

John Howard

THE JOHN HOWARD SOCIETY OF MANITOBA

Annual Report
2019-2020

Change from the inside



Award-winning author David A. Robertson was the keynote speaker at the John Howard Society's Dining for Literacy fund-raising gala dinner at Canad Inns Destination Centre Club Regent Casino Hotel, October 3, 2019. He emphasized the importance of reading and literacy for himself growing up and for the wider Indigenous community in Manitoba.



Photos: Dave Benson

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10 *New 'Four Healing Roads Lodge,' a 28-bed half-way house*

January-February 2019	
Intakes	12
Attended	11
Completed	8
April-May 2019	
Intakes	10
Attended	11
Completed	7

11 *Summary of the Healing Program for Indigenous Men*



Board chair, Ken Friesen (right), with Bill Dinsdale, our advisor from Assiniboine Credit Union, at his side at the literacy fundraising banquet, October 3, 2019.

WELCOME FROM THE BOARD CHAIR

TO SAY THAT THIS PAST YEAR has been difficult would be an understatement. First, by mutual agreement, we parted company with our long-time executive director, John Hutton. Fortunately, our manager of programs, Sharon Perrault, has extensive experience managing non-profit agencies. When we asked, she stepped up and agreed to serve as our acting executive director in addition to keep doing her own job as well.

In this time of leadership transition, I'm pleased to see that the staff has carried on in a very professional manner, delivering their programs and performing their tasks.

That is, until they couldn't. In the middle of March, due to restrictions associated with the Covid-19 pandemic, the John Howard Society of Manitoba, like most of the rest of Manitoba, went into lockdown mode.

We have been very fortunate in having a sympathetic partner in the Correctional Service of Canada. They guaranteed the level of support for our Community Residential Facility (CRF). We are also very fortunate to

have such a supportive financial institution, Assiniboine Credit Union. We have had numerous meetings with Bill Dinsdale, our ACU advisor.

Over the past year, our board has been extremely supportive and willing to attend extra meetings. The board executive, Cassandra Golindrina, Zilla Jones, and Glen Mazur provided wonderful assistance and helpful advice.

Unfortunately, Cassandra will soon be leaving the board. On behalf of the board of directors, I would like to wish her the best in pursuing her future endeavours. I would also like to acknowledge the good work done on the board's behalf by Glen Mazur, our former treasurer, who passed away suddenly in February.

Finally, thank you to Sharon and her wonderful staff who have managed so well in a difficult year.

*Ken Friesen, Chair of the Board
The John Howard Society of Manitoba*

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



The John Howard Society of Manitoba (main floor) owns the building at 583 Ellice Avenue. Occupants include the Four Healing Roads Lodge (halfway house) and the Manitoba office of the Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives (CCPA-MB).

BUILDING REPORT

Building • The major work that was required on the air conditioner was completed. The other larger expense included replacement of the front door panic bar.

Other improvements included numbering of the parking stalls, development of a parking pass system for staff, installation of air mist dispensers to improve air quality, organization of building keys and the development of a building key identification system. The wifi was also upgraded to improve service.

Tenants • We said goodbye to our long-time tenants, Social Skills, who moved out during the Covid-19 shutdown. The space that they were renting is being repurposed for JHSM use.

The Manitoba office of the Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives continues to be our tenant on the third floor. JHSM was also approached about the possibility of renting some space in the basement, which is currently being explored.

Safety • Staff safety remains a priority. An intercom system was installed at the main office door. This allows staff to determine who is at the door and what their needs are before allowing them to enter.

All panic buzzers were tested to ensure that they were working. At the request of JHSM, the Winnipeg Fire Department com-

pleted an inspection of the entire building. They identified a few minor issues which have since been resolved. We continue to look at ways to keep our building and staff safe.

Volunteers • With the Admin/Building Manager position only being part-time, we continue to rely upon volunteers to assist at the front reception desk.

This enables us to provide the best possible service for our clients. We are very grateful for their help and appreciate everything that they do for us: thank you Adriana, Dawn, and Victoria!

Other • An Employee Handbook, which was previously a work in progress, was finalized. This document acts as a resource for all staff regarding general office information, staff responsibilities and resources, general building safety, fire safety, medical emergencies and serious incidents.

