



MANITOBA ASSOCIATION
OF WOMEN'S SHELTERS

2023-2024

Annual Report



Photo credit: Canva

Message from the Co-Chairs

Co-Chairs' Report: MAWS 2023-2024

As we reflect on the past year, we are proud to share the significant strides that the Manitoba Association of Women's Shelters (MAWS) has made. MAWS has consistently provided vital support to shelters and associate members across the province, particularly for Executive Directors (EDs) who often face the challenges of isolation in their roles. The ability to connect with MAWS for guidance, support, and a listening ear has proven to be a lifeline for many in our community.

A key achievement this year has been the development of a backbone organization. Initially, through the Transforming Together (TT) grant, MAWS explored the feasibility of a backbone organization to provide increased supports and bring cohesion in the sector. MAWS identified a clear disconnect in the existing support systems and recognized the need to build on a new foundation. This evolution has been crucial in strengthening the network of shelters, resource centers, and organizations in the sector and enhancing our collective impact.

One of the most significant advancements has been the introduction of People First HR Services specifically designed to support shelters. The complexities of HR in the shelter sector are unique, and the need for specialized support at the executive level became evident. MAWS has successfully filled this gap, providing an additional layer of support services that ensure shelter leadership can focus on their critical work with confidence.

MAWS' commitment to serving Indigenous communities is evolving and growing and this year, MAWS was able to support community organizations in the sector to create and or expand on culturally centered training of staff. The Red Road to Healing (RR2H) initiative has been instrumental in supporting shelters and community resource centers where many participants are of Indigenous background. This program is a testament to our dedication to culturally responsive care and healing.



Photo: MAWS Board & MAWS Staff at In Person Meeting

Message from the Co-Chairs

To address staffing challenges, MAWS has successfully launched the second cohort of the shelter micro-credential course in partnership with Red River College. This initiative has been vital in filling staff gaps, equipping new workers with the skills and knowledge they need to thrive in the shelter environment.

Looking to the future, MAWS is excited about the upcoming Provincial and Federal Shelter Conference in November. This event is funded by the National Action Plan through a partnership of WAGE Manitoba and WAGE Canada; and it will be a pivotal opportunity to enhance our services, foster collaboration between provincial and federal shelters, and better serve the communities in which we operate. Our efforts to connect with federal shelters and build stronger relationships are ongoing, as we strive to work more effectively together to achieve our shared goals. Additionally, MAWS is developing a Leadership Manual to support both new and existing EDs, ensuring that they have the tools and resources needed to lead effectively.

MAWS' ongoing commitment to training has been another highlight. MAWS continually updated courses and added new ones to keep pace with changing trends and the evolving needs of service users. Our partnership with Dr. Ellis from the Pan Am Clinic on traumatic brain injury and our advocacy work with Kendra Nixon from Resolve are examples of how we are expanding our support to address complex issues faced by those we serve.

Finally, MAWS has provided staff orientations for CAPC (Community Action Program for Children), ensuring that staff are well-prepared and aligned with family's needs.

In closing, we are proud of the progress MAWS has made over the past year. As we look ahead, we remain committed to innovation, collaboration, and unwavering support for the shelters, associate members and communities we serve. Together, we are building a stronger, more resilient future for all.



Land Acknowledgement

The Manitoba Association of Women's Shelters (MAWS) acknowledges that we are gathered on Treaty 1 Territory and that Manitoba is located on the Treaty Territories and ancestral lands of the Anishinaabeg, Anishinewuk, Dakota Oyate, Denesuline, and Nehethowuk Nations.

We acknowledge that Manitoba is located in the Homeland of the Red River Métis. Northern Manitoba includes lands that were and are the ancestral lands of the Inuit.

We respect the spirit and intent of Treaties and Treaty Making and remain committed to working in partnership with First Nations, Inuit, and Métis people in the spirit of truth, reconciliation, and collaboration.

