



Rose of
Sharon

SERVICES FOR YOUNG MOTHERS

ANNUAL REPORT
2019/20



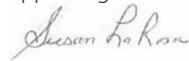
Board Chair and Executive Director REPORT

It is indeed a privilege to speak on behalf of the dedicated volunteer members of the Board of Directors as we continue to work together to ensure Rose of Sharon remains a vibrant, and growing agency. This year we welcomed Gurneet Bhela to our Board from "Girls on Board" initiative. She brings a much-appreciated youth perspective to our discussion. Much time has been devoted to revitalizing our Strategic Plan involving all stakeholders including young mothers collaborating on key priorities for the next several years.

We thank Anna Pavan for her successful tenure as Executive Director and welcome Deanne Kukulewich in the midst of the pandemic.

The Board has the annual task of raising approximately \$1.5 million so that we can provide free, vital support for young mothers living in York Region. We are so grateful to our generous donors and a big thank you to the many local businesses, schools, churches, community partners and service groups who take the initiative to fundraise on our behalf. We are confident that with the support of our strong foundation, talented staff and giving donors, Rose of Sharon will remain stable and committed to providing relevant support to our young mothers and their families in our ever-changing world.

In closing, if your means allow it, please consider joining us in supporting the next generation with a donation to the Rose of Sharon.



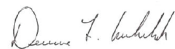
Susan LaRosa
BOARD CHAIR



Reflecting on the year and acknowledging that we are still working with uncertainties related to the pandemic, it is important to report on our highlights and accomplishments as an organization in our 35th year and as we move slowly forward into 2021. I would like to thank the former Executive Director Anna Pavan, for holding steady to the organization and handing me a gift of an agency filled with love and devotion for one another and the community they serve.

I would like to convey the incredible ways our agency has been navigating through COVID-19. The response by the team was full-in, everyone quickly adjusted and at times reinvented our delivery of programs and services to continue meeting the needs of our young mothers during this crisis. Ours is a remarkable story of resiliency and has showcased Rose of Sharon at our very best.

I want to recognize the young women we assist, their families, our outstanding staff for their creativity, kindness, patience and support. The ongoing support of our donors, funders and partners, and our active and caring board of directors. The unwavering dedication of everyone involved with Rose of Sharon has given us all never-ending amounts of hope and gratitude. On behalf of myself and the leadership team, thank you.



Deanne Kukulewich
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



Deanne Kukulewich,
Executive Director

About Us

For over 35 years, Rose of Sharon Services for Young Mothers has provided free supportive programs and educational services in York Region to prenatal and parenting youth mothers (14-29 years) while they build greater stability in the lives of their children.

Our free programs empower 300 young mothers each year to continue with their high school education at our on-site/virtual classroom; embrace their strengths by participating in programs that build parenting skills and increase child development knowledge; receive personal counselling; and have access to our onsite food pantry and donated clothing/household items that lend a helping hand to young mothers who are raising healthy children. Offered online and on-site in a welcoming, safe and inclusive space - youth parents set goals and work toward building the future they envision for themselves and their children.

Our Mission

Empowering young mothers to embrace their strengths and support the future they envision for themselves and their children.

Our Values

Courage

We honour courage by embodying acceptance, empathy and respect for every individual.

Belonging

We foster connections to create meaningful relationships and a culture of belonging for young mothers.

Inclusivity

We embrace diversity by creating open and welcoming spaces and programs.

Responsiveness

We develop innovative practices to meet the evolving needs of our families.

Board of Directors

Susan LaRosa CHAIR

Lisa Purdy VICE CHAIR

Thomas Reid TREASURER

Andree Vincent SECRETARY

Lynn Conforti

Jonathan Earle

Kirsten Eastwood

Bob Interbartolo

Joe Gorman

Vincent Picone

Amber Smith

Land Acknowledgment

We would like to acknowledge the Indigenous people who lived here before us and live here still, who cared for this land and were forced to share it with us under the Williams Treaty of 1923.

The Wendat, the Anishinabek Nation, the Haudenosaunee Confederacy and recognize the Chippewas of Georgina Island First Nation as our neighbours to the North.

It is important that we not only acknowledge the land, but also continue to reflect and be both allies and accomplices in increasing an awareness of Indigenous presence and land rights in everyday life.

Our Impact and Participant Outcomes

In the 2019–20 fiscal year, Rose of Sharon served

335 MOMS

and

220 CHILDREN



16
scholarships awarded



198
mothers participated in prenatal, parenting and personal development group programs



122
mothers participated in our food security and practical supports programs

In our 2019 annual participant survey, young moms who received support from Rose of Sharon self-reported the following improvements in their lives:



96%
improved family stability



95%
improved parenting capacity



97%
improved decision-making skills for themselves and their children



92%
improved interpersonal relationships



92%
improved sense of self-worth



93%
increased hope for the future



Left: Hailey with her partner and their first child at Rose of Sharon's Mother's Day Celebration (2018)
Centre: Hailey's children | Right: Hailey and her children (2020)



IN THE WORDS OF A ROSE OF SHARON PARTICIPANT

Hailey's Story

"...they truly have guided me to grow into not only a stronger and healthier mother but helped me find my sense of self again too!"

Rose of Sharon is an incredible support for young moms.

I had my first baby when I was 21 and my second at 23 and they were with me every step of the way. It was a heartwarming space that made my home away from home extra special.

The staff have created such a passionate space, full of encouragement, acceptance and trust. They provided my family with an abundance of workshops and programs with endless learning opportunities – they truly have guided me to grow into not only a stronger and healthier mother but helped me find my sense of self again too.

What gave me even more motivation to attend all the fantastic programs, was how

much my children loved the space as well. I never worried about my children while attending programs because I knew they were always in the kindest and fun-loving hands! It made such a difference when learning new things to better our lives.

