

MAKING AN IMPACT... CHANGING LIVES TOGETHER.

Stella's Circle

Hope Lives Here

Stella's Circle Annual Report 2015-16

A photograph of a single feather floating in a shallow, muddy stream. The water is brown and murky, with several small, dark rocks and pieces of debris scattered throughout. The feather is positioned diagonally across the frame, with its quill pointing towards the bottom left and its vane towards the top right. The background is a soft, out-of-focus landscape with a blue sky and distant hills.

Feather in the water

I believe that everyone is strong and is able to be happy if they make the right decisions. The world doesn't need any more violence. It needs more happy people and places like Stella's Circle.

—Photovoice Participant



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FEATURED PHOTOS

The photos highlighted in this annual report were taken by Stella's Circle participants as part of an eight-week Photovoice experience. Photographer Greg Locke and Stella's Circle staff worked with women who had been involved in the criminal justice system. Through their photography, they have highlighted the stigma, shame and isolation that results from being involved in the criminal justice system. The photos were exhibited at The Rooms in June 2015.

Life is a **web of lies** when you are doing illegal activities.
- Photovoice Participant

MESSAGES

FROM THE CHAIR

I hope you enjoy reading about some of the Stella's Circle highlights from 2015-16 as much as I enjoy witnessing them as Chair of the Board of Directors.

During this past year, our Board has undergone numerous changes as we strive to be a more effective and efficient Board. We have undertaken a strategic planning exercise and developed a priority statement which says: **We will be governed by a qualified, highly engaged volunteer board which ensures the mission of Stella's Circle.** This is in keeping with our recent initiatives to transition our Board membership on a more regular basis to add new perspectives and skills to our energetic Board.

As a Board, we are very much aware of our fiduciary responsibilities and we treat with great care the trust that our stakeholders give to us to oversee the workings of the organization. I want to express my thanks to our Board members who are dedicated to excellence in governance.

The Foundation Board, under the outstanding leadership of Mark MacLeod, continues to raise funds for the organization and the Board of Directors is very grateful for that support.

A heartfelt thank you to our dedicated staff and volunteers who understand and work towards our vision **and to our donors and funders** who make it possible. It is through their care and dedication that we create a place and environment in which "Hope Lives Here". In closing, I acknowledge **our gratitude to participants who put their trust in us and have been the inspiration to us all** with their dreams, accomplishments and friendships.



Stephen B. Jewczyk
Chair, Board of Directors

FROM THE CEO

We started the 2015-16 year by celebrating the 70th anniversary of the founding of Emmanuel House and the 20th anniversary of Stella's Circle as an incorporated body. And there has been much to celebrate!

In addition to acknowledging our past, 2015-16 was also about **highlighting the excellent work of Stella's Circle staff and the impact that we have on our participants and the community.** From engaging with existing and new community partners to telling our stories to larger audiences, it is important to share our message of hope.

I'm very proud of our staff and want to ensure that we support and recognize their efforts. **Our first employee recognition event celebrated 22 staff for providing a total of 394 years of service!** We established a wellness committee to encourage physical, mental, and spiritual wellness. A new, robust strategic planning process included front-line staff and input from participants.

Clearly, **we would not be able to do our work without the outstanding support of our funders and donors.** More than just financial supporters, they partner with us to make us better. **Our participants encourage us to be innovative and to always do our best.** We are grateful for their trust.

I also send my personal thanks to members of the Board of Directors and the Stella Burry Foundation for their guidance and support throughout the year.

Together, we are having an enormous impact on the social and economic fabric of the province.



Lisa Browne
CEO, Stella's Circle

ABOUT US



STELLA'S CIRCLE BOARD OF DIRECTORS (April 1, 2015 - March 31, 2016)

Stephen Jewczyk, Chair
Kate O'Brien, Vice Chair
Rebecca Roome, Past Chair
Greg Radu, Secretary (*Leave of absence November 2015*)
Jim Carroll, Secretary (*as of November 2015*)
Fred Earle, Treasurer
Reverend Miriam Bowlby (*as of September 2015*)
Catherine Dempsey
Connie Duffett (*as of September 2015*)
Baxter Rose
Signe Scharwey
Len Simms (*as of September 2015*)
Cindy Roma (*until November 2015*)
Patti Powers (*until September 2015*)
Edgar Elliott (*until September 2015*)
Very Reverend Dr. Marion Pardy (*until September 2015*)
Reverend Faith March-MacCuish (*Ex-Officio*)

Board Member Emeriti

Alison Earle
Very Reverend Dr. Marion Pardy (*as of September 2015*)

EXECUTIVE STAFF

Lisa Browne, CEO
Michelle Dyke, Director of Corporate Services
Denise Hillier, Director of Clinical Services
Rob McLennan, Director of Employment Services
Karen Noel, Director of Property & Development
Gail Thornhill, Director of Supportive Housing



Stella's Circle, governed by a volunteer Board of Directors, is a not-for-profit, community organization with 125 dedicated staff offering programs and services to over 1000 inspiring participants. A variety of participant-focused programs are offered in three core areas:

REAL HOMES: emergency shelter as well as supportive and affordable housing to help people find a home to call their own;

REAL HELP: residential, community and correctional-based counselling services to support people through life's challenges; and

REAL WORK: education, training and employment opportunities to help people with minimal or broken employment histories enter the work force.

Stella's Circle has been recognized nationally and internationally for programming provided to support some of our community's most marginalized individuals. The organization is supported by the Stella Burry Foundation, consisting of community-minded volunteers who raise funds for programs and services offered to participants.

ABOUT US

WHO WE SERVE

We provide services to adults who face many barriers to fully participating in their community. These barriers include mental health challenges, addictions, trauma, poverty, homelessness, and long periods of unemployment.

OUR MISSION

Transforming lives through **Real Homes**, **Real Help**, and **Real Work**.

OUR VISION

A home, a job, a community

STRATEGIC PLAN PRIORITY STATEMENTS

- We will be a transparent and accountable organization.
- We will be a financially diverse, viable, and sustainable organization.
- We will be a well-managed organization that is recognized locally and nationally as a leader in the not-for-profit community.
- We will be strong advocates who offer innovative programs and services to meet the current and anticipated needs of our participants.
- We will be governed by a qualified, highly engaged volunteer board which ensures the mission of Stella's Circle.

