



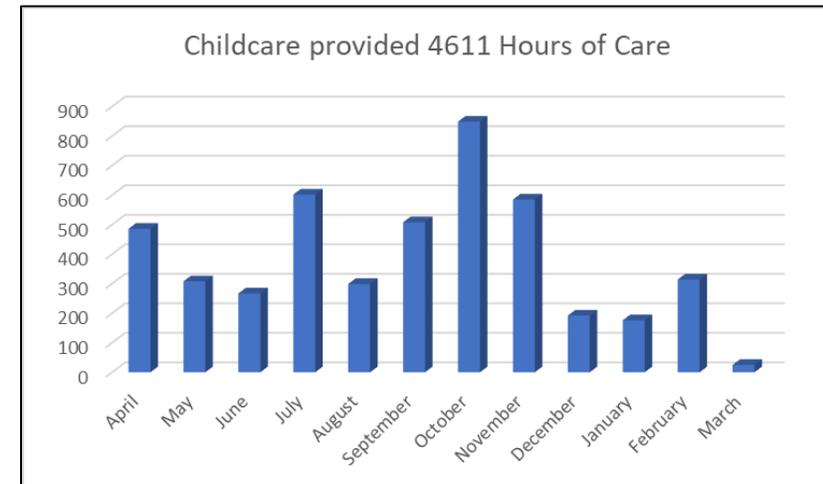
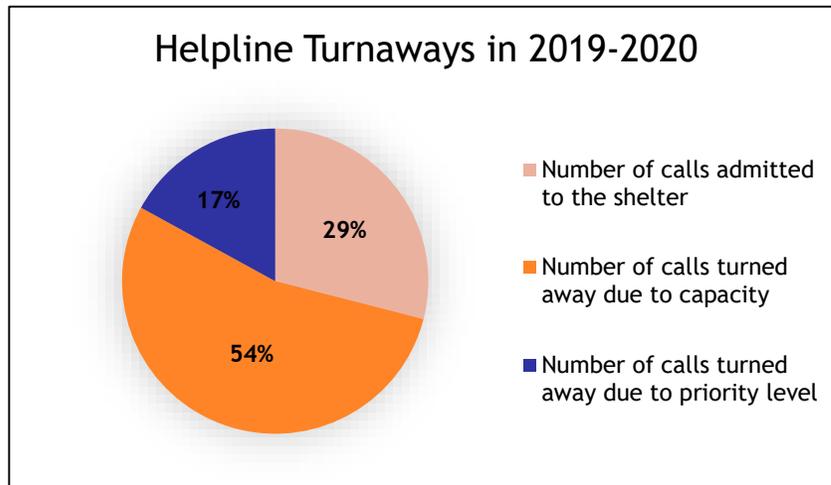
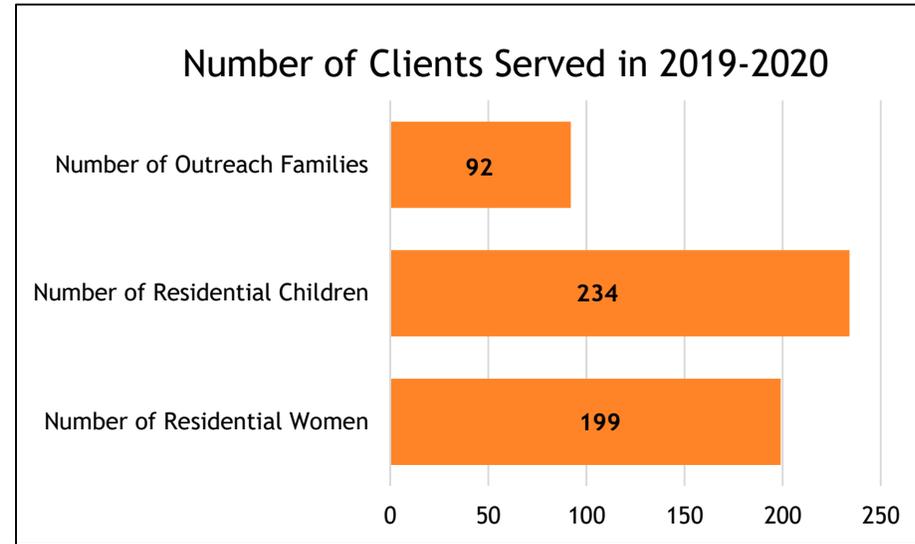
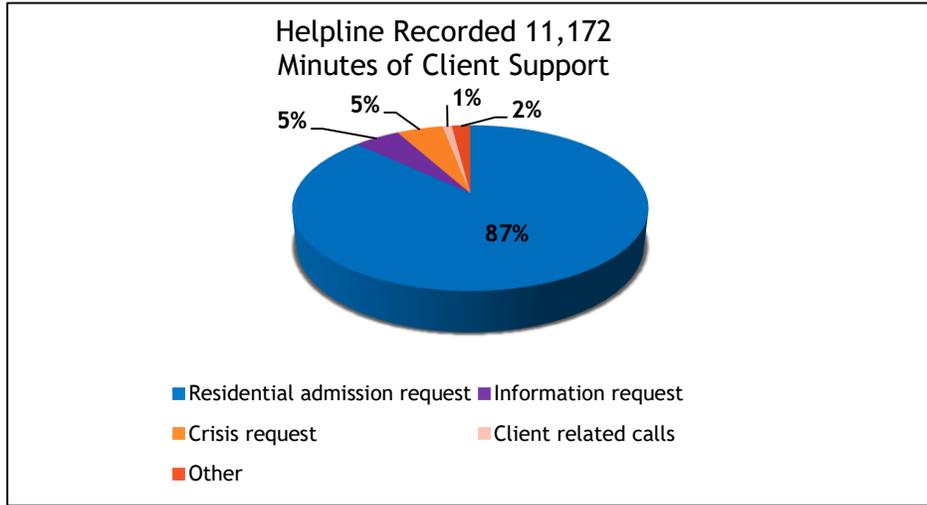
*Our vision: "Empowered lives of peace, connection and freedom."*

