

newsletter



Mountain Rose Women's Shelter Thanks Our

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Walk a Mile in Her Shoes®

**THE INTERNATIONAL MEN'S MARCH
TO STOP RAPE, SEXUAL ASSAULT & GENDER VIOLENCE**

Contributors

Block Family, Co-op, Cenovus, (Drayton Valley) Perez Family, Oli's Portable Toilet Rentals, Red Deer Outreach Services, Royal Canadian Mounted Police, Skyline Designs, Sobeys, The Brick, St. Matthew's Catholic School, The Music Shop Concert Theatre,
The Cooperators Insurance, The Mountaineer, Town of Rocky Mountain House
All the walkers and volunteers



Mountain Rose Women's Shelter raised \$5,725.00 thanks to the Walkers, Pledgers and Donors who helped make this event a success! Proceeds support Women and Children fleeing domestic violence.

Mission Statement: The Mountain Rose Women's Shelter Association is a non-profit charitable organization that provides resources and support to individuals and families impacted by domestic violence in the Town of Rocky Mountain House and Clearwater County.



Message from the Executive Director

“The true meaning of life is to plant trees, under whose shade you do not expect to sit”. Nelson Henderson

Mountain Rose Women’s Shelter Board of Directors has taken the final step to building the “Abuse Prevention Centre” including an emergency shelter and second stage apartments... *they are planting the trees under whose shade they do not expect to sit.* The new Centre will outlast many of us and will be a safe haven for fifty or more years for families fleeing domestic violence. I will be a distant memory but this building; no it will be more than a building of bricks and mortar; it will be a lifesaving home that will change lives for future generations.

The Abuse Prevention Centre will also be a place for MRWSA Community Services: including Outreach Counselling, Housing Support, Community Engagement, Parent Child Assistance Program, Family Support, Educational Programs, and Volunteer Programs. There will be learning/meeting rooms available for community groups to access. In short, it will be the hub for prevention, education, and safety.

We are moving forward with faith that the final support, dollar wise and in-kind, will enable the doors to open in the fall of 2018. We believe that our community will understand that *“the true meaning of life is to plant trees, under whose shade you do not expect to sit”*. Please help us ‘plant trees’ for the future to assist women and children fleeing domestic violence.

Thank you for your ongoing support!

Leading facts and statistics related to children and domestic violence.

(Retrieved from www.domesticshelters.org)

Many researchers have concluded that some children who witness or are victims of domestic violence experience a profound and lasting impact on their lives and hopes for the future. “A child’s developing brain can mistakenly encode the violence,” says Children of Domestic Violence, adding that kids can grow up believing that violence is normal and that they are to blame for it. The statistics and studies below reinforce that belief, and that stopping domestic violence long-term and “breaking the cycle of violence” heavily relies on raising children in environments free of violence.

- **30% to 60% of perpetrators of intimate partner violence also abuse children in the household.** Source: Edelson, J.L. (1999). “The Overlap Between Child Maltreatment and Woman Battering.” *Violence Against Women*. 5:134-154.
- **Males exposed to domestic violence as children are more likely to engage in domestic violence as adults, and females are more likely to be victims as adults.** Source: Whitfield, C., Anda, R., Dube, S., and Felitti, V. (2003). “Violent childhood experiences and the risk of intimate partner violence as adults.” *Journal of Interpersonal Violence*, 18(12).
- **Children who were exposed to violence in the home are 15 times more likely to be physically and/or sexually assaulted than the national average.** Source: Volpe, J.S., “Effects of Domestic Violence on Children and Adolescents: An Overview”, *The American Academy of Experts in Traumatic Stress*, 1996.

For more information contact MRWSA Outreach Services at 403-845-5339

Board of Directors

President	Jeannette Sandstra
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Volunteers & Supporters

Volunteering is an opportunity to connect with your community to create a positive impact. We are grateful to have volunteers who fill many roles within our organization, helping with fundraising events and day to day activities. As with most non-profit organizations we would not get far without our long-time and new volunteers.

