



**VICTIM SERVICES HURON**  
**ANNUAL GENERAL**  
**MEETING REPORT**  
**2022-2023**

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# A MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD CHAIR...

Welcome to the Annual General Meeting for the 2022/2023 fiscal year. We are pleased to take this opportunity to celebrate the success of a committed staff team and Board of Directors. The Board Members include Chair: Jim Dietrich, Vice Chair: Robert Morris, Treasurer: Mike Scott, Secretary: Jo-Anne Fields; and Directors: Tim Poole, Susan Regier, Joe Steffler, Tabatha Fisher, and Mary-Ellen Ducharme. Special Board volunteer is Wayne Cronin who has been a Crisis Responder for many years.

The current staff team consists of Deborah Logue, Executive Director, Karen Redmond, Coordinator of Services and Dawson Currie, Community Engagement Lead. We also have contracted services for a Bookkeeper, Carole Weber.

I am sad to say that this will be the last AGM I share with Victim Services as I am stepping back from the Board of Directors. I have enjoyed the privilege of sharing the journey of witnessing the growth and strengthening of the agency over these last seven years. I look forward to continuing to watch the amazing work this organization does as a cheerleader from the sidelines.

The Board is pleased to recognize that the numbers of survivors we have been able to support continues to grow each year. This is a true reflection to the public awareness and community engagement we have been able to increase across the entire county. Fundraising, social media platforms and community education sessions that have been held throughout the years have also contributed to increase in knowledge of what Victim Services Huron can do to assist people in our community.

Every volunteer, staff, and board member rise above the norm to follow the mission of Victim Services of Huron County. There are many family members, partners, and children who also stand proudly by their loved ones who are risking their own comfort to help others in their time of need. Everyone who contributes, whether directly with victims, or indirectly as a family supporter, is making our County service stronger and more cohesive for the future!

Respectfully,



**JAMES DIETRICH**  
**CHAIR, BOARD OF DIRECTORS**



## A MESSAGE FROM THE

# EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR...

This last year has had some transitions within it. April 1, 2022 we moved Ministries from Ministry of Attorney General to Ministry of Community Children & Social Services. With any change there is time needed to adjust and adapt to the new expectations and build relationships with new personnel. I am happy to indicate this transition has gone smoothly. We are also pleased to be getting back to "normal" operation post COVID impacts. This includes more in person opportunities for both education/awareness/fundraising as well as client supports.

Despite COVID being behind us we have seen a shift in the desired form of support from clients coming in through more phone and email referrals rather than in person connections. It is unclear currently if this is a permanent shift. We have been pleased that we continue to offer support in a client centered manner and respond to "where the client is at" referring to both geographically and emotionally. We have also seen a shift in the level of need within our client population. Post COVID has highlighted struggles being faced by our clients to not only be focused on what the referral was based on but typically a compound complexity to issues that may surround the crisis or impact the healing journey.

Being part of a 24hr/365 day a year program can present some challenges to ensure we can provide the best quality of service possible. We rely heavily on our on-call system and support from our volunteer Crisis Responders to ensure every call for support is met in the way the client is requesting it. This may be in person or by phone. It may be during the day or in the middle of the night. When we are called, we respond no matter what the time or location is. Despite these complexities we were able to respond to 195 more calls for support and served 335 more people than the previous fiscal year.

Victim Services of Huron County has fantastic people; the volunteer Board, volunteer Crisis Responders and the staff make this work appear easy and makes support to people that need it a reality! Thank you to the staff and a special thanks to ALL the volunteers - you are all truly appreciated.

It is my pleasure to thank the Board of Directors for the valuable work they do in sharing their areas of expertise and guiding our organization forward. We appreciate your energy and commitment to making VSHC valuable, accountable, and successful. Your magnitude of support and the MANY hours you contribute often goes unnoticed, but I am very aware of your time, energy and commitment and I am grateful. I am sad to see Jim Dietrich and Tabatha Fisher, two Board members leave the organization. The wealth of support and encouragement the Board offers is difficult to summarize and demonstrate the full appreciation it deserves.

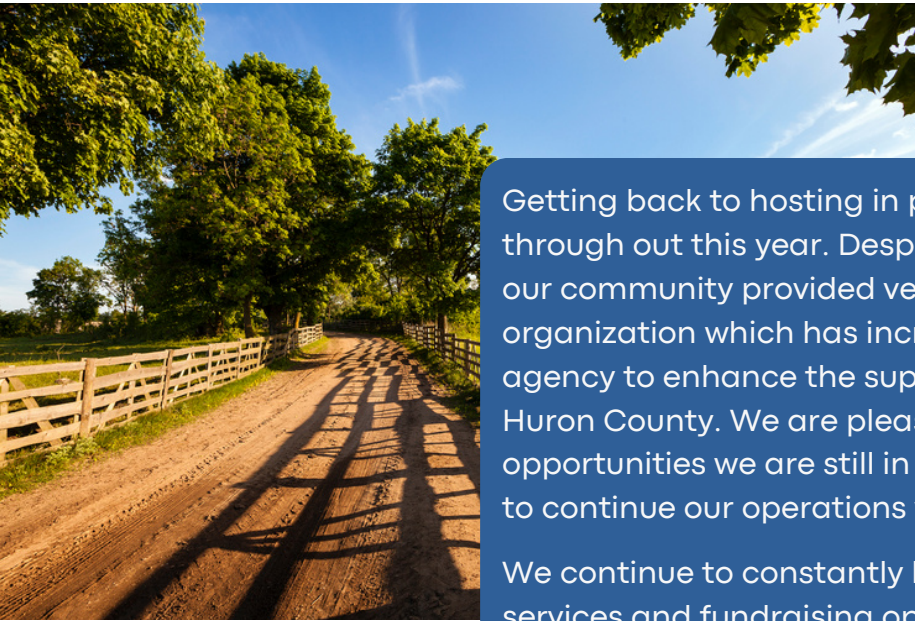
The ongoing services and program development would have not been possible without the generous support from our donors, funders, volunteers, stakeholders, direction from the Board of Directors and the commitment of the staff. In partnership with VQRP+ (Victim Quick Response Program+), we continue to advocate for the needs within our community. We strive to better communicate the uniqueness of our program to the public. We will focus on outcomes and learn what impact VSHC has on the community - and how to achieve better program results.

