



KAMLOOPS AND DISTRICT

Elizabeth Fry Society

ANNUAL REPORT

20
24

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

2024 – 2025

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Clay Gray

Executive Director
Allison McLauchlan

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From Our Executive Director & Board President

Dear Friends, Partners, and Community Members,

As we reflect on another year of advocacy, growth, programing and learning, I am both humbled and proud of the impact we've made together. The Kamloops and District Elizabeth Fry Society continues to be a place of safety, justice, and hope for women, children, and the families we support. None of this work would be possible without the generous and ongoing support of our community, funders, partners, and dedicated team.

This was my first year with Elizabeth Fry, and it has been a privilege to get to know the Kamloops community from the frontline agencies we collaborate with to the individuals and families we serve every day. Most of all, I am deeply grateful to our staff, volunteers, and Board of Directors for welcoming me with open arms and for their unwavering commitment to our mission. I am honored to work beside an incredible team, and it's been amazing to witness the depth of compassion, knowledge, and strength that drives this organization forward.

This past year has not been without its challenges as our community continues to face deepening housing insecurity, financial uncertainty, and the on going epidemic of gender-based violence and systemic inequality. In response, we have doubled down on our mission to empower women and families, and to advocate for structural change and raising awareness is a big part of this call to action.

One of the most inspiring collaborations this year was our joint campaign with Big Brothers Big Sisters of Kamloops: #NotMyLegacy. Through social media and storytelling, we shared the words of children and young people and declared, boldly, that the future does not have to mirror the past. The campaign was a powerful reminder that change is not only possible it happens every day.

We also spent time exploring new and sustainable ways to serve, including the potential development of a nonprofit thrift store. This initiative would not only generate revenue for our programs but also provide employment opportunities and vouchers for women transitioning from crisis to stability. Stay tuned for more exciting developments.

Throughout all of this, our staff have remained the backbone of our organization. Their tireless work and compassionate care ensure that every woman, child and individual who walks through our doors is met with dignity and support. I also want to recognize our Board of Directors for their vision and leadership, and our volunteers for the invaluable time and energy they invest in our mission.

As we move forward, we remain committed to building a safe, inclusive, and equitable community. We will continue to challenge injustice, foster healing, and hold space for stories that need to be told.

Thank you for standing with us.

Allison McLauchlan

Executive Director

Kamloops and District Elizabeth Fry Society

Dear Community Members,

On behalf of the Board of Directors, I am honoured to share a message of gratitude and pride in the incredible work that has taken place at the Kamloops and District Elizabeth Fry Society over the past year.

This has been a year of growth, collaboration, and renewed vision. We are thrilled to have welcomed our new Executive Director, whose leadership, compassion, and energy have already made a strong and positive impact. Watching our organization move forward with such purpose and clarity has been truly inspiring.

As a Board, our role is to support the strategic direction, stability, and accountability of the organization — and this year, we have seen the real impact of this work reflected in the lives of women, children, and families who rely on programs, advocacy, and safe spaces.

We know that our strength comes from our staff, volunteers, partners, and donors who make this work possible every day. Your dedication ensures that women and families in crisis are met with dignity and care, and your commitment continues to move our mission forward.

As we look to the year ahead, the Board remains focused on sustainability, innovation, and deepening our impact in the community. We are proud to stand alongside such a passionate and skilled team, and we are excited for what the future holds.

Thank you for your continued support, your trust, and your belief in the importance of this work.

With appreciation,

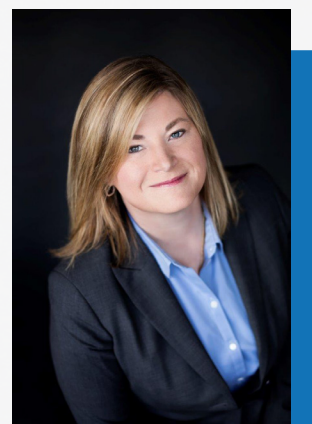
Rachel Lammers

President, Board of Directors

Kamloops and District Elizabeth Fry Society



Executive Director
Allison McLauchlan



Board President
Rachel Lammers

| Housing

Throughout the 2024–2025 fiscal year, the Kamloops and District Elizabeth Fry Society’s housing programs provided support to over 130 families across 110 units in four housing complexes operated by the Society. The Maintenance Team responded to 198 service requests and completed several major capital projects aimed at improving safety, accessibility, and sustainability. These included the modernization of the elevator at Hilltop Apartments, the installation of enhanced security surveillance systems at Cornerhouse, Hilltop, and Elizabeth Court to increase tenant safety and reduce criminal activity, and upgraded lighting in the parkades at Hilltop and Elizabeth Court, which improved visibility and reinforced the Society’s commitment to environmental sustainability.