OUR GUIDING PRINCIPLES

- The rights of individuals to privacy and confidentiality.
- The rights of individuals to be active participants in decisions that affect them and those who are significant in their lives.
- The importance of being accountable and the necessity of active leadership and decision making to protect the integrity of the Corporation, its members and those it serves.
- To promote and delegate responsibility as much as possible to ensure the Corporation remains strategic in its planning and leadership.
- To recognize the impact of systemic and structural oppression that creates barriers and excludes individuals from meaningful participation in the community.
- Embrace anti-oppressive, inclusive and anti-discriminatory philosophy that recognizes and acknowledges the diversity and uniqueness of every individual.
- The role of the Corporation is to create opportunities and to facilitate change through the provision of support and resources.

The Only White Duck

You can see a flock of ducks. Notice the only white duck? That is me. That is the low life that I had become—an outcast to society.

- *Photovoice Participant*



THE ROAD TO RECOVERY— STARTING AT JESS'S PLACE

I became a resident of Jess's Place, transitional housing for women in active recovery from addictions, and through my stay, found out about the Just Us Women's Centre. I have attended the addictions group, peer support, and individual counselling. I was able to deal with my legal issues and started to work on my recovery. Every time I had to attend court, someone went with me, so I wasn't alone. The Just Us staff helped me prepare for my sentence at the Newfoundland and Labrador Correctional Centre in Clarenville.

When I was released, I came back to Jess's Place and continued my recovery with help from the Just Us Program. I have taken part in some programs they have offered, such as PhotoVoice. I really enjoyed it and got a lot out of it.

Thanks to Stella's Circle I now have a beautiful apartment. The workers at Stella's Circle Housing have also been so helpful to me. I get assistance with my banking and shopping and they help me get the support I need from Eastern Health so I can continue living on my own with my disability. Today, if anything comes up and I don't know how to deal with it, all I have to do is ask one of the workers with Stella's Circle. If they don't know the answer, they point me in the right direction to find the solution.

- *Stella's Circle Participant*

Lock & Key

Depression, anxiety, guilt, anger, and flash backs started to haunt me until I felt imprisoned in my own thoughts.

- *Photovoice Participant*



REAL HOMES

Stella's Circle Supportive Housing Division helps people with complex needs find and remain in safe, affordable, and stable housing. We work to help people achieve greater self-determination by improving the conditions which promote housing stability. We also support community capacity building, as well as research, that will assist in the identification and development of supportive living services necessary to prevent and address homelessness.

SERVICES OFFERED:

Brian Martin Housing Resource Centre (BMHRC) offers counselling, advocacy, and other support services to help people find secure housing. Stella's Circle has 76 housing units and staff support individuals in maintaining both Stella's Circle housing and private market housing.

Jess's Place offers safe, supportive, independent, transitional housing that is free of drugs and alcohol for women over the age of 18 in recovery from addiction.

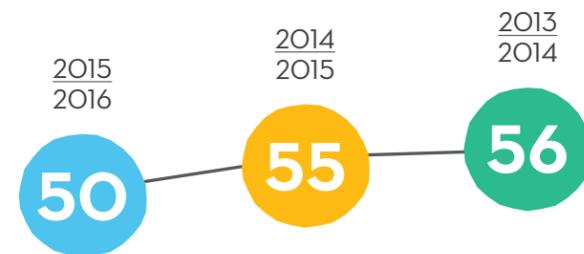
Naomi Centre provides temporary shelter and support for young women ages 16-30 years within a harm reduction model.

Front Step provides housing and supports to individuals experiencing the longest and most frequent episodes of homelessness. This program was launched by End Homelessness St. John's and is jointly led by Choices for Youth and Stella's Circle.

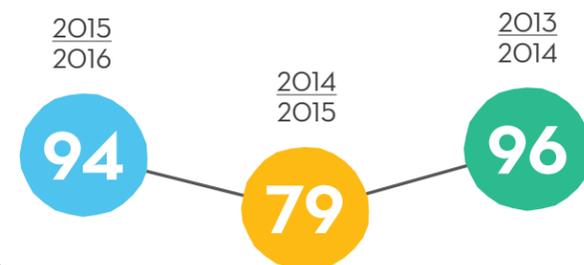
BRIAN MARTIN HOUSING RESOURCE CENTRE



NEW INDIVIDUALS HOUSED



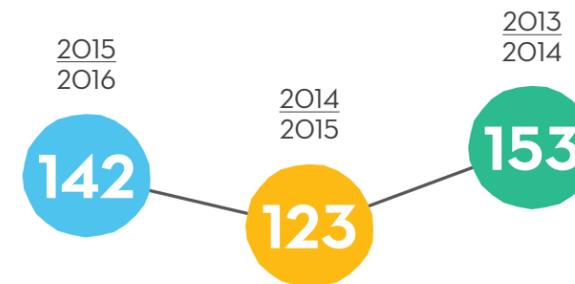
COMPREHENSIVE SOCIAL WORK ASSESSMENTS CONDUCTED



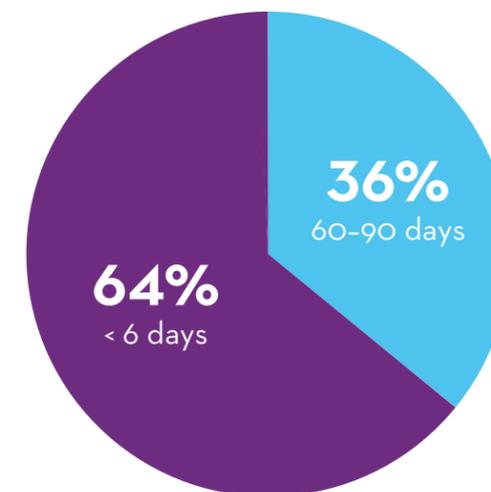
NAOMI CENTRE



NAOMI CENTRE ADMISSIONS



LENGTH OF STAY AT NAOMI CENTRE



300 - 350

contacts with former Naomi Centre residents each month. Contacts include phone calls, texts, and conversations where staff are providing information and support.

