

***restorations*** ANNUAL REPORT 2018

**“The feeling I have of peace and calmness is great. I definitely feel I can move forward now. It’s different for me now that it’s over.”**

**Survivor Friend**

## **A letter from our BOARD CHAIR**

As 2018 comes to a close and we at Restorations Second Stage Homes reflect back, we see the weaving of memories provoking both amazement and encouragement.

Those individuals and organizations who have come alongside us to share in our passion to support and serve women exiting commercial sexual exploitation have so invigorated and inspired us! We have had some wonderful opportunities to share and explore our dream of creating a home where women can heal and flourish.

At a time when there are many competing and troubling issues that need addressing, God has blessed us in our mission to address the issue of long-term housing for victims of exploitation. As believers, we are called to love our neighbours as well as those in need, and we need not be discouraged by feeling unable to have an impact on such an overwhelmingly proliferating problem.

With faith in our powerful God, the generosity of our enduring donors, and the blessings of continued opportunity, our dream of a home becomes a clear and possible reality.

Thank you for coming alongside us in this mission.

*Cathy Fratoni*



## A letter from our **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

Over the past year, our Board of Directors has identified and named three core values that continue to shape how we show up in this work and how we develop our programming. I would like to take this opportunity to provide my own reflections on what these core values mean to me as I complete my first year as Restorations' Executive Director.

***Living God's Love:*** *Embracing the love and grace God extends to us, we extend that love and grace to all.*

Years ago, when I first started working for another organization that provided short-term services to survivors of human trafficking, I was sitting outside with the first survivor I would come to support. She had questions about my family and my husband and after sharing with her, she said "You're so lucky to have someone who loves you." I was stopped in my tracks. I don't remember what my response was – it was probably inadequate – but I never again want to support another survivor of commercial sexual exploitation without her leaving my presence feeling tremendously loved and valued and knowing she has a place to belong. We at Restorations know that we are able to extend love and grace to others because we have experienced it so beautifully in our relationships with God.

***Embracing Community Connection:*** *We choose collaboration over isolation, community over competition, and servanthood over prestige.*

We **cannot** do this work without being in relationships with others. I do not want the lie of scarcity or feelings of jealousy to prohibit us from engaging with others in order to see our mission and vision come to life, because there is such beauty when we come together as a community of people to promote the flourishing of others. The needs victims and survivors have are great, and we are so thankful for our partners, supporters, colleagues, and fellow ministries who embrace with us the importance of community, connection and collaboration.

***Honouring Individual Uniqueness:*** *United by our foundational belief that everyone is created in the image of God, we celebrate each person's unique skills, talents and interests, and encourage all to flourish in their life's purpose.*

At Restorations, we have developed our programming to reflect a strengths-based approach to working with Survivors. Over the years, we have emphasized our desire to come alongside Survivors in helping them realize the full potential of their skills, strengths, assets, passions and talents. As our organization has grown, we've recognized the value in honouring individual uniqueness not just in service provision to Survivors, but in our relationships with everyone including volunteers, donors, other ministries and colleagues. We are each gifted with unique abilities, skills and interests, and we believe that together we form the beautiful tapestry of what Restorations has to offer.

As I look back over 2018, I can see the tremendous development our organization has experienced. This growth would not have been possible without incredible people who have joined or come alongside Restorations in faith that together we can provide safe, stable and supportive housing where survivors of commercial sexual exploitation can find compassion, encouragement and healing. You will learn more about these relationships and partnerships in the pages to come, but I would like to highlight the most exciting development of our year: in partnership with the Central District office of the Christian & Missionary Alliance in Canada, we have identified a home in Burlington, Ontario that will be Restorations' first home! As we celebrate Restorations' 5th birthday this year, it is incredible to look back over the years to see how we have come to this point. We invite you to stay connected with us to hear more about our renovation plans over 2019 with a goal date of being open in 2020!

The coming year will be an amazing one for Restorations, especially with your support and encouragement!