VSHC recognizes and appreciates our supporters: Ministry of Community Children and Social Services with special thanks to Sam Curtin, Huron County Ontario Provincial Police and Inspector Jason Younan, Emergency Service Departments, Hospital services and our Community Stakeholders.



**DEBORAH LOGUE**  
**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

# Treasurer's Report



Getting back to hosting in person events was just beginning through out this year. Despite the lack of a lot of organized events our community provided very generous donations to the organization which has increased our reserves, allowing the agency to enhance the supports we can offer to the clients within Huron County. We are pleased that despite less fundraising opportunities we are still in a financially sound position to be able to continue our operations without disruption.

We continue to constantly look for new ways to enhance our services and fundraising opportunities are a key component to that. We thank everyone who has contributed to the success of these activities.

**MIKE SCOTT  
TREASURER**



## 2022-2023 By The Numbers...



**8600+**  
VOLUNTEER  
HOURS DONATED

**1137**  
PEOPLE  
SUPPORTED



**4400+**  
PEOPLE REACHED THROUGH  
PROACTIVE EDUCATION  
PROGRAMS

**1693**  
FOLLOW UPS  
COMPLETED



**24/7**  
SUPPORT AVAILABLE 24/7,  
365 DAYS A YEAR

**3,399**  
SQUARE KILOMETERS  
COVERED





# STRENGTHENING COMMUNITY TIES

## IN OUR SCHOOLS

We continue to make measurable progress in the areas of prevention work and in strengthening ties to the education community. As an agency we are proud to share a formal CRES agreement, allowing us to provide services within our local schools to those who need it. Furthering our efforts to prevent rather than react, we are proud to have collaborated on numerous policies within the schools around the support of sexual exploitation, child abuse, and human trafficking. This year we were also proud to launch a collaborative effort alongside the Huron Perth Catholic District School Board aimed at raising awareness around Human Trafficking concerns in rural communities. This included student, parent, and educator sessions on how we as a community can do our part to end this horrible crime.



**Avon Maitland**  
District School Board  
Engage, Inspire, Innovate... Always Learning



## ALONGSIDE OUR POLICE PARTNERS

As an agency, we are extremely appreciative of our close working relationship with our law enforcement partners across the region. This has included numerous collaboration opportunities for both in person and virtual events, as well as joint initiatives such as our Beyond the Locker Room Pledge Program. All of these efforts, in combination with our ongoing crisis support to first responders target the goal of making support more available to those who need it, as well as promoting healthy community - law enforcement relationships. We are extremely excited to continue to build on these opportunities through future training, support opportunities, and community events similar to the many successes we shared in 2022-2023.

*Beyond the*  
**LOCKER ROOM**  
*Our Pledge to be Better*



STRATFORD  
POLICE SERVICES



## IN OUR COMMUNITY

On top of the formal agreements and partnerships which our agency truly appreciate, we were proud to support and engage with a number of community social services as well as members of the general public this year. This included opportunities to work alongside and support staff from multiple local hospitals, members of the Children's Aid Society, workers from the Canadian Mental Health Association, numerous community groups and clubs such as the Lions Club, Optimists, local sports teams and more! These organizations, as well as the many members of the general public we crossed paths with this year, offer us the ongoing opportunity to promote help for those in need, and create a stronger, healthier community for everyone!



