

Chairs Report 2012-2013

By Karen Peto

2012-2013 has been a year of change for MAWS with the departure of Nikki Trimble, our Provincial Co-ordinator, in January 2013 and the hiring of Deena Brock to replace her in that role.

We have continued to work with PHAC to ensure the continuation of the Federal CAPC program which funds the children's programs in our shelter. We are very much hoping that this funding will be extended beyond the current contract ending date in March 2014.

Our members are working to incorporate the WISH program as the database used by all of MAWS members to record and hold valuable data about the work we do in our shelters. Funding received through the Winnipeg Foundation was used to purchase laptops for all of the participating shelters to assist with data entry into the WISH program. The program has been improved to allow the capture of the CAPC data for our reporting to PHAC. Our goal is to be able to provide province wide data on topics important to the operating of Women's Shelters.

In September of 2012 many of us were able to attend the first Canada wide conference hosted by the Canadian Network of Women's Shelters and Transition Houses in Montreal. Many topics of interest concerning the issue of family violence were discussed and the experience was valuable for our members.

MAWS was the recipient of grants from the Winnipeg Foundation, the Thomas Sill Foundation, and the Sigma Theta Tau International Nursing Honour Society raised funds for us with their event called "Pasta with a Purpose". MAWS also participated in The Access to Justice project with YWCA Canada, which was funded by the Law Foundation of Ontario. This project was aimed at educating frontline workers to better understand the barriers and to be equipped to assist Aboriginal women to the access the legal system. We are grateful to all of our donors and funders for their support of our association.

This past year MAWS hosted a "Breakfast with the Guys" as a fund raiser and an invitation to men to engage in the struggle to end family violence. It was an uplifting event with our featured speaker and presenter, Jackson Katz, who is recognized for his work in the field of gender violence prevention education.

I would like to thank Deena Brock, our provincial coordinator, for the work she does to keep our association working and keeping us all connected. Thanks as well to the executive and all of the board members of MAWS. All of us believe that our work and the work of our shelters is making a difference in the lives of women and children in Manitoba.

Our Members

The work of MAWS members is often done quietly and behind the scenes, involving numerous hours and dedication. If you would like to know more about the work of our members, please feel free to contact them directly. Talk to the Executive Directors about their work, how you can help or donate to make a change. Most agencies produce an Annual Report or have a website - find out more about the precious resources here to help those who need.



MAWS
manitoba association of women's shelters

Registered Charitable Number
880786892RR0001

MEMBER SHELTERS

- Agape House**
(Eastman Crisis Centre)
Steinbach 204.326.6062
- Aurora House** (The Pas
Committee for Women in Crisis)
The Pas 204.623.7427
- Genesis House** (South
Central Committee on
Family Violence) Winkler
204.325.9957
- Ikwe-Widdjitiwin** Winnipeg
204.987.2780
- Nova House** Selkirk 204.482.7882
- Parkland Crisis Centre** Dauphin
204.622.4626
- Portage Family Abuse
Prevention Centre** Portage la
Prairie 204.239.5234
- Thompson Crisis Centre**
Thompson 204.677.9668
- YWCA Westman Women's
Shelter** Brandon 204.727.3644

AFFILIATE MEMBERS

- Alpha House Project** Winnipeg
204.982.2011
- Fort Gary Women's Resource
Centre** Winnipeg 204.477.1123
- Interlake Women's Resource
Centre** Gimli 204.642.8264
- Lakeshore Women's Resource
Centre** Ashern 204.768.3016
- Pluri-elles** Winnipeg
204.233.1735
- Wish Inc** Winnipeg 204.275.2600
- Women's Resource Centre**
Flin Flon 204.681.3105

Provincial Coordinators Report

By Deena Brock

MAWS incorporated in 1991 to provide a unified provincial and national voice for the 9 member shelters and affiliate members in Manitoba. Our members are dedicated to advancing and maintaining the well being of women and children in abusive situations. At the end of January 2013, Nikki Tremble stepped down as Provincial Coordinator and returned to the UK. Nikki did a wonderful job representing MAWS and moving forward as you can read below about some of the projects. My involvement with MAWS started in early March of 2013, I appreciate the opportunity to be allowed to carry forward the existing projects and embark on new endeavors all made available by the care and consideration of the Board of Directors of MAWS.

During 2012, the Manitoba Association of Women's Shelters was fortunate to receive funding from the Winnipeg Foundation. This funding allowed MAWS to purchase 14 laptops to distribute to Shelters for use with the new WISH program. Part of this funding is being used to provide training on the WISH platform to shelter staff. This database program has been implemented at 9 provincial shelters and provides a detailed data collection system that assists the Executive Directors to utilize the vast amount of data they collect.

MAWS took part in the CAWS knowledge exchange committee working on its transition from project to not for profit incorporation with charitable status. It is now the Canadian Network of Women's Shelter and Transition Houses (CNWSTH) www.endvaw.ca. The charity has hired a full time Executive Director Lise Martin and is working on a number of projects. "As the roster of projects and partners grow, so too does the sustainability of the Network – the assurance that our work will continue so long as the challenge of violence against women remains," stated Lise Martin the Executive Director of CNWSTH.

