



WAVAW
rape crisis centre

2019/2020

Annual Report

Supporting Survivors, Shifting Society

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Mission Statement

We are a feminist, anti-oppressive, decolonizing rape crisis centre operating on unceded Coast Salish Territories. We provide support services to survivors of sexualized violence with shared experiences of gender oppression: women, Two-Spirit, trans and/or non-binary people. We advocate for social and systemic change through education, outreach and activism.

Vision Statement

A world where people of all genders are valued and live free from sexualized violence.

Values

We are feminists who acknowledge and name systems of oppression and the impact of colonialism on Indigenous and other marginalized communities.

We Are Accountable

We respond to calls for action from the communities we serve and recognize our opportunities for growth.

We Are Non-Judgemental

We create spaces for survivors to define their needs without judgment.

We Are Survivor Centred

We honour that survivors are experts of their experiences and have the right to choose.

We Are Inclusive

We honour and centre different ways of being and knowing.

We Are Visionary

We are leaders at the forefront of service provision and social change.

A Message from Leadership

2019 - 2020 | COURAGE & RESILIENCE

When it is time to write WAVAW's Annual Report each year, it is always surprising that another year has quickly come and gone. WAVAW's Annual Report honours the systemic change work we have dedicated ourselves to over the past year, and recognizes the life-affirming and life-saving work that staff and volunteers do every day. What is apparent again this year, is that WAVAW's services and calls for change are essential for survivors and vital for our community.

Last year's Annual Report spoke about accountability because it defined the work we did with survivors and community. This year, we focus on **courage** and **resilience**, how these themes show themselves in all aspects of WAVAW's work.

One of our organizational values is that we are visionary. We are leaders at the forefront of service provision and social change. At the heart of leadership and vision is courage and resilience. Courage is an action, reaction, thought and feeling, that can have a different meaning to every person. It is not linear. It is not easy. It is not something that can happen only once. Courage is something that is discovered again and again.

WAVAW sees courage every day. Whether it's a call on our Crisis Line for the first time or tenth time, a survivor believing in themselves and their right healing and justice, our staff advocating for survivor's rights, our volunteers completing their

WAVAW Rape Crisis Centre

2019-2020 Milestones

- More Than 2,000 Survivors Accessed Programs and Services
- Launched Reimagining Justice and Art Therapy Support Groups
- Intervened Against anti-SLAPP Legislation in Ottawa
- 5-years in Funding Secured from the Department of Women and Gender Equality to Continue Inclusion Work

Supporting Survivors
Shifting Society

training, or asking society and systems to shift; courage and resilience are alive every day at WAVAW.

Last year, we continued to build a solid foundation of programming and advocacy to better serve the needs of Indigenous, Two-Spirit, trans, nonbinary, and sex-working survivors. We focused diligently on social change and community to grow our shifting society mandate, to continue the courageous work of changing society so that survivors have a world they can thrive in after they have done the hard work of healing. In our sector, we have been leading conversations about Transformative Justice and providing insight and direction around the importance of offering anti-violence services to all marginalized genders.

To build resilience for survivors locally, provincially and nationally, we advocated courageously to have the Government recognize the absolute importance of have sustained and dedicated funding for sexual assault response teams in BC. We worked in community to remind the world during the international Women Deliver conference that the work of local, feminist organizations matters. We had the honour of amplifying survivors' voices when we collaborated and lent our expertise as interveners on Anti-SLAPP legislation heard at the Supreme Court of Canada.

We acknowledged the courage of surviving and healing by holding ceremonies for Families of Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women, Girls and Two-Spirit people. We partnered with Uplifting Indigenous Families Association to hold a full day Cedar Brushing Ceremony, and a full day talking and healing circle. We saw the creation of our "Reimagining Justice" support group born out of what survivors from our Justice Project told us they wanted.

We want to thank all stakeholders invested in WAVAW. We are so honoured to be trusted to do this work with survivors, to have such a dedicated group of staff and volunteers, and to have such generous and committed donors and community partners. We are excited to once again dedicate ourselves to supporting survivors and shifting society.

In Solidarity,
WAVAW's Leadership Team

Counselling Program

Sexual Assault Counselling | Indigenous Counselling | Inclusion Counselling | Families of MMIWG2S

The Counselling Program at WAVAW serves women, Trans, non-binary and 2 Spirit survivors of sexualized violence who are from different communities, cultures classes and races including Indigenous survivors are served through our Indigenous services in the program. In the 2019-2020 fiscal year, we served survivors through counselling, support groups, outreach and ceremony.

As we are reporting on the 2019-2020 fiscal year, we are living through a moment in history that is unprecedented in our lifetime; we have been quarantined for weeks and anticipate this to be our reality for many more weeks if not months to come. As we navigate these historic times and offer support to our survivors, we are aware that many survivors are experiencing higher levels of violence. We also recognize there is an increased risk of disconnection and distance from services they were accessing or could access which has devastating ramifications. In the counselling program, we are having conversations with folks everyday about safety, coping strategies, working through impact of sexual assault and how they are doing with social distancing and isolation. These are not just conversations about how to get through the day or those moments that feel intolerable; these are conversations about resilience and hope. The hope that healing is possible and the courage to get through those moments everyday.

