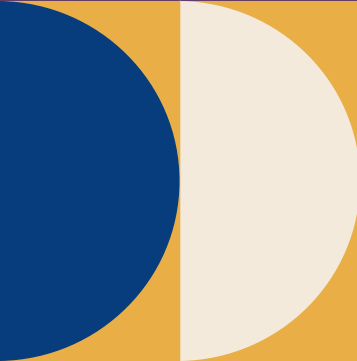
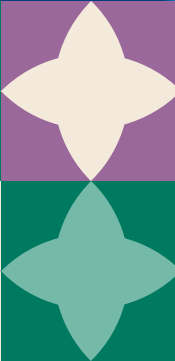
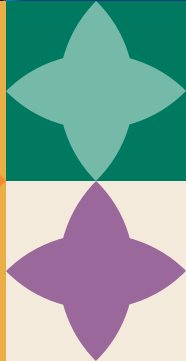
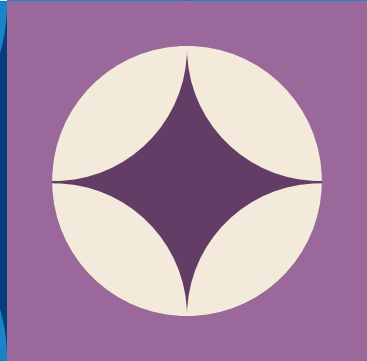
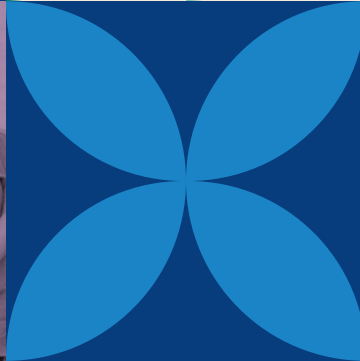
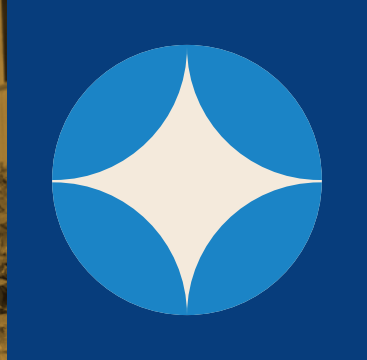
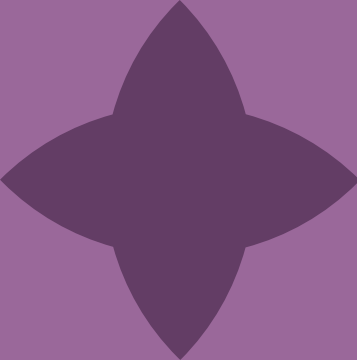


*Stella's  
Circle*

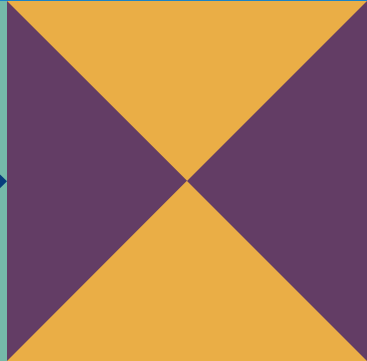
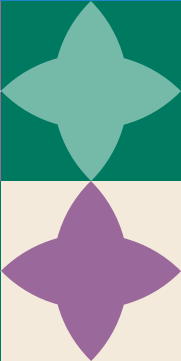
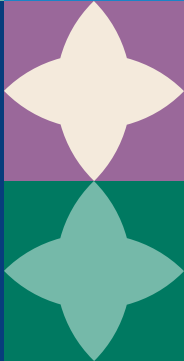


**TAPESTRY OF HOPE**  
Stella's Circle Annual Report 2022-2023



We respectfully acknowledge the land on which we gather as the ancestral homelands of the Beothuk, whose culture has now been erased forever. We also acknowledge the island of Ktaqmkuk (Newfoundland) as the unceded, traditional territory of the Beothuk and the Mi'kmaq. And we acknowledge Labrador as the traditional and ancestral homelands of the Innu of Nitassinan, the Inuit of Nunatsiavut, and the Inuit of NunatuKavut. We recognize all First Peoples who were here before us, those who live with us now, and the seven generations to come. As First Peoples have done since time immemorial, we strive to be responsible stewards of the land and to respect the cultures, ceremonies, and traditions of all who call it home. As we open our hearts and minds to the past, we commit ourselves to working in a spirit of truth and reconciliation to make a better future for all.

*With thanks to First Light for the Land Acknowledgement. As a social justice organization, we recognize the harmful history of colonialization in this province and are actively working to understand how we can do better at decolonizing our practices at Stella's Circle.*





# Message from the Chairs

We are proud to be serving as the Chair of the Stella's Circle Board of Directors and the Chair of the Stella's Circle Foundation. We are surrounded by our dedicated board volunteers who are committed to supporting the impactful work of the organization.

Stella's Circle provides a full continuum, or *circle*, of support needed to help people in our community make real, transformational change in their lives. The wrap-around supports of housing, counselling, and employment that are skillfully and thoughtfully offered are helping more people each year and exceeding our annual goals. This is critical because, unfortunately, the need continues to grow.

Throughout this report, you will read highlights about Stella's Circle staff and volunteers not only working within our core pillars, but together as one *full circle*. We are proud to play a role in governance and fundraising for the organization. Marginalized people need an individualized approach on their journey of recovery and Stella's Circle is uniquely positioned to do just that. We are pleased to support this work and we are proud of all the staff, volunteers, donors, and supporters who come together to *help transform lives*.



**Dr. Jasbir Gill**  
Chair  
Board of Directors



**Andy Fisher**  
Chair  
Foundation



# Message from the CEO

When I reflect on this past year, and passing the milestone of one year in the CEO role, I am filled with gratitude for the warm welcome I've received from my coworkers across the organization, both boards, donors, and most of all, community members. After over 15 years in the community sector, I'm still struck by the bravery of individuals in seeking support and the skills required to navigate systems and get needs met. I see that the magic of Stella's Circle is in our collective response to the diverse needs of community members.

Stella's Circle is a powerful example of the whole being greater than the sum of its parts, like a tapestry. I'm grateful for the wisdom provided by our dedicated staff and volunteers. I am continually amazed by the deep knowledge and passion each person brings to their role. We also have extraordinary support from our donors, government funders, and community partners who value and believe in our work. It's their generosity that allows us to find new and innovative ways to support each individual. Together, we all celebrate the courage of the community members who choose us to help transform their lives. We honour and learn from their expertise every day. Each person connected to Stella's Circle helps weave together an incredible result of *real change and hope*.