FRONT STEP



In January, End Homelessness St. John's launched a new community Intensive Case Management Initiative, Front Step, which provides housing and supports to individuals experiencing the longest and most frequent episodes of homelessness in the St. John's community. The program is jointly led by Choices for Youth and Stella's Circle, with a team of staff servicing eligible clientele across St. John's.

2016
JAN

Front Step started operating in January 2016.

In the first three months of existence **28 people** were accepted into the program: **16 males** and **12 females** with an age range of **18 to 74**.

14

In a three-month period, 14 people were housed.



ONE PERSON'S JOURNEY

When I was in my fifties I was incarcerated for a serious crime. I was considered a respected member of the community, but as a result I lost my career, house and contact with many previous friends and associates. This situation was a first for me, as my previous interactions with the law included just two moving traffic violations. This was indeed a traumatic life-changing event.

My first step back into the community was day parole at Emmanuel House. From the first day I was more than impressed by the respect, professionalism, and support offered by each and every staff member. This was supplemented by many of the other programs and services offered by the entire Stella's Circle team.

The most important part for me is the aftercare component. Whether a minor issue that requires some direction, or a more serious situation, I know that I can take up the phone anytime of the day or night for either a friendly ear or more involved professional support.

Five years later, I still avail of the ongoing individual counselling offered by Emmanuel House. I credit this support, along with that of my medical team, family and friends as an integral part of the satisfying and crime-free life I am so fortunate to enjoy.

Whenever I have contact with any staff member, I am constantly reminded of the genuine level of care conferred upon all who pass through the doors of Emmanuel House.

- *Former Emmanuel House Resident*

Raging River

This river is how my life was in the past, before I went to Emmanuel House. My life was out of control, in turmoil and full of risk taking behaviour fueled by drugs and alcohol and difficult relationships. When you feel like you can't change things and you beat against every object in your life. - *Photovoice Participant*

REAL HELP

Stella's Circle offers a range of residential, community, and correctional-based counselling services to support people through life's challenges. Our services help people to achieve higher levels of personal independence and self-reliance. We help participants recover from personal challenges and change their lives for the better.

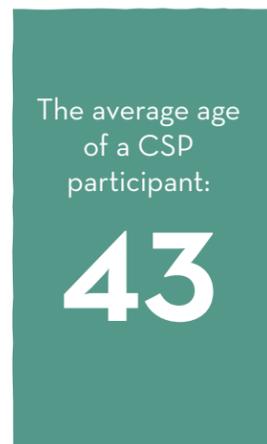
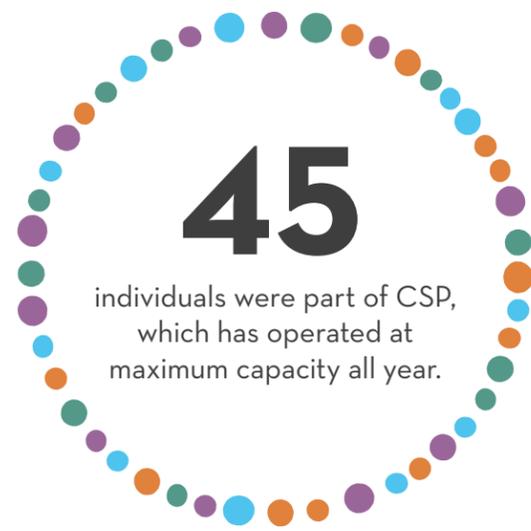
SERVICES OFFERED:

Community Support Program (CSP) provides intensive assistance to people with complex mental health needs to improve the overall quality of their lives, and to reduce the length and number of admissions to hospitals and prisons.

Emmanuel House offers a supportive environment where adults can live while they address their social and emotional challenges.

Just Us Women's Centre provides counselling and support to women who have been in conflict with the law in the community and at the Newfoundland and Labrador Correctional Centre for Women (NLCCW) in Clarenville.

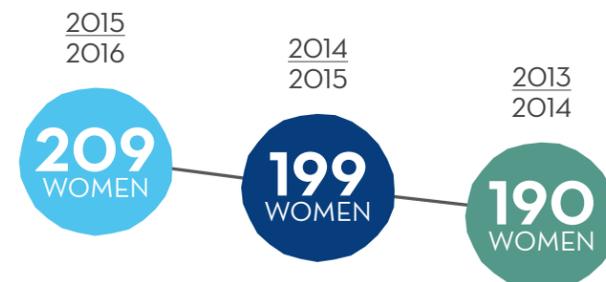
COMMUNITY SUPPORT PROGRAM (CSP)



JUST US WOMEN'S CENTRE



THE JUST US WOMEN'S CENTRE PROVIDED SERVICES TO:



COMMUNITY KITCHEN

Two Community Kitchen groups took place at our Community Support Program. The focus was on cooking affordable meals, budgeting, meal-planning and food safety. The group format also provided a social component, helping to alleviate isolation.

EMMANUEL HOUSE

YOGA AT EMMANUEL HOUSE

Thanks to funding from United Way of Newfoundland and Labrador, participants at Emmanuel House were offered therapeutic yoga twice a week. This program provided an additional mechanism for healing and improved mental health and well-being for Emmanuel House residents. Feedback from participants was extremely positive and they rated it 9/10 (10 being completely helpful).

In what ways was it helpful or not helpful?

IT took away thoughts From my Brain and made me Feel Better of myself.

re relaxed my mind in ways i never though was possible. and made my body feel so good after a session

CHANGE DOESN'T HAPPEN OVERNIGHT

Shawn is one of Stella's Circle participants who has seen significant growth over the last few years. At the age of 40 he was involved in the criminal justice system and facing mental health challenges. His only home was a tent. When he came to Stella's Circle, he struggled with anger, developing and maintaining relationships, and coping with frustration in a positive way. He was unsuccessful in his first two attempts at the Skills Discovery group. However with continued support from Stella's Circle and his own persistence and determination, Shawn was able to complete the program and improve his life in the process. He has since completed the trades helper training and worked for CanDo, our transitional employment program.

Four years after his initial encounter with Stella's Circle, Shawn now has stable housing and a full-time job with an industrial employer. Shawn's success was certainly not a quick journey, but he didn't give up and neither did Stella's Circle.