During the 2024–2025 program year, KDEFS received 94 direct housing applications, while an additional 133 applicants on the BC Housing waitlist identified Hilltop and Elizabeth Court Apartments as their preferred providers—bringing the total number of interested applicants to 227. In contrast, only 18 units became available throughout the year due to tenant move-outs. This significant gap between demand and availability underscores the ongoing shortage of affordable housing in Kamloops and the urgent need to expand access for individuals and families seeking stable, secure housing.

| Family Stepping Stones

The Family Stepping Stones program was highly active throughout the 2024–2025 fiscal year, providing direct support to 26 clients—15 women and 11 children—and assisting an additional 14 families residing in KDEFS Women’s Housing at Penny’s Place. The Women’s Second Stage Housing Support Workers delivered 624 in-person service contacts, facilitated 312 resource connections and referrals, and provided essential items such as FoodShare, diapers, clothing, and move-in kits during 88 separate interactions. In addition to individualized support, the program offered a variety of psychoeducational, social, and cultural opportunities for women and families to engage and build community. Notable activities included a Social Sobriety BBQ, a Stopping the Violence presentation facilitated by the YMCA, Boundaries and Safety Talks, nutrition learning groups for children and adults, weekly FoodShare, Story Time sessions for children, gardening groups, Smudge Spray Kit crafts, and holiday events such as family photos with a volunteer Santa and seasonal crafts for children.

Each year, the Family Stepping Stones program partners with local businesses and community groups to sponsor families during the holiday season, providing women and their children with gifts and treats they might not otherwise receive. This initiative brings joy and comfort to families facing financial hardship and helps foster a sense of community and care. For their generous support in sponsoring families this year, we extend heartfelt thanks to Kamloops Airport, SA Electric, Progressive Planet, Penny Douglas’s Parenting Support Group, and Berneice Machuk.

HOUSING SUPPORTS

Throughout the 2024–2025 year, housing support staff worked closely with the housing team to assist individuals in obtaining and maintaining stable housing, including sorting and managing applications. A key initiative during the year was the reorganization and relocation of the staple community resource, Lizzy’s Closet, which has moved from 827 Seymour Street to its new location at 130 St. Paul Street in Kamloops. Lizzy’s Closet is now open to the public on Mondays and Thursdays from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., continuing to provide essential items to those in need.



| Sky Youth Program

The SKY Program is a full-time attendance initiative designed for adjudicated youth, with referrals received exclusively through MCFD Youth Probation. As a non-public program, SKY maintains a focused and structured intake process. During the 2024–2025 year, the program received 11 inquiries, processed 7 referrals, screened 7 clients, and accepted 4 new youth, ultimately serving a total of 6 youth throughout the year. Participants engaged in a range of psychoeducational learning opportunities, recreational activities, community involvement, and volunteerism, all aimed at fostering personal growth, encouraging community contribution, and building essential life skills.

| Rent Bank Program

The Kamloops and District Elizabeth Fry Society, operates two rent banks the Kamloops Elizabeth Fry Rentbank and the Province Wide Rentbank.

The Kamloops Elizabeth Fry Society received 329 applications for assistance, provided 166 referrals to alternate resources, provided 37 loans impacting 132 people. The Kamloops Elizabeth Fry Rent Bank provided \$74,554.60 direct loan assistance to clients, and \$7,589.00 grants. The Repayment rate for these loans was 66% which is an increase from last year and works towards the ongoing sustainability of this essential financial homelessness prevention program.

The Province Wide Rentbank, received 686 Pre-Assessments, providing 485 resource referral, 49 loans impacting 159 people. The Kamloops Elizabeth Fry Rent Bank provided \$113,970.94 direct loan assistance to clients, and \$58,000.00 grants. The repayment rate for these loans was 60%.