# A YEAR IN REVIEW

## OUR TEAM

### ***Nancy's "Retirement"***

At our October meeting, we said thank you (but not goodbye!) to our Founding Chair, Nancy Wing. Under Nancy's leadership and faithful dedication five years ago, Restorations was formed with the vision to provide long term housing and programming for survivors of commercial sexual exploitation. Nancy has dedicated countless hours and incredible energy to Restorations, passionately leading the organization through development and growth. Nancy decided to step down as Chair and has become our very first programming volunteer as we move toward a future of getting our first home and becoming operational. We are so thankful for Nancy, for her heart, wisdom, discernment and passion!



### ***Board of Directors***

Over the last year, we have said fond farewells to two other board members, Sandy Botembo and Katee Duarte. They are incredible servants who used their talents and skills for the betterment of Restorations, and we are so thankful for the time they served with us.

Our Board of Directors currently consists of Cathy Fratoni (Chair), Sally Wong (Treasurer), Christina Bender, and Jennifer Potter. We are looking for new board members who can both complement our current team and challenge us to move forward into our next stages of development. If you would like more information on becoming a Board Director, please email us at [info@restorationscanada.org](mailto:info@restorationscanada.org).

### ***Partners and Supporters***

Over 2018, we have had a number of people come alongside us to lend us their expertise and share their passion. We are so thankful for each of them and their commitment and dedication and would like to highlight a few.

**Meaghan Martin** has coordinated the "Sleep Tight PJ Party" for the last five years. Sleep Tight is a campaign to raise much needed awareness on human trafficking while also raising financial resources for agencies who support victims and survivors. This past summer, Meaghan approached us to ask if we would consider being the recipients of this year's fundraising. We gladly said yes! The Sleep Tight PJ Party was held in Waterloo region on November 15, and with thanks to the event's title sponsor (Larrek Investigations), over \$11,000 was raised for Restorations! At the event, Meaghan also surprised us by announcing next year's date (Thursday, November 14, 2019!) with the news that Restorations would again be the recipient of funds raised.

Also this year we had the privilege of meeting a woman by the name of **Asha Ponnachan**. She has met with members of our board a number of times over the last year, sharing her passion and valuable insights into a future social enterprise which might aid in financially supporting a second stage home. While plans for a social enterprise venture is not in our immediate plans, we are thankful for Asha for keeping this conversation front and centre, and also for her wisdom into fundraising and building our networks.

### ***Volunteers***

For the last five years, our volunteer team has consisted primarily of our Board of Directors. We spent time in 2018 developing a volunteer handbook and policies with the goal of expanding our volunteer team in 2019. We have exciting projects planned for 2019, so we are looking for regular volunteers for the following roles:


- Administrative Volunteer (assist with data entry, emailing, etc.)
- Public Relations & Communications Volunteer (assist with social media development, communication pieces, website management, etc.)
- Fundraising Volunteer (assist in planning Restorations events and fundraisers, grant research and writing, etc.)
- Research Volunteer (assist in policy development, research, writing, etc.)


If you are interested in volunteering with Restorations, please email us at [info@restorationscanada.org](mailto:info@restorationscanada.org).

## A YEAR IN REVIEW

# COMMUNICATIONS

As our organization has grown in leaps and bounds over the last year, we have had many exciting updates to share. We value being able to share how donations and financial support benefits Restorations, the women we serve (and will come to serve!), and our larger community. We have dedicated more time to communicating news and updates through various avenues including monthly e-newsletters, mailings, and an increased presence on social media. If you would like to receive our monthly email, please contact us at [info@restorationscanada.org](mailto:info@restorationscanada.org) to be added to our list. You can also follow us on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter.

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## PRICELESS

Over the last year, we have been screening the film Priceless to generate interest around our mission and vision. Opportunities to have churches and individuals host screening events provided occasions for valuable conversation, questions and partnering. We hosted four screenings in 2018 with plans for more events in 2019.

