



**SAFE HAVEN**  
FOUNDATION

# 2020 Annual Report



Charitable Registration #894907682RR0001

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[www.safehavenfoundation.ca](http://www.safehavenfoundation.ca)

## Message from The Founders

Dear Friends:

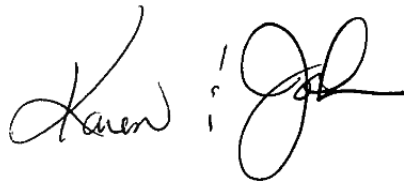
Amidst spending most of 2020 meeting the challenges of COVID-19 pandemic and societal turmoil in our world, Safe Haven Foundation remained steadfast in delivering on our mission to keep our girls safe, and in supporting our staff from both an operational/program delivery and personal self-care standpoint. Safe Haven modified existing programs, adapted admirably to working remotely, and have implemented measures to help prevent the spread of the virus. Our Team is diligent in communications and leaning on each other for support, seizing learning and growth opportunities and it is overwhelmingly apparent that each member recognizes their roles and responsibilities and the power of working as a united front. This remains one of Safe Haven's greatest strengths.

Indeed, these have been remarkable times. In March, we were facing financial hardship and didn't know how we were going to replace our 43% revenue shortfall that was predicted due to event cancellations. Since then, we have witnessed the meaning of perseverance and commitment as the team developed and formed a Plan B. We sharpened our pencils, cut costs wherever possible without taking away any of the girls' needs.

And we turned to our community who lifted us up in the most inspiring ways. We have witnessed the meaning of perseverance and commitment as the team developed a Plan B. To our Board, Staff, Volunteers, and local businesses who dug deep to find creative ways to continue to walk this journey with the girls, we are forever grateful. And to our Donors, who are very much the heartbeat of our organization, you stepped forward in unimaginable ways to provide the essential monetary support with generous grants and donations and we are eternally grateful. Our unwavering stakeholder support speaks volumes of the great impact they have made by investing in our youth and changing the very fabric of our society. Our most heartfelt thank you.

The beauty of the work at Haven's Way is that we have seen what resilience looks like - in the face of our girl's day after day! Our team has had the honor of reaching out our hand to them in their desperate times of need. In return, they have taught us what hope looks like and that we find that hope in one another! This has a trickle-down effect to our organization as a whole. As Safe Haven Foundation is poised to embark on growth and expansion, we choose to look forward with optimism instead of fear and with excitement about the opportunities that lie ahead.

With gratitude,



Karen & John Sherbut, Co-Founders



## Mission

The Safe Haven Foundation of Canada's mission is to **Help Give Calgary's Homeless and At-Risk Girls Their Future Back** by providing the necessary programming and supports that will empower them to self-sufficiency.

Safe Haven Foundation has a Cultural Competency and Diversity Plan and is committed to equality, diversity, and inclusion in supporting the girls and their families. The organization respects cultural practices and ensures cultural safety, enabling a practice of providing equitable, individually focused services. The organization demonstrates awareness, respect, and attention to the diversity of the people with whom it interacts (persons served, personnel, families/caregivers, and other stakeholders) that is reflected in attitudes, organizational structures, policies, and services. Cultural activities are incorporated into service plans and activities as wanted by those served. Staff must demonstrate respect for unique culture and heritage. It is part of intake at Haven's Way to ask if there are cultural customs, beliefs, behaviors, or traditions that it would be helpful to know about. The plan establishes identifies where barriers may exist and how they may be addressed.

## Programming

Safe Haven Foundation has a Cultural Competency and Diversity Plan and is committed to equality, diversity, and inclusion in supporting the girls and their families. The organization respects cultural practices and ensures cultural safety, enabling a practice of providing equitable, individually focused services. The organization demonstrates awareness, respect, and attention to the diversity of the people with whom it interacts and that is reflected in attitudes, organizational structures, policies, and services. Cultural activities are incorporated into service plans and activities as needed by those served. Staff demonstrate respect for unique culture and heritage. As part of intake at Haven's Way, youth are asked if they have specific interest in cultural customs, beliefs, behaviors, or traditions. This plan identifies where barriers may exist and how they may be addressed.



