



## Annual General Meeting Report 2024-2025



### Building and Strengthening Community Collaboration

Victim Services Huron Perth provides short term emotional support, practical assistance, and community referrals to survivors of crime, trauma, and tragic circumstance in partnership with community and emergency services.

## Message from the Chair

It is with great respect and appreciation that I present the Board Chair's Report for the 2024-2025 fiscal year at Victim Services Huron Perth.

This past year has been one of continued growth, resilience, and collaboration. As we reflect on our work supporting victims of crime and trauma, I am struck by the strength not only of the individuals we serve but of the dedicated staff, volunteers, and partners who make our services possible.

Under the leadership of our Executive Director, Deborah Logue, our organization has expanded its reach and refined its approach to delivering trauma-informed, client-centred support within Perth County as well as Huron. We have focused on strengthening partnerships with law enforcement, health services, and community organizations to ensure all viable referrals are made and supported quickly and efficiently across both counties.

As a Board, our role is to ensure strong governance, strategic direction, and financial stewardship. Over the past year, we have:

- Completed a four-year strategic review to align our goals with long-term community needs.
- Supported new funding applications and diversification of current revenue streams.
- Recruited new Board members to strengthen representation, geographic boundaries and skills diversity.

Our deepest thanks go to the frontline staff and volunteers—those who answer late-night calls, sit with survivors in moments of crisis, and help navigate complex legal and emotional landscapes. You are the face of compassion in some of the darkest moments people experience.

To our Executive Director, thank you for your steady hands and forward-thinking vision. To our funders, donors, and community partners: your support is critical. Every dollar and every partnership help us extend our reach and deepen our impact.

And to our clients: Thank you for trusting us. Your courage reminds us why this work matters. It is not easy, but it is meaningful, and we are privileged to do it alongside all of you.

On behalf of the Board of Directors, thank you for your continued trust, partnership, and support.



Jo-Anne Fields  
Chair, Board of Directors

## Treasurer's Report

Victim Services of Huron Perth remains in a stable financial position, even as we navigate the ongoing increase in demand for services.

Report covering from April 1, 2024 – March 31, 2025

This year, we managed our resources prudently while supporting the successful amalgamation of our two legacy organizations. We continued to meet funding requirements, maintained accountability to our funders, and ensured every dollar was used to maximize support for victims and survivors in our community.

I want to extend sincere thanks to our Executive Director and staff team for their diligence, and to our funders and donors for their ongoing support.



Mike Scott  
Treasurer, Board of Directors

## Message from the Executive Director

This year has been one of significant transition and transformation, and I am honoured to lead an organization so deeply committed to supporting individuals in their most vulnerable moments.

Perhaps the most defining moment of this year was the joining of Perth County to Victim Services of Huron County, officially uniting us as **Victim Services Huron Perth**. This process was thoughtful, collaborative, and grounded in a shared vision: to better serve victims and survivors through stronger infrastructure, increased capacity, and unified leadership.

Bringing two teams, boards, and operational systems together is never a small task. But what stood out was the professionalism, flexibility, and compassion with which our staff and volunteers approached this change. From frontline service to administration, we saw true teamwork in action—and the result is an organization that is now more resilient, efficient, and ready for the future.

Over the last year, we have seen an increase in calls for support within both regions. In part, this is due to the new position created within Huron and Perth OPP and Stratford Police to have a liaison staff that ensures all Intimate Partner Violence crimes are referred to Victim Services for support. This position has fostered further relationship building with the police services, which in turn provides enhanced support to the clients.

Even with the increase in calls for support, we have been able to provide the emotional support and practical assistance to support every call to date. Ensuring appropriate safety planning is completed and needs are met has continued to be our top priority when supporting our clients.

With the uptick in service utilization, we have been focused on internal growth. We have standardized operational procedures and service protocols, streamlined data and reporting systems for improved accountability, strengthened relationships with police and community stakeholders, and increased staffing capacity. We are thankful to Stratford Police for welcoming us into their building to share space and be on hand to support clients directly. The proximity to front-line officers makes referrals more streamlined and quicker to make.

