

2006 - 2007

annual report

Ernestine's
inspire.

Ernestine's Women's Shelter,
an organization run by
women, provides support
and shelter for women and
children escaping violence.

a voice against violence

“Ernestine’s provides much more than a roof over our clients’ heads.”

a message from the board of directors

We are proud to report on an incredibly successful year at Ernestine’s. This year, we have seen our biggest growth and transition since the shelter was founded 24 years ago - we expanded and improved our space and services by successfully transitioning into our new facility. This growth is a credit to the strength, dedication and commitment of our Board members, employees, funders, donors and community supporters.

It took less than a week since we opened our doors in January for the shelter to fill to capacity. Since then, we have provided shelter to 45 women and 31 children and have continued to fill each available space immediately after a client leaves. The need is clear and the services we provide are crucial to women and children who are fleeing their homes due to violence.

Ernestine’s provides much more than a roof over our clients’ heads. Our in-house programs are designed to work with our clients to help them rebuild their lives. Our programs must meet the continually changing needs of our clients and we are committed to ongoing evaluation of our programs and research and training to ensure that we follow best practices. This year, Ernestine’s has started a partnership with our sister shelter, Women’s Habitat of Etobicoke to develop a leading shelter-specific program evaluation system. This custom evaluation system is design to specifically evaluate the effectiveness of shelter programs and will be made available to other shelters to adopt.

The work we do inside the shelter is just one part our contribution towards ending violence against women. Our mission must include working to change the systemic nature of violence in our society, raising awareness to create changes for women and children. Women and children who experience or witness violence often do so in silence, hiding their bruises and emotional scars from those around them. In order for violence to end, we must break the silence and shame and create a society which does not tolerate violence.

Our work to raise awareness around violence is critical. In 2006-2007, we:

- Launched a high-impact poster campaign to encourage public acknowledgement and conversation about violence in public;
- Spoke to many groups in the community about the work we do;
- Increased our public relations efforts to focus media attention on the issue of domestic violence;
- Worked with men, women and children in the community to demonstrate that we all have a role to play in ending violence; and
- Strengthened our partnership with other organizations in our sector.

We will continue to be a voice against violence, working on breaking the silence and educating the public on what they can do to be part of the solution.

Sincerely,
Audrey Wubbenhorst and Babita Bhattal

2006 - 2007

Board of Directors

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Laura Zilney

“Women and children are not supposed to be in violent situations because they are human beings just like everybody else. Abusing someone you say you love is not what love is all about. My advice to other women is ‘don’t stay – whether the abuse is physical or emotional, our children are more important to us than any husband, boyfriend, or partner. Our children are innocent and the next generation.”

Fuseina Musah, former client, speaker at Ernestine’s opening on International Women’s Day 2007



Creativity allows the children at the shelter to express themselves and heal from the trauma of witnessing violence or being abused.

ABUSE
 Violence Against Women + Children The Truth Hurts

40%
 of women abused during pregnancy reported that the abuse began when they became pregnant

21%
 of women abused by their partners were assaulted during their pregnancy

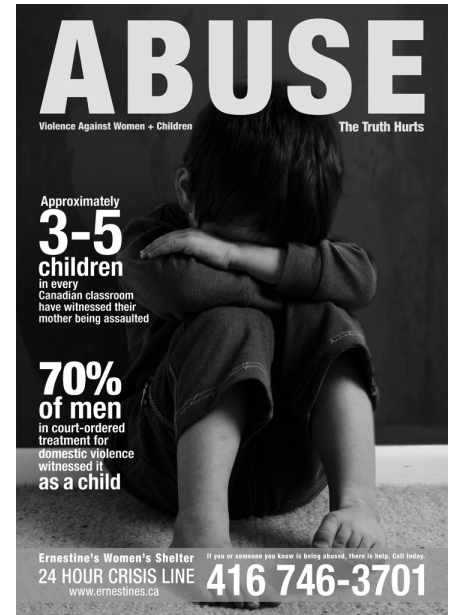
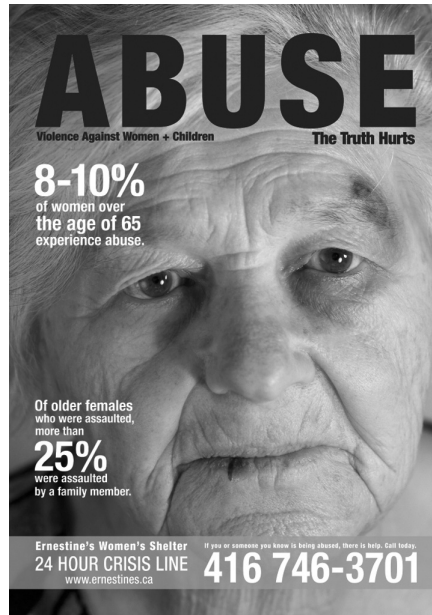
Ernestine's Women's Shelter If you or someone you know is being abused, there is help. Call today.
 24 HOUR CRISIS LINE **416 746-3701**
www.ernestines.ca