**Laura Winters**  
CEO  
Stella's Circle

# Tapestry of Hope

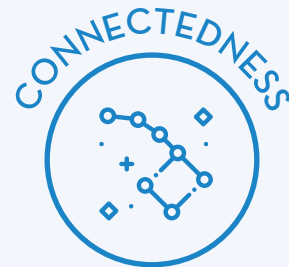
Stella's Circle Annual Report 2022-2023

This Annual Report contains both stories and indicators that demonstrate the impact our programs and services have on individuals in the community who need support and guidance to move forward with their lives.



## Our Values

Everything that we do at Stella's Circle connects to our core values. Living these values helps to hold us accountable for our actions and guides the direction of our work.




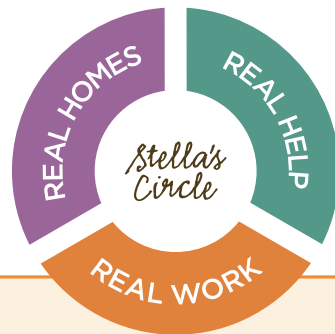
# About Us

Stella's Circle is an award-winning, nationally celebrated community organization with 130 dedicated staff and 50 volunteers who provide housing, counselling, and employment services to 1,000 community members each year.

Stella's Circle provides services to adults who face many barriers to fully participating in their community. These barriers include mental illness, addictions, trauma, poverty, homelessness, low literacy, criminal justice involvement, and long periods of unemployment.



**Our Vision:**  
A home, a job, a community.



**Our Mission:**  
Transforming lives through Real Homes, Real Help, and Real Work.

As a charitable organization, we are governed by a volunteer Board of Directors and supported by the Stella's Circle Foundation Board which raises funds for our participant-focused programs and services.

We believe in an individual's ability to change their life. We offer them a hand up, not a hand out, to help them lead independent and inclusive lives.





## Employers of Diversity

Stella's Circle was honoured to be selected as a recipient of the Atlantic Business Magazine's Employers of Diversity Awards in 2022, with a focus on our hiring of individuals marginalized by mental health, criminal justice involvement and barriers to education, among other forms of oppression. **For us, inclusion means recognizing the inherent and immense value each individual offers to their community.** When our staff teams reflect the community we serve, all areas of our organization and our offerings are strengthened. We continue to learn in this space as we grow our organizational approach to diversity and inclusion.

## Executive Staff

Laura Winters CEO

Denise Hillier Director of Clinical Services

Rob McLennan Director of Employment Services

Karen Noel Director of Property and Development

Gail Thornhill Director of Housing Services

Melanie Walker Director of Corporate Services



## Board of Directors

Jasbir Gill Chair  
Connie Duffett Vice Chair  
Jacqueline Kudla Treasurer  
Jim Carroll Secretary  
Leslie Brown  
Andrea Chirinos  
Suzanne Fitzgerald  
Ian Froude  
Kevin Galway  
Michelle Hawco  
Mica McCurdy  
Jennifer Parsons  
Kelly Ann Parsons  
Stephen Penney  
Stephen Thorne  
\*Nena Abundo  
\*Stephen Jewczyk  
\*Joe McKenna  
\*Donna Stone  
Faith March-MacCuish Ex-officio

### Member Emeriti

Stephen Jewczyk

### Committee Membership

Miriam Bowlby Governance  
Ian Duffett Housing  
and Capital Projects  
Fred Earle Finance and Audit  
Angela Picco Marketing  
Janelle Robertson Governance  
Rebecca Roome HR Advisory



*Members of our Governance and Foundation Boards volunteer to serve a holiday meal after our Alternative Service.*

**\*Served on the Board at some point during 2022/23**



## Foundation Board

Andy Fisher Chair  
Vanessa Newhook Vice Chair  
Bob Carter Past Chair  
Jacqueline Kudla Treasurer  
Keith Bailey  
Maria Clift  
Robert Decker  
Susan Foran  
Paul Griffin  
Ted O'Keefe  
Kristen Penney  
\*Mark MacLeod





# Real Homes

It starts with a safe place to live: Without a home, staying well and finding work is a real challenge. **Safe, affordable, and stable housing is essential to well being.**

Stella's Circle helps address the need for safe, affordable housing for people who face barriers. Our Housing Services team works to help people achieve greater self-determination by improving the conditions which promote housing stability. We also support community capacity building and research that assists in the identification and development of supportive living services necessary to prevent and address homelessness. Stella's Circle is the largest provider of affordable housing in Newfoundland and Labrador's community sector, with 85 housing units throughout St. John's.





## Brian Martin Housing Resource Centre (BMHRC)

is located in the hub of downtown and offers system navigation, advocacy, rapid rehousing, and other support services to help people find stable housing through both Stella’s Circle housing and the private market. Housing Support Workers, Case Managers, and Tenant Relations Specialists navigate challenging situations daily to ensure the housing stability and safety of our clients, prevent evictions, manage rental supports, cultivate new and existing relationships with landlords, and work with our community partners, such as NL Health Services and Newfoundland and Labrador Housing Corporation.

The BMHRC team supported Derek who had been homeless for several months and living in a shelter. He moved into one of our Stella’s Circle units and immediately got to work on a plan to have his two daughters visit his new home – this is something he wasn’t able to do when he was homeless.



Having your own place to call home brings along a sense of dignity and respect.



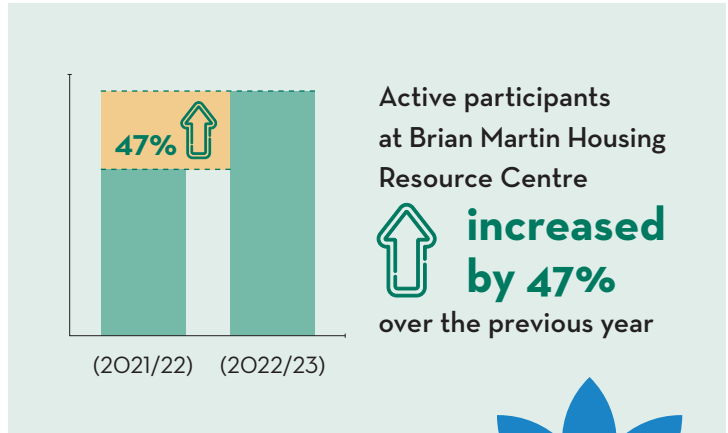
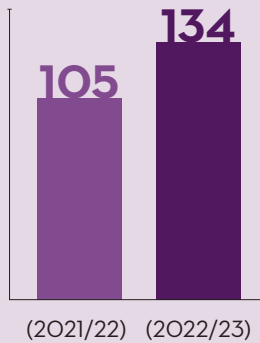
Hard to describe how safe and at home I feel here [in Stella’s Circle housing]. It’s really given me hope.