Victim Services Huron Perth has fantastic people. The volunteer Board, volunteer Crisis Responders, and the staff make this work appear easy and make support to people who 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 their valuable work in sharing their areas of expertise and guiding our organization forward. We appreciate your energy and commitment to making VSHP valuable,

accountable, and successful. 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 not have been possible without the generous support from our donors, funders, volunteers, and stakeholders, direction from the Board of Directors and the staff's commitment. In partnership with VQRP+ (Victim Quick Response Program+), we continue to advocate for the needs within our community. We strive better to communicate the uniqueness of our program to the public. We will focus on outcomes and learn how VSHP impacts the community and how to achieve better program results.

VSHP recognizes and appreciates our supporters: the Ministry of Community Children and Social Services, with special thanks to Sam Curtin; Huron County Ontario Provincial Police, with special thanks to Inspector Younan; Perth County Ontario Provincial Police, with special thanks to Inspector Burrows; Stratford Police Service, with special thanks to Chief Skinner; Emergency Service Departments; hospital services; and Community Stakeholders.



Deborah Logue  
Executive Director

We pride ourselves on having been able to respond to  
every call for support received.

## New Organization

### Welcoming Perth to Join Huron

May 1, 2024, marked the official unification of Perth County, joining Victim Services Huron to become Victim Services Huron Perth. The merger was driven by a shared vision to enhance service delivery, reduce duplication, and streamline operations while maintaining a strong commitment to supporting victims of crime and trauma in both communities. We have been able to

- Expand coverage and accessibility across a broader geographic area.
- Enhance program consistency and service standards.
- Improve operational efficiency and reduce administrative costs.
- Foster a more robust support network for clients and staff.

Throughout the transition, priority was given to minimizing disruption to services and maintaining high-quality client care. Staff worked collaboratively to align protocols, integrate support systems, and build a cohesive organizational culture. We commend their dedication and professionalism during this period of change. As a unified organization, we are better positioned to respond to community needs, advocate for victims, and continue building partnerships that strengthen our impact.

## Project Lifesaver – Perth County



Project Lifesaver is a program we support within Perth County. It supports vulnerable individuals in our community who are at risk of wandering due to cognitive conditions such as Alzheimer's, autism, and other related disorders. The program equips participants with personalized radio-frequency transmitters that enable trained emergency responders to quickly locate and return them safely home.

Victim Services Huron Perth's role is to ensure proper enrollment, updates to the data system, and bimonthly battery changes. Over the past year, we have offered a six-month free trial opportunity for new participants through fundraised dollars. We want to ensure peace of mind for families and caregivers.

As we look ahead, we remain committed to expanding Project Lifesaver's awareness and accessibility to those who need it most.