**Havens Way®** is a voluntary, long-term supportive housing program that assists young women who are at risk of homelessness or currently homeless. These are girls aged 14 to 24 who do not have child welfare status, and who have a focus and commitment to completing their education. They have experienced considerable housing instability, alongside additional risks such as: mental health, physical and sexual abuse, neglect, addictions, trauma, family conflict, violence, and sexual exploitation. Haven's Way provides long term homes and comprehensive supports for six young women, 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. Typically, the program serves nine unique individuals per year and girls will live in the homes for one to four years, with the average length being 2.5 years. It should be noted that Haven's Way is not about the number of youth served in a given year, but rather the lives changed as each young woman develops their natural supports in the community and ends their path of homelessness forever.



### Educational Scholarship Program

The Scholarship Program offers the girls the ability to pursue post-secondary education at accredited educational institutions including Universities, Colleges and Technical Schools. The girls are required to submit a detailed application demonstrating their research into a specific institution and program. They also must commit to achieving a minimum grade point average, which is mutually determined in order to encourage them to aim high and to set them up for success at the same time. In 2020, the Safe Haven Foundation awarded a total of \$10,739.79 in Scholarships to youth living at Haven’s Way and Alumni of Haven’s Way.



### Therapeutic Recreation Program

Many of the girls that come into the homes have never had the opportunity to take music lessons, art classes, or to participate in sports. The girls are asked to submit a proposal for their chosen activity, including research on the costs and commitments involved. Girls must be in good standing in both school and at home and are accountable to attend all lessons, demonstrating research and commitment. Through these opportunities, the girls are increasing their self-worth, learning new skills and building self-esteem, and creating relationships that further engage them in the community. In 2020, \$819.85 was awarded towards Therapeutic Recreation Programs.



### Alumni Program

With our youth voice in mind, the Haven’s Way Alumni Program was developed to provide ongoing support and foster development that doesn’t end just because they have moved out. Today, the Haven’s Way Alumni program actively supports approximately 25 youth, living in various places in Calgary and elsewhere, who continue to reach out for those important supports. This program also gives us the unique opportunity to learn and listen from youth who have graduated from the program through focus groups each quarter.

## State of the Non-Profit Sector in Alberta

Safe Haven Foundation face many challenges due to the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020. While there have been successes and significant milestones, there is also real concern around the uncertainty from loss of fundraising revenue and where new funds will come from in our still very unstable economy.

In a recent communication piece from the Calgary Chamber of Voluntary Organizations (CCVO), Karen Ball, Interim President and CEO, writes, “It is time for the nonprofit sector to lead a vital conversation. A conversation that considers the resiliency of our sector and the value that we offer as leaders on the front lines of this pandemic and leaders in our collective recovery. This is a conversation that needs to be had

within the nonprofit sector and, most critically, with the private and public sectors to co-create a strategy that will ensure the future prosperity of our communities and our province.

CCVO lays the foundation for this conversation for Alberta through an analysis of the impact of COVID-19 on the nonprofit sector drawn from data collected in our Alberta Nonprofit Survey (ANS), data from surveys by the Alberta Nonprofit Network, Imagine Canada, and partner organizations across the country.”

Their key findings are outlined in their July 2020 report, *From Emergency to Opportunity*, addressing the numerous, detrimental impacts of COVID on the non-profit sector and the pertinent resources and tools focused on emergency planning and preparation for non-profits to ensure business continuity.

Impact of COVID-19 on non-profits:

- 85% reduced revenue from fundraising
- 78% reduced revenue from earned income
- 75% increased cost to support program adaptations and remote work
- 73% increased demand for services
- 51% reduced staff hours due to budgetary constraints
- 39% temporary or permanent closure of organization

This report identifies four areas where non-profits are expected to feel the most impact of the pandemic:

1. increased service demand without timely recognition and support;
2. decreased revenue;
3. diminished organizational capacity; and
4. transitioning technology and the impact of remote work.

The area that most directly impacted Safe Haven Foundation in 2020 is decreased revenue. Many organizations that responded to the 2020 ANS identified that their greatest need for support related to funding. Even before the pandemic, the nonprofit sector faced challenges regarding funding models which have made them vulnerable to the current financial and economic downturn.

All of Safe Haven Foundation’s planned fundraising events were cancelled in 2020 due to the pandemic resulting in a substantial loss of revenue.