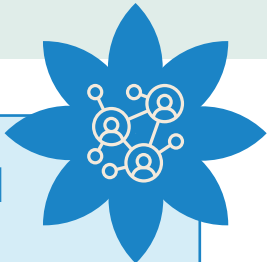
“Thank you to everyone at Stella’s Circle for the unconditional help and kindness, not only towards me but to many throughout the city.”



Participants placed and supported in affordable housing:




**3 Housing-Focused Case Managers**  
working within the local shelter system



Lead Pastor Peter Hayes and Assistant Pastor Jennifer White deliver a generous donation of 125 care packages for participants of Stella’s Circle Housing Services on behalf of Solid Rock Wesleyan Church. These care packages included toiletries and sweets that provide welcomed holiday warmth and thoughtfulness.



**Housing stability is negatively impacted by the increasing cost of living.**





## Naomi Centre

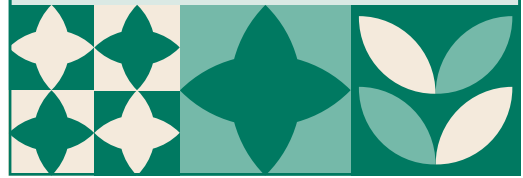
is Newfoundland and Labrador's only emergency shelter for women ages 16–29 and offers safe and supportive temporary housing within a harm reduction model. Residential Counsellors, Relief Counsellors, and a Social Worker provide supportive counselling services to both current and former residents of Naomi Centre.

Naomi Centre staff have been working with a woman experiencing chronic homelessness since 2011. Over her 11 admissions to the shelter, Marissa bravely began to engage with the support and counselling our staff offered. Now she is living in transitional housing and is no longer in the shelter system.



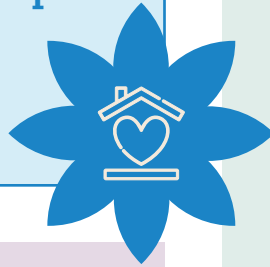
**Exiting the shelter to permanent housing is the ultimate goal when aiming to end homelessness.**

I am able to be a parent to my son because of the help I got from Naomi Centre staff.

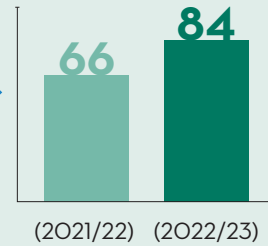


**“Thanks for never giving up on me no matter how difficult it got.”**

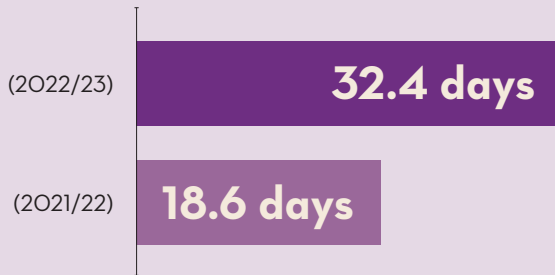
The sharp increases this year highlight the hardship of the housing shortage in the metro area.



Number of unique individuals to access the shelter:



Average length of stay at Naomi Centre:



**2,644** contacts with former residents



which can range from a simple takeaway meal at the door



to individual counselling



Naomi Centre was grateful to have been chosen by O'Regan Agencies Ltd and Redken Cares as the 2022 recipient of their annual hair care donation. Brenda O'Regan and Kevin O'Regan delivered 700 bottles of shampoo, conditioner, and hairspray right to our door, which are well used and enjoyed by the young women who stay and visit the shelter.



## Full Circle Wisdom



It's a Stellabration: the first tenants moved into our new supportive housing project in the heart of downtown at the start of 2023. The six apartments are the first micro housing units in the City of St. John's and offer community members a new beginning with the help of case managers from our Real Homes and Real Help programs. **This innovative project is the result of the collective wisdom from programs across our three pillars – Real Homes, Real Help and Real Work –** and the incredible work of staff from Property and Development, Brian Martin Housing Resource Centre, Just Us Women's Centre, and the Community Support Program within those pillars. We are grateful to federal and municipal funders, the Newfoundland and Labrador Housing Corporation, as well as private donors for helping make these homes a reality.



**Things changed a lot for me over the years and I lived in a lot of places. It's nice to have my own place and I love it. I can finally call somewhere "home."**



# Real Help



Stella's Circle offers a range of residential, community, and correctional-based counselling services to support people through life's challenges. We believe in person-centered services, delivered with a holistic and trauma-informed approach. Our services help people to achieve higher levels of personal independence and self-reliance. **We help participants discover the skills to navigate personal challenges and change their lives for the better.**

## Community Support Program (CSP)

provides intensive assistance to 50 participants at a time who have complex mental health needs. The goal of the program is to help participants improve their quality of life by helping them remain stably housed, avoid unnecessary hospital admissions or incarcerations, and increase their independence and community re-integration. Case Managers, Community Mental Health Workers, Resource Workers, and an LPN deliver supports tailored to each participant, including medication adherence, system navigation, daily living skills, as well as activities that promote physical and mental health.



**Stella's Circle is my lifeline to success.**”

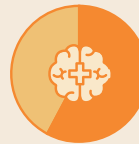
**“CSP has helped me so many ways, I don’t what to say. They taught me to live independently without having to be in the hospital. I love my home. I love having shifts with staff, they are funny, and we have fun together.”**

CSP works with Correctional Services Canada as one of our government partners for the case management of adults with criminal justice involvement. After a two year process, a lengthy hospital stay, and significant advocacy from Jamie’s CSP Case Manager and CSC Clinical Lead, this participant has been considered clinically eligible for placement. This means Jamie is approved to be presented to Level 1 personal care homes and soon leave hospital.



**Our connectedness to partners enhances how we can help individuals live more inclusive lives in our community.**

**Working from a housing-first approach, participants need affordable, stable housing in order to work on all other areas in their lives. The provision of intensive supports, such as medication deliveries, then helps improve their housing stability.**



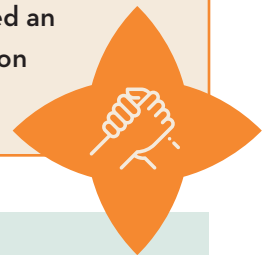
**58% of participants have 3 or more mental health diagnoses**



**91% of participants remained stably housed in their same housing unit**



**19% of participants experienced an incarceration**



**48 people on the program waitlist**

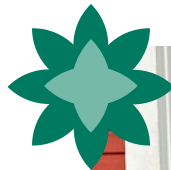


Community Mental Health Worker Susan Whalen delivered a Community Kitchen program to CSP participants using air fryers to teach hands-on healthy meal preparation and cooking skills. Thanks to funding from the Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts and Recreation, this new life skills program is an enjoyable, impactful way to improve health outcomes and decrease social isolation.

