

ANNUAL REPORT

2019–20



Islanders Working Against Violence



***We envision people living free from  
poverty, violence and abuse.***

IWAV provides support services and housing to women, inclusive of cis, trans and gender non-conforming women and their children who are impacted by violence and/or abuse.



# Message from the Executive Director and Board Chair

In looking back at the 2019-20 year, we can see that this was a time of growth and change in our organization on many levels.

One significant transformation has been our name change from Island Women Against Violence to Islanders Working Against Violence. The new name is intended to be more inclusive and better reflects our clients, tenants and supporters. We also developed our new logo as part of our name change.

IWAV gave thanks and recognition to Dana Ypma, who had served as IWAV's Executive Director for 8 years. Following this, the board approved Kisae Petersen to step into this leadership role.

Our annual farm to table fundraiser, 10,000 for Change, was a great success and raised over \$20,000 in one night! Thank you to our champion, Chental Wilson of Wilco Construction, her team and to our many supporters.

IWAV has strengthened our partnership with SWOVA and held a vigil in honour of the National Day of Remembrance and Action of Violence Against Women (Dec 6) and co-hosted a film night for International Women's Day (March 8). These are important events that remind us of our common vision to end gender-based violence and the power of solidarity and co-operation.

In the fall of 2019, the construction began on Croftonbrook's 22 unit apartment for seniors housing. Our development team includes Kisae Petersen, Janis Gauthier (project manager), Robert Schindelka and Daryoush Firouzli (architects) and Terry Morton (construction manager – Saywell Consulting Ltd). This project has been made possible through funding from BC Housing, CMHC, CRD, Salt Spring Island Foundation, SSI Abbeyfield Housing Society, Victoria Foundation, Aqueduct Foundation and other donors. This building will be ready for occupancy in December 2020.

In March 2020, the organization had to rapidly adjust to the Covid 19 pandemic. The Transitions Thrift Store closed on March 14, which was a significant loss as this is our social enterprise to help fund core programs. IWAV's office staff relocated to home offices to provide administration, resident management, outreach and counselling services. The Transition House and 24 hr crisis line continued to be open throughout the spring. The social restrictions have required the organization to rapidly adapt to ensure that our clients have access to our essential services. The Covid 19 pandemic will certainly play a major role in the activities and outcomes of the 2020-21 year.

On behalf of IWAV, we wish to express our gratitude to the staff, volunteer, donors and board members, who all contribute to our organization's successes.

**Kisae Petersen**  
Executive Director

**Susan Dann**  
Board Chair



Staff members at the 2019 10,000 for Change Fundraiser at Stowel Lake Farm



Poverty can be a key factor in the cycle of violence and abuse.

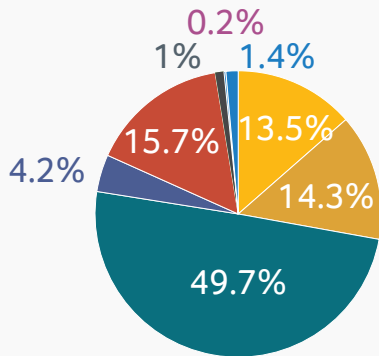


## Values

- Respect:** We demonstrate respect for our clients and each other
- Integrity:** We maintain the confidentiality and dignity of our clients
- Compassion:** We are kind and caring in our work
- Resourcefulness:** We seek out opportunities to achieve our mission
- Safety:** We provide an environment that feels safe for our clients and staff

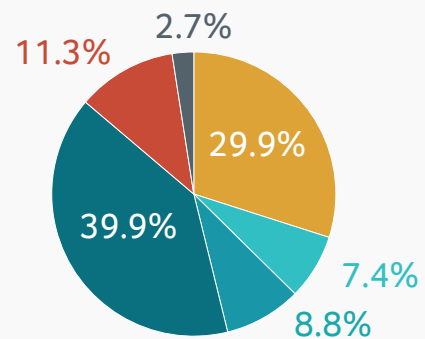
## 2019-20 Financials

### Income



Anti-violence Program Government Funding	\$735,592.70
Thrift Store Sales	\$232,574.75
Rental Income	\$211,692.29
Affordable Housing Government Funding	\$200,579.72
Grants	\$62,232.26
Fundraising Income	\$20,395.72
Donations	\$14,586.32
Interest	\$3,190.36
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$1,480,844.00</b>

### Expenses



Transition House Program	\$546,385.49
Counselling Programs	\$119,810.15
Outreach Programs	\$101,720.59
Thrift Store	\$154,801.20
Affordable Housing	\$408,478.78
Administration	\$36,828.90
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$1,368,025.00</b>

IWAV's fiscal year is April 1 to March 31.



## IWAV's Commitment to Affordable Housing

Many years ago, IWAV recognized the importance of affordable housing in the lives of our clients, especially for women experiencing intimate partner violence. On the island in the past decade, there has been a growing shortage of rental housing which has created significant barriers for people with low incomes and for women leaving violence. In the end, IWAV decided that owning and operating housing was a resourceful approach to ensuring access to housing for people who would otherwise be at risk of homelessness or returning to an abusive relationship. In 2012, IWAV purchased and began operating second stage housing. Over the past 8 years, we have served 34 women, many of whom have children.