Story & Mission

The Manitoba Association of Women's Shelters Inc. (MAWS) is dedicated to providing a unified voice for those affected by all forms of gender-based violence (GBV) and to supporting Manitoba GBV prevention service providers.

MAWS was formed when family violence (FV) shelters across Manitoba began to work together in the 80s to improve services for those affected by interpersonal and family violence.

Today, MAWS members include all ten provincially funded FV shelters in Manitoba and associate members who work in the GBV prevention sector.

Mission: MAWS provides leadership and support for organizations working with those experiencing abuse by identifying and addressing common areas of need, strengthening standard practices, and increasing public awareness of domestic abuse.



Values & Guiding Principles

Principles of Harm Reduction

Values + Beliefs that underpin Harm Reduction:

- Strengths-Based: Focusing on strengths first and foremost while acknowledging that there are areas of improvement.
- Empowerment: Affirming and supporting those who experience violence where they are at.
- Dignity and Compassion: Allowing those who experience violence to feel that their needs are met without judgment.

Principles of Trauma-Informed Practice

Values + Beliefs that underpin Trauma-Informed Practice:

- Safety: Includes cultural safety and trauma safety.
- Trust: Developing relationships that foster trust.
- Collaboration: The belief that those who experience violence are experts in their own lives.
- Empowerment: Affirming where those who experience violence are, and empowering them to make decisions for their own lives.

Principles of Intersectional Feminist Practice

Values + Beliefs that underpin Intersectional Feminism:

- Ensure that services meet the unique needs of those who experience violence and are reflective of their lived experience.
- Acknowledge the multiple identities of service users beyond that of "victim."
- The work of MAWS is to challenge patriarchal structures and misogyny.

Principles of Decolonization

Values + Beliefs that underpin Decolonized practice — Acknowledge that:

- The experiences of those who experience violence are framed by settler colonialism and historical trauma.
- The result of settler colonialist policies is violence against Indigenous women, girls and members of the 2SLGBTQQIA community.
- That the work of shelters and MAWS is to be actively anti-racist.

Provincial Coordinator's Report

The Manitoba Association of Women's Shelters (MAWS) has been at the forefront of advocacy, community relationship building, collaboration, and direct support for its members throughout the province. This report details the impactful work MAWS has carried out in these key areas, highlighting our ongoing efforts and recent achievements.

Advocacy: Championing the Cause

MAWS is deeply committed to advocacy, tirelessly working to enhance legal protections and policies that protect victims of family violence. This year, MAWS has also participated in media interviews, for print, radio and TV. MAWS has focused on several advocacy initiatives, including:

Keira's Law Advocacy: Worked with Jennifer Keegan and MLA Cindy Lamoureux, in advocating for Keira's Law, which seeks to improve legal responses to family violence.

Intimate Partner Violence Awareness Week: Met with MLA Blashko to consult on the potential value and impact of the creation of an intimate partner violence awareness week.

Parental Alienation Advocacy: MAWS has continued its advocacy on the complex issue of parental alienation, raising awareness and pushing for more informed responses from the legal and social service sectors.

Community Relationship Building: Strengthening Our Social Fabric

Building strong, resilient communities is essential in the fight against family violence. MAWS has invested significant resources in fostering relationships within the community through various programs and initiatives:

Safe Families, Strong Communities" Program: This initiative has brought together community leaders, local businesses, schools, and residents to create a supportive network for survivors and their families. By providing education, resources, and support, we aim to break the silence surrounding family violence and encourage community solidarity.

Provincial Coordinator's Report

Guest Speaker Engagements: MAWS has participated in numerous community events, including speaking at Agape House's Gala, the Marathon fundraiser with the Ahmadiyya Muslim Association and attending events at the Elmwood Community Resource Center, to build connections and raise awareness about our mission.

Participation in various boards and committees: Sat on and participated in boards and committees including Women's Shelters Canada (WSC) and basic income community conversations which involved advocacy, sector wide research across the country and access to potential funding for members.

