

havensociety.com

2022-2023

ANNUAL REPORT



Promoting the safety of women,
children, youth and families

OUR PARTNERS

FUNDING PARTNERSHIPS:



CORPORATE PARTNERSHIPS:



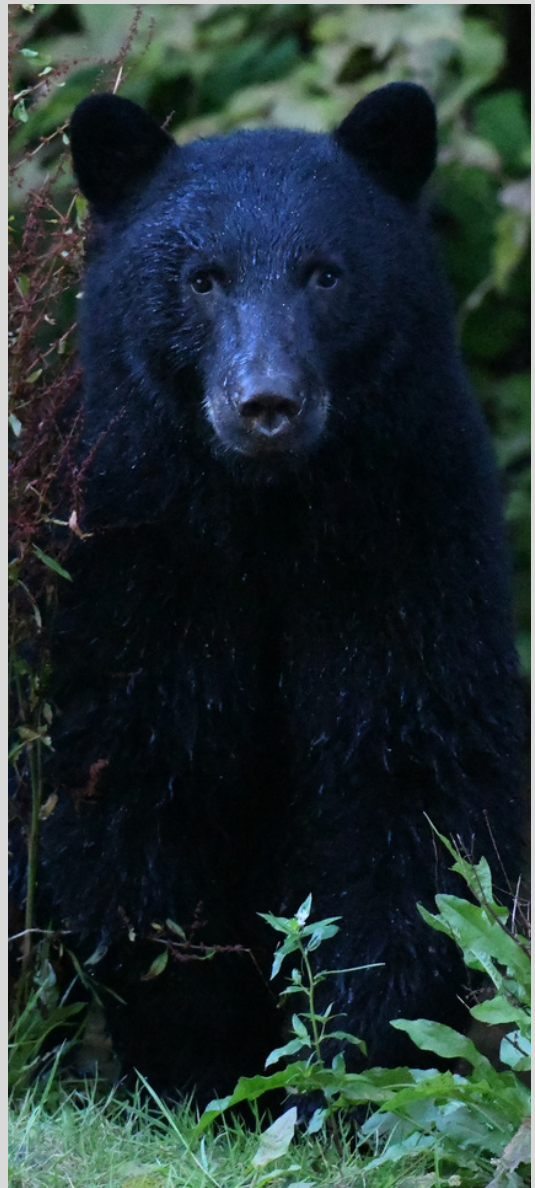
COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS:



TERRITORY ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Haven Society is grateful for the land on which we work, live and gather. We would like to acknowledge the people of the Coast Salish Nation and the unceded territories of the Snuneymuxw, Snaw-Naw-As, Stz'uminus and Pentlatch.

The word unceded is used to recognize that Indigenous people never relinquished this land and that settlers continue to inhabit these lands without permission.



Picture by Joanna Recalma

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MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF HAVEN SOCIETY

The past year brought both great challenges and great accomplishments for Haven Society. Under the guidance of Lisa Scott, Haven's first Indigenous Executive Director, Haven culture enjoyed the benefits of a culture shift towards reconciliation. This included a renewed focus on service delivery for women and children fleeing violence in a thoughtful and purposeful way.

The shift included fresh dedication to staff training regarding safety and well-being in an effort to combat potential impacts of vicarious trauma. Naturally, change can be challenging! Haven's dedicated frontline staff met this opportunity with enthusiasm and a brave willingness to learn, listen and take action.

Haven enjoyed the work of a trail-blazing author and facilitator, Elaine Aleck. Elaine hosted an Agency Day workshop for all staff on Cultivating Safe Spaces; she offered a new perspective on the work of reconciliation. Further, in the Spring of 2023, Haven collaborated with the Qualicum First Nation (QFN) to deliver Cultivating Safe Spaces to Snaw-naw-as and QFN Band members and community members. This meaningful event was well attended and celebrated by the Indigenous Nations and Haven alike.



MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF HAVEN SOCIETY

The Board received a clear message from members to renew relationships with Society members and staff alike. This also fits with reconciliation because it asked us to focus on relationship-building as opposed to operating under a cloud of urgency.