**“We’ve learned that it’s not always about how many are in attendance, but who is in attendance.”**

**Jennifer Potter, Board Director**



One of our screenings was made possible with a grant from the Government of Canada’s Department of Justice to host an event during the National Victims & Survivors of Crime Week (May 27 - June 2, 2018). We hosted a free public event on Friday, June 1 at the Ron Joyce Centre in Burlington. With the funds, we were also able to create an awareness video about Restorations.

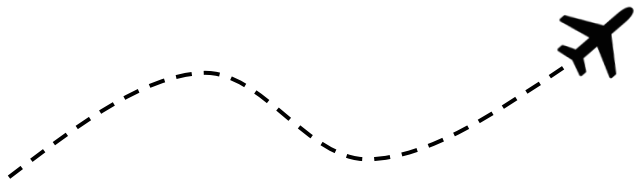
At our Priceless events, we also have new “restore” t-shirts that we sell with all proceeds going towards our work of opening our first home.



## A YEAR IN REVIEW

### AIR MILES

Did you know that you can collect Air Miles for Restorations? Earlier this year, we registered with Air Miles so supporters can collect points for us or transfer points to us. When you use an Air Miles card to collect points for Restorations, points go directly to us and we use them in practical ways to serve survivors of commercial sexual exploitation. This year, we used points to take a Survivor Friend to see a movie after a long day of testifying in court against her trafficker. Seeing a comedy provided some much needed relief after some long and emotionally draining days. We've also used the points to go out for coffee with Survivor Friends, to mentor them and build relationships. In the future, we can use points to buy groceries, gas, and renovation materials.



### HAMILTON ANTI-HUMAN TRAFFICKING COALITION'S "GUIDE FOR SUPPORTING TRAFFICKED PERSONS"

In the spirit of being collaborative and doing our work in community with others, we sit on a variety of coalitions and teams including the Hamilton Anti-Human Trafficking Coalition. After receiving some funding in the spring of 2018, the Coalition's steering committee approached our Executive Director to ask us to write a toolkit for service providers. The goal of the toolkit was to help service providers better understand, identify and serve trafficked persons. The toolkit was released at an education event in June 2018 and continues to be a resource for service providers across the greater Hamilton region.

*rejoice • restore • release*

**“ Stability, a support network, and social service access is what turns victims into survivors.”**

**Survivor Friend**

## A YEAR IN REVIEW

# THISTLE FARMS: SISTER ORGANIZATION



In the spirit of our value “Embracing Community Connection,” we value being in relationship with, learning from, and sharing knowledge with others working to serve those who are escaping commercial sexual exploitation. Thistle Farms (Nashville, Tennessee) has over 20 years’ experience serving those who have experienced trafficking, prostitution and addictions. What started as one home providing long-term housing for women leaving commercial sexual exploitation has developed into a large justice enterprise which works to equip women with job skills training and professional development and helps fund 28 beds in various housing programs across Nashville.

Thistle Farms created the Thistle Farms National Network which is comprised of like-minded organizations committed to connecting survivors of prostitution, trafficking and addiction to hope, healing and empowerment. In 2018, Restorations became the 50th sister organization and the first non-American sister organization to join the network.

In June, our Executive Director visited Thistle Farms to learn more about their justice enterprise and housing model. She also participates in regular correspondence and conference calls with other sister organizations. We value this partnership and opportunity to learn from others who have travelled the road before us!



# A YEAR IN REVIEW

## RIDE FOR REFUGE



On September 29, we participated in our 4th Ride for Refuge event. The Ride for Refuge is a family-friendly cycling and walking fundraising event that helps support charities who provide refuge and hope for some of the most vulnerable people on earth. This year we raised \$15,385! And for another year, our dedicated and passionate volunteer, Sarah Witmer, provided our largest contributions through her amazing sponsors and fundraising skills. We thank Sarah for her continued support and her big heart for the women we are serving and will serve in the future!

Next year we aim to raise \$25,000, so please save the date and plan to ride or walk with us!

