REPORT FROM THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The Board of Directors for the Women’s Sexual Assault Centre are first and foremost volunteers. We are part of a deeply-committed and skilled group of people with big hearts and boundless energy who log hours and hours of work supporting the work of the staff of the Centre.

Dwarfing our efforts are the staff of the Women’s Sexual Assault Centre – we are blessed with sound and wise leadership, a highly professional counselling service, effective and well-regarded volunteer and fund-raising personnel, an efficient and committed administrative arm, and an innovative and widely recognized prevention team.

Over the next year, we will be focusing our efforts on working with the Executive Director, managers and staff to put in place a succession plan. We understand that we must plan for the future, and which includes having continuity and capability in the energy and skills of agency staff. We also understand that this task is broad and encompassing, as it will mean a thorough look at the whole agency by volunteers and staff.

Our Board possesses a variety of organizational, professional and academic skills that enhance our performance as a Board and our ability to support the agency. Dr. Ilka Thiessen is an anthropologist and has taken a leave of absence from our Board to teach and learn in the Cook Islands. She will return to the Board in January 2007. In the meantime, we are pleased to welcome several new Directors: Mary Heppner, Jen Cooper, Emily Ellingsen and Shelley Spring. A special thanks to departing directors Jenellie Cooper and Erica Willinger.

The Board of Directors commit their efforts once again to the staff and volunteers of the Women’s Sexual Assault Centre and to our community.

Respectfully,
WSAC Board Members
Kimberly Brown, Jen Cooper, Emily Ellingsen, Mary Heppner, Ingrid Kirk, Shelley Spring, Lola Freeman Storry, Dr. Ilka Thiessen, and Jan Trainor (Chair)

OUR DONORS & FUNDERS

We are very fortunate to have the generous financial support of many individual donors, foundations and organizations. Without you, we would not be able to provide the services that we do. Please accept our heartfelt thanks for your continued support.

A special thank you to the following groups who provided grants and funding this past year:

Direct Access to Gaming through the Province of BC Ministry of Community Services
Ministry of Solicitor General and Public Safety
Provincial Employees Community Services Fund
United Way – Community Collaborative Grant
Vancity Credit Union
Victoria Foundation – Community Fund
Victoria Foundation – Woodside Fund

REPORT FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Building Strengths 2005-2006

Staff
Our greatest strength is our competent, committed and enthusiastic staff team. This year saw some changes as we welcomed new staff and bid farewell to others moving on to new challenges and adventures. We continued to work creatively to provide professional development opportunities and a healthy work environment for all of our staff.

Fundraising
As an agency that receives less than 50% of its budget from government contracts, fundraising is a critical activity for us. This year we increased the position of Resource Development Officer to full time and worked to expand our funding base. The support of individual donors and local businesses makes it possible to continue the many services we offer.

Our Space and Infrastructure
We were able to have the downstairs offices painted so that this space will provide the same warm and welcoming feeling as our upstairs offices. We completed the networking of our computer system and programs making the sharing of information and resources more efficient. With our new copier we are able to complete small printing jobs in house and more effectively allocate costs to specific programs.

Community
We continue to work in partnership with many other community agencies to provide needed services and avoid duplication. Our training programs were provided to many groups in the community helping to ensure an informed response for survivors of sexual violence wherever they seek help. Again this year we coordinated a multi-agency group that organized the “Take Back the Night” event. This was an empowering experience for those that took part and a great opportunity to increase public awareness about sexualized violence.

As we head into our 25th year of services to this community we are strong in our commitment to: assist survivors of sexual violence to heal; provide education and training for other service providers; and, most of all, work diligently to prevent the sexual violence that impacts so many in our community.

Sandy McLellan, Executive Director

BUILDING STRENGTHS WITH VOLUNTEERS

The strength of a volunteer program is built with the time, skills, commitment and care of those volunteers. We are thankful for an incredibly gifted and giving group of volunteers here at the Women’s Sexual Assault Centre.

I receive phone calls weekly from individuals who have seen a need in our community and wish to make a difference. There are the SART volunteers who give three shifts each month in order to meet the needs of a recent survivor in a professional and compassionate manner. The office volunteers, who provide the often needed extra pair of hands to support our administrative staff in reception. Our Board of Directors who make their skills, support, direction and wisdom accessible to the Centre. The organizing committee for our Triathlon of Compassion are people who have come forward year after year to make this community event successful, and those volunteers who step forward for the day of the race, adding in much needed labour. And there are the Project Respect’s, our youth volunteers, full of energy and keen ideas when reaching out to their peers.

Beth Kope, Coordinator of Volunteers

Spectrum and Mt Doug “Revolutionaries”.