"Change doesn't happen overnight," says Stella's Circle Employment Counsellor Sarah Mills. "Watching Shawn develop from a person who struggled with anger management, into a leader and positive role model has been so gratifying. He knew which direction he wanted his life to go, and worked so hard to get there. His increased confidence has had such a positive impact on all areas of his life and I can't wait to see what goal he tackles next," comments Sarah. Shawn is an excellent example of the personal growth that can be accomplished, given the right support systems.

Red Tape

My experience of having been involved with the Justice System to date, I feel like the tree with the red rope. It feels like I'm being strangled with red rope. It feels like my life has stopped and I can't move forward until I finally get my day in court. I've had postponement upon postponement. – *Photovoice Participant*



REAL WORK

The best social program is a job. Stable and meaningful employment is an important contributor to physical health, mental health and quality of life.

Stella's Circle offers a range of employment and education programs.

SERVICES OFFERED:

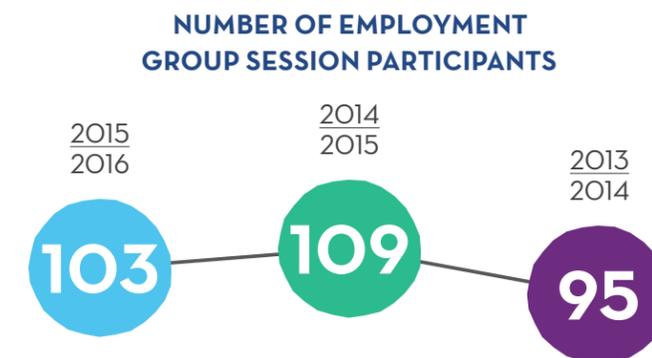
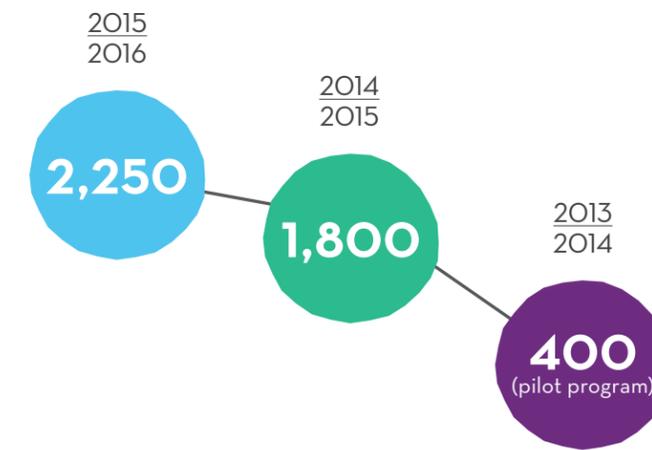
Work Experience is offered to suit individual participant interests, needs and abilities through our food services training program at the Hungry Heart Café, trades helper program at Mullock Street Property and Development shop, commercial cleaning, and through our CanDo transitional employment enterprise.

Employment Counselling and Groups are offered to participants for employment readiness and career decision making. Participants can engage in a range of options to address their varying needs as they move towards work, school, and greater self-reliance.

Adult Basic Education (ABE) Level I offers foundational literacy and numeracy education through delivery of the standardized provincial government curriculum.



CLIENT CONTACTS
appointments with participants, phone calls, government meetings, families, employers, all activities that support participants



EMPLOYEE HIGHLIGHT: KELLY GUITARD

Kelly Guitard is an Employment Counsellor with our Employment Services Division and has worked with Stella's Circle for almost four years. Kelly works at our Cabot Street location and also travels quarterly to the NL Correctional Centre for Women with the Just Us team to provide guidance to inmates about employment opportunities.

"To me work is a connecting force," says Kelly. "Helping participants find and maintain work is a way out of isolation and poverty and towards inclusion and more financial independence. Whether it's someone who has no paid work experience or someone who has been away from work for a while, it's inspiring to see the pride participants take in their work and their increased confidence. One of the best parts of my job is visiting participants at their work sites. It's awesome to see them in their uniforms, learning new skills, and being part of a team."



SOCIAL ENTERPRISE

STELLA'S PRIDE

Stella's Pride is comprised primarily of participants with complex needs from the Community Support Program. Despite significant barriers to employment, they have much to contribute and receive great value from meaningful work experiences. Participants meet once per week where they have an opportunity to interact in a social setting, develop important life and workplace skills, and are paid an hourly wage for their work. One of their work activities is to make industrial rags.



Twisted
During your life you will endure all different types of pain and hurt. You may even feel broken from time to time. Always remember that time heals everything.
- *Photovoice Participant*

1,000 HOURS



of employment was provided for Stella's Pride

9,252 POUNDS



(514 bags) of rags were sold to a variety of commercial clients

SOCIAL ENTERPRISE

HUNGRY HEART CAFÉ

The Hungry Heart Café is a socially responsible neighbourhood cafe featuring the freshest local products and many homemade specialties. As a social enterprise initiative of Stella's Circle, the Café provides training opportunities to support those who have faced barriers to successful inclusion in the community.

INCREASED HOURS AND A NEW LOOK

In 2015-16, the Hungry Heart Café extended its hours to be open 8:00 am - 3:00 pm seven days per week. Property and Development staff painted the Café and drapery panels helped to give the café a new sophisticated look.



LOOP BAGS AND CATERING

The Hungry Heart Café Loop Bags started in July and they are named after the skating loop at Bannerman Park. A lovely way to enjoy summer and a great addition for the cafe! Throughout the year, the Café responded to many catering requests, including weddings and hosting book clubs.



AN ENHANCED PROFILE

The Café's Executive Chef, Carolyn Power, was featured on Places To Go with Sharon Snow on the NTV News hour in May. The Café also hosted the CBC Radio Morning Show in December.



BUY SOCIAL

The Hungry Heart Café was certified as a social enterprise by Buy Social Canada, a program which has been created to encourage social value purchasing.



“I finally found a job that I love and that I am really good at. It feels great to be independent. I just bought my first dryer for myself with the money I earned at my new job— next is a chesterfield set.”