Collaboration with Other Organizations: A Unified Front

Understanding that combating family violence requires a collective effort, MAWS has established strong partnerships with various organizations across sectors:

NEVR Conference: We actively participated in the Network to Eliminate Violence in Relationships (NEVR) Conference, sharing insights and strategies to enhance collaboration in addressing family violence.

Presentations and Networking: MAWS has delivered presentations at events like the Rossburn Collegiate High School on domestic violence and intimate partner violence (DV/IPV), and collaborated with organizations such as Circling Buffalo during their domestic violence symposium.

Grant Applications: By applying for grants from both federal and provincial Women and Gender Equality Canada, the Winnipeg Foundation, and others, MAWS has secured funding to support our collaborative initiatives and strengthen our capacity to serve the community.

Continuing Collaborations: Collaborations with organizations such as AVA (Assisting Victims of Abuse), allow MAWS to continue growing, find more resources to support members, and provide consulting opportunities to other provinces.

Provincial Coordinator's Report

Support for Shelters: Providing a Safe Haven

Supporting shelters that provide refuge to survivors of family violence is central to MAWS' mission. This year, we have:

Training and Development: We have increased the number of online self-directed courses on the MAWS website and provided training and resources to shelter staff, including trauma-informed care, database support and legal advocacy, and empowerment programs that help survivors rebuild their lives.

Ongoing Support and Capacity Building: MAWS continues to advocate for increased shelter capacity and improved services, recognizing the growing demand for safe spaces and comprehensive support.

Conclusion:

The work of the MAWS is a powerful testament to the difference that dedicated advocacy, community engagement, collaboration, and support for shelters can make in the lives of those affected by family violence. Through tireless efforts and the support of our partners, MAWS remains a leading voice for change, offering hope and healing to survivors and paving the way for a future free from violence.



Photo from Her Honour, Lieutenant Governor of Manitoba, Anita Neville, visiting Willow Place with Co-Provincial Coordinator, Tsungai Mvingi Van Landeghem, Willow Place ED -Marcie Wood & Willow Place Staff.

**// MANITOBA ASSOCIATION
OF WOMEN'S SHELTERS**

ANNUAL REPORT 2023-2024

Treasurer's Report

April 1, 2023 – March 31, 2024

This has been an exciting year for MAWS with the important work being done to research a backbone organization for the gender-based violence sector and the funding made available to offer Indigenous cultural training that falls under the National Action Plan. As we reflect on the 2023-24 fiscal year, it is clear that both stability and transition have marked this period for MAWS. The post-pandemic recovery has presented challenges and opportunities, and we have navigated this landscape with a renewed focus on sustainability and capacity-building.

Here are the highlights of the fiscal position of the Manitoba Association of Women's Shelters for the fiscal year ended March 31, 2024:

We were awarded a three-year grant from WAGE Canada TWA, which is instrumental in maintaining the positions of two of our valuable staff members. This support ensures the continuity of critical roles within our organization.

·MAWS received \$35,000 from the Winnipeg Foundation, which has significantly bolstered our resources for the year.

·The GBV grant concluded on March 31, 2024, marking the end of a significant funding period.

·In 2024, MAWS secured \$36,028 in donations. While this represents a decrease from previous years, largely due to the tapering of COVID-related donations, we are grateful for the ongoing support from our donors. Their contributions remain crucial to our operations.

·Expenses were higher than the previous year (FY2024 - \$1,129,677; FY2023 - \$1,081,166). This was due to the exciting work beginning on the backbone organization and grant dollars flowing through to organizations to offer Indigenous training.

·Thanks to provincial support, we have been able to work with provincial family violence shelters and agencies to enhance Indigenous cultural training. This initiative has been a significant focus, with funding flows reflecting the investment in these essential training programs.

·At the close of the fiscal year, we recorded \$447,267 in deferred contributions. These funds are designated for programming that is yet to occur. The deferral method helps us match income with related expenses, providing a more accurate fiscal representation of our organization's financial health.

