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ABOUT LUKE'S PLACE

Over the past 14 years, Luke's Place has developed a unique approach to support women who have been subjected to abuse, and their children, as they navigate the complex family law process. We are the only standalone family law support centre in Canada that specializes in woman abuse and have received the Attorney General Victim Services Award of Distinction twice.

A core component of our work is provincial training both in person and online. We share our expertise with thousands of service providers, shelter staff, lawyers and other social service professionals through training programs, resource materials, tools and mentoring. We are a recognized leader for improving the understanding of violence against women and its implications in the family law context and have published significant research and writing on the topic.

SUPPORT FOR WOMEN

- individual consultations with Legal Support Workers/Family Court Support Workers
- summary advice from family law lawyers at our Legal Clinic
- group support sessions and legal information workshops
- safety planning and trauma recovery support
- accompaniment to legal and court appointments
- community education, specialized resources and online reference materials

SUPPORT FOR SERVICE PROVIDERS

- training for service providers to support women through the family law system
- training for lawyers on the issue of violence against women and family law
- access to virtual legal clinic for web-based video conferencing

AN EXECUTIVE MESSAGE

A woman in Canada is killed every 4 days by a family member, most often her partner or former partner.

Family court is not an easy or safe process for women leaving an abusive partner. Increasing numbers of women find themselves in family court with little or no legal representation and their situation becomes even more dire. They are expected to figure out what lawyers and judges spend years studying and practicing. For most, it's like trying to speak a new language with no chance to learn it first. They must do this while recovering from the trauma of abuse and, because the violence usually continues during the separation process, often in fear for their lives and the lives of their children.

Separation violence plays an enormous role in a woman's capacity to function effectively in family court. Significant evidence exists to demonstrate the risk of abuse and lethality heightens with separation as the woman defies the control of her abuser. This heightened risk has serious implications for women, particularly those who share children with their abusers. At the most dangerous juncture in their relationship, women enter the legal system to make decisions about their children. Current custody laws, emphasizing gender equity, private dispute resolution and the "best interests of the child" standard, not only fail to protect women but also provide men with a forum for ongoing abuse.

Luke's Place changes and saves lives. Women report they feel safer, better informed and better able to present their case effectively and/or work effectively with their lawyer. While the factors leading to a good outcome go far beyond those in the woman's control, we have seen better outcomes and, importantly, final outcomes in shorter amounts of time, for women who are supported by our services.

We thank all our supporters who helped rebuild the lives of 633 women and their children in Durham Region in 2016. Thousands more abuse survivors across Ontario benefited from improved access to justice thanks to our provincial service provider training initiative, family law service delivery model toolkit and virtual legal clinic. Please give generously so we can support more women and children, address the growing local demand for our services and share our work with every community in Ontario.

Jacqueline Long

Jacqueline Long, President

Carol Barkwell

Carol Barkwell, Executive Director



THANK YOU!

To our many supporters who help empower women by providing them with better access to justice:

- > **Major funders** Ministry of The Attorney General, The Law Foundation of Ontario, Legal Aid Ontario, Ontario Trillium Foundation, Canadian Women's Foundation
- > **Private foundations, Ajax Community Foundation and donors** individually and as part of local businesses, service clubs or organizations
- > **Board members** who govern our mandate and mission
- > **Staff** who provide individual support services for women
- > **Volunteers** who play a vital role administratively, with legal and emotional support and in community fund development
- > **Lawyers** who donate time and expertise to Legal Clinic and Legal Advisory Group
- > **Partners** and collaborators in Durham Region and across Ontario

"I would have been just finished that day had Luke's Place not been there to help"

- Luke's Place Client

FINANCES

Excerpts taken from audited Financial Statements prepared by Dawn Flett & Associates and approved March 30, 2017.

A complete financial statement is available upon request.

STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS for the year ended December 31, 2016

Revenue	<u>2016</u>	<u>2015</u>	Expenses	<u>2016</u>	<u>2015</u>
Donations & fundraising	\$ 44,993	\$ 46,596	Grant related expenses (note 4)	\$ 696,624	\$ 601,364
Education & training	51,304	61,509	Office & general	7,848	4,145
Grant funding (note 4)	696,624	601,364	Professional services	30,568	34,383
Other	<u>123</u>	<u>126</u>	Program & resource costs	2,345	12,938
	<u>793,044</u>	<u>709,595</u>	Wages & benefits	<u>57,514</u>	<u>28,526</u>
				<u>794,899</u>	<u>681,356</u>
NET REVENUE OVER EXPENSES (EXPENSES OVER REVENUE)				\$ <u>(1,855)</u>	\$ <u>28,239</u>

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS as at December 31, 2016

4. Deferred Revenue

Grant funding of \$642,281 was received during the year or is receivable from various external sources for specific projects. Revenue was recognized as expenses were incurred. Deferred revenue consists of the unexpended portion of these grants as follows:

	<u>Opening Balance</u>	<u>Grants Received</u>	<u>Expensed Currently</u>	<u>Closing Balance</u>
Legal Aid Ontario	\$ 62,779	\$ 198,200	\$ 204,898	\$ 56,081
Canadian Women's Foundation	19,171	-	19,171	-
Attorney General	456	218,181	218,637	-
Law Foundation of Ontario	15,708	45,000	60,708	-
Ontario Trillium Foundation	<u>68,895</u>	<u>180,900</u>	<u>193,210</u>	<u>56,585</u>
	\$ <u>167,009</u>	\$ <u>642,281</u>	\$ <u>696,624</u>	\$ <u>112,666</u>

These deferred revenues are represented on the balance sheet as follows:

Deferred revenue — operating grants	\$ <u>112,666</u>
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The following is a summary of grant-related expenditures:

	<u>2016</u>	<u>2015</u>
Insurance	\$ 5,246	\$ 4,740
Program & resource costs	53,674	25,851
Office & general	24,623	16,956
Occupancy costs	15,321	15,956
Professional services	227,577	182,713
Wages & benefits	<u>370,183</u>	<u>355,148</u>
	\$ <u>696,624</u>	\$ <u>601,364</u>

MICHELLE'S STORY*

What hurt me the most was the look of sheer terror on my daughter's little face when she saw him hit me for the first time. I'll never forget how real that made it and I knew we had to leave to keep her safe. Looking back, I guess I thought I deserved most of what he did to me, but I knew she didn't.

He kept calling, texting, showing up everywhere I went. He was really angry and I knew what happened when he was angry. He told me he would take my daughter and I would never see her again. I was afraid.

Luke's Place staff helped me understand my rights. I learned that I wasn't the only one. The workshops helped too. I learned a lot about what to expect at court and what I needed to do, and the other women and I shared our experiences with one another.

My worker did a safety plan with me and we updated it every time there was a change in my case. I felt safer. She was so kind even when I couldn't think straight.

The Luke's Place lawyer showed me how to tell my story to the court. She made me feel like it was something important, not something to be hidden.

It's been a really challenging time, but I got a court decision that helps keep my daughter and me safe. I'm starting to move on, thanks to Luke's Place.

**This is not her real name.*

OUR IMPACT

Since 2003 our **service delivery model** has provided more than 3,000 women in Durham Region with important supports and resources as they make their way through family court.

Our **provincial training and resource development work** has equipped thousands of workers in communities across Ontario to provide support to women who have been subjected to abuse and who are involved with family court.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Jacqueline Long	President
Lisa Allen	Treasurer
Catherine Evans	Secretary
Aparna Dixit	Director
Christine Koch	Director
Nafisa Nazarali	Director
Sheryl (Sherry) Weese	Director

HOW DO YOU PUT A VALUE ON	HERE'S HOW	ANNUAL COST
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> understanding her legal rights? having someone to trust, who believes her? 	<p>\$500 provides one woman and her children with legal support services</p>	<p>\$350,000*</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> someone who understands her fears and concerns? the sheer relief knowing her children are safer? 	<p>\$250 provides training, resources, education and mentorship for one provincial service provider</p>	<p>\$250,000*</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> freedom from an emotionally and psychologically devastating environment? a sense of empowerment? 	<p>\$250 registers one woman in our Family Law Networking Group</p>	<p>\$15,000*</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a brighter future? 	<p>\$150 registers one woman in our Family Law Information Workshops</p>	<p>\$25,000*</p>

*approximate costs based on current service levels

LUKE'S PLACE

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DONATE TODAY

To help women and children build brighter futures free from abuse.

Charitable Business Number 88761 1218 RR0001