Our organization does not receive United Way or fee-for-service government funding. Finding new funding opportunities has been a challenge based on an uncertain economy and many corporations and granting organizations shifting their focus to funding front-line and essential services during the pandemic. In some cases, our programs have not been deemed as essential despite the reality that without them six young women would not have a safe home.

Our fiscally responsible budget approach means we are mandated by the Board to ensure we always maintain a full year operating budget. Should that not be met, the Board would explore the possibility of closing our programs. We sought new partnerships and innovative ways to fundraise due to the uncertainty of in-person fundraising events, included adapting the fundraising model to include virtual events. Ongoing restrictions and effects of COVID-19 meant that we had to adapt to an ever-changing reality while keeping the safety, mental and physical health of the girls and staff as the number one priority. Our greatest need is



for core operating support however this is often difficult to obtain due to many funders wanting to fund new initiatives or projects. Yet the reality is that without funding for core operating costs, the organization would not have the infrastructure to deliver on the mission.

## Vision 2021-22

Safe Haven Foundation operates with formalized goals and key strategies in mind. Our previous Strategic Plan carried us from years 2017-2020. In November of 2020 an updated Strategic Plan (aptly named Vision 2021-22) was developed and then unanimously approved by the Board of Directors in December 2020, which will serve as the cornerstone of all work being done as we remain steadfast in our mission to Help Give Calgary's Homeless and At-Risk Girls Their Future Back.

The Key Objectives in Vision 2021-22 are:

1. *Continue to promote Safe Haven Foundation's image and presence in the community*
2. *Enhance and enrich our spirit of reciprocity and social development in the community*
3. *Build and expand on connections with organizations and new community and corporate partners*
4. *Develop and build on our culture of support and engagement to continue to ensure staff and volunteer retention and job satisfaction*
5. *Strengthen the economic sustainability of Safe Haven Foundation*

## Key Outcomes in 2020:



**Education:** Remaining in school and pursuing educational goals is realistic once you have safe and supportive housing.

**100% of the girls living at Haven's Way furthered their education.**



**Employment and Supports:** Employability skills such as resume building and workplace communication are a must to becoming economically self sufficient.

**60% of girls were employed or engaged in employment support programs.**



**Mental and Emotional Health:** Every youth that enters Haven's Way struggles with their mental health and emotional well being. We hold their hand as they connect with us, and the resources needed to heal.

**80% of youth engaged in activities that supported mental health & well-being.**



**Family and Natural Supports:** It is vital that youth find and strengthen networks of support outside of Haven's Way. 100% of youth felt that we helped them and their families in 2020.

**All girls could name 2 or more natural supports outside our program.**



**Community Involvement:** Giving back to the greater community is helping show the girls that they too can have an impact on the world around them.

**100% of the girls living at Haven's Way felt supported by the program to participate in positive community activities.**



When a young person experiences trauma, guilt and shame quickly follow. It is our work to ensure youth feel seen and supported. By doing so, we help them to begin rebuilding self worth and trust.

**100% of the girls living at Haven's Way felt cared for!**



We want every girl that comes through our doors to feel the exhilaration of personal growth. We set the bar high but attainable, knowing that for these girls the sky is the limit.

**97% of the girls felt challenged in a caring way while living at Haven's Way.**

## Impact of the COVID-19 Pandemic

A haven is defined as somewhere that you can gain shelter from a storm. For 20 years, this is what Safe Haven Foundation has been offering young women who are exiting homelessness. Never before in the history of our small and mighty program has there been a time when we felt the need for this haven any stronger than in the storm that is COVID-19. When the evidence became clear that this pandemic had arrived in our city, we knew that our organization's existing pandemic plan would point us in the right direction in these uncharted times. This storm has tested the youth we support, but also our Program Team and our Foundation as a whole. We have and will continue to support the girls in the unique way this time calls for. That often looks like many extra knocks on a bedroom door to encourage them to come out into the sun for a walk, conference calls with teachers about how to offer extra support, patience when small tasks like chores and cooking become more difficult and always the listening ear to hold space for these young women. They voice worry about what this pandemic means for them, their communities and the country. As these girls were previously homeless, they come to us with high levels of anxiety and a suitcase full of traumas. It is our great work to help them unpack and heal from their past so they can clearly see the path forward. During these uncertain times that path which was finally coming into focus all of a sudden has become blurry once again. This causes extreme anxiety and emotional triggers for them. At Haven's Way we teach these beautiful girls

