

**DISCOVERY HOUSE
ANNUAL REPORT 10/11**



FAMILY VIOLENCE PREVENTION SOCIETY

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

Discovery House's mission is to provide integrated residential and community services for abused women and children to enable them to live safely in the community. I would like to thank the Board for their contributions to ensuring that the mission and strength of our service is well recognized in the community. It has been a pleasure to work with such a dedicated and motivated group of people.

Sharing their dedication, they helped to build strong community connections and spark interest in Discovery House. They have shown their dedication through diligent committee work - reviewing the governance framework and the strategic plan. They arrived at the exciting commitment to move forward on the expansion plan, accepting the challenges that may bring.

The generosity of our supporters, donors, sponsors and volunteers along with the tireless efforts of the counsellors and staff at Discovery House, continue to amaze and inspire. Thank you for helping us to move forward with our vision of a community free from family violence.



Shirley Philips
Chair, Board of Directors

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MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Domestic violence doesn't affect just one kind of woman, or one kind of family. So Discovery House needs to be flexible and responsive to ensure the greatest possible benefit to the many unique women and children that need us.

This past year, we amended the service delivery model for our clients. This shift, explained in the following pages, represents two elements of Discovery House that I am extremely proud of: our focus on the client at all times, and our ability to identify and develop a more effective course of action.

Even more, our Community Housing program has been an incredible success, allowing Discovery House's mission and vision to extend in to the community beyond our residential program. There are many potential entry points to breaking the cycle of violence, and the Community Housing program allows us to reach women and children we wouldn't have otherwise been able to help before.

The achievements of the past year were made possible by the tireless efforts of the staff at Discovery House, and the guidance and dedication of our Board. Their passion, combined with the generosity of our donors and supporters, allows us to continue to make a difference in the lives of women and children fleeing family violence.




Brigitte Baradoy
Executive Director

CONNECTIONS

CAN
FREE
THEM



FROM
FAMILY
VIOLENCE



one
case
manager
FOR ONE
FAMILY

We have made a significant change in our clients' counselling experiences, with the simple goal of granting our client families a consistent experience from intake to integration back into the community.

Previously, Discovery House clients were served by two counsellors: their residential counsellor would work with them for the duration of their stay at Discovery House, and their follow-up counsellor would support the family's transition back in to the community.

Now, Discovery House clients are provided one entrusted case manager, who is dedicated to their entire journey. The case manager encompasses the skills of both the residential and follow-up counsellors. This change allows our clients to build a strong relationship with their case manager, based on a foundation of trust and stability. This change also minimizes the disruptions our clients face as they work towards living safely and independently in the community.

By fostering an intimate and trusting relationship with one case manager we provide our clients with a greater sense of stability and control over their lives. As their confidence grows, they become better equipped to make the fundamental lifelong changes needed to break the cycle of family violence.

MAINTAINING CONNECTIONS



HOUSING

in
the COMMUNITY

FIRST

Discovery House's Community Housing program, which began as a pilot project in early 2009, has surpassed all targets and expectations since its inception. The only program of its kind in Canada, Community Housing gave 113 families the keys to a new life this past year alone.

The Community Housing program gives women and their children a home to call their own upon leaving the emergency shelter. This immediate stability and connection to the community minimizes the risk that the family will either return to the abuse they fled, or face homelessness. Once the family is stably housed, Discovery House's Community Housing team can support them with home-based services tailored to their needs. Each family is connected with a case manager and a mental health specialist.

Just like the clients in our residential program, every Community Housing client is unique, and has their own story to tell. Their needs, skills, education and support may vary, but the common thread that they all seek is a better life for themselves and their children. By supporting these vulnerable families when they need it most, we contribute to a safer, healthier and more vibrant community today, and for future generations.

EXPANDING CONNECTIONS

FOR
MAKING
it
possible

THANK
YOU

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YOUR CONTINUED HELP MAKES ALL THE DIFFERENCE

9/10

* Every effort has been made to ensure recognition on this list for all donors who
contributed \$300 or more this fiscal year. We sincerely apologize if any errors or
omissions have occurred. Thank you to all those who preferred to remain anonymous.

CORE FUNDERS

Alberta Children's Services, Prevention of Family Violence and Bullying
Calgary & Area, Child & Family Services Authority
Calgary Homeless Foundation
City of Calgary, Family & Community Support Services
United Way of Calgary & Area

Audited financial statements will be available online after July, 01, 2011 or contact 403.204.6847 for more information.

MISSION

Discovery House provides integrated residential and community services for abused women and children to enable them to live safely in the community.

VISION

Our communities are free of family violence.

SUPPORT

With our new programs and strategies in place, Discovery House stands to help twice as many families as we could have before. And changes like these are made possible with the support of our proud donors.

But even the most efficient growth requires an increase in resources, and your continued generosity will help us reach out to more who have summoned the strength to end the cycle of violence. When a woman has made the decision to take her children and leave a violent home, it will be your donations that make the difference between housing them safely, or having them return to the violence. Your support allows us to help them as they regain their lives, and their independence.

Thank you for your vision, your kindness, and your help.

FREE

OUR FAMILIES

FROM

VIOLENCE

discoveryhouse.ca

