

YWCA
NWT

A TURNING POINT
FOR WOMEN



2019 Annual Report

For the year ending
March 31, 2019

LOOKING TO THE FUTURE

OPENING MESSAGE

Last autumn's fire that destroyed our 33-unit family transitional housing facility displaced more than 80 people. Families lost everything. As an organization, we also lost our main office space which included programming rooms for housing clients and youth programs. While this was a devastating blow to our clients and staff, it was incredible to watch the outpouring of support from our community who came together to ensure families were safe and supported.

As an organization, we are still feeling the effects of the fire's aftermath. Due to our responsible financial management, we were fortunate to have had a healthy financial reserve fund - a key piece that helped us manage some financial challenges. While we received incredible community support and donations for fire victims, the expenses needed to cover immediate and ongoing needs - furniture, food, clothing and other essentials, staff, rental support for the most high-need families - has been incredibly high. Fortunately, our modest surplus has allowed us to continue supporting families throughout their recovery period, and beyond.

YWCA NWT relies on funding from government, corporations and generous individuals to enhance the lives of women and their families.

We also use rental revenue from our Transitional Housing program to run our operations, pay staff, utilities and maintain buildings, and operate programming and outreach. We disclose the way we use that funding so our donors and partners can easily access comprehensive information about our activities and impact on behalf of the women and families we serve. If you have any questions about information in this report, don't hesitate to contact us.

In many ways, the upcoming year is a new beginning for us. Through key Board leadership decisions, we are working to respond and adapt to the needs of women and families across the territory. We want to give our sincere appreciation to YWCA NWT's dedicated staff, Board of Directors, volunteers, and many community supporters and friends for their invaluable contributions. We couldn't do it without you.



***Cherish Winsor, President
Lyda Fuller, Executive Director***

ABOUT YWCA NWT

For more than 50 years, YWCA NWT has worked with women and families to help them move from crisis to stability in a supportive, caring environment.

VISION

Equality for all women and girls.

MISSION

To create a safe Northern society for women and families to reach their full potential.

SERVICES

Shelter from family violence for women and children, affordable transitional and emergency housing for women and families at risk of homelessness, after-school child care, YWCA family centre, youth leadership and empowerment programs, advocacy and research on gender-based violence, cooking, computer and financial management classes, employment assistance, referrals, a non-judgmental ear.

Senior Staff



From left-right: April Davies, Manager, Sutherland House Fort Smith; Lyda Fuller, Executive Director; Debby Rybchinski, Manager Alison McAteer House Yellowknife; Kate Wilson, Director of Housing; Alayna Ward, Director Community Relations; Hawa Dumbuya-Sesay, Director of Children & Youth Services. Not pictured: Charlotte Henschel, Director of Finance

From left-right: Shelby Brothers; Miriam Pallard (2nd Vice-president); Sarah Arngna'naaq (1st Vice-president); Rassi Nashalik; Cherish Winsor, (President); Brianne Timpson; Katrina Nokleby. Not pictured: Keelen Simpson

Board of Directors 2018/19



YWCA NWT AT A GLANCE: 2018-19



Answered **1724 calls** on the 24/7 crisis and support line



Provided **affordable after-school care** for **339 children**

"Whenever I need something, I come to the YWCA first. They help me navigate the system and access services I need like social services and Income Support. If it wasn't for them, I would be living on the street." YWCA client



Offered **safe, supportive sanctuary to 224 women** fleeing violence and their **137 children** at Alison McAteer and Sutherland House Family Violence shelters



At the YWCA NWT Family Centre, **provided services to 183 children** and **support to their caregivers**

"My daughter has been in GirlSpace for two years and what a difference it has made in her life! She is more caring and passionate towards others, loves to volunteer, has a higher self-esteem and is no longer shy to make new friends. GirlSpace makes a difference in girls' lives!"
Parent, GirlSpace participant

Worked with **23 clients to secure full-time employment, 6 people find part-time or casual work, 3 people find seasonal work**, and supported **15 clients to maintain their employment** through job readiness and employment support programs.