*Jacquie Carnevale
Admin/Building Manager*

REINTEGRATION DEPARTMENT

COMMUNITY PROGRAMS

We continue to offer several programs in the community, including: End to Aggression, Coming to Terms, Introduction to Healthy Relationships, and Positive Parenting Programs. These programs run on a rotation throughout the year, taking a break in the summer months.

Unfortunately our office closed due to Covid-19, right in the middle of our last Coming to Terms program in March. This also caused us to cancel our final Introduction to Healthy Relationships, Triple P Parenting, and End to Aggression programs for the remainder of the 2019-2020 program year. We are scheduled to pick these programs back up in September 2020. This is why our number of completed participants is lower than last year.

THANKS

We would like to thank and acknowledge the Government of Manitoba for training and allowing us to facilitate the same programs that are delivered in the provincial institutions.

Before the pandemic hit, we started visiting Headingley Correctional Centre every month to give presentations on the programs and services that JHSM provides. Between October 2019 and February 2020, 218 inmates attended these presentations, and we aim to continue providing this information once we are able to visit the institution again.

If you would like to receive news about our

program calendar in the future, please ask a Reintegration Caseworker about adding you to our mailing list!

WE FIT YOU CLOTHING CLOSET

Our clothing closet operates every Tuesday and Thursday from 2:00-4:00 p.m. We are very thankful for our volunteer, Charlie Medd, who continues to provide this much needed service to the community. We would also like to thank Canadian Footwear, Siloam Mission, Tall Grass Prairie Bread Company, and community members who donate clothing.

In 2019 we served 961 clients, giving out 3668 items, of which 85 were institutional clothing drop offs. This is 183 more people than the previous year. The clothing closet was closed mid-March due to Covid-19. We were also unable to deliver clothing to the institutions at this time due to Covid-19 restrictions. As for 2020, before closing our doors mid-March, 174 clients used the clothing closet. We started slowly opening the clothing closet again in mid-June, and our numbers have been slowly rising. We heard from our clients just how important this service is, and how excited they were that it was re-opening.

One client, who called regularly to see when we were opening again, stated he would be the "first in line" on our re-opening day.

Since we operate solely by the donations that we receive, the items we give out are based on what we have in stock. We always appreciate more pants, underwear, and jackets.

BIRTH CERTIFICATE PROGRAM

We would like to thank Assiniboine Credit Union for their continued support of this program. Helping apply for and obtain birth certificates continues to be a popular service that we offer to both inmates and residents in

Number of Participants Who Completed Programs in 2019-2020

End to Aggression	7
Coming to Terms	8
<i>(interrupted by Covid-19)</i>	
Introduction to Healthy Relationships	3
Positive Parenting Program	3



our halfway house.

Identification is an important part of the reintegration process, as you can see from some of these responses program recipients gave us to the question: “How important do you think it is to have a birth certificate?”

“It’s important to have identification, proof of who you are and that you exist. And is an essential piece in obtaining other pieces of ID.”

“To get GST back at the end of each year from working and to get an official work place”

“You need it for everything”

“Very important to move forward in life”

VOLUNTEERS AND STUDENTS

We would like to thank the volunteers and practicum students who contribute so much to our programs every year:

Charlie Medd, We Fit You clothing closet volunteer,

Sara St-Cyr, who concluded a 420-hour social work placement from the University of St. Boniface, and

Taylor Cyr, who concluded a 420-hour social work placement from the University of Manitoba.

DETERMINED TO CHANGE

One of our clients who was recently released from custody was determined to make changes in his life. He was tired of repeating

the cycle of recidivism; he changed his life goals and was determined to live a pro-social lifestyle. He attended three of our reintegration programs, and we got to know him quite well. He was very open in group and we saw personal growth during this time. He stated that he felt safe in the group to share his challenges and successes; he was a positive role model and mentor for the other participants in program. He was finding his new healing journey difficult, but was utilizing community agencies to support him when needed.

During the Covid-19 pandemic he relapsed. He is aware of the choices that he made and the risks he took that triggered his relapse. Yet he still remains dedicated to his healing journey and has re-enrolled in programs at the John Howard Society of Manitoba because he felt they made a difference in his life.

