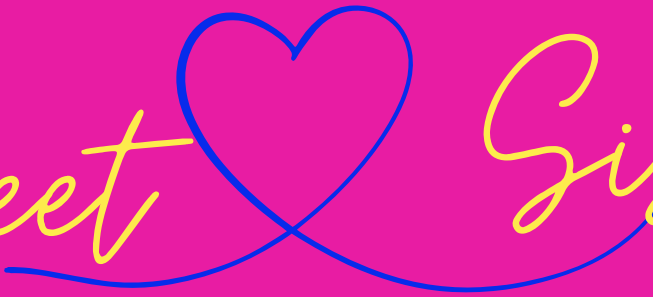


Street  Sisters

STREET SISTERS
SOCIETY

WWW.STREETSISTERSOCIETY.COM

ANNUAL REPORT TO
THE COMMUNITY
2023

Our Mission

A world where no violence, exploitation or poverty exists.

Our Purpose

We believe in human kindness through connection as the foundation to healing.

Guiding Principles

Our values are inherent to our work, and as passionate advocates for women experiencing vulnerabilities, we are committed to integrating these values in all we do.

Integrity

Honesty guides our actions

Impact

Our work makes noticeable, meaningful and positive change.

*Moral
Courage*

Our actions are focused and unwaivering.

Autonomy

We respect each woman's right to determine what she/they needs.

*Inclusive
Community*

We support and encourage a no barrier approach to promote health and well-being.

Humanity

We see each human as deserving of kindness, love and respect.

The Importance of Our Volunteers

The heart and soul of the Street Sisters Society belongs to our invaluable volunteers. Each one brings a unique gift that enriches the lives of those we serve. We extend our heartfelt gratitude to these remarkable individuals.

Recognizing Volunteers: International Volunteer Week 2023

We finally had the opportunity to recognize our volunteers in the year 2023, and we decided to do so in conjunction with International Volunteer Week. It was a well-attended event, where we celebrated the achievements of past board members and volunteers who have made significant contributions to our start-up over the years.



New Space and Main Outreach Location

Street Sisters Secures Office Space at Historic Community Wise Location

In Spring of 2023, Street Sisters acquired office space at the renowned Community Wise location in Calgary. This building holds significant historical value in the city as the first Women's Shelter dating back to the early 1900s, and serves as a hub for various grassroots non-profits. The new location will provide the opportunity for growth and sustainability of Street Sisters for many years to come.



For 60 years

Old Y building was home for thousands of Calgary women

A well-known Calgary building, former home to thousands of women, will be the centre for official ceremonies May 27 when the Old Y Centre building will receive an official plaque designating it as historic site.

The three-story brick building at 223-12th Avenue S.W. was constructed at a cost of between \$60,000 and \$80,000 in 1905 following a design by a Mr. McEwen, a local architect. The price for the two lots on which the building stands was \$12,500.

Local records show that the start of the Y.W.C.A. in Calgary came about after Mrs. John McDougall, wife of a Presbyterian Minister had occasion to let young women spend a night at their home because she had nowhere to stay. The following day, July 2, 1907, Mrs. McDougall called a meeting of other Calgary women and plans for the first Y.W.C.A. building in Alberta were born.

Within a month of opening in 1911 the Y.W.C.A. couldn't keep up with the demand for rooms and temporary accommodation was found in the Underwood Building (101-1st S.W.) which opened the same year.

One Calgarian who remembers the early days of the Y.W.C.A. is 84-year-old Mrs. Betty Noyes, now residing at Timm Lodge, Calgary. She came to Calgary in 1908. "She first night here we went to an Opera House at The Bay street and we bought the book "Sowing Good and Sowing Bad" by Nellie McCarty. It was very exciting. It was like a big party," she said. The first Bay store was located on the corner of Centre Street where the Royal Bank now stands.

Mrs. Noyes said it when she spent one year at the Y on a secretary and working with children's and girls groups at food drives.

Between 1949 and 1954 a \$100,000 fundraising drive was held for the pool and gymnasium extension which became part of the City of Calgary's Bellini Recreation Centre.

In 1970 the Y.W.C.A. moved out of the building and into a new 192-bed facility at 50-5th Avenue S.E. The new building included large recreation pool, gym, gymnasium and recreational courts.

The former building was scheduled for demolition but the City took it over and, with a \$30,000 Canada Works Project grant, the building was renovated. The Calgary Youth Aid group managed the building until 1975 and then it was taken over by the



The Old Y building on 12th Avenue S.W., Calgary, which was built in 1905, will receive its official historic designation plaque May 27.

Calgary Youth Aid Centre. In 1950 other agencies moved into upper administrative offices. Now there are 17 professional

space in the building which is now called The Old Y Centre for Community Organisations.



Joan Schep, OMT, member of the Calgary Youth Aid Centre.

