

## FUNDERS, SUPPORTERS, & DONORS

MANY CALGARY COMPANIES, PRIVATE FOUNDATIONS AND HUNDREDS OF INDIVIDUAL DONORS HAVE JOINED US IN OUR MISSION TO HELP CALGARY WOMEN IN NEED AND THEIR FAMILIES HELP THEMSELVES. WE ARE GRATEFUL.



**ENDY**

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Women in Need Society of Calgary  
Charitable #135 185 411 RR0001



"My life is so full of light now. Thank you for all the support and for letting me know that I am not alone."

**WINS  
IMPACT  
REPORT  
2018**

### A MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Calgary is a city that is vibrant and diverse but it is also a city where family violence, poverty, and unemployment are on the rise. At WINS we are here to help when the unimaginable happens. When a woman ends up in a situation where she cannot find her way forward, WINS is there to hold her hand and guide her back onto the path of self-sufficiency. WINS helps at home, locally, within Calgary. It could be your daughter, sister, neighbour or colleague who finds themselves in need of support. WINS is here to help in both our WINS Family Resource Centres and the WINS Family Thrift stores.

2018 was a year of change for WINS. We continued to run our Free Goods program with an expansion into Charlie's Children and were able to reopen our Family Resource Centres after a brief closure. Over and above this we expanded our services and programs into our newly renovated Dover store. We also bought a new truck to upgrade our fleet.

I would like to express my sincere gratitude to the friends which supported WINS through 2018: the Government of Alberta, the United Way, the Calgary Homeless Foundation, Travis and Stephanie Hamonic,

The Calgary Flames Foundation, and Inter Pipeline. Also this year WINS developed close partnerships with West Coast Kids, the Mustard Seed, and the Calgary Drop In and Rehabilitation Centre. I would also like to thank Calgarians for choosing us to be the place to donate their goods, without this generosity we would be unable to have our stores support the majority of the programs we run. Together with this support, in 2018, we helped 12,448 people find the way back onto their feet.

I am so proud of the team we have at WINS! Thank you to all of the Board of Directors, management, staff, and volunteers which make up the WINS Team. Together we continue to surpass our goals and to launch exciting new initiatives which allow us to continue to help Calgary women and their families. I am proud and honored to work alongside you all.

**Together we can change lives!**

Thank you,

Karen Ramchuk, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

### 2018 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

OUR COMMITTED AND EXPERIENCED VOLUNTEER BOARD IS DEDICATED TO PROVIDING THOUGHTFUL GOVERNANCE AND STRATEGIC DIRECTION FOR WINS. THANK YOU FOR YOUR SERVICE.

Doris Hall, DIRECTOR/CHAIR

Tom Whalen, DIRECTOR/VICE CHAIR

Natalie Ireland, TREASURER/  
AUDIT COMMITTEE CHAIR

KayLynn Litton, DIRECTOR & SECRETARY/  
BDC COMMITTEE CHAIR

Jill Symonds, DIRECTOR/  
HR COMMITTEE CHAIR

Dwayne Dubois, DIRECTOR

Shelley Girard, DIRECTOR

Joel Jarding, DIRECTOR

Michelle Kisil, DIRECTOR

Kevin McNichol, DIRECTOR

Tracie Noble, DIRECTOR

Dominika Warchol, DIRECTOR

Karen Ramchuk, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

### VOLUNTEERS

A heartfelt thank-you to our volunteers for helping us fulfill our mission. Our volunteers play a vital role in the day-to-day operations of WINS, serving with a passion to help women and families. Volunteers provide skills and expertise, supplement our workforce and help offset costs, so that we can put as many resources as possible to work for women in need.

### MISSION

WOMEN IN NEED SOCIETY HELPS WOMEN AND THEIR FAMILIES TO HELP THEMSELVES.

### VISION

WOMEN HAVE THE RESOURCES, KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS AND CONFIDENCE TO ACHIEVE SELF-SUFFICIENCY.

## FINANCIALS

### REVENUE

HOW A DOLLAR IS EARNED:

1. Thrift Stores:	.83¢
2. Grants:	.08¢
3. Donations:	.08¢
4. Interest earned/other:	.01¢



### EXPENSES

HOW A DOLLAR IS SPENT:

5. Programs	.92¢
6. Administration	.06¢
7. Fundraising	.02¢



See our complete financial statements at [womeninneed.net/publications](http://womeninneed.net/publications)

## IMPACT ON WOMEN AND FAMILIES

WINS PROVIDES RESOURCES FOR WOMEN, MEN AND CHILDREN TO LEARN AND SHARE, GAIN INFORMATION AND SKILLS, AND ACCESS BASIC NEEDS THROUGH ONE-ON-ONE SUPPORT. THROUGH OUR PROGRAMS AND SERVICES WE PROVIDE BASIC NEEDS, BUILD CAPACITY, CREATE SUPPORT SYSTEMS, DEVELOP SELF-CONFIDENCE, AND SELF-SUSTAINABILITY.