to reach up over the fear of uncertainty and live in the moments that we are given right now. We see them choosing to find joy in the simple things like car rides with the music blasting and a breeze on their face, warm coffee, writing encouraging words on posters to the community, funny memes, movies and cooking together. We have young women rising up year after year despite the many storms they have weathered. Their resilience has shown us that they can sail through high winds and we are in this together.

## Testimonials

Perhaps the overall success of the program and investments made is best summarized in the words of some of the young women we have served.

*“The skills I learned at Haven’s Way are what help me put one foot in front of the other when things start get hard. The friendships and connection that I made while living there are my supports for life. I keep trying! I have confidence knowing that I have what it takes to live the life I dream of.”*



*“I cannot stress how much this scholarship has changed my life as a young lady. It has helped me mature so much more than I could have imagined. It has fed my ambition to further pursue my dreams (which there are many) but I plan to upgrade, attend Mount Royal University and then go to Edmonton for U of a’s Human Ecology program.”*

*“Thanks to Haven’s Way for supporting my daughter and helping her find her way. As a parent it’s always hard to try and do the right thing and we all make mistakes on our journey through life. Since she joined Haven’s Way there has been a tremendous change in her personality. It has strengthened our relationship through the teachings and support from Haven’s Way. The Support Coaches have been instrumental through all this. My daughter now understands better the cost of living and contributing to society. Thank you for your patience and support. Best thing that happened to her.”*

## Haven’s Way Renovation Project

To say our Haven’s Way homes have been well-loved would be an understatement. Since the homes opened 20 years ago, more than 85 youth have lived under our roof. They have left behind their pain and their past. Our homes were tired and had begun to show the effects of being a safe place for so many amazing young women who did the hard work and have since headed off into their bright future.





Thanks to grants received from the Alberta Government CFE Program and the Home Depot Canada Foundation, our renovation dream became a reality! A plan was put in motion with Pinnacle Renovations for a major upgrade of Haven's Way to take place in April. Everyone was excited and inspired to begin creating a much-needed new space for the girls....then COVID-19 came to town and derailed those plans. Thankfully, Paul Klassen and his team at Pinnacle Renovations remained committed to the project and rallied the troops as soon as it was safe to do so.

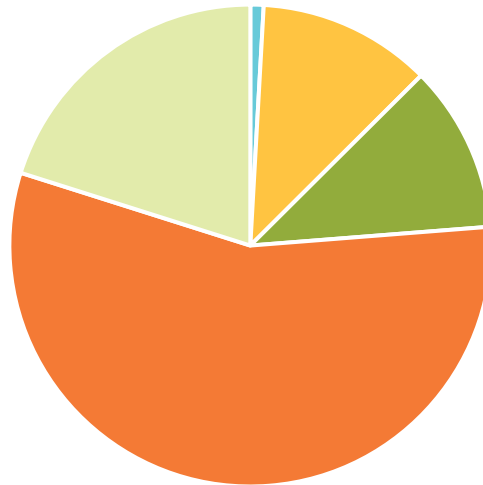
The girls and staff worked hard to pack up the homes and prepare for the reno to begin. They were relocated for a week in August and the miracles began to take place! Over 13 trades and volunteers participated, working together and around the clock to pull off an extreme home makeover style renovation at Haven's Way. Their tireless work paid off and the space is beautiful. The rejuvenation that has just been given to our space has seeped into our team's hearts. Watching the community of trades and volunteers rally to ensure the girls and staff have a safe and cool environment has inspired us all. The important work that is done inside the walls of Haven's Way is needed and impactful and now we have even more beautiful walls to get this work done! We are so grateful.



