



Annual Report 2024/2025

Building an ecosystem
of care for all survivors



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Our **mission** is to increase safety and support for survivors of gender-based violence while advocating for social change.

We offer **wraparound services** for women, girls, trans, and gender-diverse people who have experienced intimate partner violence, physical assault, or sexualized violence.

Our **vision** is safety, justice, and equality for all survivors.



Progress, partnership, and transformation

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Shahnaz Rahman

This past year has been one of transformation and renewal for Surrey Women’s Centre. With the steadfast support of our partners and donors, we have continued to strengthen the network of care that survivors of gender-based violence rely on every day, while laying the foundation for an exciting new chapter in our history.

One of our proudest milestones was securing the future home of Surrey’s first sexual assault centre. With space confirmed and renovations now almost complete, Windrose will soon open its doors as a trauma-informed centre designed to offer safety, healing, and hope to survivors across our community. This new space will stand as a beacon of what is possible when compassion and collaboration unite in action.

Throughout this period of growth, our team has remained deeply committed to those we serve. Their compassion, professionalism, and resilience ensure that women, children, and families in crisis find safety, support, and dignity when they need it most.

The generosity of our donors, community partners, and support of our funders continue to inspire us. Through initiatives

such as our 2024 Holiday Campaign and Angel Tree Program, we have seen firsthand the impact that collective giving can have. The 2025 Campaign is shaping up to be equally positive. Every contribution—large or small—makes a lasting difference in the lives of survivors.



I would like to extend my heartfelt gratitude to our dedicated Board of Directors, whose guidance and vision, under the leadership of Board President Manpreet Dhillon, have been instrumental in advancing our mission. My deepest thanks also go to our incredible staff team, whose unwavering commitment and compassion drive this vital work every day.

As we look to the future, I invite you to continue walking beside us—by becoming a monthly donor, sharing our mission, or helping spread the message that safety and hope belong to everyone.

Together, we are building a future where every survivor is seen, supported, and empowered to rebuild with dignity.

BOARD PRESIDENT

Manpreet Dhillon

As my first year as Board President comes to a close, I am filled with gratitude and resolve; gratitude for the unwavering dedication of our community and resolve for the work ahead. This year has been one of significant progress, meaningful partnership, and quiet challenge. I’m profoundly inspired by the strength of the survivors we serve, in awe of the resilience of our staff, and deeply appreciative of our Board, volunteers and donors who make this work possible.



We have taken bold steps forward. Most notably, we are inching closer to opening Surrey’s first dedicated Sexual Assault Centre; a milestone in our province’s commitment to supporting survivors of sexual violence. While renovations are still underway, the work of the Centre is already in motion. Surrey Women’s Centre continues to provide trauma-informed, wraparound and culturally-safe services every day; ensuring that survivors receive the care, advocacy, and support they need, even before the doors officially open. The new hub will soon bring these vital services together under one roof, strengthening our ability to respond swiftly and compassionately to those who need us.

In parallel, we maintain strong relationships with community partners across health, justice and social services. Together, we are building an ecosystem of care that supports survivors not just in moments of crisis, but along their longer healing journey.

This year was not without its difficulties. Demand for our services continues to grow, and the gap between need and capacity remains. Our staff and volunteers have shown remarkable resilience as they navigate heavier caseloads, complex needs, and organizational change with the new Centre. The renovation process itself has required strong oversight, patience and flexibility. Financial pressures continue to test us, and sustainable funding and flexible resources remain essential if we are to meet the promise of our vision.

In the coming year, our focus will be on executing on our ongoing programs and commitments, maintaining strong partnerships, and ensuring the wellbeing of our staff and volunteers, and always with a view to putting survivors first.

I am honoured to serve as Board President, and look forward to seeing where we go from here.



Top: Manpreet with fellow Board member, Danielle VanderEnde, at a ceremony honouring Shahnaz Rahman. **Above:** Pictured with Past President, RJ Lundquist and guest at the Insightful Wealth Group fundraising event.

BOARD PRESIDENT

Rooted in justice, grounded in community

A profile on Manpreet Dhillon, SWC Board President by Alexandra Kilian

When Manpreet returned to the Lower Mainland, she brought with her a longstanding commitment to gender equity and social justice. Coming back was the catalyst for seeking deeper local involvement, ultimately leading her to Surrey Women’s Centre, an organization whose grassroots impact aligns with the values she has carried throughout her life.

Manpreet lived in Calgary for a decade, where she volunteered with the YWCA’s marketing department and supported gender-equity initiatives. Her dedication is equally present in her career. While in law school, she helped organize *Law Needs Feminism Because* with the theme *Innovative Intersectionality*. This major conference aimed to show that intersectionality had a critical part to play in pushing the boundaries of how law can be used for social justice issues.

That commitment is rooted in her identity and upbringing. As a Punjabi Sikh, she was raised with principles of equity, service, and social responsibility. She grew up watching her grandmother, a woman she described as extraordinarily strong, quietly support neighbours and community members. Whether providing free childcare or offering refuge to women fleeing gender-based violence, Manpreet’s grandmother embodied the kind of everyday justice work that often goes unnoticed. After her passing, Manpreet felt compelled to carry that legacy forward.

She reflected on how many people feel overwhelmed by global crises, becoming disempowered by issues too large to tackle alone. For her, the antidote lies in turning toward community. Surrey Women’s Centre, with its deep local roots and survivor-centred mandate, represents the tangible work that reminds her of purpose and possibility. “It’s necessary,” she noted, “for people to support the programming that sustains their own communities.”

Manpreet’s career lies in environmental and regulatory law, addressing issues such as modern slavery, forced and child labour, and Indigenous reconciliation. She sees her legal work as part of the broader social justice ecosystem: a corporate and regulatory avenue for advancing accountability and pushing institutions toward meaningful commitments. She believes that environmental issues and social inequity are interconnected, and increasingly visible in the wake of extreme climate events that disproportionately affect vulnerable communities.

Despite her expertise, she remains committed to demystifying the idea that only “experts” can contribute meaningfully to this work. Being a lawyer has sharpened skills that she views as transferable tools instead of barriers to participation. Her position with Surrey Women’s Centre reflects her belief that anyone with passion and willingness to learn can offer value.

Outside of her professional and volunteer commitments, Manpreet embraces a quieter passion: gardening. After years as a litigator in a fast-paced, reactive profession, she has found peace in tending tomatoes and learning the intricacies of soil, water, and growth.

In every space she enters, Manpreet carries forward the lessons of her grandmother, culture, religion, and community: rooted in values and committed to building a more just world close to home.

DONOR RECOGNITION

Christine LaLiberté: Bringing a community together with purpose

Celebrating collaborative fundraising alongside Insightful Wealth Group by Gabriela De Romeri



Every May, Insightful Wealth Group hosts a Spring Open House to thank their clients, celebrate community, and reflect on the values that guide their work.