This is a success story. Success looks different to everyone, and it is these instances that remind us why we do this job.

Katherine Johnston, Reintegration Caseworker

Tania Wiebe, Reintegration Caseworker

Number of Clothing Closet Items Distributed in 2019

T-Shirts	680
Shirts	604
Socks	634
Sweaters	290
Pants	337
Toiletries	242
Underwear	174
Shorts	99
Shoes	108
Jackets	149
Hats	52
Workboots	4
Other (kitchen, bed, bath, etc.)	295
Total:	3,668
<i>Total people served: 961</i>	

CANINE HEALING SERVICES

LIFE WITH DOGS

Canine Healing Service started in 2017 as a pilot project for men to work with dogs through a pre-employment program. This also started our incredible partnership with Mehgan Search and Rescue (MSAR), and their master trainer, George Leonard.

In 2019, we re-evaluated the program to allow us to better achieve our goals of assisting formerly incarcerated men and those in conflict with the law to reintegrate into the community by providing character-building encounters with service dogs.

From this, the Life with Dogs program was created. This is an 8-session introduction to the world of dogs and how to care for them. MSAR and George Leonard led the sessions on basic dog ownership and handling skills such as: dog selection, caring for your dog, grooming, how to choose food for dogs, travelling with your dog, as well as the difference between pets, therapy-, service- and working dogs. It ran twice in our 2019-2020 program year, beginning in September 2019 and in January 2020, but was cut short mid-March due to the Covid-19 pandemic.

It operates as an open group format, allowing individuals to attend sessions they might have missed the first time. George Leonard brought a different dog to each session so participants could meet several working and service dogs. They met Force, a police dog; Chris, a retired service dog who served a child with autism; and Bennie, a seizure-detecting dog. We had a total of 11 participants in the first round, including peo-

ple from our new federally-funded halfway house, as well as people from the community. The second round had about half the participants as the first.

PET THERAPY

This year we discovered that clients enjoyed and came alive when they interacted with the dogs in the Life with Dogs program. So we added Pet Therapy to the programming under Canine Healing Services. This program provides men in the community with a 30-minute, one-to-one interaction with Sally, a certified pet therapy dog from St. John Ambu-



Sally (left) is a St. John Ambulance service dog who works with clients at The John Howard Society of Manitoba's Canine Healing Services pet therapy program.

lance. Participants reported that this helped them feel more relaxed, happy, motivated, and comfortable. They described the experience as “giving you a break.”

This program provides participants with a space to work on skills from emotional regulation to literacy through the non-judgmental presence and unconditional love that service dogs provide.

PLACEMENT STUDENTS

Many thanks to the placement students who spent their time aiding the Canine Healing Services Program!

Sara St-Cyr, who concluded a 420-hour social work placement from the University of St. Boniface, and Taylor Cyr, who concluded

a 420-hour social work placement from the University of Manitoba.

Claudia Fernandes and Bina Rubin who wrote an evaluation research paper on the Canine Healing Service program from the University of Manitoba Sociology Department, through professor Frank Cormier. Claudia and Bina concluded that, “The Canine Healing Services offer the participants a break from the many stressors in their lives and provide them with an opportunity to feel normal and accepted as they are.”

Katherine Johnston

Canine Healing Services Coordinator

Story: SHELDON ‘COMES ALIVE’

Because Sheldon (not his real name) had been incarcerated at Stony Mountain Institution for two years, he was kept away from the two dogs he had at home.

In prison, Sheldon wanted to interact with dogs in pet therapy sessions. Unfortunately, there wasn't enough space in that program.

Released on parole, Sheldon came to stay in our halfway house here at the John Howard Society of Manitoba.

He was eager to join our

Life with Dogs program and took part in several pet therapy sessions.

This allowed him to spend time with dogs, an interaction that he missed.

He also learned how to be a better caregiver for his own dogs for when he would return home.

He really enjoyed the sessions, and said they “give you a break” from daily stresses.

Normally shy and reserved, Sheldon seemed to come alive as he spent

time with the dogs, and he began to speak more openly.

He was always the first to sign up for our pet therapy program and encouraged new residents to give it a try.

