



anova

# ANSWERING THE CALL

2021–2022 ANNUAL REPORT

# LEADING THROUGH TRANSITION

message from our board chair

This year's Annual Report is a unique one for me, as I am not only reflecting on the last year at Anova, but also marking the end of my time on the Board of Directors for Anova.



I've been on the board for six challenging and fulfilling years, which means I was present for the birth of Anova. That has allowed me to see the evolution of this organization over the past six years as I watched two teams merge and create something important for our community. The road has not always been smooth, but the journey has been worthwhile, as we focused on creating a space for survivors and community to connect and get the support they need and deserve.

This last year also saw us close the chapter on the second year of our strategic plan as a unified organization. We made great strides in our focus on advocacy and on spotlighting the needs of our community when it comes to gender-based violence.

2021-2022 was also the second straight year of delivering services through a worldwide pandemic. While we learned so much from 2020, we continued to experience new and challenging facets of delivering services through COVID-19.

As I conclude my time on the Board, I have two main reflections: first, that this work can never be done in a vacuum, and at its heart requires itself to be collaborative, not only between colleagues, but with service users and community; and second, no task or challenge is too big to be addressed if you stand firm in who you are and what you believe in. We have always held Anova's values closely as we made decisions for the organization, its survivors and our community. It has guided us to do the right thing, even when it is not the easy thing.

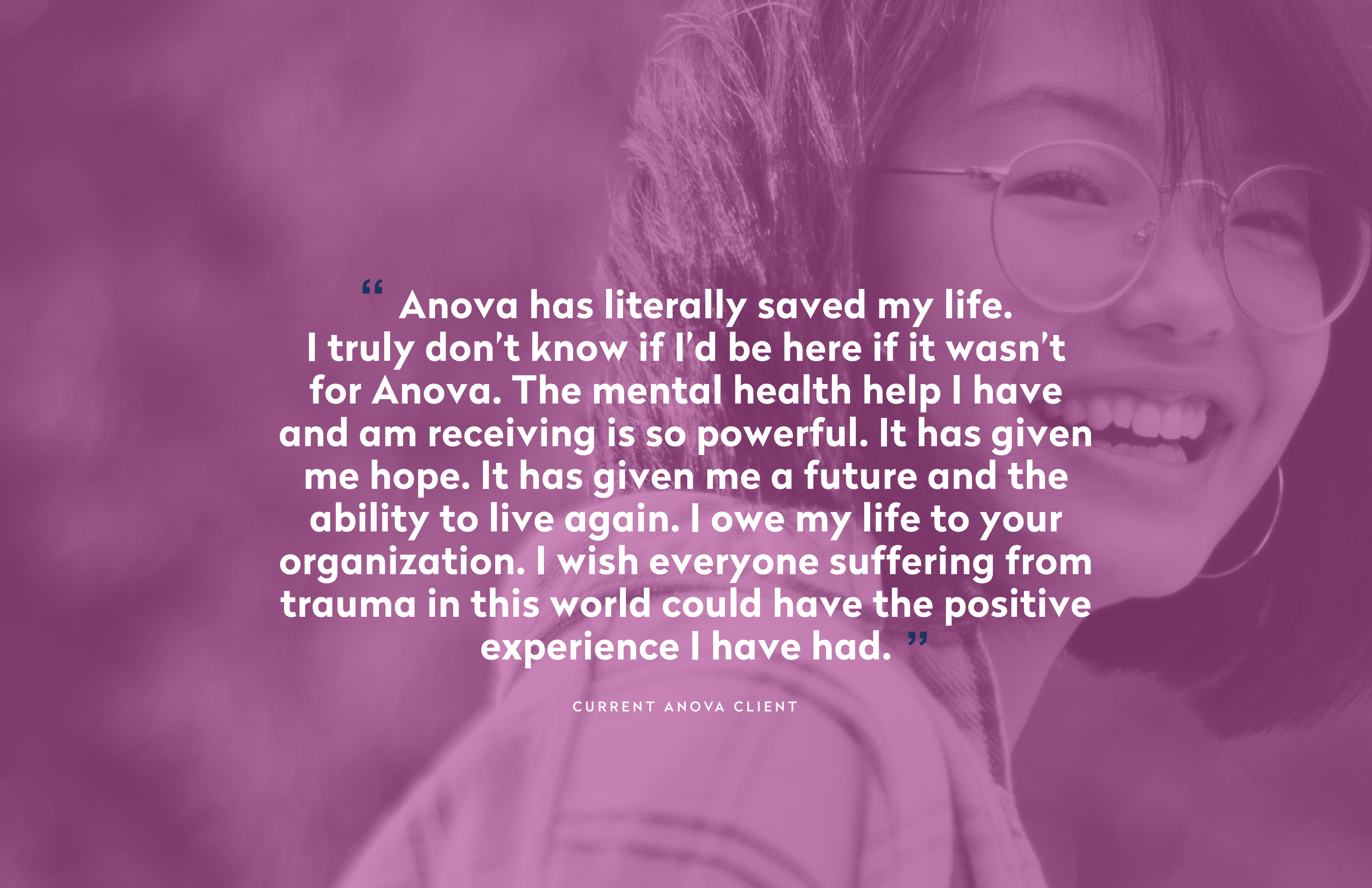
You have an incredible incoming leader in Iris Merino, and I wish her nothing but the best as she so capably takes on the role as Chair.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Kerry McGladdery Dent". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Kerry McGladdery Dent | Chair