Volunteer Hours

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Board 509</th>
<th>Project Respect 520</th>
<th>Triathlon 1300</th>
<th>Office Admin 840</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>509</td>
<td>520</td>
<td>1300</td>
<td>840</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

WSAC STAFF

Sandy McLellan, Executive Director
Lorinda Allix, Christina Apgena, Billy Bingaman, Myriah Breese, Catherine Charlton, Trival Dinner, Terrina Fitzgerald, Jessica Forbes, Fran Guenette, Sally Gose, Susana Guardado, Linda Jennings, Beth Kope, Tracy Lubick, BeAnna Lynne, Jude Marleau, Jenny Matthews, Romina Miranda, Jette Midgaard, Lindsay Pomper, Suzanne Simpson, and Karen Wickham.
Women’s Skills for Healing Group

During this past year, the Centre has been co-facilitating a women’s group with an Aboriginal Health Outreach worker at the Victoria Native Friendship Centre. The group is designed to explore safe and meaningful ways of healing from the effects of trauma. The Centre is honoured to work in partnership with the VNFC to provide these services.

Aboriginal Youth Healing & Prevention Program

This is the final year of a three year project with the Victoria Native Friendship Centre funded by a collaborative grant from United Way. The goals are to provide awareness sessions on sexual violence to Aboriginal youth, and to increase capacity of the youth workers to respond to disclosures and crisis situations. Building upon the activities of last year, Project Respect facilitated a workshop at the Victoria Native Friendship Centre. The workshop was well received by the participants who contributed much insight and ideas to the discussions. Both facilitators admired the honesty and willingness of the youth to ask questions and explore a topic that is often not talked about. Project Respect will continue to work in cooperation with the VNFC in reaching the goals of this partnership. Potential plans include more workshops as well as extended youth training similar to the Respect Revolution Campaign being delivered in the schools.

Quote from a participant: “The great amount of respect and knowledge the workshop provided. The awareness will take everyone just a few steps forward. Overall I find it great that the workshop comforts, understands and tries to handle each situation the best possible way”.

Expenses Breakdown

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Services</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Victim Services</td>
<td>31%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fundraising*</td>
<td>24%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prevention</td>
<td>16%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>STV Counselling</td>
<td>29%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Government Contracts,</td>
<td>42%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grants,</td>
<td>11%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fee for Service,</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Direct Fundraising</td>
<td>44%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other,</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Sponsors

Women’s Sexual Assault Centre

During this past year, there has been a steady increase in the number of young women (age 13-19) accessing services at the centre. Young women now comprise 10% of our long term counselling clients, which represents a significant step in the Centre’s goal of being accessible to young women. The 10 week Soul Survivors Group was offered this winter, and it will be offered again in the fall of 2006.

Donor Organizations

We gratefully acknowledge the financial support of the following: Cordova Bay Ladies Golf Club in honour of Mr. Robert Foster, Fleet Street Cycle, Frontrunners, i2D Communications Inc., Mitra Jordan, Knights of Columbus (BC) Charity Foundation, Needs of Victorians Society, Royal Canadian Legion-Trafalgar/Pro Patria Branch 292, Runners of Compassion, Sacred Heart Christian Charities, Soroptimist International, Starsbucks Make Your Mark Volunteer Program on behalf of Kimberlee Hunter, UVic Women’s Centre (Grovefest Grant), Victoria High School & St. Michaels University School – Victoria Foundation’s Students Who Care – Youth in Philanthropy program, Victoria Women Work Society, VIHA Employees Charitable Fund.

And thank you to the following businesses for their in-kind support: Cook’s Day Off, Intrepid Theatre, Island Blue Print, James Bay Tea Room & Restaurant, Opus Art, Pic A Flue Video, Silk Road Aromatherapy & Tea Co., and Starbucks.

Direct Client Services

Number of Clients Seen

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>From April 05 - March 06</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Crisis Line</td>
<td>1,388</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SART</td>
<td>110</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Victim Service Program</td>
<td>310</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Crisis Counselling</td>
<td>72</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Intake Appointments</td>
<td>76</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Individual Counselling (STV)</td>
<td>227</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Group Counselling</td>
<td>106</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Youth Clients</td>
<td>26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Family Members-Individual</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Family Members-Workshops</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Services for Young Women

This team of police, Sexual Assault Nurse Examiners, Crown Counsel and direct services from WSAC, continue to meet on a monthly basis for case consultation, service coordination and improvement, and tracking statistics. This partnership has resulted in improved service provision to survivors of sexual violence, an increase in collaboration and training opportunities, and utilizing “Best Practice”. Over the last year, members of the team provided training to Campus Security and Residence Advisors at the University of Victoria, Victim Services workers across Vancouver Island, Sexual Assault Nurse Examiners, Sexual Assault Response Team volunteers, and to Police detachments. Team Victoria is also organizing a conference for police, Crown Counsel and the community on responding to sexual assault for October 2006. Topics will include investigation and prosecution of sexual assault, forensic evidence, drug facilitated sexual assault, myths and stereotypes, and the impact of trauma. Funding towards this training is being provided by the Donner Foundation.