The Board was thrilled to connect with frontline staff, management and Haven Society members at the open house hosted in the Winter of 2022. Board members increased in-person visits to Haven's Community Services Building, and we were all delighted to enjoy and build strong relationships with management and frontline staff. Again, this work echoes Haven leadership's renewed efforts to foster reconciliation, a framework that focuses on fostering good relationships.

Unfortunately for Haven, Lisa Scott made the difficult decision to move on to new adventures in the Spring of 2023; the Board wishes to express our sincere gratitude for her lasting impact on the culture and good work of Haven. Haven welcomed an experienced Interim Executive Director, Maeve O'Byrne, who worked with Lisa through the transition to our new Executive Director, Daylene Jones, who we know is dedicated to continuing the honourable mission of Haven while maintaining a focus on reconciliation and diversity, equity and inclusion.

Last, the Board wishes to thank all of the past members of the Board, volunteers, donors, community partners and particularly the stunning frontline staff who carry out our mission through challenging times of change. We are grateful for the fantastic work that you all do!

BOARD OF DIRECTORS



JANIS BROOKS
Co-Chair



JOANNA RECALMA
Co-Chair



JANE LUMB
Treasurer



MICHELLE GAGNON
Secretary



ARIANNA SCOTT
Director*

• For part of the year

MISSION STATEMENT

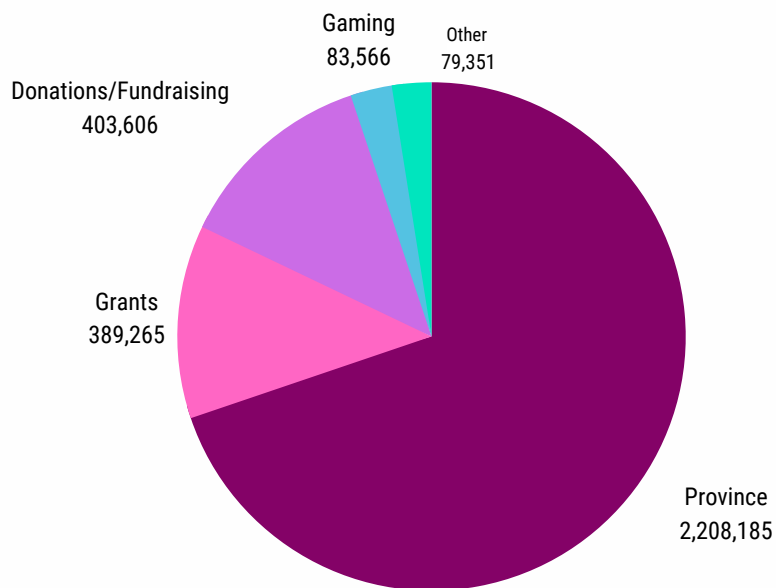


Haven Society's mission is to promote the integrity and safety of women, children, youth and families and the development of a respectful and healthy community.

As a leading anti-violence organization operating from feminist principles, Haven Society will achieve this mission by providing a range of services, public education and advocacy.