HURON WOMEN'S SHELTER  
SECOND STAGE HOUSING  
and COUNSELLING SERVICES

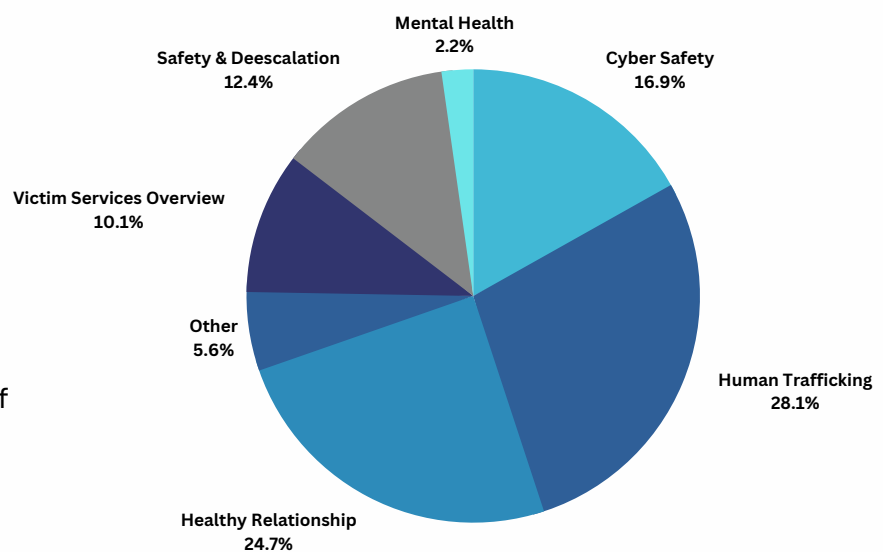
1-800-265-5506

# PREVENTION & PUBLIC EDUCATION

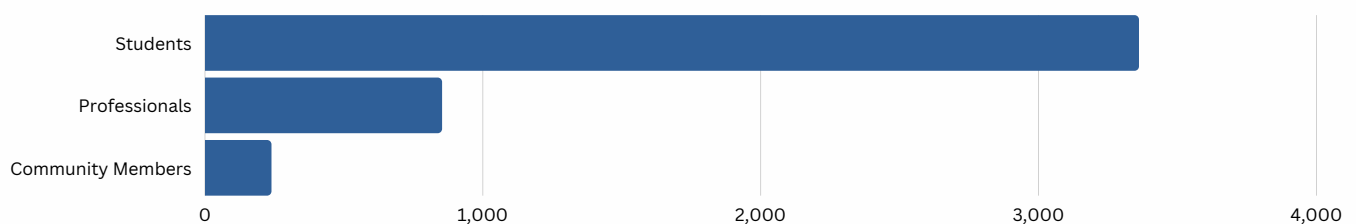
The agency feels it is imperative to provide education and awareness to the public to reduce the amount of victimization that takes place. We have developed community training presentations on many topics we feel can support the reduction of gender-based violence crime. We have been able to present these topics within our high school system as well as at Community events; Health Relationships, Cyber Safety and Sextortion, Human Trafficking 101, Human Trafficking Advanced Level, Impacts of Privilege, Trauma and Violence Informed Approach, Threat & Risk assessment as well as Mental Health & Addictions.

There is a stereotype that allows people to believe the issue of Human Trafficking and other Gender Based Violence crime does not exist in Huron County. Our information and experience indicate it does exist; it just looks a little different than it does in our neighbouring urban centres.

We have been able to reach a total of 3,360 youth since April 1st, 2022, until March 31st, 2023, as well as 852 professionals and 238 additional community members in the area.



## INDIVIDUALS REACHED THROUGH PROACTIVE EDUCATION PROGRAM - 4,450 TOTAL



"The Community Education Series Webinars were great! We appreciate meaningful training opportunities that help keep our community safe!"

- Huron O.P.P.

"We had Victim Services Huron in to present 5 or 6 times this year. Every session is meaningful to our students and the community. I will continue to recommend everything they did for my class and more! "

-Erika Riddell, Northfield Public School

"When we identified a need for de-escalation training, Victim Services Huron County were there to help. They were responsive, adaptable, and open to multiple training formats. We were able to access training when we needed it and to extend invitations to other hospices in the region to attend. VS Huron adapted the training to our setting and the needs we had identified. It was a very positive experience of partnership between community services, and we would certainly reach out again in the future."

- Erin E. Donald, Huron Hospice

# Services Provided...

## Victim Crisis Assistance Ontario (VCAO)

The Victim Crisis Assistance Ontario Program provides support for individuals affected by crime and tragic circumstance and is victim-centered and culturally competent. The menu of services offered by the program includes:

- 24/7 on-scene crisis intervention.
- Addressing immediate safety concerns.
- Community support sessions, needs assessment.
- Development of a personalized referral form or service plan.
- Safety planning.
- Referrals to counselling and community or government support services.
- Enhanced support and follow up.