With Christine LaLiberté’s advocacy and their clients’ generosity, this year’s event raised \$32,201 for Surrey Women’s Centre—quadruple the amount from last year’s event—and filled the SMART van with in-kind donations.

For Christine, inviting us into this annual tradition was a natural fit. “We want our Open House to reflect the values that matter most to our team: community, compassion, and empowerment. Surrey Women’s Centre embodies it all. Their work is not just vital; it’s transformative. It felt like a natural extension of our commitment to supporting survivors and amplifying voices that deserve to be heard.”

Christine first connected with us while searching for an organization dedicated to supporting those impacted

by violence and sexual assault, which are “tragically widespread and deeply personal.” As Christine said, “It doesn’t matter your race, religion, or economic status. This affects all of us. Surrey Women’s Centre stood out immediately. Their commitment to serving all survivors with dignity and urgency resonated with me, and I wanted to be part of that mission in a lasting way.”

Christine matched every dollar donated at this year’s Open House, doubling the impact of her clients’ generosity. Beyond the numbers, what stood out most was the energy in the room. “It was incredibly moving,” Christine recalled. “The generosity we witnessed was a testament to how deeply people care when they understand the impact of their giving. People weren’t just donating, they were asking questions, sharing stories, and genuinely connecting with the cause. It felt like a community coming together with purpose.”

And come together they did. Christine encouraged attendees to bring clothing for our Sharing Closet, and by the end of the evening, the SMART van was packed to the roof with bags of gently used clothing that directly supported survivors and their families.



Left: Christine pictured with the Surrey Women’s Centre team at the IWG Spring Open House in May.

Christine’s support extends beyond the annual Open Houses; one of her proudest milestones has been helping to launch our Jane Doe Legal Clinic, which has provided summary legal advice to survivors since 2022. “Knowing that survivors now have access to legal support is incredibly powerful,” she said. “When we support women, we uplift entire families and communities.”

“Every time we hear new stories of resilience and recovery, it reinforces why this partnership matters,” she said. “It’s not just about services; it’s about dignity, safety, and hope.” That philosophy extends to her belief in corporate responsibility, sharing that “companies have influence, and with that comes responsibility. Giving back isn’t just good business; it’s good citizenship. When we support organizations like this, we’re investing in a safer, more compassionate community. That benefits everyone, including our clients and employees.”

The 2025 Spring Open House was more than a celebration; it was a statement of values, generosity, and shared responsibility. With Christine’s guidance and the wholehearted participation of Insightful Wealth Group’s clients, it demonstrated the incredible change that can happen when business, community and compassion meet.

“Survivors are not statistics. They’re our neighbours, friends, and colleagues,” Christine reminds us. “Supporting them means believing in their strength and standing up for their right to heal. Every donation, every volunteer hour, every conversation helps build a world where survivors are seen, heard, and supported.”

Rooted: Reimagining Support for Black Survivors of Gender-Based Violence

by Alexandra Kilian

For this year's Black History Month, we brought community members together to deepen understanding of what meaningful, culturally grounded support for Black survivors could look like. *Rooted: Reimagining Support for Black Survivors of Gender-Based Violence* featured a keynote presentation by Yamikani Msosa, Executive Director of the Ottawa Coalition to End Violence Against Women (OCTEVAW), whose presence and wisdom shaped the gathering into a call for both reflection and action.

An award-winning feminist activist and public policy advocate, Yami (they/them) has spent more than 17 years in the anti-violence movement. Their work with organizations like the Ontario Coalition of Rape Crisis Centres and Sexual Assault Support Centre of Ottawa has advanced Black feminist abolitionist approaches to preventing gender-based violence. They also founded SEEDS Yoga for Survivors and Yoga for Black Grief, creating spaces for Black communities to access somatic healing, and co-chaired a national initiative to advance gender equity for black women, girls, and gender-diverse people.

Yami's presentation invited participants to consider what becomes possible when formal networks in the gender-based violence sector collaborate with grassroots movements and peer-support ecosystems. They emphasized the importance of reimagining accountability, justice, and care through community-centred, intersectional approaches. Their message encouraged attendees to think beyond institutional limitations and toward models of support rooted in dignity, cultural safety, and shared responsibility.

Central to the event was the We Are Rooted Black Hair Care Drive, an OCTEVAW initiative that recognizes the significance of Black hair in healing and reclaiming identity. Black survivors often face systemic barriers when accessing care, ranging from a lack of appropriate products to experiences of racism, cultural insensitivity, and inadequate resources. Because Black hair is deeply connected to identity and self-expression, the initiative frames hair care as both a practical need and a pathway to autonomy, belonging, and empowerment.

“Think beyond institutions and toward support rooted in dignity, cultural safety, and shared responsibility.”

This year's Drive expanded nationally, with donation points in Barrie, Toronto, Surrey, Halifax, and Ottawa. Community members contributed unopened Black hair care products or made financial donations, while organizations and volunteers helped collect, sort, and redistribute items within gender-based violence service networks. Surrey Women's Centre joined other partners like WomenatthecentrE and Empowerment for Hope to ensure that culturally relevant hair care reached survivors who needed it.



Left: Yamikani Msosa and Sonya Boyce, our former Executive Director and WomenatthecentrE collaborator, pictured at Rooted.

By meeting a tangible need, the Drive addressed broader systemic inequities—from economic barriers to the ways racialized body politics shape access to care.

Rooted also featured meaningful contributions from community members and creators. Sandra Pronteau opened the gathering with courage and vulnerability, and Michelle St. Hill of Eddie & Ev Salon shared her community-driven work and made a generous donation to the Hair Care Drive. The event was supported by a range of vendors and artists, including Cowrie Collective (décor), Café Di Reggae (food), Second Narrows Technology (sound equipment), Kyle Pavan (sound technician), Sydney Dahl (poetry), and Asmaite Gebremichael (music).

As Black History Month and Black Mental Health Week concluded, our team committed to ongoing learning, undergoing a series of anti-racism and anti-oppression workshops with Bakau Consulting. The event was both a celebration of community care and a reminder of our collective responsibility to build systems that honour Black survivors' experiences with nuance, cultural integrity, and compassion.

Support for youth survivors thanks to the City of Surrey

An introduction to the SEEN Project with Surrey Women's Centre by Alexandra Kilian

In March 2025, the City of Surrey announced a \$4.5M investment over three years in youth resiliency programs. Building upon the success of the Surrey Anti-Gang Family Empowerment (SAFE) program, this enhanced initiative will expand services to proactively address risk factors including harm, victimization, and exploitation. As the program has evolved, its focus has shifted from gang violence to a more holistic model that empowers youth to overcome adversity and thrive in their communities.

