

CELEBRATING

40 YEARS

The Jean Tweed Centre



For Women & Their Families

# 2022 - 2023 Annual Report

Hope.  
Help.  
Healing.



# Adversity. Determination. Perseverance.

## This year marks a year of transition and celebration.

We are excited to celebrate our history as we look to the future - we've come a long way from where we started. Each day our primary goal is to provide a safe, kind and comfortable environment for all women and their families. This goal does not come without challenges.

Last year Jean Tweed Centre provided counselling and care to over 1,700 women- touching and impacting the lives of over 8,500 people, including their children and families. We continue to inspire and provide hope, help and healing for those who need it most. Jean Tweed conservatively estimates that over the past 40 years we have served over 30,000 women over the years, touching and impacting the lives of over 150,000 women and their families.

While COVID-19 may be in the rear view for many, the impacts of the past three years have had a profound impact for the women and children we serve. The pandemic has had a disproportionate effect on women and girls. Increasing costs of food, housing, and essential services are putting more and more women at risk - demand for service is increasing. Women's mental health continues to deteriorate due to lack of support, resources, financial insecurity and accessibility - we need to increase our capacity. Addictions among women are on the rise, and recovery resources are limited - they need our help. We know that these struggles will keep coming and we remain committed to stabilizing services and expanding our reach.

We are listening to the needs of our community, and with your support, we continue to be a vital pillar for women's health. We are determined to serve all who need our support and will tirelessly work with our community health partners to open the lines of communication between women and their needs.

It has been inspiring to experience the authentic courage of our staff, volunteers, and clients across all parts of the organization. We face adversity head-on with unwavering determination, and we continue to persevere. As of 2023, we now have seven sites open and have expanded an additional six programs to reduce the gaps and barriers women face! As we continue to adjust and respond to changing needs, we are driven by our collective impact to keep our focus on three core pillars: (i) we are here to serve; (ii) people matter and (iii) we are learning in all ways as each day, month and year passes!



Belinda Marchese, Executive Director



Lara Root, Chair of the Board of Directors

It is with your support that we are able to confront the daily challenges the women in our community face. It is thanks to each of you as staff and our health and community partners that the women we serve have opportunities to make new connections in their journey, build skills and have access to resources with the hope of improving their lives and the lives of the generations after them.

As we look at our expanding programs and resources, rising service numbers, and the positive impact we are having on the lives of women we advocate for, we are immensely grateful to our funders, donors, and volunteers.

We are thankful to our dedicated staff, and board members for their kindness, vitality, and dedication.

Whatever the coming year brings, we assure you that your ongoing commitment to the Jean Tweed Centre will sustain and build our movement of hope, help, and healing for women and families in need.

We look forward to your contributions and support in ensuring our mission stays strong and that we come together in the year ahead.

With Warmth,

*Belinda Marchese*

**Belinda Marchese**  
Executive Director

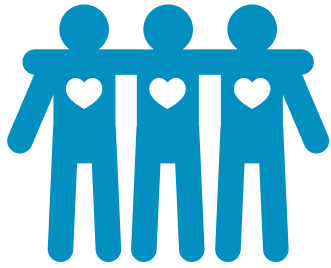
*Lara Root*

**Lara Root**  
Chair of the Board of Directors

# OUR YEAR BY THE NUMBERS

**183**

women were provided a unit in our 3 supportive and transitional housing programs at 3 locations - Addictions Supportive Housing (ASH), Elm Ave Housing Site & Palmerston House (PH)



**23**

women were supported through our Withdrawal Management Support Services Program (WMSS) at our Broadview location which included withdrawal management support, a 4-week intensive substance use program process and transitional beds for women who have completed the intensive program

**208**

women served through our programs supporting parenting

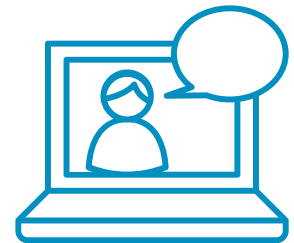


**39**

children of women in our programs and receiving support were also supported in our Child Development Centre

**190**

women were served in our Intensive Online COVID Treatment Programs which addressed substance use and gambling concerns



**700**

women were supported through our Intake Program which assesses the women's needs and matches them with the appropriate support and services

**253**

beds for women through our Withdrawal Management Support Services program (4 beds), Live-in-Treatment programs (34 beds); Transitional Support programs (14 beds), and Supportive Housing programs (201 units)