### **The Program objectives are:**

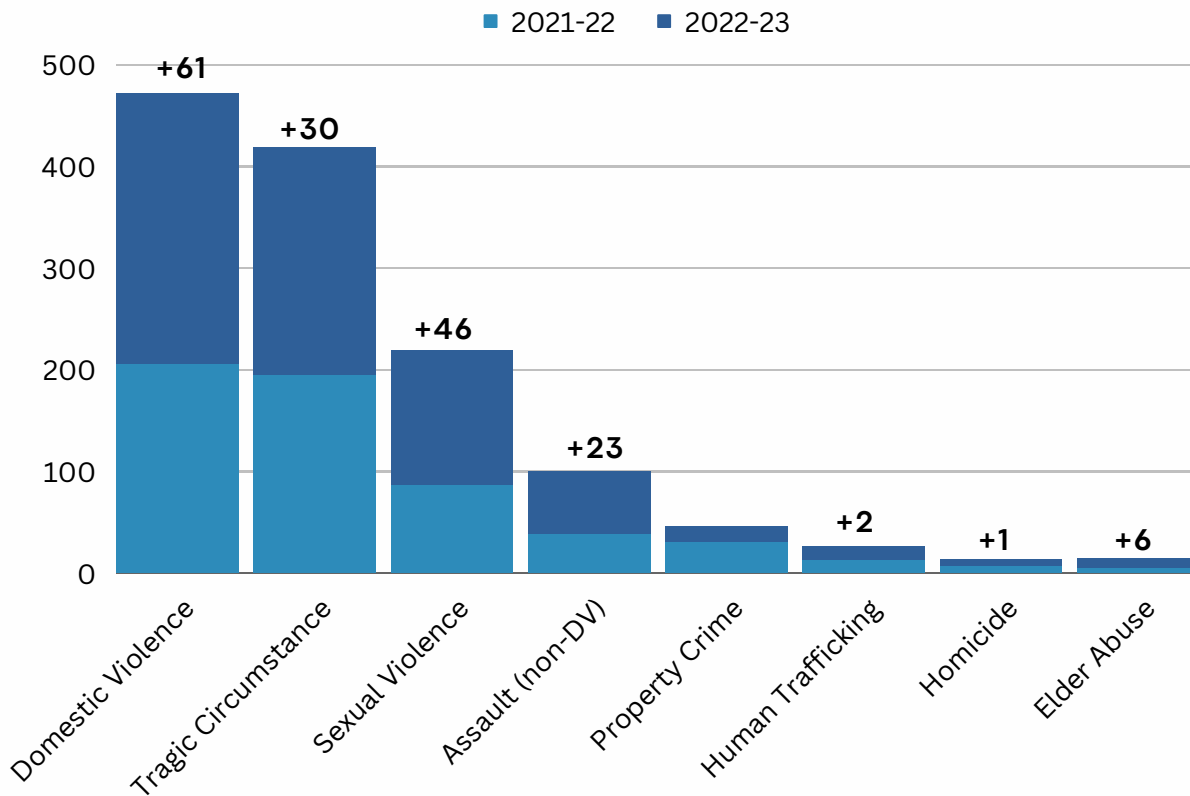
- To provide crisis intervention, emotional support, information, and referrals to individuals affected by crime and tragic circumstances.
- To reduce the likelihood of further harm by helping a client identify and address safety issues.
- To help clients identify their needs and concerns and develop strategies to address them.

### **In addition to on-site crisis Intervention, other services offered through the VCAO program include:**

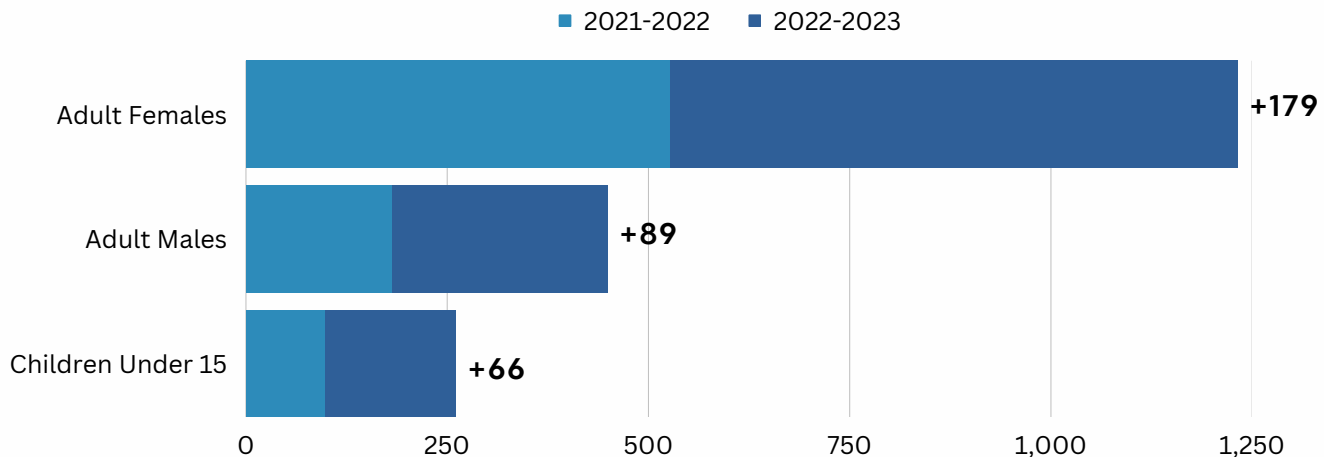
- On going follow up phone support and check in sessions with clients waiting for services.
- Safety planning for all eligible victims of crime.
- Referrals to appropriate community supports and services.
- Provision of cell phones for eligible victims.
- Needs assessments and customized service plans.
- Assisting eligible victims with emergency transportation to a safe location; crime-scene cleanup; funeral expenses; emergency home repairs to items that pose a safety risk; and emergency counselling.
- Enhanced support for vulnerable victims.
- Referrals to community agencies.



## TOTAL CALLS FOR SUPPORT: 772



## TOTAL NUMBER OF SURVIVORS SUPPORTED - 1137



### Key Notes

As the number of people supported each year grows year after year, the complexity of the needs of people touched by these crimes also rises!

We have seen an increase in the frequency and level of violence within each situation. This impacts the speed and ability to heal and move through the trauma to a place of feeling safe again!