We know, from our own experiences as well as serving survivors of sexualized violence, that the more marginalized folks, based on gender, class, race, religion and other locations of identity, are experiencing oppression, violence. Their unacknowledged experiences, their courage to resist and continue their healing in ways that they are able to; are all the things that inspire workers at centres like WAVAW to also stay resilient and continue on their goal of serving sexual assault survivors.

In the general counselling or STV counselling program, we have over 250 survivors waiting to see a counsellor with an average wait time of 2 years. During the COVID-19 pandemic, the government declared services provided by organizations like ours as 'Essential service'. This is welcomed news for service providers who have been asking for the recognition of survivors' needs as essential and necessary.

The next step for the government in Canada is to recognize sexualized violence as a pandemic and take steps to make sure services are adequately funded and no survivor waits for 2 years before they see a counsellor.

In solidarity,
WAWAW's Counselling Team

2019 - 2020 Support Groups

- Creative Resistance
- Art Therapy
- Queering Safely
- Resilient Compassion
- Creating Balance
- Art Therapy
- Sa'ust Support Group
- UNYA Support Group

Counselling Program

208 new referrals

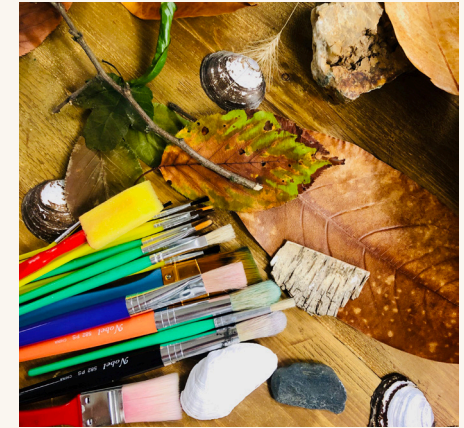
- 135 to general counselling
- 44 to Inclusion counselling
- 26 to Indigenous counselling
- 3 to the Families of MMIWG2S counselling

900 one-to-one
Counselling sessions

64 support group
sessions at WAWAW

195 support group
sessions in 5 partner
organizations:

- DEWC
- WISH
- Spirit Way
- Aboriginal Mother Centre
- Maggie's House



Images from Creative
Resistance Support Group

Indigenous Counselling and Outreach Program

In 2018 the National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women, Girls, Two- Spirit concluded and 231 calls to justice were included in the final report. The findings of the report concluded, “That a genocide driven by the disproportionate level of violence faced by Indigenous women and girls occurred in Canada through state actions and inactions rooted in colonialism and colonial ideologies”.

Following the National Inquiry, WAVAW heard from

many family members and survivors that there still was no closure or time to heal from sharing the truths of their lost loved ones. On March 15, 2019, WAVAW partnered with Uplifting Indigenous Families Association (UIFA) and held a talking circle for families of MMIWG2S as a closing ceremony to the National Inquiry. 21 family members attended and many tears were shed, as food, laughter, hugs and memories were shared. This ceremony was a moment for many families’ to hold space, and be with other family members to share their grief and loss through traditional ceremony. The spirit of love and community created at the ceremony allowed family members who were already blanketed to come back to the pathway to shake a rattle or hold the cedar rope so others could take part in the cedar brushings and blessings.

On June 29th, 2019, WAVAW once again collaborated with UIFA and Saa’ust, and held a Cedar Brushing Ceremony for Families of Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls at 312 Main Street, in Vancouver. Drumming and singing led the day as families walked through a healing pathway that lined with cedar boughs. Rattles were used to shake energy off participants; a large cedar rope framed the pathway for family members

“A genocide driven by the disproportionate level of violence faced by Indigenous women and girls occurred in Canada through state actions and inactions rooted in colonialism and colonial ideologies”.

“I have never wanted to connect with the Indigenous parts of myself. But through doing this work with you, I slowly began to feel proud of my heritage. I didn't realize I had been missing this part of my identity until I found it. I am grateful for this new way of knowing myself”



Spirit ball craft created both at WAVAW's DEWC and AMCS support groups that connects traditional medicine teachings with the winter holiday season

to walk under, which led them to an elder who smudged them. When they turned around there was another elder who brushed them with cedar boughs, once they were done being brushed, another elder waited to cleanse their hands with healing water, the pathway finished with each family member being blanketed.

WAVAW has successfully secured 3-years in funding from the Department of Justice and community partner Nicola Wealth Management to sustain our Indigenous Counselling and Outreach Program. We are committed to supporting Indigenous survivors and their self-identified families, as well as decolonizing our programs and communities for a 39th year.