This was an example of how the Canine Healing Services program helped clients develop a healthier sense of self, acquire new pro-social skills, and foster positive peer relationships with men who may have been in conflict with the law.

COMMUNITY RESIDENTIAL FACILITY (CRF)

THIS HAS BEEN A BUSY YEAR for the Community Residential Facility (CRF). We opened the doors on May 6, 2019 in partnership with Correctional Service of Canada, and welcomed the first two residents.

Since opening over a year ago, we have housed nearly 70 residents. The CRF is staffed 24 hours per day and there is the capacity to house 28 residents. There is a total of six full-time and four part-time dedicated staff.

Staff assist with housing and employment searches, resume creation, and reintegration needs such as birth certificates and identification.

While living at the CRF, residents also have the opportunity to access the numerous programs offered at the John Howard Society. The CRF provides residents with access to Elder services and cultural activities. Over the past year, the CRF partnered with Elder Vern Dano to offer in-house sharing circles to residents twice a month.

Naming ceremony

In March 2020, we had planned to hold a Naming Ceremony however, the ceremony had to be postponed due to the Covid-19 restrictions. In a ceremony given by Elders Ervin Hilts and Vern Dano, the CRF is now named **"Four Healing Roads Lodge,"** which is a translation of the Anishinaabe name Waakaa'igan niiwin mashkiki miikanawan.

"Four Healing Roads Lodge" encompasses four dimensions of healing: **spiritual, mental, emotional** and **physical**. The name also reflects various approaches to healing, which includes a combination of Elder-led Indigenous teachings and ceremonies, and Western education and programs.

Covid-19 has been a challenging time for the world. During the peak of Covid in Manitoba, we entered into a facility lockdown to ensure the health and safety of staff and



residents. We appreciate the residents' understanding and staff dedication, as everyone persevered during the uncertain times.

Expansion

A positive outcome during this time was the expansion of the facility. Originally, the facility had a capacity of 20 beds, we now have 28. This expansion allowed us the ability to takeover an adjacent space which includes a kitchen, dorm, living room, and two individual bedrooms.

Thank you

We would like to say a big thank you to the Prison Libraries Committee for donating care packages of hygiene supplies, fabric masks, colouring books, snacks and beading materials to all of the residents! Their donations were instrumental in assisting the residents during the lockdown and throughout the entire pandemic.

The CRF is looking forward to another successful and busy year ahead! We hope to welcome many more residents to the Four Healing Roads Lodge.

Rhonda Gosselin, Residence Manager

Lynn Comberbach, Assistant Residence Manager

HEALING PROGRAM FOR INDIGENOUS MEN

THE 3-YEAR DEMONSTRATION project, funded by our partners in the Department of Justice Canada: Victims Fund, started in 2018 and is now currently winding down.

The Healing Program for Indigenous Men started based on an identified need in the community. This unique program was developed to assist men who have experienced childhood sexual abuse and trauma by providing a safe place for men to learn new skills and to learn about themselves.

Through 14 closed group sessions, men had the opportunity to learn about the effects of childhood trauma, identify triggers relating to their own personal trauma(s), learn and practice healthy coping strategies and explore healthy self-regulation techniques. Moreover, the group provided an opportunity for men to share their stories in a safe and non-judgemental environment.

PROGRAM STATS

Seven groups were conducted between April 2018 and March 2020.

Overall, we served 104 individuals with program information and/or with community referrals. We made 63 intake assessments, 34 men completed the program through group participation and 1 participant completed the program through one-to-one sessions. Three participants decided to attend the program for a second time, and those numbers are not reflected in the aforementioned numbers.

From the 63 intakes completed, 29 of the participants were on escorted

temporary absences (ETA's) from Stony Mountain Institution (SMI) and 34 were from the community at large.

As noted by the evaluator, the majority of participants had histories of severe and multiple traumas throughout their lives. Family violence, neglect and substance use were experienced from an early age, which often brought them to Child and Family Services care and numerous foster homes.

They witnessed suicides and murders at various points in their lives and struggled with substance use and physical and mental health issues. Most had been incarcerated as youth and then provincially and/or federally.