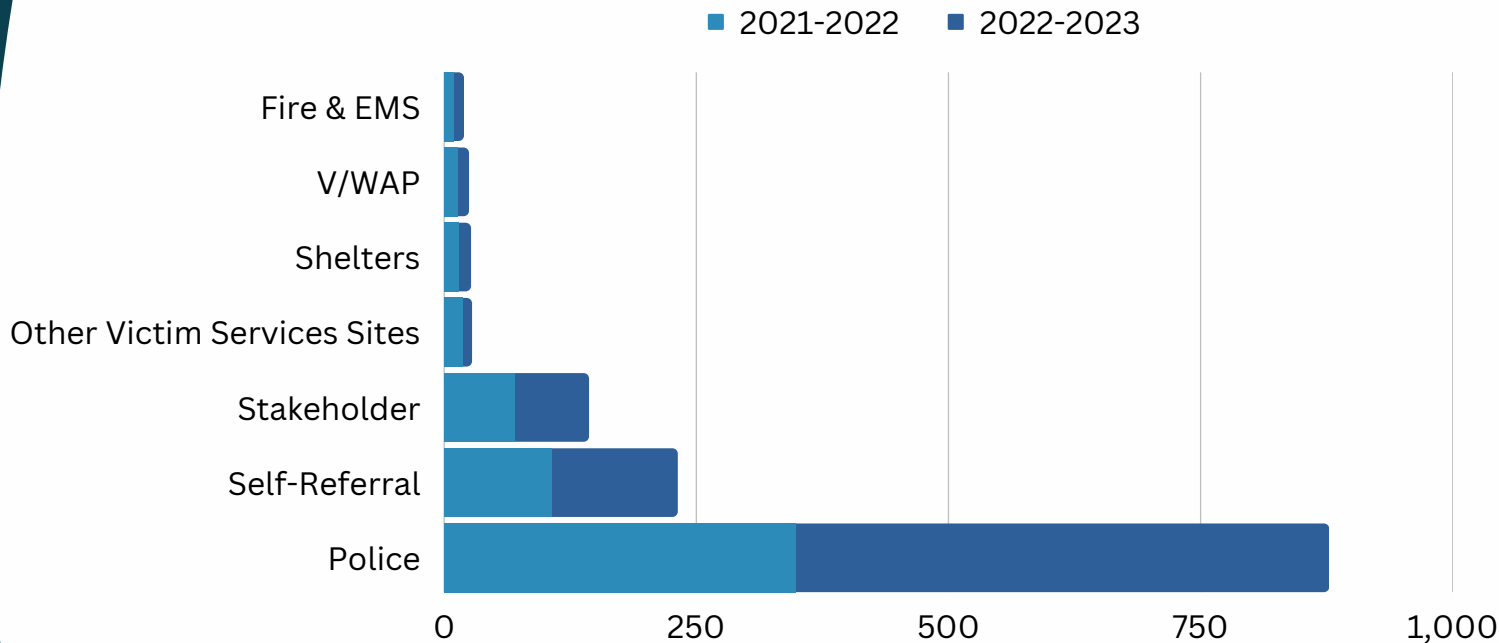
There is wide spread impacts to not only the survivors of the direct crime but also the vicarious trauma sustained by the witnesses and loved ones.

## Referrals

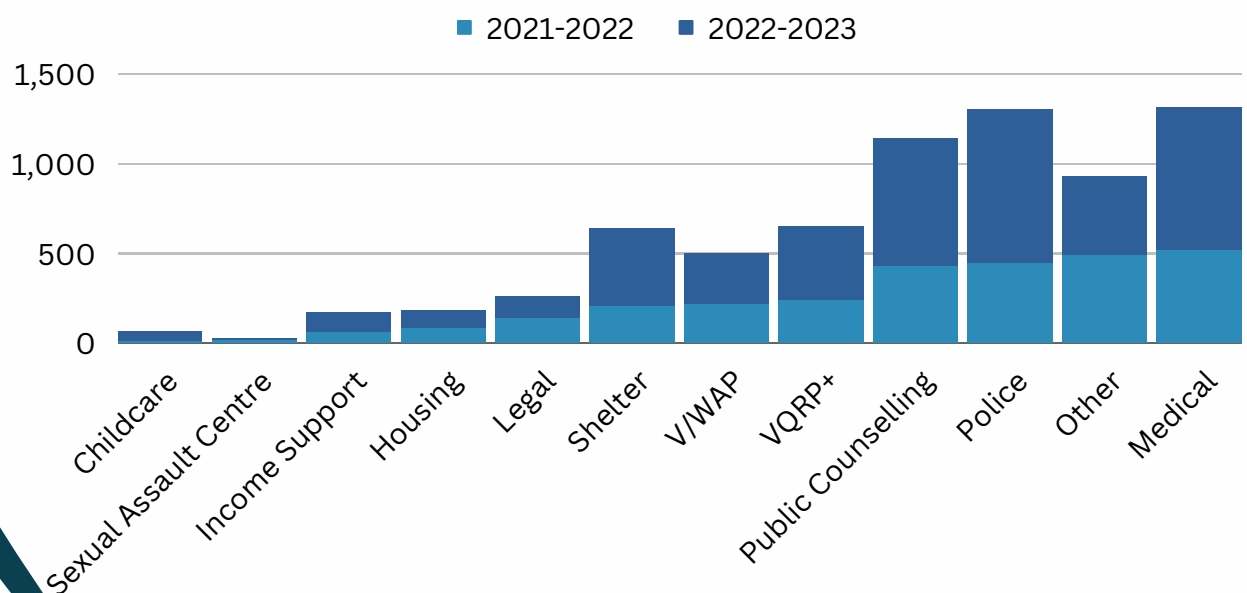
Referrals are accepted either from within the County or outside as long as the victim resides in Huron County they can be offered support. If the client changes Counties they can be referred to the Victim Services in that area and continue to receive supports.