# STRATHCONA SHELTER SOCIETY LTD.

## ANNUAL GENERAL REPORT 2020

*The mission of Strathcona Shelter Society Ltd., is to build lasting solutions with individuals, families and communities to end domestic abuse. We accomplish this by increasing effectiveness, strengthening relationships and awareness, and improving opportunities.*

# STATISTICAL INFORMATION



## PRESIDENT'S REPORT

The last six months of 2019 and these first six months of 2020 have gone by in a blur. The emergence and presence of the novel Corona virus has changed the world, and has brought many changes, both good and bad, for us as a global society and as individuals. It has been a time where we must truly look out for each other, and be our brother and sister's keeper in any way we are able.

The Executive Director and the staff of *A Safe Place* have worked diligently to ensure the health and safety of clients and staff during this pandemic. They have ensured all Alberta Health Services guidelines are followed. Our appreciation to Karen and the staff for all they do on a daily basis.

One additional member joined the Board this past year. We are delighted to have his added skills, knowledge, and experience on the board. This group of dedicated individuals has worked tirelessly, often above and beyond the usual business of the Shelter Society, with extraordinary meetings and urgent decision making throughout the year. We have adapted to new technology by maintaining our regular Board meetings electronically. Ensuring that our work is in keeping with the Strathcona County community direction continues to be our focus, constantly adapting to maintain best practice regarding domestic violence. We have also started on a project plan and feasibility review for the development of a new shelter. However, *A Safe Place* has, and will continue to serve this community well.

This past year has been my third and final year as President of the Board of Directors. I thank each and every board member and the Executive Director for their dedication, commitment and wisdom. It has been an incredible experience to gain from their experience and skills. It has been a joy to contribute to such a worthy cause.

We applaud the people who work at *A Safe Place*. They work in many diverse roles and are crucial in making *A Safe Place* effective within the community in which it serves. The challenges are constant. Innovation and ideas to assist services for the clients are always embraced. We continue working on expansions for partnerships and services offered. As always, we are grateful for the continued support and inclusion by Strathcona County Family and Community Services.

The Shelter Society is grateful to have a group of dedicated and passionate volunteers, as well as long-time sponsors/donors who embody the spirit of compassion with their time and fundraising efforts. Without them, *A Safe Place* could not function. You have our never ending Thanks.

Respectfully submitted,  
Sandra Hanington  
President, Board of Directors  
Strathcona Shelter Society Ltd.



## EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

This past year has been one of growth for *A Safe Place* as we continue to work on serving those families and individuals experiencing domestic abuse. Longer stays in our shelter occurred as staff worked to assist with locating safe and affordable housing. Our partnerships with local community partners strengthened with the social framework agencies in Strathcona County. We were fortunate to co-locate outreach staff to Family and Community Services who worked alongside other agencies to increase access and information regarding domestic abuse. *A Safe Place* upgraded data base collection and equipment, as well as focused professional development on workplace violence and harassment, indigenous training, and leadership strengthening. We took first steps towards strengthening community collaboration and many partnerships were developed with donors and volunteers and service providers, including working closely with the shelters in the Edmonton area.

The arrival of the Covid-19 virus in early 2020 began to impact our services delivery model in March. I couldn't be more proud of our staff, their hard work and continuing dedication to the health and wellness of our clients and staff while we continued to offer services to keep families and individuals safe. Staff needed to adapt to constantly changing guidelines and they did so with passion and care.

I want to take a moment to thank the continuing support of all our donors and community partners over the past year. With your generous and ongoing backing, we have been able to continue to provide shelter, safety and services. On behalf of the staff of *A Safe Place*, the board, and especially our clients, we are forever grateful for your support and generosity.

I sincerely honor all the staff, volunteers, donors and partners who work tirelessly to provide support, service and dedication to our clients and organization. A very special thank you to the Strathcona Shelter Society Ltd Board of Directors and outgoing president, Sandra Hanington. It takes a great team and community to continue to allow this shelter to grow and thrive.

Respectfully submitted,  
Karen Kadatz  
Executive Director  
Strathcona Shelter Society Ltd.



## VOLUNTEER'S REPORT

During the 2019 Fiscal year, our dedicated team of 98 volunteers made 1970 contacts with 68 families to provide 1475 hours of support in areas such as kitchen help, bottle depot, donation sorting and distribution, and community engagement and support. Our Volunteer program has seen a positive shift towards teams of corporate participants, sports teams, and charitable groups reaching out to support us as a collective initiative, building a more open sense of community care for our shelter and outreach clients.

### THANK YOU TO ALL OUR VOLUNTEERS!



"We have always been advocates of women's rights. Women should be free from any kind of abuse be it physical, sexual, mental, financial or verbal. At the shelter we cook meals and serve lunch, sort and put away donations, put together care packages that include basic essentials for the clients, and we help out wherever needed. We feel it is important to volunteer and having a worth cause to donate time too. Strathcona Shelter Society - *A Safe Place* is that place." - Anonymous volunteer.

## NURSES REPORT

At *A Safe Place* we have the extraordinary good fortune to be one of few shelters to be able to have an on-site VON nurse to assist and guide our team and clients in health management. This has been invaluable to the team in this time of COVID-19 in maintaining safe use of PPE and leading edge information regarding pandemic updates and practices for our team and clients. This year our VON conducted 475 individual client health assessment meetings, including 50 prenatal / postnatal / newborn assessments, .35 strangulation / body map assessments, and 10 wound and dressing care. In addition to supporting the team to navigate COVID-19 planning, our VON also:

- Collaborated with Shelter Pharmacist to assist clients
- Developed Critical Stress Incident Policy for Staff and Clients
- Provided training and information sessions for staff,
- Participated in Community Engagement Activities

The overall result is an elevated level of care offered to our vulnerable population.

# The Strathcona Shelter Society Ltd. “A Safe Place”



would like to extend a special  
**Thank You**  
 to our ongoing supporters and partners\*:



*Without the support of our community partners and donors, we would not have the resources to help our clients to thrive!*

Aecon  
 ACH Family Charity  
 Alberta Council of Women’s Shelters  
 ATCO  
 Boston Pizza  
 Canada Helps  
 Catholic Women’s League  
 Compassion Project  
 Greenland Garden Centre  
 G. Swanson  
 Government of Alberta, Community and Social Services  
 Government of Alberta, Justice and Solicitor General  
 Mary Johnston  
 Patrick Riestner  
 Race Roster

RBC Foundation  
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 Strathcona County  
 Strathcona Christian Academy  
 Strathcona Law Group  
 Strathcona Professional Firefighters  
 Suncor  
 Tree of Hope  
 TYCO  
 United Way of Alberta, Capital Region  
 Wawanesa



*\*We are grateful for all that has been donated. Those listed above represent donations over \$1000.*