- 11% physical
- 11% psychological
- 10% financial
- 8% sexual
- 7% stalking
- 8% neglect
- 5% spiritual
- 5% threats against children/family

The shelters across Manitoba keep very detailed statistics on people who access shelter so that we can learn and perhaps impact areas that seem to make living free of violence more difficult. These are some of the things noted in south central region:

- 64% of the women have been with their abusive partner for more than 5 years
- 30% were leaving the relationship for the first time
- 7% were new immigrants to Canada
- 69% of the children have been a witness to violence in the home.
- 49% of women have not completed high school

- 50% have requested police intervention the past 6 months
- 67% of abusers have addictions as reported by their partner in shelter
- 42% of women heard about the shelter from a friend or family member

In 2017/18 Genesis House provided shelter to 46 women, and services to 12 non-residential women., for a total of 58 women.

Counseling is available for residential and non-residential women. In the 2017/18 year there were 1684 counseling sessions with women totaling 1502 hours.

A variety of group sessions were facilitated in the 2017/18 year. They include; anger management, life skills, and understanding domestic violence. Groups are offered regularly in the residential program based on the needs of the clients in shelter. The total number of groups sessions offered is 53 for a total of 82 hours.

Protection Order designates offered assistance to 66 people in 2017/18.

Children’s—Program Highlights

In the past year Genesis House has provided shelter to 56 children and non-residential services to 9 children. Bednights for children accessing shelter for 2017/18 are 811.

Programming at the shelter includes individual counseling with children and their moms. The total number of sessions is 86 and total hours spent in counseling children for the 2017/18 year is 77. Group counseling is also offered. This year we received a grant from Healthy Child Manitoba in addition to our provincial and federal grants.

Residentially the follow up and children’s program work together to facilitate special events for families while in shelter. This year that included a pizza party and a Christmas party. A new group was introduced called “Getting to Know your Community” This group saw families visit a variety of local treasures such as the Thresherman’s museum, Plum Coulee Beach and the Canadian

Fossil Discovery Centre.

The Triple P program was hosted in Swan Lake & Winkler. We partnered with the Canadian Prenatal Nutrition Program at Swan Lake First nation. A children’s one week summer program was also held in partnership with the Winkler Recreation Department. The total number of groups sessions offered is 117 for a total of 280 hours.

Presentations are available for children on communication skills, healthy relationships, bullying, conflict resolution, and cyber safety. The children’s counsellor was able to provide the Red Cross Healthy Relationship presentations in Winkler.

Genesis House recognizes that in order to eradicate domestic violence the children who are witness to abuse will need to receive education and support to be able to live their lives free of violence. The Children’s Counsellor is our

Safe & Together trained advocate which is a concept rolled out by the Child & Family Services General Authority last year. Genesis House supports the concepts that are promoted through Safe & Together and look forward to working collaboratively in the region.

Programming for children in shelter has remained consistent with last year. Providing follow-up and out reach services continues to be a challenge. In 2018/19 we have received a grant for early childhood education. A goal of Genesis House programming is that children will be provided an opportunity to learn about healthy relationships.

Report from the Manitoba Association of Women's Shelters (MAWS) - Deena Brock

Women's shelters were set up in Canada as a temporary solution for women who experienced domestic violence and needed safe accommodation; they now have become the primary response. In the last several years, shelter workers have been aware that survivors are exhibiting more complex situations in addition to domestic violence. Judith Hughes Ph.D., and Sid Frankel Ph.D., from the University of Manitoba have joined MAWS in conducting research to understand the changing needs and

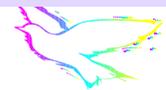
complexity in women's situations and how these increasingly complex situations impact shelter practices and the safety of workers and clients in Manitoba shelters.

The Public Health Agency of Canada has renewed the Expansion and Enhancement of Children's Programs contract (CAPC) for 2017-2020 term. This program contributes much needed funding for shelters to help maintain children's programming.

The Hands to Heart Fundraising Event for Canadian Women's Foundation (CWF) was held at the Canadian Museum for Human Rights to raise funds and awareness for CWF. MAWS participated to support CWF as they raise funds that are used for violence prevention programs and women's shelters in Manitoba and across Canada. Join me in thanking the Executive Directors and staff at shelters and domestic violence agencies across Manitoba. They tirelessly perform their duties and should be recognized for the work they do.