"When Rockhill burned down, the YWCA was so quick to help us through that. I was blown away how well put-together they were and how they got people re-housed. I can't begin to imagine the situation myself and my children would be in if the YWCA hadn't helped us." YWCA client.



Created a safe space for **116 youth to develop leadership skills and build self-esteem** through Dudes Club and GirlSpace



Provided **2004 staff-client support sessions** at Alison McAteer shelter family violence shelter

"In my family, YWCA made a significant amount of change in my life and the lives of my children. Fear and anger are no longer parts of our lives. YWCA has helped me to show my children that abuse will never be acceptable again."
YWCA client

Helped keep **77 women safe** by assisting with Emergency Protection Orders

"The YWCA staff are honest and I knew they were on my side."
YWCA client



Worked to ensure **all 31 families** displaced by the Rockhill fire **had a place to sleep the same night.**

Provided homes and hope to a total of **144 families with 227 children** in supported transitional and emergency housing



"I was homeless and an alcoholic before I moved into the YWCA. When I was at Rockhill, the staff supported my recovery but didn't constrict my movements. It gave me a stable foundation for my sobriety." YWCA client

"After realizing how bad my situation was, and that it wasn't a healthy environment for my baby, I moved into Rockhill. I used to cry all the time but I talked to the staff every day and I had no idea people were that kind and caring. I've left Rockhill and moved into my own place but I still contact the staff when I need support."
YWCA client



WHEN DISASTER STRIKES...

In the early morning hours of October 2, 2018, a fire consumed YWCA NWT's 33-unit family transitional housing apartment building, known to clients as Rockhill. Not only was the building completely destroyed, the YWCA's administration offices and program rooms - also onsite - were ruined.



Clockwise from top: Front-page newspaper breaks the bad news of the Rockhill fire, news headlines about YWCA NWT funding struggles post-fire, Rockhill apartments and YWCA administration offices before being destroyed by fire.



You can donate any amount to the displaced families of the fire at this till.

ALL PROCEEDS WILL BE GIVEN TO THE YWCA of NWT

Clockwise from left: United Way NWT donates funds, clothing donations organized by Society Saint Vincent de Paul and John Westergreen, fundraising dinner organized by NWT Literacy Council with funds donated to YWCA, signs placed at tills across the city accepting donations.

OUR COMMUNITY RESPONDS!

The community response was incredible. Donations flooded in and the community helped to ensure families were taken care of with contributions of bedding, bathroom and kitchen essentials, furniture, clothing, food and online donations. Thank you to everyone who helped YWCA NWT continue to provide support in this time of crisis and greatest need. We couldn't have done it without you!



A big shout out to DC Moving & Office Relocations Ltd and DJ's Towing/Hot Shot/Recovery Services for all your help with moving donated furniture and office supplies. Your generosity is so appreciated 🙏

Also, thank you to the government warehouse for donating furniture. One less thing for us to deal with. You are helping both residents of the fire and YWCA staff get back to doing what we do best - helping folks in our community ❤️

-Ashley and the YWCA staff

MEDIA RELEASE

NWT DIAMOND MINES DONATE C\$45,000 TO SUPPORT ROCKHILL APARTMENT FIRE VICTIMS

YELLOWKNIFE, NT (October 3, 2018) - In the wake of the devastating fire at the Rockhill apartment building and the displacement of 33 families, De Beers Canada, Rio Tinto and Dominion Diamond Mines ULC have each pledged C\$15,000 (total C\$45,000) for the Rockhill fire fund.

Kim Truter, Chief Executive Officer of De Beers Canada: "Many of the families affected by the fire were there for support during times of transition and personal hardship. Rockhill apartments were there for support during times of transition and personal hardship. The devastation caused by the fire, we knew we had to act because it's essential to provide support at times like these."