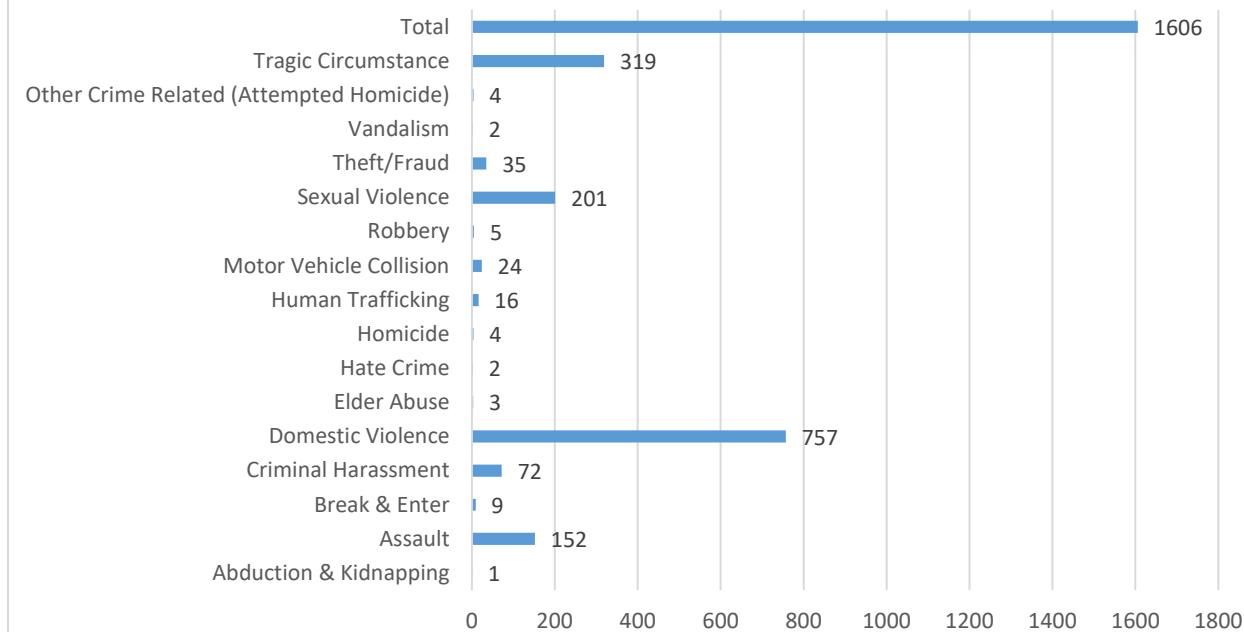
## Support Services

### Victim Crisis Assistance Ontario

Victim Crisis Assistance Ontario Program provides support for individuals affected by crime and tragic circumstances 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 service plan.
- Referrals to counselling and community or government support services.
- Enhanced support and follow-up.

## Number of Calls for Support - 1606



### The Program objectives are:

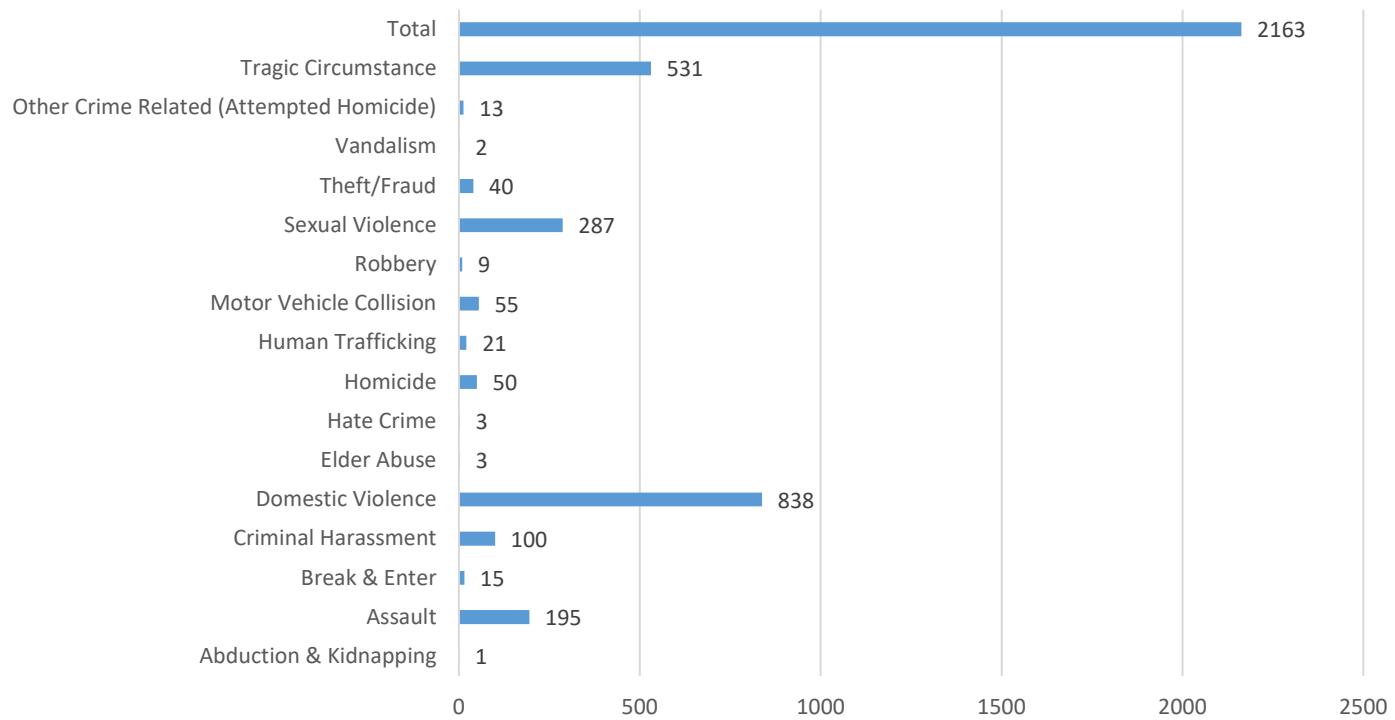
- To provide crisis intervention, emotional support, information, and referrals to individuals affected by crime and tragic circumstances.
- To reduce the likelihood of further harm by helping a client identify and address safety issues.
- To help clients identify their needs and concerns and develop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