- Participant, 44, restaurant dish washer



We asked the community for teacups and stories to help celebrate Stella's Circle Week and anniversary activities, and you delivered! Yvonne Bradbury donated a lovely teacup and told us about her stay at Emmanuel House. Stella Burry would invite young people from the United Churches over to the house in the hopes that “her girls” would meet a nice young man. Yvonne met Don Bradbury at one of these events and they married five years later. They joined us for Afternoon Tea at the Hungry Heart Café, after 52 years of marriage! They are shown holding the teacup Yvonne donated. Now that's a sweet story!

“I was scared at first of going to work. It was stressful losing the safety net of income support! Dealing with housing, paying bills? I didn't know if I could do it. But once I got a taste of full-time work, I knew I was never going back to welfare”

- Participant, 32 years, currently employed in a retail environment

INCLUSION CHOIR

The Stella's Circle Inclusion Choir's ninth year was filled with much activity and enthusiasm! The non-audition choir is comprised of Stella's Circle participants, staff and volunteers.

The choir is a place of acceptance; it increases social connections and can be a great first step to engaging in other community activities. Choir members are empowered by sharing messages of social justice and inclusion with audiences, along with the pure enjoyment, sense of accomplishment and community created through singing together as a group!

One of the highlights this year was the visit by Emma Broomfield, Artistic Director of The Choir with No Name from the UK, thanks to the support from the Bruneau Centre for Excellence in Choral Music and The Music Media and Place Centre at Memorial University.

Emma and the Stella's Circle Inclusion Choir were highlighted on the CBC Here and Now evening news. Carolyn Stokes interviewed Choir Director Helen Murphy, Emma Broomfield and participants while the choir sang. Emma told Carolyn,

“Choirs are such a beautiful way to bring people together.”



40
PRACTICES

20-30
PARTICIPANTS

10
STAFF
MEMBERS

4
MUSICAL
VOLUNTEERS



VOLUNTEER HIGHLIGHT - HELEN MURPHY

This year, Helen Murphy, our beloved Inclusion Choir Director, was honoured with a YWCA Women of Distinction award (Community and Social Development). These awards are presented to recognize the leadership of women who contribute to the development and well-being of other women and to the overall improvement of the community.

At the ceremony, Helen commented that working with the choir and watching others find happiness in it brings her joy.

Helen has been the choir director for nine years since its inception. **Thank you Helen for your dedication and leadership.**

13 PERFORMANCES, INCLUDING:

- Stella's Circle AGM •
- The Singing Network •
- Vigil at Bowering Park •
- Stigma Awareness Week Variety Show •
- CBC Radio Morning Show at the Hungry Heart Café •



Empty Bench

The empty bench is how I felt when I first got charged. I'm really glad for Leanne and the Recovery Center, she helped me get in touch with Nicole and Stella's Circle. Nicole has been with me when I've had to attend Court, so I don't feel so alone. She is helping me deal with my situation and face what I've done, right now I feel like I'm at a stop in my life because I haven't had my day in Court.

- Photovoice Participant

2015-16 HIGHLIGHTS

Stella's Circle had an incredible year with many wonderful moments. Here are just a few highlights showcasing some of the amazing work that was accomplished, our dedicated staff and volunteers, and inspiring participants.

NURTURING OUR AMAZING STAFF

The first Stella's Circle Staff Rewards and Recognition event celebrated staff with 10 to 25 years of service. Twenty-two staff, with a total of 394 years of service, were recognized. We also emphasized employee wellness by striking a *Just For the Health of It* Committee. Through this committee, we created an *Active in My Wellness* program to encourage physical, mental and spiritual wellness. In addition, gratitude bulletin boards were set up at all sites for staff to show appreciation to each other.



A NEW COMMITMENT TO STRATEGIC PLANNING

During this past year, Stella's Circle embarked on a new way of strategic planning. After holding focus groups with 120 participants and staff, we held sessions to develop key priority statements for the organization. Since then, we have invited managers and front-line staff together to develop the six month action items that will help us achieve our priority statements. This process ensures that our strategic plan is alive within the organization and emphasizes accountability of achieving results.

TAKING CARE OF OUR SPIRITUALITY

Stella's Circle is very grateful for the support of the New Ministries Fund of the United Church of Canada Foundation for their support of the half-time Spiritual Co-ordinator position.

A number of programs and events have been initiated by Rev. Pamela Jones-Fitzgerald since she started in the role in July 2015, including Spiritual Journey, Drumming Circle, Music for the Soul and Pet Therapy. In addition to fulfilling the soul, the activities have a strong social interaction component which is important to combat social isolation.

"I attend the Spirituality Sessions on Fridays. In the beginning I was reluctant to attend not knowing its content. I soon realized this was a very important part of my week and life. Rev. Pam imparts her personal touch, not forcing anyone to participate if they don't want to. I truly believe these sessions have helped my recovery and spiritual life. I sincerely look forward to these Fridays and thank God for Rev. Pam."

- Stella's Circle Participant

BUILDING NEW HOMES TOGETHER

The development of two apartments on the lower level of Naomi Centre began in October thanks to funding received from an extension to the Canada-Newfoundland and Labrador Agreement for Investment in Affordable Housing (IAH) 2014-19. These two self-contained bachelor style units will be designed to provide housing for young women ages 16-30, promoting independence and offering support when needed. Ongoing supportive services will be provided by Naomi Centre and the Supportive Housing Program. The development of these apartments is also providing a great opportunity for hands-on training for our Trades Helper participants working with Stella's Circle Property and Development staff.



Photo credit: Sgt. Ronald Duchesne, Rideau Hall ©OSGS, 2015.

ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS

Her Excellency Sharon Johnston and Her Honour Patricia Fagan reviewed the Emmanuel House registry from the 1940s with CEO Lisa Browne at the 70th anniversary celebrations of Emmanuel House in May, 2015. In addition to celebrations like open houses and afternoon tea, the administrative building at Rawlins Cross was renamed the Jocelyn Greene Centre in honour of the former Executive Director of Stella's Circle.

