

John Howard

THE JOHN HOWARD SOCIETY OF MANITOBA

Annual Report
2023-2024

Change from the inside



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JHSM’s Cultural Room, where residents of the Four Healing Roads Lodge can meet with their caseworkers and Parole Officers one-to-one, smudge, or have quiet time in a restful setting.

Photo by staff

ANNUAL REPORT 2023-2024

FROM THE BOARD CHAIR

THIS IS MY FIRST REPORT as board chair. I'm grateful for the leadership of the previous chair Zilla Jones, and her ongoing support of as our current past chair Zilla Jones. Thanks also to the long-serving chair prior to her, Ken Friesen.

I'm pleased to welcome a new board member this past year, Alyson Brickey, who has agreed to serve as board secretary. Also, Matt Austman takes on a new role as deputy board chair. This leaves a vacancy in the member-at-large role and we welcome nominations for that and other positions on the board.

In this past fiscal year we signed a new collective agreement with our workplace union. It's a three-year agreement which includes a 14-percent raise over three years, additional benefits, and plans to establish flexible work hours and work-from-home policies.

In other developments, we have extended our partnership with Eagle Urban Transition Centre. This is a division of the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs created in 2005. In its application for funding for Elder Services they describe their organization as a place in Winnipeg "where First Nations youth, adults and families could receive support, advocacy,

access, and training in their efforts to achieve safe, independent, and fulfilling lives in the physical, mental, spiritual, emotional, cultural and logistical ways. The EUTC incorporates contemporary and traditional methods and also cooperates with external organizations in order to best meet the specific needs of each individual."

We are partnering with EUTC and the Future Generations Foundation (a foundation established to distribute funds remaining from the federal government's compensation for former students of residential schools) to receive financial support for urban Indigenous residents to access Indigenous Elder services.

Finally, we have begun discussion on a new strategic plan. We will be revisiting the role we play in the wider community as we support individuals in conflict with the law—before, during and and after incarceration. We welcome any input and feedback from our supporters.

*Katharina Maier, Chair of the Board
John Howard Society of Manitoba*

REPORT FROM THE INTERIM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

LOOKING BACK OVER THE PAST year, the most formative experience for me so far has been spending time with program participants inside Stony Mountain Institution with our Healing and Harm Reduction Substance Use program.

VISIT INSIDE

I witnessed a circle of men supporting each other in their common goal of dealing with addictions. Well, to be fair, some were more motivated than others. But each of them was locked in custody facing tremendous barriers to feeling healthy, happy, and human.

I understand people make mistakes, end up in conflict with the law, and wind up in prison. But that's not the whole story. These are our family members, our community members, and our fellow citizens. Our society also makes mistakes—this may surface as a crisis of deaths from toxic drugs, people living in tents on riverbanks, or outbursts of violence from mental health breakdowns—and we can do better to support individuals unduly harmed by our collective neglect.

I find it meaningful and encouraging to work with a dedicated team of staff, volunteers, students, and board members to ad-



dress the negative outcomes of our common neglect. Here are some highlights:

PROGRAMS

As this fiscal year came to an end, the funding for our four-year Healing and Harm Reduction program came to an end. Fortunately, we were approached by staff from Manitoba Liquor and Lotteries and we have found a way for the program to continue, in a reduced capacity for now.

Our halfway house for people on parole, the Four Healing Roads Lodge, began offering in-house Elder services and contracted with an Indigenous Activity Coordinator.

At this start of this fiscal year, our Literacy instructors were finally able to re-enter the Winnipeg Remand Centre for programming. And new this year was literacy instruction to groups of people inside Stony Mountain Institution as well.

TRAINING

Thanks to a grant from the Government of Canada's Community Services Recovery Fund, we were able to offer a series of staff training sessions. These included workplace safety, naloxone injections, diversity training with the Rainbow Resource Centre, and a full-day symposium with about 150 people from 35 different community-based organizations at the Fort Garry Hotel (complete with opening remarks from the Province's Minister of Justice).

HR, COMMUNICATIONS, UNION

To assist with staff changes and facilitate a vibrant work environment, we hired Matt Sciangula from HR Matters! To assist with grant writing, event planning and

communications, we hired Samantha Klassen. The collective agreement that guides worker-management relations was overdue for renewal, and we signed a new deal for three years, including wage increases, benefits and plans for new policies on flexible work hours and working from home.

REWARDING

I continue to find this work rewarding. It's gratifying to connect government and foundation funding with program delivery, to connect donors who care about those at the margins with caseworkers who welcome people in to circles of support—all with the goal of animating a slumbering status quo towards paths of liberation.

