



Annual General Report 2023

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Mission

Ann Davis Transition Society provides education, prevention and support services to those affected by abuse or violence.

Vision

Communities free of violence and abuse.

Values

ACCOUNTABILITY:

We hold ourselves responsible to our community to ensure the mission and purposes of the Society are met while maintaining our financial stability.

COMMITMENT:

We are committed to assisting individuals who aspire to live free from abuse.

DIVERSITY:

We celebrate and honour the differences within our community.

INTEGRITY:

We acknowledge integrity as the foundation of truth while maintaining the highest ethical standards to ensure quality of service to our clients and community.

RESPECT:

Our respect of every individual includes encouraging exploration of personal values. In our caring community, we empower people to make sound, educated decisions.

SUPPORT:

We provide a compassionate and safe environment in which individuals are supported.

President's Report



New research from the Gender-Based Violence Program, a federally funded research organization, has revealed some troubling but unsurprising statistics. Head researcher Paul van Donkelaar has estimated that for every NHL player who suffers a concussion during the season, approximately 7,000 Canadian women suffer the same injury at the hands of their intimate partner each year. This equates to about 250,000 new cases every year. The staff at Ann Davis meet these women, support them, and help them rebuild, over and over again. They are witness to a cycle that urgently needs to be broken.

At Ann Davis, our priority, as it should be, is to provide a non-judgmental safe place to help women with the life-rebuilding process. A part of our Mission is to educate, and more and more we have been stepping up our responsibility to educate British Columbians about the crippling cost of this gender based violence. For the first time since Covid restrictions have lifted, we have been able to again provide leadership for numerous events that bring our mission into the public eye. Purple Lights Nights, the Memorial for the victims of the Ecole Polytechnique massacre, The Red Dress event recognizing Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls, and most recently, Women's Equity and the Link to Femicides in BC held at UFV, were all spearheaded by the need to make ending violence against women a priority for our province and our country.

We have a lot on our plate. The work being done here can be frustrating and hard, but also joyous, rewarding and incredibly important. The staff at ADTS, led so capably by our Executive Director Patti MacAhonic, are phenomenal, up to the job in every way. They are true community leaders, and they probably don't even realize it, so I'm telling them now! Well done, every day.

President's Report



Every well-run not for profit society has a board that supports it with all its heart, and that describes the ADTS board. Our members, Melanie Green, Brenda McCourt, Catherine Drennan, Jessica Steiner, Jessica Lackey and Christina Forcier each bring a different strength to our board, and as a team bring a level of commitment that is the envy of many organizations. I am proud to be part of this group of strong and talented women!

As is right and necessary, board members change, and today it is my turn to pass on the Presidential torch. I will be transitioning from President to Past President. I have been a member for 6 years now, the term limit, but I move forward knowing that I have been a part of something so powerful, so enriching, that my life has been forever changed. Thank you all.

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read "Carol Lees". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Carol Lees
President of the Board of Ann Davis Transition Society

Executive Director's Report



With the increase of domestic violence by 37% and femicides going from an average of 12 to 29 last year in our province, it is not surprising that our numbers of bed stays in our transitional housing was over 10,400. Our Outreach Centre walk-ins in 2022 were 3,792. In 2023 they rose to 11,028. That is a 191.02% increase in just one year.

Given the growing climate change challenges such as extreme heat, flooding, and the need to have 24/7 monitoring for safety, it is imperative to have power when faced with events that impact the power grid. We are pleased to announce that we are in the process of having commercial grade generators installed at 3 locations, thanks to our local MLA and Parliamentary Secretary for Gender Equity, Kelli Paddon and Minister of Housing Ravi Kahlon.

I am excited to report progress on our new housing development project, which is in the design stage. The number of units, 20 for second stage and up to 52 for single women, will make a measurable difference to the women we serve in this community.

A key part of my role as Executive Director is advocacy on current and forecasted challenges that we face as an organization and sector. In my advocacy efforts this year, I met with the following:

- Prime Minister Justin Trudeau – gun control
- Federal Minister of Public Safety, Marco Mendicino (2 times) Femicides and National Action Plan on Gender Based Violence
- Minister of Housing, David Eby (2 times) ADTS Housing Project
- Minister of Housing, Ravi Kahlon (3 times) ADTS Housing Project, rural homelessness
- Meeting with Mike Farnsworth, Minister of Public Safety and Solicitor General and Deputy Premier and Senior Ministry of Justice staff on RCMP and sector – RCMP reporting DV and Femicides

Executive Director's Report



- MLA Kelli Paddon (3-4 times) Housing, Homelessness and Funding
- Minister of Transportation and MLA Dan Coulter, (2 times) Local issues impacting ADTS
- Meeting with Nikki Sharma, Deputy Caucus Chair and Parliamentary Secretary for Community Development and Non-Profits. On funding for our organization
- Meeting with Assistant Deputy Minister (ADM) EMBC Madelaine Maley on Climate Change and Community - Planning for future emergencies
- Meeting with Katrina Chen, Minister of Childcare – Childcare needs for our community and ADTS
- BC Minister of Housing, BC Housing, Fraser Health BC Public Safety, BC Non-Profit Housing and staff on various items and we have been consulted on how we have been successfully navigating as an organization through these challenging times.
- Guest panelist with Extreme Climate Heat events for the BC Housing Non-Profit AGM on best practices through climate emergency
- One of the keynote speakers at our annual Children's and Youth Committee AGM and 3 day event
- Presented to the Provincial Finance Committee

We have attended regular monthly meetings with community tables and partnerships with other service providers which have been helpful in navigating through challenges and working collaboratively.

We have clearly demonstrated that the Ann Davis Society team truly rises to the needs of our clients and each other with a spirit of generosity, kindness, and compassion, which is what makes me most proud. I am also happy to report that our work is further recognized as I received the "Shelter Executive of the Year" – Purple Ribbon Award in 2022 for my work as Executive Director with Ann Davis Society.

Executive Director's Report



To lead this unparalleled organization is truly an honour and I thank each and every one of our staff, board, volunteers, partners, sponsors and the giving community who make it possible to do the good work we do every day for the most vulnerable in our community.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'P. MacAhonic'.