In Solidarity,
WAVAW's Indigenous Counselling & Outreach Team

Committees and Coalitions

WAVAW sits on:

- BC Poverty Reduction Coalition
- The Memorial March Committee
- Coalition for the MMIWG&2S
- Safe Choice Committee
- National Indigenous Day Organizing Committee
- WAVAW's Advisory Committee for the Community Pipe Ceremony

Social Change and Community Engagement Team

Courage and resilience are at the heart of any social change, but especially when the desired change requires a total transformation of our beliefs, ideas, or ways of being and when the social and political structures we live and breathe every day perpetuate rape culture. It is with courage that we can speak truth to power and begin envisioning a future we want: one that is free from sexualized violence and values people of all gender identities and expressions. Our individual and collective resilience make it possible for us to keep pushing, growing, and learning in our work to end sexualized violence and make our communities safer for everyone.

At the beginning of this fiscal year, WAVAW went through a restructuring process to support our organizational growth and strategic directions. Through this process, we created the Social Change and Community Engagement team consisting of the Educational Outreach Program, Volunteer Program, and the Inclusion Project. The team was born out of the need and desire to carry out WAVAW's social change work and to live into the shifting society part of our mission with more intention, strategy, and rigour.

Changing the existing structure and settling into the current one courage and resilience from everyone at WAVAW; including the staff, the Leadership Team, the Board, and the volunteers.

As we began to make sense of our learnings from the Inclusion Project and the Justice Project, a clear message started to emerge: WAVAW must explore alternative forms of justice for survivors who often face multiple, intersecting forms of marginalization and as a result, do not wish to engage with the criminal justice system. Although WAVAW has known that the criminal justice system can often disappoint, fail, or even cause harm to survivors through its processes, it still required much courage of us and our community members to explore and initiate conversations about the alternative options such as restorative justice and transformative justice. Over the last year, we have expanded our horizons of feminist anti-violence work through learning and vulnerability and have played an essential role in pushing the conversations surrounding alternative forms of justice forward in our communities and our sector.

“WAVAW must explore alternative forms of justice for survivors who often face multiple, intersecting forms of marginalization and as a result, do not wish to engage with the criminal justice system”.



WAVAW Staff Marching with our Founding Mothers at the 2019 Vancouver Dyke March

There are countless examples of courage and resilience we have not only embodied but also witnessed. In June, WAVAW joined Feminists Deliver, alongside many community organizations and successfully organized and hosted an inspiring conference that demonstrated the strength and resilience of our sector’s connections and collaborations. Feminists Deliver has also opened doors for new opportunities to strengthen our relationships, to support each other’s work, and to build more resilience in our feminist anti-violence movement. Throughout the year, we have engaged with many passionate community members in workshops, training, conferences, events, and schools who are just as deeply committed to our vision. We are always in awe of their resilience.

As we were nearing the end of another incredible year at WAVAW, COVID-19 arrived and was already impacting our work. While the sudden uncertainties and changes in our lives have been challenging to navigate, we have already begun seeing the courage and resilience of our communities to continue addressing sexual violence and harm, to find creative ways to stay connected and to reimagine our collective future. Alongside our communities, we will continue to show up for survivors with our vicarious courage and resilience.

With hope,
WAVAW’s Social Change Team

Victim Services Program

Several years ago, we shared how the name “Victim Services” doesn’t quite encapsulate the work we do with survivors. We are reminded of the depth of the work we do with survivors: the specialization that is required to advocate and navigate systems with survivors; the nuances of supporting survivors to engage with systems that we know are flawed, but are still required; and the suffering that we witness, as well as, the strength, courage and resilience that survivors embody after being impacted by sexual violence.

We continue to be honored by all the survivors that trust us with their stories, and allow us to see their courage and resilience in what can be an incredibly vulnerable and daunting time, witnessing their courage deepens our commitment to amplify their voices to make our services meet their needs and additionally shape our systemic change work.

As the fire ignited by the #MeToo movement rages on, the Victim Services Program continues to support survivors to navigate systems that are slow to catch up with the reality that survivors face. Since the #MeToo movement began online in 2017, survivors have been able to speak their truths in a way that has never before been done. Survivors are additionally wrestling with the nuances of how coercion and being groomed by rape culture influences how they come to understand their experience of sexual harm and violence.

In the Words of Survivors

“The option to have support - to have someone in the room when I did choose to speak with law enforcement was really huge for me. So being able to have a witness like, I would just say to all survivors...use that”

“I am proud of myself for having the courage to attend that support group. I am proud of myself for learning to set aside negative thoughts that don’t serve me. I am proud of myself finding my voice, and using it to share my story”

High-profile perpetrators are being held accountable for their actions and their behaviors are being discussed publicly. Survivors have always and continued to share their stories and support each other. This movement has influenced more and more survivors to make their voices and truths heard and in turn, engage with the larger questions about what healing and justice might look like.

As we wrap up WAVAW's Justice project: "Enhancing Confidence in the Criminal Legal System" it has been remarkable to witness the resilience and courage that survivors have shown us as they explored what Justice meant to them, what influenced their experience after their assault and what they'd like other survivors to have. Their voices laid the foundation for us to ensure we are relevant and advocating for critical changes that will make a difference for survivors.