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

- Safety planning for all eligible victims of crime with enhanced supports for vulnerable victims.
- Referrals to appropriate community support and services.
- Needs assessments and customized service plans with referrals to community agencies.
- 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.

**Victim Services Huron Perth believes in and incorporates the values of being compassionate, courteous, respectful, self-reliant, nonjudgmental, and empowered in all interactions with others.**

## Number of People Supported - 2163

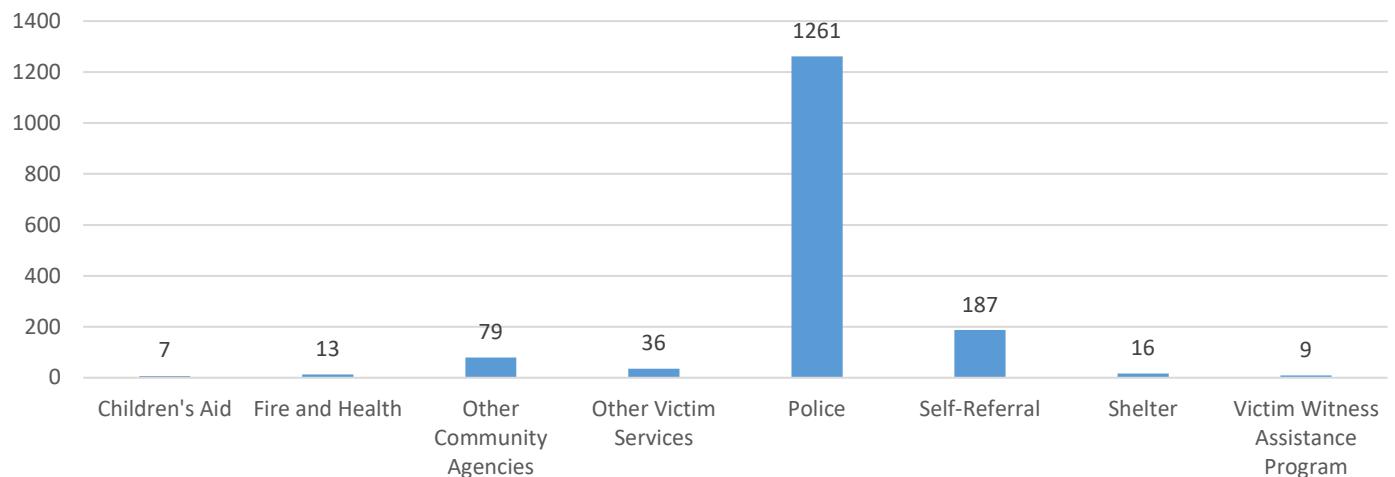


## Referrals

Referrals are accepted from anywhere, and as long as the victim resides in Huron or Perth 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 support.

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

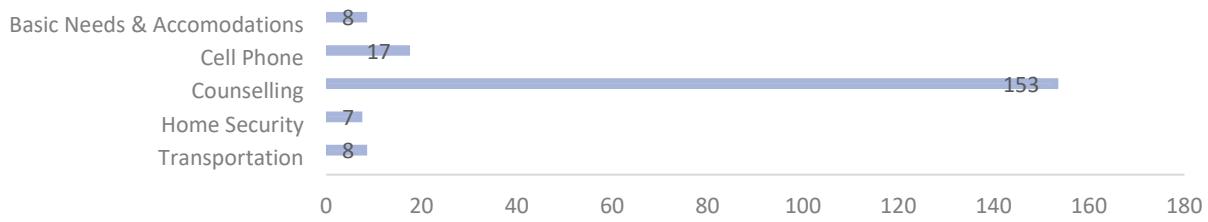
### Where Our Referrals Come From



## Victim Quick Response Program (VQRP+), included in the VCAO

This program responds to the most urgent needs of victims of violent crime, offering timely access to resources and emergency funds. Victims may be eligible for financial assistance related to emergency expenses - securing premises, transportation, crime scene clean-up, homicide funeral expenses, counselling services, short-term, early intervention. Victim Services will apply on behalf of a victim of a crime to explore what support they may be eligible for.

