



**Halton Women's Place**  
*Healthy Relationships • Healthy Communities*

# A YEAR IN REVIEW

April 1, 2019 - March 31, 2020



# Transitional Housing

## Did you know?

- A lack of stable housing further increases a women's risk of re-victimization. (Wilder Research Center, 2016)
- Women will sometimes return to their abusers due to a lack of other options. In Halton, housing prices have increased substantially in recent years leaving women with little choice between homelessness and returning to an abusive situation.
- Transitional housing plays a vital role in helping survivors of domestic violence maintain independent lives free from violence. (Women's Shelters Canada, 2019)

*Our transitional housing units bridge the housing gap by allowing women to heal from trauma, access supportive services, and develop community, all while offering safety for women who are at an increased risk of violence. This stability in a safe space of their own offers the opportunity to move forward with a life free of violence and to provide this life to their children!*

In 2017 HWP partnered with Habitat for Humanity and Halton Region and opened one unit that has to date, seen 4 clients go through! In 2019-2020, HWP was in the midst of opening 3 more units through the program. At our February 2020 Gala we asked our guests to help fund the project of furnishing our next 5 units with a goal of \$40,000. That evening, our community broke through that goal and helped raise more than \$100,000 for this program!

We look forward to these units opening and furnishing them to be homes for families re-starting their lives free of violence.

Thank you to our donors who made this happen!



## HWP Stats 2019/20

In 2019-2020 HWP assisted 113 women and 113 children in our residential (in shelter) program.

The average occupancy rate for Milton was 88% and 93% for Burlington. However, HWP operated for many months over 100% capacity.

We received 2167 crisis calls  
Our Transitional and Supportive Housing Program assisted with 314 families\*

Our Bridging Families Program worked with 217 children and 105 families.\*\*

Our Court Support Worker assisted 110 clients.\*\*\*

\* Community-based services for women and their children who are experiencing abuse, including support, community referrals, safety planning, crisis counselling.

\*\* Bridging Families is an initiative between the Halton Children's Aid Society (Halton CAS) and Halton Women's Place that provides services to families experiencing domestic violence.

\*\*\* Support and information about legal processes in Family Court, safety planning, advocacy, referrals to lawyers and other service providers and supports, assistance applying for Legal Aid, court and legal appointment accompaniment and assistance filling out forms and documentation of abuse

## Safe Shelter Program

The Halton Women's Place Safe Shelter Program gives corporations the opportunity to partner with us to provide safety, shelter and support to women and children affected by violence in their homes.

Through this program, you will position your company as one that is recognized as taking a lead role in ending violence against women and children. Your donation will show your commitment to creating healthy relationships and healthy communities.

## Safe Shelter Sponsors



Nora's Gift Foundation

Quadra Chemicals

Royal LePage Burloak  
Real Estate Services

Woodbine Entertainment

Moen

Gordon Food Services

## Thank You, HWP

*"There seemed to be an abundance of donations and resources available to us....at a time where we all felt like we had to lose things or leave things behind, it helps to be able to get some new things for our fresh start"*

*"They made my kids and I feel comfortable and safe. And tried in every way to help us."*

*"The staff were amazing, always ready to listen and help."*

*My housing transition support worker saw me at my lowest and she always approached me with empathy, compassion and kindness, when I needed it the most. I honestly do not know where I would be without your organization*

Client Testimonials - 2019-20

## Halton Police

**Woman Abuse Statistics for Halton (From the Halton Regional Police Services )**

In 2019, the Halton Regional Police Services responded to 3592 intimate partner domestic calls for service resulting in 781 arrests and 1648 criminal charges.



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## Public Education Program

Our Public Education Program, Healthy Relationships = Healthy Communities, as well as our male ally program, engageMENT, continues to be delivered to schools across Halton. Delivering presentations on topics related to dating, healthy relationships and healthy masculinity, these programs continue to be in high demand in our community with the goal of preventing violence before it starts.



