

ANNUAL REPORT 2024-25



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RECLAIMING OUR NAME: A MESSAGE ABOUT OUR REBRAND



HURON WOMEN'S SHELTER,
SECOND STAGE HOUSING &
COUNSELLING SERVICES



artemis
HURON

This year, we chose to do something bold. We chose to rename ourselves.

Not because we were lost—but because we've grown.

For decades, we've been known as Huron Women's Shelter, Second Stage Housing & Counselling Services. It's a name that holds deep roots and real history. But as our work has expanded—across services, across systems, and across lives—it became clear: we needed a name that could hold the full strength of who we are now.

We are now Artemis Huron.

Named for the goddess of protection, transition, and the wild, Artemis speaks to everything we embody; fierce devotion, deep healing, and the unwavering belief that every woman deserves safety, dignity, and choice. Artemis also represents the moon and reminds us that healing isn't linear, it comes in phases, in cycles, just like the women we walk beside.

This rebrand isn't a departure. It's a homecoming.

Our mission is unchanged. Our services remain. Our roots are strong. But we are no longer just a shelter; we are advocates, navigators, educators, listeners, and builders of a world beyond violence. Artemis Huron makes space for all the work we do and everyone we support.

Brilliant. Brave. Healing. Devoted. Warm. These are not just words; they are virtues we live every day. And now, they are etched into our new identity.

To everyone who has supported us through this evolution: thank you. You have helped make this moment possible. You have helped shape Artemis Huron.

We carry forward the legacy of Huron Women's Shelter with pride—and we step into this next chapter with power, purpose, and an unshakable vision for what's possible.

With solidarity and gratitude,

Corey Allison

COREY ALLISON
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

MESSAGE FROM THE LEADERSHIP TEAM

This year, as the world around us grows louder with division, inequity, and unrest, we at Artemis Huron are turning toward the deeper truths that guide our work: That feminism is not a relic of the past, but a vital, living force—and that real change begins when we center the voices of those most impacted by violence and injustice.

We are living in a time when rights once thought secure are being stripped away. The systems meant to protect and uplift are being eroded, and the basic needs of women—safe shelter, healthcare, childcare, and fair wages—are too often seen as negotiable. In these times, it is not enough to simply hold the line. We must rise. We must reimagine. We must reclaim.

Reclaim our feminism. Reclaim the radical roots of a movement born from courage, collaboration, and the unwavering belief that everyone deserves to live free from violence. This reclamation isn't nostalgic—it is necessary. Because feminism, in its truest form, does not exclude or divide. It liberates. It listens. It leads.

At Artemis Huron, we are more than a service provider—we are a movement grounded in compassion, advocacy, and community. We know that gender-based violence does not happen in isolation. It is upheld by systems—economic, political, cultural—that must be challenged and changed. That's why our work goes beyond shelter walls. We are building capacity across our entire community to not only respond to violence, but to *end* it.

Our feminist leadership demands that we listen to those whose stories are too often silenced—Indigenous women, racialized women, women with disabilities, 2SLGBTQIA+, survivors navigating poverty, or those with precarious immigration status. These voices are not at the margins of our work; they are at the heart of it.

We also know this: real transformation is possible. We've seen it in the eyes of women stepping into safety for the first time. We've heard it in the voices of survivors becoming advocates. We've felt it in the fierce commitment of our staff, volunteers, partners, and donors—each one playing a part in this shared vision of justice.

As we look ahead, we do so with clarity and conviction. Our feminism is unapologetic. Our purpose is collective. And our vision is bold: a world where everyone can live free from violence, with dignity, equity, and joy.

Thank you for standing with us. For believing in this work. For helping us plant the seeds of lasting change.

In solidarity,
Airianna & Corey

Airianna Murdoch-Fyke

AIRIANNA MURDOCH-FYKE
BOARD CHAIR

Corey Allison

COREY ALLISON
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

ABOUT US

Artemis Huron serves women and children who have or are experiencing gender-based violence in Huron County. We are committed to advocating for change as well as providing a safe, supportive space for anyone impacted by gender-based violence.