It is vital for survivors to have specialized, feminist victim service workers to support them through some of the most challenging times of their lives. Having a victim service worker to guide them along the way can make world of difference. As one participant put it: "It almost felt like a side door that I didn't know was there but it was a side door that I didn't have to go through alone"

Taking part in the criminal legal system can be difficult for survivors and full of disappointments. In response to this, a new piece of our programming this year was the support group; Reimagining Justice. This group created space for survivors to process the harm that has been caused by systems and to start thinking about healing and justice outside of those systems.

Our victim service workers remind survivors that at the time they feel the least courageous that they are the most courageous. Together we are able to remind survivors that they are not alone.

Together with hope, WAVAW Victim Services Team

Program Statistics

1386 daytime Crisis Line Calls

1334 after-hours Crisis Line Calls

93 Hours supporting survivors in court

90 Hospital accompaniments

75 Crime Victims Assistance Program applications completed

29 Police Accompaniments

Inclusion Program

Written by Felix Gilliland (they/them)

Two years into working with trans survivors, we get asked about the Inclusion Project a lot. Individuals and organizations ask what they can do to increase access to their spaces for trans people. Often, there are one or two people in an organization who are thinking about inclusion in addition to their huge caseloads, and pushing it forward despite resistance and scarcity thinking.

We always tell them the same thing: have courage. While policies and training are important pieces, they won't help unless the people answering the phone reach past their fear of making mistakes. Just beyond fear, we tap into the good stuff, the deep desire to end rape culture and support everyone impacted by it, and to make meaningful changes to our organizations. It took courage for our founding mothers to set up a crisis line in a basement suite, and we call on that spirit when we ask frontline workers to move beyond the basics of trans inclusion.

Re-writing intake forms and learning about pronouns are the fundamentals of inclusion, but they're only half the work. Trans people have asked us to reimagine what anti-violence means. It is messy, imperfect, radical work. As we wrap up our three-year Inclusion Project, it has been our honour to witness the courage of WAVAW's staff and volunteers. Whenever the road map felt unclear, we came back to our feminism and



Recognition artist Jane Shi reading an excerpt from her zine contribution



WAVAW's Felix & Sonmin at the Recognition zine launch

braved a vision of trans-centered analysis. This is what sets WAVAW apart. In the first year of our Inclusion Project, we thought about healing the divide between being trans and being a feminist. Three years later, the two feel finally aligned. It would have been easy to update a few forms but it wouldn't have been brave.

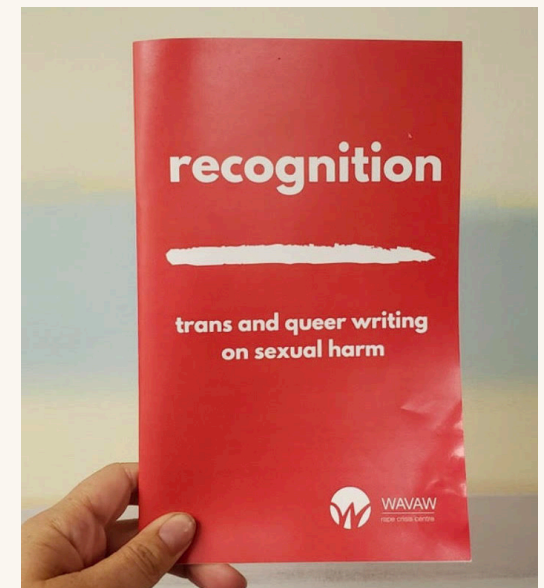
In the final year of our inclusion project trans people trusted us enough to share their experiences. We published our first zine, Recognition, which was an anthology of writing and art about sexual violence in queer communities, and a substantial addition to the available resources.. We hosted a workshop by Kai Cheng Thom, a renowned trans activist and writer, where she dared us to imagine new meanings of justice. And, most touching to a person who once wondered if 'trans' and 'feminist' were mutually exclusive, we were named Grand Marshals of the Vancouver Dyke March for our role in combatting trans misogyny.

It takes a similar kind of courage, as trans people, to heal from sexualized violence. We are taught that our bodies aren't ours through cisnormativity, which is the insistence that we don't know ourselves.

Then our bodies are examined and explained through the medical system and research. We must try to heal from sexual violence, the furthest betrayal of bodily autonomy in this context. It would be easy to be defeated but trans survivors courageously insist on access to healing and justice, and we insist on bodily autonomy against all odds.

We do this because we know that we have what it takes to change the world. Every year of this project, we've exceeded the amount of trans people we expected to serve, as trans community refuses to live with sexual violence any longer.

WAVAW's Inclusion Project is over, but the work is not. For the next five years, we will be working on our Meaningful Inclusion project to evaluate our trans specific services, talk more with trans community, and create a blueprint for other organizations to adopt. We will call for courage from our sector as we dig deep into what trans survivors need, and we'll be asking for generosity from trans community as we continue to grow and change.



