

# OUT OF VIOLENCE

The Canadian Women's Foundation invests in programs to support survivors of gender-based violence and their children to rebuild their lives and work to address the root causes of gender-based violence. These programs support diverse women and Two Spirit, trans, and non-binary people in the areas of:

- **Rebuilding Lives Programs** support women and gender-diverse people who have experienced gender-based violence, and their children.
- **Collaborative Projects** support systemic change efforts on a regional or national scale through sectoral capacity building, policy, research, advocacy or collective action initiatives.

**Excellence Beyond the Local Program:** Every survivor should be supported, cycles of violence must be broken, and gender-based violence must become a thing of the past. We support regional and national service providers to coordinate their work, share promising practices, undertake research on new approaches to end violence, and influence decisionmakers to approach violence in the most effective ways.

\*Programs are supported for a four-year grant cycle.



# In Participants' Words



*“I never believed that I would be able to stop living in fear constantly and that I could find my voice and feel good about myself... I am so happy that I tried counselling. It helped me understand that I didn't deserve the thing that had happened to me and that I was strong enough to take my life back.”*





# Grantee Partners

Across regions and communities, the Rebuilding Lives programs empowered by our generous donors and supporters make a reverberating impact in the lives of women and gender-diverse people. The programs put participants first, build on their strengths, and respond to their unique needs and experiences. Scope and specifics vary, but the change they spark is deep, long-lasting, and transformative. They grow gender equality and justice in Canada, from the grassroots up.

## COLLABORATIVE PROJECTS

### **CAPACITY FOR CARE: BUILDING INCLUSIVITY IN NEW BRUNSWICK** **Domestic Violence Association of New Brunswick | St. Stephen, NB**

This project develops inclusive policies and practices for gender-based violence service organizations in the region. The goal is to better support diverse survivors through consultation with communities, including people who identify as 2SLGBTQIA+ and newcomers, as well as people with addiction and mental health concerns.

*Focus communities: Rural, remote, and northern women and gender-diverse people; 2SLGBTQIA+ people; immigrants, refugees, and migrants with precarious status*

### **WELCOMING FEMINIST SPACES FOR MUSLIM WOMEN** **Institut F | Montreal, QC**

Institut F leads this project in collaboration with two gender equality organizations, to create more safe and inclusive environments for Muslim women and gender-diverse people in Montreal. The initiative builds understanding about how organizations working for gender equality can work together to address discrimination, racism, and Islamophobia.

*Focus communities: Black and racialized women and gender-diverse people*

## REBUILDING LIVES PROGRAMS

### THE FIREWEED COUNSELLING COLLECTIVE

Mokami Status of Women Council | Happy Valley-Goose Bay, NL

This community-based counselling project addresses the critical need for accessible, long-term, culturally grounded services for people affected by gender-based violence across Labrador. Training and supports will be provided to strengthen counsellors' well-being and ability to offer effective and compassionate care. The long-term goal is to build community capacity and strength to address gender-based violence and provide personalized healing services for those impacted by it.

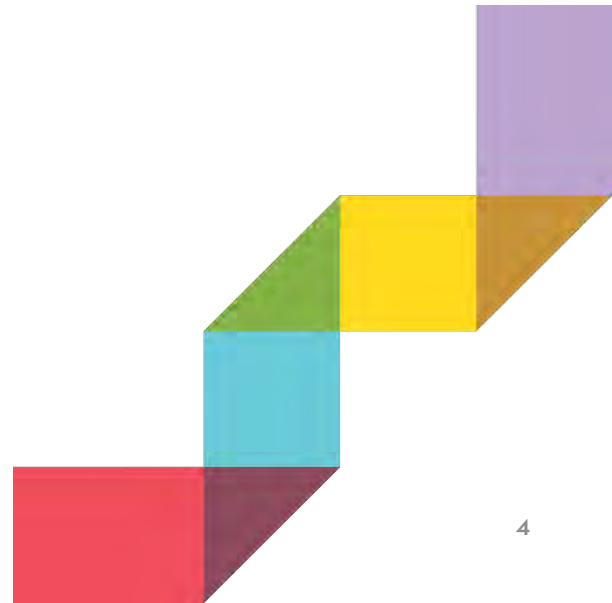
*Focus communities: First Nations, Métis, and Inuit women and gender-diverse people; rural, remote, and northern women and gender-diverse people*

### WELCOME HOME: EQUITABLE HOUSING OPPORTUNITIES FOR REFUGEE CLAIMANT AND NON-STATUS MIGRANT SURVIVORS OF GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE IN NOVA SCOTIA

Halifax Refugee Clinic | Halifax, NS

The housing crisis in Halifax has had devastating impacts on survivors of gender-based violence who are refugee claimants or non-status migrants that are not eligible for most social services. This project provides these survivors with a safe place to rebuild and heal by reducing barriers to safe, affordable housing through the creation and administration of a survivor-specific rental subsidy program.