“The City of Surrey remains committed to cultivating resilient and thriving communities,” said Mayor Brenda Locke. “Through this substantial funding, we are not only supporting programs but investing in the long-term

prosperity and well-being of our residents—particularly our families and youth. This investment is a testament to our unwavering commitment to creating a safer, more vibrant, and resilient city where everyone can prosper.”

“Youth receive trauma-informed support for safety planning, resource navigation, police reporting, and court accompaniment.”

As part of this initiative, Surrey Women's Centre was awarded \$300,000 annually for our SEEN (Support, Education, Empowerment, Navigation) Project, which expands our organizational capacity to support youth survivors (aged 13 to 24) of gender-based violence. Other recipients included DIVERSEcity, Elizabeth Fry Society of Greater Vancouver, Family Services of Greater Vancouver, Pacific Community Resources Society (PCRS), and the Progressive Intercultural Community Services Society.

In partnership with the Youth Services Unit at Surrey Police Service (SPS), our SEEN Project supports vulnerable youth who may be or are at risk of experiencing sexual exploitation. Through SEEN, youth receive trauma-informed, client-centred support around safety planning, resource navigation, police reporting, and court accompaniment.

Our SEEN Project Facilitator, Breeann Williams, is an embedded support worker within the Youth Exploitation Liaison team at Surrey



Above: Breeann Williams pictured with Brett Girard, School Liaison Officer, and youth volunteers with the City of Surrey.

Police Service (SPS). Her role is to ensure a trauma-informed approach, provide immediate support and referrals, and conduct educational outreach.

These educational presentations, known as SOAR (Strength, Opportunity, Autonomy, and Resilience), focus on prevention. School students are taken through what sexual exploitation and grooming are, including definitions, tactics, and stories. They talk about consent and trusted adults, healthy relationships and red/green flags, and explore what female roles can look like in gangs. The team also includes wellness education, positive affirmations, and free resources for youth, including Surrey Women's Centre, Kids Help Phone, Fraser Health, PCRS, Canadian Human Trafficking, and the Suicide Prevention Hotline.



Expanding support to survivors of sexual violence

An introduction to Surrey’s first dedicated sexual assault centre by Alexandra Kilian

In October 2023, the Province of British Columbia announced a significant step in strengthening its response to gender-based violence. Previously cut funding would be restored to support survivors through five new sexual assault centres and 70 expanded Sexual Assault Services (SAS) programs across BC. Funding was awarded to community-based organizations in Kamloops, Prince George, Vancouver, Surrey, and Victoria—each selected for their decades of knowledge and experience on the frontlines of this crisis.

The provincial announcement also proposed amendments to the Crime Victim Assistance Act. These updates, which came into effect in January 2024, expanded access to benefits for grandparents and grandchildren of victims, broadened the definition of “witness,” and extended the application window for the Crime Victim Assistance Program (CVAP) from one year to two.

Surrey Women’s Centre was selected to establish one of five centres that will provide trauma-informed, wraparound, and culturally safe services during a time when support and compassion are most critical. The vision was for a dedicated centre in each of BC’s largest urban areas, where survivors could access a range of services in a space where their choices and needs were centred. Now, that vision is about to become reality in Surrey.

“Given the high rate of both community violence and homicides related to intimate partner violence across the province, a centre like this is a milestone and step forward in building greater safety for survivors,” said Samantha Grey, our Director of Sexual Assault Services.

It has been a journey to find a site, develop plans, engage with survivors and partners to shape services, apply for permits, and get renovations underway. Our internal naming process, which engaged our clients, Board, leadership, donors, support workers, and counsellors, aimed to create a clear and meaningful banner for this historic program.

“Given the high rate of violence across BC, a centre like this is a milestone and step forward in building greater safety.

LeBlanc & Co. Communications, with their extensive and specialized work in the social impact sector, partnered with us to develop a distinct yet connected sub-brand. We are immensely grateful to introduce the Windrose Allied Survivor Support Program to our community.

Left: RJ Lundquist, Board member Parbinder Narman, and Samantha Grey give Surrey MP Randeep Sarai a tour.



From December 2024 to April 2025, we ran a confidential Survivor Engagement Survey.

We know that survivor voices can inspire change and spark awareness, and their experiences should guide and shape vital resources.

48% said Surrey Central/Whalley would be the best location for a new centre

31% said that stigma or fear of discrimination had been a barrier to accessing support

Respondents said that:

The most critical support services would be:

1. Having support workers at the hospital
2. Having support workers at police statements and interviews
3. Long-term counselling

The most important additional services would be:

1. Public education and outreach
2. Training for other service providers
3. Advocacy for systemic change

The most comfortable physical features would be:

1. Private, soundproofed rooms for counselling
2. Access to refreshments
3. Warm, calm lighting



Windrose brings victim support, forensic medical care, reporting options, and counselling services together in one place, offering a warm and welcoming space for survivors to access the help they need.

Why Windrose?

A wind rose, or compass rose, shows direction and wind speed at a particular location and is used in navigation on maps and nautical charts.

At Windrose, we offer survivors a haven after the storm, and guidance as they choose a direction forward. Whatever course they decide to chart, we help them navigate systems and support them on their path to a new horizon.

Who is Windrose for?

Windrose will welcome any survivor of sexual violence, regardless of their gender identity. An accessible, gender-inclusive washroom will be available and there is elevator access.

Our doors will be open to anyone that a survivor may need or want support from, including their loved ones or a support worker from another organization. If you need somewhere to meet with a client safely, please reach out to us.

What services will be available?

Windrose will continue, expand, and unite the current services of Surrey Women’s Centre, our SMART (Surrey Mobile Assault Response Team) program, and our partnerships with Fraser Health’s Forensic Nursing Service and Surrey Police Services in one location.

- **Victim Services**
Orientation and support through forensic exams, police reporting, legal proceedings, safety planning, housing referrals, and benefits applications.
- **Forensic Medical Care**
Urgent, compassionate, and culturally sensitive treatment and exams from a forensic nurse.
- **Police Reporting**
Interview room for making statements and giving evidence with your support worker beside you.
- **Third Party Reporting**
Anonymous reporting on a survivor’s behalf for those who are unsure about involving police.
- **Bad Date Reporting**
Collected and shared information that helps the sex worker community avoid abusers and stay safe.
- **Short-Term Crisis Counselling**
4 to 6 sessions of compassionate support for those who have recently experienced sexual violence.
- **Support Groups**
Weekly drop-in group sessions enable survivors to connect, understand, and encourage each other.
- **Long-Term Counselling**
Free to self-identified women and gender-diverse people over 19. Self-pay or benefits-covered support to anyone over 14 with Dignity Counselling.

When will Windrose open?

Renovations are almost complete, and Windrose will be up and running in **early 2026**. Once open, services will be available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.



Give Windrose a future

The funding that has made Windrose a reality is finite.

With your support, we can do more than just open the doors. Together, we can sustain this critical service and keep them open.

Join the Windrose Founders Club when you choose to give monthly!