**“I learned how to properly handle and prepare food, I also learned that cooking can be fun instead of stressful. I also learned how beneficial meal planning can be.”**

## Emmanuel House

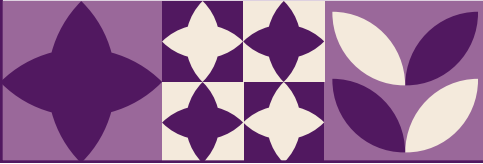
is a residential counselling program offering a supportive environment to adults experiencing challenges with mental health, addictions, trauma, and criminal justice histories. Participants stay 4-6 months and take part in individual counselling, therapeutic groups, life skills learning, and community building activities. A new day treatment program launched in Winter 2023 to provide a treatment alternative to individuals on the waitlist and living in community. Follow up services – particularly for housing, employment, and addictions support – are provided to help participants make the transition from Emmanuel House back into the community for a successful recovery.



**I learned good communication skills, not to isolate, how to use the Metrobus. And healthy ways to deal with my trauma.**



Loved the support, the food and had a great sober Christmas.”



Tristan first came to Emmanuel House two years ago. He'd been in and out of hospital for mental health challenges and was struggling with living on his own. During his stay at Emmanuel House, Tristan worked with his counsellor on past trauma and made goals to go back to school and become gainfully employed. After successfully completing the 4-month program living at Emmanuel House, Tristan moved into supportive housing, and then moved once more into independent housing. He remained connected to Emmanuel House the entire time, attending our weekly Recovery Maintenance group. This group offers folks who are transitioning back in community the opportunity to regularly come back and support each other through facilitated discussion. **Tristan accomplished both of his goals of returning to school and finding part-time work, all the while greatly reducing the number of needed hospital admissions.** We're proud that Tristan returned to Emmanuel House to avail of our new day treatment program. Like other past participants of our residential program, Tristan has reconnected for a refresher of the skills he was building while living here. Now Tristan is working on skills for safety and impulse control, and benefitting from our art therapy classes as an alternative approach to recovery.



Recovery is never linear, but always unique for each person. We believe in creating a supportive environment where people feel safe enough to return and seek the help they need.

“Emmanuel House showed me life is worth living sober. I've learned how to keep myself safe, work through or sit with my emotions, and create safe boundaries.”

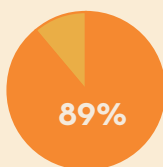




Two freshly painted rooms were a treat for both residents and staff thanks to Suncor Energy. Through the SunCares Community Giving Network, a local team of Suncor employees volunteered their time to help spruce up some of our spaces during their Day of Caring. SunCares helps employees connect with their community and support causes important to them – we appreciate their shared sense of connectedness and helping make our house more comfortable for participants.

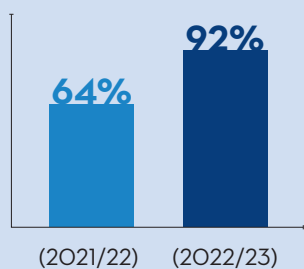


**89% of residents**  
arrived experiencing  
addictions

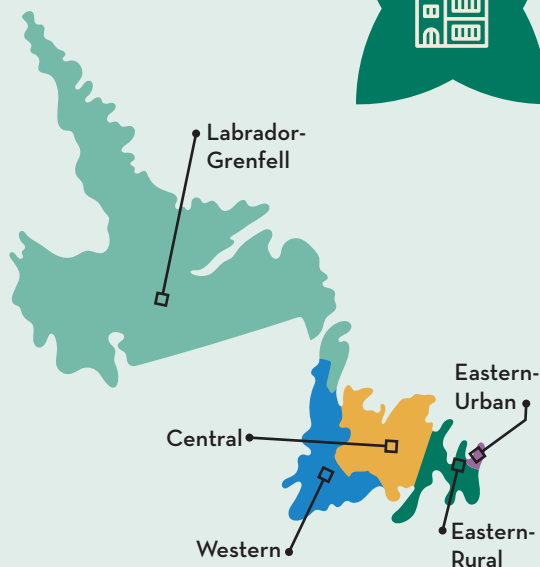


**72 days**  
is the average  
length of stay

Percentage of residents  
with a history of trauma:



**398 phone calls**  
made to former  
residents to  
support recovery



Admissions from all regional health zones  
in Newfoundland and Labrador



“I appreciate all your work. You guys all feel like the reason getting back on my feet is possible again. Still ways to go, but I’m miles from where I was just last year.”

## Just Us Women’s Centre

provides counselling and support to women and gender diverse individuals over the age of 18 who have been in conflict with the law. We offer individual counselling, peer support, and group services including addictions counselling, trauma groups, and anger management groups. We support women through the legal process, help them navigate housing and employment, and advocate for them as required. Two days a week, our staff offer these services at the Newfoundland and Labrador Correctional Centre for Women in Clarenville, along with assistance with planning for release into their communities, and other support as requested.



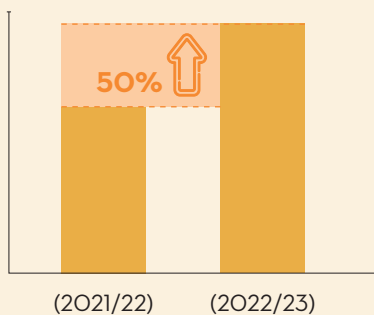
**12 women**

supported to find new housing

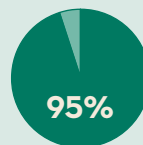
**19 women**

supported to maintain housing

The Housing Case Manager at Just Us Women’s Centre is funded by community partner End Homelessness St. John’s



Women who reconnect with Just Us after release from prison **increased by 50%** over the previous year



**95%** of incarcerated women at NLCCW participated in Just Us counselling programs



The trauma-informed spaces our staff create help women build healthy, trusting relationships important to recovery.