**// MANITOBA ASSOCIATION
OF WOMEN'S SHELTERS**

ANNUAL REPORT 2023-2024

The net effect was a FY2024 surplus of \$95,778 (FY2023 - \$81,153).

The 2023-24 fiscal year has been a time of strategic adjustment and growth for MAWS. We have successfully managed the transition from pandemic-related funding to new grants and donations, ensuring continued support for our member shelters and programs. I would like to extend my gratitude to all members and supporters of MAWS for their dedication and commitment, which have been instrumental in our continued success.

Respectfully Submitted,
Tracy Whitby,
Executive Director, Eastman Crisis Centre, Inc.
Treasurer, Manitoba Association of Women’s Shelters



Financial Statement

THE MANITOBA ASSOCIATION OF WOMEN'S SHELTERS INC. Statement of Operations and Changes in Net Assets For the year ended March 31, 2024

	2024	2023
REVENUE		
Community Action Program for Children	\$ 222,947	\$ 222,947
Prov of MB - Red Road to Healing	203,150	-
Women and Gender Equality - GBV	189,040	190,895
Prov of MB - MicroCredential	174,753	403,398
Prov of MB - FVCM	146,151	-
Prov of MB - shelter surplus funds	137,940	-
Grants	59,116	103,561
Interest income	47,630	24,002
Donations	36,028	40,237
Memberships	8,700	8,100
Women and Gender Equality - TT	-	169,179
	1,225,455	1,162,319
OPERATING EXPENSES		
Advertising and promotion	-	5,000
FVCM backbone org. - Consultants	136,122	-
Honoraria and other professional fees	47,066	72,332
Insurance	7,920	5,874
Memberships and subscriptions	677	1,250
MicroCredential - course development	139,600	366,200
Office expenses	34,991	31,682
Professional fees	14,506	8,400
Red Road to Healing agency grants	203,150	-
Salaries and wages	340,093	367,922
Shelter operating grants	178,434	178,434
Shelter supplies grants	9,000	9,000
Shelter training grants	6,788	14,500
Travel and training	11,330	20,572
	1,129,677	1,081,166
EXCESS OF REVENUE OVER EXPENSES	95,778	81,153
NET ASSETS - Beginning	327,468	246,315
NET ASSETS - Ending	\$ 423,246	\$ 327,468

// MANITOBA ASSOCIATION
OF WOMEN'S SHELTERS

ANNUAL REPORT 2023-2024

Members

Full Members

Family Violence Shelters

- Agape House, Steinbach (Eastman Crisis Centre): 204-326-6062
- Aurora House, The Pas (The Pas Committee for Women in Crisis): 204-623-7427
- Genesis House, Winkler (South Central Committee on Family Violence): 204-325-9957
- Ikwe-Widdjiitiwin, Winnipeg: 204-987-2780
- Nova House, Selkirk: 204-482-7882
- Parkland Crisis Centre, Dauphin: 204- 622-4626
- Prairie Harbour Inc., Portage La Prairie: 204-239-5234
- Sakeenah Canada, Winnipeg: 1-888-671-3446 Ext 130
- Thompson Crisis Centre, Thompson: 204-677-9668
- Willow Place, Winnipeg: 204-615-0313
- YWCA Westman Women's Shelter, Brandon: 204-727-3644