a voice against violence

Ernestine's Womens Shelter

"Last week on the subway, I was struck by the poster I saw. It was the one produced by Ernestine's of an abused woman who was pregnant. It was a very powerful image. The information about abuse in the ad was also very powerful and profound. I thought of the thousands of people who would see the ad and be touched by the visual and intellectual content. I really appreciated the creativity, thoughtfulness and courage it took to take such a stand."

Natalie Zlodre
 M.S.W., R.S.W
 Head of the Trauma and Resiliency Program
 Hincks-Dellcrest Institute



"I think this ad campaign is amazing. I wanted to write to commend the shelter for taking the initiative in making this disturbing social problem a visual reality for many Torontonians. I teach a 3rd year sociology of the family course at York University. We discuss family violence to a great extent. Much of our in-class discussions centre on how imperative it is to continue to raise awareness and conduct research on this social problem. Well done."

Amber Gazso, PhD
Assistant Professor
Department of Sociology (Faculty of Arts)
York University

"When I saw the TTC posters my heart went out to all the women who experienced all kinds of abuses and who continue to experience such horrors. The poster that really touched me was the battered pregnant woman. I think it's a great idea to spread awareness into the community since there is so much hidden under closed doors. I knew I wanted to help out as soon as I saw the posters."

Jasmine Haddad

"It is true that pictures say a thousand words. This kind of message [as seen in the awareness posters] can change people's attitudes and beliefs about violence against women and children. It can also save a life, give someone the information that they need to flee violence and abuse. I am doing my part by becoming educated about what I can do to become an advocate for women and children. My decision to start my studies came from the wonderful work that I witnessed at Ernestine's Women's Shelter as the counsellors and supporting staff worked diligently to help women and children find their way through difficult circumstances. The workers are doing an excellent job for the women and children who are seeking refuge from violence."

Paula Coombs, volunteer

Nicole Allen
 Judy Bannister
 Marsha Baynes
 Christine Bonatsos
 Liz Buehler
 Robert Buehler
 Franca Carelli
 Karen Choe
 Sydney Choi
 Paula Coombs
 Beth Croft
 Allsion Crotin
 Cathy Cuthbertson
 Linda Davis
 Ivan Doudin
 Karen Doxsee
 Michelle Easton
 Meg Evans
 Latoya Findley
 Galia Gancheva
 Adenike George
 Shannon Goulbourn
 Shelley Hollister
 Ann Hosein
 Yvonne Huh
 Ashly Kirkpatrick
 Lindsay Michael
 Laura Middleton
 David Mielke
 Angella Mignon
 Robert Mellema
 Leigh Naturkach
 Stephanie Okojie
 Olivia Oweifie
 Claudette Pelletier
 Alene Phillips
 Laura Rios
 Rebecca Rosenberg
 Iye Sameh
 Rosanna Saracino
 Stephen Simpson
 Tiffany Sparks
 Margo Staples
 Merle Thomas
 Paula Vanegas
 Barbara White
 Melanie Windle
 Laura Ziemba

“Abuse is more common than people think. It’s a woman’s private shame. A family member of mine was abused by her husband for over 30 years from the time she was about 18 and she stuck around for it rather than face all her friends and admit to what was happening. At the age of 50 she finally left, chose her life over his and couldn’t be happier. There is life after leaving such a situation. When you look at the stats of how many women are abused it’s hard not to wonder which of my friends is being abused and I have no idea about it.”

Penny Samms, volunteer

thank-you volunteers



Staff, volunteers, and clients at Ernestine’s continually work to speak out against violence.

Corporate Volunteer Groups
 Intercontinental Hotel, Yorkville
 Levi Strauss & Co. Canada
 PriceWaterhouseCoopers
 TD Bank
 Winners Merchants International

Students
 Smadar Carmon
 Kamille Drewko
 Jennifer Evers
 Katherine Falcones
 Christina Jean
 Laura Kiss
 Marina Movshovich
 Natalie Nanton
 Siobhan Pantin
 Michelle Solimine

Marie stayed at Ernestine's 13 years ago and recently returned to volunteer in our skill exchange program to help clients see "the light at the end of the tunnel". Marie's strong voice against violence and her words of encouragement for women who are experiencing and have experienced violence show how far she has come since staying at Ernestine's.

in her own words

I came to Ernestine's when I knew it was going to be over – either he was going to kill me, or I was going to kill myself. I couldn't take it anymore.

