

## REPORT FROM THE ACTING EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

**OUR MANDATE IS TO SERVE** individuals who currently are or have been in conflict with the law. A part of this is to assist and promote the reintegration of those released from custody back into community life. We do this in a variety of ways.

At the forefront of our services is delivering and promoting programs and interventions that build an individual's skills and abilities towards leading a positive life.

We meet with men to work on their literacy skills. We assist with obtaining official identification in the form of birth certificates. We prepare and deliver packages of clothing for those who are released with very few belongings.

We offer several programs: Introduction to healthy relationships, addictions and substance use, positive parenting and end to aggression. Our Reintegration Department delivers programs that are the same as those delivered by the Province of Manitoba.

As a result, men can take a program here at the John Howard Society and fulfill some of the obligations placed upon them by a court ruling or a probation/parole officer.

We value and respect each person that comes to us for services. Some come to our building and browse through our Clothing Closet for free clothes and possibly some soap or deodorant. Others come at the start of a long journey of healing, and some come because they have been mandated to attend some of our classes or take a program. All these participants are welcome and valued, and they often come with talents that they share with others.

Despite the presence of Covid-19 we continue delivering

our services to the community while simultaneously taking all of the precautions that have been directed by our governments. The staff remain committed to their work and our mandate.

We continue to have a vibrant working relationship with the Province of Manitoba as we provide bail facilitation, literacy, and reintegration. We also have a positive working partnership with several federal funders including Correctional Service of Canada, Department Justice Canada, and Health Canada.

We are grateful for all of the donors, staff, volunteers, clients and the board of directors who support our work.

I am always reminded that life is a journey, one to enjoy, celebrate and heal when we are faced with life's stresses and challenges. As we travel along on our life journey I am mindful that we are all connected to one another and with our natural environment.

*Sharon Perrault*  
*Acting Executive Director*



*Literacy department coordinator Amanda Fyfe (left) gives the Peter Gzowski award to Nicole Alty for her outstanding literacy work as a volunteer throughout her career at our gala dinner, October 3, 2019.*

*Photo: Dave Benson*