*Photo Credit: Christy Turner Photography*

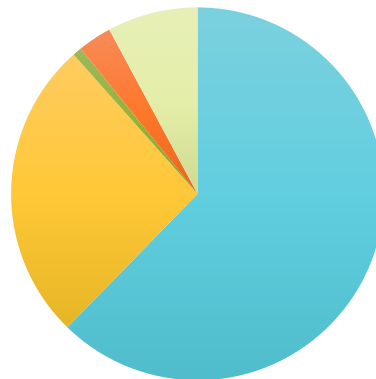
## Financials

### SHF - Revenue 2020



- Fundraising & Events
- Corporate Donations
- Individual Donations
- Grants
- Other (Endowment/Interest etc.)

### SHF - Expenses 2020



- Programming
- Marketing and Management
- Volunteer/Board of Directors
- Administration
- Fundraising & Events

## Financial Statements – 2020 Financial Statements

Safe Haven Foundation's history of fiscal responsibility means we have never had to do emergency funding. Our proactive strategies mean we have never put the youth we serve at risk of loss of services. By resolution passed by the Board of Directors, Safe Haven Foundation is mandated to ensure a full year of operating is maintained at all times (\$534,000).

The Statement of Financial Position of Safe Haven Foundation of Canada as of December 31, 2020 and the Statement of Operations and Changes in Fund Balances attached hereto has been completed by our CPA. Based on the current economic strife caused by COVID-19, the Board has approved to not audit 2020, thus saving approximately \$7000 to \$8000 in expenses.

### 2021 Financial Position

Safe Haven Foundation entered 2021 with cash of approximately \$750,000. As Safe Haven Foundation is mandated through a unanimous resolution by the Board of Directors to ensure that a full year of operating is maintained (\$534,000), leaving an opening operating balance of approximately \$216,000. The cash will be converted to capital for the purchase of the new facility for Haven's Harbour.

	Operating Fund	Capital Fund	Total 2020	Total 2019
<b>ASSETS</b>				
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>				
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 788,447	-	\$ 788,447	\$ 804,578
Accounts Receivable	\$ -	-	\$ -	\$ 6,764
Prepaid Expenses	\$ 769	-	\$ 769	\$ -
GST Receivable	\$ 4,843	-	\$ 4,843	\$ 3,816
	<u>\$ 794,059</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>\$ 794,059</u>	<u>\$ 815,158</u>
<b>LONG TERM INVESTMENTS</b>	\$ -	\$ 1,000,000	\$ 1,000,000	\$ 1,000,000
<b>CAPITAL ASSETS</b>	\$ -	\$ 430,413	\$ 430,413	\$ 297,823
	<u>\$ 794,059</u>	<u>\$ 1,430,413</u>	<u>\$ 2,224,472</u>	<u>\$ 2,112,981</u>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>				
<b>CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>				
Accounts Payable	\$ 25,329	-	\$ 25,329	\$ 9,519
Source Deductions Payable	\$ 9,001	-	\$ 9,001	\$ 17,326
Deferred Income	\$ 7,075	-	\$ 7,075	-
	<u>\$ 26,845</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>\$ 26,845</u>	<u>\$ 24,078</u>
<b>NET ASSETS</b>				
Invested in Capital Assets	-	\$ 430,413	\$ 430,413	\$ 297,823

Unrestricted	\$ 752,654	\$ 1,000,000	\$ 1,752,654	\$ 1,788,313
	\$ 794,059	\$ 1,430,413	\$ 2,183,067	\$ 2,086,136
	\$ 794,059	\$ 1,430,413	\$ 2,224,472	\$ 2,112,981

## Note on Endowment Fund Revenues

Safe Haven Foundation embarked on an Endowment Fund Campaign from 2008 to 2010 in order to raise funds that would assist in the long-term sustainability of our programs. In accordance with our commitment to our donors, revenue go directly into the general operating of Safe Haven Foundation, ensuring manpower and systems are at peak efficiencies so that we can continue to deliver our programs to the youth who so desperately need our support.

Two separate Endowment Funds are held at the Calgary Foundation.

1. Directed Fund of approximately \$1,372,574 that provides approximately \$90,000 per year in revenue, and;
2. Managed Fund of approximately \$1,145,000 which provides approximately \$30,000 per year in revenue.

Do we have access to these funds?

The Directed Fund are monies donated to the Calgary Foundation on our behalf and the income from this fund is paid to us annually. The Managed Fund is Safe Haven Foundation money held in accordance with our donors wishes. Legally we have access to it; morally we do not.