These multiple traumas identify them as high risk, high-need abuse survivors, for whom there is no specific cultural programming available. **There is a clear need for this type of program to continue.**

As the program facilitator/coordinator, I am personally honoured to have been part of this demonstration project and to have walked along side these men on their healing journeys, during the time they were involved in the program.

I respectfully acknowledge their stories, their courage, and their desire to move forward in a good way. Miigwetch to all participants and to the Elders who contributed to the program.

Melissa Nolin

Program Caseworker and Program Coordinator

PROGRAM PARTICIPATION

April-June 2018

Intakes 10

Attended 8

Completes 7

July-August 2018

Intakes 6

4

4

October-November 2018

Intakes 8

5

2

January-February 2019

Intakes 12

Attended 11

Completed 8

April-May 2019

Intakes 10

Attended 11

Completed 7

September-October 2019

Intakes 9

Attended 7

5

January-March 2020

Intakes 8

Attended 8

5

Total intakes: 63

Total attended: 54

Total completed: 35

LITERACY DEPARTMENT

STAFFING

Literacy department staff consists of Joel Simkin, Literacy Instructor, and Amanda Fyfe, Literacy Coordinator. Joel and Amanda both previously worked as volunteers for the JHSM in the Winnipeg Remand Centre, and were welcomed as staff during the summer of 2019.

VOLUNTEERS

Despite the Covid-19 pandemic, the literacy department continues to receive inquiries from prospective volunteers who are interested in the work that we do. While our volunteering opportunities have currently been put on hold, we are looking forward to seeing our volunteers again – they are truly the heart of our department's programs and initiatives!

Volunteers perform a variety of tasks including: one-to-one tutoring at the Winnipeg Remand Centre (WRC) and with clients at the JHSM office; recording inmates for the Get the Story Out (GTSO) program at WRC; edit GTSO recordings from WRC, Milner Ridge and Headingley Correctional Centres, and Stony Mountain Institution; help out with fundraising events like our PGI fundraiser; aid in office work like folding copies of *The Inside Scoop*, and sorting book donations.

During the 2019-2020 fiscal year, the literacy department had the generous support and dedication of 12 volunteers to help us in all the areas listed above. Those volunteers were: Tim Brandt, Andrew Crawford, Caroline Crawford, Taylor Cyr, Annica Dickens, Sebastian de Lazzer, Xhesika Lleshaj, Ryan Muscat, John Ogunwale, Sara St. Cyr, Dawn Tarnowski, Charlotte Vander Graaf. We would also like to thank the additional 8 prospective volunteers who are on the waiting list and will begin volunteering once programs begin again.

PROGRAMS

Like many other literacy programs, our plans for this year changed quite drastically due to the Covid-19 pandemic. Our programs such as the One-to-One Tutoring Program at the Winnipeg Remand Centre, the Peer Tutor Program at Headingley Correctional Centre and Milner Ridge Correctional Centre, and the Get the Story Out Program were put on hold in mid-March as accessing the correctional institutions has not been possible. Additionally, the drop-in workshops scheduled for the summer had to be cancelled due to the pandemic. Since June we have been able to offer limited one-to-one tutoring assistance in the community in accordance with provincial guidelines. This coming year, we will be offering more literacy programming in the community and starting up our programs in the institutions once again when possible.

PEER TUTOR PROGRAM

The Peer Tutor program is a 14-session program designed to prepare inmates for the role of teaching their lower-literacy level peers in basic literacy. One class was offered at Milner Ridge Correctional Centre from October to November 2019, and one class at Headingley Correctional Centre began in February 2020, but unfortunately was cut short due to the Covid-19 pandemic.

- Headingley Correctional Ctre. – 29 learners
- Milner Ridge Correctional Ctre. – 9 learners

ONE-TO-ONE TUTORING

The One-to-One Tutoring Program is for inmates who wish to improve their basic literacy skills while incarcerated at the Winnipeg Remand Centre. Volunteers meet with students at the WRC every Wednesday evening over a 3-hour block to work on learner identified goals. We also see a limited number of community clients who want to improve

their basic literacy skills at the JHSM office by appointment.