A close-up photograph of a young woman with dark hair and round glasses, smiling warmly. The image is overlaid with a semi-transparent purple filter. The text is positioned on the left side of the image, over the purple overlay.

**“ Anova has literally saved my life. I truly don't know if I'd be here if it wasn't for Anova. The mental health help I have and am receiving is so powerful. It has given me hope. It has given me a future and the ability to live again. I owe my life to your organization. I wish everyone suffering from trauma in this world could have the positive experience I have had. ”**

CURRENT ANOVA CLIENT



# FINDING THE RIGHT DOOR

our programs • shelter



While our second full year managing the COVID-19 pandemic and its impact on survivors accessing shelter spaces was challenging, high quality support and care was provided at our universally accessible, high security spaces. More survivors were served thanks to the reopening of rooms at our Clarke Road shelter. This meant greatly reducing the number of offsite spaces being used. It is worth highlighting that the shift back to Anova-specific sites was no small task requiring an incredible amount of work by all of our teams in a number of ways. We are pleased to be able to offer survivors the trusted support our intentionally-designed spaces provide.

In addition to supporting survivors with shelter, Anova also works to help women and their dependents move from shelter into homes. This year, counsellors worked tirelessly to find hundreds of homes for survivors despite an increasingly tight rental market in London and area. This will continue to be a challenge as the vacancy rate continues to decrease and rents continue to increase.

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## A PEEK AT THE DETAILS

- 351 women and dependents (and 41 pets!) resided in shelter and safe spaces
  - 25 women and 35 children housed in second-stage housing
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# CHALLENGING SYSTEMS OF OPPRESSION

Making change to systems and structures that reinforce patriarchal patterns that result in gender-based violence and inequality is what our advocacy work is all about.

This past year, it included a wide variety of extensive activities across all of our sites and programs, including connecting with the housing, justice, education and health systems. This work also included serving on the Advisory Committee on Gender-Based and Sexual Violence at Western University, which was created after multiple reports of sexual violence during Orientation Week 2021, with a focus on systemic change.

Change is also steered by our elected officials, and our board advocacy committee worked with candidates during the 2021 Federal election and prepared for the 2022 Provincial election to ensure that gender-based violence was on the agenda. We also worked to ensure that newly elected officials understood the reality and severity of the issue in London-Middlesex. This effort helps underscore the importance of continued stable funding to support survivors and the impact violence has in our community.