## *A Final Message from the Executive Director - Diane Beaulieu*

As the Executive Director of Halton Women's Place, I am inspired daily by the strength of women who make the daunting decision to end the violence in their lives. Both locally and globally women are impacted by violence which can take many forms, has no boundaries and can affect anyone. It is a serious and pervasive problem which destroys the right to a safe, secure and healthy life. Violence against women is a pandemic that has affected women historically and continues to this day.

In 2019-2020 Halton Women's Place provided services to 759 women and children and responded to over 2000 crisis calls. HWP continues to operate our shelters at or over capacity on a monthly basis. Together with the management team, our staff worked diligently to make a temporary shelter feel like home for the women and children who are forced to escape the violence perpetrated upon them. Our employees have been outstanding in their adaptation and out of the box thinking. I applaud each and every one as we continue providing best in class service to women and children.

On March 15, 2020 as we neared the end of our year, COVID-19 hit and sheltering as we knew it changed overnight. Public Health and Government provided guidance on isolation and social distancing.

The way HWP provided services had to change. Our kitchens were closed as were all congregate spaces. Needless to say the next four weeks were a bit chaotic as we adjusted to the new normal. Our crisis calls decreased, not because violence ceased but because abused women are now isolated with abusive partners with no way of reaching out for support.

We are an organization that is dealing with a pandemic within a pandemic. All the while we endeavor to improve our capacity, our systems and our programs focusing on shaping our work for the future. Each year we continue to see HWP growing stronger, both in our ability to provide short term residential services, community outreach programs, court support and education to the Halton community.

Our Development, Outreach, Court Support and Education team have been deployed to home offices. All are working hard to bring awareness to the issue of woman abuse. If you are reading this and you know someone who may be in an abusive situation please reach out to them. You may be a lifeline.

In closing I would like to express my gratitude to the donors who have stepped up to help us with financial donations that help keep our services running, those who have provided dinners for our clients and much needed PPE.

In addition I thank the many organizations that support our efforts; our corporate donors, individual donors, the Region of Halton, the Burlington Foundation, the Oakville Foundation and our primary funders MCSS and the Attorney General.

Thank you to our management team and staff. Without question, our employees, volunteers and community partners, are the heart of HWP. Thank you to our Board Chair Caroline Hogwood for her leadership and guidance. Caroline, I have learned so much from you. Thank you to our Board of Directors for their vision and support for Halton Women's Place and the women and children we are privileged to serve. It is only because of this generous group of funders, donors and community partners in collaboration with dedicated staff and Board that we are able to continue to provide crucial life altering services to women and children.

*This will be my last annual report as I am retiring on September 1st, 2020. I wish you all the best, be well. Stay safe.*

*"Because A Life Without Violence Is The Only Life To Live"*

**- Diane Beaulieu – Executive Director**

## **Thank You!**

*Halton Women's Place recognizes that the community has a huge impact on the organization as a whole, and the work that our staff do, each and every day. We are grateful for all of our donors and supporters who have chosen to give a gift towards our programs and services – and most importantly – the women and children who we assist each and every day.*



*Thank you*

**THANK YOU** - to those who organized amazing events to help us last year!  
Including but not exclusive –  
Chris Amell and Tin Cup, Burlington  
Royal LePage Shelter Foundation and local realtors who trekked the Sahara Desert!  
Royal LePage Burloak  
Tiger Jeet Singh Foundation  
Fionna Gossling  
Gift of Giving Back Food Drive  
Whitney Hammond, Wallet to Wealth  
Maplehurst Correctional Facility (OPSEU)

*Invest in keeping women and children safe.*

*To make a gift to Halton Women's Place, email [cbozzo@haltonwomensplace.com](mailto:cbozzo@haltonwomensplace.com)*