You’ll receive all the Windrose updates first, and join a committed collective working to secure the future of Surrey’s first sexual assault centre.





Top: Sierra Ellis, SWC counsellor, prepares to welcome survivors to the art workshop.
Right: Samantha Grey donates copies of R&R to the Zine Collection at Douglas College Library.

VICTIMS AND SURVIVORS OF CRIME WEEK

R&R: Resilience & Resistance; a zine by survivors, for survivors

by Alexandra Kilian

For this year's Victims and Survivors of Crime Week, and with support from the Department of Justice, Surrey Women's Centre created a zine as a tribute to resilience and a testament to the power of creative expression. Rooted in the long history of zines as platforms for marginalized voices, this initiative built on the tradition of communities making space for themselves when society or systems would prefer their silence.

Shaped around the theme *Resilience & Resistance*, the zine was developed for survivors, by survivors, and designed to be a vital resource for those accessing support at Windrose, Surrey's first dedicated sexual assault centre. Survivors were invited to contribute art, poetry, writing, and more that spoke to their lived realities. Honorariums were offered to all contributors, acknowledging the emotional labour inherent in sharing personal stories and creative reflections.

Leading up to the publication, Surrey Women's Centre hosted an art workshop. Facilitated by members of the counselling team with experience in art therapy, the afternoon provided a gentle, supportive environment where survivors could connect and create together. Art supplies were provided, and participants were encouraged to bring only themselves and whatever they felt ready to express. The workshop emerged as a space of healing, quiet courage, and community grounding.

The call for submissions encouraged survivors to speak their truth, hoping to build a resource that offered hope, validation, and connection—something survivors could see themselves reflected in when they arrived at Windrose.

The zine launched at our Open House in May, when we opened the doors to survivors, allies, service providers, community members, and sector peers. Visitors were invited to meet the team, tour the centre prior to renovations, learn about the services and facilities that will be available, explore opportunities for collaboration, and of course, enjoy some treats!

“By encouraging survivors to speak their truth, we hoped to build a resource for hope, validation, and connection.

The event welcomed representatives from Surrey Police Service, the First Nations Health Authority, the BC Society for Male Survivors of Sexual Abuse, Fraser Region Aboriginal Friendship Centre Association, Nightshift Street Ministries, Vancouver Aboriginal Friendship Centre Society, and Community Living BC. Media support from BCIT's Journalism Program and the Surrey Now-Leader helped amplify awareness of the new centre and zine initiative. Longtime supporters, including former MLA Bruce Ralston and Christine Basque of Diabetes Canada, also attended.

Above all, the day honoured the survivors who contributed their creativity. The zine stands as a symbol of their strength, and proof that resilience can be an act of resistance and that voices raised in truth are powerful.

Read the zine here:



PARTNER PERSPECTIVES

Surrey Police Service's Special Victims Unit

An interview with Detective Constables Breanna Murphy and Raissa Spink by Alexandra Kilian



Our co-located team works with the Special Victims Unit (SVU) at Surrey Police Service (SPS), which investigates serious crimes involving vulnerable individuals, such as sexual and intimate partner violence, human trafficking, and child abuse. The SVU emphasizes a trauma-informed approach to ensure victims are treated with compassion and re-traumatization is avoided.

In other regions or detachments, was there a partnership like this? If not, what is that lack of support like?

BM: I haven't worked with a program like this in the past. From an officer's point of view, a lack of support can mean losing trust with the victim. It is extremely helpful to have this support from the civilian side for a victim's level of comfort, and from someone who may have different availability than can be provided with policing schedules.

RS: There were services available for survivors in other municipalities, but supports were not always consistently available or accessible in a survivor's language.

What difference does it make to survivors to have a partnership like this in place?

RS: The expertise of lived experience support workers related to human trafficking has been particularly beneficial to our work. We have referred many human trafficking survivors, some of whom are still entrenched, to the Surrey Women's Centre and notice right away their ability to connect with them.

What impact does this partnership have on improving survivors' experiences with the justice system?

BM: We have a number of survivors who have had negative experiences with law enforcement and the justice system. I feel this program can improve this, as they are providing support and assistance from a different lens. Many victims are more comfortable with a civilian or community partner due to these past experiences, and having support through the lengthy process can be reassuring.

How do you envision delivering onsite reporting services at Windrose?

RS: We are very excited for the new sexual assault centre to open and to explore ways we can further support the community we serve. Meeting with survivors in a setting where they are comfortable is extremely beneficial. We anticipate that some survivors may feel more comfortable speaking with police in this setting, and look forward to continuing to support survivors of sexual violence in a trauma-informed manner.

BM: Greater familiarity and collaboration would lead to utilizing each other better as resources.

What are your hopes for a dedicated space for integrated services? How could it change a survivor's experience?

BM: I would hope that this leads to an increase in police reporting. A survivor could experience less shame or fear in reporting if they have support alongside them.

RS: We look forward to being able to combine services and offer numerous supports to survivors in one centralized

setting. We believe that a collaborative approach will better assist survivors and continue to grow our understanding of the issues they encounter.

Do you think it will impact a survivor's willingness to engage with those systems, and if so, why?

RS: Yes, we believe that a dedicated space for integrated services will greatly benefit the community and recognize the importance of working collaboratively. We understand that each survivor has different needs, and being able to offer wraparound services will assist in bridging the gap between police and survivors.

What trends have you witnessed regarding different forms of gender-based violence?

RS: Since becoming the police of jurisdiction, we have noticed a wide range of criminal offences against people based on their gender identity and sexual orientation.



Fraser Health's Forensic Nursing Service at Surrey Memorial Hospital

An interview with Tara Wilkie, Forensic Nurse Examiner and FNS Coordinator
by Alexandra Kilian

Our SMART and Crisis support workers accompany or are called out to attend survivors at Surrey Memorial Hospital, where they collaborate with Forensic Nurse Examiners to support and guide them through exams, medical care, and options for what comes next.

In any previous roles at other hospitals, was there a program like SMART offering integrated survivor support? If not, what does that lack of support look and feel like?

I've been a nurse since 2002 and haven't seen an equivalent. Patients endure immense physical and emotional violence, and that trauma impacts your ability to navigate systems that are already difficult for anyone. When I was starting out with [FNS], all we had was a pamphlet with a list of community service organizations. Patients would reach out only to find there was a wait list, or they weren't accepting patients, or experience other barriers. They have very specific needs, and not all services have those under their umbrella. My colleagues and I felt like we were providing amazing care and then throwing them to the wolves.



Our understanding has evolved, and we have a supportive health authority, but outside of that we're in the constant fight of advocating for our patients. It's not fair to ask someone to advocate for themselves as they're going through these situations. Underrecognized populations and genders are targeted, and it's about working on systemic factors to prevent and mitigate violence.