- Community Program- 1 student
- Winnipeg Remand Centre – worked with 50 students

GET THE STORY OUT

The Get the Story Out Program gives male inmates the opportunity to record themselves reading a story to their children or other family member. The recordings are then edited and transferred to CD and sent as a gift with the book to the child. This program operates with JHSM volunteer support at the Winnipeg Remand Centre, and though the support of program staff at Milner Ridge Correctional Centre, Headingley Correctional Centre, and Stony Mountain Institution.

- 32 inmates from 3 institutions participated, sending out 48 books to 32 children

INSIDE SCOOP



The Inside Scoop is a newsletter that features poetry, stories, articles, and artwork from inmates across the country twice a year. It is delivered to all of the institutions in Manitoba and others across Canada. We are

always blown away by the talent we get to feature in *The Inside Scoop*.

FUNDRAISING ACTIVITY

On October 3rd, 2019, the Literacy Department put on our 3rd annual Peter Gzowski Invitational fundraiser (PGI) at the Canad Inns Destination Centre Club Regent Casino Hotel. This is part of a national effort to raise money for literacy initiatives across the country. We were happy to present Aaron Anderson with the PGI Learner of the Year Award and Nicole Alty with the Peter Gzowski

ki Award for her work as a volunteer.

We would like to thank the event's keynote speaker David A. Robertson for his thoughtfulness and wisdom, our poet laureate Jordan Wheeler for his quick wit and creativity, and Terry McLeod our emcee for his professionalism and continued support of our initiatives in the literacy department. We are also grateful for the unmatched energy of Dave Wiebe who was our auctioneer for the second year in a row and the event's photographer Dave Benson for his talented eye. The band McGivver played great music throughout the evening for the second year in a row.

The evening couldn't have happened without our partnership of the Peter Gzowski Foundation of Canada or the generous financial support of our sponsors: Assiniboine Credit Union, Me-Dian Credit Union, APTN, Boyd Autobody, and Canadian Footwear. We would also like to thank our in-kind sponsors for their generous contributions to the event: the Winnipeg Free Press, Westjet, Via Rail Canada, the Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra, Birchwood Automotive Group, Fernwood Publishing, McNally Robinson Booksellers, Wooftopia, Eadha Bakery, Oak Hammock Marsh, Rumours Comedy Club, and Prana Yoga Studio.

In November 2019, Katherine, Joel, and Amanda headed to Calgary for the PGI National Forum, a weekend of learning and networking with other PGI partners from across the country.

The 2020 PGI fundraising event scheduled for Friday, October 9th at the West End Cultural Centre was cancelled due to Covid-19. We are looking forward to hosting a fundraising event in 2021.

Amanda Fyfe, Literacy Coordinator
Joel Simkin, Literacy Instructor

Update Sept. 2020: Jamie Okapiec replaced Amanda Fyfe, and she serves as a second Literacy Instructor.

CANADA BORDER SERVICES AGENCY

In 2018, the John Howard Society of Manitoba partnered with the Canada Border Services Agency (CBSA) in the delivery of its Community Case Management and Supervision program, as part of their greater Alternatives to Detention Program.

These programs are geared towards the stabilization of individuals who are subject to immigration detention but who may be suitable for alternatives to detention.

Here at the John Howard Society of Manitoba, we provide supervision for both men and women. On a case-by-case basis, we oversee their well-being and ensure that CBSA conditions are met as they await their exodus from Canada.

Now in our second year, we continue to receive numerous referrals and have super-

vised 13 people this past year. The program's success is evident in the number of referrals we have had and the near-perfect record we have in retaining clients before departure.

Here at the John Howard Society, we are pleased to work alongside the CBSA in this program. In our work, we collaborate not only with the CBSA, but also with lawyers, legal counsel, the police, service agencies, health practitioners, educational institutions, and counsellors to make sure the program is both excellent and efficient.

Thanks to management and staff who have worked tirelessly to ensure a successful, productive service.

Ansu Daramy
Community Release Caseworker

BAIL NAVIGATION PROGRAM

THE BAIL NAVIGATION PROGRAM caseworker (bail facilitator) acts as an intermediary between custody and release. Once defense counsel explains the opportunity to receive additional support, most individuals are willing to accept help.