## Leadership

### Management Team

Karen Sherbut	President (Volunteer) & Co-Founder
Carolyn Holloway	Community Engagement Officer
Larissa Goldhart	Team Coordinator
Heidi Walter	Program Development Officer
Krista Mergel	Program Manager

### Board of Directors

Karen Sherbut	President, Chair & Co-Founder
Paul Kelly	Vice-President
A.B. Sandy Cameron	Secretary

John Sherbut	Treasurer & Co-Founder
C. Mike Barrett	Director
Cam MacCorquodale	Director
Keli Pollock	Director
Michael Sherbut	Director
Keli Pollock	Director
Lyndon Ward	Director

## We Need Your Help

You can directly change the lives of Calgary's homeless and at-risk girls!

Safe Haven Foundation does not receive government fee-for-service or United Way funding and exists solely due to the generosity of granting organizations, corporations, and individuals in our community.

**Donate** or become a **Volunteer Ambassador** now and see your valuable contribution create a better and brighter future, and help us change the world one girl at a time ~ [www.safehavenfoundation.ca](http://www.safehavenfoundation.ca)



## Thank You to All of Our Donors

Our Partners and Supporters play an integral role in ensuring the success, growth and longevity of the Safe Haven Foundation. Their ongoing financial and in-kind support drastically reduces our overhead and operating expenses.

## Fundraising Events

All of Safe Haven Foundation's planned fundraising events were cancelled in 2020 due to the pandemic resulting in a substantial loss of revenue. However, through a combination of evolving to virtual events and the support of local businesses choosing us as their charity partner, we were able to recoup some of those lost funds. We greatly appreciate each and every one of these initiatives not only for the monetary value, but also for raising awareness of the Safe Haven Foundation and the often unquantifiable but greatly valued domino effect of opening doors to potential new donors, community partners and volunteers.

### 2020 Events and Initiatives:

- EWI Calgary - Golf & Games
- L'Oreal Canada Women of Worth
- Lola Lash Bar Holiday Campaign
- Murrieta's Barrel of Hope Promotion
- Noble Vines Charity Program
- Shaw Charity Classic Birdies for Kids presented by AltaLink
- Raising the Roof Campaign
- Tom Wilson Concert – Sponsored by AGCTC
- Una Pizza & Wine Community Love c
- Wine Windfall Raffle (hosted by the Kinette Club of Calgary)

### 2020 Donors:

<b>\$25,000 and Above</b>	<b>\$24,999 - \$5,000</b>	<b>\$4,999 - \$1,000</b>	<b>In-Kind Partners</b>
Harold and Betty Allsopp Fund	C.B. Powell Foundation	Allan and Christine Klassen	Britgary Properties
Jack Carter Family Fund	Cadillac Fairview	Anonymous Fund	Mtek Digital
James and Patricia Burns Flow Through Fund	Calgary Children's Foundation	CLAC	Pinnacle Group
The Prosser Charitable Foundation	Calgary Flames Foundation	Coast Capital Savings	Pollock Creative
Karen and John Sherbut	Canadian Western Bank	Connect First CU	Shaw Communications
	Hillberg & Berk Accessories Inc.	Dan & Rose Mellersh	
	L'Oreal Canada	Ember Fund	
	Leonard & Faigel Shapiro	Enerplus Corporation	
	Long View Systems	Eric Furlan	
	Nickle Family Foundation	EXP Services Inc.	
	PCL Construction Management	Fraternal Order of Eagles	
	Ken and Francis Rickbeil	Gary & Patricia Jordan	

	Shaw Birdies for Kids presented by Altalink	Goals & Assists Fund	
	Soroptomist International	Indira Caro	
	The Hotchkiss Family Foundation	Krista Dickey	
	The Hunter Family Foundation	Linda Skauge	
	The Still Family (through the Schwab Charitable Global Gift Fund at CAF America)	Mackenzie & Jeff Schultz	
		Marlene Rohr	
		Mary Kay Cosmetics	
		Parex Resources Inc.	
		Rogers Communications Canada	
		Taurus Property Group	
		Terry & Maureen Royer Family Foundation	
		The Jeffrey & Marilyn McCaig Family Foundation	

\*Please note that the above list does not include Donors who have requested anonymity