Volunteer Program

Written by Amanda Herron (she/her)

2 Volunteer Cohorts a Year | 11-Week Training Session | Administrative and Frontline Support

It is a longstanding feeling here amongst WAVAW staff that engaging with our volunteers gives us hope. Whether staff interact with volunteers through workshop facilitation, Crisis Line shadowing, Support Groups, or just in passing, it's clear that these connections feed their spirits. This sentiment feels empirically true this year, and it feels appropriate that the theme of this year's report is courage and resilience, given that the root of the word courage is heart. Regardless of the type of support they are providing to WAVAW, volunteers show up to do this work with their whole hearts, bringing vibrancy, enthusiasm, and sincere devotion to their roles. This energy is both contagious and necessary in supporting the resilience of survivors as well as bolstering community resilience at WAVAW in our collective work to end sexualized violence.

WAVAW volunteers answer our 24-hour Crisis Line, often in the middle of the night, and acknowledge the courage – the vulnerability – that is required for a survivor to pick up the phone. They validate all of the brilliant ways in which folks resist and confront the oppressive structures that denigrate the bodies, knowledge, and experiences of people from marginalized identities. Simultaneously, volunteers disrupt capitalist and colonialist expectations of resilience, which dictate that strength looks like incessant productivity and “pushing through.” Kai Cheng Thom, writer and cultural worker, shares in her *Quarantine Journals*, “We are still worthy of life, of love, no matter what our bodies can do.” In the same vein, volunteers affirm to survivors that resilience can take many forms, including breaking down, asking for help, or simply surviving in a world that harms them.

Behind the front lines this past year, volunteers have brought that same passion to supporting WAVAW's mission and commitment to inclusion in a myriad of ways. Our volunteers have supported WAVAW with numerous outreach events, including tabling at the First Nations Housing Authority Nursing Fair and Kdocsff, a Social Justice Film Festival.

They have marched alongside WAVAW at the Women's Memorial March and Trans March, and helped hold down our booth at the Dyke March. They've dedicated their time and energy to supporting our Fund Development team with organizing thousands of tax receipts and have shown up for one another, offering and receiving guidance in Volunteer Monthly Meetings. They've integrated new learnings, such as those from WISH's Bad Date Reporting Training (hosted by WAVAW), in order to better serve the communities that we're working to be accountable to. Lastly, our volunteers have continued to voice their thoughts about gaps in our programs and how we can improve, working to ensure that our materials are inclusive to all of the survivors we serve. Based on this feedback, one significant shift that we have made has been to create a Core Training for prospective volunteers interested in roles outside of the Crisis Line and Support Groups. Our hope is that this 3-week training provides a more accessible way for folks to participate in the Volunteer Program.

Currently, we are moving forward in a difficult climate with the impact and uncertainty that surrounds COVID-19. However, we are not doing so in isolation and the community resilience that WAVAW embodies would not be possible without the wholehearted efforts, agility, and commitment of our volunteers. It is an absolute privilege to be supporting our volunteers in everything that they do and we firmly believe that we have the capacity to continue to grow and expand the Volunteer Program with this collective care.



Images by K.Ho

33 Volunteers Supported Survivors By

- Answering After-Hours Crisis Line Calls
- Preparation for Counselling Support Groups
- Fundraising Tasks Such as Tax Receipt and Stewardship Mail Outs
- Being a WAVAW Ambassador at Community Events
- Office and Outreach Administrative Support
- Photography, Web Development and Graphic Design
- Becoming a Board Member

Reimagining Healing and Justice

Looking Ahead to the Future of Service Delivery

The end of 2019 marked the conclusion of both our Department of Women and Gender Equality-funded Justice Project, and our Department of Justice-funded Inclusion Project. Though very different in scope and intention, both projects provided much insight into the realities of survivors' vast array of experiences with the criminal justice system, quasi-judicial system and the medical system.

These projects gave WAVAW an opportunity to do continued reflection about service delivery and how to best meet the needs of survivors of sexualized violence. As survivors are not a homogenous group and have diverse needs, identities and experiences, an accessible array of culturally-relevant, gender-affirming and trauma-informed services must exist in our communities.

Findings from these two projects also demonstrate that historical and structural harms against marginalized survivors have led to a lack of trust in institutionalized systems, which cannot meet the needs of all survivors of sexualized violence. Alternative systems need to exist.

For 38 years, WAVAW has been hearing from survivors that regardless of the outcome, engaging with systems does not always result in feelings of justice or healing.

This is especially true for survivors who are Indigenous, racialized, Trans, Two-Spirit or gender diverse.

Strategic Vision and Direction

- Continue to develop innovative sexual assault services beyond those designed for cis, white, heterosexual women
- Work to dismantle barriers survivors face in accessing our services through increased technology, community consultation and growing services at partner locations
- Exploring avenues to justice outside of the Criminal Justice System such as Restorative Justice and Transformative Justice
- Commit to our 5-year goal to open a WAVAW Integrated Sexual Assault Clinic to support survivors post-assault care outside of the medical system

At WAVAW, we often say “survivors have the right to choose their own path towards healing and justice”. This is one of our foundational beliefs, and as our next fiscal year commences, we are recommitting ourselves to ensuring that our service delivery embodies this truth.