Anna Pazdzierski—retiring long standing board member of Manitoba Association of Women's Shelters



Report from the Executive Director—Angela Braun

2017/2018 has been a year of exploring different perspectives and growing and challenging some of our beliefs in the field of domestic violence.

I was very fortunate to be able to attend the 5th annual Canadian Domestic Violence conference in Halifax. This conference brings together people from a variety of service areas including mental health, justice, victim services, child protection, clergy and addictions to name a few. The goal of the conference was to strengthen and enrich those that confront domestic violence in their work and to explore effective interventions.

As a shelter director I know that the most important intervention service that we provide is a 24 hour emergen-

cy shelter and safety for victims of family violence. Based on research that we know to be accurate, the highest risk for women leaving a violent relationship is the days after she first leaves. Our residential program is imperative for reducing that risk. This conference however provided an opportunity to look beyond that immediate risk to explore what other services might be necessary in making a real impact in reducing domestic violence.

One of the things I heard was that the long term impact of the abusive words can trap a person in a violent relationship. But more than that, those words continue to resonate through a person's mind, undermining their attempts to start over free of violence. Even if the abusive person is no longer in

close proximity they may continue to play a large role in the survivor's life through the negative messaging that may take years of counselling to undo. There are some new counselling techniques that show promise.

The other area that received attention at the conference was the availability of intervention programming for the abuser. In some provinces there are very exciting things happening, including voluntary and mandatory intervention programs that involve the abuser accepting responsibility for their actions, learning more about themselves, the root of their behaviors, and ongoing support to ensure they do not fall back into old behaviors. Brave conversations between diverse stakeholders will be necessary to move ahead.

"Grief does not demand pity; It requests acknowledgement"
Jude Gibbs"

Professional Development 2017 2018

The 2017/2018 year was busy with a variety of training sessions. We started the year off in April 2017 by hosting the Healthy Communities Conference on Resilience in partnership with Southern Health and many community partners. It was very well attended.

As a staff team in June we participated in a day long session on our relationship with the work. It was facilitated by John Koop Harder. The challenges of hearing difficult and sad stories can become exhausting over time. This session promotes self awareness about where you are at and what you may need to do in order to continue to do the work.

In October we hosted a day long session on Attachment with Julie Walsh. This was opened up to community and there was no charge to attend.

In November we spent a day to review our respectful workplace policy facilitated by David Falk. It

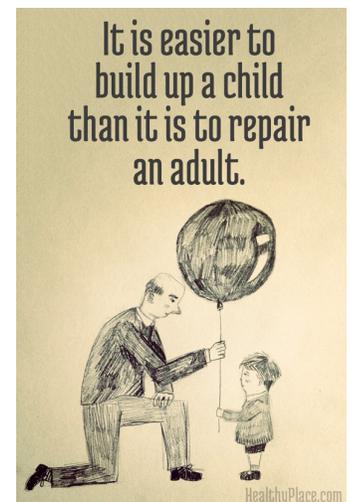
had been more than 10 years since the policy was written and it was identified by the team as a priority.

We also completed the recertification of non-violent crisis intervention training as well as CPR and First Aid.

We had two more staff trained as protection order designates. We now have four on staff.

A few staff took part in a two day session on becoming trauma informed. This training shifts the conversation from "what is wrong with you?" to "what has happened to you and how can I help?" It is a more empowering way of working.

In the new fiscal year we are excited to be sending 4 staff members to the first ever Canadian Shelter Conference in Ottawa June 2018. We are also excited to report that we have received a grant through Canada Manitoba Jobs for Conflict Resolution Training.



Women's Shelters Canada (WSC)

Women's Shelters Canada provides a strong, unified voice on the issue of violence against women. A unified voice means the issue of violence against women is on the agenda at the national level. It means the vital role of shelters and transition houses is understood and valued. It means hope to women experiencing violence everywhere. They help increase awareness to ensure that policies, legislation and regulations are informed by the experiences and insights of WSC members.

Highlights for Women's Shelters Canada in the 2017/2018 year include:

Development and implementation of a national survey of shelters services across Canada.

Shelter Voices 2018—a one day snapshot of the women and children using shelters across Canada. Giving Voices to the victims.

Canadian Conference June 2018—planning and preparing for 600 delegates from every province and territory.

