

\$13,700 Raised In One Hour for Haven Society on International Women's Day

NANAIMO, BC (March 10, 2017) Wednesday evening, at the fourth meeting of the philanthropic non-profit organization 100+ Women Who Care Mid-Island, group members voted to donate \$13,700 to Haven Society, an organization that provides shelter and supportive services to victims of sexualized and domestic violence. Every year, nearly 4000 women, children, youth, and their families who have experienced violence, access the services provided by Haven Society.

"Having delivered incredibly important services to the Central Island since 1978, Haven Society is well known to our members," said Leanne Kelly, Chair, 100+ Women Who Care Mid-Island. "Our organization is made up of women from several different communities and all of these places benefit from Haven Society's services. We are very pleased to support this important organization, and we hope our donation can contribute to eventually putting them out of business."

"We are so grateful for the tremendous support and contribution of 100+ Women Who Care Mid-Island," said Anne Taylor, Executive Director, Haven Society. "This gift will assist us in providing the support and services our clients deserve. It was a perfect ending to International Women's Day and a fitting 'Be Bold for Change' statement."

100+ Women Who Care Mid Island is a not-for-profit organization that makes a quarterly donation to a registered charity based in Ladysmith, Nanaimo, Lantzville, a community in-between, or Gabriola Island. Members meet four times a year for one hour and raise over \$10,000 for a charity. Since the first meeting on June 8, 2016, over \$48,000 has been raised for local registered charities. Ladysmith Resources Centre Society, Nanaimo Hospice Society, and Ladysmith Family and Friends have been past donation recipients.

100+ Women Who Care Members nominate charities to be considered for a donation. At each meeting, three-charity nomination forms are drawn from a basket and the members', who submitted the forms, each make a five-minute presentation about their charity. After the presentation, members vote, by secret ballot, for one of the three charities, and before leaving the meeting, all members write a \$100 cheque to the charity that received the most votes.

Currently, 100+ Women Who Care Mid-Island has 140 members and membership recruitment is ongoing. The more members the group has, the more money they are able to donate. Women can join 100+ Women Who Care Mid-Island online through the organization's website 100WomenWhoCareMidIsland.com.

Currently there are close to 400 active 100 Who Care Chapters located throughout the world. On Vancouver Island there are four chapters: 100+ Women Who Care Victoria, 100+ Women Who Care Cowichan, 100+ Women Who Care Oceanside and 100+ Women Who Care Mid-Island.

Karen Dunigan of Jackson, Michigan, formed the first 100 Women Who Care chapter in November 2006. At that first meeting, the Jackson 100 Women Who Care group raised over \$12,000 to buy 300 new baby cribs for a local charity.

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