Our primary referral would be the OPP although in recent years the self referrals have increased significantly. The organization has worked hard to build collaborative relationships with community stakeholders which is illustrated in the increase of "other" referral sources. Public speaking events, media coverage and community presentations have also contributed to the increase in knowledge of the service and provided comfort for people to come forward and seek assistance.

### INCOMING REFERRAL SOURCES - 772 TOTAL



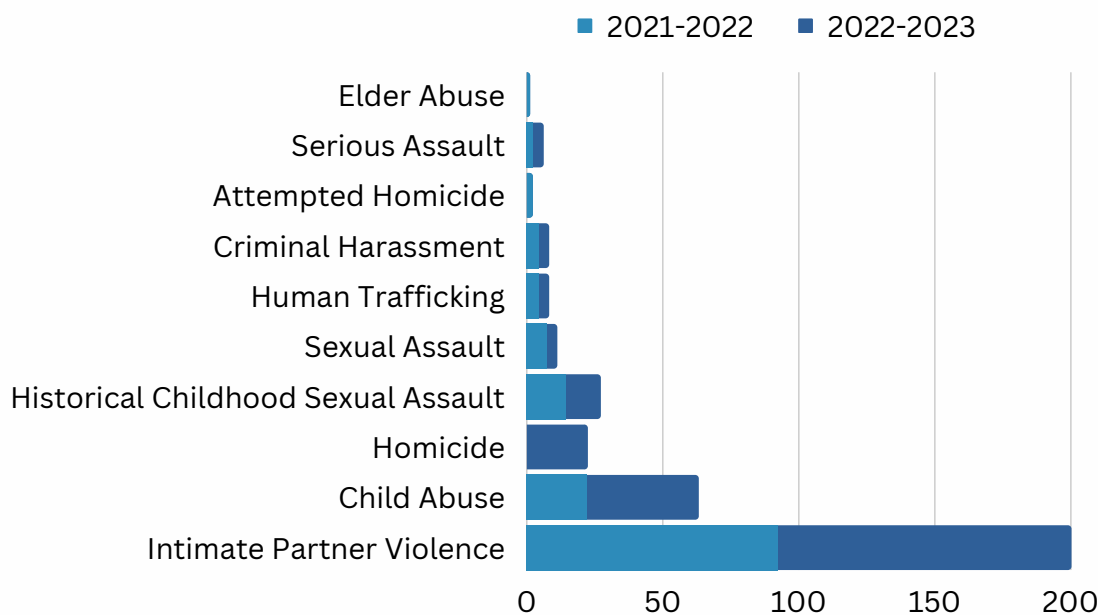
### OUTGOING REFERRAL SOURCES - 4320 TOTAL



## Victim Quick Response Program (VQRP+)

The Victim Quick Response Program (VQRP+) responds to the most urgent needs of victims of violent crime, offering timely access to resources and emergency funds. Victims might be eligible for financial assistance related to emergency expenses - securing premises, transportation, crime scene clean-up, funeral expenses, counselling services - short-term, early intervention. Victim Services will apply on behalf of a victim of crime to explore what supports they may be eligible for.

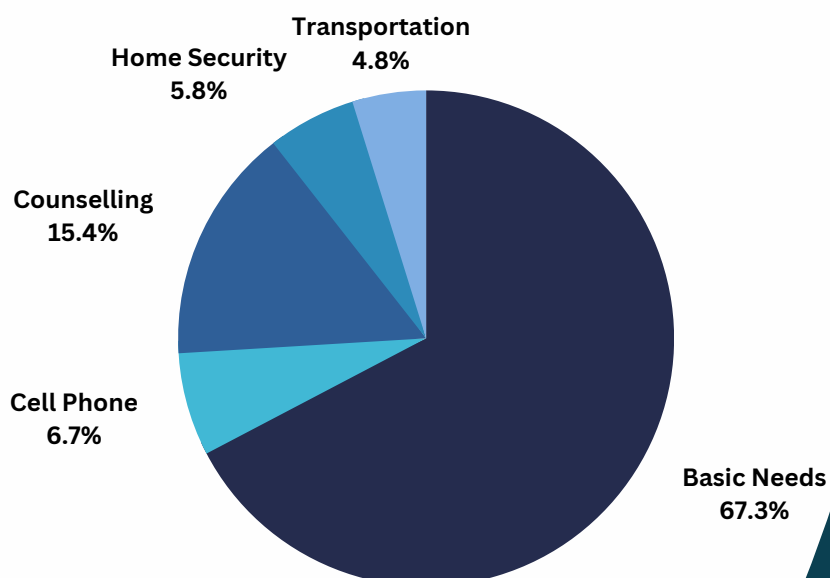
### INDIVIDUALS SUPPORTED BY VQRP+ BY CRIME TYPE - 202



## Fundraising Summary

Victim Services is grateful for the support of individuals, groups, and foundations in the community. **We received 228 separate donations from Families, Community Groups, Corporate Sponsorships and Individuals this year!** Please see the list included for all of those who helped to contribute to our success this year!