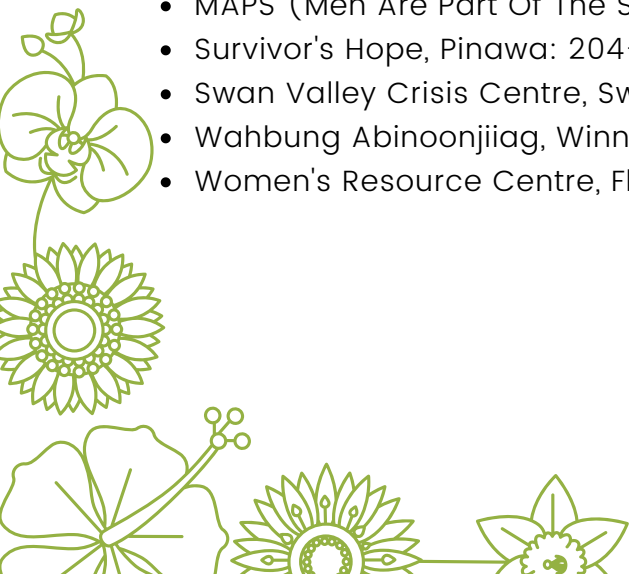
Associate Members

Intimate Partner Abuse Recovery Programs & Long-Term Shelter

- Alpha House Project, Winnipeg: 204-982-2011
- Bravestone Centre, Winnipeg: 204-275-2600
- Chez Rachel, Winnipeg: 204-925-2550
- House of Peace, Winnipeg: 204- 942-5535

Resource Centres & Other Programs

- Circling Buffalo, The Pas: 204-779-4318
- Elmwood Community Resource Centre, Winnipeg: 204-982-1720
- Fort Garry Women's Resource Centre, Winnipeg: 204-477-1123
- Healthy Muslim Families: 204-202-6491
- Interlake Women's Resource Centre, Gimli: 204-642-8264
- Lakeshore Family Resource Centre, Ashern: 204-768-3016
- Manitoba Moon Voices Inc., Winnipeg: 204-942-1828
- MAPS (Men Are Part Of The Solution), Thompson: 204-778-6040
- Survivor's Hope, Pinawa: 204-753-5353
- Swan Valley Crisis Centre, Swan River: 204-734-9368
- Wahbung Abinoonjiiag, Winnipeg: 204-925-4610
- Women's Resource Centre, Flin Flon: 204-681-3105




Meet the Team

MAWS Board of Directors

- Ang Braun, Executive Director, Genesis House, Winkler (South Central Committee on Family Violence)
- Kim Fontaine, Executive Director, Ikwe-Widdjiitiwin, Winnipeg (Co-Chair)
- Tara Hayes, Executive Director, Prairie Harbour Inc., Portage La Prairie
- Kari Prawdzik, Executive Director, Parkland Crisis Centre, Dauphin
- Dawna Pritchard, Executive Director, Aurora House, The Pas (The Pas Committee for Women in Crisis)
- Lois Ruston, Executive Director, YWCA Westman Women's Shelter, Brandon
- Nazish Tayab, Executive Director Sakeenah Canada, Winnipeg
- Helen Trudeau, Executive Director, Thompson Crisis Centre, Thompson (Co-Chair)
- Viktoria Westgate, Executive Director, Nova House, Selkirk (Secretary)
- Tracy Whitby, Executive Director, Agape House, Steinbach (Treasurer)
- Marcie Wood, Executive Director, Willow Place, Winnipeg (Co-Chair)

Staff

- Deena Brock – Provincial Coordinator, deena@maws.mb.ca
- Tsungai (Tsue) Mvingi Van Landeghem – Assoc. Provincial Coordinator, tsungai@maws.mb.ca
- Maria Paz – Communications Specialist, maria@maws.mb.ca
- Amber Merucci (PhD) – Project Specialist, amber@maws.mb.ca
- Sally Ogoe (PhD) – Project Specialist, sally@maws.mb.ca
- Anthony Leong – Program Administrator, anthony@maws.mb.ca
- Kevin Kowal – Technical Support
- Meaghan Ranseth – Bookkeeper



"We know that we cannot work harder so we must have the courage to work differently, to challenge practices, engage new partners and create meaningful transformation"

– Lesley Lindberg.