The Rent Bank program also facilitated Financial Literacy workshops for 14 women, empowering them with tools to thrive after experiencing or fleeing gender-based violence. This initiative reflects a growing focus on prevention and education as key strategies for the future of the Rent Bank. By equipping individuals with financial knowledge and resources, the program aims to reduce the risk of eviction and homelessness—critical concerns in Kamloops, where housing precarity driven by affordability and limited availability remains a significant challenge.

THANK YOU TO OUR VOLUNTEERS & COMMUNITY SUPPORT



KDEFS would like to thank our incredible community for their support, throughout the 2024-2025 fiscal year we received \$9,154.50 in donations through our online donor platform. We had the generous support of local third-party fundraisers including: Tim Horton's 'Smile Cookie Campaign'; Home Hardware's 'Home Hardware Women's Night'; Rona's 'Home Sweet Home Campaign'; Foxy Box's 'Empowered Women Through the Ages'; and Rivershore Ram. Furthermore volunteers from IG Wealth, RBC, and Enbridge have been essential in our services to women this year.

Volunteers

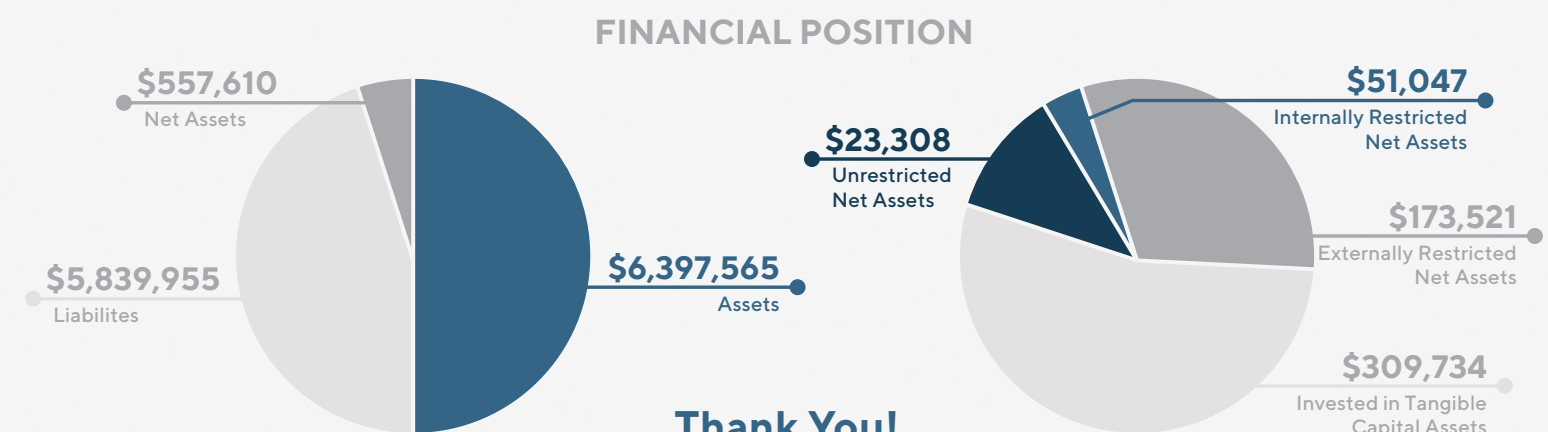
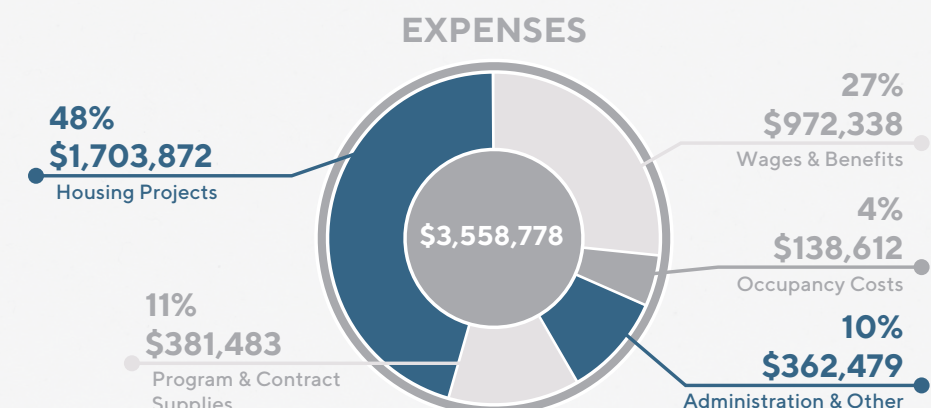
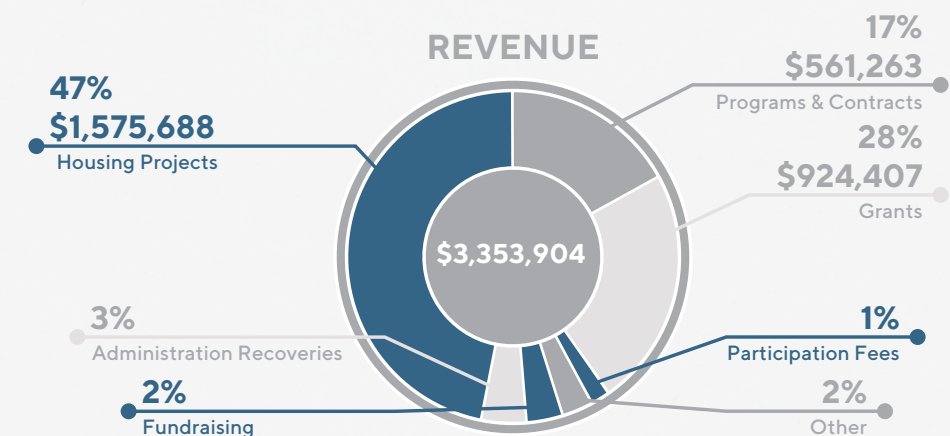
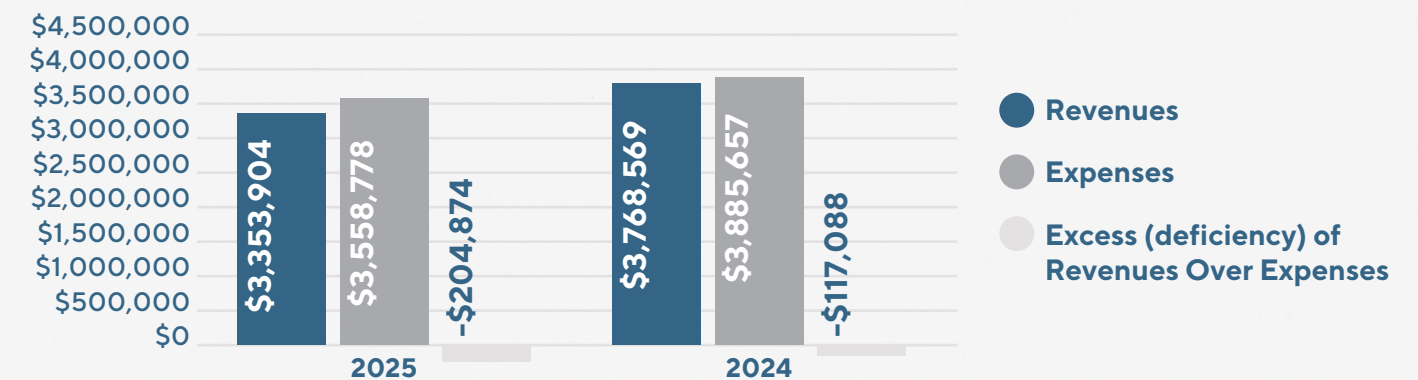
Thank-you to all our volunteers who help with Community Engagement, Lizzy's Closet, Yoga and wellness engagements for clients,.

Thank you to our ongoing funders and grant providers.

BC Housing | Ministry of Child and Family Development | British Columbia Rent Bank
City of Kamloops | United Way | New Gold | Canadian Women's Foundation
Women's Shelters of Canada | Women and Gender Equity Canada
BC Gaming | BC Civil Forfeiture



Financials



Thank You!

We are grateful for the generosity of our donors, sponsors, and funders whose support has changed the lives of women and youth in our community.

Year ended March 31, 2025. This information has been extracted from the audited financial statements prepared by Tenisci Piva Chartered Professional Accountants. The full statements are available at www.kamloopsefry.com or by request.



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