## SAVE THE DATE!

### Saturday, October 5, 2019





## A YEAR IN REVIEW

# SURVIVOR SUPPORT

While we work to open our first home, we continue to be in relationship with a number of survivors. Our role in these relationships is one of advocate, supporter, encourager and friend. The following are some brief examples of our relationships with Survivor Friends.

**1** The Defend Dignity Survivor Support Fund was created to provide accessible financial support to individuals who have experienced sexual exploitation in Canada in any form, such as prostitution, sex trafficking, escorting, working in massage parlours and/or strip clubs, survival sex, and/or involvement in pornography. During Defend Dignity's Survivor Support Fund's spring 2018 application period, we applied with a Survivor Friend to access funds that would allow her to continue learning about horticultural therapy. We are so excited about her future, for the personal and professional growth she is experiencing, and for the potential for her to share her learning with Restorations' future residents. Our Executive Director continues to coach this Survivor Friend as she goes through this learning process.

**2** Our Executive Director has done a number of speaking engagements with her friend, Michelle, a survivor of trafficking. When they speak, they highlight the ups and downs of their relationship over the last seven years, some of the mistakes made in service provision, and what they have learned together over the years. Our relationships with Survivor Friends are reciprocal – they encourage us just as much as we encourage them! Michelle is a great example of this; she consistently encourages and motivates us in our work to provide long-term housing and support!



**3** In 2017 and 2018, our Executive Director accompanied a Survivor Friend to various meetings and court proceedings as she prepared to testify against her trafficker. In October 2018, she finally testified against him. Living out our value of “Embracing Community Connection,” we are thankful for the presence of Men Ending Trafficking (MET) during the court process. MET assembles teams of men and women to come alongside victim-witnesses testifying in human trafficking trials. Because the trial of this particular Survivor Friend was in a region where we do not have a lot of volunteers, we called on MET for assistance and they showed up every single day with supporters for our friend.

**4** A Survivor Friend of ours is passionate about cars and is studying motive power at a local college. She says, “I’m studying to become an auto mechanic then hopefully moving on to be an auto engineer!” Over the summer, we put out a call on social media asking for second-hand tools. With thanks from a general financial donation from a supporter, we were able to buy her some tools to build her toolkit.

## A YEAR IN REVIEW

# LOOKING BACK, AND LOOKING FORWARD: RESTORATIONS' FIRST HOME

In September 2018, Restorations Second Stage Homes celebrated its 5th birthday. 5 years ago, a group of passionate individuals met for the first time on the floor of a living room. We dreamed of opening a home that would support survivors of commercial sexual exploitation.

A few years ago, we declared that we were working to open our first home by Christmas 2018. As the end of 2018 drew closer, we recognized this goal date would not be met. **We don't want to diminish the disappointment of not meeting this target date**; every day we do not open, there are more women escaping commercial sexual exploitation who might not be met with the specialized services needed to overcome the hurt and harm they have experienced. Across Canada, law enforcement, social service providers, health care workers, and communities identify safe, stable and supportive housing as one of the highest needs – and biggest gaps – for survivors of commercial sexual exploitation. There are agencies and organizations across Canada working to address this area, but the need is significant and the options are few.

In November, we humbly communicated with supporters the fact that we would not be open by our target date, and also announced a significant development for our organization: that in partnership with the Central District office of the Christian & Missionary Alliance in Canada, we have identified in a home in Burlington, Ontario that will be Restorations' first home!

Identifying a potential property for our first home is our most exciting highlight of this year, capping off 5 years of prayer, perseverance, and patience! Through the generous hands of the Central District office of the C&MA and Stephen Harbridge, God has opened a door and we are graciously and prayerfully walking through it! There will be much we will have to navigate our way through in the coming year: renovations, continuing to build a volunteer base, raising operational funding, and more. But we approach all of this with joy and thankfulness, and it is so exciting that we can share this with all of our dear friends and unwavering supporters.

With renovations ongoing through 2019, we have a new goal date of 2020.



