

Annual Report

2021-2022



Crisis Line - 519-354-6360 www.ckwc.ca

# Message from the President of the Board

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This past year for the Chatham Kent Women's Centre has been better than ever. This is because of the commitment from everyone involved - our staff, our volunteers, our board, and of course, the people who have donated. Without all of you, this Centre would not exist. We would not have been able to help the ones who need it. Everyone stepped up through COVID-19 and I cannot thank you enough.

I would like to personally thank local hotels and motels for stepping up and providing shelter to those who needed it when we were unable to. With their help, we were able to ensure people had a place to stay when they needed it most.

I am very excited for the year to come. With everything returning to normal, we can further open our doors, provide our services, and hopefully get back to hosting our great events.

Lastly, and most importantly, to the women of the shelter: remember that you are strong, you are capable, you are brave, and you will thrive in the years to come.

Jesse Hope, President

Our Board of Directors

Jesse Hope President

Tammy McFadden
Vice President

Teri Simmons Secretary

Jane Pinsonnault
Treasurer

Gary Conn Director

Jeff Millman
Director

Nicole Powers

Director

Chris Case
Director







# Empowered women empower women

People were welcoming, understanding and supportive

They are there to help you when your in need.

I'm grateful for all the resources given and offered



We, along with the rest of the world, are continuing to cope with the impacts of COVID-19. The resiliency and adaptability of our whole team to respond and change our whole service delivery model in a very quick time frame has been a great source of pride for us at the Chatham Kent Women's Centre. We continued to deliver virtual services and supports and ramped up our capacity to deliver meals and food supports across Chatham-Kent.

In 2021-22, women and children continued to be the overwhelming majority of victims of gender-based violence and abuse. But of course, 2020-2022 changed everything. From our first disturbing news reports of a new virus outbreak to the official declaration of a pandemic and an Ontario-wide lockdown, the final months of this operational year have been anything but "business as usual".

This year, I cannot express how profoundly grateful I am that our staff has risen to the challenge of these times with complete dedication and unending commitment to the safety and well-being of our residents. They stepped up, rolled up their sleeves, and worked tirelessly in order to provide women and children with a safe home and supportive services. Thank you for your ongoing support of the Chatham Kent Women's Centre. We look forward to working with you in the year ahead.

Karrie Spotton Residential Supervisor

# We can help



3,239

Crisis and support calls answered on our 24 hour phone line 519-354-6360



107 women



98 children

were provided safe emergency shelter



4,004

nights spent in our emergency shelter



278

women were assisted by our Outreach Counsellors



1,781

hours were spent counselling women



322

women were assisted by our Transitional and Housing Support Worker



individuals were supported with system navigation of family court



children received supportive counselling



7 women 8 children

lived safely in our Second Stage housing "Nancy's Place"



# Making a difference

When looking back on the past year, I am truly in awe of what our staff and Board of Directors were able to accomplish.

In the midst of a global pandemic and unprecedented rate of intimate partner violence and Human Trafficking, we were able to provide 24 hour emergency shelter services at the Women's Centre and local hotel/motels, support services to women and children and Second Stage housing. The challenges the pandemic presented to the Women's Centre cannot be minimized.

Our staff have worked tirelessly to develop new ways to support women and children.

In spite of the pandemic, we have also created new partnerships with community agency's to solve some very complicated barriers and issues faced by women and children fleeing intimate partner violence.

Karen Hunter - Executive Director















# Community Donations and Events









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Community Supporters

Each year, the CKWC relies on and is very grateful for the variety of donations and monetary gifts given to us by a very generous community. In 2019 to 2020 we received \$69,911 in monetary donations and in 2021-2022 we received an astounding \$146,545 in monetary donations. A 53% increase. I would like to thank all of the individuals and groups who continually support our agency. We could not do the work we do without your support.

Several notable fundraising events took place.

Amber Pinsonneault from Royal LePage Peifer Realty Inc. headed to British Columba to do an amazing 100 km trek through the Purcell mountains in the "Challenge for Shelter" event and raised over \$10,000 for our shelter.

In November, Advanced Basement Systems and 99.1 CKXS Radio in Wallaceburg raised over \$6,000 in cash and a van loaded with food for our "Shine the Light" campaign.

In December Carson Warrener from Royal LePage Peifer Realty Inc. raised over \$16,000 for the Women's Centre We have amazing support in our community!