Thank you to all the staff at Rose of Sharon for providing me with all the knowledge and skills I acquired throughout my time there, helping me to be the best mom I can be. I feel confident and successful in my parenting and I could not have come this far without you!

You have all played such a BIG part in our lives and we will be forever grateful for our experience.

WHY I VOLUNTEER AT ROSE OF SHARON

Madi's Story

"Volunteering at the Rose has also been an incredibly inspiring and humbling experience."

I began volunteering at Rose of Sharon in 2017 after graduating university. Although I was employed at that time, I felt that I was missing something. That lack of fulfillment prompted me to actively seek for ways to positively contribute and engage in my community. The Rose of Sharon immediately came to mind.

I had heard of Rose of Sharon in high school. I was familiar with programs and services they provided, so I filled out the Volunteer application and waited to hear back. Shortly thereafter, I did!

I began volunteering by covering the Reception desk during evening programs. This involved assisting clients with their littles on arrival and departure, arranging transportation, and various other administrative duties. Steadily, my hours at the reception desk increased and my relationship with staff, clients, and their littles became stronger.

My time at Rose of Sharon has reinforced to me the importance of access to relevant programming and support for young moms. The programs and services at the Rose foster a sense of community and belonging. These are crucial for the young women that can often feel disconnected and isolated from their peers. Rose of Sharon is a place where young mothers can gather to share their stories of struggle and success, offer advice, and support one another.



Volunteering at Rose has also been an incredibly inspiring and humbling experience. These are services that any number of women in my life would have benefitted from. The clients are women from every walk of life. They are gracious, kind, and thankful for the time and energy that staff and volunteers are dedicating to them. They and their littles make sure that you know how appreciated you are.

While I feel fortunate to witness the impact that Rose of Sharon and its staff and services have on their clients, I am equally as grateful to witness to the resilience and strength of the clients in the face of adversity. The clients of Rose of Sharon display poise, courage, and wisdom, well beyond their years.

The Rose of Sharon building had always been generally unassuming to me. I had no idea that I would find a community of powerful women encouraging and supporting each other behind its mirrored doors. I am immensely grateful to have the opportunity to be a part of this organization.

76 volunteers contributed 1530 hours of their time, valued at approximately \$41,310 Volunteer Donated Services*





WHY WE GIVE TO ROSE OF SHARON CPG Aerospace's Story

"CPG's philanthropic strategy is to partner with local organizations with a proven track record of success serving the people in the community, with particular focus on children in need."

CPG Aerospace is a manufacturer of aircraft detail parts and small assemblies, specializing in non-metallic materials. Owned by brothers Matthew and Michael Waddington, CPG is located in Newmarket Ontario, the town where they grew up. As an organization committed to creating a legacy of good corporate citizenship and community involvement, CPG's philanthropic strategy is to partner with local organizations with a proven track record of success serving the people in the community, with particular focus on children in need.

This makes the Rose of Sharon an ideal organization for CPG to work with. The organization's focus on enhancing the lives of young women and their families is an invaluable resource in Newmarket and the surrounding area. The Waddington

brothers are particularly touched by the fact that the clients at Rose of Sharon are often still youth themselves, now relying on the organization to help them learn the skills needed to take care of their babies.

Matthew and Michael have been working with the Rose of Sharon for several years, and can remember the organization having a positive impact on the community, even back when they were growing up.

"Rose of Sharon has been helping young women in need for almost 40 years. The number of lives they have touched is incredible. It's our hope that we remain in a position to be able to continue to help the Rose of Sharon provide support and educational services to young women in the community for many years to come."

- Matthew Waddington

Celebrating Donor Support

As a registered charity, Rose of Sharon relies on the financial contributions of individuals, businesses, service groups, community partners, foundations and grant funders to finance 100% of the free programs and services that we offer.

We couldn't offer this support without you.
Thank you to our generous donors:



**In-kind donated family care items and program supplies
valued at over \$165,757.00**

Farewell to Anna Pavan...



Your years of hard work, dedication and laughter has been inspiring



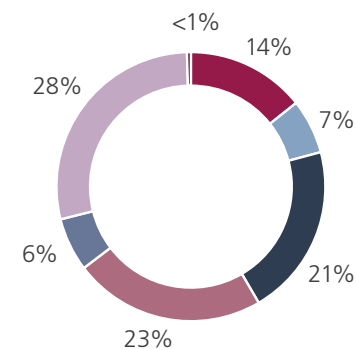
Financial REPORT

April 1, 2019 to
March 31, 2020

Revenues

Federal Government	\$182,999
Provincial Government	\$83,866
Municipal Government	\$264,797
Catholic Charities	\$295,021
Foundations	\$82,236
Donations/Fundraising	\$363,563
Other Revenue	\$5,993

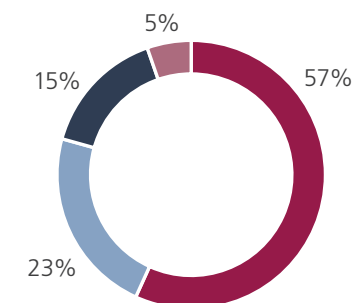
\$1,278,475



Expenses

Program Costs	\$739,585
Payroll and Related Costs	\$293,415
General and Administrative Costs	\$200,191
Building and Occupancy Costs	\$69,265

\$1,302,456



Charitable Registration No. 13323 5903 RR0001



Rose of Sharon

SERVICES FOR YOUNG MOTHERS

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INSTAGRAM

@RoseofSharonYoungMothers



FACEBOOK

Rose of Sharon Services
for Young Mothers



TWITTER

@RoseOfSharon_YR



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13323 5903 RR0001