It's daunting, but I've been a part of this team for a long time, and I've seen the work that Surrey Women's Centre does. I'm continually humbled and so grateful, because this is unique, and we need to bring it to the forefront so others can learn to do this work collaboratively.

Do you think a space for integrated services will impact a survivor's willingness to engage with systems?

I hope so. I think the biggest impact will come from strengthening education and deepening the connections we build with our clients and patients—and that takes time. Many people have struggled to access care or have had negative experiences with the system, so there is rebuilding to do. We need to look closely at the populations we're serving and determine the best ways to provide information about our services. Some people may have the technology to watch a video, but others may rely on hearing it from peers or trusted staff or other means.

It's also one thing to offer a service, but it's another to ensure people truly understand it and feel safe using it. That requires a trauma-informed approach, reliability, and meaningful rapport-building. We also need to remain open to feedback, accountable to making changes, and intentional about integrating evaluation so we can measure outcomes.

Ultimately, creating the best possible service means building it inclusively, with input from multiple perspectives. That's how we uncover systemic biases and create an environment where people genuinely feel safe.

home and talk to our families about this, and even other healthcare colleagues don't understand how hard it is to process. But when we collaborate, we have a shared experience, and it changes how you feel and the vicarious trauma that's inflicted. It's an opportunity for us to discuss the experience with another care provider and move forward easier.

It also creates the opportunity for feedback and learning from each other, and those lines of communication help us continue to improve the program. Having regular staff on both ends also means that we get to know each other as human beings, and build a real safety and trust where we take care of each other too. Being able to say, "I've just come out of another case and now I'm going into this one," and hearing a SMART worker offer to get that nurse some coffee or take a minute to share some food. That compassion is so important.

What trends have you witnessed regarding gender-based violence in your time with the FNS?

We deal with different types of violence, and recognize that it is mostly women and girls who are affected. But there are other genders experiencing violence that cannot access care due to societal barriers; the myths and stigmas attached to LGBTQ2S+ folks, the underestimated violence rates, and inaccessibility to services. We keep that door open for anybody.

How are unaccompanied survivors informed about this additional support, and what is their reaction?

Ideally, we have our forensic nurse and the SMART worker go in together for the initial visit. Our intent is to show that we're working in collaboration, and to clearly discuss our roles, how our services differ, ask for consent, explain their options, and provide the space to ask questions. If we rely on other healthcare providers to do that, sometimes they don't have the necessary knowledge, time, or sensitivity. This shows the partnership, but it also decreases the repetition of information. It's a trauma-informed approach, where we're minimizing the retelling of experiences, and also avoiding surprises by laying it all out. Their reaction is one of relief, knowing that we have a team at Surrey Women's Centre behind them.

What difference does it make to survivors to have a partnership like this in place? How do experiences and outcomes change?

When our partnership with SMART began, it was a huge turning point in how we conducted exams. It became a more trauma-informed and collaborative process, where patients then had a point person for any aftercare services. A weight lifted off my shoulders, knowing that we didn't have to worry about them after leaving the hospital.

“This partnership impacts health. When we intervene early after trauma with options for care, it changes outcomes.”



I honestly believe this partnership is impacting health, because this is a very intervention point intended to impact wellbeing. When we intervene early after trauma and give options for care, it changes outcomes. Maybe it changes the trajectory of violence. Maybe they're safe now and they weren't. It could impact legal outcomes. In addition to what trauma and violence does to the physical body, there are mental health challenges that can be mitigated or prevented by an early and consistent transition into counselling and long-term support. Those social determinants of health have a profound ripple effect. We're caring for an individual, but that impacts their children, parents, community, and our society.

You said that SMART support workers have also been a resource to the FNEs in terms of mitigating secondary trauma. How do their experiences and outcomes change?

This partnership helps the health and wellbeing of our nurses, and I hope it's the same for SMART workers. We're doing this heavy work, often in silos. We can't go

Looking to Windrose

Interim Manager of Forensic Services, Radhika Nand, reflects on the potential benefits

How do you envision delivering onsite forensic care at Windrose? Do you anticipate it changing the way our teams collaborate?

I envision a holistic model where forensic nursing is seamlessly integrated into the Windrose workflow, allowing timely, trauma-informed care in a safe and private environment. This would be the gold standard outside of the acute care hospital setting for patients who have experienced trauma, and it is our hope to support this in future. Having access to the forensic nursing examiners (FNEs) to coordinate onsite exams would reduce delays, potentially increase opportunity for evidence collection, and ensure patients receive comprehensive support without the need for multiple transfers. This model, however, depends on several factors: the availability of FNEs to provide these examinations, the ability to safely collect, store, and transport evidence, and the safety of the FNEs providing this service.

This will likely change collaboration by fostering closer partnerships between everyone providing onsite services. Clear protocols and shared communication channels will be essential to streamline care and avoid duplication.

What are your hopes for a dedicated space for integrated services?

A dedicated space would create a centralized hub for collaborative forensic care—combining medical-forensic assessment, police reporting, counselling, and advocacy. This would enhance patient dignity, confidentiality, and continuity of care, while reducing stress for both patients and staff.

It Took a Village: One survivor's path out of violence towards hope

An interview with Annie Moffett by Alexandra Kilian

Annie Moffett contributed to Dr. Kim Stanton's report on the treatment of intimate partner and sexual violence in the BC legal system as well as R&R: Resilience & Resistance, our survivor-led zine. She works as a nurse providing home care to medically fragile babies, and loves to hike, Latin dance, listen to audiobooks, and bake fancy cakes for special occasions.

Why have you chosen to share your story?

I want to bring awareness to the issues surrounding gender-based violence and sexual assault, in hopes of improving how it's dealt with and the resources available to those in need. I believe that when those needs are met, it contributes to a better, more functional society. Women aren't left debilitated. If the abuser is dealt with correctly, they may learn from their mistakes and be rehabilitated to stop the cycle of harm they bring to others.

Please describe your experience with gender-based violence, telling your story however you feel comfortable.

I was 36 to 37 years old and working part time as a nurse while also managing disabilities and health issues. I was physically and sexually assaulted, emotionally and psychologically abused, and coercively controlled by a man I was dating; a man who claimed to love me.

He isolated me from family and friends, belittling and manipulating me daily until I doubted my own reality. My self-worth was eroded, yet he mixed abuse with loving words and gestures, which kept me believing that he could never purposely harm me. The abuse didn't start right away, and he was so manipulative that I was convinced this man loved me more than my own parents. I didn't

always recognize the danger or even realize that some of what was happening to me was assault.

Later, I learned that he was in the highest risk category for homicide and intimate partner violence, and I was not the only victim. There were many other smart, professional women who had been harmed by him.

It was incredibly difficult to make the leap to leave. I spent a long time trying to please him, doing everything I could to avoid triggering more harm or retaliation. That experience opened my eyes to the reality of being abused and the mindset of women in abusive situations. It's not as simple to leave as many people might think.