Karen Hunter - Executive Director



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Community presentations







932

women and children benefited from your generosity



# "It's a privilege to be able to bear witness to someone's story when they may not have had the chance to tell it before." -Lindy Alexander

20 + Years of Service

Terilyn Bourdeau Zahra Elhussein 15+ Years of Service

Sara Devlaminck

10+ Years of Service Dawn DaCosta Luisa Teasdale Erika Jones

Darlinys Diaz Pages

5+ Years of Service Laura Pinsonneault Kimberly Pask Patrizia Zonta Karen Hunter

Karrie Spotton

1 + Years of Service

Kristine Holland

Juel Stonehouse

Alicia Blair

Caitlin Chevalier

Jennifer Delaney

Lori Sheppard

Kim Poissant

Tammy Chouinard

Kim Poissant

Resigned
Alex Mungar
Zoe Delrue
Nadia Grenier
Briana Robinson
Carrie-Ann Odie
Michelle Buchan
Emily Wagner
Amanda Kelley

It was a safe place to call home.

Everyone was respectful and acceptive of me

the staff are kind and humble

# We can help







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A very special thank you to all of the staff at the Women's Centre who have continued to provide compassionate, trauma informed services to women & children.

Once again, it has been an honour and privilege to work with a dedicated team of women.

Karen Hunter - Executive Director

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#### **Community Committees**

Chatham-Kent Coordinating Committee to End Violence Against Women

Co-Chair - Karen I Coordinator - Kristine

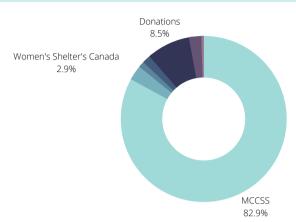
Child & Partner Violence Social Planning Table Member - Karen

Peer to Peer - Member - Karen

Suicide Prevention Committee - Member - Amanda Anti Human Trafficking Committee - Member - Karen

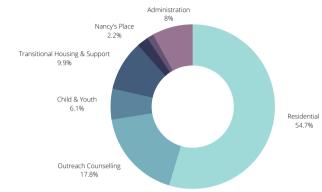


## Financials



#### Revenue

Provincial (MCCSS)	\$ 1,	433,399
Women's Shelters Canada	.\$	50,092
MAG	. \$	20,000
Nancy's Place	\$	28,279
Donations	\$	146,545
Fundraising/Grants	. \$	41,707
Interest	\$	<u>8,111</u>
Total Revenue	\$1,	728,133



#### Expenditures

Residential Program	. \$	841,896		
Outreach Counselling	\$	274,226		
Child & Youth	\$	93,369		
Transitional Housing	\$	152,730		
and Support				
Nancy's Place	\$	34,460		
MAG	\$	20,000		
COVID-19 Expenses	. \$	148,736		
Administration	\$	123,808		
Total Expenditures	\$1	,689,225		

The 2021-2022 year was another challenging period for the Chatham Kent Women's Centre (CKWC) as we continued to deal with uncertainty related to the ongoing effects of the COVID-19 pandemic. We had a year of ups and downs with Public Health restrictions and the CKWC had to adapt to many changes quickly. Overall revenue was down about one hundred thousand dollars, with a slight dip in ministry funding due to lower pandemic costs and the loss of the municipal funding.

With the loss of funding the CKWC was able to tighten spending from the prior year in areas like repairs, maintenance, and COVID related costs. We did see some increases in wages and benefits along with program costs as we saw the return of some staff and programs as COVID restrictions began to lift. The CKWC has been and will continue to be challenged by a tight labour market and rising costs due to inflation.

Overall revenue for the Centre was down about eighty-seven thousand dollars but with all the challenges faced this year the CKWC was able to stay in the positive with revenue just over forty-two thousand dollars. A big accomplishment for the team was another record setting year in community donations. The CKWC relies heavily on the community for donations and every year we are grateful for the support to be able to continue serving the women and children of Chatham Kent.

I would like to take a moment to recognize the Finance Committee members who met monthly to discuss challenges, ensure financial accuracy and review the financial results. Thank you to Jeff Millman, Jesse Hope and Shelley MacDonald for all your contributions to the committee.

Jane Pinsonneault - Treasurer

# Working towards a safer tomorrow

## 2021-2024 Strategic Plan



## Client Focused Enhanced Service Delivery

To offer the most comprehensive programs and essential services to women and children



## Staff and Board Development

To increase diversity within staff and board members to maximize their impact on services.



### Marketing and sustainable Growth

Enhance our marketing and communication model to adequately finance programming and increase volunteer and board capacity.



## Enhanced Community Awareness and Education

Develop a comprehensive network of service providers and community resources in order for women and children to live safely in our community free of violence.



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@ckwomenscentre