## Full Circle Support



Rosalie has been a participant of Just Us Women's Centre for several years. When she was released from the NLCCW at the end of 2021, she reconnected with Kayla, the Housing Case Manager at Just Us Women's Centre, for help to find a safe and affordable place to live. On Christmas Eve, she moved into her own housing unit at the Brian Martin Housing Resource Centre. With the support of Housing Services staff from the BMHRC, she has maintained her housing for over a year and a half. And across the street, Rosalie is also supported by the Just Us Women's Centre with life skills: sometimes coming over for a meal or hygiene products. She loves books and enjoys that there is a reading nook at the BMHRC, and a whole library of books to borrow from there, as well as over at Just Us. Through her continued relationships with the Just Us staff, Rosalie has stayed out of legal trouble for her longest time ever as an adult. She's also learned how to use public transportation. Kayla helped connect Rosalie to Employment Services, as the next step in building her independence. Now working with an employment counsellor, she's developed her own career goals and has already gone back to school, taking the bus there each day. **Rosalie's life has come full circle, as she continues to trust in our Real Homes, Real Help, and Real Work services and is achieving her own home, job, and community.**





# Perennial Hope

Stella's Circle has been a recipient charity of the Shoppers Drug Mart Run For Women, Canada's largest walk/run in support of women's mental health, for 7 years and counting. Funds are raised by the individuals and teams who sign up to walk or run, the donors who cheer them on, and Shoppers Drug Mart stores across the province. Every dollar is dedicated to our women-focused programs. The 2022 event raised \$51,000 for Naomi Centre and Just Us Women's Centre – all directed into new and creative ways to support women.

This year, the Shoppers Drug Mart Run for Women helped incarcerated women at the NLCCW turn over a new leaf. A new horticultural therapy group was offered at the NLCCW, made possible by the Run For Women-funded Peer Support Worker at Just Us Women's Centre, along with a Group Facilitator from Employment Services, and a donated greenhouse from the Phoenix Project. The Real Help and Real Work duo travelled to Clarendville over 8 weeks to work with the incarcerated women through horticulture activities to promote mental wellness.

*“When I am out here, I can't think of anything else other than the plants. This program helps me more than any medications I have ever been on.”*





Working in the garden gives the women opportunities to learn about nurturing plants and helping them grow, and connect those learnings to their own care and growth. *“I always love, enjoy, and get wonderful healing to my soul from having such lovely people come to our institution to help us create a beautiful garden.”*



The results from the inaugural horticultural therapy group blossomed into a regular group activity. Thanks to our impactful partnership with Shoppers Drug Mart, hope is always in bloom for the women we support.

**“I really enjoy the learning experience, the way the plants are so resilient just like us human beings. We can go through such stress and be broken in many places, but we can always bounce back. This group outside is better mentally than medication.”**

**Been feeling depressed lately and wasn't going to come outside. But I'm so glad I did. This session brightened up my day. I felt like myself again.**”





## Full Circle Celebrating



Our annual Alternative Service provides an opportunity for the entire Stella's Circle community to celebrate our connectedness as a kick-off to the holiday season. This year's service at Gower Street United Church included beautiful music by the Stella's Circle Inclusion Choir and was followed by a hot meal from the Hungry Heart Café. Volunteers from both the Board of Directors and Foundation Board helped serve a festive turkey dinner to all community members in attendance.



The holiday season also included our signature event, Light Up Hope, held on Giving Tuesday each year. With thanks to Transfer Energy Ltd and an anonymous donor, donations made during our virtual Giving Tuesday campaign were matched up to \$12,500 – doubling the hope and impact of each gift.

Behind the scenes of our three pillars is our Administration team who bring a diverse range of skills in accounting, finance, human resources, information technology, development and communications to support our operations. This dedicated crew demonstrate their wisdom and ingenuity every day ensuring our full circle of wrap-around services is as effective and transformational as it is.



# Real Work

Stable and meaningful employment is an important contributor to physical health, mental health, and quality of life. We believe that everyone has the capacity to work and can benefit from it. **Work that is valued by the employee, employer, and society helps people build skills, confidence and financial independence while adding value to the community.**



## Employment Services

offers a range of workplace-based and education programs to assist people who have had limited work experience or interrupted career paths in finding and maintaining employment. We help people discover their talents and we create opportunities for work that are meaningful and sustainable.



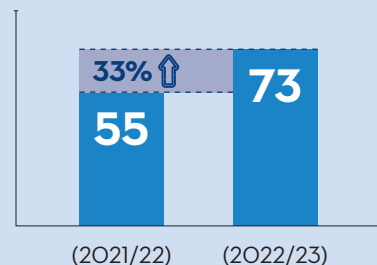
“I came to Stella’s Circle for help finding a job as a labourer. My employment counsellor recommended I try the SET program and I gave it a shot. I got to learn about plumbing while helping my instructor and now I have my application sent in for funding to do the plumbing program at Academy Canada in September.”

### Social Enterprise Training

teaches employment skills and on-the-job training to suit individual interests, needs, and abilities through our three social enterprises: Hungry Heart Café, Clean Start, and Home to Stay, as well as our Property & Development division. Participants work alongside trades industry professionals – which can include Red Seal chefs and carpenters – and receive valuable industry recognized certificates. These placements provide real opportunities for future employment. We also offer short-term transitional work through CanDo! for adults experiencing serious mental health challenges or other significant barriers to employment.



### Participants in Social Enterprise Training placements:



**5,000 hours**  
in supported employment  
at the Hungry Heart Café

**10,000 Meals Squared**  
prepared by the Hungry Heart  
Café to help community members  
experiencing hunger

meals<sup>2</sup>



**20 participants**  
transitioned from Clean Start  
to competitive employment



**485**  
**participants**  
accessed  
Employment Services



**93**  
**participants**  
secured jobs or  
went back to school



**140**  
**participants**  
now in the workplace  
received employment  
maintenance support



### **Employment Counselling and Support Transition Groups**

are offered to participants for employment readiness, skills discovery, and career decision-making. Employment counsellors assess each individual's goals and continue to provide support as participants engage in a range of options to address their varying needs to move towards work, school, and greater self-reliance. Facilitated classroom groups are combined with a variety of workplace and experiential learning.



I didn't have a chance to finish school when I was growing up. I tried to finish 3 times but quit. I realized I wanted to show my children that I could do it. **I decided to do ABE to have a better future.** I want my family to have a better life than me.



## Adult Basic Education Level I

offers foundational literacy and numeracy education through delivery of the standardized provincial government curriculum. Our dynamic learning environment enriches the delivery of the curriculum by providing adult learners with opportunities to engage in community building activities. ABE received a Canada Life Literacy Innovation Award honourable mention in the fall from ABC Life Literacy with an award prize of \$10,000.



**7 participants**

successfully completed  
ABE Level 1, making  
2022/23 our largest  
ever cohort of graduates



**“At ABE I learned  
I am a smart  
woman who enjoys  
learning. My  
favourite subjects  
are math and  
reading. I never  
thought  
I would say that!”**



ABE received a thoughtful and generous donation of 13 Chrome Books from the Portugal Cove-St. Phillips Lion's Club last spring. These devices were instantly put to great use and provide in-class opportunities for learners to develop digital skills through the application of the curriculum.