Thank you!

Patti MacAhonic

Executive Director, Ann Davis Transition Society

Board Members 2023



Carol Lees
President



Melanie Green
Vice President



Brenda McCourt
Treasurer



Cat Drennan
Board Member



Jessica Steiner
Board Member



Jessica Lackey
Board Member



Christina Forcier
Board Member

History of ADTS

Early in 1979, several members of the Chilliwack community met to discuss the need for a shelter for the victims of family violence. At that time there was no place for a police officer, a social worker, or a community services worker to take a woman who had been beaten. The only transition houses available to the community agencies were in Vernon, Langley and North Vancouver.

The concerned community members formed the Emergency Shelter Committee. The Emergency Shelter was operated until August of 1981 with a budget of under \$1000. They met in private homes and began to look at practical ways that they could help. At their first official meeting on October 29, 1979, someone volunteered to house two women and their children for three to four days. Members took responsibility to help women obtain medical treatment, deal with the police, contact the Ministry of Human Resources and locate housing.

On April 16, 1980, the name Upper Fraser Valley Transition Society, (UFVTS) was submitted as a name along with two others. On August 29, 1980, the job description for the Shelter Supervisor was developed. September 17, 1980, The Emergency Shelter Committee now became the Upper Fraser Valley Transition Society. Helen Girouard accepted the position of Shelter Supervisor.

The first Board of Directors were established, Cheryl Dahl, Julie McWhirter, Mary Lou MacKay, Frances Boechler, and Beverly Julian. On December 16, 1980, The Upper Fraser Valley Transition Society was incorporated. Chilliwack Community Services acted as fiscal agents in applying for and administering government funds and receiving donations before the Society became registered as a separate Society. August 1981 thanks to a Ministry of Human Resources grant, the society was able to hire three staff members. Below are the names of the Executive Directors that span over 40 years.

- 1981-82: Elaine Mussell, Administrator
- 1982-83: Elaine Mussell, Administrator
- 1983-84: Elaine Mussell, Executive Director
- 1984-85: Jane Parlee, Executive Director
- 1985-86: Jeannie Carfrae Executive Director
- 1986-87: Valerie Atyeo Executive Director
- 1987-92: Elinor Goodbrand Executive Director
- 1992-94: Georgie Jackson Executive Director
- 1994-95: Velma Ens Acting Executive Director
- 1995-2013: Bobbi Jacob, Executive Director
- 2013-present: Patti MacAhonic, Executive Director

History of ADTS

It was now time to find a name for the house that would provide shelter for so many women and children. Jean Scott, a fairly new member of the UFVTS, did some research and discovered that a local woman named Ann Davis had helped provide shelter for battered women and their children since her arrival in Chilliwack in the 1920's. Jean found out that Ann Davis was still alive, living in a Chilliwack nursing home. She discovered a tiny woman, who was almost completely blind, but with her mind and spirit as sharp as it had ever been. She visited her several times and heard many stories of how she had helped people in Chilliwack.

Starting in the 1920's, Ann Davis organized food hampers for the needy. Her husband picked up fruits and vegetables along the roadways which local farmers left for them. Over the years, she canned thousands of jars of fruit and vegetables to distribute to the needy. Her stepdaughter remembers her canning into the early hours of the morning to ensure that none of the food would go to waste. Ann also recruited many Chilliwack women to go door to door, pulling wagons to collect blankets for the needy. She also gave temporary shelter to battered women and organized many other women to do the same. In 1957 Ann Davis was named "Woman of the Year" and she holds the honor of being the first woman recognized in Chilliwack.

January 2001 the Upper Fraser Valley Transition Society changed their name to Ann Davis Transition Society. As we grew there was a need to open an administration office. We settled into five locations over the years ending up at the current location on Young Road.

- 1998 First administration office located on Young Road/Princess Ave above some shops was named Aurora Services. Then the name changed when we became Ann Davis Transition Society.
- 1999 to 2003 Hocking location administration office
- 2003 to 2005 Airport Road location administration office
- 2005 to 2010: Administration location Williams Street
- 2010 to present: Administration location 9046 Young Road location.
- 2014 Ann's Treasures and Thrift Shoppe opened
- 2018 December to September 2019 Women's Centre Low Barrier House, Patti MacAhonic opened a temporary location on the South side of Chilliwack.
- 2019 to present, Women' Centre moved into their permanent site North side of Chilliwack.
- 2019 the Director of Housing position was developed, and Shelley Bolan moved from being the Manager of the Transition House to this position. Both houses then had Coordinators. Shelley Bolan has been with Ann Davis since 1995 when there was only the Transition House.

Awards

2022: Program Shelter Executive of the Year - Purple Ribbon Award to Patti MacAhonic
2022: Outstanding Documentary or Film “Walk Through That Door” Purple Ribbon Award
2022: Non-Profit of the Year Chilliwack Business Excellence Awards
2021: Outstanding Support Award Chilliwack Chamber of Commerce
2021: Nominated for Cultural Diversity Award, Marketing
2021: Chilliwack-Hope Community Heroes Award
2020: Nominated Inclusive Environment Fraser Valley Cultural Diversity Award
2020: Favorite Local Cause
2020: Community Hero Award – Awarded to Patti MacAhonic
2020: Chilliwack Chamber Outstanding Support Award
2019: Favorite Local Cause
2019: Every Door is the Right Door Partnership Award
2018-2019 Partnership Acknowledgment Chilliwack Healthier Community
2018: CYC Recognizes ADTS – Community Partnership Award
2014: United Way - Community Partner of the Year Spirit Award
2014: Provincial Ministry of Justice Community Safety & Crime Prevention Award
2014: Chamber of Commerce - Non-Profit Service Award
2014 & 2019: CYC Every Door is the Right Door Partnership Award
2013: CYC Recognizes ADTS – Community Partnership Award
2013: Community Partner Award – United Way
2013 to 2019: Nominated Not for Profit Service Award Chilliwack Business Excellence Awards

