



ROWAN HOUSE SOCIETY

Report to the Community
2023/24

www.rowanhouse.ca



LINETTE SOLDAN
Executive Director

MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

We are pleased to report that the implementation of Rowan House Society's Strategic Plan is on track. We are establishing a robust communications strategy to raise awareness on core services, build partnerships and drive short and long-term financial sustainability. All in service to our clients and communities.

In 2024, our Board of Directors will advance our refreshed Mission, Vision, Values, and support organizational effectiveness.

We thank all who donate, educate, and assist Rowan House Society.

Domestic violence and abuse are at epidemic levels not only in the communities we serve but throughout Alberta. Rates of police reported intimate partner violence and abuse experienced by rural women in Canada are 75% higher than those for urban women. Domestic violence and abuse has no boundaries, it can happen to anyone, any time, anywhere.

Our 2023-2024, fiscal year was also a time for reflection and a time to set course for our future by revitalizing our mission, vision, values and develop our five core strategic elements for 2024-2027.

Compassion is at the heart of everything that animates the staff and volunteers at Rowan House Society. Our aim is to build confidence, reduce feelings of vulnerability and to empower individuals by providing resources and options.

We would like to acknowledge at this time, that January of next year, Rowan House Society will be commemorating our 25-year history in serving the communities of Foothills County, Vulcan County and MD Willow Creek by honouring the past and strengthening our future.

By helping us in our endeavors to erase domestic violence and abuse, you are helping the communities we serve. With deep gratitude from Rowan House Society, "We are here to break the cycle of domestic violence and abuse in our communities". Together we can make a difference, one day at a time.

About Us



Mission:

We are here to break the cycle of domestic violence and abuse in our communities.

Vision:

We aspire to compassionately erase domestic violence and abuse.

Values:

I CHANGE

Integrity
Courage
Honour
Action-Oriented
Nurture
Growth
Excellence

Change begins with us – individually and collectively.

Rowan Tree

The Rowan tree is known for its resilience in the face of strong winds and has become a symbol of strength, protection and the ability to endure adversity.

The Rowan tree symbolizes what we, at Rowan House Society, stand for.

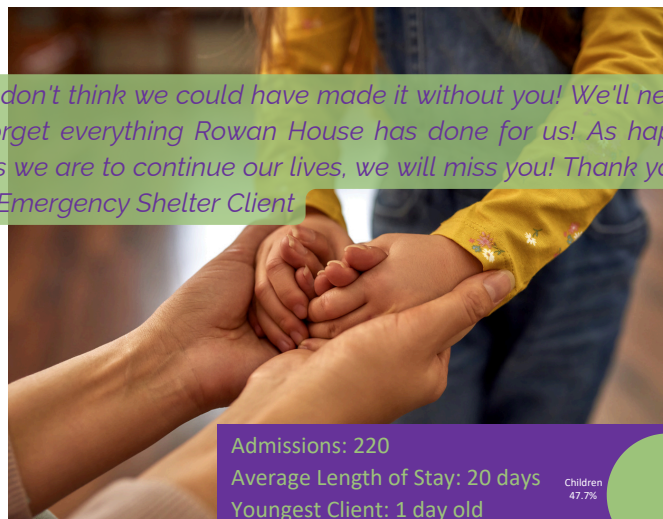
Program Highlights

Emergency Shelter Program

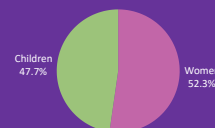
Rowan House Emergency Shelter is a short-term (30-day) emergency shelter for women, with or without children, experiencing domestic violence and abuse. The Emergency Shelter has 7 bedrooms with the capacity to support 24 individuals and provides the following:

- ✓ One-to-on support through a case management approach
- ✓ Group facilitation
- ✓ Emotional support
- ✓ Safety planning in alignment with the danger assessment
- ✓ Goal setting
- ✓ Support with essential needs
- ✓ Navigation of community resources and referrals
- ✓ Education and awareness

"I don't think we could have made it without you! We'll never forget everything Rowan House has done for us! As happy as we are to continue our lives, we will miss you! Thank you!"
- Emergency Shelter Client



Admissions: 220
Average Length of Stay: 20 days
Youngest Client: 1 day old
Oldest Client: 75 years old



24-Hour Support Line



Rowan House Society's 24-hour Support Line provides telephone and texting response to all individuals experiencing domestic violence and abuse seeking crisis support, information or navigation to the program or supports that best suit their needs, including:

- Trauma-informed crisis and emotional support
- Safety planning
- Community referrals and advocacy
- Support available in multiple languages with CanTalk
- Education and awareness

2,294
calls or
texts*

15,779
minutes*

*includes all call types to the Support Line

Children's Program



Rowan House Society often has children in their care who require a safe-haven, time to relax, and a chance to enjoy being a child. We offer specialized programming for children that focuses on building self-esteem and developing coping skills for managing anxiety. Caregivers are encouraged to be a part of their child's learning by utilizing the structure in the childcare area where staff can assist in modelling healthy relationships, positive interactions, and child-centered play to facilitate a healthy parent-child attachment.

161
children
served

2,398
hours

42
parenting
groups

Since the Children's Program my children "are more active, wanting to interact with children more. Thank you for all your help"
- Parent/Caregiver

Program Highlights

125 school presentations to 6,230 students

"I believe this is a valuable program for our students. They need to hear examples of how to treat others."