Aiden Enns
Interim Executive Director



Samantha Klassen, Aiden Enns, Kendell Joiner, and Theresa Crow Spreading His Wings, at REVIVE Community Services Recovery Symposium, June 19, 2024

FOUR HEALING ROADS LODGE

AT THE END OF THIS fiscal year, we were delighted to receive some additional funding for a position to further support the residents in our 27-bed halfway house. Here at the Four Healing Roads Lodge, we were able to hire a new full-time staff member to serve as our Enhanced Indigenous Community Caseworker.

The new case worker, Matthew Ducharme, has the role of assisting people released from custody, with an emphasis on providing services for people considered high risk or high needs. This assistance bridges a gap in the services we provide, with the goal of reducing the rates of recidivism.

CULTURAL SPACE

We continue to develop opportunities for residents to explore and engage in traditional cultural practices. For example, we have a dedicated a room for use as a Cultural space, with supplies and ventilation for smudging and provisions for cultural teachings. We also have started a partnership with Forensic Psychological Services. The FPS Elder uses our cultural space to meet with clients and provide Elder services with them.

Some numbers

Number of residents: 65

Number of beds: 27

The Four Healing Roads Lodge also has several beds designated for people with the Canada Border Services Agency and their Community Case Management and Supervision (see the information from our Canada Border Services Agency case worker elsewhere in this report).

RESIDENT EXPERIENCES

Through conversations with residents, we have received some positive feedback about

their stay with us. Some comment on things like being treated as a person and not only being judged by the information in their file. Others mention that when they voice concerns to staff, the concerns are heard and acted on.

LOOKING AHEAD

The FHRL will soon be in need of new furniture for the lounge. We are also looking for ways to provide more private space for



Christmas dinner (2023), prepared for FHRL residents by staff.

residents and create outdoor space that is separated from the activity on the street, for example, green space on our roof.

A WORD OF THANKS

We would like to sincerely thank the board chair and board members of JHSM, and all of the staff and residents for their dedication and perseverance throughout the years. We would also like to thank our colleagues and partners at the Correctional Service of Canada and the Canada Border Services Agency for all of their support throughout the year and look forward to our exciting journey in the new fiscal year.

*Rhonda Gosselin, Residence Manager
Jody Lake, Assistant Residence Manager*

Photo by staff



RECORD SUSPENSION PROGRAM

THE RECORD SUSPENSION PROGRAM

has grown through fiscal year 2023-2024 and we have assisted more than 160 people in their quest clear their criminal record. Eliminating a client's public criminal record changes their life and opens employment and volunteer opportunities that are not available while their criminal record exists.

It has become more difficult to gain a job with a criminal record. Clients report they are often ghosted the moment a potential employer learns they have a criminal record. By policy, many employers simply won't hire people with criminal records even though the offences are unrelated to the work and can be many years, if not decades, old.

WIN FOR SOCIETY

Removing the public-facing record is a tangible achievement that allows a person to move into the employment arena or better their opportunities at their present job. It is a win for the individual when this barrier is eliminated, and it is a win for society as employed people benefit Canada through their contribution and, literally, through the taxes they pay.

The program was introduced in late November of 2022 and the caseworkers are pleased to work with the Elizabeth Fry Society of Manitoba to assist women with their applications. As of August of 2024, twenty-eight percent of our clients are female.

NO CHARGE

The Record Suspension program offers people the expertise and affordability to clear their public criminal record when they have maintained a law abiding lifestyle for a defined period of time following completion of their sentence. Applicants must apply to the Parole Board of Canada through a process that requires police, court and other documentation depending on the circumstances. Our

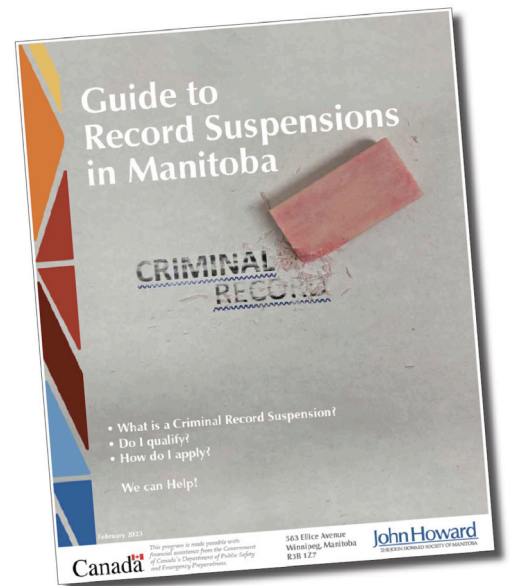
program is unique in Manitoba because there is no charge for the service, although people will need to pay the police and courts for their records. Private agencies and lawyers are often too expensive for people to access their services.

The JHSM caseworkers will do all the paperwork to obtain the records and file the application to the Parole Board for the clients. As they are fond of saying, "We even put the stamp on the envelope." The caseworkers will also attend with clients to the Winnipeg Police Service and Winnipeg Law Courts, and will assist with any records required from agencies outside the City of Winnipeg.