Our services include a 10-bed emergency shelter facility in Goderich, a 24/7 support phone line, counselling, children and youth programming, and a Second Stage Program with 22 residential units. We offer risk assessment, safety planning, advocacy, and system navigation. Through outreach, education, and collaboration with community partners, we strive to break the cycles of violence and create lasting change.

MISSION

We advocate for women's equality, work to prevent violence, and provide services for women and their children who have experienced abuse and/or violence.

VISION

A world free from abuse, violence, oppression, and poverty where all woman have achieved equality.

VALUES

These organizational values are our foundation and they live and breathe in every decision we make as an organization. These values we have committed to reflect the essence of who we are as an organization, and what we adhere to when faced with tough decisions.

LEADERSHIP

We are leaders. Leaders take responsibility for their world. We invest in developing leadership in every person in the organization, including those we serve.

FEMINISM

We are feminists. We value feminism, and our work is grounded in our feminist roots. Through activism and education, we empower our community to stand for equity.

HEALING

Healing is a life-long journey. At Artemis Huron, healing is trauma-focused and heart-based, encompassing the whole person.

COURAGE

We have courage. We speak truth to power. We acknowledge the courage required for a person to both stay in, and leave, an abusive relationship.

RELATIONSHIP

We stand in relationships. Through relationships, we build trust, allowing us to show up with authenticity and transparency, conditions necessary for deep, sustainable change.

a WHAT WE DO

We're more than a shelter. Here are just a few of the things we can support you with.



Safety Planning



24/7 Support Line



Counselling



Referrals to Other Experts



Court Support



Children & Youth Support

Information, Resources and Advocacy



Holistic Healing



Healing Focused Housing



Support for Family and Friends of Those Experiencing Abuse

GET IN TOUCH

1 (800) 265-5506
www.artemishuron.ca

2024-25 STATS

60

women & children
served in our Shelter
Program

1724

calls taken through
our 24/7 Support Line

153

women & children served
in our Children's Program

136

women served in
Counselling

78

women supported
in family court

46

women received
Sexual Violence
Counselling

100

women supported
through our
Transition Program

60

women & children
served in our Second
Stage Program

40 YEARS OF IMPACT

This past June marked 40 years since the doors first opened at Artemis Huron, then known as Survival Through Friendship House. From day one, the shelter has been a safe haven for women and children in crisis across Huron County.

We are forever grateful to our founder, **June Taylor**. Driven by her own lived experience of gender-based violence, June worked tirelessly to create a place where women could find safety, support, and hope.



Her determination and compassion led her to secure funding through the Anglican Diocese to purchase a home on McDonald Street in Goderich, and officially open the first women's shelter in Huron County on June 20, 1985. That day marked a turning point in our community—ushering in a new era of safety and support.

But June didn't stop there. She continued to raise funds, give talks, collect supplies, and advocate for more comprehensive services. Thanks to her groundwork and continued community and government support, the shelter moved to a new, purpose-built facility on Huron Road in 1993, where we still operate today.

Now, four decades later, Artemis Huron has expanded far beyond its original walls. In addition to a larger emergency shelter, we now offer second stage programming, transition support, counselling, children's programming, and more.

As we celebrated this milestone, many women shared reflections on what the shelter has meant to them over the years:

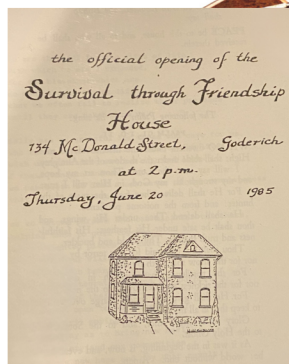
"This space has kept me safe in two of the hardest chapters of my life," one survivor wrote. "And somehow in the middle of it, I remember more of the good times in this space than I remember the reasons why I was there."

