

YWCA METRO VANCOUVER



THE NEXT 125 IMPACT REPORT

Working Together for a Brighter Future

CEO MESSAGE



We are now past the halfway mark of The Next 125 campaign, and I am so moved by the response from you, our generous supporters. Thank you for your commitment. You are helping ensure that YWCA Metro Vancouver will serve our community's needs for a long time to come.

Together, we have raised a spectacular \$9.2M as of February 2020. Your gifts have supported one or more of three areas:

- Helping Women and Families Flourish
- Creating Safe, Inclusive Communities
- Building Brighter Futures, For Everyone

Some donors have instead chosen the campaign area of Personal Passion that they feel a strong connection with, others have made undirected contributions, entrusting us to choose the area that needs it most. Part of our success comes from a transformational \$4.25M gift and matching funding from an anonymous donor. We appreciate each and every gift.

I am honoured to work with a committed group of Ambassadors who have devoted time, funds and energy to this campaign: Diane Forsythe-Abbott, Lauren Gehlen, Ann Mortifee, Dr. Kim van der Woerd, Lis Welch and Cynnie Woodward. Thank you for believing in our work.

Enjoy this report, take a moment to reflect on the impact you have made and I look forward to seeing you when we can all gather again.

THE NEXT 125

We believe in the capacity and resilience of single mothers and their children. With collaboration, inclusion and reconciliation as our guides, together we can create a safe, healthy, vibrant future where all single mother-led families can thrive.

OUR AMBASSADORS

Top row (left to right): Deb Bryant (CEO), Lis Welch.

Bottom row (left to right): Diane Forsythe-Abbott, Ann Mortifee, Lauren Gehlen. Ambassadors not pictured: Dr. Kim van der Woerd and Cynnie Woodward.





Families in YWCA Crabtree Corner Community Resource Centre

CRABTREE HOUSING HOLISTIC IMPACT

With donors' support, YWCA housing communities provide safe, affordable homes for single mothers and their children. When the need for housing is met, a mother has more resources available for food, transportation, child care and other necessities, and can move towards goals for herself and her family.

YWCA Crabtree Corner Housing, located in the same building as Crabtree Corner Community Resource Centre, has a unique service delivery model. Staff are available nearly round the clock and meet women 'where they are at' without judgement. New and expectant mothers are offered support to work on recovery, build parenting skills, access resources

or regain custody of their children. Other holistic programs and services at Crabtree Corner include creating wellness plans, peer mentorship and a range of parenting and nutrition programs.

Rachel's story demonstrates the transformational impact Crabtree Housing can have.

Rachel* had been living in a Single Room Occupancy hotel after moving from another province, where her two older boys had been removed from her care. As a result, she was dealing with grief and loss. Rachel met a new partner at work and eventually became pregnant.

* Name changed to protect identity



YOUR IMPACT AT CRABTREE CORNER 2018-2019



42 women and
68 children
received housing



48,308
nourishing meals
served



207 children
received quality
early learning
and child care

She applied and moved into Crabtree Housing three months before she was due to give birth. Rachel welcomed a healthy baby girl and retained custody of her. She joined several Crabtree Corner programs in the building, including the Peer Mentorship program.

Rachel and Crabtree housing staff began to communicate with the social worker in her former home province who works with her two sons. Together, they created a plan to reunite the family. Rachel's sons have now been returned to her care.



Kitchen volunteer at YWCA Crabtree Corner Community Resource Centre

HELPING WOMEN AND FAMILIES FLOURISH

Your generosity provides single mother-led families with wrap-around programs and services that help them be better supported and more connected.

In the past year, here are some of the ways you have helped support and strengthen families:

272

single mothers and 349 children took part in 15 **YWCA Single Mothers' Support Groups**

72

families and 258 children received holistic support through the **Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD) Prevention program**



The **Elder in Residence** at Crabtree Corner provides group or one-to-one support for families. She lends Indigenous knowledge, practices and perspectives as we continue to embed a culture of reconciliation.

BUILDING BRIGHTER FUTURES, FOR EVERYONE

YWCA Metro Vancouver has grown in reach and impact for 123 years because of supporters like you. We have come a long way in our work towards achieving women's equality, and we know that important efforts are still ahead.

Investing in youth is vital. The Next 125 supports YWCA Youth Education programs for Grade 7 students, including Welcome to My Life and That's Just Me. These after-school programs reach more than 200 girls annually and focus on peer mentorship and community engagement. Students gain confidence, skills and knowledge to make safe and positive life choices as they transition into high school.

You also support important endowment funds – long-term investments held by the YWCA, that with our history of prudent financial management, will help meet needs we cannot foresee. Endowment funding is critical for sustaining our organization.

Together we are building a brighter future for everyone.

200

girls participate in YWCA Youth Education Programs annually





A mother and her child at a YWCA Housing community's amenity space

NEW HOME, NEW BEGINNING

Women who turn to the YWCA for safe, affordable or emergency housing have diverse lived experiences. Many have faced gender-based violence, poverty and racism. The YWCA housing continuum includes emergency stays at the YWCA Hotel on Beatty Street, as well as second-stage, transition and long-term housing for single mother-led families.

Sharon* left her emotionally abusive fiancé when she became pregnant. When the relationship ended, he took everything. She remembers the first nights on her own as some of the darkest of her life. Not only was she about to start a new chapter as a single parent, she also had to re-establish her home.

