



ANNUAL REPORT 2022-2023

For the Annual General Meeting
June 27, 2023

Prepared by: Executive Director,
Stephanie Taylor

RESPOND TO THE NEEDS OF OUR EMERGING AND DIVERSE CLIENTELE

STRATEGIC AREA 1

□ *New and strategically noted partnerships or developing partnerships:*

Planned Parenthood Regina –involved in “041 Community Collaboration for Sexual Health & Wellness” as a subject matter expert

Public Health primary care –consultation with shelters, possible outreach services to our clients

Sask Abilities –work placement coordinator

Get to Give –client ordered donations

□ *Emergency Outreach Services continues –Funding now secured until April 2024*

During the 6 month period from December 2022 to May 2023 59 women and 57 children were represented on our Emergency Outreach client list. The most common concern among those needing our assistance was to find safe housing. Of these 20% were eventually admitted to our emergency shelter due to intimate partner violence. Others were assisted on securing housing, making safety plans, and accessing referrals.

□ *Addiction’s Support Program Pimatisiwin – expanded funding and hours achieved for June 2023-June 2024*

The weekly groups for in-shelter and Outreach clients have proven to be popular. At least 53% of our clients disclose challenges with substance misuse. In a typical month around 30 hours of direct counselling support is provided to in-house clients by the Addiction’s Support Worker. At least 21 people attend the in-shelter and Outreach groups (May 2023). Many groups incorporate Indigenous teachings and practices, and opportunities to engage in ceremony and cultural activities in the community.

“Staff is very attentive to clients and wants all women in the house to thrive.” –Anonymous client, September 2022

NEW!

Pet-Friendly Shelter Program!

Anything is *Paw-sible*



Our Pet-Friendly program at the shelter has been up and running for a few months now!

www.reginatransitionhouse.ca

- # OF WOMEN WITH PETS ON WAITLIST JULY 2022-JUNE 2023: 45
- # OF CHILDREN 48
- # OF PETS 33 CATS, 15 DOGS, 4 OTHER
- # OF FAMILIES KNOWN TO HAVE ACCESSED SHELTER SPACES WITHOUT THEIR PETS OUT OF NECESSITY 6
- # OF FAMILY PETS KNOWN TO HAVE BEEN SURRENDERED WHILE WAITING FOR PET-FRIENDLY SHELTER SPACES 6

Beginning to quantify the need

OUTCOMES ON PET-FRIENDLY SPACES

Goals:

- 1) Host between 12-18 families with pets in our emergency pet friendly shelter spaces.
- 2) Develop a full compliment of supports, policy, and procedure for this program.
- 3) Find additional funds to continue this program past March 2023.
- 4) Help 85% of these families secure long-term affordable housing with their pets.

Outcomes:

- 1) Hosted 9 families -1 space until October 2022, then 2 spaces up to present date 2023 (9 women, 7 children, 12 pets -9 cats & 3 dogs)
- 2) Forms and policy/procedures in place but evolving, specialty supports and vet care for pets developed in collaboration with Sask SPCA, Regina Humane Society, and The Hydeout Dog Training Centre
- 3) Funds extended to September 2023, and \$20,000 raised by Safe Paws Gala. Funding beyond September 2023 remains unconfirmed.
- 4) 89% of families in program secured long-term pet friendly housing (1 was waiting on pet-friendly social housing but had place to live with pet while waiting)

FOSTER COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

STRATEGIC AREA 2

Marketing and awareness efforts

- ❑ Some challenges with loss of previous social media contractor. Presented an opportunity to further professionalize our social media channels and management.
- ❑ Recently started contract with Grey Dove Design to further advance our social media presence, branding, and improve social media management.
- ❑ CBC French television and radio, LeaderPost, John Gormely, Global television, CTV
- ❑ Walk a Mile booth, Women's March, RPL Job Fair, RCMP French presentation, present at PATHS conference –Recharging & Regrouping, Outreach displays at 3 library branches for Moose Hide Campaign (in partnership with RSAC)

Advocacy on service gaps

- ❑ Leader on Pet-friendly sheltering in Saskatchewan –participation in the ACT project, Sask SPCA Co-sheltering network, attendance at conferences (PATHS, My Dog is my Home Conference (virtual), Co-Sheltering Conference (on-line), SPCA Cultivating Wellness Conference in Saskatoon).
- ❑ Participation in Community Well-being table and recent meetings regarding encampments – advocacy on homelessness and connection to GBV and harm reduction
- ❑ Participation in Community of Practice hosted by Women's Shelters Canada on Harm Reduction in women's shelters