It showed me that no one is immune to abuse, no matter their background, education or profession. Although I had family and friends, they didn't know what was happening or the best way to help, and when they did try, it sometimes backfired.

Please tell me about your decision to report, and your experience going through that process and those systems.

I sought help from a specialized counsellor shortly after ending the relationship. We were still in contact, and it was a slow process to get the abuser out of my life. The

counsellor felt like a lifeline, answering my panicked calls and emails on top of our in-person sessions. She helped me understand the danger I was in, and it took months of growing fear to report this to the police for the first time.

The abuser's behaviour continued and escalated, and I slowly worked up the courage to go against his threats. He had warned me that if I ever went against him, there would be consequences. I was timid, terrified, and brainwashed, and felt more in danger than ever.

The police asked me to write an incident timeline, which would normally be a simple task, but I became paralyzed and overwhelmed whenever I sat down to do it. At the same time, a family circumstance kept me about 30 seconds away from the abuser's house, and my fear grew.

As the urgency increased, I felt pressured to do everything that the police asked as quickly as possible. But I was completely unable to manage the fear and stress on my own. That's when I reached out to Surrey Women's Centre.

Please tell me about your decision to seek support, and what services, resources, or people helped you and how?

When I reached out to Surrey Women's Centre (SWC), I was immediately connected with a victim support worker who helped me apply for a no-contact order and navigate the justice system. They provided emotional support, accompanied me in meetings with the police, and helped me apply for the Crime Victims Assistance Program (CVAP), which was a huge help because I was too overwhelmed and stressed to manage these daunting tasks on my own.

That made it possible for me to continue counselling, which I couldn't afford and had already cost me a ton of money. SWC also offered safety measures and practical support, as did CVAP.

These resources provided guidance, stability, and emotional support at a time when I felt paralyzed by fear and completely out of my depth. Counselling, victim support, emergency hotlines, help navigating the criminal justice system, and urgent responses to my needs as they came up. Without these services and resources, I don't know where I would be today. I now have a personal understanding of just how vital gender-based violence services are in our community. They don't just support survivors, they save lives.

“These resources provided guidance, stability, and emotional support at a time when I felt paralyzed by fear and completely out of my depth.”

How has this experience impacted you, and what does healing and rebuilding look like for you?

The violence consumed me, damaged my mental and physical health, and left me feeling like I had no control. In my broken-down state, it was too much for me to handle. I remember thinking, “If I've done everything I can to stop this man from harming me, and nothing significant has happened in terms of consequences, there's only one other way to make it stop.” In my traumatized, worn-out mind, the only solution I could see was for me not to be here. I became severely depressed and suicidal. It affected my work, life, well-being, and strained my relationships with family and friends.

With the right support, I was able to get through an extremely tough situation, rebuild my safety and stability, and start healing. It has now been three years. I'm no longer consumed by fear. I'm able to manage post-

traumatic stress, show up in my daily life, and reconnect with relationships that violence and coercive control once cut me off from.

You contributed to Dr. Kim Stanton's report on the BC legal system's treatment of IPV and SV. Can you tell me about that?

The police forwarded three charges, and to do that they see a reason and have evidence. But none of them were approved. I was baffled by how Crown Counsel did absolutely nothing despite there being multiple people that had reported him. During this extremely disappointing process, I found out about a study being done because so many of these cases are so poorly dealt with, and wanted to be a part of it. I wanted to know why nothing was being done about these severe situations and so many perpetrators were let off the hook. So, I agreed to participate, and heard that this was one of many stories where the criminal justice system had failed survivors.

What would you want to say to or share with other survivors?

That even though it is very difficult to get away from these situations and go through the justice system, it's never going to get better if we don't shine a light on what's happening. If we all stay silent, nobody can help us, and nothing will move forward or improve. We need to speak up, so gather your courage and strength and do it.

For their own lives, I would just say: it can get better, it can change, and you will get past this. Make that first jump, take it one step at a time, and ask for help. It took a village to get me out of that situation, and I wouldn't have been able to do it without all the people who helped.

And most importantly, it's not your fault. Don't blame yourself for what somebody did to you.



A life of caring, a legacy of hope

A tribute to Cheryl Peever, transformational supporter and beloved mother by Gabriela De Romeri

At Surrey Women’s Centre, we measure impact not only in numbers, but in the character of the people who shape our community. Cheryl Peever was one of those people: a caregiver at heart, a neighbour who saw dignity in everyone, and a volunteer who turned everyday moments into amazing acts of kindness.

Cheryl first connected with our Centre while caring for Sonya, a woman with developmental disabilities who soon became part of Cheryl’s extended family. They visited together, sorting donations and lending quiet, steady help. What stands out in every story is how Cheryl made care feel personal. She made time for small rituals that restored confidence and joy, whether that was a trip for a fresh haircut and brows or an afternoon spent tidying and organizing so others could find what they needed. As her daughters reflected, it was about “giving somebody their dignity.”

Caregiving was not a chapter in Cheryl’s life; it was her entire way of being. After years managing paint stores, she sought work that aligned with her nature and flourished supporting seniors and adults with disabilities. She volunteered with countless programs in the community and at church, often welcoming those she supported into own family life with open, loving arms. There are photos of Sonya at t-ball games, holidays, and gatherings with the Peever Family—not as a guest, but as one of their own. “She had the biggest heart,” said her daughters, Kathy and Shannon. “She helped everybody.”



That same spirit is present in the legacy Cheryl chose to leave. For a number of years, Surrey Women’s Centre helped maintain a life insurance policy in her name. Upon her recent passing, the policy’s six-figure benefit was gifted to the Centre through Canada Life. It is a transformational gift, and Cheryl to its core: practical, generous, and focused on making sure others are looked after in every aspect.

When Kathy and Shannon visited the Centre to join us in honouring her mother, they spoke about a woman who never stopped looking out for others, believed that small acts add up, and who wanted her impact to continue for the generations ahead. “She dedicated her life to others,” they shared. “She is dedicating her legacy to others as well.” Another phrase, simple and perfect, has stayed with us: “One last wonderful thing. Good job, Mom.”

Left: Sally Graves and John Emmerton from Canada Life, Cheryl’s daughters Kathy and Shannon, Board member Danielle VanderEnde, Communications and Development Coordinator Alexandra Kilian, and Interim ED Debby Hamilton.



“She dedicated her life to others, now she’s dedicating her legacy as well. One last wonderful thing.”

Cheryl’s gift will help sustain vital supports for survivors, children, and families who are rebuilding safety and stability. More than that, her example reminds us of what community looks like in practice: showing up, making time, noticing needs, and choosing care and dignity above all else.

We are profoundly grateful to Cheryl Peever, Sally Graves and John Emmerton from Canada Life, and to Kathy and Shannon for sharing her life and legacy with us. Cheryl believed that everyone deserves dignity and because of her, more survivors will find it with grace.