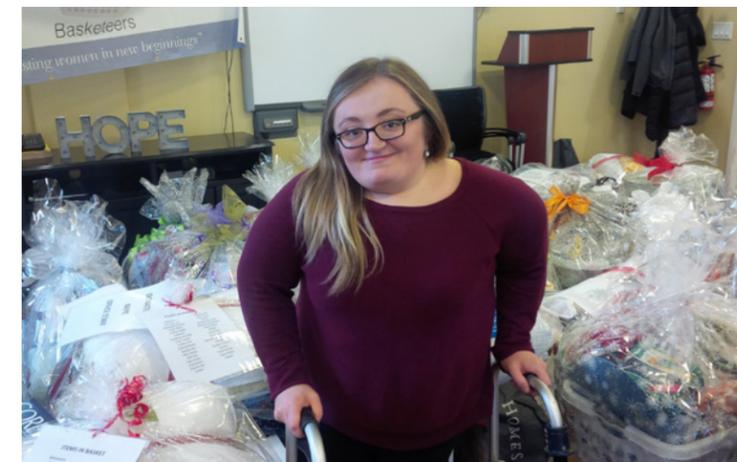
 **553** Maintenance requests were received by Property and Development throughout the year.



GRATEFUL FOR COMMUNITY GENEROSITY

Every year Stella's Circle receives many generous donations from individuals and groups that donate personal care items for our participants, especially around the holidays.

One of these generous groups is the Basketeers, organized locally by Claire LeDrew. Each basket contained various personal care items and household products. These gifts provided warmth and hope to our participants, and more importantly demonstrated that people in the community were thinking of them.



"This year I have been so struck by the generosity of strangers. It made my Christmas. I can't say thanks enough. I'm just really, really grateful."

- Stella's Circle Participant

MORE 2015-16 HIGHLIGHTS

EMPHASIZING PARTNERSHIPS AND SHARING OUR KNOWLEDGE

Stella's Circle understands the importance of collaboration and diversity of knowledge that can lead to new solutions to social issues. In 2015-16, we were pleased to join government and community partners in the Downtown Health Care Collaborative, the Provincial Mental Health and Addictions Advisory Council, the Segregation Review Committee, the Cochrane Community Outreach and Performance Centre Board and the Supportive Housing Providers Network.

Our Director of Supportive Housing was invited to participate in The United Church of Canada delegation to China as a representative from The United Church Social Justice Ministries in Canada. Our Director of Employment Services was invited to provide social enterprise knowledge to the Caribbean Local Economic Development Project as part of the Federation of Canadian Municipalities.

Stella's Circle places many work-term students in various disciplines – social work, occupational therapy, business – and we are committed to helping grow the next generation of leaders.



PART OF OUR COMMUNITY

Just as we want our participants to be part of a community, Stella's Circle feels that it is important to be a part of its community. We have been playing an active role in neighbourhood events such as the Tely 10, the NL Folk Festival and the Housing and Homelessness Pancake Breakfast.

ALL VOICES MATTER

As part of the Just Us Women's Centre visits to the Newfoundland and Labrador Correctional Centre for Women, staff assisted the women in developing an internal newsletter. This poem, written by an inmate, appeared in the fall issue.

Thoughts of You

Lying awake with thoughts of you on my mind,
Wishing there was a button to hit rewind.
Do some things different maybe a change or two,
Only the wrong things I would undo.
We would not be apart today,
In your arms is where I'd stay.
Together we can make these changes come true.
We can fix the wrongs and make them right,
All the days ahead will shine so bright.
Only good times lie ahead,
I think of you often as I lie in bed.
You're my last thought as I drift off to sleep,
Dreams of you I will forever keep.

- *Inmate at the Newfoundland and Labrador Correctional Centre for Women*

GRATITUDE FOR OUR FUNDERS

We have tremendous respect for our funders and are grateful, not only for their financial support, but also for their expertise and guidance.

Government of Newfoundland & Labrador

Department of Health and Community Services
Department of Advanced Education & Skills
Department of Justice and Public Safety

Eastern Health

Newfoundland & Labrador Housing Corporation

Government of Canada

Correctional Services Canada

City of St. John's

The United Church of Canada

Mission & Service Fund

A DEDICATED FOUNDATION



THE WORK OF MANY

Mark MacLeod began serving with the Stella Burry Foundation Board of Directors in 2006, and, after a brief period away from the province for work commitments, returned to the board in 2009. He has served as Chair of the Foundation since November of 2012.

"I've seen the impact that Stella's Circle can have on participants," says Mark. "I feel passionate about the cause so it makes sense that I want to volunteer to ensure that funds are available to build on the success of the organization."

Under Mark's leadership, the Foundation has attracted significant financial gifts for its Changing Lives Campaign, to raise funds for the Employment Training Centre at 114 Cabot Street. The Centre brings together employment and skills training programs to help participants become and stay employed. Almost \$3 million has been raised for this campaign with \$150,000 remaining.

"I hear people at Stella's Circle say that the best social program is a job," comments Mark, "and I truly understand that." So does Mark's employer, Chevron Canada. **Since their first donation in 2005, Chevron Canada has committed \$1.2 million to the organization—an incredible contribution.**

"Of course, Stella's Circle has many fundraising opportunities. For example, this past year, residents of Emmanuel House were able to enjoy the benefits of therapeutic yoga thanks to funding from United Way of Newfoundland & Labrador. The Home Depot Canada Foundation provided funding for interior upgrades for Naomi Centre ensuring a comfortable living environment for young women seeking emergency shelter. This Annual Report outlines other examples and the Foundation Board is grateful for them all," says Mark.