Committees

Violence against Women in Relationships (VAWIR)
2008 to present: Purple Light Night Committee
Child & Youth Committee (CYC)
Chilliwack Healthier Community (CHC)
Child Youth Health Centre Steering Committee
Sexual Exploitation Against Children and Youth Committee (SEACAT)
Social Work and Human Services advisory – UFV
Housing First Task Team
Community Advisory – City of Chilliwack
Coordinated Access Committee – City of Chilliwack
ICAT Committee – Integrated Case Assessment Team for high-risk cases
Opioid Crisis Task Team
CIRT – Community Integration and Coordination Program
Primary Care Team

Administration



"For the year April 2022 to April 2023, there was an overall theme in the need of services for the following supports; food, financial, counselling, legal advocacy, and outreach. At the administration office we continued to have new families and individuals referred to us every month from peers and other agencies for grocery support due to the inflation we saw in our grocery stores. Despite providing \$149,010 in grocery card support, we still could not meet the need families had for this program; with the COVID-19 pandemic being followed by inflation of groceries and gas, families have been struggling more than ever.

During the year, we received 31 emergency counselling referrals, with 472 sessions due to severe emotional and traumatic circumstances. This is a high number when considering that most of these requests were within the Chilliwack area. We also received 229 phone calls and email requests for our Stopping the Violence (STV) women's counselling and for a substantial portion of the year had a 10-month waitlist for this service."

Ashley Wall, Executive Assistant

Logged Phone Calls

These are calls that have come into the administration office and have been internally referred to our programs.

Counselling - Youth	38
Counselling - Children	52
Counselling - Stopping the Violence	229
Counselling - Men	49
Counselling - Couples	21
Counselling - Emergency	31
Counselling - Group	64
Counselling - Family	10
Counselling - SMSRC	3
Legal Advocate	86
Transition House/Women's Centre	64
Outreach	48
Grocery Support	779
Resource	42
Bursary	27
Donation	4

Logged Emails

These are emails that have been received by info@anndavis.org, or anndavis.org/contact and have been internally referred to our programs.

Counselling - Youth	38
Counselling - Children	52
Counselling - Stopping the Violence	229
Counselling - Men	49
Counselling - Couples	21
Counselling - Emergency	31
Counselling - Group	64
Counselling - Family	10
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Grocery Support Program

The number of grocery cards given out to clients from March 31st, 2022 to April 1st, 2023

Store	Number of grocery cards	Total Value
Freshco	3,615	\$90,375
Walmart	292	\$14,600
Tim Hortons	1,086	\$10,860
Superstore	648	\$32,400
Gas Station	31	\$775

Total value of grocery cards: \$149,010

Housing



"Ann Davis Transition House and Women's Centre provides temporary safe shelter and support for adult women and women with children who are at risk for violence and homelessness. The houses are staffed 24-hours a day, pet-friendly, and works on a client centered model. We offer non-judgmental, confidential support such as, referrals to income assistance, legal advocacy, housing information, counselling services, victim services, and any other community services that may assist clients. We work from a client centered approach, encouraging independence and supporting clients to reach their goal.

Over the last year both houses saw an increase in crisis calls, and bed stays from the previous year. Some of the trends last year were clients staying longer, an increase in clients coming from other communities/or provinces, more seniors experiencing homelessness and higher mental health needs with no service in place upon coming into the house."

Shelley Bolan, Director of Housing

Transition House

- Crisis Calls
190 Women, 197 Children
- Support Calls
388
- Not Sheltered
107 Women, 113 Children
- Bed Stays
2924 Women, 1753 Children

Women's Centre

- Crisis Calls
352
- Support Calls
192
- Not Sheltered
54
- Bed Stays
5751

Total bed stays: 10,428

Testimonial

"It can happen to anyone "

"Forget the typical stereotype of whom end-up homeless, trusting the wrong person can so do it. Who would think that a Fraser Health employee of 20+ years and an active volunteer in the community who has never smoke, never gotten drunk nor have ever done any kind of drugs would end up in a transition house. Let me tell you, if it wasn't for the kind staff of Ann Davies who had not answered my call that day, I wouldn't be here telling you this. Those minutes before calling I had it all planned out, I wrote a lovely letter to my kids telling them of special events and memories and how much they meant to me and how proud I was and that my love will go beyond eternity, I also asked them to forgive me for not being strong enough to have the strength to go through another deception and betrayal. I figured that if I was told that there was no place for me and my son (and our cat and dog) there was no reason whatsoever for me to live. After finished explaining my situation Amber said: "...try to breathe, we do have room for you and your son and your pets. We are here to help and guess what? It can happen to anyone" I couldn't believe what I was hearing! Ann Davies Transition Housing didn't just give me safe shelter, it saved me from committing suicide. The feeling of failure and from one day to another being homeless was something I couldn't bear on my own.

Therefore; I'm most grateful to all the staff and all the donors that make this help possible for anyone in need. And remember: It can happen to anyone!

Thanks again for saving me,"

**Anonymous Client,
Ann Davis Transition House**

Counselling



"For the first time I'm starting to have hope. I'm starting to feel better about myself and my future. I've worked with other agencies, and professionals in the community, and none of them have helped me. I feel supported and am grateful to have finally arrived at a real place of healing."

Anonymous, Counselling Client

Stopping the Violence

This is for women who want to understand what has happened to them either as children or adults and to change learned patterns of behavior. Ann Davis Services offers counselling for women who have suffered any form of current or past abuse; emotional, physical, verbal, sexual, religious, psychological, financial or social. We provide a safe environment where any aspect of abuse can be discussed in confidence. Our goal is to help women understand themselves and to gain confidence in making choices.

Number of Referrals

325

Number of Sessions Attended

1331

Youth Counselling (ages 12 – 19) helps youth reach goals, feel heard and understood, and traverse life's challenges. Our experienced and compassionate counsellors work with teens and parents to facilitate conversations and reduce familial discord. Healthy relationships, constructive communication, and conflict resolution are some of the issues our counsellors can help youth navigate.