In 2015, IWAV received Croftonbrook through a generous donation from BC Housing and the Salt Spring Society for Seniors' Accommodation. At the time, IWAV's mandate expanded to include people experiencing poverty to reflect the housing provided to low income seniors and people with disabilities. In 2016, IWAV began exploring opportunities to add housing at Croftonbrook and over the past few years have rezoned the property, secured funding from government and charitable partners and have begun construction at Croftonbrook.

IWAV recognizes the importance of rental housing for seniors and have designed the new apartment building for low to moderate income seniors. There will be 4 wheelchair accessible units and all of the apartments are adaptable, to allow people to age in place. Each floor has its own laundry room, common room and outside patio or balcony. Many of the apartments have farm or ocean-views and will provide clean, safe, affordable housing for island residents.

As well, IWAV's vision for the next building is for 34 apartments ranging from studio to 3 bedrooms and will provide affordable rental housing for individuals, couples and small families. The rents will be affordable for those with low to moderate incomes and will enhance the community at Croftonbrook to include people of all ages and backgrounds.





## Stopping the Violence Counselling

888 hours of 1:1 counselling.

**59 women served**



## PEACE Program for Children and Youth Experiencing Violence

Prevention, Education, Advocacy, Counselling, and Empowerment.

888 hours of 1:1 psycho-educational services, parenting support and violence prevention education in schools.

**22 women served**

**17 Children served**



## Women's Outreach Services

Education, safety planning, risk management, advocacy, emotional support, education, referrals, transition planning for women whose lives have been affected by violence or abuse.



1,680 hours of 1:1 individual support, and community outreach.

**84 women served**



## Salt Spring Island Transition House & Crisis Line

**336 crisis calls**

**44 women served**

**11 Children served**

**1,025 number of bed nights**

[Some women and children had more than one stay during the year]



## The Cedars Second Stage

Second stage transitional housing and support for women and children fleeing violence.

**10 women served**

**6 Children served**



## Croftonbrook

Croftonbrook provides affordable housing for low income seniors and people with disabilities.

**6 men and 18 women housed**

108 applications on waitlist



# One Woman's Journey

About a year ago, a client and her young child came into my office after an extremely violent incident with her husband, the child's father. She was sleeping at an acquaintance's house – but the arrangement wasn't working out, so she was considering moving home. This is a really risky time; **around 75% of domestic femicide happens at the point of, or soon after separation.** She couldn't afford to pay for housing, as her husband had spent every cent she earned for years. Together, we did a ton of safety planning and risk management— she moved into our Transition House and then a House off-island, ceased contact with her husband and got a protection order for her and her daughter. She actually moved into secure long-term housing off-island, and found a counsellor, before she reported the crimes committed. We worked together over months. At first, we spent a good deal of time together doing emotional support and discussing healthy boundaries while we worked through our plan. After a while, we spent time discussing the psychology and sociology of abuse. We don't work together anymore. Generally, and certainly in this case, closing a file is a good sign for me: My former client is happily divorced. She has secured long-term housing with her little one, is working part-time, and has applied for a program in psychology.

Source: IWAV Outreach Coordinator



Roberta Temmel, manager and store team members

## The Transitions Thrift Store

The Transitions Thrift Store is IWAV's social enterprise which means that all proceeds from the thrift store is used to help fund our transition house, outreach and counselling programs. This is crucial to core operations, as the government funders do not fully fund our essential programs and IWAV must fundraise to cover the full program costs.

The thrift store was very successful in generating program funds in the 2019-20 year. This will not be possible in the 2020-21 year, as the thrift store was closed in March to June and may also experience disruptions if there are additional closures due to COVID.

*IWAV respectfully recognizes that IWAV is located in the traditional territories of the Hul'qumi'num and SENĆOŦEN speaking peoples.*



Kisae & Jayne.  
Photo by Gail Sjuberg of Driftwood Publishing

## Board of Directors

The board of directors for the 2019-20 year includes Susan Dann, Alicia Herbert, Philippa Tattersall, Brenda Hooge, Kristi Reynolds, Jayne Lloyd-Jones, Victoria Davidson, Lisa Sliwowska, Beth Whalley and Sophia Jackson.



## Donations & Funding

Islanders Working Against Violence are grateful to our funders, government partners, community organizations, local businesses and the many individual donors who support our society's anti-violence and housing work.

IWAV welcomes donations by cheque and our website includes a link for donations through credit card or for stock transfers. All donations that are received are used at the direction of the donor (i.e. specific program) or are used in service delivery to directly benefit women and children who access the anti-violence programs. IWAV is a registered charity and will issue a tax receipt for all donations.



### Islanders Working Against Violence

PO Box 376 Ganges, Salt Spring Island, BC, V8K 2W1

Admin office: 250-537-1867

Crisis line: 1-877-435-7544 or 250-537-0735

[iwav.org](http://iwav.org)