### Families Supported Through VQRP+ = 193



## 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 crimes does not exist in Huron County. Our information and experience indicate it exists; it just looks a little different than in our neighbouring urban centres.

We have reached a total of 1332 people with our public education program.

### Vision

Education and awareness are essential to both the prevention of the crime and the reduction of trauma when supports are in place quickly.

### 2024-2025 Number of Presentations - 83



## Quotes From Attendees

It was worth my time to come out and participate today. Thank you for bringing awareness to Human Trafficking in Perth County.

Anonymous Attendee

Jenn did a great job making the presentation engaging with the students.

AMDSB Teacher

## Fundraising Summary

### Additional Funding Sources

#### National Victims & Survivors of Crime Awareness Week

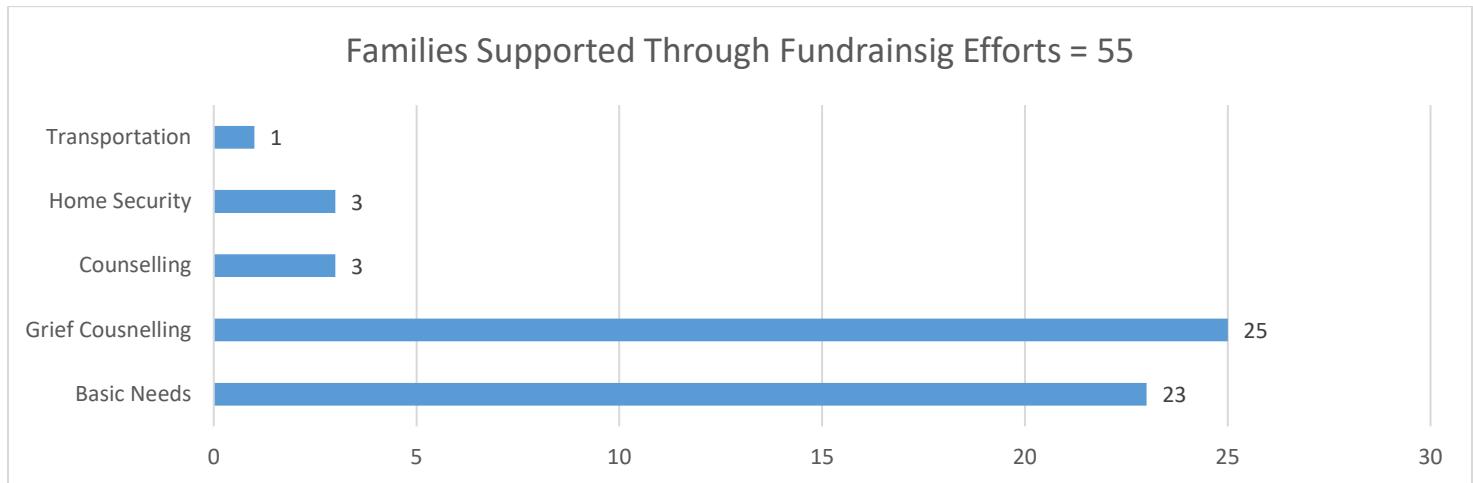
May 15, 2023, marked the annual recognition of Victims and Survivors of Crime Week, in which we hosted a volunteer appreciation and training event. The training focused on building the staff and volunteers' capacity to support others. Vicarious Trauma is something that impacts all first responders as they are exposed to difficult situations with limited capacity to make positive change for the person suffering. This can be a difficult burden to shoulder as volunteers. Victim Services Huron Perth wanted to invest in training to better foster longevity within our volunteer team by providing tools to navigate the difficult situations we may be involved in. We welcomed Kim Hagle from Radiant Vitality to speak and provide these necessary tools while a catered meal was prepared by Added Touch Catering, which allowed for some social mingling and team-building opportunities. It was a well-attended and valued event.