Donations from our community play a large role in enhancing services available to individuals who are struggling. Fundraised money directly supports clients not covered financially through ministry funding. These funds are used to directly cover practical needs of clients like counselling, basic needs (diapers, food vouchers, groceries, etc.), transportation, and cell phones required to maintain contact for safety, amongst many other needs as they arise.



# BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Jim Dietrich (Chair)	Dashwood	Joined 2016
Robert Morris (Vice Chair)	Goderich	Joined 2016
Jo-Anne Fields (Secretary)	Hensall	Joined 2016
Mike Scott (Treasurer)	Kingsbridge	Joined 2016
Tim Poole (Director)	Wingham	Joined 2016
Susan Regier (Director)	St. Joseph's	Joined 2017
Joe Steffler (Director)	Seaforth	Joined 2019
Tabatha Fisher (Director)	Goderich	Joined 2019
Mary-Ellen Ducharme (Director)	Exeter	Joined 2020

## ACTIVE RESPONDERS

Shelley Bender	<b><i>Alicia Bennewies*</i></b>	Brenda Burkholder	Wayne Cronin
Kim Cuthbertson	Brandy Gagnier	Nancy Hamelin	<b><i>Alex Harmen*</i></b>
Bonnie Hastings	<b><i>Holly Howson*</i></b>	Jess Keller	Kathy Knechtel
Brandon Koetsier	Jacqui Laporte	Katelyn Little	<b><i>Bobbi Jo Liu*</i></b>
Joni Reinhart	Lois Reinink	Shawn Reinink	JoAnn Robinson
Nicole Russell	Megan Shouldice	Marly Squire	<b><i>Marion Taylor**</i></b>
Wagner Valdez	Patty Vandermeer	Katie Wilson	Tim Wylie

### Years of Service Awards

***\*5 Years of Service***

***\*\*15 Years of Service***

## RESPONDERS ON LEAVE

Julia Pearson-Boyd Mitch McIntyre

## DEPARTING THE AGENCY

Pam Bieman	Nicole Chapman	Yasmin Eddijili	Miranda Greidanus
Angela Gould	Stacey Hallahan	Ally Henry	Chad Higinell
Janette Holmes	Nicole Miller	Andrew Rau	Davis Smith
Rosa Snopko	Martina Tait	Sara Tapsell	Vicki Whiting

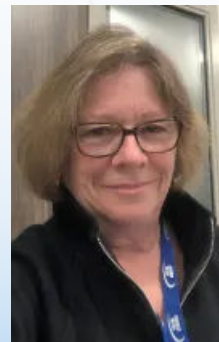
## CURRENT STAFF TEAM



**Executive Director**  
Deborah Logue



**Lead Crisis Responder**  
Dawson Currie



**Coordinator of Services**  
Karen Redmond



# RECOGNITION OF MONETARY DONORS

## Organization Donations

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Auburn ESSO	Clinton Optimist	Londesborough District Lions
Alberta Beef & Health Solutions	Compass Minerals	Maitland Family Dental
Benevity Causes	Fear Family Farms	Metzger Vet Services
Bio Agri Mix	Fischer Glass	MGM Townsend Tire
Blake Buildings & Renovations	Goderich Legion	Ontario Cattle Feeder Association
Blessings	Hay Communications	Optimist Club of Howick
Bluewater Office Equipment	Hogervorst Foundation	Orr Insurance
Brock Women's Hockey	Howick Mutual Insurance	Orr Insurance
Brussels Legion	Huron County Beef Producers	Royal Canadian Legion Branch 420
Brussels Lions	Huron Tractor Ltd.	Russett Farms
Brussels Livestock (Gamble & Rogers Ltd.)	IODE Maple Leaf Chapter	Seaforth Golf Club
Canadian Cattle Association	JM Morgan	Seaforth Lions
Charity Aid Foundations	Jockey Plastics North America	St. Peter's Catholic Women's League
Claybird Gun Club	Knox United Church	The Yoga Den Goderich
Clinton Kinsmen	Londesborough District Lions	Trinity Christian Reform Deacons
		Wroxeter Rippers HCFL