The range of assistance varies from client to client. Some people need clarification on language and process as they may not be familiar with the criminal justice system. This could include weekly contact in person or by phone.

Some are in need of connecting with others to find a stable address to live (often directed

by the Crown), whether that be with friends, family or an alternative accommodation.

Depending upon need, the bail facilitator connects the client to outside agencies. Some may seek medical attention, at which point they may be directed to an Access Centre, clinic or Health Authority. More serious cases may require transportation to the hospital. A large population are fast tracked through to detox and then drug and/or alcohol rehabilitation. Higher risk individuals may require further supervision through Probation Services and are usually required to report as soon as they are released.

Additional supports are provided with the John Howard Society of Manitoba and other organizations to provide a positive outcome for those on release.

Tal Stimpson
Bail Navigation Program Caseworker

Bail Facilitation Numbers 2019-2020

Individuals assisted	1,466
Bail plans completed.	301
Community resources	55
Liaison with government depts.	32
Further assistance	76
Total consent releases	463

ISLAND LAKES COMMUNITIES PROJECT

THE ISLAND LAKE COMMUNITIES of Red Sucker Lake, St. Theresa Point, Garden Hill, and Wasagamack have in recent years seen an escalation in drug use and wanted to do something about it.

Leaders approached **George Leonard**, the master trainer at Mehgan Search and Rescue (MSAR) who reached out to the John Howard Society of Manitoba to assist with workshop preparation and training for youth in the schools of these communities.

In March 2019, two JHSM staff members visited the communities of St. Theresa Point and Garden Hill, with George Leonard, in order to perform a needs assessment. We returned again with a staff member from Gang

Action Interagency Network (GAIN) to meet with community members.

Due to the Covid-19 outbreak in early 2020, we were unable to continue flights and community meetings. We developed community-specific resources and had maintained contact via electronic means.

One of the biggest lessons we learned was just how isolated the Island Lake communities. We also adjusted our presentations to include portions on suicide prevention.

This project was made possible by a grant from **The Winnipeg Foundation**. We thank The Winnipeg Foundation and its generous donors.

STAFF LISTING

AS OF SEPTEMBER 2020

Sharon Perrault, *Acting Executive Director and Manager of Programs*

Rhonda Gosselin, *Residence Manager*

Lynn Comberbach, *Assistant Residence Manager*

Shuping Zhang, *Accountant*

Melissa Nolin, *Men's Healing Caseworker, Substance Use and Addictions Program Caseworker*

Tal Stimpson, *Bail Caseworker*

Katherine Johnston, *Reintegration/Canine Healing, Substance Use and Addictions Program Caseworker*

Tania Wiebe, *Reintegration Caseworker*

Ansu Daramy, *Community Release Caseworker (CBSA)*

Amanda Fyfe, *Literacy Coordinator (ended Sept.'20)*

Jamie Okapiec, *Literacy Instructor (began Sept.'20)*

Joel Simkin, *Literacy Instructor*

Aiden Enns, *Communications and Special Initiatives*

Jacquie Carnevale, *Admin/Building Manager*

Residence Staff: **Ed Cooke**, **Colin Creally-Johnson**, **Shane David**, **Oscar Gonzales**, **Reid Kotschorek**, **Jody Lake**, **Adam Penner**, **Brendan Wood**

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

2019-2020 FISCAL YEAR

Ken Friesen - *Chair*

Cassandra Golondrina - *Deputy Chair*

Zilla Jones - *Secretary*

Arthur Olszewski* - *Treasurer*

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Chantell Barker*

Ryan Beady

Alastair Clarke

Jonathan Côté*

Robert DeCoste*

Chantal English

Gilbert Fredette

Phil Lancaster

Katharina Maier

Glen Monkman*

Kate Sjoberg

**No longer on the board*

June 23, 2020

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, 2020 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, 2020, 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.

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
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.

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
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ANNUAL REPORT 2019-2020

THE JOHN HOWARD SOCIETY OF MANITOBA, INC.