The conventional narrative of what justice and healing should look like for a survivor dictates that a “good survivor” reports their assault to the police so that their abuser can be arrested and charged to the fullest extent of the law. It is expected that this process will provide a sense of justice the survivor, and the punishment that the perpetrator endures by being charged and imprisoned will deter them from causing harm again in the future.

This conventional narrative rarely plays out in real life. Too often, regardless of the outcome, survivors we serve are disappointed, or even re-traumatized by their experience with the justice system. We also hear from survivors’ who have experienced violence or misgendering through the medical system that seeking medical attention at the hospital following sexual assault is not possible, or desirable.

So, if existing systems are not an effective path towards healing for all survivors, what other options are there? How can survivors feel believed, in-control of their experiences, valued, and supported? How can justice be transformed? What does it look like when survivors choose their version of justice, instead of having it prescribed to them? We look forward to courageously exploring these questions with you in 2020-2021.

“After the Criminal Justice System failed me, I am so grateful to have come to WAVAW for this group. Hearing other survivors talk about their similar experiences has supported my healing in a way that I never thought was possible”

- Reimagining Justice Support Group Survivor

Meaningful Inclusion

\$985,000 in Funding Over Five Years Secured from the Department of Women and Gender Equality

At a funding announcement on August 27th, 2019, the Honourable Maryam Monsef, Minister of International Development and Minister for Women and Gender Equality announced that the Government of Canada will invest more than \$3 million in five organizations in British Columbia's Lower Mainland.

WAVAW Rape Crisis Centre is honoured to be receiving \$985,000 from the Federal Government for our Meaningful Inclusion Project, allowing for the continuation of specialized services tailored to all trans, non-binary and Two-Spirit survivors of sexualized violence. The project will culminate in a Promising Practices Blueprint to support other organizations in the anti-violence sector to refocus their service delivery in solidarity with these marginalized communities.

As our three-year Inclusion Project begins to concludes on April 1st, 2020, this funding will ensure that we can not only sustain service delivery to all folks with shared experiences of gendered oppression, but also travel to remote communities across the province to partner with grassroots LGBTQ2S organizations and service providers. In doing so, we will engage with diverse perspectives and reach as many survivors as possible.

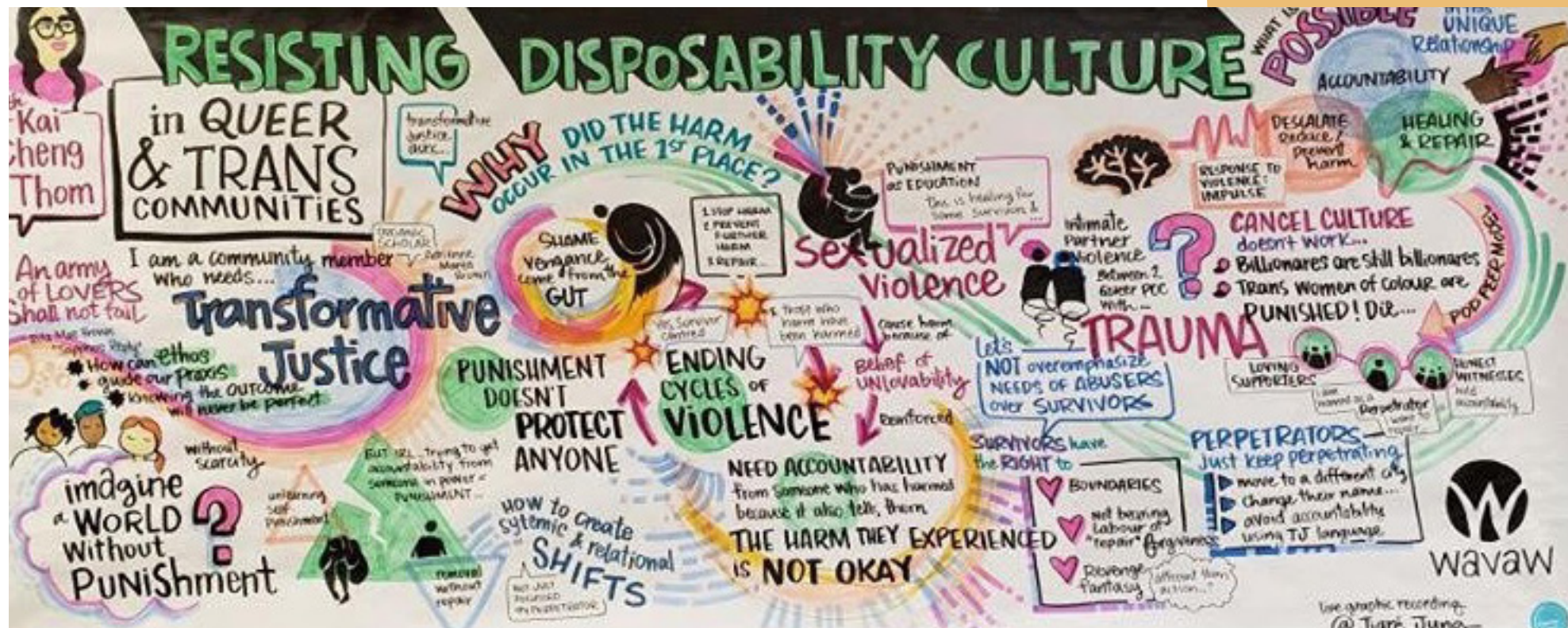


Executive Director Dalya Israel poses with the Honorable Maryam Monsef, members of Surrey Council and other successful funding recipients at the August funding announcement

As we look ahead to the future of WAVAW's service delivery, we are planning for innovative programs beyond those created for cis, white, heterosexual survivors and towards those which are created created, and iformed by the survivors that we serve.