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## A PEEK AT THE DETAILS

- Meetings with all newly elected/re-elected MPs for London
- First candidate survey for provincial MPP candidates released, asking questions about gender-based violence, equity and inclusion

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**“ I now believe I have experienced childhood trauma, and deal with PTSD – I would never have said that prior to therapy counselling. Huge. Deal. You are doing a really good job. I am thankful for you.”**

SEXUAL ASSAULT COUNSELLING CLIENT



# FINDING SAFETY AMIDST TRANSITION

our programs • support

Support programs and services are offered to survivors in the spirit of Anova's mission to create communities of safe spaces, compassion, healing, renewal, hope and resilience. With a trauma-informed approach, counselling and groups continued to serve survivors on their journeys to heal from sexual violence. For the past year that important work has been delivered by the counselling team through both virtual and in-person sessions. In-person sessions were offered as the Horton Street site was able to re-open to in-person service. The reopening was done very intentionally to ensure the space was more comfortable and trauma-informed.

**Community programs also continued to provide essential resources to survivors through:**

- The immediate support of our crisis and support line;
- Community Group program to support children ages 5-12 who have been exposed to violence in their healing journey;
- Family Court support program to help survivors navigate the court process; and,
- Community outreach program to help survivors connect to resources and navigate legal, financial, housing and health systems.

Together, these programs wraparound survivors and help them at each step of their journey.

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## A PEEK AT THE DETAILS

- 463 individuals supported through the outreach program (12% increase over the previous year)
- 326 transition plans created
- 472 safety plans created
- 8,533 crisis and support calls answered

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**“I can't thank Anova enough for everything they have done for me. It's been a real life altering experience. There is finally positivity in my life. I have had many supports over my lifetime and not one compares to Anova. If only I had known about it sooner....”**

CURRENT ANOVA CLIENT



# ADDRESSING CONSENT IN THE COMMUNITY

The past year saw our education team address one of the most pressing and concerning developments in our community.

In September 2021 when reports of sexual violence were coming from Western University in the wake of their Orientation Week, Anova answered the call for help and support. Our Education, Prevention and Research team embarked on work that saw us lead development of new curriculum for first year students at Western on campus. Almost 5,000 students received this training that Anova supported and developed. With 10,000 incoming first year students poised to receive this same training in 2022-2023, we are committed to helping our post-secondary partners become safer and more accessible for everyone.

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## A PEEK AT THE DETAILS

- 5,886 participants in prevention education workshops/trainings
- 1,897 plays of the Peace by Piece podcast

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“ I found this work to be very meaningful because I was witness to moments of connection between students from different backgrounds over the secrecy in their communities surrounding topics such as sex and sexual violence. And, we were able to provide space for students to disclose their own experiences of violence and to provide them with resources on- and off-campus to support their healing.”

WORKSHOP FACILITATOR - UNDRRESSING CONSENT:  
A PLEASURABLE APPROACH TO LEARNING ABOUT  
CONSENT, DESIRE, AND SEXUAL VIOLENCE



# THANK YOU SUPPORTERS

our donors & volunteers

## THANK YOU VOLUNTEERS

During the pandemic, we experienced life without the critical support of volunteers and it further reinforced the impact each volunteer makes. The passion and reliability offered by each volunteer that helps us collectively achieve our goals was a clear gap, but what was missed the most was the fresh energy and kindness each volunteer brings to their spaces. Not only do they mobilize our community, but they also inspire staff across the organization.

Thank you to each volunteer for the impact you've made, and for your passionate and quick return to support our staff and the survivors in our community!