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

	March 31	
	2020	2019
ASSETS		
Current assets:		
Cash (Note 5)	\$ 29,034	\$ 41,349
Accounts receivable	121,425	111,245
GST recoverable	3,566	3,962
Prepaid expenses	14,017	14,132
	<u>168,042</u>	<u>170,688</u>
Capital assets (Note 3)	<u>250,468</u>	<u>296,676</u>
	<u><u>\$ 418,510</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 467,364</u></u>
LIABILITIES		
Current liabilities:		
Accounts payable	\$ 111,331	\$ 135,622
Deferred revenue	84,667	56,585
Commercial loan payable (Note 5)	<u>328,760</u>	<u>356,688</u>
	524,758	548,895
Deferred contributions related to capital assets (Note 6)	<u>31,135</u>	<u>58,023</u>
	555,893	606,918
NET ASSETS		
Net assets	<u>(137,383)</u>	<u>(139,554)</u>
	<u><u>\$ 418,510</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 467,364</u></u>

APPROVED BY THE BOARD:



Director*



Director*

*Signatures intentionally blurred.

THE JOHN HOWARD SOCIETY OF MANITOBA, INC.

STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS AND CHANGES IN NET ASSETS

	Year ended March 31		
	Budget	2020	2019
	(unaudited)		
Revenues:			
Administrative and other revenue	\$ 77,857	\$ 78,650	\$ 51,521
Amortization of deferred contributions related to capital assets (Note 6)	23,669	23,638	23,668
Bail Navigator Pilot Project (Schedule A)	73,000	73,000	127,615
Community Residential Facility (Schedule D)	500,083	492,188	-
Donations and memberships	13,098	30,676	13,098
Healing Program for Indigenous Men (Schedule C)	76,000	76,000	71,625
Indigenous Women's Healing Centre	9,783	3,261	95,720
Province of Manitoba-			
Department of Justice	69,000	69,000	69,000
Department of Advanced Education and Training	76,340	76,340	76,344
Ogijiita Pimatiswin Kinamatwin (Schedule B)	184,457	164,488	192,253
Oshki Giizhig	25,000	25,000	25,000
Other grants	5,000	38,198	4,800
Rent	47,678	62,053	47,678
Fundraising	8,000	19,118	8,587
The John Howard Society of Canada	110,160	111,102	95,160
The Thomas Sill Foundation	-	-	20,000
The Winnipeg Foundation	112,500	126,588	68,796
United Way	229,529	215,179	258,218
Total revenue	1,641,154	1,684,479	1,249,083
Expenses:			
Amortization of capital assets	42,801	42,950	42,801
Bail Facilitation Pilot Project (Schedule A)	73,000	74,056	127,799
Building	98,432	95,108	129,953
Community Residential Facility (Schedule D)	521,990	504,238	-
General	53,687	49,872	37,964
Healing Program for Indigenous Men (Schedule C)	76,000	76,001	76,001
Interest on commercial loan	12,000	17,052	11,493
Membership services	2,342	2,270	2,644
Office	11,775	11,958	11,800
Ogijiita Pimatiswin Kinamatwin (Schedule B)	184,457	181,173	193,690
Oshki Giizhig	25,000	25,000	25,000
Program - other	162,890	132,073	252,616
Salaries and benefits	471,875	470,557	456,847
Total expenses	1,736,249	1,682,308	1,368,608
Difference between revenues and expenses	\$ (95,095)	2,171	(119,525)
Net assets, beginning of year		(139,554)	(20,029)
Net assets, end of year		\$ (137,383)	\$ (139,554)

THANK YOU TO OUR FUNDERS

2019-2020

THE GOVERNMENT OF CANADA

- Department of Justice Canada
- Employment and Social Development Canada (via John Howard Society of Canada)
- Correctional Service Canada
- Canada Border Services Agency

PROVINCE OF MANITOBA

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

FOUNDATIONS AND FRIENDS:

- United Way of Winnipeg
- The Winnipeg Foundation
- PGI Canada
- Assiniboine Credit Union
- Me-Dian Credit Union
- Canadian Footwear
- Canad Inns Destination Centre
- APTN
- Fernwood Publishing
- Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra
- Boyd Autobody & Glass
- WestJet
- VIA Rail
- Birchwood
- Winnipeg Free Press
- Private Donors and Supporters

We thank all our supporters for their encouragement and generosity.

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