It is possible for individuals to do their own Record Suspension application, but the process can be daunting without some help. JHSM will help individuals with their own applications and paperwork requirements if

they prefer. A new guide was developed and is available on the JHSM website.

As of August of 2024, 167 files have been opened, with 27 clients having their applications sent to the Parole Board of Canada. Seven clients have reported that they have received their Pardons. It is anticipated the number is higher, but it is self reporting, and JHSM is not automatically privy to the decision by the Parole Board of Canada. No applications sent by JHSM have been refused



to the best of our knowledge.

A YEAR OR MORE

Review and decisions by the Parole Board of Canada can take up to one year for indictable offences and as long as two years where questions and an investigation may be required. On the other hand, purely summary conviction matters should have their decisions in six months or less. The fastest received has been two and a half months for a person with one conviction on their record.

Some people who contact the Record Suspension caseworkers have not met the time requirements to make their application. The date where they can apply is diarized and they are contacted by phone or email once they are eligible. To date there are 17 people who have been diarized.

The caseworkers are contacted on a regular basis by people who will not be eligible for an extended period of time because they are currently pending charges, on probation, parole or have not completed their sentence because of outstanding fines or restitution. Unfortunately, they will not be apply to apply until their sentences are completed and the necessary waiting times have elapsed. Where this happens individuals are informed of the statutory requirements and given rough time frames where they could become eligible.

PUBLICITY

One of the challenges is alerting people that the program exists. The caseworkers continue to be active in the community through presentations, social media, enhanced Google search engine optimization and monthly attendance at the Winnipeg Public Library Community Connection and the Elizabeth Fry Society of Manitoba. The Legal Help Centre, Winnipeg Police and other agencies have all referred people to the JHSM Record Suspension Program leading to more people utilizing the resource.

People have often reported that they had wanted to pursue a Pardon application, but expense and complexity had held them back. Completing the process and having the application sent to the Parole Board of Canada is a major accomplishment. Those who have received their Pardons have been grateful.

JOBS, PEACE OF MIND

One person who received their Record Suspension reported receiving and accepting a job offer the same day they received their notification that a Pardon had been granted. Expanding employment opportunities is the reason most often given for making the applications. People have also indicated they want to be able to volunteer, coach their children's sports team, pursue their education or clear their records for family and their own peace of mind.

Record Suspensions/Pardons have proven to be one of the best actions that prevent recidivism. Why? The consequence of any future involvement with the criminal justice system is the loss of the Pardon. According to a review by the Parole Board of Canada the percentage of people who have their Record Suspensions revoked is in the 5 percent range and 95 percent retain their record free status. (Performance Monitoring Report 2020-2021, Record Suspension Decisions and Clemency Recommendations)

The Record Suspension program at the JHSM is a critical part of the rehabilitation process that permits past offenders and society to move on from dated offences. JHSM and our clients are grateful for the financial support that the Canadian Department of Public Safety and Emergency Preparedness has provided for the program.

George Chartrand, Record Suspension Caseworker
Mike Mahon, Record Suspension Caseworker



LITERACY DEPARTMENT

FROM APRIL 1, 2023 TO March 31, 2024, the Literacy department provided literacy classes to a total of 188 learners at the Winnipeg Remand Centre, Stony Mountain Institution and Manitou House. We also provided one-to-one literacy tutoring to students in the Literacy department classroom. These numbers are significantly higher than last year because as pandemic restrictions have eased we have been able to once again offer literacy classes in correctional institutions. We continue to seek partnerships and learners to match with volunteer tutors for classes in our literacy room.



Photo by staff

Literacy Coordinator Anna Sigrithur unpacks a box of books, generously donated by McNally Robinson Booksellers.

To help us understand the impact of our efforts and report to our funder, we collect demographic data on the students in our program. The median age of a literacy learner

in our program was 33 years old. Just under 50 percent of program students do not have their Grade 12 diploma or GED, and 6 percent stopped attending school before reaching Grade 8. Within this past year, 70 percent of learners identified as Indigenous, while Indigenous people make up only 18 percent of Manitoba's population.

The overrepresentation of Indigenous learners is a reflection of the over-incarceration of Indigenous peoples within the Canadian justice system as a whole, and the systemic and ongoing colonial injustices that exist in Canadian society. By providing accessible and culturally relevant literacy programming and supporting the growth, reintegration, and empowerment of learners, we humbly strive to honour the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's Calls to Action, particularly 25 through 42 on the topics of justice, over-incarceration of Indigenous peoples, and the need to "respond to the underlying causes of offending" (31).

CLASSES IN THE REMAND CENTRE

Since we regained access to the Winnipeg Remand Centre on June 15, 2023, we have continued to operate two literacy classes there weekly, amounting to an average of 96 student instructional hours per month. Staff and volunteers have updated the content and structure of the classes to include new lessons each week on different topics that feature pre-planned reading materials. Learners have given positive feedback on this change.