# Innovation on Income

A new Employment Support Stability Pilot Project by the provincial government was launched in 2023, co-developed with Stella's Circle and Choices For Youth. The Project offers enhanced supports for participants receiving Income Support who begin a new job and/or maintain and increase their hours of work. Participants benefit by keeping more of their earnings and immediately experiencing increased financial benefits from work.

Some of the project's key supports and incentives include employment continuation bonuses; a new earning exemption formula that allows participants to retain higher earnings, resulting in higher overall monthly incomes; and supports offered by Stella's Circle and Choices For Youth to navigate government systems and the labour market.

*“As someone who hasn't worked in over 10 years, I find it helps having help through the project with my mailback forms. It is also a relief knowing that if something were to happen and I lost my job, I have support to get my income support benefits until I find another job.”*

“Being part of the project has helped me with my goal of getting a job and eventually coming off income support and supporting myself through full time employment. The bonuses for starting and maintaining my job have helped me financially and motivate me to keep working so that I can achieve the higher paid bonuses the longer I am employed.”





**“The best part for me is knowing that clients are feeling less stress as they start new jobs and enjoying some financial benefits for maintaining their employment.”**

Erin Holland is the Employment Systems Navigator at Stella’s Circle and supports participants to work with the Income Support staff to report their earnings, adjust to the pilot changes, and deal with financial issues as they arise.

*“It’s been positive for participants to see the improvements to Income Support; many comment that issues they had when they started working in the past wouldn’t happen with the new system. We need to recognize that many of our participants are still living in poverty, but I think they feel heard and better supported through the Pilot Project, and that’s important.”*



## **50 Stella’s Circle participants**

registered in the Income Support Employment Stability Pilot Project

At the age of 62, Brian found himself disconnected from the job market for over a decade. Last fall, he took a leap of faith and joined the Skills Discovery Pre-Employment Group at Employment Services. Brian gradually regained belief and confidence in himself, knowing that age could not define his worth or limit his potential.

As a result of finding a job, Brian was accepted into the Employment Support Stability Pilot Project, which provided him with the financial stability needed to focus on his career aspirations. This added support enabled him to invest more time in improving his skills and refining his craft.

Armed with newfound skills and qualifications, he took the next step applying for work and was soon offered a temporary full-time role as a trade assistant. Brian's career goal of becoming a painter/plasterer persisted, and he continued to make strides toward it with the support of Employment Services staff. Alongside his work as a trade's assistant, Brian pursued additional training and certifications in painting and plastering, honing his skills to perfection.



**Brian counts his life as transformed, and is now well on his way to realizing his dream of becoming a painter/plasterer.**





# Sustainable Hope



Chevron Canada has been providing sustainable hope to participants at Stella's Circle for 18 years, with a generous \$2.25 million in funding to our Real Work employment and social enterprise programs.

It started in 2005 with a shared goal to assist people to increase their employment readiness and help them move and stay in the labour market. The Hungry Heart Café opened its doors that spring. In 2008 the Chevron Canada and Stella's Circle partnership won The International Partnership Network's Global Best Award. But together, we were just getting started.

With a renewed commitment from Chevron Canada, programming expanded and in 2010 we added CanDo! Enterprises, an employment service created for individuals with complex multiple barriers to employment. And again, our partnership won a 2014 Global Best Award.

**700 participants**  
have found jobs or returned to  
school through initiatives  
supported by Chevron Canada  
since 2016

Both organizations work with innovation top of mind – so it was only a matter of time before one social enterprise in the food industry evolved into three social enterprises in three different trades. By 2019 we expanded to include Clean Start, a commercial cleaning business, and Home To Stay, a renovation business with expertise to help aging or injured people live independently in their homes.





“Stella’s Circle demonstrates leadership in the Social Enterprise space locally as well as nationally. Their leadership also extends broadly into the St. John’s community – consistently meeting people where they are at. We are proud to partner with an organization that not only delivers results, but delivers them the right way.”

Jacqueline Harris,  
Social Risk &  
Investment Advisor,  
Chevron Canada



HUNGRY HEART



Clean Start



HOME TO STAY

Our multi-year partnership agreements have transformed how we grow our social impact and sustain meaningful employment for participants facing barriers to employment.

Because of Chevron Canada’s sustainable support, we’re able to continuously innovate: piloting peer support within our staff teams, acquire cutting-edge equipment, and leverage other funding and research opportunities to enrich our Real Work services.

We’re proud to have Chevron Canada employees actively take part in building success at Stella’s Circle. Whether sharing their wisdom as members of our boards, serving at our Annual Pancake Breakfast for Homelessness at the Hungry Heart Café or through their employee giving corporate match program – *Chevron Canada employees help give a hand up.*



Stella’s Circle continues to offer participants transformative skills, work experiences and confidence to become more independent, self-sufficient and empowered members of our community, thanks to this amazing legacy Chevron Canada has created.





# Be Part of the Solution

When you hire one of the Stella's Circle social enterprises, you create social impact in our community. Every dollar made is reinvested into our programs and services for meaningful independence and inclusion for our participants. Your next catering, cleaning, or renovation job will help transform lives.



**HUNGRY  
HEART**

an initiative of Stella's Circle

**“Delicious food and  
amazing customer service!  
Looking forward to  
the next time!”**

[catering@StellasCircle.ca](mailto:catering@StellasCircle.ca)  
709.738.6164



**Clean Start**

an initiative of Stella's Circle

**“We are very pleased with  
the cleaning services.  
The Clean Start staff are  
doing an excellent job.”**

[cleanstart@StellasCircle.ca](mailto:cleanstart@StellasCircle.ca)  
709.738.8952

**“Home to Stay has become our go to when work is needed at 3 Birds  
Shelter. All renovations and repairs are done in a timely manner,  
for a fair price and the quality of the work is always outstanding.”**



**HOME  
TO STAY**  
an initiative of Stella's Circle

[hts@StellasCircle.ca](mailto:hts@StellasCircle.ca)  
709.738.8390



# Stella's Circle Inclusion Choir

The Stella's Circle Inclusion Choir is a joyful place of acceptance for participants, staff, and volunteers who all share a love of singing and bringing messages of hope and social justice to audiences. The Choir was founded on the philosophy that choir is a place of inclusion and acceptance, and an opportunity to be a *part of something bigger*. The Choir creates social connections for people and can be a great first step to engaging in other community activities, as well as other programs and services of Stella's Circle.