### General Donations

Victim Services is grateful for the support of individuals, groups, and foundations in our community and for the generous donations throughout the 2024-2025 fiscal year. All donated funds remain within Huron and Perth Counties to directly support survivors of crime and tragic circumstances or the volunteers that support them. The additional funding generated by donations allows us to enhance the support we can offer to those impacted by tragic circumstances, as the VQRP+ program is geared to support those victimized by crime.

We have been able to support many family members by offering them the opportunity for grief counselling and extensions to their VQRP+ counselling. Donations also covered the transportation costs associated with people making witness statements to the OPP who do not have a mode of transportation, which would not have been an option without these donations.



## Thank You to All Those Who Provided General Donations

### Individuals & Families

|                         |                             |                                |                        |
|-------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------------|------------------------|
| Al & Paula Dunn         | Alicia Oesch                | Alyssa McLachlan               | Amanda Glavin & Family |
| Amy Blake               | Andrew Zippel               | Andy Glavin                    | Anita Perehinets       |
| Anne Marie & Mike Sloan | Barry & Patsy Taylor        | Barry Willert                  | Beth Blowes            |
| Betty Eckel             | Bill & Janice Peckitt       | Bill & Linda Farquhar          | Bob & Karen Snow       |
| Bob & Tootie Merner     | Bobbi Clifton               | Bonnie Sadler                  | Bonnie Hotson          |
| Brad Skinner            | Bradley Forbes              | Brandon Koester                | Brenda & Kenneth Empey |
| Carol Prang             | Chad Dalrymple              | Christina & Philip Turner      | Clare & Brenda Martene |
| Dale & Shelly Miller    | Dan & Char Elliott          | Dan Durand                     | Danielle Oke           |
| Darcy Alyea             | Darlene Finkbeiner & Family | Darlene Porter                 | Dave & Tracey Regier   |
| David & Maureen Gelinas | Debbie Regier & Family      | Deborah Logue                  | Debra Regier           |
| Dennis Milani           | Diane Revington             | Doreen Regier & Family         | Dwayne Overholt        |
| Ed & Audrey Rooseboom   | Elaine Coxon                | Eric & Liz Campbell and family | Fae Heywood            |
| Garry & Brenda Koehler  | Gateway Casino              | George & Elaine Keller         | George & Lois Godbolt  |
| Gerry & June Glavin     | Glen & Marion McElrea       | Gordon & Marion McNutt         | Harry Van Bavel        |
| Heather McNutt          | Helen Consitt               | Helen Olmstead                 | Ivan & Rosemary Bedard |
| Jack Glavin             | Jaden Saelens               | James & Nancy Morlock          | James Edward           |
| Jane Corbett            | Janet Clarke                | Janet Dearing                  | Janet Scrimgeour       |
| Janet Snow              | Janis & Don Richardson      | Jeffery Bonnett                | Jenn Evans             |
| Jerry Rader             | Jo-Anne Fields              | Joanne Janzen                  | Joe & Dinette Stephens |
| Joe & Mary Koricina     | Joe Durand                  | John & Cheryl Edwards          | John & Lesley Jeffrey  |
| Joseph Cooke            | Karen Redmond               | Kathy James                    | Kathy Steckle          |
| Kelly Holmes            | Ken & Roxanne Brideau       | Kevin Ward                     | Kim & Judy McKinnon    |
| Kimberly Murray         | Kirk & Vicki Durand         | Krista Rathwell                | Kyle Craner            |
| Larry & Debbie Denomme  | Larry Whiting               | Lee Duncan                     | LeeAnn Russett         |
| Leona McCarter          | Lesley & John Jeffrey       | Linda & John Wuerth            | Louise Miller          |
| Lynne Godkin            | Marjorie Schilbe            | Mark & Jodi Weigand            | Mark & Judy Cronyn     |