Grants— Healthy Child Manitoba, Altona Community Foundation, Canadian Women's Foundation, Southern Health Sante Sud.

This year we were very fortunate to have received numerous grants for programming. Healthy Child Manitoba provided a grant for a parent child play group. Altona Community Foundation provided support to purchase a new couch for our second stage home. The Canadian Women's Foundation provides ongoing support for programming. Together with Southern Health Sante Sud we hosted the Healthy communities Conference in April 2017. Many thanks to all of these agencies for their support!

An Exciting Farewell!



We bid farewell to a long term staff member, Lori, in August 2017. A fantastic opportunity opened up for Lori with another non profit organization in the community. While we were sad to say good bye, we are excited for Lori to be able to share her enthusiasm and energy with another organization. Coffee breaks will never be the same! All the best!

Thank-you!!

The generous donations by individuals, organizations, and businesses of their time, materials, and funds have been crucial to the operations of Genesis House. We are grateful for these gifts from the community and from our many anonymous donors. All gifts are greatly appreciated. Donations in-kind include clothing, linens, household items, groceries, cleaning supplies, personal supplies, baby items, furniture.

CASH DONATIONS

<u>Donator</u>	<u>Amounts</u>
Individuals	\$29,680
Businesses	30,001
Churches/Women's Groups	8,915
Organizations	8,220
Foundations	2,028
United Ways/Community Canvass	15,801
Fundraising (Golf, Dance, Quiz night)	12,233
Events (Lunch & Learn)	<u>1,440</u>
Total Fundraising / Donations	\$108,318
Gifts-In-Kind	\$ 3,369

The gifts-in-kind are essential to the shelter's operation and our client's daily use. It saves the clients and the shelter thousands of dollars each fiscal year.

Revenue	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18
Family Violence Prevention Grant	380,100	380,100	380,100
Employment & Income Assistance—Income Security	49,482	57,200	47,682
Fundraising / Donations	74,173	70,491	108,318
Canadian Action Program for Children—CAPC Grant & Resource	21,527	21,326	21,326
Other Grants—Healthy Child, May Kay, MB Cmmnty Srves, Thomas Sill & Altona Fndtn	11,216	6,338	33,859
Other Revenue—GST, Int, SummerStudent, Moving Reimbursements, RHA Conference	40,714	38,012	38,337
Total Revenue	\$577,212	\$573,467	\$629,622
Expenses	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18
Salaries & Benefits	444,945	442,596	461,661
Administrative / Staff Training / Moving Expns / RHA Conference	36,675	34,104	35,392
Board Expenses	7,776	3,104	1,616
Fundraising Expenses	7,919	7,107	9,912
Insurance	5,591	5,417	5,436
Maintenance Supplies / Janitorial	22,997	22,619	20,934
Professional Fees	6,119	5,974	12,820
Travel	10,340	6,354	8,027
Client Activities & Programs	14,507	20,195	17,475
Total Expenses	\$556,869	\$547,470	\$573,273

Copies of the 2017-18 audit report are available at the Annual General Meeting or upon request.

Overall funding for Genesis House is derived from four main sources:

1. **Family Violence Prevention Grant** from the Manitoba Government provides for programming, facility and staffing, allocating specific amounts to each cost centre. The Branch also is responsible for ensuring standards and monitoring our progress. The Service Purchase Agreement with the Branch is one of the primary contractual obligations of the Corporation. With a few exceptions, no capital expenditures are allowed.
2. **Employment & Income Assistance** provides a per diem for every bednight (intended to cover staffing and food). Special needs specific to clients (transport, medications) is also financed through Employment and Income Assistance. This portion of our income is totally dependent upon utilization of the shelter.
3. **Fundraising / Donations & Other** constitute a wide range of revenue sources e.g. golf tournament, cash donations, United Way, etc.
4. **CAPC Grant** is part of the Manitoba Association of Women's Shelters Project. This grant has been essential for the majority of the Child Counseling Program..

Engaging Men as Allies to end Domestic Violence

As part of the Domestic Violence Strategy the Province of Manitoba has implemented a few initiatives in engaging men and boys to become active in taking a stand against domestic violence.

The Winnipeg Blue Bombers have been part of a poster and video campaign for the past number of years that speak about sexual violence, locker room talk, sexual assault, sex trafficking, domestic violence and how to be more than a bystander. The CFL released its policy on violence against women which includes annual mandatory training on violence prevention. The league also has the authority to impose sanctions on players or employees who violate the new league policy.