"Thank you for all the work you have done in the area," another shared. "[You] helped me figure out how to look at my abusive childhood and come to a sort of peace with my history." Free therapy was a turning point: "It is so beneficial to hear other stories, to know that you weren't the only one. The fact it was free, was everything."

Their words are a powerful reminder that Artemis Huron is more than a shelter—it's a community of care. As we mark 40 years, we honour June's legacy by continuing to be a place where women can turn when they need it most.



McDonald House at Official Opening, June 1985



Invitation to Official Opening



SURVIVOR SPOTLIGHT

SUSAN

In October 2024, Ontario Provincial Police brought Susan to Artemis Huron for immediate shelter support following a violent assault by the man she had been living with, who was later charged. From that moment, our staff walked alongside Susan as she began a courageous journey of healing.

Susan arrived carrying deep grief—having lost her long-time partner and two of her children in recent years. These tragedies left her isolated and vulnerable, navigating survival with little support. Her time at Artemis Huron was the first chance in years to rest and begin rebuilding.

Susan fully engaged in her healing process, attending support groups, workshops, and weekly goal-setting meetings—all while managing external appointments and reconnecting with essential services.

Housing remained one of Susan's greatest challenges though. Since the loss of her family, she has cycled through unsafe living

situations and kept a car she couldn't drive, just in case she needed somewhere to sleep in the coming winter.

Artemis Huron staff advocated for her placement in the Second Stage Healing Program, our supportive housing environment, where Susan could continue to heal while accessing health supports and community connections.

Today, Susan continues her journey with support from Artemis Huron through both the Second Stage and Transitional Support Programs. She has begun reconnecting with family, including her granddaughter, who shares the same fierce spirit and compassion that Susan embodies.

Walking alongside Susan has been a privilege for our staff. Her story is one of resilience, vulnerability, and transformation. It is a testament to what's possible when survivors are met with care, compassion, and community.



DONOR SPOTLIGHT

MELANIE BALL

As a long-time monthly donor, Melanie Ball is someone who truly believes in the power of consistent community support. Married with two young daughters, Melanie loves camping and spending time outdoors with her family. She's also been a teacher in Goderich for over two decades—a role that helped spark her connection to Artemis Huron. "I saw the impact the shelter had on some of my students," Melanie shares. So, when she was invited to join Artemis Huron's Board of Directors in 2012, she readily agreed.

After serving on the Board for six years, Melanie stayed connected by continuing to volunteer for Breakfast with Santa, and signing up for Artemis Huron's Monthly Donor Program.

"I just wanted to continue that connection with monthly donations," she explains, "I know how powerful it is to have consistent income as opposed to—ooh, here's a miracle fundraising event! My time on the board made me more aware of how important the

community support is—to show that the community is behind an organization."

Melanie is a strong advocate for the work Artemis Huron does to support survivors of gender-based violence. "I wish [we] didn't need [it]!" she says of Artemis Huron's critical work. "Once you don't need to be around anymore, I will be glad to see you gone. But while you're needed, it's important that you're [in our community]."

