

A Way Home Kamloops

Annual Report

2024

Message from the Board of Directors

A Way Home Kamloops continues to rise to meet the needs of youth who are precariously housed or unhoused in the Kamloops community. It is an organization that I am proud to be part of. Looking back over the past year, we have remained true to our foundations and values and have expanded programs and services, assisting many youth in the community. Under the capable and caring leadership of Executive Director Tangie Genshorek, Katherine's Place opened its doors to provide 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 2024. This is our main annual fundraiser, and planning is well underway for the 2025 epic event this December.

With Tangie's support, the Board of Directors continues to implement our strategic plan as we work to ensure that A Way Home Kamloops continues to rise to meet the needs of youth and young adults 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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President



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Vice President



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Louise Richards
Director



Grayden Flannigan
Director



Janelle Mann
Director (Outgoing)



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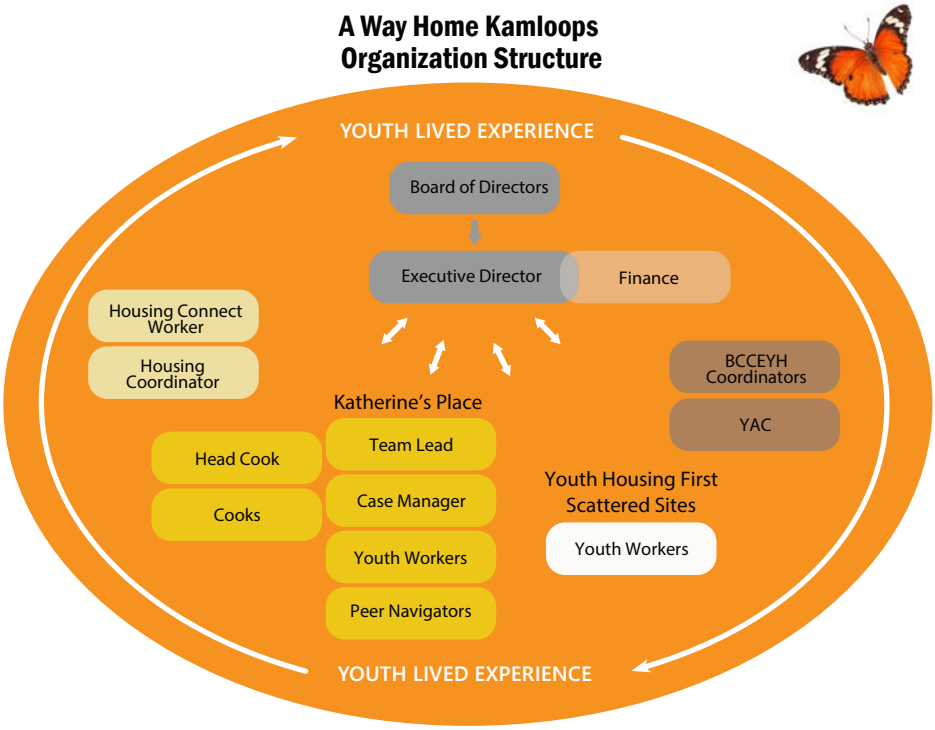
Director



Steven Welsh
Director (Outgoing)

A Year Of Growth...





From April 1st 2024 to April 1st 2025 57 individual youth were housed and supported with AWHK through the Safe Suites and Youth Housing First Scattered Sites Housing programs. Over the course of the year, AWHK staff also supported over 50 youth to be connected to BC Housing Rental Subsidies that helped make their rents in market housing affordable.

Over the course of the year 8 individual youth graduated from the Youth Housing First Scattered Sites Housing program to successfully take over their leases and our partner landlords supported us by giving AWHK 6 new leases for the program. These graduations are our ultimate goal and nothing makes us happier than to see youth transition to independence. We are also very pleased to continue to be supports to them whenever they need a helping hand!

A large part of our efforts for the year were dedicated to the preparation of Katherine's Place where 39 additional units became available in partnership with BC Housing in April 2025. Through 2024 we were program planning, hiring, training and visiting the construction site often to make sure all of the details of the housing were as imagined. Many youth were already planning their moves into Katherine's Place in 2024 and the actual grand opening could not come soon enough! We held the public Grand Opening at the end of Feb 2025 and started moving in March 2025.

6 New Units Added
57 Youth Housed
52 Rent Subsidies Issued
8 Youth Moved to Independence



Thank you Newgold! The new HVAC system installed in partnership with IPH has made life much better at the Willow House!