Another project MAWS has been participating in is with the YWCA funded by the Law Foundation of Ontario through the Access to Justice Fund, Building Capacity: Supporting Access to Justice for Aboriginal Women Dealing with Violence. We have hired a research student lawyer who will design, and evaluate innovative, community-based, locally-and culturally-appropriate legal support training for violence against women shelter and outreach service staff in 10 YWCA Canada Member Associations and with their community partners who are serving a high number of Aboriginal women dealing with violence. Training will take place in Brandon and Thompson.

The Thomas Sill Foundation has also provided a match funding grant to allow MAWS to work on a Standard Counselling Manual for all Manitoba Shelters. This will help to ensure that shelters are delivering similar counselling material and practices. If a client transferred from one shelter to another her counsellor would be able to continue on with her counselling plan instead of starting over from the beginning.

MAWS hosted the first annual Breakfast with the Guys in November 2012. This fundraising event is designed to engage men in the fight against family violence. The keynote speaker was Jackson Katz PH.D "who is one of Americas anti-sexist male activists. He's an educator, author, filmmaker, and cultural theorist, he is internationally recognized for his groundbreaking work in the field of gender violence prevention education and critical media literacy." This event was held at the Winnipeg Convention Centre.

MAWS Statistics

- In the 2012-2013 Year MAWS member shelters provided 27,697 bed nights to women and their children
- MAWS member shelters provided care to 864 women and 978 children who accessed shelter services as residential clients
- MAWS member shelters provided care to 335 women and 72 children who accessed shelter services as non residential clients
- MAWS member shelters provided care to 308 women and 83 children who accessed shelter services as follow-up clients.
- MAWS member shelters attended to 7940 crisis line calls

Who is MAWS?

In the 1980's, women's shelters in Manitoba began to work together to provide support, training, information and improved services for clients.

The organization incorporated in 1991 as The Manitoba Association of Women's Shelters. Membership now includes all nine provincially funded women's shelters. There are also several affiliate members of MAWS who work in the field of domestic violence.

MAWS members are dedicated to advancing and maintaining the well being of women and children in abusive situations.

MAWS members are the shelters themselves; each shelter chooses a designate to sit on the board of MAWS. Designates can be board members or staff. MAWS meets monthly via conference call and in person, bi-annually at a minimum.

Our Goals

- To provide a unified voice for women and children who have experienced violence.
- To unite Manitoba shelters and provide a central body to facilitate communication.
- To foster networking and information sharing among shelters and between other agencies that work to eliminate all forms of violence.
- To assist in acquiring resources for member shelters.
- To promote public education around violence against women and children.
- To promote best practices among member shelters.
- To develop and promote provincial standards for all shelters.
- To foster professional development within Manitoba shelters

MAWS Executive

Angela Braun/Karen Peto	Co-Chairs
Anna Pazdzierski	Treasurer
Kari Prawdzik	Secretary
Deena Brock	Provincial Coordinator



2012 AGM

Teulon, Manitoba

Back row, from left to right: Aurora House Director Dawna Pritchard, Middle Row Provincial Coordinator Deena Brock, Thompson Crisis Centre Director Kim Hickeys, YWCA Westman Women's Shelter Director Karen Peto, Nova House Staff Jean Clearwater, Front row, Guest- Board Member of Nova House Arlene Bodnar, Nova House Director Anna Pazdzierski, and Guest Speaker- Marie Bodnar



Breakfast with the Guys Winnipeg Convention Centre

Clockwise from top left: Andre Douglas-Winnipeg Blue Bombers, Nikki Tremble-Provincial Coordinator, Chris Cvetkovic-Winnipeg Blue Bombers, and Jason Vega previously with the Winnipeg Blue Bombers



MANITOBA ASSOCIATION OF WOMEN'S SHELTERS ANNUAL REPORT 2012-2013

Provincial CAPC

CAPC stands for "Community Action Program for Children" and is funded by the Public Health Agency of Canada. CAPC recognizes that communities are able to identify and respond to the needs of their children and so each project has been developed to meet the needs of their community. There are fourteen CAPC projects in Manitoba, all sharing the same goal: To enhance the well being of children, aged 0-6, living in conditions of risk.

Provincial CAPC Program 12/13 Outcomes

Counselling/Support Groups

- 429 counselling sessions were provided to 383 children
- 1057 children were provided with support groups
- 100% of caregivers reported the program helped their children understand how to be safe
- 92% of caregivers reported they can communicate better with their child/children

Play Groups

- 983 play group sessions were attended by 1227 children
- 80% Caregivers reported the space used for playgroups to be good or excellent
- 100% reported good or excellent satisfaction with toys/activities provided
- 80% reported the staff to be helpful

Parenting Programs

- 569 parenting sessions were provided to 352 caregivers
- 1068 counselling sessions were provided to 378 women clients
- 93% reported being satisfied by the parenting program
- 96% reported they improved their parenting/life skills
- 75% reported learning about Healthy relationships
- 96% reported learning about resources in the community outside of shelter



Royal Canadian Mounted Police Gendarmerie royale du Canada



Supported by:

THANK YOU

The Public Health Agency of Canada for their financial contribution and endless support and assistance.

The Winnipeg Foundation - for funding our new database training and technology.

The Thomas Sill Foundation - for funding an In-House Counselling Manual.

The RCMP - for providing funds to support the Breakfast With The Guys Event.

The Manitoba Government, Family violence Prevention Program, for their continued support to our members.

To all the organisations and individuals who have arranged fundraising events, and donated goods and services throughout the year.

To our membership who make all we do possible.