I would like to thank all of the volunteers who have helped with the following events. Royal LePage Garage Sale (May) – was a success raising over \$7,000. This annual event just keeps getting better and better due to the donations and support of the community. Also in May The Block Family participated at The Plant Ranch fundraiser for our organization. The Mother's Day Brunch at the Christensen Wellness & Sports Centre in partnership with Two Sisters Catering had 95 attendees and sold hanging flower baskets in honor of our Mothers. The Food Drive hosted by The Church of Latter Day Saints brought quite the load of much needed items for our pantry, stocking our organization with items used by our shelter and clients - helping families of domestic violence.

June events featured Alpine Drugs + Justinen Financial hosting a Rodeo BBQ luncheon fundraiser in their parking lot. Beef tacos sold well and were a big success. Our annual Walk a Mile in Her Shoes® commenced after the Rodeo Parade and our walkers did the mile under cloudy skies, but no rain.

We believe volunteerism is crucial for creating healthy and vibrant communities. Through **volunteering** you can create a positive impact and help shape the future of your community. For Volunteer information please contact Shelley Little at 403-845-5339 or slittle@mrwsa.net

Check out MRWSA Facebook page for more news, information and programs.

Check out MRWSA Website <http://mrwsa.net>

....upcoming events

Mountain Rose Women's Shelter Association's Annual General Meeting held in September – date to be announced.

November is Domestic Violence Awareness Month

"Women Standing Together" - December 5th

Help Us Build the New “Abuse Prevention Centre”



Buy a brick for \$500.00

and have your name or a loved one's name in memory on a plaque.

Contact Cindy Easton at 403.845.5339 to discuss the Capital Campaign and ways to contribute.



SEXUAL ASSAULT AND HARRASSMENT

Sexual assault and harassment are persistent forms of violence against women that are rooted in gender inequality. Sexual assault is the only violent crime in Canada that is not declining. Its impact goes far beyond survivors; dealing with the aftermath of sexual assault cost Canadians billions of dollars every year.

FACTS ABOUT SEXUAL ASSAULT AND HARASSMENT

- Women self-reported 553,000 sexual assaults in 2014, according to Statistics Canada's General Social Survey on Victimization.
- Women were 10 times more likely than men to be the victim of a police-reported sexual assault in 2008.
- Sexual Assault is the only violent crime in Canada that is not declining.
- Young Canadians (15-24) are more likely to experience sexual assault.
- Girls are four times more likely than boys to be sexually abused by a family member.
- Women with disabilities and those who are institutionalized, Aboriginal women, single women, and women who are unemployed or have low-incomes are at heightened risk of sexual assault.
- Sexual assaults account for about 33% of all crimes against Aboriginal women, and about 10% of all crimes committed against non-Aboriginal women.
- Women who have experienced sexual assault are more likely to attempt suicide.
- In about 80% of sexual assault cases, the sexual assault survivor knows the victim.
- Sexual assault refers to unwanted sexual activity, including touching and attacks. Sexual harassment can encompass discriminatory comments and behaviour, as well as touching.
- It is estimated that less than 1% of sexual assaults experienced by women lead to an offender being convicted.

Information taken from the Canadian Women's Foundation Website Fact Sheet on Sexual Assault and Harassment

As a Community Member, I Support Mountain Rose Women's Shelter Association



by giving a gift of \$ _____



by giving a monthly gift of \$ _____

Name:

Address:

City: **Province:** **Postal Code:**

Home Phone: **Cell Phone:**

Email Address:



would like volunteer information



would like to sponsor an event



would like to do a third party event

Please mail your completed form and make cheque(s) payable to:

Interac is now available

Mountain Rose Women's Shelter Association
PO Box 325
Rocky Mountain House AB T4T 1A3

Project & Grant Supporters



Next to New Store



This project is funded by the Government of Canada's Homelessness Partnering Strategy

Town of Rocky Mountain House

Shoppers Drug Mart

GOVERNMENT OF ALBERTA Human Services Ministry

Thank you to all event sponsors, community donors & volunteers

Incorporated under the Canada Revenue Agency Charities Act, Alberta's Society Act and Alberta's Charitable Fundraising Act.

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Each edition will include valuable information about our agency, such as dates for special events, information about domestic violence, ways to get involved, and highlights about our programs and services. Please feel free to contact ceaston@mrwsa.net directly if you have ideas for future newsletters, any comments, questions or concerns.