NEXT STEP MINISTRIES ANNUAL REPORT



Vision

Women exiting sexual exploitation and discovering their identity.

Board of Directors

Marvin Poetker Board Chair Sales Manager at Herman Millar Canada Inc

Donna Hastings Vice-Chair CEO at Heart & Stroke Foundation Alberta

George McGregor Treasurer Project Manager at Red Dot Restoration

Margie Schellenberg Secretary Independent Consultant at Thirty-One Gifts

<u>Ian Watson</u>
Board Member
Geoscience Supervisor at
Imperial Oil

Krystal Clements Board Member Fundraising Manager at Ride to Conquer Cancer

Phil Reimer Founder & Executive Director at Next Step Ministries

From the Executive Director

I am always amazed at how faithful God is and has been to Next Step Ministries. In 2017 we saw growth in generous givers, capacity and lives changed. We have truly been blessed to walk alongside women that are exiting sexual exploitation. The transformation and life change has been very encouraging to us as staff and our board.

A major highlight in 2017 was the opening of our second home, **Robin's Place**, on August 1st. This was a huge project for us as a team and organization. We are now able to house a total of 7 women at a time. These women will then have an opportunity to attend our day program to walk through the trauma and addictions from their past. Each woman that we walk alongside has unique layers to their individual stories, but what they all have in common is their desire to escape a life of sexual exploitation that stems from a place of trauma and darkness.

"The steadfast love of the LORD never ceases; his mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness." - Lamentations 3:22-23



"I feel so loved. The house is so beautiful."

- Robin's Place Participant -

Our Programs

Phil Reimer

Executive Director

It is our hope at NSM that each and every woman will experience God's love, our love and understand that they have choices.

The Outreach Program: The Outreach program meets women exiting sexual exploitation where they are at, helping them access resources and create an exit plan for those ready to move forward.

The Housing Program: The Housing Program provides second stage housing for women exiting sexual exploitation. The women are given their own room, a key so they have a safe place to call their own. We opened our first house over four years ago and August of 2017 we opened our second house. We can house up to 7 women in these houses.

The Day Program: While the women are in the Housing Program, they attend classes in the Day Program four days a week. In the Day Program they work on recovery and life skills, facilitated through a trauma informed lens.

The Follow Care Program: We offer a long term Follow Care Program, which helps the women get jobs, permanent housing and follow their educational goals. Participants are able to access staff support at any time.

Life Changed

It was the Canada Day long weekend of 2017 when we received a call from an agency in Eastern Canada. They had a young lady who had just escaped from a horrible situation and needed a safe place to stay. Seven years ago she had been kidnapped, drugged and trafficked in a city in eastern Canada.

When she arrived she was scared and very fragile. She stayed with us and attended our programs for 9 months. During that time, she was able to stabilize, heal, reconnect with family, gain confidence in herself. Last fall she enrolled in some classes at a local University and has just completed her first year. Today she has transitioned into another program where she can start her new life.

NSM Team

Phil Reimer
Executive Director

<u>Cliff Wiebe</u> Director of Operations

Becky Bradbury
Outreach & Intake
Coordinator

<u>Jackie Reimer</u>
Day Program Director

<u>Crystal Sayers</u> Day Program Key worker

<u>Cathie Morrison</u> Volunteer Coordinator

Heidi Duncan
Office Administrator

Kathy Yang Book Keeper

Quick Facts

- 25 women came through our Housing and Day Program
- We collaborated with over
 60 agencies across Canada
- Over 4000 volunteer hours were generously given

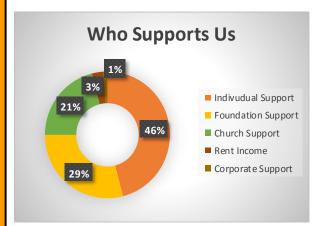
NEXT STEP MINISTRIES

#200 317-37 Ave, NE Calgary, AB T2E 6P6

403-520-8080 info@nextstepministries.ca www.nextstepministries.ca

Financial Information

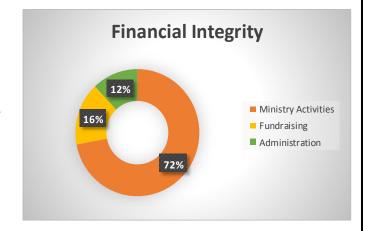
	2017	2016	2015
Revenue	\$454,266	\$316,073	\$210,630
Expenses	\$384,704	\$324,103	\$192,234



Next Step Ministries is a grass roots organization that has been blessed over the years with loyal supporters from a variety of sources. This year we saw growth in the areas of individual supporters, foundations and churches.

The plan for 2018 is to focus on raising our Corporate support while seeing a steady increase in the other areas.

Next Step Ministries is committed to handling our finances with the utmost integrity. Our team walks alongside women exiting sexual exploitation, and this year 72% of all funds went towards helping these women on their journey to break cycles of addiction and abuse.



Looking Forward to 2018

In the coming year, we will be developing the **Next Step Centre!** This Centre is a place where the women can come for help, build healthy relationships and belong to a supportive community. These are vital keys in the healing process.

Here is a story from our Outreach Coordinator about the difference the Centre is already making: "I met with a woman in my office this week, she comes from a life of extreme abuse, sex trafficked by those close to her, and told by her own mother that she never should have been born. This woman exited out of sexual exploitation a few years ago and is trying to create a new life for herself. She came to our Wednesday evening Community Night at the Next Step Centre and felt safe to share of her experience. We are now walking along side her as she breaks the cycles of addiction and abuse".

As well, stay tuned for another new initiative that Next Step Ministries is developing to prevent children from accessing pornography in the home called **Project Safe Home**. You can read more about it here: www.nextstepministries.ca/safehome

Thank You!

We can't properly express how much all of you mean to us! Next Step Ministries would not exist without our **Volunteers**, people who **Pray** for us and those who **Financially Support** us. We thank all the individuals, churches, foundations and businesses who give generously to this work. Lives are changed because of your generosity!