**Over 1,700 women and children served, impacting approximately 8,500 lives.**

# Your support means more inspiring stories like Abby's.

I was introduced to Jean Tweed through Tracy when she came into the Vanier Center for Women, helping me with the release from custody program. She then offered to put me on a waitlist for the Jean Tweed Centre. When I was released from jail Tracy came herself to pick me up and bring me to the Ellen house for women in Brampton. While I was there I started my intake process for Jean Tweed. I ended up leaving the Ellen house and thanks to Tracy I was given a second chance. I then left again and returned to my ex boyfriend who talked me into returning to a life of crime. He was extremely abusive and a very scary person. I was involved in a situation I feared I would never be able to escape from. On more than one occasion the abuse was so bad, he almost killed me. I had to do the Jean Tweed entry classes before doing the residential program and during one of those days I spent hours on the phone with the counsellors trying to find a shelter that would be safe for me, where he couldn't find me. There were no beds available and I had to return to him. Exactly one week later is when I called my dad to rescue me from Nova Scotia, my ex-boyfriend took me there to do more crime. I stayed with my sister until I could get into the residential program with Jean Tweed.

A few days before I was to enter the Centre I received a call that I had new charges being filed against me and that I had to turn myself in or there would be a warrant issued for my arrest. I contacted a lawyer and he got them to allow me to go to the residential program and I was to turn myself in after I completed the program. Covid hit During my time at Jean Tweed, and we were sent home early - I was unable to turn myself in. Jean Tweed started their online aftercare and trauma programs, I completed all of them. I felt extremely fortunate I made the right choice and went to treatment instead of running away. My life would be very different today, had I not stayed.

Jean Tweed is a part of my life now, I never thought I would be able to live a normal life having gone through the things I did. My life went from getting hooked to opiates after a car accident to selling my body, to being human trafficked, then to being molded into committing bank frauds and having a criminal record at the age of 41.

I was at my lowest point ever and I tried to take my own life, thankfully I am still here today. I was scared of my ex and the life that I ran from and I was full of shame and guilt for everything my addiction brought me to do. Becoming a slave to a substance is the hardest thing I've ever had to overcome. The years I lost I can never get back.

Now my life is full of hope as a result of all the hard work and dedication that I put into my recovery. I have a life that I never could have imagined for myself. I have my own apartment and I am in a healthy relationship with someone who treats me very well and loves me knowing everything that happened. He loves my honesty, which is another step forward - I was never honest with anyone in my past, not even myself. My son is in my life again, and that's been my greatest gift, it took me 7 years of patience and hard work to finally have full access to him. I missed his grade 8 graduation as I was serving my sentence but I made it to his high school graduation. I was able to be at my son's schools robotics competition live when they achieved the highest score in the world and I was also able to watch them win provincials. I believe had I not chosen to go to Jean Tweed my life would have been spent in the penitentiary.

*A Story of Resilience  
and Strength*

**SECOND  
CHANCES.**

# HOPE. HELP. HEALING.



When I did finally turn myself in, Jean Tweed provided me an amazing letter, which I believe saved my life. I was only sentenced to a year of house arrest with a conditional sentence and no probation afterwards.

I now give back to the community as a volunteer at Womankind in Hamilton chairing AA meetings. I also sit on the Board of the Autumn leaf Roundup Committee in Hamilton and have for the past 2 years now.

I feel extremely fortunate to have had this experience with Jean Tweed. Your staff and services have helped me become a proper member of society. I feel blessed to be able to continue to be a part of such an amazing group. I send women to Jean Tweed as much as I possibly can as you have changed my life and if I am able to help just one woman stay alive one more day than that to me is a gift.

Thank you for helping me love myself again. I know you get what you put into recovery. Without Tracy coming into Vanier that day and for allowing me back into the Ellen house after I messed up I wouldn't be alive and living such an amazing life today. I am so truly grateful for all of the counsellors and staff that keep things going for all the women out there. Most of all a big thank you to Tracy for being such a big part of my journey from the beginning.

Thank you for allowing me to share my story with you and most of all thank you for saving my life.

## CHANGING LIVES TOGETHER



### Women Served In Housing Support Service Programs

#### Withdrawal Management

**Support Services:** 4 Beds

**Live-in Treatment:** 34 Beds

**Transitional:** 14 Beds

**Supportive Housing:** 201 Units



## 6 New Programs Launched

- Our new Broadview Project which includes Withdrawal Management Support Services
- A second Live-in-Treatment site
- A second Transitional Housing Bed site
- Evaluation and Assessment
- Art Expression Programs
- In Your Corner - a service navigation initiative in partnership with Mid-Toronto Ontario Health Team



Broadview Project Site

## 16

valued and active partnerships with sector agencies including: CAMH, YWCA Toronto, Houselink Mainstay, Fred Victor, Elizabeth Fry Toronto, LOFT, William Osler, Robertson House, Rosalie Hall, Sistering, Barbra Schliker, Street Health, Women's College Hospital, Ralph Thornton, Michael Garron Hospital, Toronto Metropolitan University

## COMPASSION



## KINDNESS 77

women served in criminal justice programs - Release From Custody program (RFC) & Justice, Addictions and Mental Health program (JAM).

