Annual Report

2025



A Way Home Kamloops

Message from the Board of Directors

The staff and leadership at A Way Home Kamloops have made a tremendous difference in the lives of many youth this past year as they continued to rise to significant challenges. Looking back, A Way Home Kamloops has remained true to its foundations and values and has expanded programs and services to meet increased need. Under the capable and caring leadership of Executive Director Tangie Genshorek, Katherine's Place continues to deliver trauma-informed supportive housing to 39 youth. The staff at Katherine's Place and those supporting Youth Housing First – Scattered Sites, Youth Hub Drop In, and Rent Supplements continue to navigate with youth through the significant challenges exacerbated by ongoing cost of living increases and housing unaffordability.

A Way Home Kamloops could not do this work without the support of the community who came together once again for Campout to End Youth Homelessness in December 2025. This is our main annual fundraiser, and planning is well underway for the 2026 epic 10-year anniversary of this event in December. With Tangie's support, the Board of Directors is excited to implement its new strategic plan and to ensure that A Way Home Kamloops continues to rise to meet the needs of youth experiencing or at risk of homelessness. We continue to envision a day when every youth in our community has a safe and affordable place to call home.

Thank-you to the Board of Directors, Tangie, the staff, and the community for coming together to end youth homelessness.



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Cover Art from the Katherine's Place Mural by Desert Dogs Mural Co.



Youth Mural in Progress at Katherine's Place

Message From The Executive Director

What an amazing year it has been! Getting Katherine's Place open and housing so many youth has been a dream come true for many people in our community and throughout BC. We couldn't have done this without all of our incredible staff, Board of Directors, community partners and supporters. Katherine's Place stands as a monument not just to Katherine's passion but to all of the people who believed in her vision.

As we move forward and learn more about how best to serve youth, we ask the community to continue to bring that amazing positive energy they have always felt for Katherine's work, not just to A Way Home Kamloops continued efforts but to everyone serving vulnerable populations in Kamloops and beyond. It takes a village and there is more work to be done. We look forward to doing this work with all of you!

Tangie Genshorek

Measured Impact 2025-2026

186 Individuals Housed

Katherine's Place – 66 youth total
Scattered Sites Housing Program– 55 youth total +8 Children
Supported Rent Supplement Program (SRSP) – 12 youth total
Canada BC Housing Benefit (CBCHB) – 45 youth total

This year we have been able to expand our abilities to provide safe appropriate housing to young people ages 16-26 through the addition of the 39 units at Katherine's Place, expansion of the Scattered Sites housing Program, and growth of the Rent Subsidy Programs we offer in partnership with BC Housing.

38 Successful Moves to Independence

Katherine's Place – 13 youth total
Scattered Sites – 21 youth total
Supported Rent Supplement Program (SRSP) – 4 youth total

One of our key indicators of success is when a young person can successfully move towards more independent housing. This year we saw 13 youth move on from Katherine's Place to more independent housing options and 21 young people from the Scattered Sites Housing Program.

12 new leases signed for the Scattered Sites Housing Program

We can not operate our Scattered Sites Housing Program without landlords in community that make it possible for us to provide units to youth. We are so grateful to these key community partners who helped us add 12 new units this year!

Strategic Plan 2026-2029

AWHK held a new Strategic Planning process in early 2026 to outline key steps for the next 3 years with input from the Board of Directors and staff. While the AWHK Vision remains the same as in years past, our Mission has grown to highlight our commitment to supporting the staff and continuing to work in partnership with the community. The work has already begun to meet key milestones under the 4 new strategic priorities outlined through the planning process.

Vision

All youth have a safe place to call home and the supports to sustain wellness.

Mission

AWHK is rooted in action to end youth homelessness by providing affordable housing, wrap around supports and advocacy initiatives that put youth first, powered by a dynamic team, and sustained through grounded community partnerships.

Priority 1: Programs

Programs are the heart of what AWHK does. This priority is about strengthening our core program offering, sharpening what is already in place and expanding the depth and reach of impact for the youth we serve. It speaks to both the quality of supports AWHK is known for and the organization's desire to make a meaningful, growing difference.

• Optimizing programs — reviewing, refining, and improving what AWHK currently delivers to ensure it remains effective, evidence-informed, and responsive to youth needs;
• Increasing impact — deepening and, where appropriate, extending AWHK's reach in a responsible, sustainable way.

Priority 2: People

AWHK's work is delivered by people, for people. This priority is about investing in the staff team: building capacity through retention, resilience, development, and recruitment, while ensuring that youth voice remains central to how the organization operates.