## A PEEK AT THE DETAILS

- **Volunteer Hours Contributed: 4,390 (That's equivalent to 2.4 full time positions!)**
- **New Volunteers Trained: 40**
- **Volunteers Engaged: Over 130**

## INVESTING IN CHANGE

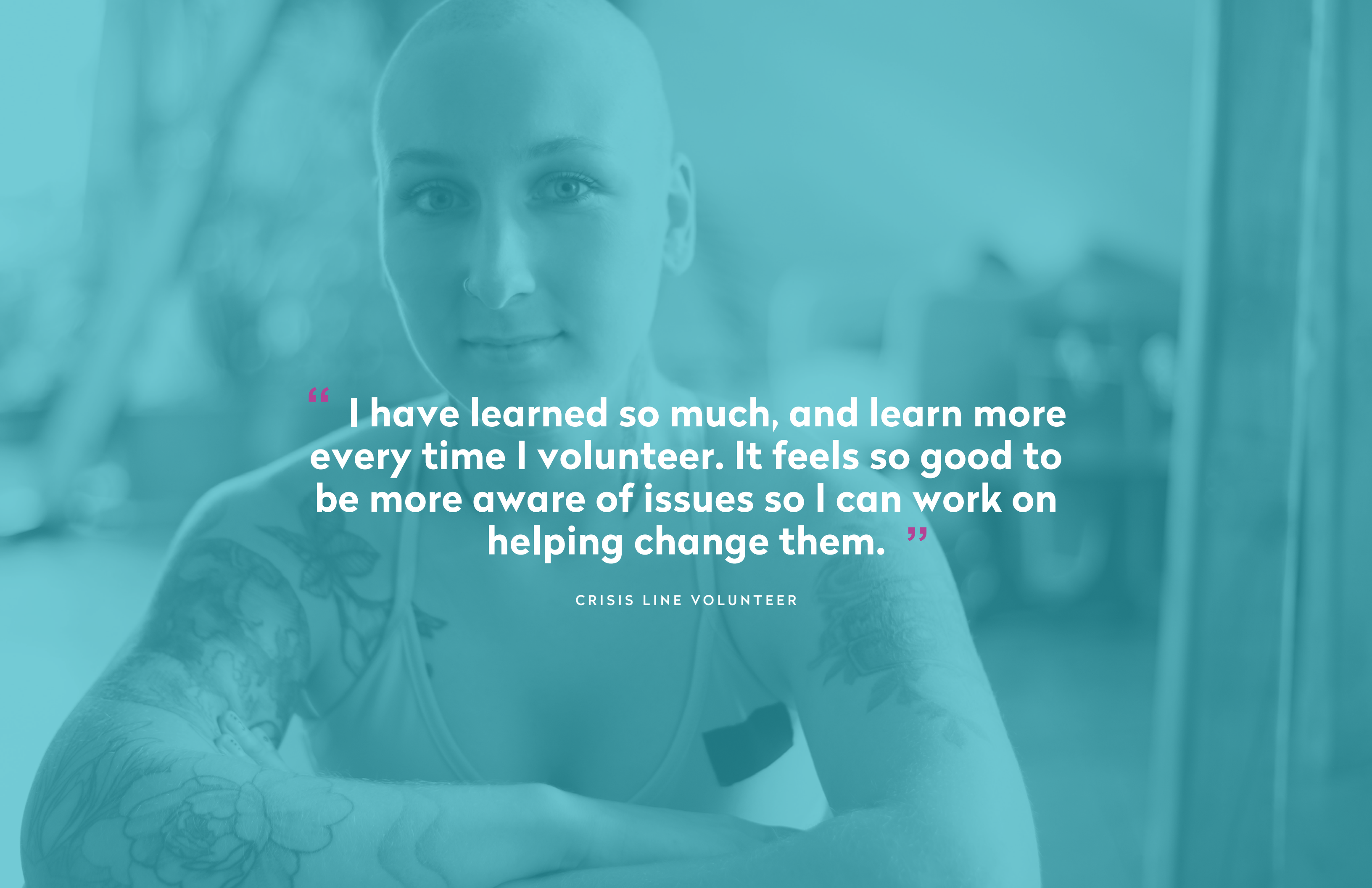
Generous donors help stop the cycle of violence by investing in change through shelter, advocacy, support and education. Thank you to the donors whose financial support ensures that Anova can respond to both the immediate and future needs of people impacted by gender-based violence.