Children's Counselling (ages 3 - 11) uses a wide range of art, play, and psycho-education therapy methods grounded in attachment theory. The child is viewed within their larger family system and we endeavor to support the family as a whole.

Number of Referrals

449

Number of Sessions Attended

1172

Men's, Couples & Family

Ann Davis currently offers counselling to men, couples, and families, as well as offering short-term emergency support for clients in crisis. Men's counselling is available for men ages 19 and up, and is designed to enable men to build and nurture positive self-esteem for themselves, thereby improving their relationships.

Couples and family counselling is offered as a preventive measure to adults over the age of 19. Couples counselling offers both partners a chance to be heard and understood by each other, as well as learning tools in order to construct a healthier relationship. Families receive therapy for a variety of reasons, including wanting to improve communication, resolve conflict, and gain skills in respectful parenting and partnering.

Number of Referrals

68

Number of Sessions Attended

169

Emergency and outreach mental health counselling is meant to support individuals to take ownership of responsibilities regarding various personal and social life issues which they have been neglecting for long time. Street-entrenched individuals usually have slacked off personal and social pursuits because of intense life disappointments. Overwhelming feelings from the past are stumbling blocks and comes in the way of healthy living. Thus, helping them to process, befriending, and expressing their feelings is a good starting point to recovery.

Many of the clients who self-refer are suffering from a recent trauma which has debilitated their lives. PTSD can impact individuals to complete dysfunction. Trauma informed emergency care is aimed to support clients to alleviate PTSD symptoms and bring them into the path of recovery.

Number of Sessions Attended

472

Groups



Understanding Abuse

The Understanding Abuse group provides participants with information about the different types of abuse and how they may manifest in relationships. Participants discuss the impacts of abuse and the importance of self-compassion. Participants will also learn how to set and maintain healthy boundaries with partners, family and friends. Assertiveness training is incorporated into this program in order to help participants achieve a healthy and balanced life.

Connections

A psycho-educational shame resilience curriculum, designed by Brene Brown and facilitated by Ann Davis Transition Society. Connections is a multifaceted approach, developed to address issues relating to shame, and to facilitate the development of shame resilience. The program is ideal for those struggling with self-esteem, love and belonging, authenticity, the development of empathy, connection, power, and the ability to cultivate a resilient spirit.

Women's Self-Management of Anger

This group is about learning how to manage anger through assertive communication, emotional regulation, and relaxation techniques. Participants will learn how to notice and identify their emotional landscape to be better able to cope with overwhelming feelings.

Building Healthy Relationships

Based on well researched principles, these workshops are designed to help couples to communicate and manage conflict more effectively. With the assistance of trained professionals, couples will learn and practice listening, speaking, and conflict resolution skills in a safe and comfortable environment.

The Building Healthy Relationships workshops are unlike any other being offered to the public at this time. Professional counsellors trained in Marriage or Family Therapy lead the discussions, while couples are provided with individual facilitators to work directly with the couples in practicing the skills.

Men's Self-Management of Anger

The Self-Management of Anger class is all about learning how to take responsibility for managing your own self and your feelings, primarily the feeling of anger. You will learn where your anger comes from and how to identify it before it becomes a problem.

In fact, the goal is to be able to learn how to channel anger and use it effectively. This course focuses mainly on anger in relationships and how to improve those relationships. Those relationships could be with a spouse, a child, a boss or co-worker, a friend or a neighbour.

Men's Insight

The Men's Insight Group is a group of 10 to 12 men who gather weekly in the evening at the Ann Davis Transition Society Administration office to share and discuss matters and issues that affect their daily lives in a confidential setting. The goal is to promote and raise insight of men in their relationships in their families, at their workplaces, and in the community.

Testimonial



I want to share a few successes with you 1st I recently took you anger management program and I have to tell you it was a life changer for me.. Andy, Philip, Ben lead a great program.. My wife has noticed a BIG difference in my life and honestly I do as well.. I have told many people about you program and the great success I had.. I don't remember exactly how long the program was ..during that time I met some other great men who also encountered similar issues.. I even have made a friendship with someone on a personal basis..

I continue to share your anger program with other including my church..

My wife and I are currently involved in the 10 week program. . and have really learnt a lot our mentor Ronan has been incredibly amazing he has such great wisdom and the way he has taught and explained things to us. Has been an eye opener

Thanks again Ann Davis

**Anonymous Client,
Counselling**

Outreach



The team at the outreach centre provide services to adult women, men, and families through supports by internal and external referrals, resources for housing advocacy, food security, legal and social services. Outreach workers provide local transportation, accompaniments, and advocacy as required for appointments. Client intakes consist of ongoing daily and long terms goals regarding the circumstances the clients are experiencing. The Outreach workers meet clients where they are at and always use a client and trauma centered approach. The Outreach Coordinator represents the agency at many tables such as CIRT, CAAT, CAA, Shop Talk, VAWIR, ICM community table, as well as working with other organizations to collaborate services for the community.

The outreach team held a Peer Engagement Community Clean-up event, form a grant provided through the CAAT microgrant, where peers were paid honorariums to go out in the community and pick-up garbage and clean up through the downtown core areas. This event also provided Indigenous speakers and drummers who shared their healing journeys, and provided encouragement to the peers, a lunch from the Sto;lo Bannock truck was also provided. The event was well received and enjoyed by the participants. The outreach center also center has worked collaboratively with Sto;lo and FNHA to provide foot clinics every 3 months, we have had haircuts provided by a volunteer.

Throughout the year the outreach centre saw that clients had an increased need for food and housing security, referrals to our women's centre and transition house, legal advocacy, and addictions support for both men and women. We supply financial supports through the ADTS Prevention & Diversion program, where financial aid is provided to prevent clients from losing their housing, obtaining housing , and avoiding disconnection of utilities, along with the bursary program, grocery/gift card, lunch, and requisition programs, which assist in providing a service to those we work with.