Year In Review

In the last year, we wrapped up the following grants:

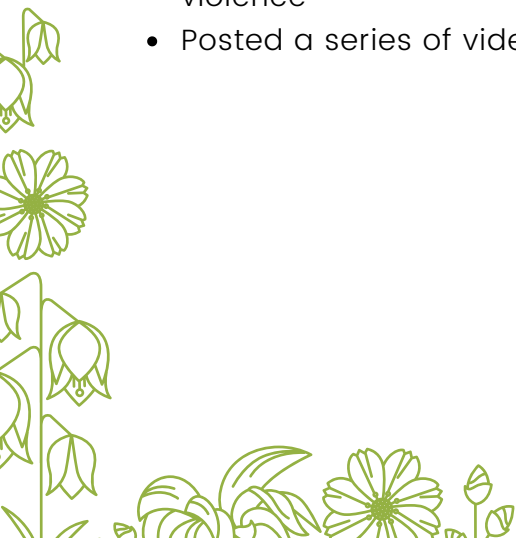
- WAGE Canada: Centering The Rights of Women From The Margins: Delivering Low Barrier and Non-Discriminatory GBV Services a 29-month grant completed April 2024
- Shelter Support Worker Micro-Credential Program, The second cohort was completed in August 2024 with 44 students graduating and 15 completing the work placement at a Family Violence shelter or Homeless shelter.

We held or co-hosted the following programs and in-person events:

- MAWS in-person meeting held May 8-10 in Winnipeg and the Annual General Meeting was held September 13-15, 2023 in Winnipeg.
- “Cultural Understandings of Intimate Partner Violence: How to Better Support Immigrants and Newcomers” webinar on Oct 25, 2023
- “Mind the Gap: Access to Justice for Victims of Intimate Partner Violence” webinar on June 13, 2024
- “How to support people with intellectual and developmental disabilities in GBV shelters” webinar on February 1, 2024
- “Counsellor workshop” event on January 23 & 24, 2024 and on December 5 & 6, 2023
- “Intimate Partner Violence and Mental Health” webinar on January 23, 2024
- Conducted in-person HIFIS training at provincial shelters
- Participated in multiple biweekly meetings for the Community Committee: YMCA ‘Power of Being You’ Conference

Communications work we did this year:

- As of July 11, 2024, we have 904 followers on Instagram, 1078 followers on Facebook, and 211 newsletter subscribers
- A TikTok account was created that has 14 followers and over 5,000 video views
- Executive Directors of FV shelters, Tracy Whitby, Ang Braun, and Helen Trudeau were featured in posts celebrating International Women's Day.
- A series of original videos were created debunking myths about gender-based violence
- Posted a series of videos featuring speeches from Black women authors



October, 2023

- Participated in a Basic Income Community Discussion bringing an IPV/GBV sector perspective.

November, 2023

- Participated a Public Safety Consultation facilitated by Clunis Consulting, the Elmwood Community Resource Centre's forum, and attended lunch with Minister Nahanni Fontaine at the Legislature.

January, 2024

- Met with Circling Buffalo representatives and federal shelters to discuss culturally relevant programming and challenges for Indigenous clients attempting to access provincial shelters.
- MAWS was a guest presenter along with the First Nation Healing Centre at a webinar on IPV and mental health hosted by the Community Legal Education Association.
- MAWS participated in a meeting called by Women's Shelters Canada (WSC) to discuss HIFIS with Infrastructure Canada representatives.

February, 2024

- Participated in the Manitoba Coalition of Community Action Program for Children (MCCAPC) meetings to look at ways to advocate with the federal government to increase funding for children and parent support programs.
- Met with Kendra Nixon from RESOLVE and a small group to discuss calling for the provincial government to declare Domestic Violence (DV) an epidemic in Manitoba.

March, 2024

- Attended a Rotary Meeting where tech safety was presented, and connected with the speaker, who runs a business helping people stay safe. He is willing to see if there is support he can provide to help with clients.
- MAWS was a guest speaker at Agape House's International Women's Day Gala.
- Met with MLA Tyler Blashko in consultation with the idea of the Province creating an IPV Prevention work.
- Attended Dr. Mandi Gray's book launch & discussion at McNally Robinsons. Book title: Suing for Silence: Sexual Violence and Defamation Law.
- Participated in Reweaving Support: Collaboration for Systems Change whose focus is on collaborating to bring a trauma informed Social Safety Net for Manitoba.