"On behalf of the Foundation Board, I extend my gratitude to the generous donors who support the programs and services of Stella's Circle. You are truly making a difference. I also extend my thanks to the Foundation Board members who so passionately believe in the mission of Stella's Circle. **It's this belief in our mission that drives our Board members to raise awareness and funds for the organization.**"

FOUNDATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS (April 1, 2015 – March 31, 2016)

Mark MacLeod, Chair
Cathy Duke, Vice Chair
Fred Earle, Treasurer
John Baker
Bob Carter
(until July 2015)
Paul Fowler
Dan Penney
Catherine Dempsey*
(appointed October 2015)
Ted O'Keefe
(appointed January 2016)
Cindy Roma*
(until May 2015)

*Stella's Circle
Board of Director Liaison

YEAR IN GIVING

CHANGING LIVES CAMPAIGN

The Changing Lives Campaign began in 2013 to raise funds to create an Employment Training Centre where all of Stella's Circle employment programs could be offered. With the acquisition of the former Tooton Building on Cabot Street, and the renovations of the building, Stella's Circle became closer to this reality. The building is a 15,000 square foot facility that accommodates all employment and training programs. In addition to Adult Basic Education (ABE), employment counselling and groups, this location includes a computer lab for job search, on-line applications and the completion of banking and government forms. The site has workshop space suitable for a variety of light carpentry, demonstrations around tool safety, and is a training site for individuals learning skills for the commercial cleaning industry. In addition to Employment Services, the building is home to our Community Support Program which offers community-based support, counselling and groups. Almost \$3 million has been raised for this campaign with \$150,000 remaining.



CHANGING LIVES CAMPAIGN DONORS (2013 - AUGUST 2016)

VISIONARY GIFT \$750,000



BUILDER GIFT \$500,000-749,999



LEADERSHIP GIFT \$250,000-499,999



CHANGE MAKER GIFT \$100,000-249,999



MENTOR GIFT \$25,000-99,999



Anonymous
 Congregation of the Sisters of Mercy
 Paul Fowler

FRIEND GIFT \$1,000-24,999

Anonymous (2)	
Catherine and Jim Dempsey	Newfoundland and Labrador
Mark MacLeod and	Liquor Corporation
Roberta DiDonato	Altius Minerals
Patten Family Foundation	VOCM Cares Foundation
Nalcor Energy	Tom Williams
Newsul Enterprise	Project 4 Awesome
Northern Property REIT	Clan Mac Foundation



THE HARDING FAMILY FUND—CONTINUING THE GIVING SPIRIT IN NEW GENERATIONS

In the fall of 2015, Ann Harding was on a vacation in Newfoundland from British Columbia. Ann was connecting with her family roots. Her family were founding settlers in Bonne Bay and her father was born there. Her grandfather was an active advocate for change, with one of his most notable achievements convincing the government of the day to construct the first Bonne Bay Hospital at Norris Point. He was very generous to those less fortunate.

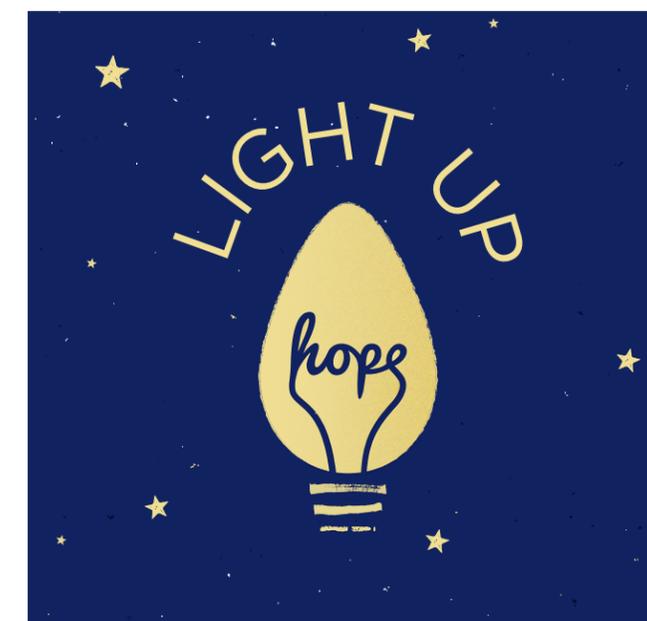
Coincidentally, several months before her trip to Newfoundland, Ann had read an article about Stella's Circle in her church bulletin at St. Andrew's Wesley United Church in Vancouver. The article inspired her to visit Stella's Circle while she was in St. John's. During her visit, she met with staff who shared with Ann a little about the work that Stella's Circle does in the community. With her family history in mind, Ann felt determined to honour their memory; thus, the Harding Family Fund was created at Stella's Circle.

"The work that Stella's Circle does, providing for others in so many meaningful ways, struck a chord with me and seemed a perfect fit for our family. I like to think that our contributions will be a credit to our grandfather's memory," says Ann.

Stella's Circle is so grateful to Ann and her family for their generosity and community spirit. What an incredible way to honour her family, by continuing to help those in need.

LIGHT UP HOPE

Members of the community were invited to help Light Up Hope at Rawlins Cross on Giving Tuesday. Attendees enjoyed caroling, cookies and hot drinks at the Rawlins Cross lighting ceremony. As well, donations were encouraged with Bluedrop Performance Learning matching funds up to \$2500. Perfect Day Canada provided generous marketing support.



YEAR IN GIVING

2015-16 DONORS

\$25,000 - \$99,999



New Ministries Fund of The United Church
of Canada Foundation

The Watkins Fund for Innovative Senior's Ministry
at the United Church of Canada Foundation

\$1,000 - \$24,000

Anonymous (5)	Marine Institute International
Paul Antle and Renee Marquis Antle	NLCU Charitable Foundation Corporation
Bluedrop Performance Learning	RBC Foundation
Bourne's Holding Limited	Graham Roome
Lisa Browne and Tim Hollett	Rebecca Roome and Doug Smith
City of St. John's	Scottish Rite Charitable Foundation of Canada
Congregation of the Sisters of Mercy	Staff of Steers Insurance Limited
Congregation of the Sisters of the Presentation	The Co-operators
Ches Crosbie, Q.C	The Home Depot Canada Foundation
Gary Davies	The O'Neill Foundation Inc.
Marget Davis	The United Way of Newfoundland and Labrador
Cathy Duke	United Church Men's Groups
Executive Coffee	United Church Women's Groups
Tom and Susan Foran	Village Dental Office
Harding Family Fund	Milton Vokey
Gifts with Vision, The United Church of Canada	
GSF Grand Banks Social Committee	
Mark MacLeod and Roberta DiDonato	