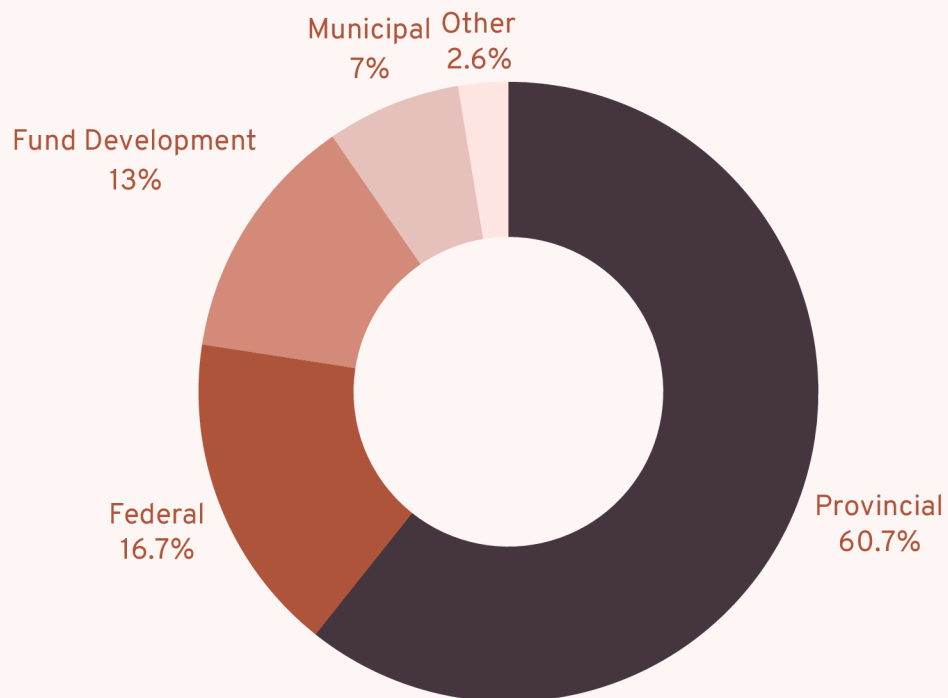
We are so grateful for supporters like Melanie, whose commitment helps ensure Artemis Huron remains a steady and trusted presence in our community.

Want to join Melanie as a monthly donor? Sign up by selecting Monthly on our donation form:

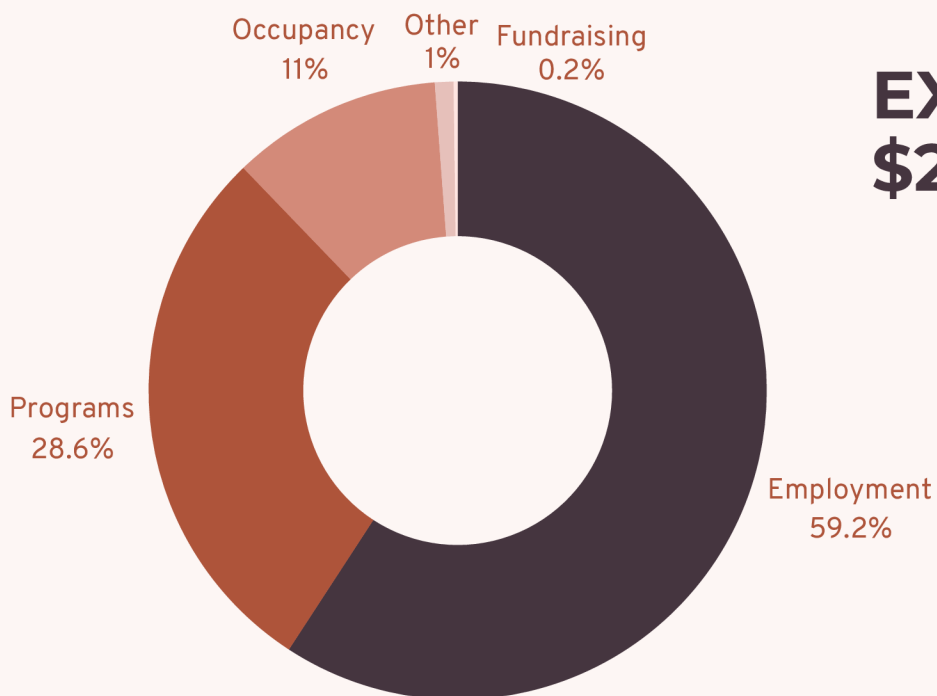


FINANCES

REVENUE:
\$2,539,748



EXPENSES:
\$2,401,330





With the rebrand we have a new website:

WWW.ARTEMISHURON.CA



We have also launched an Instagram:

@ARTEMISHURON

info@artemishuron.ca

Administration: 1 (519) 524-5333

24/7 Support: 1 (800) 265-5506

376 Huron Road

Goderich, ON

N7A 3A5