*Focus communities: Immigrants, refugees, and migrants with precarious status; Black and racialized women and gender-diverse people*



## HEALING THROUGH CULTURAL REVITALIZATION

Wahbung Abinoonjiag Inc. | Winnipeg, MB

This culturally-grounded project provides women and gender-diverse individuals and their families that are impacted by gender-based violence the opportunity to connect/reconnect with their Indigenous culture as a way of healing. Survivors will explore how culture, ceremony, and diverse Indigenous teachings can support their journeys. The program will increase opportunities for intergenerational healing, reclamation of culture, and community connections.

*Focus communities: First Nations, Métis, and Inuit women and gender-diverse people*

## CONTINUED TRANSFORMATIVE CARE FOR 2SLGBTQIA+ SURVIVORS OF GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE: A PREVENTION AND INTERVENTION ACTION PLAN

OUTSaskatoon | Saskatoon, SK

2SLGBTQIA+ communities face high rates of gender-based violence that is rooted in homophobia and transphobia. Support services for gender-based violence are not well-equipped to address the unique needs of 2SLGBTQIA+ survivors. Through extensive partnerships and research-based approaches, this initiative advocates for more inclusive health and social services. It also promotes promising practices in trauma- and survivor-informed, feminist, intersectional, and anti-oppressive support services to 2SLGBTQIA+ survivors.

*Focus communities: 2SLGBTQIA+ people*

## SPECIALIZED SEXUAL VIOLENCE CRISIS, COUNSELLING, AND SUPPORT IN NORTHERN RURAL ALBERTA

Dragonfly Centre Sexual Violence Services | Bonnyville, AB

Serving more than 60 communities in northern Alberta, where little to no support or counselling services exist, this project addresses increasing needs and demands for service from gender-based violence survivors. This specialized programming works toward ending the cycle of sexual violence by providing intervention, counselling, and support that is grounded in cultural knowledge and understanding.

*Focus communities: First Nations, Métis, and Inuit women and gender-diverse people; Rural, remote, and northern women and gender-diverse people*

## INTERSECTIONAL PRACTICES FOR THE INCLUSION OF PEOPLE LIVING AT THE CROSSROADS OF OPPRESSION

La Débrouille Inc. | Rimouski, QC

This project develops an intersectional feminist approach to gender-based violence services that increases inclusion. Survivors that face multiple barriers to accessing safety, such as 2SLGBTQIA+ people and/or immigrant or migrant people, have been historically underserved by gender-based violence services and this shelter-based project ensures they have programs that are adapted to their needs.

*Focus communities: 2SLGBTQIA+ people; rural, remote, and northern women and gender-diverse people*

## LA MAISON AUGUSTINE: CULTURALLY-ADAPTED SERVICES FOR IMMIGRANT WOMEN WHO ARE VICTIMS OF GBV

Afrique au Féminin | Montreal, QC

This project, run by and for immigrant women, serves survivors of gender-based violence who may face specific barriers related to language and limited access to community services.

*Focus communities: Immigrants, refugees, and migrants with precarious status; youth*



## SISTERHOOD PEER SUPPORT GROUP

The Victoria Faulkner Women's Centre | Whitehorse, YT

This program supports women and gender-diverse people to address and resist colonial systems and end intergenerational cycles of violence. The program offers peer support, tools, and resources to mothers, grandmothers, and aunties working to reunite with children in care and heal from family violence.

*Focus communities: First Nations, Métis, and Inuit women and gender-diverse people; rural, remote, and northern women and gender-diverse people*

## REBUILDING LIVES, RESTORING HOPE

Sage Haven Society | Port Alberni, BC

This shelter-based program trains women and gender-diverse people for administrative work that can be done remotely. Remote work can help survivors of gender-based violence avoid safety risks and other barriers to employment. The course includes a paid practicum, offering practical experience. Through a course tailored for diverse learning styles with mentorship, Indigenous and non-Indigenous survivors can attain employment, fostering essential financial independence.

*Focus communities: First Nations, Métis, and Inuit women and gender-diverse people; Rural, remote, and northern women and gender-diverse people*

## BEYOND PEER SUPPORT: RECONCEPTUALIZING A COMMUNITY EMPOWERMENT MODEL FOR IM/MIGRANT SEX WORKERS WHO EXPERIENCE VIOLENCE

SWAN Vancouver Society | Vancouver, BC

This project explores new services that meet the needs of survivors of violence who live and work in the extreme margins of society. Offering connection and safe leadership opportunities for immigrant and migrant sex workers, this project focuses on empowerment via survivor-led initiatives.

*Focus communities: Sex workers; immigrants, refugees, and migrants with precarious status*





## **SURVIVOR-FOCUSED SEXUAL AND REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH RESPONSE**

**Planned Parenthood Ottawa | Ottawa, ON**

When women and gender-diverse people seek information or services related to their sexual or reproductive health, they may face an increased risk of gender-based violence. Abusers may try to control or limit their choices. This project responds to an increased demand for services with counselling, drop-in, and group supports.

