



central okanagan
elizabeth fry
society

COMMUNITY REPORT

2021-2022

Support & Empower All Survivors of
Intimate Partner & Sexual Violence.



Services supported by:





LAND ACKNOWLEDGMENT

The Central Okanagan Elizabeth Fry Society (COEFS) respectfully acknowledges that we are situated on the unceded territory of the Syilx Okanagan peoples. We recognize our privilege to live, work, and serve our community on this land, and take responsibility in providing culturally competent and anti-oppressive practice throughout all the services we provide. We stand in solidarity with Indigenous peoples as they mourn and seek truth about their missing children. We take accountability to raise awareness and educate ourselves to create change in a structurally broken society.

WHO WE ARE

We are a feminist organization that is dedicated to ending intimate partner and sexual violence, providing support services, and advocating for survivors who move through the court system in the Central Okanagan Valley. Central Okanagan Elizabeth Fry Society achieves this purpose through a variety of prevention and intervention services in collaboration with community partners.

OUR PROGRAMS

COMMUNITY BASED VICTIM SERVICES

Our Victim Services staff provides multiple services for adult and youth survivors of intimate partner abuse, as well as services for adult, youth and child survivors of sexual abuse, assault and exploitation.

Additional branches of Community Based Victim Services includes our Women's Outreach Program & Specialized Intimate Partner Violence Unit (IPVU) case workers, working in collaboration with the RCMP, the Ministry of Child and Family Development and sister agencies to better assist survivors of the most serious intimate partner crimes.

SEXUAL ASSAULT COUNSELLING

Our Counsellors provide trauma therapy for adult, youth, and child survivors of sexual assault, abuse, and exploitation. Individual and group therapy options are available. Services are available for survivors of both recent and historical abuse, and are offered both in person and virtually.

INDIGENOUS VICTIM SERVICES

Indigenous Victim Services include Outreach Services and our Indigenous Support Worker embedded in the IPVU (Intimate Partner Violence Unit). Our Indigenous Victim Services support workers provide trauma-informed practice in the context of emotional support, practical support, and more. We work closely with Indigenous Community Partner Organizations to provide appropriate referrals to those affected by intimate partner violence and sexual abuse/assault.

YOUTH PREVENTION & EMPOWERMENT

The United program is an 8-week psycho-educational program implemented through middle and high schools in the Central Okanagan. The program works with students to discuss subjects pertaining to identity, personal growth, safety, maintaining healthy personal boundaries and more. The United program curriculum is inclusive, with groups available for girls & female identifying youth, boys & male identifying youth, and non-binary youth.

COMMUNITY EDUCATION

Education & awareness of intimate partner and sexual violence is a critical component on the path to creating a community in which all are safe & empowered. Our Community Education program provides critical resources & tools in the context of private & public community presentations that give insight into the cycle of abuse, the services provided at EFry, and how to support survivors of violence.

Message from our Executive Director & Board Chair

The 2021-2022 year has been one of change and resiliency for our survivors and for our organization. We had many transitions, navigating our way through the COVID restrictions, working from home to a hybrid model, proceeding to where we are today, back to being in office, full time and seeing clients in person!

I feel fortunate to be appointed into the position of the Executive Director this past April from my previous position as a Victim Services Caseworker. I have a strong passion for the work we do through this society, the amazing team who are here supporting survivors through a lens of inclusion and trauma informed practice and the opportunity to celebrate the empowerment we see in our clients as they move through their experiences. I am in awe everyday of the strength and commitment from our service providers here at Elizabeth Fry to provide the best support possible!

The Central Okanagan Elizabeth Fry Society (COEFS) is seeing a steady increase in demand for services, every year. This year we have seen an increase especially meeting the needs of our child and youth survivors. There has been a reported increase in online predators and exploitation, believed due to the fact many kids were at home more during COVID and searching for connection online. We are always behind the scenes, advocating to build capacity to better serve the needs of our clients and building solid partnerships to help provide the wrap around services so necessary on the journey to healing. This year COEFS provided critical services to 1,203 individuals, including children and youth. An additional 10,806 supports were provided via brief services and responses to all inquiries.

This year, we are happy to announce we were also able to provide a full-time position for a Community Education Facilitator!

We remind ourselves that we have the privilege to work and serve on the unceded territory of the Syilk (Okanagan) peoples. We educate ourselves and acknowledge the history, cultural genocide, sacrifices and strength of First Nations, Inuit, and Metis people. COEFS is committed to working together to provide the necessary supports that meet cultural and individual needs. We are always learning and being open to change and hearing the wants and needs of our indigenous peoples is our path in building trust and understanding so we can provide the best healing for those impacted by violence.