Robbi Leach, Outreach Coordinator

- Number of Walk-Ins
11,028
- Number of Referrals IN
2,521
- Number of Referrals OUT
4,875
- Lunches Given
8,099
- Clothing Requisitions
6,139
- Tim Hortons Cards Given
721
- Grocery Cards Given
106

Legal Advocacy



At Ann Davis Transition Society, we offer free confidential legal advocacy appointments. We provide the support and information needed to help make informed decisions regarding your legal issues. Information on Basic Family Law Principles and related legislation help you to make informed decisions about your options on:

- Children, Guardianship and Parenting Arrangements
- Separation and Divorce
- Division of Property, Assets and Debt
- Spousal Support and Child Support
- Income Assistance Issues
- Residential Tenancy Act Disputes
- Accessing On-line Family Law Court Resources and Forms
- Family Protection Orders and Peace Bonds
- Criminal Law (Information and Access)

Number of Referrals
319

Number of Sessions Attended
680

Average Monthly Calls/Emails
80

Client Stories and Comments

Client L.C.

We were successful in getting my damage deposit back from my landlord, but he refused to pay. Catherine helped me with the court order and garnishment of my landlords account so that I would get my money back. This was amazing as I didn't feel I could have done this without her. Thank you.

Client C.P.

I have been working with the legal advocate, Catherine for quite awhile now. I have two sons whose father is using the courts and his expensive lawyer to continue to control me. Catherine has given me hope by making me aware of my rights as a mom. I have custody of my boys and share access with my ex now. I now know that I have a voice in the courts and that even without an expensive lawyer I can still succeed. It has been a long year, but things are looking very promising for us. Catherine always answered my questions and many calls too. I am so grateful.

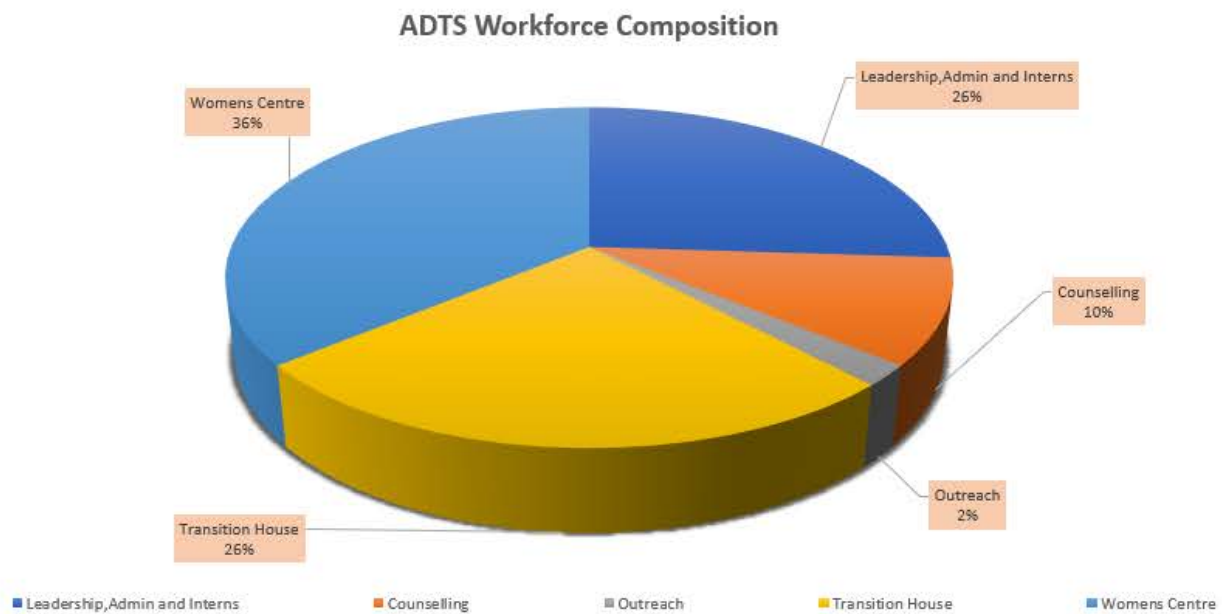
Client C.H.

Catherine is always so friendly when I call to find out information about family courts. I have two little girls but was not receiving any child support. I did not know how to do that. I am now working with Family Maintenance Program, and they will start collecting the money that is owed to us. I felt so supported and understood. I was at a point where I wanted to give up ever getting any child support from my ex and I am glad I didn't.