Cabin Radio NWT
3 October 2018 · 🌐

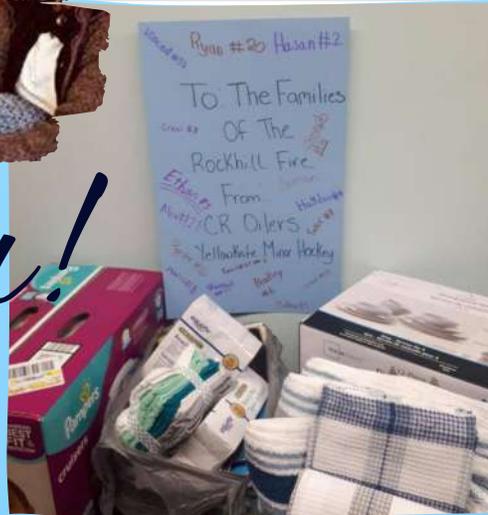
Here's what you can do. Got updates for this page? Me



Rockhill fire: All the ways you can help the families

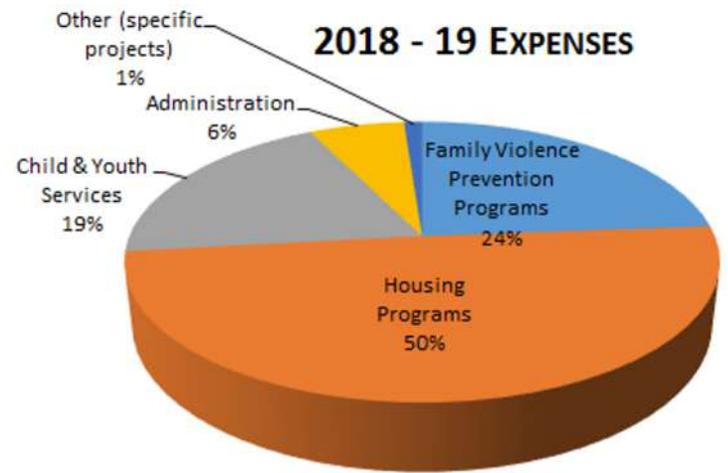
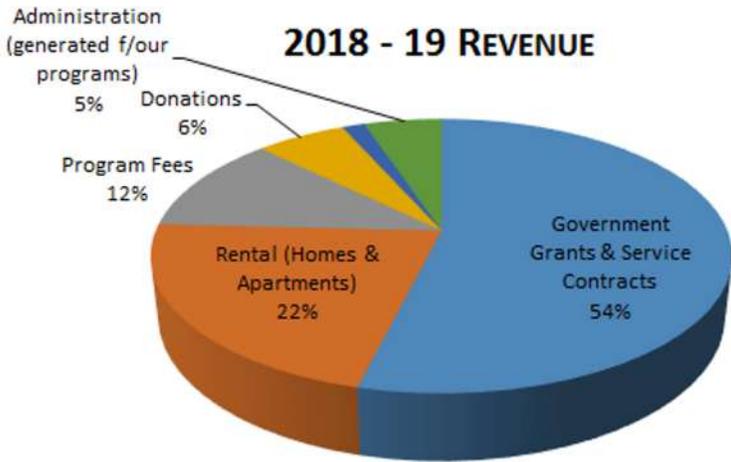
On this page, we have collected all the different ways you

Thank you!



Clockwise from top left: St. Pat's SADD students present Executive Director Lyda Fuller with funds raised; household essentials from Islamic Centre of Yellowknife; Thank you to DC Moving and DJ's Towing for coordinating furniture donations and drop offs in the days following the fire; Cabin Radio kept the public informed about how they could help; Donations of bathroom essentials from Yellowknife Minor Hockey; YWCA NWT staff lost their offices but still smiling after helping all affected families find a place to sleep the same night of the fire; North Creative donates needed supplies to GirlSpace after they lost everything; NWT Diamond mines make large collective donation to Rockhill fire fund.

FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS



| Revenue | | |
|---|---------------------|-------------|
| Government Grants & Service Contracts | \$ 3,469,244 | 54% |
| Rental (Homes & Apartments) | \$ 1,409,563 | 22% |
| Program Fees | \$ 744,367 | 12% |
| Donations | \$ 385,972 | 6% |
| Other | \$ 96,451 | 1% |
| Administration (generated f/our programs) | \$ 333,235 | 5% |
| Total | \$ 6,438,832 | 100% |

| Expenses | | |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------|-------------|
| Family Violence Prevention Programs | \$ 1,501,161 | 24% |
| Housing Programs | \$ 3,108,939 | 49% |
| Child & Youth Services | \$ 1,219,789 | 19% |
| Administration | \$ 389,920 | 6% |
| Other (specific projects) | \$ 79,632 | 1% |
| Total | \$ 6,299,441 | 100% |

DONORS & FUNDERS 2018-19

YWCA NWT relies on contributions from government, organizations, and generous individuals and businesses to provide support to women and families. THANK YOU to our generous donors and supporters. Our apologies to anyone we may have accidentally missed. Please note, some donors may wish to remain anonymous.

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|---|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Government of the Northwest Territories | Dominion Diamond Ekati Corporation | Diavik Diamond Mines Inc | De Beers Canada | Women & Gender Equality Canada | NWT Housing Corporation |
| Gressenhall Enterprises Ltd | City of Yellowknife | Yasemin Heyck | DC Moving | NWT Power Corporation | Canadian Women's Foundation |
| YK Direct Charge Co-op | Field Law LLP | NWT Racially Visible Committee | Yellowknife Ministerial Association | Kristin Novak | Lyda Fuller |
| Dawn McInnis | Shoppers Drug Mart Life Foundation | ACI Central Incorporated | North Slave Housing Corporation | YWCA Halifax | Brad Heath & Leslie Wakelyn |
| Rebecca Alty | Karen Lajoie | Polar Bear Storage Inc. | Northview Apartment REIT | NWT Status of Women Council | Yellowknife United Church |
| Shelagh Montgomery | Suzette Montreuil | Milagros Antioquia | Birchwood Coffee Ko | Local 33 YHSSA | 7214936 Canada Inc. |
| PSAC Social Justice Fund | United Way NWT | Karen Willy | St. Patrick High School Administration | Kevin Hodgins | Denise Yuhus |
| Allan R. Yeoman | Yellowknife United Church | Blessed Kateri | Roslyn Smith | Donna-Jean Friesen | Danielle Mager |
| Shireen Mansouri | Banff Forum | Diocese of Mackenzie | PSAC North Council | Great Canadian Dollar Store | NWT Legislative Assembly |
| Wheaton Family Foundation | NWT Literacy Council | GNWT Infrastructure Social Committee | Marnie Bran | Copper House Eatery & Lounge Inc. | Jeanne Yurris |
| Julie Green | Stephen & Amanda Dunbar | NWT Disabilities Council | Maureen Tonge | Sahtu Region Health & Social Services | Local X0016 Union of Northern Workers |
| YWCA Metro Vancouver | Union of Northern Workers | Yellowknife Alliance Church | Town of Fort Smith | Bromley & Son Ltd | White Bear Geomatics |
| Maxine Avery | Inuvik Fire Fighters Association | Jess Fortner | Staples Yellowknife | Ecole J.H. Sissons bake sale | Aurora College Student Association |
| YWCA Hamilton | YWCA St-Thomas Elgin | Royal Canadian Legion #164 | Beverley Ross | Sheila Bassi-Kellett | YWCA Toronto |
| Alayna Ward | Clark Builders Community Foundation | Marianne Wasylcyia | Meghan Housley | Adrien Amirault | Alexander Legaree |
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| | | | | | |
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| Wendy Bisaro | Ronne Heming | Bryanna Steele | Pamela Slater | Alan Ehrlich | Andrew Mitchell |
| Michael Scott | Mona Durkee | Adrian Bell | Fiona Alston | Jennifer Harris | Phillip & Alison Lewis |



canadahelps.org/en/charities/ywcanwt



1 (866) 223-7775 (toll-free crisis line)



1 (867) 920-2777 (office phone)



info@ywcanwt.ca



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