|                            |                                 |                         |                        |
|----------------------------|---------------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|
| Mark & Julie Heimrich      | Mark Coulson                    | Martin & Janet Dick     | Marty & Julie Becker   |
| Mary Earle                 | Mathew Cody                     | Michele & Steve Haberer | Monique St Clair       |
| Mouse & Dinnne Masse       | Nancy Regier                    | Norman Hyde             | Pam & Anthony DeJong   |
| Pam Bedour                 | Patricia Geoffrey               | Patricia Lightfoot      | Patty Laporte          |
| Paul & Jacqueline Mallette | Paul Mansell                    | Paul Scott              | PayPal Giving Fund     |
| Peter & Mary Angela Rutten | Phil & Laurie Erb               | Randy & Nancy Regier    | Ray & Karen Mathonia   |
| Rebecca Horton             | Richard Ducharme                | Rick Hodgins Stables    | Robert Hoffman         |
| Rose Poleman               | Rudy Jansen                     | Sandy Wondergem         | Sara Wood              |
| Shannon & Janet Snow       | Sharon Passmore                 | Shawn & Kathy Rau       | Sheila Byers           |
| Sheila Jacson-Elder        | Shelley Bender                  | Shirley Rader           | Stephanie & Jeff Allan |
| Stephanie Overholt         | Stephen Rogers                  | Steve & Joanne Jaques   | Steve Durand           |
| Steven Coward              | Sue, Mark, Connor & Laura Adams | Susan Regier            | T Groves               |
| Tara Dykstra               | Terri Vanneste                  | Terrilyn Clifton        | Timothy Hamather       |
| Tom Passmore               | Tony and Nellie Van Bakel       | Tonya Harney            | Tracey & Dave Regier   |
| Vicki Geoffrey             | Wayne & Melita Cronin           | Wendy Becker            | Wes & Jaclyn Brown     |
| William & Linda Ratcliffe  | William Ratcliffe               |                         |                        |

#### Organizations/Clubs/Businesses

|                       |                           |                                  |                                 |
|-----------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Belgrave Kinsmen      | Blessings Community Store | Brucefield Fire                  | Central Huron Secondary School  |
| Claybird Gun Club     | Exeter Lions              | Farm Mutual Reinsurance Plan Inc | Forever Furniture               |
| Hay Communications    | Hogervorst Foundation     | Listowel Kinette                 | Londesboro Lions                |
| Max Voisin Foundation | V.Mallette Farms Inc      | Orr Insurance                    | PTMG Partners                   |
| Southwest Motorsports | St Peters CWL             | Westland Hogco Inc               | White Squirrel Cares Foundation |

## Highlights of Fundraising Events Throughout the Year

### Christmas Family Sponsorship

Due to the generosity of our community, Victim Services Huron was able to sponsor 19 families for Christmas. After a difficult year, these gifts brightened Christmas morning for 62 individuals and five dogs! Personalized items based on wish lists supported some basic essentials (food vouchers, gas cards) and comfort items (PJs, slippers, bath products, etc.).



## Thank you to all the donors and sponsors of the Christmas Family Sponsorship Program

|                             |                          |                       |
|-----------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------|
| Brussels Transport (Holiday | Michelle McNichol        | Debbie Jardin         |
| Cheer Makers)               | Donna White              | Abi & Charles Corbett |
| Patrick Armstrong           | Hymers Family            | Johnson Farms         |
| Janice & Dwight Hallahan    | McLean Brothers Concrete | Blake Farms           |
| Lisa Frischknecht           | Patricia Smith           | Dauphin Feed Supply   |
| Gulutzen Family             | Peter & Sarah Gusso      | Beau Rigling          |
| Krista Nesbitt              | Marion Taylor            | Deborah Logue         |

## Battle of the Badges

Perth OPP challenged North Perth Fire to a friendly competition for the crowd's entertainment at the Steve Kerr Memorial Complex in Listowel, October 20<sup>th</sup> 2024.



## Thank you to the Donors and Sponsors for the Perth Battle of the Badges

|                      |                              |                        |                       |
|----------------------|------------------------------|------------------------|-----------------------|
| Blake Farms          | Corey Conners                | Wayne & Melitta Cronin | Mike & Peggy Dupree   |
| Jenn Evans           | Nancy Hotson                 | Fire House Subs        | Rhonda Hunt           |
| Jen Jablecki         | Jokey                        | Austin Kohler          | Listowel Kinette Club |
| MARCC Apparel        | Mitchell Huron Tractor       | Karen Redmond          | Greg & Karen Ryan     |
| Stratford Warriors   | Turning Heads & Making Waves |                        | Ward & Uptigrove      |
| Shelly Wedow-Whitton |                              |                        |                       |

## Huron Battle of the Badges

On March 29<sup>th</sup>, 2025, Huron OPP faced North Huron Fire in the Battle of the Badges at the North Huron Wescast Community Center, Wingham.



