



24 Hour 2012 Census Fact Sheet

A One-Day Look at Transitional Housing &
Children Who Witness Abuse Programs in BC



BC Society of
Transition Houses

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On November 27th, 2012, 136 programs participated in BC Society of Transition Houses' 4th annual 24 Hour Census of Violence Against Women's services in BC. The Census provides an unduplicated count of how many women, youth and children were helped, and how many more were unable to get help, during just one day in Transition Housing and Children Who Witness Abuse (CWWA) programs in BC. The following are some of the highlights of one day in these programs.

IN JUST ONE DAY

1209 WOMEN, YOUTH AND CHILDREN WERE HELPED IN PERSON OR SAFELY SHELTERED

"In our program staff put their hearts, creativity, skills and knowledge to help women and children go through this stressful times in their lives. Often women say: "I do not want to leave, it is so warm and safe..." – Transition House program Advocate

"I would not be here (alive) without you guys." – Woman in Safe Home program

864 WOMEN, YOUTH AND CHILDREN WERE HELPED AND SAFELY SHELTERED BY TRANSITION HOUSE, SAFE HOME, SECOND AND THIRD STAGE PROGRAMS

"[The Second Stage program] supplies provisions of educational information about issues of domestic violence. The women go through waves of up and down emotions while finding out who they are and what they can accomplish, this makes for emotional environment at times. The women know that they have immediate support when going through these emotions." – Second Stage Program Advocate

"The staff are available to talk any time of day or night. They have a wealth of information about everything and know where I need to go and who to contact." – Woman in Transition House program

345 CHILDREN, YOUTH AND WOMEN, WERE HELPED IN CHILDREN WHO WITNESS ABUSE PROGRAMS

"Children that we see here in our program office are often suffering a great degree of insecurity and fear which can often filter into their social and educational experiences. The programs offers children and youth a safe place where they can process their experiences in the hopes to heal so that they may succeed in their daily lives by getting the help and support they need." – CWWA program Advocate

"I wish I could come to group forever, it is the best and I'm making friends and learning lots." – Child/youth in CWWA program

“A woman was grateful for the support for herself and her children. They were struggling with the recent separation between their parents and had a lot of anger towards mom who they felt was keeping them from seeing their dad. Together we helped them understand some of the safety concerns she had.” –CWWA program Advocate

1449 CALLS, EMAILS AND TEXTS WERE RESPONDED TO

Advocates in Transition Housing and Children Who Witness Abuse programs provided information and support through telephone calls, emails and texts, on average, once every minute!

“A woman called looking for space, we are full. We talked and brain stormed on where she could find space. We found her a shelter to attend and be safe at.” –Transition House program Advocate

772 PEOPLE WERE EDUCATED ABOUT VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AND THE IMPACTS ON WOMEN, CHILDREN AND COMMUNITIES

“We learn something new everyday.” – Transition House program Advocate

“[A] client felt looked down upon by others/society because of accessing shelters. The client further related that many folks don't really understand transition houses and that more education on a provincial level would help to break down the stereotypes and judgments.” – Transition House program Advocate

661 PEOPLE DID NOT GET THE HELP THE NEEDED

These people, mostly women, youth and children, were either turned away from, or remained on waiting lists for services. Advocates in Transition Housing and CWWA programs cited limited space, hours and resources to support women with complex needs.

“Children and families are our future, to have people be more self sufficient, and to be open to greater opportunities, these services need to be financially supported in better ways AND run as fulltime programs.” – CWWA program Advocate

THE NUMBER OF PEOPLE WAITING FOR HELP FROM CWWA PROGRAMS (426) WAS GREATER THAN THOSE HELPED (349) ON NOVEMBER 27TH, 2012.

“What some women and children have lived through is not only humbling but downright inhumane. It is important that we, in the work we do to support their healing journey, are not doing it alone - we need support and solutions from a societal level.” – CWWA program Advocate