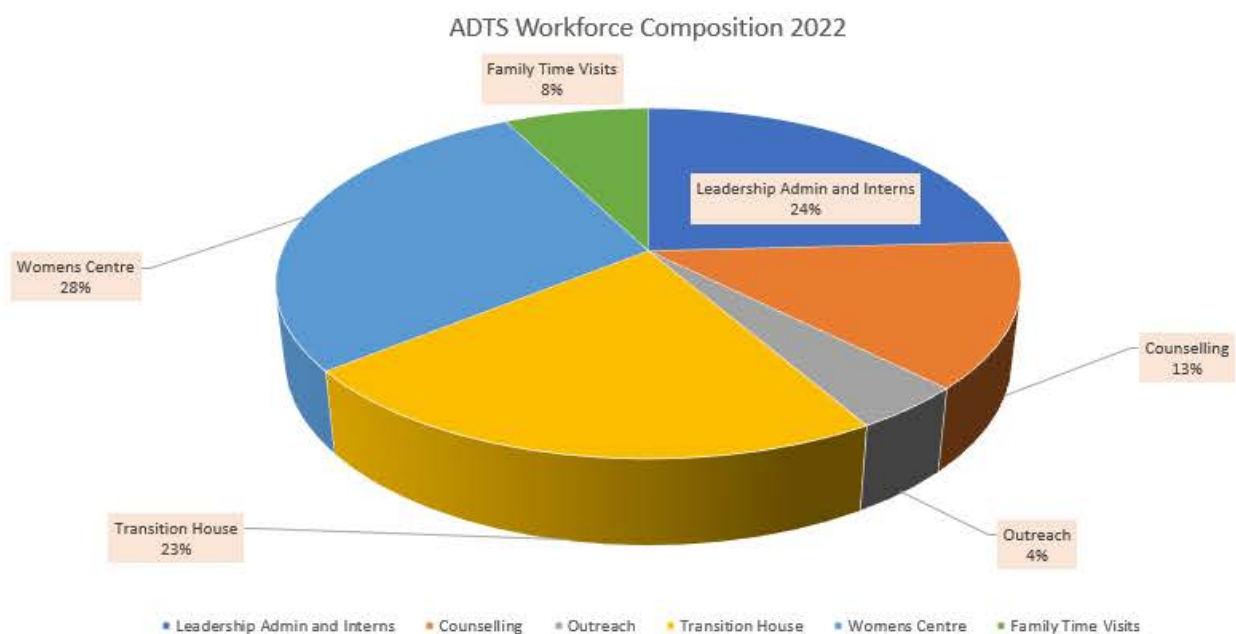
Human Resources



ADTS 2023 Workforce Composition



ADTS 2022 Workforce Composition

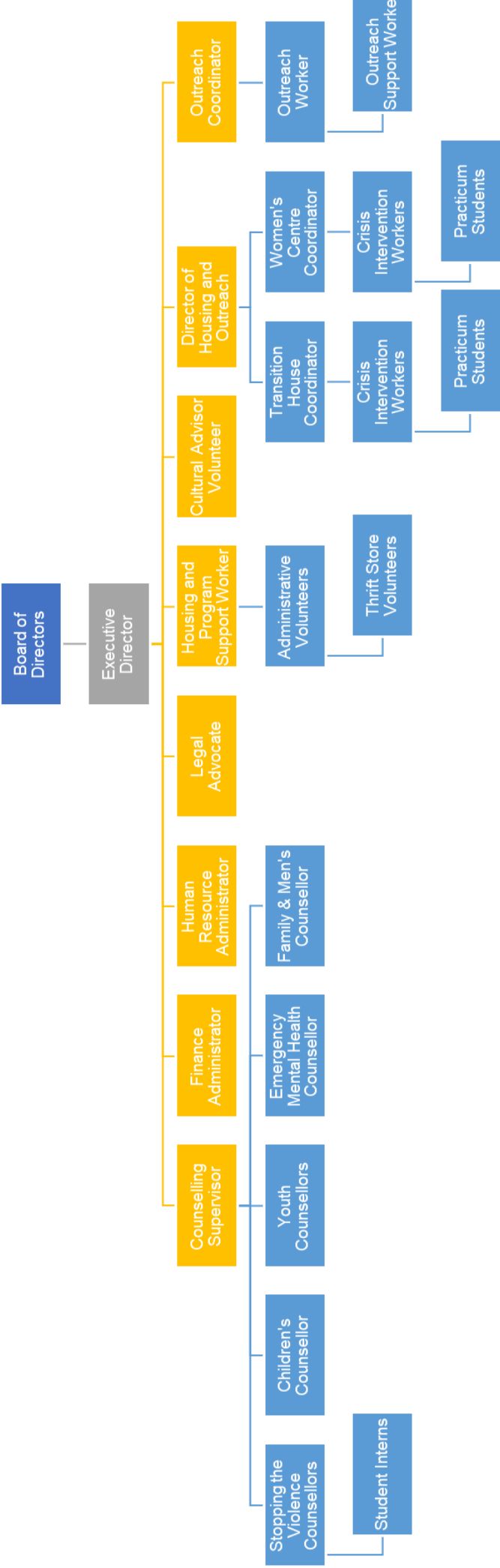


2023-2024 Ongoing Trainings

- Fire Safety/Fire extinguisher Training
- IT Risk and Cybersecurity
- Occupational Health and Safety Awareness
- WHMIS
- Workplace Bullying and Harassment
- Workplace Hazard Identification
- Personal Workplace Safety and Security
- Creating a Respectful Workplace
- Naloxone Training
- Workplace Ergonomics Training
- Workplace Diversity and Inclusion Training
- Emotional Intelligence
- Telephone-mail and Social Media Etiquette Training
- Mental Health in the Workplace
- Leadership Skills Training
- Foundations in Violence Against Women v2.0
- Increasing Access for Indigenous Women v2.0
- Introduction to Working with Children and Youth Experiencing Violence



Current Org Chart



Team Members

- Jolene
- Sarah
- Harsimran
- Emily
- Jessica
- Shelley
- Anmol
- Catherine
- Gabriel
- Alexandra
- Evie
- Raelee
- Mackenzie
- Jazleen
- Jana
- Philip
- Hannah
- Daryn
- Brittany
- Hannah
- Angela
- Emily
- Erin
- Sandra
- Robbi
- Rhoda
- Nam
- Louanne
- Kim
- Patti
- Jed
- Laura
- Flavia
- Finn
- Margarita
- Sulagna
- Priya
- Amber
- Sita
- Teresa
- Laurel
- Lisa
- Evangeline
- Alice
- Belinda
- Mary

Events & Community Partnerships



The Ann Davis Transition Society (ADTS) takes great pride in collaborating with community partners to further our mission of supporting individuals affected by violence and promoting safer communities. This year we would like to highlight our esteemed partners, the Chilliwack Youth Health Centre (CYHC) and the University of the Fraser Valley (UFV). These partnerships assist the Society to expand our reach and provide comprehensive services to those in need.

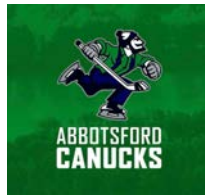
Working alongside the CYHC, Ann Davis Transition Society administers and co-facilitates the Building Healthy Relationships program, a group designed to help couples to communicate and manage conflict more effectively. Additionally, ADTS and the CYHC have furthered their connection by partnering for an innovative Clinical Supervision program.

ADTS' collaboration with UFV allows for bringing together valuable resources, expertise, and a shared commitment to creating positive change in the community. An avid supporter of ADTS, UFV has sponsored the Coldest Night of the Year and the Drive Thru Breakfast, as well as partnered with us on our May 16th event, Women's Equity, and a Link to Femicides in BC. UFV and ADTS have been committed to working in partnership on the National Day Of Remembrance and Action On Violence Against Women Candle Light Vigil event year after year.