What she truly needed was support. At seven months pregnant, Sharon found the YWCA Single Mothers' Support Group. The group of fellow single

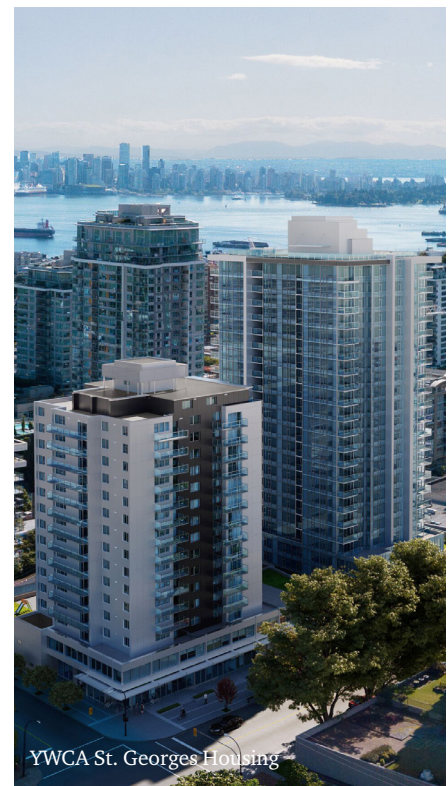
mothers enabled her to create connections and navigate the challenges of single parenthood.

Her ex also put her through a legal battle, denying paternity and refusing to pay child support. She made many court appearances to fight for what her daughter deserved. Searching for a home was more stressful knowing that she could not rely on her ex's support.

Sharon learned from YWCA staff about available housing and applied. "By the end of the interview, my daughter and I left with high hopes we would have our new home," she remembers. A short time later, Sharon and her daughter were informed a suite was available. Sharon's daughter now has her own bedroom, a reality that Sharon long hoped for.

Sharon points out that her story is just one among many. "There

are many women and families like myself who struggle to find affordable housing here. Thank you for helping me give my daughter the life and home she deserves."



YWCA St. Georges Housing

* Name changed to protect identity

CREATING SAFE INCLUSIVE COMMUNITIES

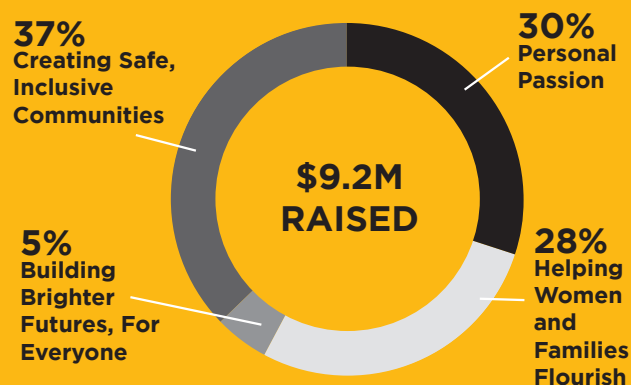
You help provide families with affordable homes, safety from violence and resilient support networks. Currently, 611 single mothers and children live in 12 YWCA housing communities, including the new YWCA Pacific Spirit Terrace in South Vancouver.

The affordable housing crisis continues to disproportionately affect women. We urgently need to develop new communities for families to call home. The Next 125 supporters have provided vital funding to our latest project under construction, YWCA St. George's Housing in North Vancouver, which will open in late 2020.

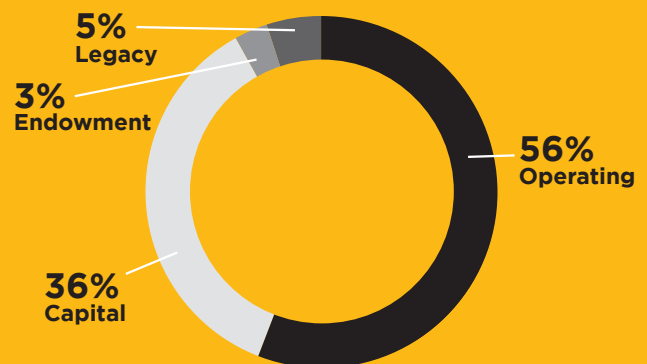
We continue to explore new development opportunities to ensure we meet the housing needs of women and their families.

YOUR IMPACT

TOTAL FUNDS RAISED



TYPES OF FUNDS



2020 AND BEYOND

Together, we are advocating for change and making progress toward achieving equality.

We respond to community needs by listening to front-line staff, program participants and community partners. Our board and staff collaborate with stakeholders to help determine where we should direct our resources and efforts.

The Next 125 Salons – intimate gatherings in supporters' homes – have brought together a bright and determined group. We have focused on women in politics, gender-based violence and philanthropy in action. Stay tuned for upcoming Salons. We hope you will join us and bring a friend.

Thank you for your deep commitment to transforming our communities. Please tell a friend about The Next 125 and share this report.



Heartfelt gratitude for your passion and generosity.

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 @YWCAVAN



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125**

YWCA Metro Vancouver is a registered charity providing a range of integrated services for women and their families, and those seeking to improve the quality of their lives. From early learning and child care to housing, health and fitness, employment services and leadership, YWCA Metro Vancouver touches lives in our communities.