April, 2024

- Met with MB First Nations Education director Davin Dumas to discuss Indigenous translations for a worksheet. He donated his time to complete the translations.
- Met with Leah Gazan as part of the MCCAPC request and discussed the lack of funding for the CAPC programs in MB. She's willing to bring this up at a question period and offered suggestions on requesting better funding.
- Met with Jennifer Keegan to discuss Keira's Law being made mandatory on the Provincial level.
- Met with MLA Cindy Lamoureux to consult on Keira's Law in Manitoba. Subsequently attended the second reading at Manitoba Legislature of Bill 209/Keira's Law, having judges, justices of the peace, etc. take mandatory training on IPV/GBV.



Community Action Program for Children (CAPC)

Since 1990, MAWS has supported family violence (FV) shelters through the CAPC grant funded by the Public Health Agency of Canada (PHAC). This program supports children 0 – 6 years old and their parents.

The CAPC program staff supports shelter participants and their children through counselling, groups, referrals, and advocacy. The work involves building relationships with parents to model and encourage healthy parenting skills while supporting their healing journey. The fun part is the work with children, where staff encourage children to laugh and play in a safe environment. While more formal counselling and groups are available, the critical work is accomplished by watching and listening to the children. The staff work with parents to identify young children's developmental milestones and behavioural issues. Children's responses to trauma can be varied, and some can be debilitating, but if recognized at an early stage, they can often be addressed.

Provincial CAPC statistics

*Gathered from 9 shelters based on children 0-6 years old and their parents:

- Of the 1873 residential participants who accessed shelter, 635 families had CAPC-age children,
- 16 male parents accessed the service,
- Of the 1146 children attending the shelter, 747 were CAPC-age children,
- 142 counselling sessions were conducted with 112 children,
- 161 support groups for children were held, with 348 children participating
- 1142 playgroups were held with 2624 children and parents were encouraged to attend these playgroups.

Parenting Life Skills

- 226 parenting support groups were held, with 674 parents participating,
- 649 parental counselling sessions were conducted with 244 parents.

Photo credit: Canva



WAGE 2024–2027 grant: Transforming Workplace Approaches (TWA) to Gender-Based Violence (GBV): Systemic Changes that Promote Women’s Social and Economic Growth (2024)

Through this thirty-four-month systemic change project funded by Women and Gender Equality Canada, the Manitoba Association of Women’s Shelters Inc. will help advance women’s economic security and prosperity through systemic change. Specifically, the project will address systemic barriers within workplaces, businesses, and organizations by shifting how employers respond to workplace GBV by changing attitudes, increasing awareness and professional development opportunities, and designing preventative and protective measures to respond to GBV. These will be achieved by developing and delivering Train-the-Trainer workshops to various GBV service providers so that they can best support local organizations in addressing GBV and by establishing networking opportunities to build awareness around GBV. It will also include roundtable discussions with participants to build an understanding of growth and gaps, as well as the development of a toolkit and additional resources that will be made available online through the MAWS website.

Winnipeg Foundation grant: “Building Leadership in Family Violence / Gender-Based Violence Shelters & Agencies in Winnipeg & across the province (2024–2025)

The Winnipeg Foundation’s Community Grant is funding a crucial MAWS project titled “Building Leadership in Family Violence/Gender-Based Violence service providers in Winnipeg & across the province” from April 1, 2024, to March 31, 2025. This initiative aims to strengthen leadership within the Family violence (FV) and Gender-based violence (GBV) sectors by focusing on internal structures, governance, management capacity, and strategic planning. The project’s centrepiece is the creation of a comprehensive Leadership Orientation Guidebook for Executive Directors of FV emergency shelters, designed to equip both new and seasoned leaders with essential tools for effective organizational management. By enhancing leadership capabilities, the project seeks to improve service delivery and ultimately better support victims and survivors of gender-based violence across Manitoba. This effort aligns with broader provincial strategies to combat family/domestic violence and reinforces the critical role of well-managed shelters and agencies in providing vital support services. To further enhance the work, the MAWS website will house a leadership series and reading recommendations, contributing to the ongoing development of leadership skills in the FV and GBV sectors.