IN KIND DONATIONS

Knightsbridge	Telelink
Robertson Surette	Dave Strong
Perfect Day Canada	



Similar Yet Different

Sometimes we walk in unison.
Sometimes we walk alone.
- Photovoice Participant

FINANCIALS

STELLA BURRY COMMUNITY SERVICES INC.
OPERATING STATEMENT OF REVENUE AND EXPENDITURES
Year Ended March 31, 2016

PROGRAM	2016			2015		
	Revenue \$	Expenditure \$	Under / (Over) Expenditure \$	Revenue \$	Expenditure \$	Under / (Over) Expenditure \$
Emmanuel House	1,123,443	1,126,798	(3,355)	1,117,934	1,117,869	65
Naomi Centre	963,439	968,943	(5,504)	910,707	909,626	1,081
Community Support Program	1,353,137	1,353,138	(1)	1,399,161	1,398,442	719
Employment Services	1,188,355	1,189,264	(909)	1,190,761	1,190,761	-
Adult Basic Education	83,461	83,461	-	83,461	83,460	1
Supportive Housing Team	712,713	712,887	(174)	708,852	707,926	926
Just Us Women's Centre	341,777	343,393	(1,616)	356,166	356,112	54
Property Management	883,145	738,768	144,377	839,263	708,057	131,206
General Operations	416,907	413,558	3,349	423,379	422,819	560
Can Do	263,485	262,997	488	224,474	224,315	159
Hungry Heart Cafe	668,923	660,335	8,588	635,006	633,218	1,788
Technical Resource Facilitator	138,688	138,688	-	134,819	134,819	-
Wellness/Outreach Services	26,515	28,126	(1,611)	3,826	3,826	-
Front Step	103,223	103,223	-	-	-	-
Financial Literacy	-	-	-	52,043	52,043	-
Community Development Worker	-	-	-	3,592	3,592	-
Social Enterprise	-	-	-	168,094	168,093	1
Excess of revenue over expenditures	8,267,211	8,123,579	143,632	8,251,538	8,114,978	136,560
Amortization of deferred capital contributions not credited to programs.			451,940			441,517
Amortization of capital assets not charged to programs			517,044			523,270
Excess of revenue over expenditures			78,528			54,807

The financial information in this annual report is a component of our complete audited financial statements which are available on our website at www.stellascircle.ca or by calling 709-738-7730.

STELLA BURRY COMMUNITY SERVICES INC.
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION
March 31, 2016

	2016	2015
ASSETS	\$	\$
CURRENT		
Cash	206,426	-
Term deposits	54,450	54,369
Accounts receivable	296,386	360,345
Due from related parties	13,834	36,350
Harmonized sales tax recoverable	19,069	9,660
Inventory	5,960	5,679
Prepaid expenses	186,865	207,198
	782,990	673,601
CAPITAL ASSETS	12,224,341	12,293,965
	13,007,331	12,967,566
LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS	\$	\$
CURRENT		
Bank indebtedness	-	182,281
Demand loan	273,629	388,818
Accounts payable	336,774	322,055
Wages payable	289,354	239,478
Deferred contributions	145,267	88,787
Current portion of long term debt	66,000	55,359
	1,111,024	1,276,778
LONG TERM DEBT	1,279,766	1,344,176
DEFERRED CAPITAL CONTRIBUTIONS	9,335,082	9,186,716
ACCRUAL FOR SERVANCE LIABILITY	152,068	109,033
	11,877,940	11,916,703
NET ASSETS		
Internally restricted maintenance replacement reserve	373,051	303,051
Unrestricted fund	756,340	747,812
	1,129,391	1,050,863
	13,007,331	12,967,566

FINANCIALS

STELLA BURRY FOUNDATION INC.
STATEMENT OF REVENUE AND EXPENDITURES
Year Ended March 31, 2016

	2016			2015
	Unrestricted \$	Restricted \$	Total \$	Total \$
REVENUE				
Changing Lives Campaign	-	428,542	428,542	1,035,143
Grants	-	166,826	166,826	195,208
Donations	100,196	23,944	124,140	109,250
Fundraising	-	-	-	9,937
Interest from other sources	235	-	235	1,677
	100,431	619,312	719,743	1,351,215
EXPENDITURES				Restricted \$
Funds allocated to Stella's Circle programs	79,246	619,312	698,558	1,322,993
Fundraising	7,850	-	7,850	12,193
Audit Fees	4,899	-	4,899	2,215
Dues and subscriptions	3,671	-	3,671	2,338
Interest charges and fees	2,042	-	2,042	1,860
Board and committee	1,188	-	1,188	1,241
Advertising and promotion	407	-	407	2,833
Amortization	98	-	98	135
Foundation development	89	-	89	497
Office supplies	-	-	-	957
Telephone	-	-	-	976
Travel	-	-	-	1,237
	99,490	619,312	718,802	1,349,475
EXCESS OF REVENUE OVER EXPENDITURES	941	-	941	1,740

STELLA BURRY FOUNDATION INC.
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION
March 31, 2016

	2016	2015
ASSETS	\$	\$
CURRENT		
Cash	142,651	132,751
Marketable securities, stated at market value	21,737	21,501
Accounts receivable	2,201	163,071
Prepaid expenses	1,337	-
	167,926	317,323
CAPITAL ASSETS	392	490
	168,318	317,813
LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS	\$	\$
CURRENT		
Accounts payable	2,666	-
Due to related parties	13,834	36,350
Deferred revenue	116,056	246,642
	132,556	282,992
NET ASSETS	35,762	34,821
	168,318	317,813

The financial information in this annual report is a component of our complete audited financial statements which are available on our website at www.stellacircle.ca or by calling 709-738-7730.



The Never Ending Battle

The war may be over but the canon is still there representing that life is a battle and we have to fight to survive no matter how hard things may seem. If you put your mind to it you can do and be anything you want. Every day may not be good but there's good in every day. - Photovoice Participant

DONATE TO STELLA'S CIRCLE

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 basis, monthly, or on a customized schedule to suit your needs.

WAYS TO DONATE

 online at www.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 can be attractive to donors because they can provide tax benefits.

The most common forms 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 Cathy White at C.White@stellascircle.ca or (709) 738-7730.



Stella's Circle
Administration Office and Foundation Office
142 Military Road
St. John's, NL A1C 2E6

StellasCircle.ca
709-738-8390
Info@stellascircle.ca