WAVAW's Meaningful Inclusion Project will commence April 1st, 2020, and include a five-year, \$600,000 fundraising campaign to ensure the program is delivered in its full capacity.

We are so excited to continue our work to dismantle barriers faced by folks in need of support services following an experience of sexualized violence, and to continue to dismantle gender-based violence across communities.



Transformative Justice and Sexual Violence: A Workshop on Community Response with Kai Cheng Thom
Image Created by Drawing for Change

Fundraising Program

2,963 Donors and Community Partners Investing in Survivors' Present and Future

“Congratulations! WAVAW’s Meaningful Inclusion Project has been approved for five years of funding”.

August 29th 2019 is a day that will forever be remembered by WAVAW. It is the day that the Honorable Maryam Monsef, Minister for Women and Gender Equality and Rural Economic Development announced that the sustainability of WAVAW’s Inclusion work had been secured for the next five years. After a months-long grant-writing process, this day was an incredible celebration as we looked ahead to our future of innovative and responsive service delivery for trans, non-binary and Two-Spirit survivors.

However, for every moment of celebration, there are many preceding moments where the courage and resilience of our fundraising team is challenged. From navigating the non-profit industrial complex to adapting to changes in political power and economic trends, the challenges of fundraising in the face of uncertainty inform our work every day. Despite these challenges, it is the resiliency and courage of the survivors who face the hurdles of rape culture, patriarchy, colonialism and other systems of oppression on their journeys towards healing and justice that inspire us to persevere.

Our community of supporters also inspire us to be courageous. From our more than 350 monthly donors who commit to investing in survivors’ present and future, to the 36 walkers, runners, rollers and strollers who fundraised for survivors in their communities, to the \$10 cheque that comes in the mail with a hand written note stating *“this is my last \$10. I wish I had more to give”* our donors resilience is infectious. It is through the support of each individual, corporation, foundation and family that WAVAW’s services can be resilient.

Between April 1st, 2019 and March 31st, 2020, 2963 donors made 8966 gifts to continue WAVAW's work supporting survivors and shifting society. As an anti-violence organization with no core funding from any level of government, the impact of each and every gift is felt so deeply by the survivors who access our programs and services. This year, the dedication and advocacy of our donors inspired the fundraising team to take courageous risks to fundraise more equitably and with greater efficiency.

In 2019, we made the challenging decision to step away from working with our external telecanvassing fundraising company and bring more of our donor solicitation and stewardship in house. We elected to hire a part-time grant writer to begin prospecting new streams of funding with the hopes of alleviating the weight on our existing donors. We met with members of government to advocate for sustainable, renewable funding for emergency sexual assault services across British Columbia. We encouraged donors to communicate with us electronically, reducing the environmental and financial impact of printed mailings. Though these risks fostered apprehension and uncertainty, we knew that through each of them were bringing our donors closer to the survivors they were supporting.

In March of 2020, through our annual Celebrating Marginalized Genders spring campaign, we asked our donors to write a message to survivors on leaves to be displayed in WAVAW's lobby. More than 200 leaves were returned, and each one of them filled our hearts, and the hearts of the survivors who waited in our for support with courage. *"You are strong. You are resilient"* one leaf said. *"You can do anything"*.

Thank you for your support of WAVAW and the survivors we serve over the last year. While 2020-2021 will undoubtedly bring new challenges, our collective courage and resiliency will change lives.