IMPACT

Over the course of the past 12 months we provided the following:

- Socks: 3500
- Healthy Lunch: 4500
- Additional Sandwiches: 1000
- Protein drinks: 200
- Bras: 300
- Underwear: 600
- Period packs: 905
- Blankets: 390
- Warm coats & Hoodies: 1200
- Water: 5600
- Naloxone: 1050
- Harm reduction kits: 5660
- Hygiene kits: 2500
- Winter boots/runners: 200 pairs
- Meal Gift Cards: 321
- Handwarmers: 600

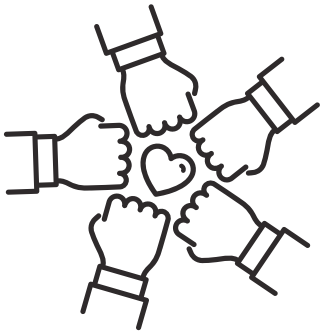


Community Initiatives

Coffee Connection Program

Six times per year, we connect with a local female only housing unit. This time of connection builds the trusting community relationships we all need as humans. These coffee connection evenings are packed with laughter, conversation, pizza and pop as well as some other items such as bras, hygiene products and other items that may be needed.

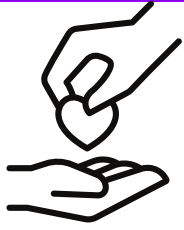




IMPACT

- **5010** people relied on us for basic necessities in 2023. This is an increase of over 800 from last year.
- **Community Collaboration**
 - The Calgary Homeless Foundation along with other collaborators have invited Street Sisters to a monthly outreach meeting. It is here we discuss trends and share information on how to best respond to the changing needs.
 - Street Sisters contributes to a small collective led by the Forest Lawn police unit to help keep women safe if engaged in sex work.
 - Outreach Collab is a collective of grass-roots outreach and peer support team. Street Sisters contributes to the group by sharing resources and information and locations we all serve in order to better support the vulnerable population.
 - Overdose Awareness Day on August 31st was a huge engagement opportunity. Street Sisters had a booth at this event and spent time sharing what we do and learning what others do to support the vulnerable population. We also did some Narcan training for community members who were interested in learning.
- **Volunteer Hours**
 - 1664 direct service volunteer hours this is an increase of over 300 hours.
 - 402 hours of Community engagement initiatives.
 - 416 volunteer hours contributed by the Board members.
 - 980 hours of practicum hours for Addiction Studies and Social Work Students.





Our Donors & Partners

The Impact of Our Donors and Partners on Vulnerable Communities

Our donors and partners play a crucial role in transforming the lives of the most vulnerable individuals.

- Maple Leaf Storage - Royal Vista
- Co-operators - Agnew Insurance Ltd
- Sock Rocket
- Blankets for Canada
- The Bra Lift
- Body by Chai
- Leftovers Foundation
- SafeWorks - AHS
- St. Stephen Protomartyr Ukrainian Catholic Church
- Saint Vincent de Paul - Calgary
- Healthy Families Chiropractic
- Calgary Market CIBC
- Sanjel Energy Services
- Federated Co-operators Limited Community Investment Fund
- Canadian Red Cross
- Just Serve Calgary
- Calgary Catholic Women's League
- Project Warmth
- Georgie Islip
- Soroptimist International of Calgary Society
- Blankets for Canada
- Calgary Drop-in Donation Center
- **Albertans - Community Donations.** Many Albertans and local community members, neighbors, friends, family, volunteers and local community sports teams have donated generously by means of cash, gently used coats, socks, food, hygiene supplies and so many other necessities.

Thank you

WITH YOUR HELP, ANYTHING IS POSSIBLE.



Setting Objectives for 2024

- Collaborate with other organizations to ensure the Winter season is planned in a way to best support those who are not accessing shelters.
- Provide community groups with information, Narcan training and educate on responding to an overdose in your community.
- Implement Team-lead positions as part of our volunteer structure.
- Offer three practicum placements for Addiction Studies and Social Work programs.
- Implement a training program for volunteers that includes first aid, and resilience after attending to an overdose response.
- Continue running our outreach services within our volunteer capabilities and funding capacity.
- Host a community drive for winter coats and boots.
- Advocate for the vulnerable.
- Explore the options available for Street Sisters Society to start an Educational Granting fund supporting children of parents who have died from drug poisoning.

Statement of Financial Position

Balance Sheet as of September 30, 2023

Street Sisters Society
Year Ended September 30, 2023

Assets		
Current Assets		\$ 37,248.57
Chequing/Savings		\$ 37,248.57
Deposit account		
total Chequing/Savings		\$ 37,248.57
Total Current Assets		\$ 37,248.57
Liabilities & Equity		
Starting Balance		\$ 28,125.01
Funds In		\$ 34,435.75
Expenses		\$ 25,311.59
Closing Balance		\$ 37,249.17
Balance Correction (Short \$0.60)		\$ 37,248.57
Net Income For Fiscal Year		\$ 9,124.16
Equity (Closing Balance)		\$ 37,248.57
Total Liabilities & Equity		\$ 37,248.57

Audited by:
Robyn Boyer - Director
Erin Fingler - Director

Dana Lyons
President

Contact us: www.StreetSistersSociety.com

**"Never believe that a few
caring people can't change
the world. For, indeed,
that's all who ever have"**

-

Margaret Mead