SERVICES PROVIDED THROUGH OUR FAMILY RESOURCE CENTRES:

2016: 16,280  
2017: 17,313  
2018: 11,182

FREE GOODS (CLOTHING, FURNITURE, AND HOUSEHOLD ITEMS) PROVIDED TO WOMEN IN FINANCIAL DISTRESS

2016: 504,132  
2017: 672,026  
2018: 522,384

**WINS IS ONE OF THE CITY'S ONLY AGENCIES PROVIDING FREE CLOTHING, HOUSEHOLD ITEMS AND FURNISHINGS AS WELL AS SUPPORT SERVICES TO WOMEN IN ALL STAGES OF LIFE.**

## FAMILY RESOURCE CENTRES

WINS works in partnership with the Calgary Housing Company and the United Way of Calgary and Area to ensure the resources are accessible by women living in poverty through its Family Resource Centres. The Centres function as a community hub where WINS staff coordinate with several agencies to bring in much needed services to help women build their employable skills, confidence, language and computer skills. Our Centres also host public access computers both for training and for low income Calgarians to use (eg. job searches, resume writing, checking emails etc). Three of WINS' four Family Resource Centres are located in Calgary Housing complexes to serve the needs of women living in poverty. The fourth location is in the WINS Dover Family Thrift Store as a pilot for the government of Alberta. All the WINS Family Resource Centres connect clients to community resources such as Calgary Food Bank referrals, discount transit passes, clothing, housewares and furnishing, just to name a few resources and services provided.



**THE CENTRES FUNCTION AS A COMMUNITY HUB WHERE WINS STAFF COORDINATE WITH SEVERAL AGENCIES TO BRING IN MUCH NEEDED SERVICES TO HELP WOMEN BUILD THEIR EMPLOYABLE SKILLS, CONFIDENCE, LANGUAGE AND COMPUTER SKILLS.**

### A STORY FROM THE FAMILY RESOURCE CENTRES

JB was emotional when she came through the doors of the Erin Woods Family Resource Centre. It had been some time since she had visited the resource centre as she told the WINS staff. "But that visit changed my life around!" JB declared with tears in her eyes. The staff at the WINS Erin Woods Family Resource Centre got JB on the right path to a better life for herself. Now JB is bringing a friend who needed the help of the WINS

Family Resource Team. As the group chatted, the WINS team noted that JB was now a senior and asked her if she'd like to sign up for the Seniors Secret Service. JB was deeply moved by the offer since she doesn't receive many presents at Christmas. So JB signed up and was so grateful to receive her gift bag stuffed full of little treasures as well as the invaluable gift cards, bus passes and other things to make life a bit easier.

## CHARLIE'S CHILDREN

WINS has a new partnership with Travis Hamonic of the Calgary Flames and his wife Stephanie. Charlie's Children will support low income families or single parents expecting a newborn by giving them the basic equipment and supplies they need.

After the birth of their first child, Charlie, Stephanie and Travis wanted to help other new families and parents with the costs and needs associated with becoming a parent and preparing for a child.

"We've created Charlie's Children in hopes of being able to reach numerous families in

need" said Travis and Stephanie Hamonic. "After the birth of our daughter Charlie, we felt the urge to give back into the community and give back as best as we can."

Funding for the initiative has been provided by the Hamonic's and is matched 100% by the Calgary Flames Foundation. West Coast Kids is providing the equipment at cost. The funds will allow WINS to purchase newborn necessities for eligible families including: car seats, cribs, baby strollers and other child care essentials. It's a critical support for families living in poverty in Calgary.

"We've created Charlie's Children in hopes of being able to reach numerous families in need."

- Travis & Stephanie

### A STORY FROM CHARLIE'S CHILDREN

I'm not so very different from any newly married person in Canada. My husband and I were so happy to start our life together. In just a very short time, our future changed. My husband was deported in 2015 for declined refugee status and I found out just a few weeks after he left I was expecting our first child. It is always difficult to be a single mom and my mother was a great help and support to me, coming out to give me a hand when our daughter was ~1 1/2 years old. I was even able to go visit my husband in El Salvador for a short time. It was an unexpected surprise when I returned to Calgary to find I was pregnant with twins! The twins were delivered on December 1st. They spent a few weeks in hospital and are now home.

I have quite a low income without my husband here. Not only do I have a toddler to care for but now the twins as well. Getting baby equipment was a priority and I was very desperate to get 2 cribs with bedding and really - anything extra - be it stroller or car seats, clothing, wipes. With the help of the Charlie's Children program and its sponsors, I was able to get everything I needed. Now I am able to keep my energy and focus on caring for our beautiful children. I am so grateful for Charlie's Children and thank God it was there to help my family.