Leave a legacy of safety and empowerment

Give beyond today. Create a future free from violence.

Every act of giving makes a difference, but some gifts change lives for generations to come. By including Surrey Women’s Centre in your long-term plans, you can help build a safer, more equitable future for women, children, and other survivors impacted by gender-based violence.

There are many ways to make a lasting impact, no matter your age or income level.

“You can’t take your wealth with you. If your financial health is strong, and you want to leave a legacy while helping a charity like Surrey Women’s Centre, it should absolutely be part of your plans. Your legacy isn’t just for your children and grandchildren – it can also support your community.”

Christine LaLiberté from Insightful Wealth Group



1



Leave a gift in your will

Gender-based violence is deeply rooted in inequality and discrimination. You can support our vision of safety, justice, and equality by naming Surrey Women’s Centre in your will. A gift in your will (also known as a bequest) is one of the simplest ways to make a significant contribution. You can designate your gift toward a specific program or allow Surrey Women’s Centre to direct it where it’s needed most.

Benefits of giving in your will

- You can allocate a percentage of your estate while still caring for loved ones.
- A gift in your will can reduce estate taxes, allowing you to leave more for your family while supporting a cause you value.
- You remain in full control and can change your will at any time.

To leave a gift in your will, please include these details or share them with your legal advisor:

Legal Name: Surrey Women’s Centre

Address: 10075 Whalley Boulevard, Surrey, BC, V3T 4G1

Charity Registration #: 140327891RR0001

We recommend consulting a legal or financial advisor to ensure your wishes are clearly documented. If you need help finding one, we can connect you.

2



Donate a gift of securities

A donation of publicly traded stocks, bonds, or mutual funds is one of the most tax-smart ways to give. When you transfer securities directly to Surrey Women’s Centre, you avoid paying capital gains tax on the appreciated value and receive a charitable receipt for the full market amount.

Why donate securities?

- Eliminate capital gains tax on appreciated shares.
- Receive a tax receipt for the full value of your gift.
- Support survivors and families with a larger impact, without increasing the out-of-pocket cost to you.

To Initiate a Gift of Securities:

Please contact giving@surrey womenscentre.ca to request a Securities Transfer Form. If you are an executor or managing an estate, you can request an Estate Transfer of Securities Form through the same email.

Legal Name: Surrey Women’s Centre

Address: 10075 Whalley Boulevard, Surrey, BC, V3T 4G1

Charity Registration #: 140327891RR0001



Top and Above: RBC team members help to pack SMART kits and write holiday cards while volunteering at Surrey Women's Centre.

CORPORATE DONORS

A recipe for hope

How a mother-daughter duo's act of kindness sparked an ongoing partnership with Surrey Women's Centre by Gabriela De Romeri

Sometimes, one small act of kindness can set an entire movement in motion. For Kulvit and Ciara Chapman, that spark began in the kitchen.

Ciara was in high school when she launched her community service project, Baking a Difference. Driven by a desire to help others, she began researching local organizations supporting women and families in need; that's when she discovered Surrey Women's Centre. "Their commitment to ensuring survivors' safety and the range of services they offer really spoke to me. I was hoping I could support their work through my project."

Her bake sale was simple but powerful. Dozens of cookies and muffins sold to classmates, friends, and neighbours became a symbol of hope for survivors. "After seeing what a difference a single cookie made, I wanted to do more. By combining my passion for baking with my desire to make a difference, I decided to host a bake sale dedicated to the Centre." What began as one young person's initiative soon inspired an entire network of support.

Watching Ciara's efforts with the project filled her mother with immense pride. "She poured her heart into rallying support, baking wonderful treats, and earning the donation," shared Kulvit. "Her hard work and dedication moved me deeply. It was touching to watch my daughter be so inspired and committed to this important cause." That experience planted a seed for something much larger. Through Royal Bank of Canada's Communities Together Fund, Kulvit saw an opportunity to expand Ciara's vision and engage her colleagues in collective giving. "I felt compelled to continue the momentum with RBC's support. Through the Fund, I saw an opportunity to leverage RBC's people power to make a difference."

Under her leadership, Team RBC rolled up their sleeves to volunteer at Surrey Women's Centre, assembling snack bags, hygiene kits, and harm reduction kits for the SMART Van, as well as creating heartfelt holiday cards for our drop-in visitors. Their volunteerism unlocked two \$1,500 grants from Royal Bank of Canada that became the primary funding behind our Angel Tree program in 2024.

That program brought the magic of the holidays to more than 100 of our clients and their families, providing care packages, gift cards, toys, and essential items to support those rebuilding their lives after experiencing violence or housing insecurity. "Volunteering with Surrey Women's Centre was a real eye-opener. We saw just how much of a need there was for food, clothing, and basic hygiene items. What struck me most was how much of a difference we can make in the lives of so many by giving only a few hours of our time."

"I never would've imagined that my efforts could create such an impact. Seeing my mom get involved made it more special."

For Ciara, seeing her small project evolve into a corporate partnership was unforgettable. "It was incredible knowing that my small service project led to something even greater. I would have never imagined that my efforts could create such an impact. Seeing my mom get involved, someone who is also passionate about giving back, made it even more special."

"The spirit of giving can be part of everything we do," Kulvit recalled. "As a family, it's brought Ciara and me



closer while teaching us the power of compassion. Through my colleagues, I've seen firsthand how much further our impact can go when we work together."

"I believe we have a responsibility to use our resources and networks to strengthen the community around us."

Their journey has also carried lessons that extend far beyond their own family. "As a parent, it's important to me that my daughter sees the value of compassion, advocacy, and standing up for others. As a professional, I believe we have a responsibility to use our resources and networks to strengthen the community around us. I'm fortunate to work for an organization like RBC that is committed to helping communities prosper."

When asked what advice she would share with other young people looking to make a difference, Ciara's words echo her mother's values. "Find something you're passionate about and use it to give back. It doesn't have to be elaborate. I used my love for baking to help others, and that small start grew into something much larger."

Looking ahead, the Chapmans and Team RBC are already planning new initiatives to support Angel Tree 2025, ensuring that more survivors can experience the same care and compassion that inspired their first partnership.

"My biggest hope is that survivors feel supported and know that their community sees them and cares for them," said Ciara added. "I hope they find comfort and a sense of security in knowing that they have a support system to turn to when they need it most."

For Kulvit, that hope is shared. "My wish for Surrey Women's Centre is that it continues to be a beacon of safety, strength, and hope for women, children, and families. I want every survivor to feel seen, supported, and empowered to rebuild with dignity."

What started as a bake sale grew into a partnership that continues to change lives. Together, Kulvit and Ciara remind us that compassion can begin at home but reach far beyond it, uniting families, workplaces, and communities in the shared belief that every survivor deserves safety, support, and hope.