WAGE Canada grant: Centering The Rights of Women From The Margins: Delivering Low Barrier and Non-Discriminatory GBV Services (2021-2024)

MAWS has supported Manitoba's Family Violence (FV) shelters by incorporating a human rights-based approach to gender-based violence services that promotes equitable access to services in rural and urban areas with low barriers, consistent with MMIWG Calls for Justice.

MAWS staff conducted 22 stakeholder interviews to gather data on service gaps and needs in Manitoba. This initiative led to reviewing and revising policies and procedures to remove barriers to front-line services by developing ten Promising Practices foundational in implementing and sustaining low-barrier, rights-based, trauma-informed, person-centered practices throughout FV shelters in Manitoba.

MAWS staff met with Circling Buffalo to build relationships with Indigenous-led organizations and, federal GBV shelters. Partnerships are essential to helping build consistency and cohesion, addressing the realities of family violence shelters working in silos and the challenges that emerge from isolation and disconnection.

We look forward to continuing to see the fruits of this labour and to committing to more heart work that promotes access to services that are a low barrier, consistent with MMIWG Calls for Justice.

Elmwood Community Resource Centre - "Still I Rise" Program

MAWS has partnered with Elmwood Community Resource Centre on their project, "Still I Rise", which builds upon and enhances existing prevention and early intervention supports for Southeast Asian, South Asian, Black, and Arab women and gender-diverse folks in our community. Although the project focuses on working with those communities, it will build capacity with service users to ensure that it speaks to the immediate needs and comes from a culturally nuanced perspective of support and practice.

Family violence shelters across the province will have access to "Still I Rise," and access will be twofold. First, they will have an opportunity for staff training and professional development. Second, they will provide an opportunity for their newcomer clients to attend training sessions offered within this project.

This project adapts and scales components of a successful Gender-based violence (GBV) program delivered in Winnipeg, Manitoba, by Elmwood Community Resource Center for ten years.

Thank You to Our Generous Donors & Supporters!

We want to thank our supporters, donors, funders, and all individuals named below and those who wished to remain anonymous who have been thinking of the Manitoba shelters.

Through your generosity, MAWS can continue supporting family violence (FV) shelters and agencies in Manitoba.

Our donors & grantors for the 2023-2024 fiscal year:

Public Health Agency of Canada (PHAC)
Women and Gender Equality (WAGE) - Canada
Women and Gender Equality (WAGE) - Manitoba
Women's Shelters Canada
Winnipeg Foundation
Canada Employment & Immigration Union
Inwood Ladies Golf
Russel Metals
Royal Le Page Shelter Foundation
Ahmadiyya Muslim Jama'at Canada
Royal Manitoba Theater Centre
CANTalk Canada
Canadian Forces Morale and Welfare Services
Charitable Opportunities Fund
Prairie Dawn Foundation

Strategic Charitable Giving Foundation from the Caring Peas Fund

Thank you to the many individuals who donated through: Benevity, CanadaHelps, Canadian Online Giving Foundation, Charitable Impact Foundation, Charities Aid Foundation, CyberGrants, Gift Funds Canada, Paypal Giving Fund, Strategic Charitable Giving Foundation, United Way Centraide Canada

Visit <https://maws.mb.ca/> for more information on MAWS
Don't forget to sign up for our monthly newsletter!

Connect with us!



@MAWSManitoba



@maws_mb



@mawsmanitoba



maws@maws.mb.ca