## Individual Donations

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Aaron Bromley	Dave & Brenda Linton	Helen Lyons
Alfred Dykstra	Dave & Joyce Ireland	Ivonne Albers
Amy Murphy	Debra Moran	J.R. Richmond
Andrea & Rob Stevenson	Debra Shelley	Jacqui Laporte
Andrew & Andrea Kramer	Dennis Schroeder	James & Anne Finlay
Annette Gerdes	Dianne & Phillip Blake	James & Linda McDonald
Barb Wilker	Dianne McGregor	James Wilbee
Becky Beuerman	Don & Darlene Fischer	Jane Swep
Belinda Skuta	Don & Kittie MacGregor	Jason Hallahan
Bill & Cindy VanNes	Don & Monique Baan	Jenn Evans
Bob & Cheryl Strohm	Don & Pat Nolan	Jerry & Barb Laidlaw
Bonnie Baynham	Don Sholdice	Jim & Danica McNichol
Brad & Christine Knight	Donald & Dianne Bray	Jim & Marg Anderson
Brenda Fizell	Donna & Mervyn Bauer	Joan McPhee
Brett & Laura Fischer	Dorene Cardiff, Uli & Regan Ryter	Jo-Ann McDonald
Bruce & Lori Palmateer	Doris Taylor	JoAnn Robinson
Bruce & Michelle Blake	Dorothy & Bob Cumming	Joe & Miriam Terpstra
Bruce & Sharon Wilbee	Doug Moore	John & Arlene Berenderson
Calvin, Rob & Steph Semple	Dwight Hallahan	John & Lisa Huether
Carole McLachlan	E.J. Newell	John Bijman & Hannelore Menke
Cas Bayley	Em & Annette Lewington	Judd Stevenson
Catherin Agar & Arjan Kouwenberg	Flanagan Family	Judith Smith
Cecil & Bonnie Payne	Flood Family	Judy & Ken Shortreed
Chad VanderMeer	Floral Becker-Morton	Judy Costello
Chaffe Family	Fred & Heidi McClure	June Osborn
Clark Family	Fred Stevenson	Karen Redmond
Clinton Garniss	George & Cheryl McCall	Kassandra Crawford
Corry & Doug Shouldice	Gwen Devereaux	Katherine Proctor
Curtis & Christina Hayes	Harrison Burgsma	Kathryn Bruce
Dana Stevenson	Heather McDonald	Keith & Gloria Wilbee
Darlene Hymers	Heather McDougall	Kenneth & Valerie Pethick
Darryl & Jodi Houston	Helen & Peter Albers	Kevin & Heather McArter

## Individual Donations Continued

Kevin Somerville	Michael Alexander	Stephanie & Jeff Allan
Kim Gray & Family	Michelle McNichol	Stephen & Kim Dullard
Kim Heroux-Robinson	Mike & Shirley Ann Boven	Stephen Johns
Larry & Jane Rundle	Murray & Marlene Fischer	Steve Kinsman
Laurie Chapman	Murray & Sherry McCall	Steven & Marnie Knight
Linda Taylor	Nancy & Alan Walker	Steven & Rita Bowers
Lois McCutcheon	Neil & Marie Mitchell	Steven Steiss
Lois Reinik	Nicole Middelkamp-Hope	Sue Stevenson
Lonnie & Grant Henderson	Patrick Armstrong	Suzanne Mielhausen
Lori Vanstone	Pete & Leisa Albers	Tammy Purdham
Lynda & Bryan Vincent	Peter Draper	Tevor Latta
Lynne & Tom Cronin	Peter George	Theresa & Stephen Kolkman
Madeline Steiss	Peter Marita Lefor	Tiffany Kittmer
Margo Middelkamp	Ralph & Betty Watson	Tim Fritz
Marianne Dykstra	Richard Sotelo	Udo & Hilltraud Kraft
Marie Nolan	Rick Portena & Family	Valerie Shortreed
Marion McElrea	Roger & Cathy Thompson	Verne & Nancy Bridge
Mark & Tracey Swart	Russ Gibson	Warren & Jean Currie
Mark Veenstra	Ruth Bauer	Warren & Judy Beuerman
Mary & Bob Van Der Pryt	Ryan & Heather Devries	Wayne & Melitta Cronin
Mary Jane Littlejohn	Shannon Craig	Wendy & James Williams
Mary Kreutzwiser	Sharon & Murray Blake	William & Susan McGavin
Maureen Cole	Sharon Berry	Yvonne & Harvey Hoggart
Maureen McCutcheon	Sharryl Riley	Yvonne & Leslie Knight
Mervyn & Donna Bauer	Sheila & Kim Newbigging	
Mervyn & Donna Bauer	Shelley Bender	
Michael & Judy Gardi	Shirley Baker	
Michael & Valerie Watson	Stacey & Rob Cornelis	

### To Our Donors...

**We want to acknowledge not only the financial donations but also the donations of necessary items. Your generosity directly supports victims and survivors in our community, offering them vital assistance during challenging times.**

**Your investment to the agency make a powerful impact, enabling us to enhance supports available to those affected by crime and trauma. Your contribution helps empower individuals and families, allowing them to heal and rebuild their lives. We are truly grateful for your commitment to our cause. Your donations bring hope and make a real difference in the lives of those in need.**

**With Immense Thanks,  
The Victim Services Huron Team**



# STAY UP TO DATE WITH ALL THINGS VICTIM SERVICES...



VICTIM SERVICES OF HURON COUNTY



VICTIM SERVICES HURON



@HURONVS

## CHECK US OUT AT OUR UPCOMING EVENTS!



### VICTIM SERVICES DAY AT THE BALL PARK

AUGUST 20 - WROXETER

### DANCING WITH THE STARS!

OCTOBER 21 - GODERICH



## WE ARE ACTIVELY RECRUITING:

- BOARD MEMBERS
- VOLUNTEER CRISIS RESPONDERS

TO APPLY CHECK OUT:



[WWW.VICTIMSERVICESHURON.CA](http://WWW.VICTIMSERVICESHURON.CA)





Thank You to Everyone Who Made  
This Year a Success!



We Can't Wait to See What the  
Next Year Will Bring!