Whether providing shelter to women and children fleeing a violent home situation, supporting survivors of sexual assault or ensuring young people receive training and education about how they can stop the cycle of violence, you are making our work possible.

In addition to financial gifts, we are grateful for community partners and individuals who donate much needed items such as food and clothing, special treats for seasonal celebrations, and furnishings for our residential spaces.

Your generosity ensures that we never say no, we never give up and we never turn anyone away. Thank you for supporting our work to help individuals make change, amplify voices that are silenced, and ultimately, stop the cycle of violence.





**“ I have learned so much, and learn more every time I volunteer. It feels so good to be more aware of issues so I can work on helping change them. ”**

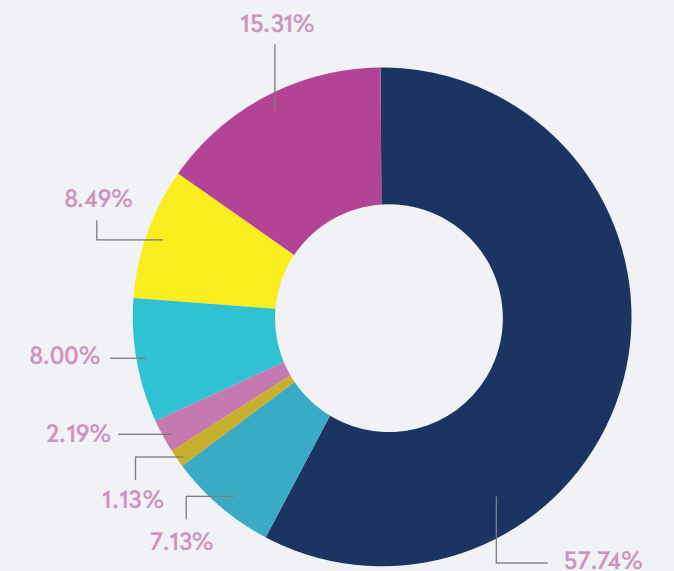
CRISIS LINE VOLUNTEER

# INVESTING IN A FUTURE WITHOUT VIOLENCE

## REVENUE

● Ministry of Community & Social Services.....	\$ 3,882,397
● Fundraising.....	\$ 1,029,430
● City of London.....	\$ 570,805
● Ministry of the Attorney General.....	\$ 537,703
● Mine 101.....	\$ 147,494
● SSH Rent.....	\$ 76,196
● Other (incl Tsfs).....	\$ 479,718

**Total Revenue \$6,723,743**

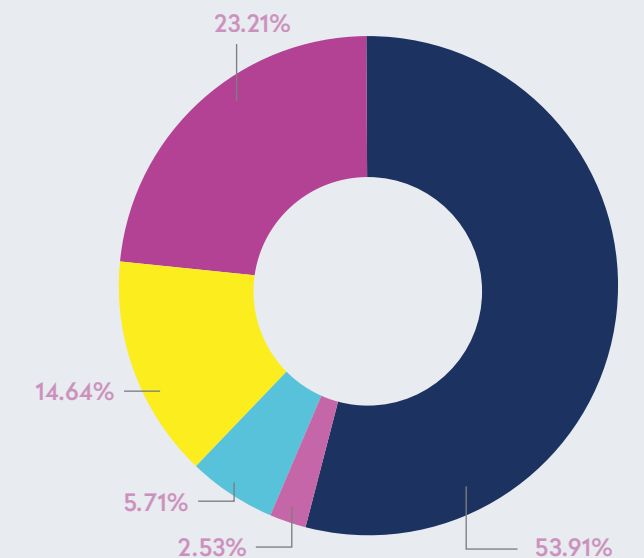


## EXPENSES

● Wellington & Clarke Road Shelters.....	\$ 3,314,676
● Community Programs/ Horton Services.....	\$ 1,427,138
● Admin Expenses.....	\$ 899,894
● SSH Expenses.....	\$ 351,324
● Mine 101 Expenses.....	\$ 155,495