Respect Revolution Campaign

This year saw the launch of the Respect Revolution Campaign in three local schools: Mt. Doug Secondary, Lambrick Park and Spectrum Community School. The Revolution provided training to 17 students who then designed and delivered a variety of prevention activities based on their learning. Through youth to youth presentations, Project Respect reached over 240 students at Mt. Doug and Lambrick Park schools. These presentations included skits and video created by youth group participants as educational tools. The youth group at Spectrum Community School is in the final planning phase and will be preparing a banner where students can pledge to stand up against sexualized violence in their schools.

Number of Youth Reached

School Program Youth Participants: 997
Community Presentations and Events: 1177
Website Visits: 15,913

Project Respect

has been very busy this year with the Respect Revolution Campaign, the Young Men’s Group, new social marketing tools, school workshops and community presentations. The project was invited to present at the BC Association for Specialized Victim Counselling and Assistance Programs Training Forum in Richmond, B.C. This presentation generated much interest from rural and isolated communities including Bella Coola, who successfully secured funding to invite Project Respect to visit the community in May 2006. Requests have also been received from communities across BC and Canada seeking resources and ideas for delivering violence prevention programs in their communities.

Project Respect continues to work in partnership with other community agencies including Island Sexual Health, NEEDS Crisis Line, and Volunteer Victoria. These partnerships have included community events such as Youth Week 2006, co-delivering presentations at Belmont School Healthy Sexuality Week and participation in the Youth Now conference.

“I learned so much. I learned that I have a voice, and that I can speak up in situations. I learned that I can and am able to make a difference even on the smallest level. Most of all I learned that I can be myself”.- Youth group participant, female, 17

Donor Organizations

We gratefully acknowledge the financial support of the following: Cordova Bay Ladies Golf Club in honour of Mr. Robert Foster, Fleet Street Cycle, Frontrunners, i2D Communications Inc., Mitra Jordan, Knights of Columbus (BC) Charity Foundation, Needs of Victorians Society, Royal Canadian Legion-Trafalgar/Pro Patria Branch 292, Runners of Compassion, Sacred Heart Christian Charities, Soroptimist International, Starbucks Make Your Mark Volunteer Program on behalf of Kimberlee Hunter, UVic Women’s Centre (Grovefest Grant), Victoria High School & St. Michaels University School – Victoria Foundation’s Students Who Care – Youth in Philanthropy program, Victoria Women Work Society, VIHA Employees Charitable Fund.

And thank you to the following businesses for their in-kind support: Cook’s Day Off, Intrepid Theatre, Island Blue Print, James Bay Tea Room & Restaurant, Opus Art, Pic A Flue Video, Silk Road Aromatherapy & Tea Co., and Starbucks.

Funding Sources

Women’s Sexual Assault Centre

The team of police, Sexual Assault Nurse Examiners, Crown Counsel and direct services from WSAC, continue to meet on a monthly basis for case consultation, service coordination and improvement, and tracking statistics. This partnership has resulted in improved service provision to survivors of sexual violence, an increase in collaboration and training opportunities, and utilizing “Best Practice”. Over the last year, members of the team provided training to Campus Security and Residence Advisors at the University of Victoria, Victim Services workers across Vancouver Island, Sexual Assault Nurse Examiners, Sexual Assault Response Team volunteers, and to Police detachments. Team Victoria is also organizing a conference for police, Crown Counsel and the community on responding to sexual assault for October 2006. Topics will include investigation and prosecution of sexual assault, forensic evidence, drug facilitated sexual assault, myths and stereotypes, and the impact of trauma. Funding towards this training is being provided by the Donner Foundation.

Respect Revolution Campaign

This year saw the launch of the Respect Revolution Campaign in three local schools: Mt. Doug Secondary, Lambrick Park and Spectrum Community School. The Revolution provided training to 17 students who then designed and delivered a variety of prevention activities based on their learning. Through youth to youth presentations, Project Respect reached over 240 students at Mt. Doug and Lambrick Park schools. These presentations included skits and video created by youth group participants as educational tools. The youth group at Spectrum Community School is in the final planning phase and will be preparing a banner where students can pledge to stand up against sexualized violence in their schools.

Number of Youth Reached

School Program Youth Participants: 997
Community Presentations and Events: 1177
Website Visits: 15,913