JHSM remains the sole literacy program that has been permitted re-entry to Remand post-pandemic. This highlights the significance of our program, and the importance of literacy resources within all correctional facilities cannot be overstated.

STONY MOUNTAIN WRITING CLASS

In early 2024, we were able to run our first literacy class at Stony Mountain Institution. Over 10 weeks, our literacy instructor John led a memoir writing workshop with 8 students in Stony's Medium facility. Participants explored ways of telling their own stories through different forms of writing, including personal essays, fiction, and poetry. We hope this successful pilot class will lead to further work with incarcerated people at Stony Mountain.



The *Inside Scoop* is available as PDFs online at johnhoward.mb.ca/inside-scoop.

THE INSIDE SCOOP

The year 2023 marked the 30th anniversary of the JHSM Literacy department's literary publication, currently known as *The Inside Scoop*. Since 1993, the publication has given incarcerated writers in Manitoba correctional institutions an outlet for expressing their ideas and experiences about life on the inside.

Over the years, the publication has ex-

panded to accept submissions from formerly incarcerated people, and has become well-known in institutions across Canada. In this past year, submissions by writers and visual artists from Manitoba, Alberta, Ontario, and B.C. were published, and *The Inside Scoop* was even featured in an April, 2024 *Winnipeg Free Press* article. We plan to refresh the design of the publication and develop a more thorough editorial process that gives writers the opportunity to have their work edited by a local poet or volunteer writer. To do this, we will take a brief hiatus this fall and relaunch in January, 2025.

GET THE STORY OUT

Thanks to pandemic restrictions easing, this past year the Literacy department has been able to resume the Get the Story Out story-book reading program for incarcerated caregivers. We are excited to continue this important service with a partnership with McNally Robinson Booksellers who are helping provide books for the program. This partnership started during the 2024-2025 fiscal year.

STAFF AND VOLUNTEERS

The past year saw several shifts in staffing in the Literacy Department. Literacy Instructor Debra Capitano left her position in June of 2023, and was replaced by John Samson Fellows in September. Literacy Coordinator Annica Dickens, who had been in her role since 2021, left in June of 2024 and was replaced by Anna Sigrithur.

Volunteers have been enthusiastic and re-engaged this past year as classes at Remand have resumed. A volunteer get-together in January sparked new ideas and feedback that have improved literacy classes, and we are currently looking for more ways to engage a growing waitlist of interested volunteers.

Anna Sigrithur, Literacy Coordinator
John Samson Fellows, Literacy Instructor

REINTEGRATION SERVICES

WE CONTINUED TO OFFER A range of programs to assist clients with their transition from incarceration to community, including the birth certificate program, clothing closet program, hygiene kit program, and several evening programs.

PROGRAMS

We have four in-house programs that run in the evenings. The facilitators put in 258 hours of programming, with 122 successful completions.

End to Aggression

This program is designed to help participants avoid further assaultive or aggressive behaviour by understanding that the way we think affects how we feel and affects our actions. Forty-two participants successfully completed this program.

Introduction to Healthy Relationships

This program provides information to its participants about healthy relationships, healthy and unhealthy behaviour within relationships, and tools to promote behaviour change. This is an informational program and not a treatment option. Twenty-two participants successfully completed this program.

Coming to Terms

This program assists participants in evaluating their use of alcohol and other drugs, and the consequences that this may pose on their lives and the lives around them. It aims to develop self-awareness and progression through the Stages of Change. Forty-two participants successfully completed this program.

Nobody's Perfect Parenting

This program builds on what parents already know and do for themselves and their children. It starts with the parents' own experiences and interests and gives them an active role in the learning process. The program helps parents build networks among them and encourages them to see one another as sources of advice and support.

The focus is on examining the impact that values have on the choices parents make every day. The program offers parents opportunities to explore their values and understand how values influence their parenting and other aspects of their lives. Eight participants successfully completed this program.

HEALING AND HARM REDUCTION

The Reintegration Caseworker hosted this program during the months of April 1-July 31,

2023, while looking for the most suitable permanent facilitators. We found Debra Capitano and Rob Erickson. Both come with well-decorated backgrounds of job history and education,

which add to the program. We welcome and appreciate them.

BIRTH CERTIFICATE PROGRAM

Government-issued birth certificates are an important part of the reintegration process. Without this important piece of identification, clients face barriers to verifying personal information and obtaining employment, bank accounts, status cards, and other ID. This program helps participants start the birth certificate application while they are incarcerated so that when they are released into the community, they have a head start on their re-

“Most helpful was the collaboration and the space to express. Highlight of the program was to understand and speak with my peers, humanize challenging situations and create thought processes for healthy situations.”