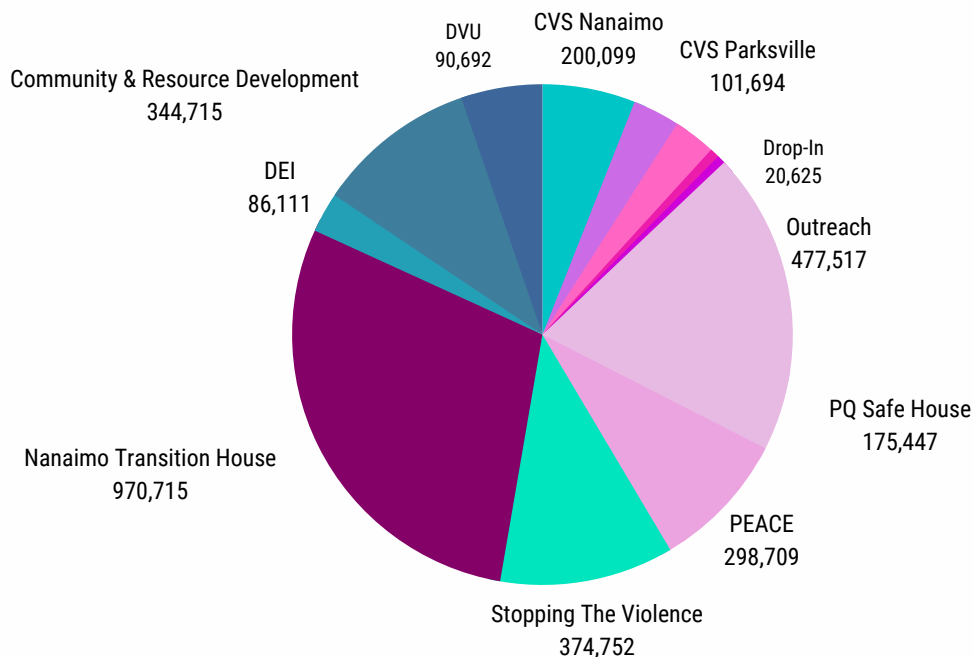
FINANCE

SOURCES OF FUNDING:



TOTAL:
\$3,163,974

SPENDING BY PROGRAM



TOTAL:
\$3,159,003

Transition House

This year, the Transition House offered support and safety to many women who presented with highly complex needs and significant barriers to finding housing after their stay. We saw an increase in women with larger families and an increase in women who are new to the country. At times, language and cultural differences created barriers to providing support with legal, medical, educational, recreational, and all aspects of day-to-day living. These issues, combined with a rising housing crisis, made for a challenging year for the Women’s Support Workers to help women transition back into the community in a safe way. These barriers often resulted in women and their children staying well past the usual 30-day stay. As a result, the stays or occupancy of our beds almost doubled over the previous year.

As a program that relies heavily on donations to support women and families leaving the transition house, we appreciate all food, clothing, and household donations received. Special thanks to Friends of Haven Thrift Store and Altrusa for their continuing support as community donations have decreased. An Altrusa member and her husband chose to use their wedding anniversary fund to buy a new play structure for our outside area and took the time to come and assemble it for us. This thoughtful act of kindness touched our hearts, and the children love it!



87

Number of Women
Served

72

Number of Children
Served

4032

Bed Stays for Adults
and Children

3537

Number of Crisis
Calls

Our Parksville Safe home program gave us the option to provide support to senior women and families with lower and unique needs. Parksville also supported women who felt safe to stay in Parksville and needed a calmer and more relaxed atmosphere.

Stopping The Violence

The Stopping the Violence Counselling program serves women (19+), those who identify as women, and non-binary folk, that have experienced intimate partner violence or abuse, childhood abuse, and/or sexual assault. In 2022, the program received a grant that allowed us to bring two casuals onboard. Even though we received an additional 15 referrals per month, these additional staff hours reduced our waitlist from 82 to 58 women for individual counselling. Having more staff also provided hours to run multiple groups (in-person and virtual) and extend our service to a greater number of women in the community. We look forward to continuing to expand our services through more community presentations and collaboration.



751

Individual Counselling
Sessions

94

Group Counselling
Sessions

146

Women
Referred

246

Total Individual
Clients Served

"Thank you for creating a safe, warm setting for great conversations with like-minded individuals and shared experiences. I feel less alone." - STV Client

PEACE

This year, we have continued to serve the children and families of our community through a trauma-informed lens, compassion, and empathy.

The need for the PEACE program is recognized by our community and we continue to support additional community organizations through education on intervention and prevention as we are able. This is facilitated primarily through information booths at community events and our Violence Is Preventable (VIP) program. Our growing referrals have encouraged us to restructure our program in order to meet the needs of our clients.

Staffing changes have allowed us to deliver an increase in individual and group counselling sessions for children and youth. We are grateful for all the support we receive from our community.