*"The staff at Cumberland House (CH) and at the center were amazing. I wouldn't be where I am today if it wasn't for the staff. Thank you all so much from the bottom of my heart, this program has changed my life and most of all has helped changed me inside for the better. I am now more confident and I have come out of my shell. The most valuable skills I have learned are how to sit with my emotions and feelings and identify them. I now don't suppress my feelings and I feel like a new person has been born. I didn't know how to feel before coming into this program."*

# Statement of Operations

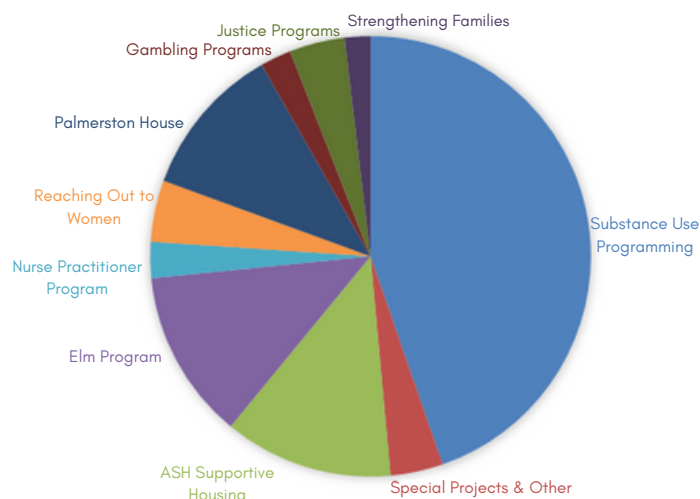
## Year Ended March 31, 2023

					2023	2022
	Ontario Health Toronto Funds	Non-TC LHIN	Fundraising	Capital Asset Fund	Total	Total
<b>Revenue:</b>						
Operating Grants	5,323,559	950,388	-	-	6,273,947	5,821,649
One-time Funding	1,225,841	-	-	-	1,225,841	126,090
Rental Income	29,593	-	-	-	29,593	33,578
Donations and Fundraising	-	-	122,595	-	122,595	175,821
Childcare Subsidies	31,764	-	-	-	31,764	29,056
Interest Income	-	-	48,426	-	48,426	6,258
Transfer to Capital Fund	-	-	-	-	-	-
	6,610,757	950,388	171,021	-	7,732,166	6,192,452
<b>Expenses:</b>						
Salaries	3,863,913	503,132	14,899	-	4,381,944	3,726,939
Employee Benefits	588,476	49,234	12,480	-	650,190	610,460
Office and General	1,368,535	331,823	11,764	-	1,712,122	1,154,183
Rent and Utilities	556,257	-	-	-	556,257	320,080
Special Projects	-	-	47,353	-	47,353	54,476
Fundraising Activities	-	-	30,412	-	30,412	27,355
Amortization	-	-	-	70,297	70,297	74,500
	6,377,181	884,189	116,908	70,297	7,448,575	5,967,993
Funds due to Ontario Health Toronto	452,146	78,183	-	-	530,329	242,053
<b>Excess (deficiency) of revenue over expenses</b>	<b>(218,570)</b>	<b>(11,984)</b>	<b>54,113</b>	<b>(70,297)</b>	<b>(246,738)</b>	<b>(17,594)</b>

Ontario Health Toronto	\$	%
Operating Fund	1,879,483	28%
Broadview	1,511,255	23%
Pathways to Healthy Families	838,913	13%
ASH Supportive Housing	602,537	9%
YWCA Supportive Housing	605,504	9%
Reaching Out to Women ROW	219,424	3%
Ontario Telemedicine Network	133,759	2%
Palmerston House	578,642	9%
Problem Gambling	110,555	2%
Release from Custody	101,856	2%
Sessional Fees	28,829	0%
<b>Total Funding</b>	<b>6,610,757</b>	<b>100%</b>

Other Funds	\$	%
Central West Pathways	197,500	21%
City of Toronto-Investing Neighborhoods	38,635	4%
Criminal Justice Initiative	95,472	10%
Strengthening Families	91,463	10%
Special Projects	334,530	35%
Bathurst Housing for Woman and Children	140,063	15%
Intensive Online	52,725	6%
<b>Total Funding</b>	<b>950,388</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

### Funding Allocation



**HOPE.  
HELP.  
HEALING.**

**40**  
YEARS

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