We were so pleased to welcome back participants and volunteers to our first full season in person since the pandemic, with special thanks to director Hannah Wadman Scanlon, accompanist Jane Osmond, guitarists Mary Anne Murphy and Max Jacobs, and volunteers Justin Mahon and Karen Carroll. The season included performances at the Newfoundland and Labrador Federation of Labour's AGM, NL Foster Families Association Symposium, Helen Murphy's Celebration of Life, Gower Street United Church's Pi Day, and the Stella's Circle Alternative Service.

*We are grateful to Perfect Day for the new Inclusion Choir crest that includes a butterfly formed from two intersecting hearts. This design is in tribute to founding choir director, Helen Murphy, who loved nature, community and was a tireless leader for social justice during her life. Imagery of butterflies had great meaning to Helen as a symbol of change and the potential that lies within all of us and the communities and worlds in which we live.*



**33 practices** 

**5 performances** 



**900 Meals Squared**  
provided at weekly  
choir rehearsals



# Year in Giving

## Benefactor

\$100,000 - \$499,999

A. Bryant Harding Family Fund



## Partner

\$25,000 - \$99,999

Anonymous Donor (3)



## Builder

\$10,000 - \$24,999

Anonymous (2)

Eve Roberts

GROW Giving Circle

Helen Murphy

Leo Browne Memorial Fund

Milton Vokey

The Jacob Puddister

Memorial Foundation

The Margaret Penney

Mental Wellness Fund

United Way Newfoundland  
and Labrador

## Associate

\$1,000 - \$9,999

Anonymous (25)

Alan Cook

Anne (Winsor) Gosse - Annecraft Specialties Inc.

Christine & Kris Aubrey-Bassler

David Cumming

Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts and Recreation

Derm and Mary Browne

Dianne & Len Knox

Dr. Jasbir Gill

Evelyn Reid & Michael Harrington

Executive Coffee Services

Gill Ratcliffe Foundation

Glenn Deir and Debbie Youden

Jim & Carolyn Marshall

Luke O'Brien

Martin Entz

Midgard Gaming

NAPE Local 6206 HSC

Robert Bishop

Royal LePage Property Consultants Ltd.

Shoppers Drug Mart (CBS and LeMarchant Road)

Simplified Holdings Inc.

Sisters of Mercy

The Honourable James & Susan Adams

The O'Neill Foundation Inc.

The R.D. Pippy Family Foundation

The Starbucks Foundation

Thomas and Susan (Kent) Foran Family Foundation

Transfer Energy

Vanessa Newhook

VOCM Cares Foundation

Youden Family Fund at Community Foundation  
of Newfoundland and Labrador

Yvonne Earle

# Funders

**City of St. John's**

**Community Housing  
Transformation Centre**

**End Homelessness St. John's**

**Government of Canada**

Correctional Services Canada

**Government of Newfoundland  
and Labrador**

Department of Children, Seniors  
and Social Development

Department of Education

Department of Health  
and Community Services

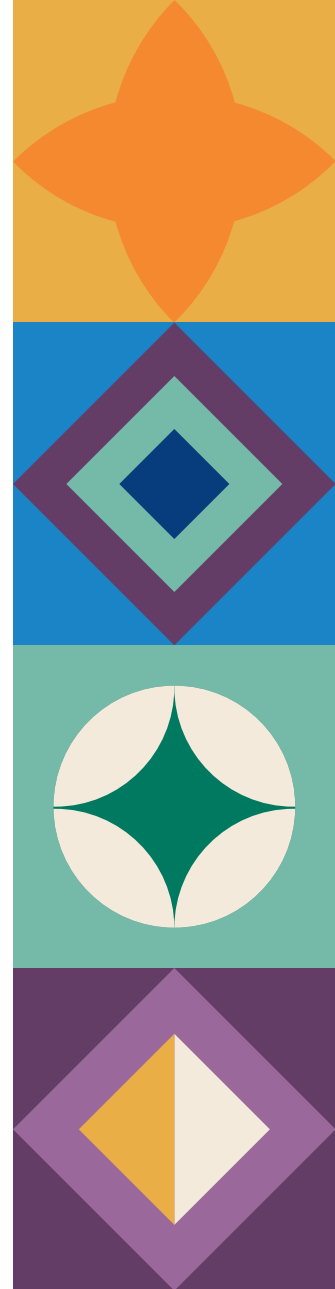
Department of Immigration,  
Population Growth and Skills

Department of Justice and Public Safety

NL Health Services

Newfoundland and Labrador  
Housing Corporation

**The United Church of Canada  
Mission and Service Fund**



## In Kind

Anne (Winsor) Gosse -  
Annecraft Specialties Inc.

Little Caesars

Perfect Day

Telelink

Up Sky Down Films

# Donate

You can help Stella's Circle in our mission to transform lives through Real Homes, Real Help, and Real Work. Donations can be made on a one-time or monthly basis, or on a customized schedule to suit your needs.

## Ways to Donate



**Online at**  
**StellasCircle.ca**



**Via phone at**  
**709-738-7730**



**By mail or in person at**  
**142 Military Road, St. John's, NL A1C 2E6**

## Planned Giving

Planned giving refers to charitable gifts that require some planning. They are promised today and given in the future. Planned gifts may work for you, since there are tax benefits. The most common form of planned gifts are:

**Bequest:** a gift through your will

**Gifts of Securities:** a gift through publicly traded stocks, bonds or mutual funds

**Gifts of Insurance:** a gift through a life insurance policy

For more information about how to arrange a planned gift for Stella's Circle, contact Craig Drover at: **c.drover@StellasCircle.ca** or **(709) 738-7730**.



# Financials

## Stella's Circle Community Services Inc. Statement of Financial Position

March 31, 2023

	2023	2022
<b>Assets</b>	\$	\$
<b>Current</b>		
Cash	1,148,138	1,667,900
Accounts receivable	720,142	387,510
Due from related parties	-	60,945
Inventory	17,395	13,384
Prepaid expenses	274,622	254,528
	2,160,297	2,384,267
<b>Capital Assets</b>	12,407,208	11,410,050
	14,567,505	13,794,317
<b>Liabilities and Net Assets</b>	\$	\$
<b>Current</b>		
Demand loan	-	8
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	644,959	523,655
Wages payable	228,201	185,971
Due to related parties	132,408	-
Deferred contributions	556,430	909,842
Current portion of long term debt	56,444	55,399
	1,618,442	1,674,875
<b>Long Term Debt</b>	818,466	874,911
<b>Deferred Capital Contributions</b>	9,828,530	9,359,523
<b>Accrual for Severance Liabilities</b>	322,924	336,374
	12,588,362	12,245,683
<b>Net Assets</b>		
General fund	992,922	992,922
Internally restricted operations reserve	374,481	-
Internally restricted maintenance replacement reserve	611,740	555,712
	1,979,143	1,548,634
	14,567,505	13,794,317