*Focus communities: Women and gender-diverse people*

## **GROUP COUNSELLING - GBV SUPPORT FOR WOMEN WITH DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES**

**Willowbridge Community Services | Brantford, ON**

Despite the alarming risk of gender-based violence faced by women and gender-diverse people with developmental disabilities, few dedicated services exist. Developed with and for survivors who have developmental disabilities, this project develops counselling groups to better meet the needs of this underserved community.

*Focus communities: Women and gender-diverse people with disabilities*



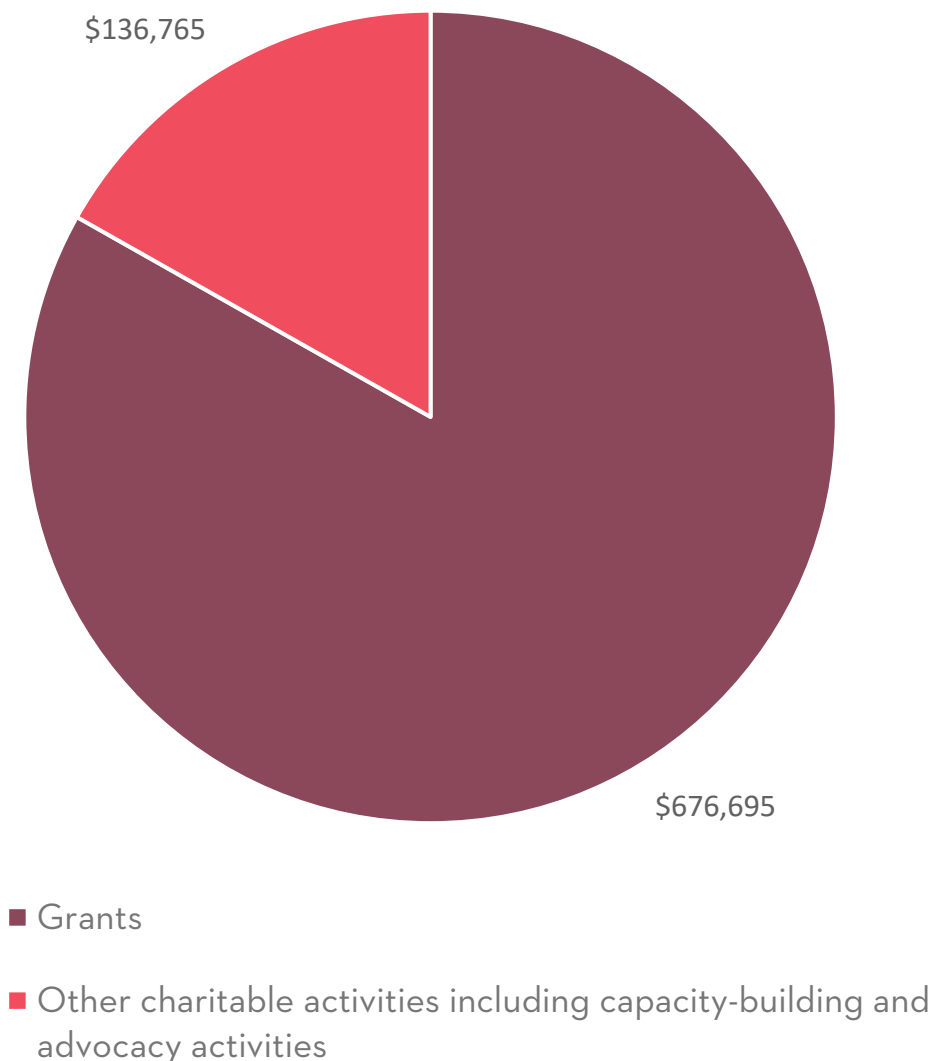
## THE BALLROOM EMPOWERMENT PROGRAM

### Maggie's Toronto Sex Workers Action Project | Toronto, ON

This peer-led project provides direct outreach and programming to survivors of gender-based violence with a focus on racialized, 2SLGBTQIA+ sex workers and their families. The program addresses increasing reports of violence, isolation, and systemic discrimination against communities, providing racialized, 2SLGBTQIA+ sex workers access to individual and group therapy, peer support and community-building spaces, referrals to housing and legal supports, as well as legal education and accompaniments.

*Focus communities: Sex workers; 2SLGBTQIA+people; Black and racialized women and gender-diverse people*

## Impact of Your Support





The Canadian Women's Foundation is Canada's public foundation for gender justice and equality. We advance this by growing support for grassroots feminist action, partnering with communities and organizations to improve conditions, and building diverse leadership and knowledge for sustainable change.

Since 1991, our generous donors and supporters have contributed more than \$250 million to fund over 3,200 life-transforming programs throughout Canada.



**TOGETHER,  
WE WILL  
ACHIEVE  
GENDER JUSTICE**