Participant, Introduction to Healthy Relationships

integration. Without this program, the application process is started upon release, and the wait for ID is four to eight weeks. Thirty-eight participants utilized this program.

HYGIENE KIT PROGRAM

We provide hygiene kits consisting of soap, toothpaste, toothbrush, shaver, shampoo, deodorant, comb, wet nap, shaving cream, condoms, two pairs of underwear and socks, and gloves in winter. Hygiene kits are given

“Great news! The job you gave me the dress shirt for, I got it! . . . Without your help I could not gotten this this job. . . . I cannot believe I got this job, this is life changing for me. You told me to be positive, and things worked out, thank you so much, Tania.”

Email from client

to community members in need, as well as to each institutional clothing request to aid in their release. Sixty-two clients were assisted with their hygiene needs.

CLOTHING CLOSET

Our clothing closet is available to requests from people in the community and to incarcerated individuals that are being released into the community. Clothing is delivered to institutions upon request, and clothing requests in the community are packaged for client pickups. In the Clothing Closet pro-

gram, we distributed items to a total of 104 individuals by way of community agencies, Manitoba Justice, Service Canada, institutions, and halfway houses, including our own Four Healing Roads Lodge. The John Howard Society of Manitoba continues to accept donations of jeans, t-shirts, sweaters, socks, shoes, and light household items. Please call to set up a drop-off time (204-775-1514).

RESOURCE FAIRS

We had the opportunity, along with many other community organizations, to display our services and to speak with the inmates and staff at Stony Mountain Insitution and Headingly Correctional Centre. Here we interact with each other and explain our services and how we can assist in the reintegration process.

INSTITUTIONAL PRESENTATIONS

We gave two presentations in the Winding River Program in Headingly Correctional Center to 52 inmates. In the presentations we explained the services and programs at JHSM. We answered many questions and left the institution with the men feeling confident that there was a place in the community that would assist with their reintegration needs, once released.

Tania Wiebe, Reintegration Caseworker

One-to-one Support

Number of Participants: 156
Number of total minutes: 5835

Community Programming

Facilitation Time in hours: 258
Program Completion End to Aggression: 42
Introduction to Healthy Relationships: 22
Coming to Terms: 42
Nobody’s Perfect Parenting: 8

Hygiene Kits

Total number of kits distributed: 62

Community Support and Inquiries

Birth Certificate: 137
Clothing: 179
Community Resources: 176
Housing: 31
Programs: 344
Other: 240



HEALING & HARM REDUCTION SUBSTANCE USE PROGRAM

THE HEALING AND HARM REDUCTION Substance Use Program is a project funded by Health Canada, which provides a safe place for participants to learn strategies related to

“I feel more confident and secure talking about my addiction than I have ever been. I also feel that I have learned a lot about myself and have gained the tools to unlearn a lot of my negative coping mechanism.”
(Participant, Stony Mountain Institution)

substance use in a supportive group environment. The project had a particularly successful year, with a growing number of participants in both locations –inside

Stony Mountain Institution and at the JHSM program room in the West End of Winnipeg. Program facilitators reported that the sessions were well received at both locations.

The program wrapped up at the end of March 2024, after four successful years. Over the life of the program we provided training modules to 400 men in prison or transitioning back to their communities across Manitoba after leaving correctional settings. Health

“It helped me in more ways than one. This program helped kickstart my motivation towards a better life. I’m more aware of my emotions and what emotions trigger me. Now I know to set boundaries.”
(Participant, Stony Mountain Institution)

Canada did not approve a subsequent round of funding, however, we were able to secure new funding from Manitoba Liquor and Lotteries which will allow us to con-

tinue to offer this program in the coming year. We are delighted that Deb Capitano and Rob Erickson will continue to serve as program facilitators in the important work of equipping

participants with harm reduction strategies and supporting them on their journeys with substance use.

POSITIVE IMPACT

We are pleased by the positive impact this program has had on participants, with 95 percent reporting that the session material helped them better understand their drug and/or alcohol use. One participant said they are dealing with their trauma through greater acceptance and admitting when they need help in really hard times. Another participant indicated that the sessions helped them change where they go and what they do after the sessions because of the more positive outlook they have on life when they leave.

Other participants noted that they now regularly set goals for their daily routines and that it’s helping them stay healthy. Likewise, another participant mentioned that the sessions encouraged them to meet with and talk to their health care provider about how to get better. Participants also noticed that they are connecting more with other people, and, through greater acceptance and self-love and self-care, they feel less shame about their experiences and feel hopeful for the future.

“It has helped me reflect that I am not the only one in my family that has been through difficult times.”
(Participant, Stony Mountain Institution)

95% of participants noted that session material helped them better understand their drug and/or alcohol use.

71% of participants reported a positive change in health behaviours.

63% of participants indicated that they used the knowledge and/or skills they gained in the program.