I was abused by my husband for 20 years – mentally, physically, emotionally and sexually. I felt I couldn't leave and the violence got worse.

Fear became part of my life. I was constantly wavering between two major fears – the abuse, and what would happen if I left. The abuse was a fear I knew. The fear of the unknown was often greater, meaning I would stay put. I had even tried to leave a few times, but never got very far.

I grew depressed and suicidal and my husband made me believe that it was my fault. The violence continued and the abuse robbed me of my security and of everything that I had.

One night the abuse became too much. If he didn't kill me, I was so suicidal, I would have killed myself. I told myself that one way or another, this would end. I made the decision that I would leave and never go back. His

last words were 'you'll be crawling back'. I said, 'No, not this time, even if I have to live on the streets – I'm leaving.'

At that moment of clarity, I was calm. I called the police and then my uncle who came to pick me up. I left quickly, with just the clothes on my back. I stayed with my uncle and found out about Ernestine's Women's Shelter. There was no room at the time, so I waited until space freed up.

Ernestine's was a huge help in getting me back on my feet. The counsellors were wonderful and helped me find long-term counselling for my depression and suicidal thoughts. Ernestine's helped me find housing and good legal representation. I would not be alive today without their support.

Slowly, I began to get my life back – I began to heal from the years of abuse.

I have become a more independent individual, not living in fear anymore. I had to stand my ground. I would not allow anyone to do that to me again – Ernestine's helped me to find the answer to my problem.

a message from the leads

This past year has been one of the most challenging and inspiring years in Ernestine's history: we saw the fulfillment of a dream that began in 2001 – our new shelter; we bid farewell to our old building that had served us since Ernestine's was founded in 1983; and we launched a successful public awareness campaign.

Ernestine's public awareness campaign was launched on April 16, 2007. The campaign, including 3 poster designs and a video clip, was throughout the subway system and on Ernestine's website. The campaign generated much discussion and feedback. Of course, the positive feedback was greatly appreciated and reaffirmed our stance in taking a hard-hitting approach to this often "uncomfortable" subject. The negative feedback we received had the same affect – violence is so pervasive in our society that we would not be doing our job if we did not make some people uneasy and challenge their comfort levels with this issue.

This year, Ernestine's also began three very important partnerships, with Women's Habitat of Etobicoke, the women of Georgina Island (a Native Reserve in the Lake Simcoe area) and local high schools in Rexdale.

We are working with Women's Habitat to develop a best practice model for shelter-specific program evaluations. Ernestine's has started to implement this model and will make it available to the Ministry of Community and Social Services for shared use. Our Transitional Housing and Support Program created a partnership with the women of Georgina Island, offering resources and support to women and children on the reserve. The Transitional Housing and Support Program has also started to work with young women in a local high school who are being abused or are at high risk of abuse.

These partnerships are just three of the ways in which Ernestine's continues to work towards the larger goal of ending violence against women.

As we approach our 25th anniversary next year, Ernestine's reaffirms our dedication to ending violence against women and children.

We would like to thank our incredible staff team; they were and continue to be the epitome of team work . Thank you to our Board of Directors, funders, donors and community, who continue to show their overwhelming support for the work that we do.

With gratitude,
Sharlene Tygesen

Staff:

Akua Adutwumuvaa
Farhia Ahmed
Monis Ahmed
Lisa Aldworth
Monica Ameyna
Nadiye Arda
Stephanie Bellini-Weisbart
Heather Bergen
Tina Binder
Laverne Blake
Doris Caceres
Gloria Ceron
Jill Cunningham
Kati Darvas
Denise Galindo
Jeryl George
Anita Griffith
Cheryl Herrera
Stella Iyamu
Deborah James
Louraine James
HeeJa Kang
Carol Latchford
Susan Lee
Nneamaka Madumelu
Rita Madumelu
Philomeena Mathews
Lisa Medeiros
Zeinab Muhudin
Marcia Munroe
Alys Murphy
Deborah Ntiri
Stephanie Norwich
Silvia Olivas
Anab Osman
Oscar Poblete
Ann Rose
Jody Salerno
Tammy Scanlan
Ashanty Singh
Nayyar Sultana
Avril Swaby
Sharlene Tygesen
Cindy Wagman
Josica Zabukovec

donors

We would like to thank all of our donors who have contributed to our successes over the last year, however, due to limited space, we can only list donors who have contributed over \$100.