The Board of Directors and I would like to acknowledge the hard work and support of all who work for COEFS, our donors and community partners. It has been a privilege getting to know you, building partner relationships, and hearing your passion and vision for change. Through our partnerships, we recognize gaps in services and where we can do better with the common goal of a safe and thriving community for everyone!

Warm regards,



Chantal Banman
Executive Director

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

David Horvath
Board Chair

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'David Horvath'.



Our Mission

To support and empower survivors of intimate partner and sexual abuse, exploitation, or violence.

Community Impact



10,806

The number of brief services & general inquiries we provided (phone, walk ins & referrals)



1,203

The number of clients we provided critical services to.

Why We're Needed



1 in 3 women experience sexual violence in their lifetime.



Fewer than
10%

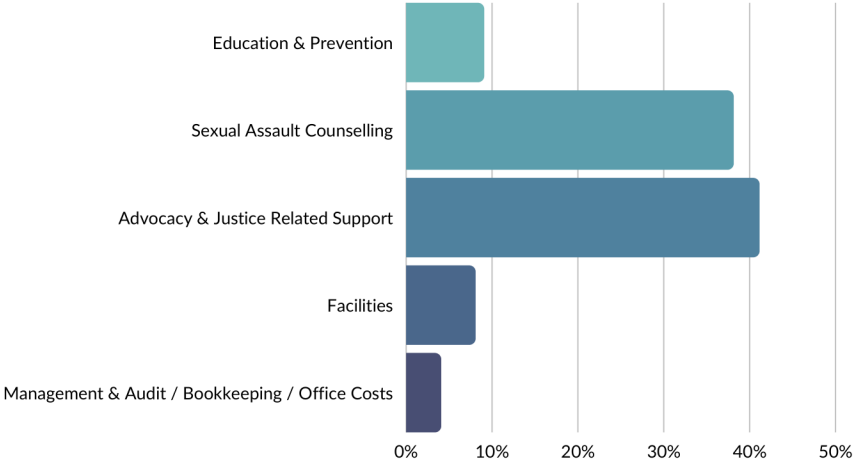
of sexual assaults in Canada are ever reported to police.

11,000,000+

More than 11 million Canadians have been physically or sexually assaulted since the age of 15.



Use of Funds



\$11,808
RAISED FOR COUNSELLING SERVICES
FOR SURVIVORS OF SEXUAL ASSAULT

VOICES AGAINST VIOLENCE
RAISE YOUR VOICE AGAINST GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE



survivors of violence
to achieve healthy lives

\$4,900.00
WOMEN'S MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES
NOV 28, 2021
Central Okanagan Elizabeth Fry Society
ELIZABETH FRY SOCIETY

Our Donors

Every dollar of support for our services equates to the gift of safety and a chance for a new outlook on life for survivors of abuse.

We could not continue to provide our critical services without the support of our generous donors who are changing thousands of lives in our Central Okanagan community.

- Aileen Maas
- Alysha Williams
- Alyssa Bree Turik
- Andrea Tomlinson
- Angel Kaushal
- Aniela Florczynski
- Anita Clegg
- Ann Day
- April Martin
- Aura Ann Rose
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- Tony Kim
- Tracey Davis
- Traci Kreitz
- Tracy Christman
- Tracy Gray
- Trish Dalcourt
- Trudy Lowe
- Trudy T. Heuthorst
- Val Dobbin
- Valerie Belcourt
- Valley First
- Velveeta Krisp
- Welcome to Kelowna Ventures
- Wendy Lee McIntyre
- Werkland Foundation
- Wolf Krieg
- Yvonne Hauk
- Zoe Plant

Our Board of Directors

Our Board of Directors are a dedicated group of individuals with diverse knowledge and skills as well as a passion to end gender-based violence. They reflect hard work and dedication in a variety of community sectors including human resources, post-secondary education, finances and legal matters. They provide the organization with invaluable collective experience in regards to anti-violence work.

- David Horvath, Board Chair
- Brittany Denny, Treasurer
- Nicole Cantley, Secretary
- Leneigh Bosdet, Director, HR Committee Chair
- Claire MacLeod, Director
- Elizabeth Cook, Director

Our Volunteers

During unprecedented times, our organizational capacity to utilize volunteers in the 2021-22 fiscal year continued to present challenges as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. As 2022 brought about our staff's ability to recently return to a full time office reopening, as opposed to our previous hybrid model of working from home, we look forward to connecting with & welcoming our incredible volunteers!

Thank you to all who have remained dedicated in supporting our services through volunteering. We cannot wait for the expansion of volunteer opportunity that the coming year will bring!



Thank you for helping us create a community of safety, dignity & equality!





www.efryokanagan.com



Central Okanagan
Elizabeth Fry Society



@ElizabethFryCo

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Donations can be made online at www.efryokanagan.com or by cheque to the COEFS office.
Charitable Registration Number: 13121 - 4371 RR0001