

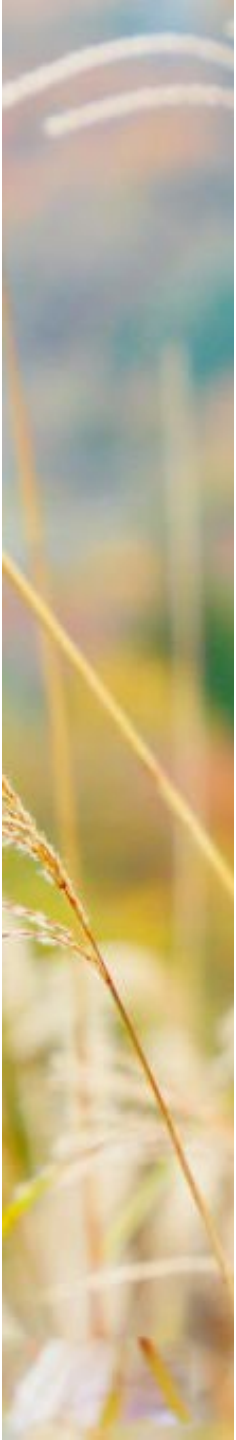


2024 – 2025 ANNUAL REPORT

Thirty Years Strong

Aimee Beaulieu Transition House Celebrates a Milestone Anniversary

Since 1972, Nelson Community Services has been offering counselling & support in & around our community. With each person & family we assist, we focus on our vision of a compassionate & empowered community where families, youth & individuals receive the supports & services they need to live dignified, resilient, and hopeful lives.



A Message From Our Board Chair & Executive Director

This year marked important milestones for Nelson Community Services Society, including the 25th anniversary of Cicada Place and the 30th anniversary of Aimee Beaulieu Transition House. These programs continue to be pillars of support in our community, and their longevity speaks to the dedication of our staff and the trust placed in us by those we serve. Events like the inaugural Ride for Refuge helped raise awareness and vital funds, reinforcing the community's commitment to our mission.

In alignment with our Strategic Plan, we secured key grants—including funding through the Gender-Based Violence Action Plan—that have allowed us to strengthen program delivery and adapt to the evolving needs of our clients. We also launched our first Leadership Development Program, highlighting the depth of talent and leadership within our team.

We are deeply grateful to our Board of Directors, staff, and leadership team for their unwavering dedication. Your compassion and commitment remain the heart of our work. It is a privilege to share in this mission with all of you, and we thank you for your continued support of NCS.

This year's Annual Report spotlights the Aimee Beaulieu Transition House—celebrating 30 years strong in offering safety, compassion, and support to survivors. We warmly invite you to read more about this remarkable program, its evolution and the people who have shaped its legacy of resilience and hope over the past three decades.



Sean Ryan, Board Chair



Anna Maskerine, Executive Director

1,159

In 2024 -2025
NCS served 1,109 clients
(families, youth, individuals)

Inside This Year's Annual Report...

- A Legacy – Never Forgotten
- Honouring Thirty Years Strong
- Words & Reflections from Survivors
- & More...



We warmly invite you to visit our website to learn about our services, programs & more:

servicesfyi.ca.

Our Facebook & Instagram pages @servicesfyi offer news & stories throughout the year.

A Legacy - Never Forgotten

On April 2nd, 1992, the lives of 19-year-old Aimee Beaulieu and her 11-month-old twins, David and Samantha, were taken. The questions surrounding their deaths remain unanswered. Their memory endures, not in silence, but in strength.

In May 1995, the Aimee Beaulieu Transition House opened its doors as a sanctuary of support, healing, and resilience. It stands in her name, so that others may find safety where Aimee and her children could not.

Their names are not forgotten. This house is their legacy.

Their memory lives on with every step toward justice, with every woman and child that walks through these doors.



Aimee Beaulieu & her 11-month-old twins, David & Samantha





Honouring Thirty Years Strong

Since opening its doors in 1995, the Aimee Beaulieu Transition House has been a cornerstone of support for women and children fleeing domestic violence. For three decades, the house has provided essential services including a 24/7 crisis line, safe shelter, and wraparound supports. While much has changed over the past three decades, the heart of the program has remained constant—steadfastly adapting, growing, and evolving in response to the needs of the community.

In its early years, a small but dedicated core staff worked 12-hour shifts, managing the crisis line while offering safety planning, emotional support, and referrals to legal and community resources.

Over time, the program expanded to include a dedicated Women's Outreach Worker, transitioning from a model where in-house staff provided follow-up support to one offering specialized, community-based assistance. This includes help with attending appointments, accompaniment, and supporting women in their transition to independent living. At times, funding has allowed for double staffing—an essential resource during periods of heightened risk and demand. We've also added a Senior Support Worker position, and a Resource and Supplies Worker to our team.

About a decade ago, the Transition House adopted a reduced-barrier model that recognizes the complex intersection of mental health, substance use, and domestic violence. This was a significant and necessary shift, ensuring services are more inclusive and accessible to all who need them.



The house itself has undergone two major renovations over the past 30 years. A former donation storage area was transformed into a vibrant multi-purpose activity room, and a large recreation space was reimagined to include a quiet room, and a second bathroom saw the addition of a shower. Other upgrades have included kitchen renovations, new insulation, flooring and paint, fireplace improvements, updated sidewalks, and the addition of a covered gazebo—creating a more welcoming, functional, and therapeutic environment for residents.

During the COVID-19 pandemic—when much of the world shut down—the Aimee Beaulieu Transition House continued to provide uninterrupted services and accommodation. At a time when the United Nations declared domestic violence the “shadow pandemic,” this commitment was more critical than ever. In response to emerging needs, a chat line was introduced, offering another avenue for women to reach out for support.



The ABTH living space décor is inspired by the natural beauty of the West Kootenays—mountains, water, trees, & earth.



Recognizing the barriers faced by many, the program became pet-friendly, allowing women and children to bring their beloved animals with them—often a critical factor in deciding to seek help. In addition, a Four Feathers Grant enhanced both the accessibility and cultural relevance of the house for Indigenous women. Program spaces were expanded, the children’s play area was redesigned with land-based elements, and bedrooms were refreshed with décor inspired by the natural beauty of the West Kootenays—mountains, water, trees, and earth. Culturally grounded programming, including the Elder Support program, was introduced and continues to be offered.

Over the years, many casual staff have contributed their unique strengths and gifts to this vital work, and over time, several have grown into full-time roles. Remarkably, the full-time staff team has remained largely consistent—a testament to the strong, supportive work environment and shared commitment that defines the Transition House.

The Aimee Beaulieu Transition House is now a well-established service in the Nelson community and continues to receive strong support. Yet, many residents are still unaware of its existence—or of the fact that domestic violence happens here, too. The program has worked hard to raise awareness and reduce stigma through fundraising events like soirées and silent auctions. This year, to mark its 30th anniversary, it launched Ride for Refuge, an annual fundraiser that promises to become a community tradition for years to come.

As the Aimee Beaulieu Transition House celebrates 30 years of service, it stands as a symbol of resilience, compassion, and community. It honours its past while continuing to evolve—committed to providing safety, support, and hope to women and children.

3 Decades Of Safety & Support

Over
1350

Women have accessed
ABTH services for
safe shelter

Over
500

Children have accompanied
their mothers to ABTH
for safe shelter

Over
20,000

Crisis callers & web chatters
have been supported with
safety planning, resources,
information, referrals, &
emotional support

Words & Reflections

“If it wasn’t for ABTH, I would be still in a continual never-ending cycle of abuse. I have broken free... The program and staff have saved my life.”

“The staff helped me in so many ways. The level of caring, listening to me when I was scared and hurt was beyond anything that was ever given to me. So, thank you!”

“I had a great experience even with the circumstances of coming out of abuse. Thank you for making me feel safe. I felt safe for the first time in many years. Staff really helped my healing journey start.”



*The Dedication Garden at
ABTH honours all survivors*

Financial Breakdown | 2024 – 2025

2024 – 2025 Revenue	
Ministry for Children and Family Development	1,033,096
BC Housing	1,428,676
Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General	534,745
Other Grants	220,033
Donations	54,036
Interest/Sundry	40,979
TOTAL	3,311,565

2024 – 2025 Expenses		
Administration	90,503	3% of budget
Building & Maintenance Expenses	141,34	4% of budget
Program Expenses	426,387	13% of budget
Office Supplies	14,656	>1% of budget
Salaries/Benefits	2,577,439	79% of budget
TOTAL	3,250,619	100%

Our Funders

BC Ministry of Children and Family Development, Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General, BC Housing, Interior Health Authority, Osprey Community Foundation, Columbia Basin Trust, BC Society of Transition Houses, Reaching Home Funds via NCOH, Women’s Shelters Canada, Civil Forfeiture Office.

Our Donors

We are thankful to all our donors this past year. Your contributions are so valued and directly support families, youth, and individuals within our local community.

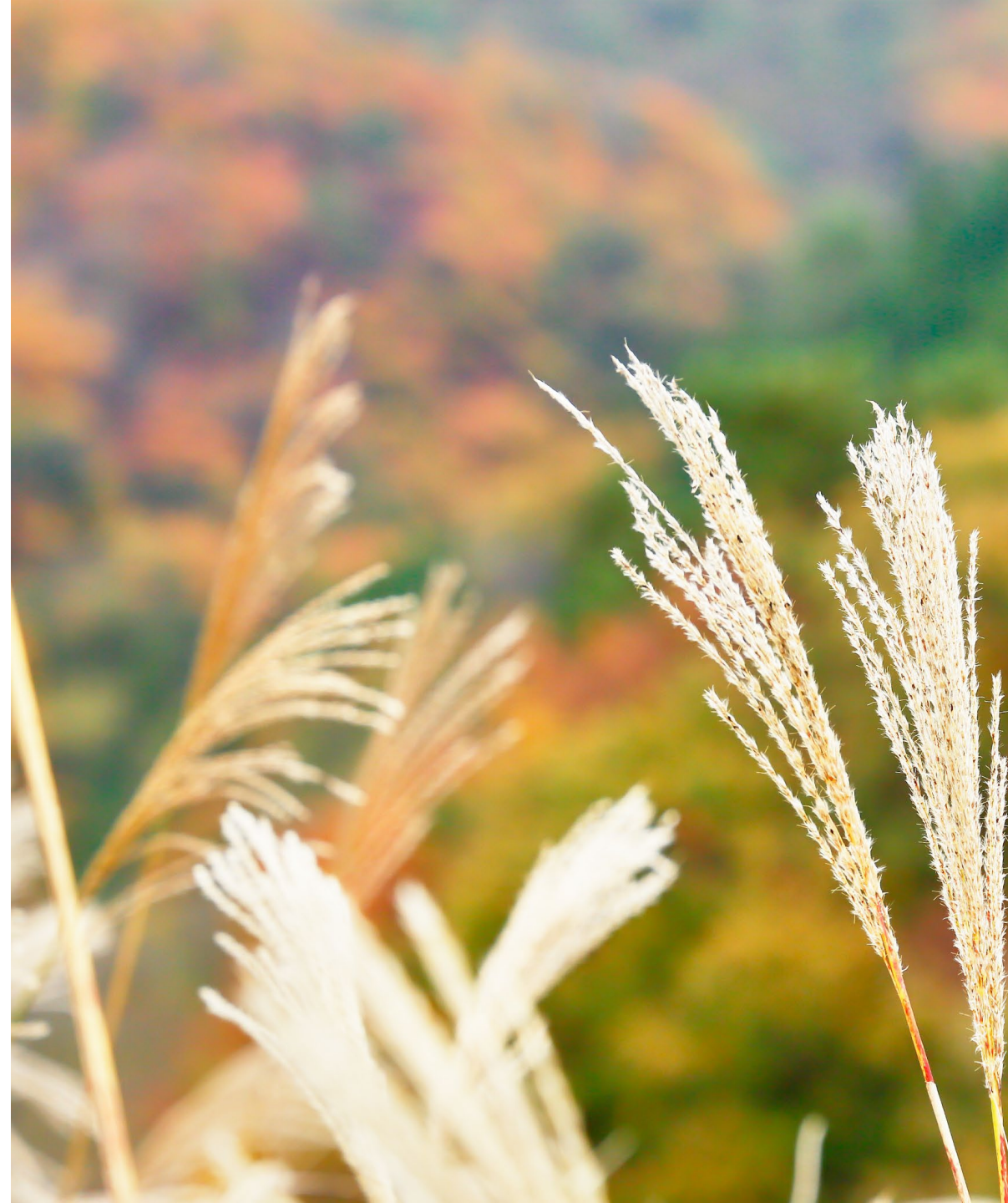
Gratitude

We could not do all we do without the generous support and donations from our community. We are grateful for our community partners and stakeholders who collaborate with us in this important work.

Nelson Community Services acknowledges that the land upon which we offer our services is the traditional territory of the peoples who have lived here for thousands of years - the Ktunaxa, the Sylix, and the Sinixt. We respect and honour all our relations.



Nelson Community Services
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In Memory

This report is dedicated to the memory of Harvest,
who left an indelible mark on our workplace
and who will never be forgotten.