Ann Davis Transition Society highly values our local community, business and media partnerships, who play a crucial role in amplifying our message and raising awareness. These sponsors serve as allies, providing platforms to engage the public in meaningful conversations. We recognize the invaluable contribution of Rogers Sports Media, 89.5 Country FM and The Chilliwack Progress and their efforts to create a safer and more inclusive community for all.

The Chilliwack Quilter's Guild, Chilliwack PieceMakers Quilting Guild and Henhouse Quilting Group contribution of quilts play a significant role in providing comfort, warmth, and a sense of security to our clients who have experienced trauma and violence. We are immensely grateful for their thoughtfulness and compassion, as their high-quality quilt donations make a meaningful difference in the lives of those we serve.

Through these partnerships, Ann Davis Transition Society continues to make a meaningful impact, fostering a strong network of community support to empower survivors and work towards a violence-free future.



Coldest Night of the Year

Chilliwack

Hosted by Ann Davis Transition Society

283

walkers

39

teams

48

volunteers



10°C



→ 13

→ 13 A



FILM NEGATIVE

→ 14

→ 14 A



FILM NEGATIVE



CANVA STORY

CANVA STORY

CANVA STORY

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coldest
*night
OF THE YEAR

23

CANVA STORY

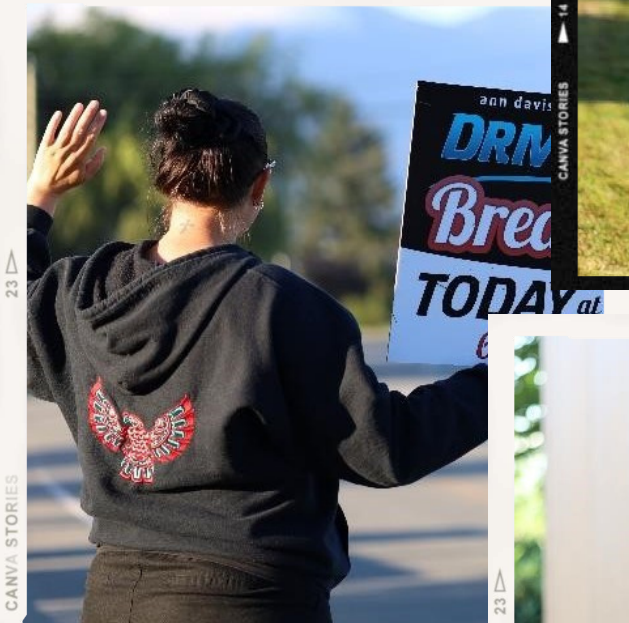


CANVA STORY

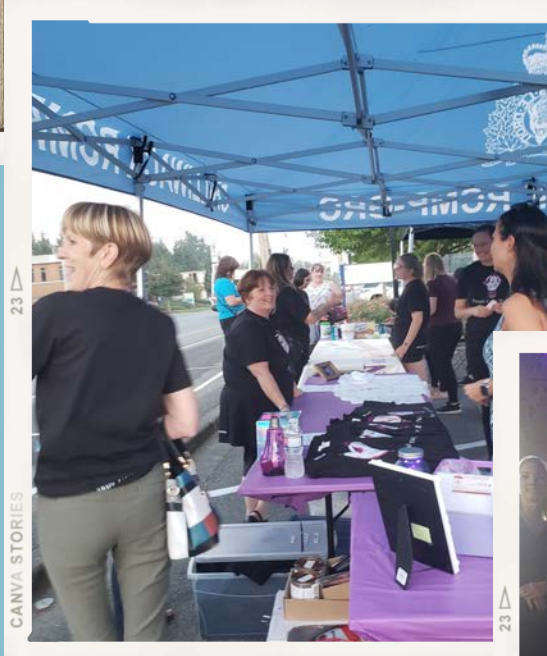
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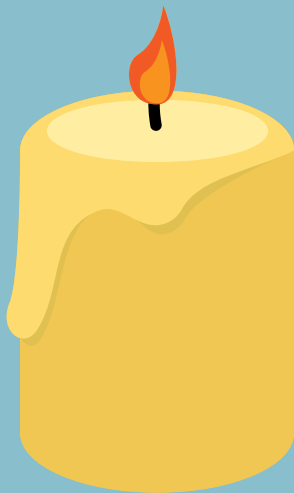
Drive Thru Breakfast - June



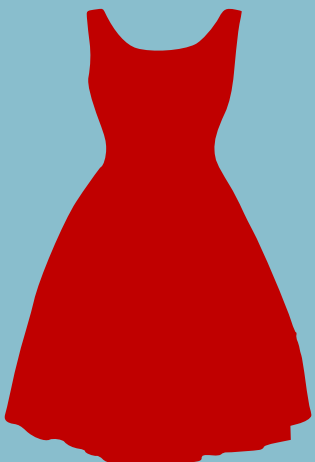
Purple Lights Nights - October



The National Day of Remembrance and Action
on Violence Against Women - December



Red Dress Day - May



Women's Equity and the Link to Femicides in BC Symposium - May



Women's Equity and the Link to Femicides in BC Symposium

On May 16th, 2023, in Chilliwack, many came together from across the province for an important event, “Women's Equity and a Link to Femicides in BC”. This event was held in partnership with Ann Davis Society and the University of the Fraser Valley as part of Victims Week and sponsored by the province. May 14th – 20th is "Victims and Survivors of Crime Week" in BC.

The event included powerful speakers such as Kelli Paddon, MLA Chilliwack-Kent, and Parliamentary Secretary for Gender Equity; Gail Jones, IRSSS, BC Program Manager for Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls (MMIWG); Amy Fitzgerald, Executive Director for BC Society of Transition Houses; and Dr. Amanda McCormick, Associate Professor and Researcher with the University of the Fraser Valley.