BAIL NAVIGATOR PROGRAM

IN KEEPING WITH THE program goal, the service provider administers and delivers the program known as The John Howard Society Bail Navigator Program. The program goal is to provide additional support to individuals who are released on bail to ensure they comply with bail conditions until their case is disposed.

POSTIVE OUTCOMES

In this fiscal year 2023-2024, we had 116 referrals, and of those we have had 13 men

Community resources referred and accepted:

- The Spirit of the Peace program – Ma Mawi Wi Chi itata Centre
- The Bruce Oake Recovery Centre
- AFM – assessments and treatment
- JHSM – Healing and Harm Reduction, End to Aggression, and Introduction to Healthy Relationships
- JHSM Clothing Closet
- Opportunities for Employment
- Siloam Mission
- Purpose Construction Training program
- St. Rose Du Lac treatment center.
- CRAFT - Bruce Oake Community Reinforcement and Family Therapy
- Michael Edwards Therapy

complete the bail program – they went to court and none of them did time in a provincial jail. All were given a community sentence and no longer need the JHSM Bail Navigation services.

Our clients have achieved many goals, including completing treatment, school, reuniting with their children, attending therapy and finding full-time work.

We provided support for two individuals as a courtesy transfer to Winnipeg from Ontario: one from Toronto and another from Niagara Falls. One of the individuals was here in Winnipeg to be with his children. He returned to Ontario recently for court and to be with other family members. The other individual is living in Winnipeg with his parents and will return to Ontario for his next court date in March 2025.

Julie Nyman, Bail Navigator

Some numbers

Individuals referred: 116

Number of bail plans sent out within 72 hours: 52

Number of participants on bail as of this report: 13

We have had as many as 26 on bail at one time.



Manitoba Law Courts

COMMUNITY CASE MANAGEMENT AND SUPERVISION/ ALTERNATIVES TO DETENTION PROGRAM

THE JOHN HOWARD SOCIETY OF Manitoba (JHSM) continues to provide services under the Community Case Management and Supervision (CCMS) / Alternatives to Detention (ATD) Program.

As a contracted service provider, JHSM delivers the CCMS Program on behalf of the Canada Border Services Agency (CBSA). Community services are provided as part of the CBSA's Alternatives to Detention program while an individual's immigration processes are ongoing. These services provide support in the areas of housing, employment, addiction, as well as physical and mental health.

CCMS caseworker Ansu Daramy works alongside the staff of the Four Healing Roads Lodge - Community Residential Facility (operated by JHSM) connecting CCMS clients to critical community support and the Healing

and Harm Substance Use Program.

Senzo (real name withheld) was recently asked to comment about the services he received in the program. "I am grateful for everything that the JHSM has done for me," said Senzo. He added, "The JHSM gave me the opportunity in my life that will get me closer to my dreams. The programs provided by the JHSM gave me the tools in my life that will impact me in a long time."

Twelve clients were referred in the CCMS program in the past fiscal year. Some continue to participate in the program, while others have been discharged from the CCMS program onto less restrictive ATDs or have regularized their immigration status (i.e., become a permanent resident or a convention refugee or protected person) or have been removed from Canada.

BUILDING REPORT

As ADMIN/BUILDING MANAGER, I am mostly kept busy with the day to day tasks revolving around building maintenance and office administration.

My job as Building Manager is to ensure that any concerns regarding the building are addressed. This could be anything from scheduling repairs and maintenance, to ordering general supplies. The duties are many and varied. There weren't any major building projects during this past fiscal year, although the City of Winnipeg did repair our back lane, which caused a little bit of disruption since parking was unavailable during that time. Thankfully, things ran smoothly and everything worked out in the end!

A few improvements were made administratively, including working on an onboarding process for new staff, updating personnel files to ensure that all required documentation is in each, as well as ensuring all staff have up-to-date and accurate job descriptions. This

process is ongoing. We also now have a new copy machine, increased Wi-Fi capacity, and staff have ID badges to identify themselves and our agency. Some staff also had their Microsoft Licenses upgraded.

We were thankful to have a volunteer assisting for a few months with administrative duties on the days that I was not in the office. That volunteer, Soyeong Kim, moved on to a position which would give her greater access to potential employment opportunities. We appreciated her time with us and are now seeking another volunteer as the office and phones can get quite busy!

The Manitoba Office of the Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives continues to be our tenant on the third floor. Manitoba Eco-Network also has an office on the third floor. We also rent out space to Forensic Psychological Services a few times a month.