With gratitude, WAVAW's Fundraising Team



WAVAW's Community Tree with Messages from Donors



Scotiabank 2019 Participants raised more than \$63,000

2019-2020 AT A GLANCE

1386

DAYTIME CALLS



1334

CALLS AFTER HOURS

SUPPORTED

70

SURVIVORS WHEN THEY SPOKE WITH THE POLICE

ACCOMPANIED

90

SURVIVORS SEEKING MEDICAL ATTENTION AT THE HOSPITAL



211

NEW INTAKES TO THE VICTIM SERVICES PROGRAM

93

HOURS SPENT AT THE COURT HOUSE SUPPORTING SURVIVORS

SUPPORTING SURVIVORS. SHIFTING SOCI-



CRISIS LINE VOLUNTEERS WERE ON CALL FOR

4920

HOURS

WAVAW PARTICIPATED IN

43

EDUCATIONAL OUTREACH ACTIVITIES

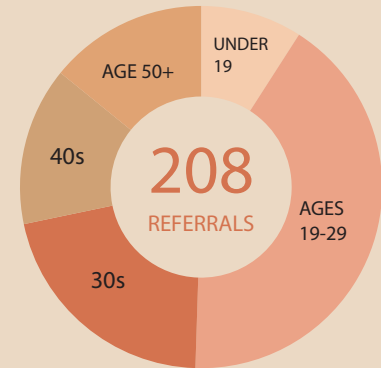


WAVAW BENEFITED FROM THE AMAZING TALENTS OF

33

ACTIVE VOLUNTEERS

Counselling Program Demographics



208

NEW REFERRALS TO THE COUNSELLING PROGRAM

900

ONE-TO-ONE COUNSELLING SESSIONS OFFERED

259

SUPPORT GROUP SESSIONS OFFERED AT 5 LOCATIONS

5

SUPPORT GROUPS OFFERED AT PARTNER ORGANIZATIONS

8966 DONATIONS FROM 2963 DONORS

36 WALKERS, RUNNERS, ROLLERS RAISED \$63k

12 FUNDRAISING EVENTS HELD BY COMMUNITY MEMBERS

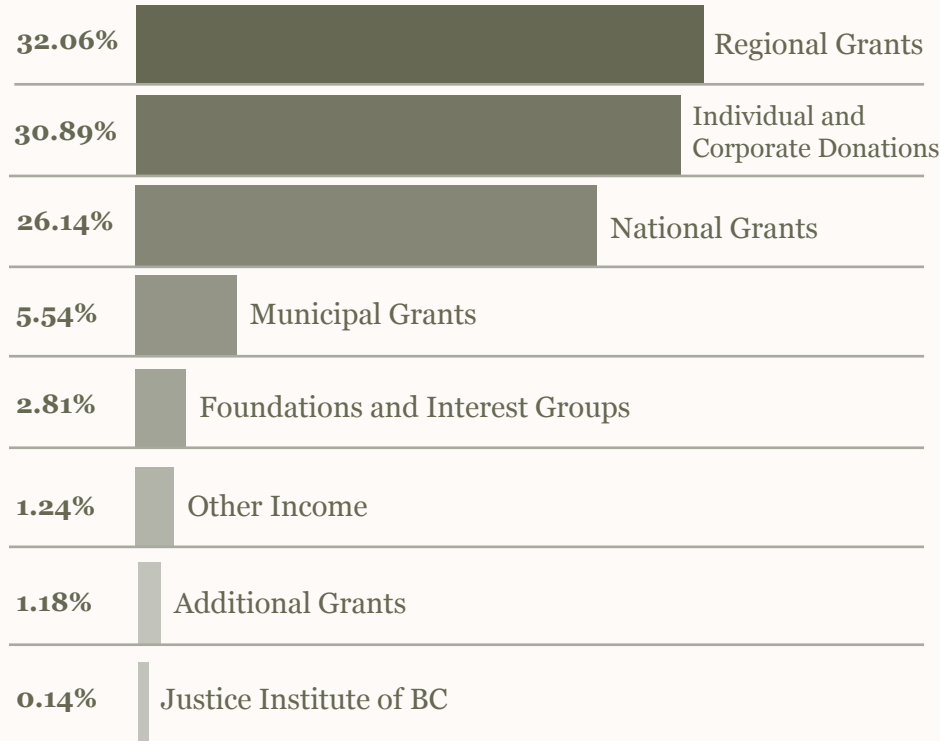
578 FIRST TIME DONORS



WAVAW's 2019-2020 Fiscal Year

Summary of Revenue

Total Expenses: \$1,733,739.46



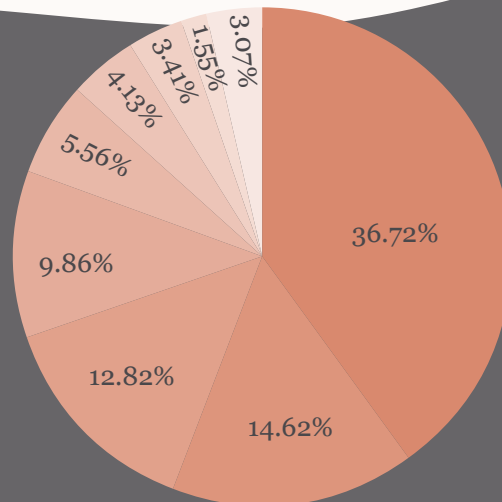
Summary of Expenses

Total Expenses: \$1,935,400.28



Expenses by Program – Total

Expenses: \$1,935,400.28





WAVAW
rape crisis centre

Supporting Survivors, Shifting Society

2019-2020 Leadership Team

Dalya Israel
Executive Director

Khaleda Ebrahimi
Manager of Counselling Program

Emily Oswald
Manager of Fund Development

Monica Singh
Manager of Database and Finance

Michaela Sam
Manager of Operations

Sonmin Bong
Manager of Social Change and
Community Engagement

2019-2020 Board of Directors

Trina Prince - Board Chair

Amy Ashmore
Sasha Burden
Maria dela Cruz
Emeline Fox
Jas Jhooty
Naz Kohan
Sophie Medwell
Prisilla Omulu
Emma Pullman

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Thank You!

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