**Total Expenses \$6,148,528**

**Total Revenue Over Expenditures \$575,215**



Note: This report is available within a reasonable time frame, in accessible formats for all abilities (large print, audio form, etc.) and may be ordered by contacting wJessie Rodger at 519.642.3003 or [jessier@anovafuture.org](mailto:jessier@anovafuture.org)



# LEADERSHIP IN ACTION

our board

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

### Kerry McGladdery Dent • Chair

Lawyer • Polishuk Camman & Steele

### Iris Merino • Co-Vice-Chair

Senior Manager, Retail Strategy & Solutions • TD Canada Trust

### Anju Fujioka • Co-Vice-Chair

Personal Injury and Sexual Abuse Lawyer • Beckett Personal Injury Lawyers

### Erin Howard • Treasurer / Secretary

Accountant • Renaissance Entrepreneurial Solutions • E & N CPA Professional Corporation

### Alexandra McCoy

Human Rights / Employment Equity Representative / Women's Advocate • GM Cami Assembly Plant

### Ashley Cochrane

Case Management & Peer Support Program Lead • Fanshawe College

### Brandi McIlvenny

Director, Residential Rentals • Sifton Properties Limited

### Dina Haddish

Resource & Fund Development Coordinator • Central Community Health Centre

### Dustin Delegarde

Finance Manager • Southwest Ontario Aboriginal Health Access Centre

### Janet Izumi

Community Representative (Retired)

### Katrina Fortner

Communications & Marketing Coordinator • Western Libraries

### Lynne Craven

Head of Public Relations • UROSPOT

### Najibullah Naeemzadah

PhD Candidate/Research Assistant • Western University

### Nicole Harding \*

Academic Counsellor • Western University

### Jessie Rodger • Officer

Executive Director

\* Retired from the Board January 26, 2022

# VISION MISSION CORE VALUES

By supporting survivors of gender-based violence and working to break down structural inequities, Anova is creating a world without violence. Join us.

## VISION

An inclusive world of shared power where everyone lives freely without fear of violence.

## MISSION

Creating communities of safe spaces, compassion, healing, renewal, hope, and resilience; advocating for social & political change.

## CORE VALUES

Grounded in our feminist roots, we value:  
Equality, Respect, Integrity, Connection & Accountability.