•Retention — keeping the talented, committed people AWHK already has;
•Resilience — supporting staff wellbeing and the team's ability to sustain demanding, complex work;
•Development — investing in skills, knowledge, and leadership growth;
•Recruitment — bringing in the right people to fill gaps and strengthen the team;
•Centering youth voice — ensuring that the youth AWHK serves shape the organization's direction and decisions.

Priority 3: Systems

Strong programs and a strong team need strong systems behind them. This priority is about building the underlying organizational infrastructure (financial, operational, and relational) that allows AWHK to operate sustainably, adapt to change, and grow responsibly.

•Building an adaptable approach — strengthening AWHK's ability to respond to changing conditions, including political, economic, and social shifts;
•Securing more funding — growing AWHK's revenue base to support its programs and ambitions;
•Reducing dependence on individual funding sources — diversifying funding to mitigate risk and increase resilience;
•Growing partnerships — deepening existing relationships and forming new ones with other organizations and the community at large;
•Pursuing responsible growth — expanding AWHK's capacity and reach in ways that are sustainable and aligned with its mission.

Priority 4: Advocacy

AWHK has earned credibility as a voice on youth homelessness in Kamloops. This priority is about using that voice intentionally, advocating for the systems change needed to address the root causes of youth homelessness, supported by compelling storytelling and reliable data.

•Using storytelling and data — communicating AWHK's work, the realities of youth homelessness, and the case for change in ways that move audiences and decision-makers;
•Advocating for systems change — working alongside partners and decision-makers to shape the policies, funding structures, and systems that affect youth experiencing or at risk of homelessness.

Thank You To All of Our Funders!



AWHK staff Farjad and Tre help spread awareness at our local Home Depot

The Home Depot Canada Foundation, and our local Home Depot store have been key supporters again this year through the Orange Door Project, and by making direct donations to our programs including a gorgeous Christmas tree and decorations for Katherine's Place. We are so grateful to all of the Home Depot team members for all they do for A Way Home Kamloops year round!



Tim Horton's owner Joe Quewezance presents 2025 cheque



St. Ann's Academy students present their cheque to AWHK



The Tim Horton's Smile Cookie Campaign is a great opportuntiy for AWHK staff and partners to come together to raise funds for programs and spread awareness about the mission to end youth homelessness. We could not be more grateful to Tim Horton's Canada and our local store owners for their incredible generosity and hard work!

Highlights From 2025-26



Great Food from Chef Harry at Katherine's Place



Staff Bowling party for Christmas 2025



Staff & Youth presentation at BCNPHA Housing Central Conference



KAFS youth drumming at Campout 2025



Staff & youth at the United Way Kick-Off breakfast 2025



TRU Students Nikita & Farjad present to City Council with AWHK Staff Nicole & Tre

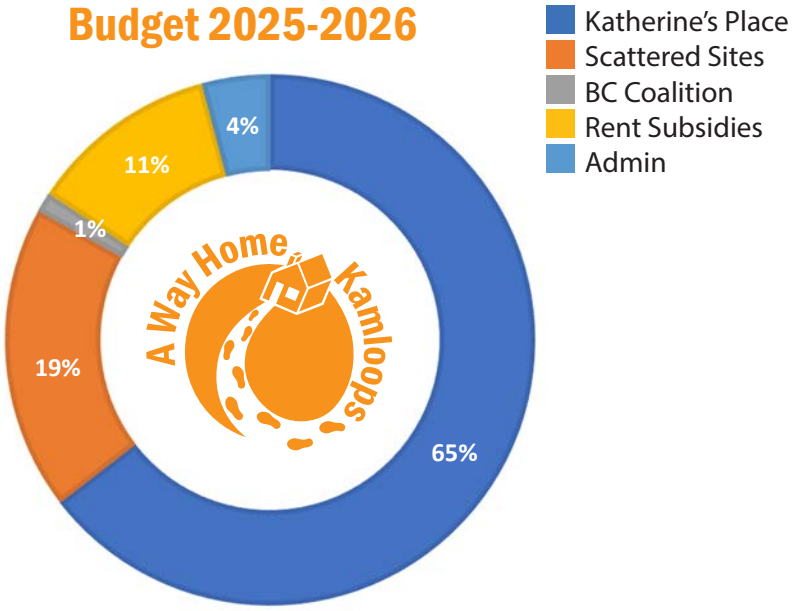


TRU BSW Students Bianca, Olivia & Kaija wrapping up their practicum

Financial Highlights

AWHK worked with MNP llp and Stone Hazell & Company throughout the year and at year end to create new systems, improve existing systems, and accommodate significant growth for the society. This year's annual budget more than doubled with the addition of Katherine's Place. The majority of the budget increase was dedicated to wages and benefits for staff with the number of staff doubling from the prior year. Program spending also increased particularly with the added commercial kitchen providing 3 meals a day to youth who live at Katherine's Place.

Budget 2025-2026



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