Our team at our first visit to the new Restorations home.

## LOOKING FORWARD TO 2019

2019 is bound to be another exciting year, one filled with growth as we work to renovate the house and plan for its opening in 2020. In order to make that happen, our team has set some ambitious goals for 2019:

- Over 2019, we will secure 250 monthly donors giving on average \$50/month
- In our first quarter, we will speak in front of 250 people in the Hamilton and Halton regions and increase our e-newsletter subscriber list by 100 people
- In our second quarter, we will host a gala for 100 people to raise awareness about and funds for Restorations first home
- In our third quarter, we will raise \$25,000 at the Ride for Refuge
- In our last quarter, we will get 100 monthly donors leading up to and through Advent and the Christmas season

**Would you consider partnering with us?** Once the house is renovated, we want to welcome our first residents right away, **but we can't do that without your support.**

### ***How can you support us?***

- Become a monthly partner, donating to Restorations on a monthly basis.
- Apply to join our Board of Directors, especially if you have experience in governance, capacity building, fundraising, law, human resources, or finance and accounting
- Apply to become a regular volunteer, especially if you have experience with events, fundraising, communications or marketing
- Ride or walk with us in this year's Ride for Refuge event (with event locations across Canada!) on Saturday, October 5

Friends, we are so excited for 2019! Please continue to stay tuned as we release more details regarding renovation plans and ways to become actively involved in that process.

“With support,  
victims become  
survivors.”

Restorations

# 2018 FINANCIAL REPORT

## (Nov. 1<sup>st</sup>, 2017 - Oct. 31<sup>st</sup>, 2018)

	<b>2018</b>	<b>2017</b>
<b>Assets</b>		
Cash (as of Oct. 31, 2017)	\$44,340.11	\$22,998.36
<b>Shareholder</b>		
Share account	\$40	\$35
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<b>Revenue</b>		
Donation	\$26,535.00	\$23,703.65
General Synod Council	\$25,718.20	--
Blue Sea Philanthropy Inc	\$10,411.80	\$19,042.50
Grant-Victims of Crime week	\$6,000.00	--
Survivor Fund-Defend Dignity	\$1,400.00	--
Survivor Fund-Designated Donation	\$500.00	--
Share account interest income	\$5.00	\$5.00
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>\$70,570.00</b>	<b>\$23,708.65</b>
<b>Expenditures</b>		
Advertising	\$2,649.75	\$254.25
Office/Service Charge	\$4,934.51	\$452.67
Insurance	\$3,413.16	\$815.40
Special Event	\$5,680.24	--
Professional Services	\$100.00	--
Programming	\$905.98	\$839.58
Leadership Development	\$2,372.47	--
Survivor Fund	\$1,774.39	--
Payroll	\$18,141.69	--
CRA Remittance	\$5,220.06	--
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>\$45,192.25</b>	<b>\$2,361.90</b>
<b>Revenue over Expenditure</b>	<b>\$25,377.75</b>	<b>\$21,346.75</b>

# ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

We would like to acknowledge the following individuals and organizations for all they have done to assist Restorations over the last year.

- Our generous donors, with special thanks to donors who support us on a monthly basis
- Nancy Wing
- Central District of the Christian & Missionary Alliance
- Reformed Church in America, especially those churches across Canada and the United States that support our Executive Director annually
- Defend Dignity (Survivor Support Fund)
- Regional Synod of Canada (Reformed Church in America)
- Government of Canada, Department of Justice, National Victims & Survivors of Crime funding
- Bethel Christian Reformed Church
- Talbot Street Church
- CAMA Woodlands' Ride for Refuge team
- Rochelle Benoit
- Sandy Botembo
- Katee Duarte
- Kyle Jaster
- Hannah Marie
- Meaghan Martin
- Karlene Millwood
- Asha Ponnachan
- Rev. Marijke Strong
- Sarah Witmer
- Thistle Farms
- Eagle's Nest Association of Canada



# *restorations*

*rejoice · restore · release*

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