Right: Fundraising and Communications Lead Gabriela De Romeri, Executive Director Shahnaz Rahman, RBC Branch Manager Kulvit Chapman, and the RBC team present one of the grants from RBC's Communities Together Fund.



Building Safety

RONA's Home Sweet Home Campaign

For the fourth consecutive year, Surrey Women's Centre has been a proud recipient of the RONA Foundation's Home Sweet Home Campaign, a community-driven initiative that embodies what it means to build safe, strong foundations for every survivor's journey to healing.

Since 2022, customers and staff at RONA locations have rallied behind our mission to increase resources and support for those escaping violence. Through their generosity at the checkout counter and beyond, the campaign has raised over \$12,000 to help survivors access lifesaving services when they need them most.

While a small gesture to many, each tap of the donation button represents something much larger: a moment of compassion from one neighbour to another. These gifts allow Surrey Women's Centre to respond quickly to crises, provide trauma-informed support, and advocate for systemic change—all while ensuring that no one faces violence alone.

Being selected as a Home Sweet Home charity partner four years in a row is an incredible honour, and a reflection of RONA's continued trust in our work. Their commitment reminds us that when a community comes together, even though the simplest acts of giving, we can create ripples of stability, belief, and hope that extend far beyond the walls of our Centre.

We are deeply grateful to RONA, their dedicated staff, and every customer who chose to round up or give at the till. Together, you've built pathways to safety, dignity, and healing for countless survivors across our community.

FUNDRAISING

A record-breaking season of generosity

Reflections on the success and impact of our Gift of Being Believed campaign by Gabriela De Romeri

During our 2024 holiday season campaign, our community gave survivors of gender-based violence the most powerful gift imaginable: the gift of being believed.

Together, our donors raised over \$135,000 to support Surrey Women’s Centre’s vital programs and services. These unrestricted funds allowed us to respond to survivors’ needs in real time by providing safety planning, crisis response, legal advocacy, counselling, and essential supplies through our Drop-In Centre and SMART Van. Your generosity ensured that every call for help was met with care, understanding, and immediate action.

Every donation told a story of compassion and solidarity. While gifts came in all sizes, the most frequent contribution made was \$100. This reflects how deeply our

community believes in our work, but more importantly, how deeply they believe in all survivors. Each gift, whether it was one-time or monthly, helped sustain the programs that support over 15,000 women, children, and gender-diverse people every year, and ensured that survivors across Surrey and beyond can be given the tools they need to rebuild their lives.

“To everyone who gave, whether this was your first time supporting Surrey Women’s Centre or a continued show of trust in our mission, thank you deeply.

The Gift of Being Believed resonated deeply with donors and survivors alike. It reminded us all that belief is the first essential step toward healing. Survivors can often be met with skepticism, shame, or even blame; forcing them to manage their recovery alone or even give up on the idea of healing. Through your support, this message became more than words. This message swiftly became food on tables, warm coats for winter, emergency transportation after an assault, and a safe place to turn when everything else felt uncertain.

To everyone who gave, whether this was your first time supporting Surrey Women’s Centre or a continued show of trust in our mission, thank you deeply. Because of you, survivors were met with empathy instead of doubt, safety instead of violence, and hope instead of silence.

Healing starts
with being
believed



STATISTICS

Our year in numbers (Apr 2024–Mar 2025)



Community Based Victim Services

977

New files open

582

Average monthly number of cases

497

Client meetings

42

Trials attended

1093

Justice system updates

78

Meetings with Crown



Surrey Mobile Assault Response Team

5622

Individuals served by SMART van in 6 months

520

Support hours over 187 accompaniments

361

Sex workers supported



Domestic Violence Unit

34

New files

40

Average monthly number of cases

65

Individual meetings

91

Safety planning discussions

15

Trials attended



Ministry for Child and Family Development

108

New files

107

Average monthly cases

246

Individual meetings

34

Court accompaniments



Special Victims Unit

26

New files

56

Average monthly cases

97

Hours of court accompaniments

86

Individual meetings



Stopping The Violence

105

New referrals

654

Counselling sessions



Dignity Counselling

1813

Individual sessions



Resource Centre

7625

Individuals supported

975

of which were children

Financial statements

ASSETS	2025	2024
Current		
Cash	\$ 1,204,601	\$ 650,882
Term deposits (Note 4)	30,000	30,000
Amounts receivable	57,505	69,092
Goods and services tax recoverable	18,629	13,215
Prepaid expenses	54,175	38,332
	1,364,910	801,521
Tangible capital assets (Note 5)	93,868	79,458
Restricted term deposits (Note 4)	180,000	180,000
	\$ 1,638,778	\$ 1,060,979
LIABILITIES	2025	2024
Current		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	\$ 11,133	\$ 58,456
Government remittances payable	14,665	2,485
Wages payable	141,758	117,886
Deferred contributions (Note 6)	871,673	304,672
	1,039,229	483,499
Deferred contributions for tangible capital assets (Note 7)	25,856	39,906
	1,065,085	523,405
Net Assets		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	325,681	318,022
Invested in tangible capital assets	68,012	39,552
Internally restricted net assets	180,000	180,000
	573,693	537,574
	\$ 1,638,778	\$ 1,060,979

REVENUES	2025	2024
Grants and contracts	\$ 2,333,041	\$ 2,210,551
Donations	381,613	450,269
Other grants	207,357	338,471
Fee for service	206,743	166,629
Amortization of deferred capital assets	14,050	15,534
Other income	11,221	8,720
	3,154,025	3,190,174

EXPENDITURES	2025	2024
Salaries and wages	2,110,857	1,972,335
Contract fees and dues	234,951	340,141
Rental	205,559	189,346
Accounting fees	108,119	107,351
Supplies	70,337	35,022
Memberships	42,655	63,581
Insurance	41,126	31,961
Office	40,608	65,207
Repairs and maintenance	39,034	39,789
Advertising and promotion	31,271	46,065
Fundraising	30,914	26,396
Telephone	23,722	27,327
Legal Fees	20,089	39,316
Clinical supervision	18,266	18,569
Amortization	16,004	21,041
Board	14,084	23,570
Hospitality	13,856	12,734
Utilities	12,795	11,876
Vehicle	12,714	19,770
Event registration and fees	11,148	22,323
Interest and bank charges	10,232	8,452
Travel	8,962	24,920
Bad debts	603	180
	3,117,906	3,147,272
Excess of revenues over expenditures	\$ 36,119	\$ 42,902

Thank you for standing with survivors

Our gratitude goes out to these partners for their generous support:



Connect

PO Box 33519
Surrey, BC V3T 4G1

General

604-589-1868
info@surrey womenscentre.ca

Crisis

604-583-1295
crisis@surrey womenscentre.ca

Donations

Reach out to
giving@surrey womenscentre.ca
or scan the QR code below
to support survivors:

