



ANNUAL
REPORT
2015-2016

2
5

the
SHARP
YEARS foundation

hope | dignity | compassion

Dear Members and Friends,

On behalf of the SHARP Foundation's Board of Directors, we would like to thank all of the incredible supporters who have allowed us to serve our community's most marginalized people throughout the past 25 years! You have been instrumental in taking the original vision of Walter Beswick, Gary Krauscher and friends of providing non-judgemental care, dignity and "home" to people of dying of AIDS and living with HIV. SHARP continues to build on this vision and is now a recognized community leader in compassionate care, harm reduction and sharing what we have learned.

Throughout the past year SHARP continued to work on ways to address the growing number of people who want or need to access the unique services we provide. Our partnerships with Calgary Housing Company and City of Calgary have allowed us to build a stronger community for people in social housing including the people we serve. We were also able to complete a 7th eLearning module for our series on *Helping People with Complex Health and Social Needs* focused on trauma-informed care. Alberta Health Services (Addictions & Mental Health, Public Health), Aventa Women's Addiction Treatment, Canadian Mental Health Association and many others collaborated on this initiative.

One of SHARP's most important initiatives was Beswick House 2.0. With funding from The Calgary Foundation, the SHARP Board and HABITUS Consulting Collaborative embarked on this project. After in-depth focus groups and consultations with multiple community partners, HABITUS presented the Board with the priorities for how SHARP can expand its programs for diverse communities including people aging with HIV, chronically homeless and LGBTQ2S.

In 2017, SHARP will be able to take the next leap to creating a new program for up to 23 chronically homeless individuals with complex health and social needs. In partnership with the Calgary Homeless Foundation and Alpha House, SHARP will be able to offer another home and 24/7 support to the increasing number of people who are being referred to us. This project will be a unique collaboration of innovative ideas from the prospective residents, the community, and evidence-based best (wise) practices in harm reduction.

Despite our opportunities for growth, the downturn in the economy is challenging us like so many other charitable organizations. SHARP has seen a significant decrease in foundation grants and fund raising events. This challenge was overcome with the reserve fund that the Foundation had created specifically for this type of circumstance. To ensure our ability to provide sustainable programs, and rebuild our reserve, the SHARP Board has been working diligently with our government, corporate and foundation partners. The Board is also looking forward to meeting with existing and prospective donors to discuss how everyone can engage in the important work that SHARP does locally, provincially and nationally.

At SHARP we strive to lead in building brighter futures for people living with HIV and AIDS, particularly those who see little or no future. We care so that there is hope for a better life for themselves, their families and our community.

Once again thank you to the incredible staff, volunteers and partners who continue to support us in improving the lives of our residents. We extend our grateful appreciation to all our residents who continue to inspire us in wanting to make a difference and creating services that provide dignity and compassion.

Sincerely,

Philippe Boilard, Board President

Floyd Visser, Executive Director

SHARP's Beginning

October 4th, 1990

- ❖ The S.H.A.R.P. Foundation (Society Housing AIDS Recovering Persons) is incorporated under the Alberta Societies Act.
- ❖ Established by Walter Beswick, Don Gallant, Gary Krauscher and friends within the community.
- ❖ Care provided in a few Calgary inner city homes by volunteers.

"... we lived and we loved along with him.... in his room, I repeat his own room ... he had something of his own until he died. Where can others go?"

Walter Beswick, Founder

SHARP's Impact

To give a better indication of the work we do and its impact, we would like to share these letters from two former Beswick residents who are now in living independently!

"My name is XXXXXX. When I got out of the hospital, I was told I was going to a hospice. When I got there I felt like I was at home. I definitely never had any problems. They booked my appointments, made sure I had a ride to all my appointments. They gave me some dignity. AIDS still has bad stigma. I never had to worry. They also took me on outings and bowling and stuff like that. I was there for 3 ½ years or so. I seen [sic] people die and they were [sic] treated everybody with dignity. If I was depressed, there was always someone to talk too [sic]. The food was good. I got lucky and got really healthy. Floyd, as well as others helped me get me and my son into an apartment. Without them I couldn't do it. I never even seen my son since he was very young. Here I am living together. Unreal! I also hope, that if I turn ill again that I can go back there. They still do stuff for me here too. I seen first hand how people are treated. I don't know if I'll get sick again. Its good to know there are places to go, to heal. It's nice when you don't have to worry about food, lodging and even the zoo once in a while, as well as other outings. Beswick house is a place of love. And they mean it."

"Hi I'm XXXX. I can honestly say I would not be here today if it wasn't for Beswick. I went into Beswick in 2012 after staying in the hospital for a long time. I was very sick. I couldn't walk or eat. I weighed 93 lbs. There was a time they didn't think I was going to make it. That all changed with all the help I got from Beswick. This was the hardest time of my life but they took there [sic] time with me and made me feel comfortable and the most important one they made me feel safe and wanted. There was a few of us that lived in the house and they allways [sic] made everyone feel important. It became a home. We had all our meals together. They always made sure we got our meds on time and we got to all our appointments. They always found time for us when we really needed to talk, never did they turn us away or too busy [sic]. They never gave up on me. By the time I was ready to leave which was a year later I was a totally different person. I was walking on my own. I was 115 lbs. I was happy, laugh, excited I was alive. Amazing. With the help of the SHARP Foundation I was able to move into a 1 bedroom apartment and I am loving life again. It has been a very long time for me to say that. They gave me more than just the physical healing, they gave me the strength, the drive, the love, the will, the push and the support that I needed. I thank them every day for what they have given me and that is my life back. I WOULD NOT BE HERE TODAY WITHOUT BESWICK. I STILL CALL BESWICK HOME."

SHARP's Strategies

Updated October 2015

Mission:

To provide quality client-focused care for the community's most vulnerable persons living with HIV.

Vision:

Every person living with HIV will have a home and compassionate care to meet their needs.

Mandate:

To develop, implement and support innovative programs to provide integrated care for persons living with HIV, which reduces risk behaviours and prevents further transmission of HIV in the community.

Values:

SHARP provides compassionate care by:

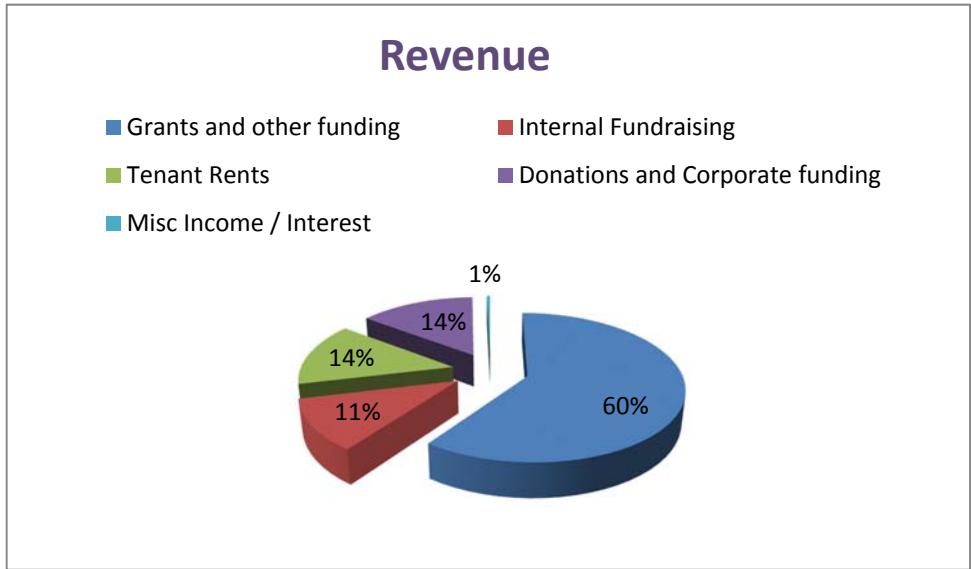
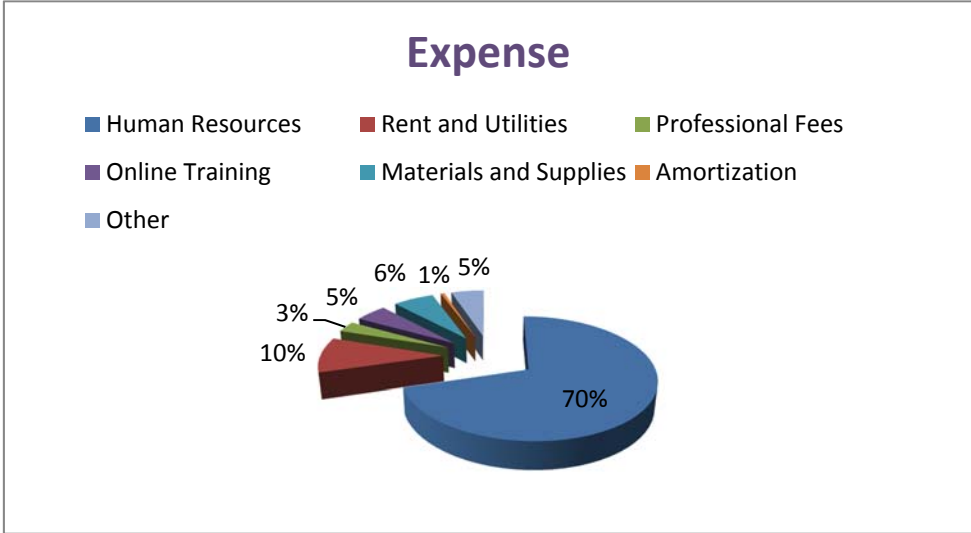
- ❖ Respecting the inherent worth, identity and dignity of each person without regard to ethnicity, religion, age, gender, sexual orientation or socio-economic status.
- ❖ Believing in the whole person and supporting the physical, emotional, psychological and spiritual needs of each person in an integrated manner.
- ❖ Supporting each person in a non-judgmental environment.
- ❖ Promoting innovation, creativity and professionalism.
- ❖ Developing effective partnerships and collaboration with diverse communities and organizations.
- ❖ Sharing our expertise and learning from others.

Goals & Accomplishments in 2015 - 2016:

- ❖ Sustain and build an integrated continuum of care including housing, medical, psychosocial and spiritual supports based on each client's needs and choices.
 - Reached 74 unique individuals (63 in 2015) in five facilities providing services ranging from 24/7 medical / psychosocial supports, to peer-mentored and independent-living; for the first time in SHARP's history no people passed away in SHARP care.
 - Referrals increased by 32%; the average number of individuals on the intake waiting list is 35 (31 in 2015); majority will require higher levels of care similar to Beswick House (24/7 supports).
 - Staff arranged 1,605 appointments (918 in 2015) for family physicians, specialists, psychologists, transportation and other public services; 33% increase in staff or volunteers escorting clients to appointments; received funding from the Nickle Family Foundation to support client transportation program.
 - Carlyle Commons integrated with Manchester Inter-Agency group to build programming in the community including new playground to be completed in summer 2016, youth activities, LGBTQ group supports, holiday dinners, stampede breakfast and coffee times.
 - SHARP clients continue to engage in monthly meetings, recreation/entertainment activities, volunteering and educational opportunities; created over 1500 pin buttons, 2000 condoms packages and "Welcome Home" packages for new residents.

Goals (continued):

- ❖ Create and maintain safe, accessible, environmentally-friendly facilities.
 - Beswick House and Project Kathleen are certified under the Province of Alberta Accommodation Standards for Group Homes.
 - Residents are actively engaged in the maintenance of their homes including gardening, snow removal, cleaning and caring for dogs; six residents had bedrooms painted in the colours of their choice.
- ❖ Attract, retain and nurture highly skilled and compassionate people to support our clients through the delivery of programs and services.
 - SHARP continues to pride itself on the dedicated staff throughout the organization as they continue to adapt to the changing needs of the people we serve.
 - Successfully retained Beswick House care staff for over 3 years.
 - Continue to work closely with Alberta Health Services (Public Health, Southern Alberta Clinic, HomeCare) and other medical professionals to ensure continuity of care.
 - Over 150 volunteers completed a total 5,429 hours of client support (8 clients had one-to-one companions), bookkeeping, fund development, IT support and communications.
- ❖ Develop and nurture our strategic partnerships to maintain and enhance the quality of life of all persons living with HIV.
 - Continue to build on the strong relationship with Calgary Housing Company to ensure safe and affordable homes for residents.
 - Actively participated in the Calgary Recovery Task Force – 26 organizations working towards shared goal of improving health supports and outcomes for vulnerable homeless individuals in Calgary.
 - Led the development of the Calgary LGBTQ Elders Group to create greater awareness of the concerns and issues of aging members of the LGBTQ community.
- ❖ Communicate the excellence of our programs and services so they are clearly recognized by our Stakeholders across Canada.
 - First six modules of eLearning “Working with People with Complex Health and Social Needs” is completed and launched for free access on www.theSHARPFoundation.com.
 - Secured funding to create seventh eLearning module on “Trauma-Informed Care” with other community partners assisting people with complex health and social needs in our community.
- ❖ Secure financial sustainability by increasing our revenue sources and maintaining fiscal responsibility.
 - Year-end audited financial statement completed indicating that SHARP was challenged by the current economic downturn (complete report available upon request).
- ❖ Assess and align our strategic directions to best meet the current and future needs of individuals living with HIV and their family and friends.
 - SHARP Board of Directors worked with HABITUS Consulting Collaborative to create a strategy for program expansion including a project plan for Beswick House 2.0.
- ❖ Improve and enhance the quality of health outcomes and lives of persons living with HIV through research, evaluation and knowledge transfer.
 - The Western Canada Impact of HIV: Housing and Supports Study, led by SHARP, developing outcomes measurement and program sustainability tools with community partners including Alberta Health, Alberta Health Services, Calgary Homeless Foundation, Fife House (Toronto), Dr. Peter Centre (Vancouver), McLaren Housing (Vancouver), and Sanctum House (Saskatoon); completion in Fall 2016.
 - Completed and communicated the outcomes of the Calgary Men’s Wellness Study on how men who have sex with men engage with health services; received Canadian Institutes of Health Research catalyst funding for a similar provincial study.



SHARP's Board of Directors

Philippe Boilard, President
 Joshua Sadovnick, Vice-President
 Nicholas Nagy, Treasurer
 Mikaela McQuade, Secretary
 Troy Gibson, Director
 Brianna Guenther, Director

Chris Lamb, Director
 Patricia Miller, Director
 Kory Zwack, Director
 Gerry Hart, Past President (Ex-Officio)
 Floyd Visser, Executive Director (Ex-Officio)



SHARP's Funders and Supporters

We are truly grateful for the generous gifts we receive from our ever-increasing number of supporters, partners and volunteers! We would not be able to do the important work without this incredible support – Thank you!

Alberta Health Services – Harm Reduction, Homecare and Southern Alberta Clinic	Lawren Butchart Roseline Carter Felicia Chapman Laury Chapman	GayCalgary Magazine Edmund Gee Erin Gerodo Troy Gibson
Alberta Provincial Policy & Funding Consortium including Alberta Health, Public Health Agency of Canada & ACCH	Samantha Chedore Christine Chin Tracy Chin Bryan Clarke Cathy Connolly	Kari Gordon Jeff Goth Matt Grant Darin Grisdale Kevin Guenther
Alberta Community Council On HIV (ACCH)	James Cook Les Cooper Thalisom Correa Carolyn Coulter	Tony Hailu Waleed Hamdon Gerry Hart Sarah Hayes
ATB Financial (ATBCares.com) Mahmud Abdulla Agnes Alexander Fred Alexander Michael Alexander Chad Anderson Karen Andres Zachary Angermeyer Debbie Armstrong Garrett Ayers Pam Bains-Maki Jim Baker Debby Barry Baba Behbesh Brett Bergerma Alexandra Betancourt Daryl Betenia Patrick Blancher Philippe Boilard Nicole Bonneau Brian Bowman Annaliisa Bracco-Callaghan Erin Brighton Broken City George Brookman Cindy Brown Jody Brown Chris Browne Anthony Brozinic Ken Brushett Lawren Butchart	Delores Coutts Anne Crawford George Crawford Erin Crossman Grant Crowther Tom Cuthbertson Gloria Davis Scott Decksheimer & Kara Exner Joyce Derwee Douglas Dewan Douglas L Myhre Professional Vincent Duckworth Lynn Dudley John Dumlaio Eryk Edge Lorraine Eger Morghan Elliot Terry Elliot Andrea Elliott Lauren Ellis Estate Of Kenneth William Scott in Memorial to Charles Frisby Reid Fiest Tamsin Fitzpatrick Eric & Alex Jackson Leon Flores Joseph Fogal Dustin Franks Jenny Frere Rod Garossino & Kim Anthony Liz Garrett	Brian Hearn Hedkandi Doug Hill Peter Hoeltzenbein Holy Spirit Charitable Society Mike Horne Chris Host Courtney Hunter Troy Hunter Rob Hyde Aharon Ikar Il Sogno Imperial Sovereign Court of the Chinook Arch (ISCCA) Intact Foundation Robin Irwin Colin Jackson Mark Jeronic Craig Johnson Deborah Johnson Pam Johnston Shannon Johnston Alison Koper Gary Krivy Christina Lamb Lori Lang Ken LaPointe Last Best Brewing & Distilling Brewpub Inc Tim Leal

Bonnie and Craig Lewin
Adam LeClaire
Sandra Lunder
Jessica MacDonald
Dean MacKedenski
Terry MacKenzie
Charles Macmichael
Renee MacTavish
Neal Maher
Jordan Marit
Brenda Martin
Robert Martin
Abe Mathai
Wendy Matheson
Katrina May
Deborah Mayko
Brad McManis
Carol Miller
Janna Miller
Jill Miller
Patricia Miller
Rob Milner
Scott Mooney
Rachel Moore
Robin Moore
Elizabeth Morrison
Steven Morton
Lynette Newman
Nickle Family Foundation
Jamie Niessen
Chima Nkemdirim
Nick Noronha
Brendan O'Shea
Wendy Oddie
Allan Oen
Melinda Olliver
Paul Olmstead
Bonnie Olsen
Jeff Olsen
Riley Orman
Jeremy Oviatt
Tara Pagenkopf

Miguel Passamai
Chris Pearson
William Peters
Bonnie Peyto
Brian Pitchko
Candace Pond
Chris Post
Prema Health Corp
Irene Price
Michelle Reibin
John Roberts
William Robertson
Jessica Robles Montejo
Barbara and Derek Ross
Bev Ruskin
Joshua Sadovnick
Joel Salomons
Matt Sando
Lin Savoie
Jeremy Schelling
George Schluessel
Kris Schneider
Lindsey Schneider
Terry Schneider
Jack Schroder
Bonita Semeschuk
Shoppers Drug Mart Life
Foundation
Stephanie Sikorski
Jason Simpkins
Dave Simpson
Geoffrey Smith
Matt Sonntag
Alberto Souza

Debbie Tan
Halyna Tatapin
Pat Taylor
TD Bank
Harry Tetz
Scott Thomas
Jason Thompson
Andy Thomson
Ray Todd
TransCanada Pipelines
Tree Of Life Canada
Brett Turnquist
Tibor Uhrik
Vencer Group
Floyd Visser
Jo-Ann Visser
Daniel Walker
Kara Walker
Carol Walters
Carolyn Wasden
Wentworth Health Family Dental
Rachel West
WestJet
David Williams
Donna Williams
Nicole Williams
Terri Winslow
Frances Wright
Jared Wyatt
Craig Young
Peter Zajiczek
Wendy Zhu
Kory Zwack
Michael Zwier

*... and to the many individuals and organizations
who would like to remain anonymous!*

Thank You!

hope | dignity | compassion

The SHARP Foundation | Box A023, 5717 2nd Street SW, Calgary, Alberta, T2H 0A1 | www.theSHARPFoundation.com

Phone: 403 272 2912 | Fax: 403 453 2468

Charitable registration # 897948436RR0001