Jacquie Carnevale
Admin/Building Manager

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

2023-2024 FISCAL YEAR

Katharina Maier – Chair
Matt Austman – Deputy Chair
Alyson Brickey – Secretary
Scott Stockwell – Treasurer
Zilla Jones – Past Chair
Gilbert Fredette
Kobra Rahimi
Robbyn Rempel
Allen Contois

Tania Wiebe – Reintegration Caseworker
Blaine Hadaller – Reintegration Caseworker
Anna Sigrithur – Literacy Coordinator
John Samson Fellows – Literacy Instructor
George Chartrand – Record Suspension Caseworker
Mike Mahon – Record Suspension Caseworker
Debra Capitano – Program Caseworker, Healing and Harm Reduction Substance Use Program
Rob Erickson – Program Caseworker, Healing and Harm Reduction Substance Use Program
Ansu Daramy – Community Release Caseworker (CBSA)
Julie Nyman – Bail Navigation Program Caseworker
Samantha Klassen – Interim Communications and Special Initiatives Coordinator
Annica Dickens – Former Literacy Coordinator

STAFF LISTING

AS OF SEPTEMBER 2024

Aiden Enns – Interim Executive Director
Rhonda Gosselin – Residence Manager
Jody Lake – Assistant Residence Manager
Matthew Ducharme – Enhanced Indigenous Community Caseworker
Shuping Zhang – Accountant
Jacque Carnevale – Admin/Building Manager

Residence staff:
Mark Austin, Tom Colbert, Ed Cooke, Colin Creally-Johnson, Patrick Creally-Johnson, Shane David, Justin Greenhalgh, Marian Orellana, John (Jake) Reichert, Amritpal Singh Sandhu



JHSM Staff, REVIVE Community Services Recovery Symposium, June 19, 2024 (Katharina Maier, Anna Sigrithur, Julie Nyman, Mike Mahon, John Samson Fellows, Ansu Daramy, Aiden Enns, Debra Capitano, Rob Erickson, Samantha Klassen, Matthew Ducharme, Rhonda Gosselin, Annica Dickens)

Photo by staff

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS



CHARTERED PROFESSIONAL ACCOUNTANTS

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

**To the Board of Directors of The John Howard Society of
Manitoba, Inc.:**

Opinion

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of The John Howard Society of Manitoba, Inc. (The Society), which comprise the statement of financial position as at March 31, 2024 and the statement of operations and changes in net assets and statement of cash flows for the year then ended, and a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information.

In our opinion, the financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Society as at March 31, 2024, and the results of its operations and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations.

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements* section of our report. We are independent of the Society in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in Canada, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Other Matter

Our examination did not extend to the budget which has been provided as additional information and therefore we do not express an opinion concerning the budget.

Responsibilities of Management and Those Charged with Governance for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations, and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, management is responsible for assessing the Society's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless management either intends to liquidate the Society or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

Those charged with governance are responsible for overseeing the Society's financial reporting process.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

SCARROW & DONALD, CHARTERED PROFESSIONAL ACCOUNTANTS, LLP

100 – Five Donald Street • Winnipeg, Manitoba • R3L 2T4 • Business: (204) 982-9800 • Fax: (204) 474-2886 • www.scarrowdonald.mb.ca
Scarrow & Donald, Chartered Professional Accountants, LLP is a Canadian owned Limited Liability Partnership established under the laws of Manitoba.

As part of an audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards, we exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Society's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by management.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of management's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Society's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Society to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

Scarrow & Donald LLP

Chartered Professional Accountants
June 24, 2024
Winnipeg, Canada

For this communication, together with the work done to prepare this communication and for the opinions we have formed, if any, we accept and assume responsibility only to the addressee of this communication, as specified in our letter of engagement.



THE JOHN HOWARD SOCIETY OF MANITOBA, INC.

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

| | <u>March 31</u> | |
|--|-------------------|-------------------|
| | <u>2024</u> | <u>2023</u> |
| ASSETS | | |
| Current assets: | | |
| Cash (Note 3) | \$ 235,779 | \$ 241,516 |
| Accounts receivable | 402,027 | 308,574 |
| GST recoverable | 7,143 | 7,295 |
| Prepaid expenses | <u>14,673</u> | <u>18,696</u> |
| | 659,622 | 576,081 |
| Capital assets (Note 4) | <u>86,032</u> | <u>116,009</u> |
| | <u>\$ 745,654</u> | <u>\$ 692,090</u> |
| LIABILITIES | | |
| Current liabilities: | | |
| Accounts payable | \$ 71,413 | \$ 145,591 |
| Deferred revenue | 39,330 | 26,960 |
| Commercial loan payable (Note 5) | <u>-</u> | <u>180,629</u> |
| | 110,743 | 353,180 |
| Deferred contributions related to capital assets (Note 6) | <u>3,160</u> | <u>6,470</u> |
| | 113,903 | 359,650 |
| NET ASSETS | | |
| Net assets | <u>631,751</u> | <u>332,440</u> |
| | <u>\$ 745,654</u> | <u>\$ 692,090</u> |

APPROVED BY THE BOARD:


Katharina Maier Director


Matt Austman Director

THE JOHN HOWARD SOCIETY OF MANITOBA, INC.

STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS AND CHANGES IN NET ASSETS

| | Year ended March 31 | | |
|---|-----------------------|------------|------------|
| | Budget (unaudited) | 2024 | 2023 |
| Revenues: | | | |
| Administrative and other revenue | \$ 67,853 | \$ 68,587 | \$ 68,089 |
| Amortization of deferred contributions related to capital assets (Note 6) | 3,310 | 3,310 | 3,310 |
| Bail Navigator Pilot Project (Schedule A) | 73,000 | 73,000 | 73,000 |
| Community Residential Facility (Schedule B) | 722,000 | 1,007,301 | 738,965 |
| Donations and memberships | 6,000 | 4,369 | 21,162 |
| PSC - Record suspension program (Schedule C) | 155,988 | 148,929 | 58,012 |
| Health Canada - SUAP (Schedule D) | 145,094 | 144,710 | 158,744 |
| Interest earned | 1,920 | 3,003 | - |
| Province of Manitoba- | | | |
| Department of Justice | 69,000 | 69,000 | 69,000 |
| Department of Advanced Education and Training | 77,465 | 77,840 | 77,465 |
| Ogijjita Pimatiswin Kinamatwin (Schedule E) | 176,985 | 181,594 | 186,054 |
| Other grants | 76,151 | 36,821 | 12,500 |
| Rent | 62,310 | 63,840 | 61,675 |
| Fundraising | 8,000 | 37 | 21,712 |
| The John Howard Society of Canada | 116,100 | 113,126 | 115,257 |
| The Winnipeg Foundation | 7,500 | 10,450 | 37,136 |
| United Way | 231,680 | 241,992 | 273,859 |
| Total revenue | 2,000,356 | 2,247,909 | 1,975,940 |
| Expenses: | | | |
| Amortization of capital assets | 46,088 | 29,977 | 46,089 |
| Bail Navigator Pilot Project (Schedule A) | 73,000 | 74,140 | 73,728 |
| Building | 93,570 | 83,651 | 93,999 |
| Community Residential Facility (Schedule B) | 696,960 | 762,237 | 693,396 |
| General | 36,700 | 29,525 | 42,433 |
| PSC - Record Suspension Program (Schedule C) | 155,988 | 148,929 | 58,012 |
| Health Canada - SUAP (Schedule D) | 145,094 | 144,710 | 158,744 |
| Interest on commercial loan | 10,200 | 4,963 | 10,305 |
| Membership services | 2,594 | 1,793 | 2,599 |
| Office | 15,542 | 14,573 | 16,040 |
| Ogijjita Pimatiswin Kinamatwin (Schedule E) | 176,985 | 194,033 | 178,786 |
| Program - other | 74,000 | 67,933 | 73,240 |
| Salaries and benefits | 438,613 | 392,134 | 410,578 |
| Total expenses | 1,965,334 | 1,948,598 | 1,857,949 |
| Difference between revenues and expenses | \$ 35,022 | 299,311 | 117,991 |
| Net assets, beginning of year | | 332,440 | 214,449 |
| Net assets, end of year | | \$ 631,751 | \$ 332,440 |



THANKS TO SUPPORTERS

2023-2024

THE GOVERNMENT OF CANADA

- Department of Public Safety and Emergency Preparedness
- Employment and Social Development Canada (via John Howard Society of Canada)
- Correctional Service Canada
- Canada Border Services Agency
- Health Canada
- Community Services Recovery Fund (via Red Cross)

PROVINCE OF MANITOBA

- Department of Justice
- Manitoba Department of Education and Training - Adult Literacy and Learning

FOUNDATIONS AND FRIENDS

- United Way Winnipeg
- The Winnipeg Foundation
- The Thomas Sill Foundation
- Peter Gzowski Foundation for Literacy
- Assiniboine Credit Union
- Canadian Footwear
- PeaceWorks Technology Solutions
- Private Donors and Supporters

We thank all our supporters for their encouragement and generosity.

ON JUNE 19, 2024, JHSM HOSTED REVIVE Community Services Recovery Symposium at the Hotel Fort Garry. Funded by the Community Services Recovery Fund, its intention was to bring together service providers from community based organizations to rebuild morale post-pandemic. A huge success, it was attended by 130 people, including staff and board members from JHSM and 35 sister agencies. The Honourable Matt Wiebe, Manitoba Minister of Justice spoke, followed by a full day of keynotes and workshops.



Interim Executive Director Aiden Enns is seen here featured in a Winnipeg Free Press article about the REVIVE Symposium: "I'm hoping that the desperation we see in the faces of many will turn around with more support for the agencies representing them."

Funded by the Government of Canada's Community Services Recovery Fund