“Violence against women is a men’s issue. As community leaders, we are fortunate enough to have a platform to champion this cause,” said Wade Miller, Blue Bombers president and CEO.

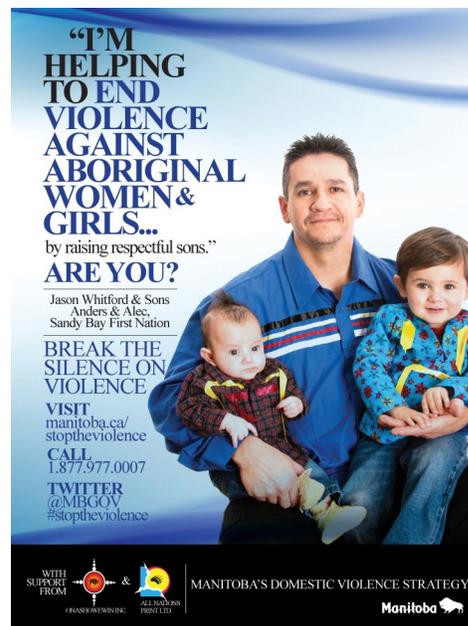
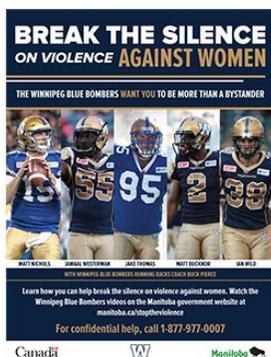
Another campaign supported by Manitoba’s Multi-year Domestic

Violence strategy is the Aboriginal Men’s Anti-Violence Campaign (AMAVC). The purpose of this campaign is to engage Aboriginal men in taking up the challenge to end violence against Aboriginal women and girls. It is being implemented in partnership with Aboriginal community agencies.

AMAVC highlights and reclaims Aboriginal men’s traditional roles as protector, provider and warrior and shines a light on positive role models who live their life in a good way by raising and honouring the women and girls in their lives. We look to Aboriginal men to become active agents of change within their families and communities.

Each of the five posters challenges other Aboriginal men to join the fight to end violence against Aboriginal women and girls and to advocate for change by honouring traditional cultural mores and the individual and collective rights of women and girls to mental, emotional, and physical safety, dignity, and personhood.

A sample of two posters shown here.



The statistics in the charts are for the South Central region only. The region served by Genesis House goes as far east as Dominion City, west to Clearwater, south to the US border, and north to Highway 2.

Bednights	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18
Women	718	924	647
Children	846	858	810
Total	1564	1782	1457

*The term Bednights refers to each night that a bed is occupied in shelter ei: Mom with two children = 3 bednights.

The Genesis House Team

Working with survivors of intimate partner abuse can be challenging and exhausting work. The staff at Genesis House are the beating heart of the organization. They approach each new resident with care and support, listening compassionately to her story. They demonstrate their compassion and commitment to quality client services everyday by listening without judgment and supporting a woman's choice. Often there are not adequate supports available to make the transition to living free of violence an easy one. I am constantly amazed at the determination by both the staff and the client to find solutions to an endless list of obstacles. The passion and strength of the team creates a vision of hope that families can and do break the cycle of violence.

Management— Angela Braun, Executive Director, Karen H., Executive Assistant

Client Support Counselors —Karen T., June G., Jane S., Anna N.,
Anita R-E., Marilyn T., Kristin G., Michele F.

Casual Support Workers — Angel R., Kristy K., Mary Ann D., Sara D.

Family Violence Prevention Program

The specialized program of The Government of Manitoba's Status of Women promotes the elimination of intimate partner violence through the development and support of community based services. The Program provides policy and program direction as well as funding to specialized services for women, their children and men caught in the cycle of family violence. These services are delivered by 33 agencies in the community across the province.

We would like to express our gratitude to the staff of Family Violence Prevention Program, especially our External agency Coordinator Nadine Smith and Director Beth Ulrich for their on going support.