# Stella's Circle Community Services Inc. Operating Statement of Revenue and Expenditures

Year Ended March 31, 2023

Program	2023			2022		
	Revenue \$	Expenditure \$	Under/(Over) Expenditure \$	Revenue \$	Expenditure \$	Under/(Over) Expenditure \$
Community Support Program	1,456,189	1,456,189	-	1,409,562	1,409,712	(150)
Employment Services	1,216,198	1,216,198	-	1,196,102	1,196,102	-
General Operations	1,172,189	798,836	373,353	457,778	456,565	1,213
Naomi Centre	1,115,059	1,115,059	-	1,030,712	1,030,712	-
Emmanuel House	1,126,500	1,161,508	(35,008)	1,114,824	1,162,971	(48,147)
Property Management	843,127	723,857	119,270	853,884	730,466	123,418
Supportive Housing Team	727,363	727,363	-	721,950	721,950	-
Clean Start	565,908	565,908	-	459,913	455,794	4,119
Hungry Heart Café	501,368	501,368	-	369,885	372,680	(2,795)
Just Us Women's Centre	498,481	498,481	-	390,346	390,346	-
Housing Focused Case Management	194,989	194,989	-	112,593	112,593	-
Other Funded Projects	115,659	115,659	-	51,895	51,895	-
Adult Basic Education	87,744	87,744	-	84,739	84,739	-
CanDo!	81,193	61,422	19,771	83,903	71,920	11,983
Just Us Housing Focused Case Management	78,101	78,101	-	64,221	64,221	-
Income Support Pilot	71,257	71,257	-	44,583	44,583	-
Workforce Innovation	49,297	49,297	-	156,390	156,390	-
Wellness/Outreach Services	48,789	48,789	-	130,269	130,269	-
Transitions to Work	39,269	39,269	-	80,711	80,711	-
Stella's Circle Foundation	33,080	33,080	-	29,666	29,666	-
Home to Stay Project	20,293	20,293	-	49,586	49,586	-
Excess of revenue over expenditures	10,042,053	9,564,667	477,386	8,893,512	8,803,871	89,641
Amortization of deferred capital contributions not credited to programs			449,700			424,619
Amortization of capital assets not charged to programs			(479,054)			(456,127)
Excess of revenue over expenditures			448,032			58,133

# Stella's Circle Foundation Inc. Statement of Financial Position

March 31, 2023

	2023	2022
<b>Assets</b>	\$	\$
<b>Current</b>		
Restricted cash	2,107,229	1,892,566
Accounts receivable	1,317	1,314
	2,108,546	1,893,880
<b>Due from related parties</b>	132,409	-
	2,240,955	1,893,880
<b>Liabilities and Net Assets</b>	\$	\$
<b>Current</b>		
Accounts payable	3,800	5,149
Deferred revenue	2,202,149	1,792,780
	2,205,949	1,797,929
<b>Due to related parties</b>	-	60,945
	2,205,949	1,858,874
<b>Net Assets</b>	35,006	35,006
	2,240,955	1,893,880

## Stella's Circle Foundation Inc. Statement of Revenues and Expenditures and Changes in Net Assets

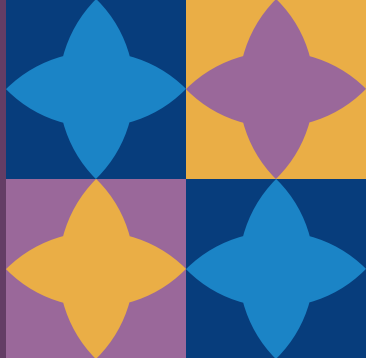
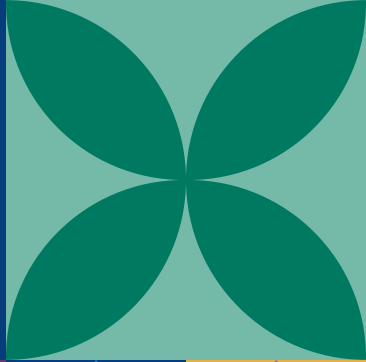
Year Ended March 31, 2023

	2023	2022
<b>Revenues</b>	\$	\$
Donations	381,306	364,937
Interest	53,712	11,858
	435,018	376,795
<b>Expenditures</b>	\$	\$
Funds allocated to Stella's Circle programs	411,561	351,392
Fundraising	12,258	10,786
Audit fees	4,675	3,010
Interest charges and fees	4,374	5,462
Dues and subscriptions	1,806	2,839
Board and committee	344	36
Miscellaneous	-	280
Office supplies	-	224
Advertising and promotion	-	2,766
	435,018	376,795
<b>Excess of revenues over expenditures</b>	-	-
Net assets – beginning of year	35,006	35,006
<b>Net assets – end of year</b>	35,006	35,006

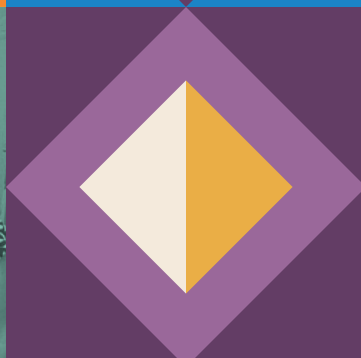
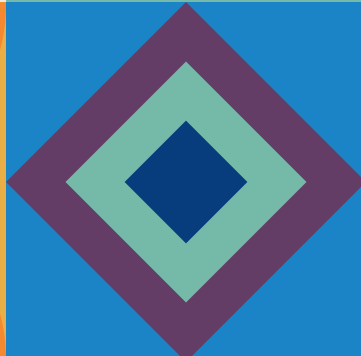
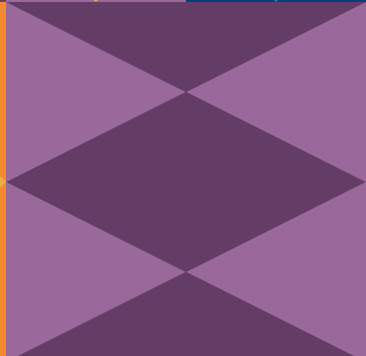
The financial information in this annual report is a component of our complete audited financial statements which are available on our website at [StellasCircle.ca](http://StellasCircle.ca) or by calling (709) 738-7730.







*Stella's  
Circle*



**Administration Office and Foundation Office**  
The Jocelyn Greene Centre  
142 Military Road, St. John's, NL A1C 2E6

**StellasCircle.ca**  
info@StellasCircle.ca  
(709) 738-8390