## Thank you to the Donors and Sponsors for the Huron Battle of the Badges

Abi & Charles Corbett

Clay Bird Gun Club

Huron Tractor

Michelle Blake

Turning Heads & Making Waves

April Giles

Crystals Aesthetics

Jamie Stanely

Mike & Peggy Dupree

Becky Beuerman

Deb Logue

Laporte Family

Quilters Guild

Blake Farms Ltd

Doug Allin

Maitland Family Dental

Trish Smith

## Previous Perth Volunteers' Years of Service

Victim Services Huron has always acknowledged volunteers for 5-year increments of service. We want to take the opportunity to highlight the previous milestones of our Perth volunteers' years of service, before becoming Victim Services Huron Perth.

Nancy Hotson 10 years – 2012

Joan Ritsma 15 years – 2009

Jen Birmingham 20 years – 2003

## Current Volunteers Years of Service

Michael Dunn 15 years – 2010

## Volunteer Quote

Sometimes, just sitting with someone in their grief is often enough.

Natalie Campbell

## Front Line Volunteer Crisis Responders

### Departing Front Line Crisis Responders

#### Thank you for your generous gift of time!

Shelley Bender (2009)  
Bonnie Hastings (2022)  
Meadow Coulson-Cannon (2024)  
Jacqui Laporte (2010)  
Marly Squire (2022)  
Rebecca Barras (2023)  
Martina Tait (2021)  
Sara Whetung (2024)  
Jenna Debus (2023)  
Hayden McLeod (2023)  
Paul Greenwood (2023)



### Active Responders

Brittany Allingham (2024)  
Brandon Armstrong (2025)  
Alicia Bennewies (2018)  
Jessica Biasin (2023)  
Jen Birmingham (2003)  
Brenda Burkholder (2004)  
Natalie Campbell (2023)  
Manny Cechagias (2024)  
Wayne Cronin (2012)  
Karissa Denomme (2024)  
Mike Dunn (2010)  
Peter Edgar (2023)

Marci Feltz (2024)  
Brandy Gagnier (2022)  
Nick Geleynse (2024)  
Syed Hasan (2024)  
Madison Hinschberger (2023)  
Nancy Hotson (2012)  
Holly Howson (2018)  
Sandi Jezard (2023)  
Bobbi Jo Liu (2018)  
Carrie Meriam (2024)  
Hayley Morgan (2024)  
Noa Morton-Sydorak (2024)

Bruce Pitkin (2023)  
Joni Reinhart (2011)  
Shawn Reinink (2022)  
Joan Ritsma (2009)  
Nicole Russell (2022)  
Megan Shouldice (2023)  
Tyra Sitler (2023)  
Andrea Stevenson (2024)  
Marion Taylor (2008)  
Wagner Valdez (2018)  
Tim Wylie (2017)

## Board of Directors

### Executive

Jo-Anne Fields (Chair)  
Robert Morris (Vice Chair)  
Mike Scott (Treasurer)  
Susan Regier (Secretary)

### Directors

Wayne Cronin (Volunteer Board Liaison)

Mary-Ellen Ducharme  
Tim Poole  
Kimberly Richardson  
Trish Smith  
Kate Underwood  
Carole Weber

## VSHP Staff

Executive Director-Deborah Logue  
Operations Manager – Jenn Evans  
Client Support Coordinator – Karen Redmond  
Client Support Specialist – Jen Jablecki  
Client Support Specialist – Brandon Koetsier  
Staff On Call – Brenda Burkholder



thank  
you



BLESSINGS COMMUNITY  
STORE, ZURICH

for your consistent support of  
Victim Services Huron Perth



thank  
you

HOGERVORST FOUNDATION

for your consistent support of  
Victim Services Huron Perth





Thank you to everyone who contributed to  
making 2024-2025 a successful year as  
Victim Services Huron Perth!