2017-18 Type of Crisis Call	Number of Calls
Emergency Intervention	66
Abuse Counselling	101
Other Abuse Counselling	13
Abuse Information	11
Seeking Supports for own Abusive Behavior	0
Other Calls	114
Abuse Calls from Men	12
TOTAL	317

Volunteers

Genesis House relies on the support of many volunteers over the course of each year. We have people that assist with child care, lawn care, quilting, cleaning, and donating supplies. A heartfelt thank you to all of the people that have volunteered at Genesis House over the past year. Including a very dedicated board of directors.



Genesis House Board of Directors

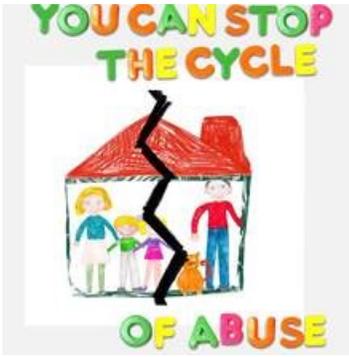
Genesis House is often seeking board members. The board provides a solid foundation in a policy governance style from which the agency operates.

If you have any interest in becoming a board member of Genesis House, contact the ED and she will forward an application form and an information package to you. Applicant must complete: Application form, Criminal Record Check (CRC), Child Abuse Registry (CAR), and Adult Abuse Registry (AAR)

The Nominations Committee will review the application form and make a recommendation to the board to accept/reject the application.

If a vacancy on the board occurs during the year prior to the AGM, the board may appoint a replacement member to fill the vacancy for the unexpired term of his/her predecessor. The replacement member would have full voting privileges.

Genesis House has not received any disclosures under The Public Interest Disclosure Act.

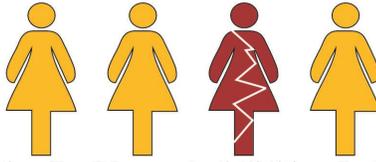


South Central Committee on Family Violence, Inc.

Box 389
Winkler, MB
R6W 4A6
Crisis Line 1-877-977-0007
Local Crisis Line 204-325-9800

Phone: 204-325-9957
Fax: 204-325-5889
E-mail: sccfv@genesis-house.ca
Website: www.geneshouseshelter.ca

A crisis facility for abused women and their children



Shelter For Women And Children In Crisis

Mark your calendars for
the Genesis House 2nd
Annual Quiz Night
March 7, 2019

How to YOU can Help

Volunteer—assist with fund-raising events, become a board member, assist in shelter activities of daily living (child care, office support, baking, cleaning)

Become a Member—Your membership shows you care and entitles you to vote at the Annual General Meetings.

Donate—materials, service, cash. We always accept food, hygiene products, and linens.

Listen and support the victims of abuse—Encourage them to seek help.

Teach Children—Self Esteem is critical to healthy development. Teach communication, empathy, and non-violent methods of conflict resolution.

United Way Grants

We are very grateful to the Altona, Morden and Winkler United Way for their ongoing support. As well as the Pilot Mound Community Canvas. Without community support we would be unable to offer the programs that we do.



Drag Races 2017

We were so excited to be chosen by the Legends Car Club for their 15th Annual Charity Airport Drag Races! The event took place on August 19 & 20 in Altona. We were happy to attend and sell 50/50 tickets. It is a great family event, with cool cars and lots of noise! We are looking forward to the Races in 2018! Many thanks again to this group that has chosen to support the work of Genesis House.



Swing for Safety

We thank the following sponsors: BSI Insurance, GreenValley Equipment, City of Morden, WBS Construction, GTP, Choice Realty, Winkler Dental, Chips/Speedy Glass, Parkside Home Building, Border-View Electric, Town of Carman/RM of Dufferin, Delmar Commodities, City of Winkler, OK Tire, Kroeker Farms, Chad's Auto Repair, Meridian Mfg, Red River Mutual, Golden-West Broadcasting, Maverick 105.1 FM, as well as the MANY businesses who donated prizes. See you in 2018!



Womens' Day

A new event was launched to celebrate International Women's Day in Morden on March 8, 2018. A Quiz Night hosted by Manitoba's own quizmaster Robin Allen took place with a sold out crowd in attendance. The superhero themed event winners were the Huron Heroes (pictured below)! Many thanks to the main event sponsor Décor Cabinets, and table sponsors: McDonald's Restaurant, Morden Home Hardware, Eagleye Printing, Access Credit Union, Pfahl's Drugs, Friesen Insurance, and Green Valley Equipment.