The St'at'imc Bear Dancers helped make the Grand Opening of Katherine's Place a truly unforgettable event.

BC HOUSING

Lynda MacKenzie organized the creation of almost 100 quilts for AWHK Youth!



Missagh Manshadi, BC Housing, Plainsman Construction and many trades & consultants built Katherine's Place



Dean Shaffi dropped off some of the many donations of crock pots given to youth by Rotarians and other caring Kamloopsians





RBC staff Nick Hawkins and Kristin Simkins attended our Open House at Katherine's Place. We are so grateful to the RBC Foundation for once again supporting AWHK with a $40,000 grant towards the work of the BC Coalition to End Youth Homelessness.



The Brockelhurst Lions Club worked with our local Canadian Tire Store to supply dishes for every youth who lives at Katherine's PLace.



Home Depot was a key supporter again this year through the Orange Door Project, and by donating Fire Extinguishers and a Freezer for Katherine's Place.



Campout 2024 was very unique, we had planned to hold it at Katherine's Place but the building wasn't quite ready so we held it just down the block in the parking lot of our office. It was a very special night with a tour of the new building and much learning and sharing about the experiences of the youth we work with. We are grateful to Gayle Frank who joined us that night and invited the St'at'imc Bear Dancers to come as well.

Thank You Funders!

BC HOUSING

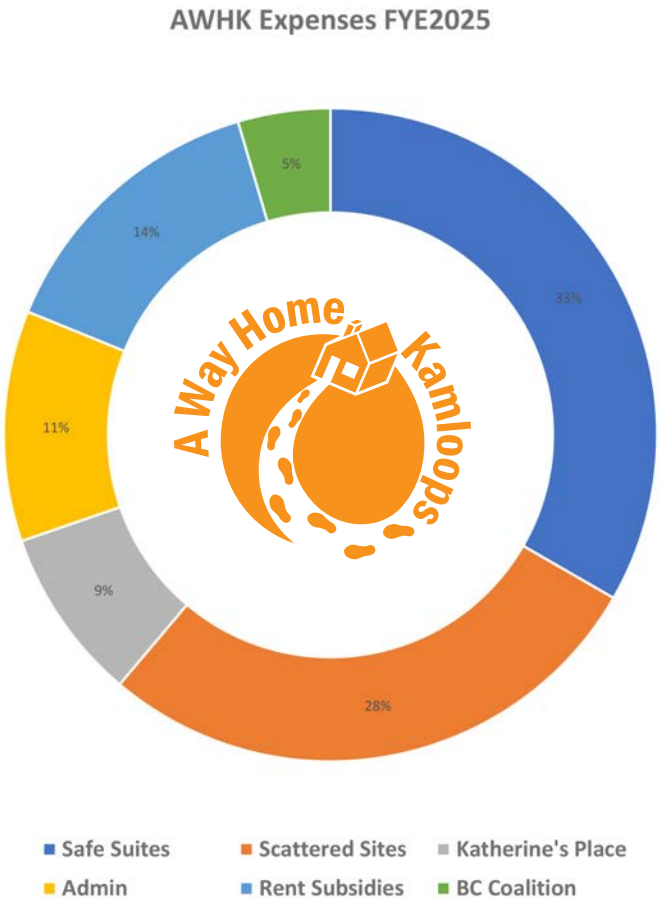
Canada

RBC

THE HOME DEPOT CANADA FOUNDATION | The Orange Door Project

Financial Highlights

AWHK has been working with MNP llp and Stone Hazell & Company throughout the year to prepare our financial systems for significant growth. We began hiring and spending for Katherine's Place in this fiscal year and wrapped up the Safe Suites program on March 31st 2025. For this year, our Safe Suites and Youth Housing First Scattered Sites Housing Programs continue to make up the majority of our budget.



Special Thanks To Our

Funders & Donors

Government of Canada
BC Housing
Royal Bank Foundation
United Way BC
Social Planning & Research Council of BC
Brockelhurst Lions Club
TD Bank
Home Depot Canada Foundation
Osprey Tree Foundation
Dr. Ann Worth Charitable Foundation
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BC Coaltion to End Youth Homelessness
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Homelessness Services Association of BC
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Sabar Investments
5 Bean Coffee
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Thompson Rivers University
Work BC
Missagh Manshadi
RMG Enterprises

...and all of the Wrapforce Members



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