“When I was mentally overwhelmed about my situation, they explained everything in a very supportive way” - Anonymous client May 2022

FOSTER A STRONG AND INCLUSIVE ENVIRONMENT

STRATEGIC AREA 3

Invest in the development of staff and board members

- ❑ Main focus this year has been recruiting, retaining, and training an adequate amount of casuals and developing new full-time team members. This has been a significant portion of our new Manager's time and effort and a new orientation training package has been built in conjunction with staff input.
- ❑ The use of senior staff "experts" to provide feedback, training, participation on personnel committee, and stats support has been crucial in this year of transition.
- ❑ Developed a Temporary Assignment of Higher Duties roster and guidelines for team members with a minimum 1 year experience and other qualifying competencies can put their name up for supervisory coverage when our Manager or Director are not available. This was developed at the UMC table.
- ❑ Newer Board members have been stepping in to key executive and committee roles as part of Board's succession planning.
- ❑ Board experts on areas of needed support for ED have been consulted this year (i.e. HR legal consults, major technology projects and transitions).

Develop a plan focused on retention and operational efficiencies

- ❑ New training and staff development has focused on improving the efficiency of front of house operations and improved flow of information.

- ❑ Year long training and workshops provided at team meetings regarding organizational culture and appropriate problem solving.
- ❑ Team building activities and staff appreciation opportunities more frequent

Develop a technology plan

- ❑ Transitioned to SaskTel for all Wifi and remote network access service.
- ❑ Database format for improved stats collection has been built. Next step is to integrate it's use first with administrative team.
- ❑ Currently developing plan to transition email to O365 with Barry and volunteer Rob –to be switched over this summer
- ❑ Planning for server transition next –to iCloud

ENSURE LONG-TERM FINANCIAL SUSTAINABILITY

Enhance funding

- Safe Paws Gala held with SOFIA House and helped us exceed our fundraising revenue budget for the year.
- Donations exceeded expectations this year
- Grant funding sources continue to grow and diversify –added WAGE funds

Build capacity to effectively measure and report on outcomes

- A database was built for improved data collection, but needs to be implemented in to use and staff trained.
- Responsibility for first steps in gathering and transmitting stats now performed by a staff person trained as a DVC.

Adopt environmentally sustainable practices and policies

- Installed tank-less water heater when the opportunity arose.
- Monitoring utilities to detect water leaks and repair them.
- Increased use of public transit for clients.
- Fabric recycling or full use of life cycle –left over donations to Community Living

STRATEGIC AREA 4

Bathroom, kitchen, and deck renovations were achieved this year with grant funding



EMERGENCY SHELTER SUMMARY

The facts in numbers

Each year we receive far more calls for assistance to our Crisis Line than we are able to respond to immediately, or at all. This past fiscal year April 2022-March 2023:

- ❑ We turned away 1165 new clients with around 67% of those being due to capacity (either waitlisted, referred elsewhere, or not added) and 33% due to mandate (i.e. housing). Around 1% of those seeking assistance are turned away due to other reasons such as safety of staff and clients, conflict, or substance misuse.
- ❑ We had 1476 total calls for assistance and/or support to our Crisis Line which represents a further 9% increase in calls.
- ❑ 234 Women and Children stayed at the shelter

- ❑ In the month of May, Outreach had 35 active clients. 80% or more of our clients sign up to participate in or at least have contact with our Outreach Advocate and program.
- ❑ The Outreach Team delivered 150 direct programming hours in 2022 –including women’s groups, children’s activities and teen groups.



LOOKING AHEAD

WHAT WILL WE ASPIRE TO ACCOMPLISH IN 2023-2024?

- Imagine Canada Re-Certification
- Build new strategic plan with new strategic areas of focus for the organization –have it implemented and in use by end of fiscal year 2023-2024
- Raise increased funds with the Safe Paws Gala
- Secure funding to maintain Pet-Friendly Shelter spaces
- Complete a full year of analysis on effectiveness and reach of our in-shelter Addiction's Support Program
- Have a staff trained in the Safer Together model for working with families
- Help more women and families access our shelter when they need it –assist 325 individuals

85% of women completing the client survey strongly agreed or agreed that they felt culturally supported and 70% of women reported being offered the opportunity to meet with an elder and/or participate in Indigenous cultural opportunities in the shelter

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Our donors, funding partners, and sponsors helped us achieve and exceed our fundraising and programming goals for the year!



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(PAGE 5)

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