## *Board of Directors 2019-2020 (as of March 31, 2020)*

### **President**

Caroline Hogwood

### **Vice President:**

Heather Colquhoun

### **Ex-Officio**

Diane Beaulieu

### **Treasurer**

Derek Payne

### **Corporate Secretary**

Janet Pickell

### **Directors:**

Megan Cheema, Jerry Dias, Barbara Love, Leslie Starr-Hemburrow

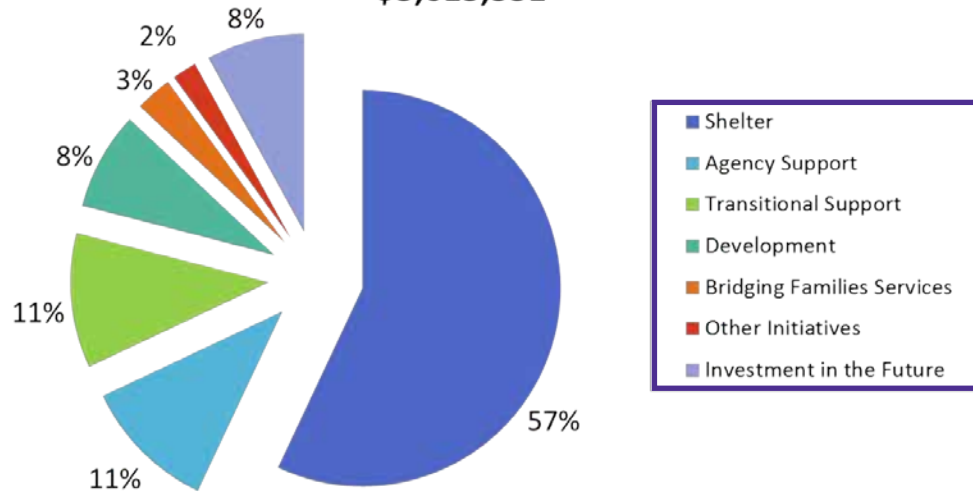
# Financial Report

April 1, 2019 - March 31, 2020

Audited financial statements available upon request

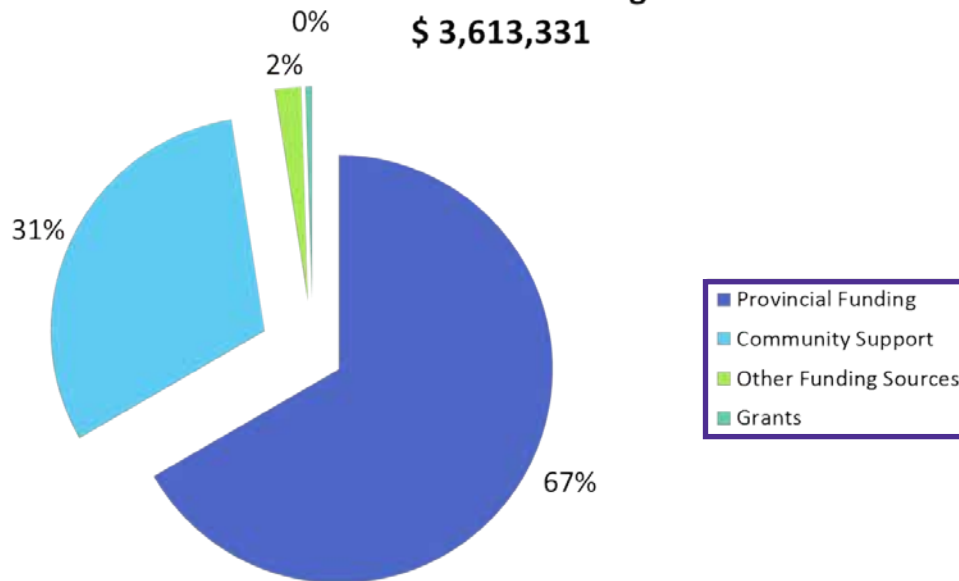
## Operational Expenses

\$3,613,331



## Sources of Funding

\$ 3,613,331



**Halton Women's Place**

*Healthy Relationships • Healthy Communities*

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