1260

Individual Counselling
Sessions

48

Group Counselling
Sessions

130

Families
Referred

800

Students that Received
VIP Presentations at
School

“I have learned it's okay to stand up for myself in a respectful way. No one deserves to be treated badly.” - PEACE Client - aged 10 boy

Nanaimo Community Victims Services

The Nanaimo CVS Program provides support and assistance to those impacted by family and sexual violence. We assist clients by providing Criminal justice system information and support, safety planning, practical and emotional support, information and referrals. Many instances of physical and sexual abuse go unreported; we offer a safe place to talk about relationship violence, abuse and sexual assault where the focus is not just about the criminal justice system.

Over the last year, the program has experienced a 33 % increase in referrals from Nanaimo Crown Counsel, and Staff have been busy providing court accompaniment to victims and their families. The Nanaimo CVS Program continues to work collaboratively with the Nanaimo Domestic Violence Unit to proactively monitor and safety plan for cases in Nanaimo that have been identified as the highest risk domestic violence cases.



353

Total Clients Served

1495

Information and Supportive
Contacts/Sessions

189

Average Monthly
Caseload

103

Total Individuals
Supported Through the
Domestic Violence Unit

In January 2023, the CVS Program joined the newly funded Nanaimo Situation Table. The table is comprised of front-line staff from the public safety, health, and social service sectors to identify vulnerable people and collaboratively and rapidly connect them to services.

Parksville Community Victims Services

Community Victim Services provides free information and emotional support for individuals and/or families who are survivors of sexual abuse, relationship abuse-violence and sexual assault to help with understanding the dynamics of abusive relationships; assist and support with navigating systems, referring to other community resources as well as safety planning.

As a program that operates in a separate community from our main office, local community engagement and collaboration are essential. Parksville CVS works closely with other service providers in the community to provide seamless and comprehensive support to victims of power-based crime. This year, we have enhanced and developed our working relationship with the Domestic Violence Investigator at the Oceanside RCMP, allowing for increased safety planning and prevention for those at risk of future violence.



130

Total Individual
Clients Served

490

Information and Supportive
Contacts/Sessions

25

Average Monthly
Caseload

“It’s been a privilege and blessing. You have a true gift in connecting with true understanding.” - Parksville CVS Client

Outreach

The Outreach Program has had another busy year as we strive to provide support services and reduce harms to marginalized women in the community. We continue to see increasing numbers of women who are either homeless/ risk of homelessness and experiencing violence in Nanaimo and area. The Outreach Program has four different components of service which are ;

- Drop in Program- Crisis support consisting of information and services to meet immediate needs.
- STV Outreach- 1-1 and group support to women who's lives have been impacted by violence
- Homeless Prevention Program- rental subsidies for women fleeing violence and supports/referrals for increased community stabilization.
- Boundary Crescent Supportive Housing- subsidized housing for women who require ongoing supports due to complex needs.



2104

Unique Individual
Support Sessions

314

Rental Support
Subsidies

278

Drop-In Support
Sessions

826

Referral for
Service

“The financial help and support I received gave me an opportunity to get myself in a better situation. My children have a happier mother.” - Outreach Client

IN COMMUNITY

Thank you for the tremendous support offered by our communities! We couldn't do what we do without you! Together, we are working to promote safety, prevent violence, and make our community a better place to live.



HOW CAN YOU HELP?

- **Make a monetary contribution. We accept donations of cash, cheque, credit card, stocks and shares. Visit our website or Canada Helps for more information**
- **Join our monthly Friendship Plan. Sign up for monthly donations with automatic installments to support services**
- **Host an online event. Plan a virtual fundraiser to benefit Haven Society**
- **Provide a gift in honour. Celebrate or honour someone special by donating and or making a gift to Haven**
- **Create a Legacy. Leave a legacy gift to Haven in the form of a bequest**
- **Volunteer. Join our community of volunteers at Haven Society to support the various activities of the agency**
- **Follow Haven Society on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter for the latest updates and event information.**

We thank you for your ongoing support of our organization!



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