SHELTER



ADVOCACY

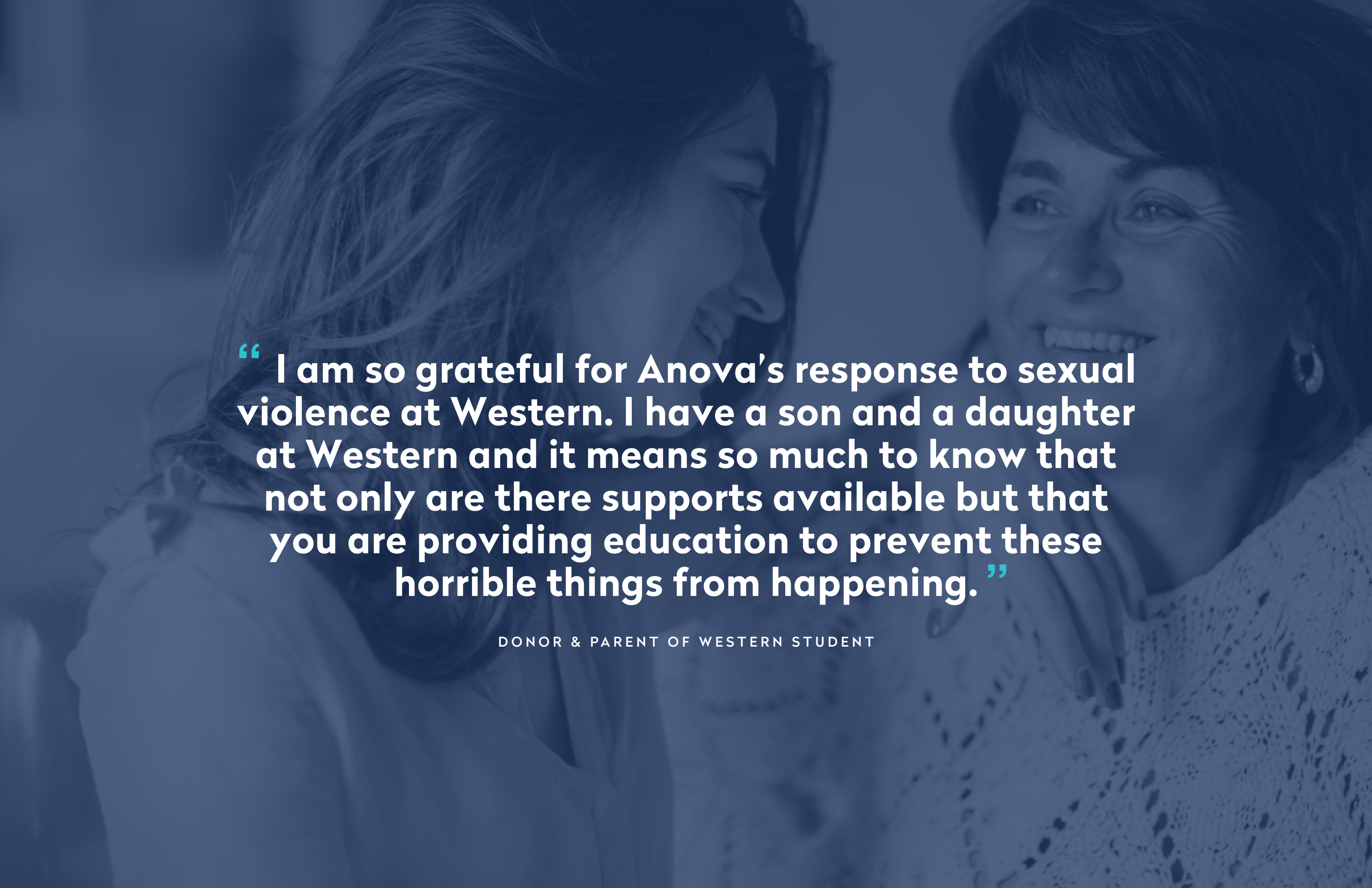


SUPPORT



EDUCATION





**“ I am so grateful for Anova’s response to sexual violence at Western. I have a son and a daughter at Western and it means so much to know that not only are there supports available but that you are providing education to prevent these horrible things from happening. ”**

DONOR & PARENT OF WESTERN STUDENT



**We believe survivors.  
We work to break down structural inequities.  
And together, we can create a revolution that  
ends gender-based violence in London, for good.**

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**24 Hour Crisis and Support Line**

**519.642.3000 • 1 800.265.1576**

**Emergency Shelters**

101 Wellington Rd N6C 4M7

450 Clarke Rd N5W 6H1

Counselling Services & Business Office

255 Horton St E N6B 1L1

Second Stage Housing

1416 Ernest Ave N6E 3R3

Mine 101 - Social Enterprise Women's

Wear Boutique

900 Oxford St E N5Y 5A1

519.453.5550

**519.642.3003** [www.anovafuture.org](http://www.anovafuture.org)



[@anovafuture](https://www.instagram.com/anovafuture)



*Multiple languages available including ASL*

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