Throughout the event, several key messages were highlighted, bringing attention to critical issues and challenges faced in BC:

- The alarming increase of 37% in domestic violence last year in BC.
- The chilling increase of femicides as reported by media and tracked by the National Observatory on Femicides going from 12 in 2021 to 29 in 2022 in BC last year.
- The lack of Federal Government funding for Transition Houses and Women and Children’s Shelters across the country.
- That the need for these support services continues to rise, making operations difficult for these non-profit organizations due to the lack of funding.

The BC Society of Transition Houses reported during this event that between November 30th and December 1st, 2022, 1,847 women, children and youth were served by a Transition Society in BC. Devastatingly, 571 were turned away because of lack of capacity. Currently, 632 children and youth await to receive vital counselling services through the PEACE (Prevention, Education, Advocacy, Counselling and Empowerment) program. Meaning that these 632 children and youth who have experienced or witnessed violence in British Columbia, are unable to receive the immediate support they are asking for.

Executive Director of Ann Davis Transition Society, Patti MacAhonic, recalls one of the most memorable facts that was presented during the event, “This event was eye opening for many. Though we work in the sector, the chilling numbers are still harrowing to share and hear. I was especially moved to learn the haunting statistic that, for every 1 NHL player that obtains a brain injury while playing hockey each year, there are 5,500 women who obtain a brain injury from intimate partner violence.”

The event concluded by urging attendees and the wider community to support the cause by signing the Change.org petition and sending a letter to the federal Minister of Women and Gender Equality and Youth and the federal Minister of Public Safety, advocating for increased funding to address the issues raised.

The "Women's Equity and a Link to Femicides in BC" event was well-attended and garnered participation from various stakeholders, including municipal and regional governments, law enforcement agencies, healthcare providers, and advocacy groups, with an attendance of over 80 working professionals. By raising awareness about the pressing issues of gender equity, domestic violence, and femicides, the event aimed to drive change and secure crucial funding for support services. The Ann Davis Transition Society continues to work diligently toward these goals, inviting individuals to sign the petition and join the movement to end violence against women and children.

For further information or to sign the petition, please visit www.anndavis.org.

Success Stories



Counselling Client



"I met Alisha through Ann Davis when I was seeking out some family counselling. My partner and I had split up in October and I had reached out for counselling for several reasons but at the time my biggest concern was being able to co-parent in a healthy way. I was not able to get my ex-partner to come to counselling but I am so glad I decided to transition to personal counselling. I don't ever say this lightly but I really believe Alisha changed my life. When I started talking to her, I was at a very low point. I was going through a breakup, dealing with being a single mom suddenly, working through finding a new job, finding a place to live and just getting used to my new lifestyle. I also was dealing with some trauma of the relationship that I was getting out of and trying to work my way through my feelings toward my ex-partner. Alisha made me feel heard and I was able to get the tools and resources I needed to deal with the trauma I had faced in my relationship and that I was still facing while trying to co-parent with this person. Through our counselling sessions she helped me realize that not everything that went wrong in our relationship was my fault and I needed to be nicer to myself overall. She helped me set up much needed boundaries that allowed me to not only be more confident in my decision making but also stand my ground more. I didn't realize it but by putting boundaries up and focusing on bettering myself is what I needed in order to co-parent in a healthy and honest way. She helped me get over my fear of speaking my truth and telling others how I am feeling. I really am thankful that I met Alisha and can't recommend her enough."

Housing Client

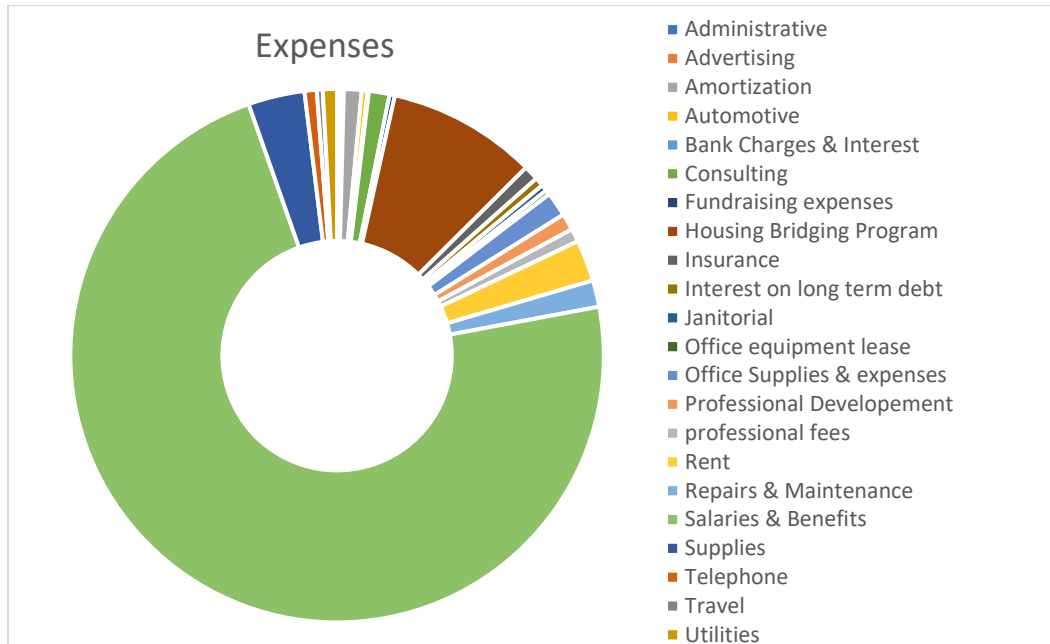


Thanks to the healthy environment of trust provided by this organization, which I have lived in since February 6, 2022, after the violence and insecure environment I have experienced in the last 15 years of my 18-year marriage, and its help about what I should do in the future, I have held on to life again.

I am sure that this social organization will be the safest and most valuable story of my life as a person who receives the services, training and assistance provided by this social organization, which I witnessed the efforts of protecting, caring for and reintegrating people in need of almost all matters into the society. I wanted to express and share my opinion that the state and other aid organizations support the reality of the continuation of the continuity of the organization.

Fiscal Year In Review

Expenses: \$3,162,532



Revenues: \$3,040,931