- Teacher



Preventative Education Program

The Preventative Education and Awareness program strives to break the cycle of abuse by providing:

- Healthy Relationships groups for women

"I feel more able to be discerning in relationships and able to trust myself more."

- Healthy Relationships Group Participant

264
hours of
instruction
received

- Education and awareness for youth in schools
- Presentations for the public

Outreach Program

The Outreach Program is designed to address and meet the needs of all individuals (regardless of race, cultural or spiritual background, gender identity or sexual orientation). The program is provided to those affected by domestic violence and abuse through one-to-one contact and support in a community setting for up to six months.

"It gave me the confidence to be able to trust myself again."

- Outreach Program Client

105 clients
served

115
children
indirectly
impacted

Court Support Program

Rowan House Society's Court Support Program offers information and support to assist the clients of our various programs in developing a better understanding of family law matters and protection orders, while ensuring individuals are provided with wraparound support. The Court Support Worker will discuss the risks and benefits of each type of order to ensure individuals are making the best choice for themselves and their families.

Having someone believe me and validate me is so valuable. She said, "I believe you, I support you, and you matter". The emotional support was the most helpful."

- Court Support Program Client

84
clients
served

assisted
63
court
orders

Safe at Home Program

Rowan House Society is pleased to reintroduce the Safe at Home Program in the new fiscal year. Safe at Home is designed to be an alternative approach to helping families experiencing domestic violence and abuse. The Safe at Home Outreach Worker provides support to the individual that is using domestic violence and abuse by providing one to one support, group sessions and an option to access a "cool down" approach.

Financial Highlights

2023/24 Operating Budget: \$2,583,043

In the 2023/24 fiscal year, Rowan House Society received government funding which covered approximately 50.4% of our operating costs. The remaining was made possible through grants, events and donations.



Signature Events:



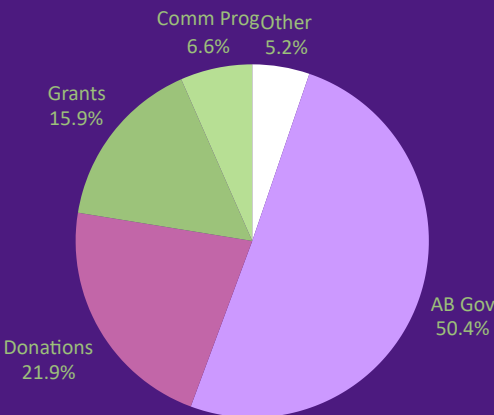
Rowan House Society's 2nd Annual Golf Tournament at Turner Valley Golf Club in 2023 raised \$28,787.



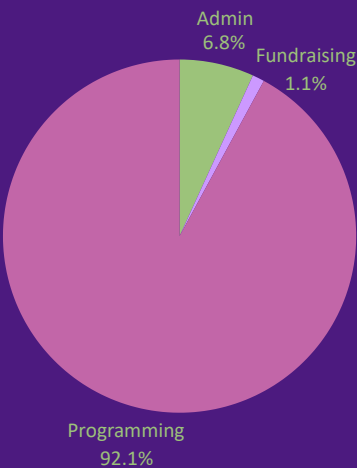
Rhythm's for Rowan House in November of 2023 raised \$8,530.



Revenue:



Expenses:





Volunteers & Community Partners

Volunteer Program

Volunteers play an important role in helping us achieve our mission, vision and values which enables us to enrich client delivery. Volunteers are driven by eagerness, passion, patience, are humble, as they support us on their own time. Volunteers bring a diversity of skills, are advocates, boost our visibility in the community, save us time, money, and resources in completing projects and promoting donations. Helping with smallest or biggest task makes a huge difference in the overall client care delivery. Indeed, volunteers are valuable members of the Rowan House Society team. We were excited that our longtime volunteer, Pat Lothrop, received a provincial Volunteer Award recognizing her years of loyal service.

3,138.5 hours contributed



Community Partners

Without a sense of caring, there can be no sense of community. Caring about others is the first step to building a strong community. A theme that has emerged the past year is the importance of “working together” as an organization, staff, stakeholders and as a community. Our staff and board have been learning, reflecting, and planning for Rowan House Society – building a stronger future so that the organization is positioned to provide the best services possible to respond to the needs of our clients and the community.

We engage the community members, donors, funders, and government partners who humbled us with their eager responses to support and learn more about Rowan House Society and our programs. Thank you to those partners and supporters who took the time to visit Rowan House Society, seeing firsthand the many ways we work with our clients and support their diverse needs. Additionally, we are thankful for our continued partnerships as well as some of the new partnerships we have formed this year. Our partnerships are key in providing seamless client service delivery in raising awareness of domestic violence and abuse.

Serving our Communities for Almost 25 Years!

What began as a small 2-bedroom basement suite near Black Diamond in the year 2000, has grown into full, wrap-around services dedicated to providing support to anyone affected by domestic violence and abuse. We will continue to be here, and are dedicated to evolving with the community as needs expand and change.



Contact Us

Phone :

24-Hour Support Line 403-652-3311
Administration 403-652-3316

Address :

Box 5121
High River, AB T1V1M3

Email :

gopurple@rowanhouse.ca

Website :

www.rowanhouse.ca

THANK YOU !

To everyone who has supported us throughout the past year, you make the work we do possible. A special thank you to all our volunteers, donors, community partners and supporters for your continued support in providing hope and healing to the families of Rowan House Society. Your compassion and support do not go unnoticed and does make a difference.

Supporting Communities Supporting Us