INDIVIDUALS

Farhia Ahmed
Andrew Aicklen
Ida Allen
Marie Amato
Diana Anderson
Cristian Armat
Celine Arsenaault-Smith
Linda Artuso
Jeremiah Ashukian
Christine Audet
Robert Bach
Ruth E. Balmer
Judy Bannister
Matthew Bannister
Sharon Baptista
Norma & Ralph Barnes
Jillian Bassett
Colin Beckmann & Charlene Lester
Celina Bedminster
Babita Bhattal
Charanpreet Bhattal
Kim Bird
Michael Bishop
Laverne Blake
Ben Blanchet
Darren Blasutti
Robert Boak Burns
Denise Bogart
Rolf Bolhuis
Linda Bootes
Allison Brooks
Jennifer & Thatcher Brown
Glenn & Susan Buckley
Drew & Margaret Bunknall
Liz & Robert Buehler
Michael Buffery
Ann Burke
Chris Campbell
Bruce Cappel
Gisela Cardwell
Monica Carr
Maurine Cavanah
Joyce Chan
Alfred Chung
David Clark
Ivalie Clarke
Delia Close
Beth Connor
Arlene Cook
Angela Croft
Beth & Ian Croft
David & Heather Croft
Anne Marie Crummy
Valerie Csopak
Bruce Cunningham
Jill Cunningham
Sandra Cunningham
Shannon Curry
Anabel Dalmao
Donna D'Andrea
Case Degidts
Teresa Del Fatti
Colleen Lucy Dempsey
Marjorie Devine
John & Susan Doughty
Catherine Douglas
Janet Douglas
Karen Doxsee
Dick Drmaj
Jill Duncan
Rosemary Edwards
Karen Lee Emmett
Bonnie Ewart
Angentina Claudia Felici

Heather Fenton
John Field
Judith Field
Sharon Filger
Debbie Flaxman
Jason Forget
Alice Fournier
Mary Ann Fulop
Ian & Lindy Fyfe
Denise Galindo
Annie Gaudreault
Jeryl George
Joshua & June Gill
Kevin Gizton
Jack Goodman
Cameron & Meaghan Gray
Tim Greer & Rachel Stevens
Kenny Grewal
Diane Guiney
Mike Hannigan
Rod Harding
Heather Hartt
Catherine Haywood
Kerri Healey
Don Heffron-Gauer
Cathy Hellyer
Karen Henderson
Cheryl Ann Herrera
Jennifer Hilditch
Steve Hilditch
Jennifer Hill
Janet Hilson
Diane Holgate
Steve Holyman
Moira Hoogeveen
Annemie Houtappel
Gayle Hozack
Suzanne Huggins
Yvonne Huh
Delon Humphrey
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Anne Malo
Diane Maltais & Guy Simard

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Maggie Marcotte
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Andries & Angelika Mellema
Robert Mellema
Nathalie Mercure
Anita Merlo
David Mielke
Jasmina Mihajlovska
Cherie Miller
Irma Montes-Hussey
M.A. Moro
Cathy Munn
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Mushtak Najarali
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Noubar Papazian
Tess Pappas
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Sue Roberts
Barbara Robinson
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Peigi Ross
R. John Ross
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Norene Turvolgyi
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Sharlene Tygesen
Ernestine Van Marle
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Dianne Wellman
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Gregory White
Krista White
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Chris Wilson
Martha Winhall
Elizabeth Winter
Jennifer Wooton Regan
Debby Wright
Audrey Wubbenhorst
Beverly Wybrow

BUSINESSES

1578800 Ontario Inc.
1657118 Ontario Ltd.
99596 Canada Inc. (Fantasia)
Atlas Business Machines
Bell Canada
Bennett Young Limited
Canadian Kennel Club
Collector Corp.
Contact Professionals Alliance Inc.
Curves
Darryl R. Demille Insurance Agency Ltd.
Devry, Smith & Frank LLP
Duca Financial Services
Effem Inc.
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Hydro One
Kipling Plaza Ltd.
Lawyers' Professional Indemnity Company
Levis Strauss & Co. (Canada) Inc.
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Martin Air Heating & Air Conditioning Services Ltd.
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Mongrel Media
Novelis Foil Products
Octopus' Garden Yoga Centre Inc.
PriceWaterhouseCoopers LLP
Rapid Plumbing & Heating
Ryerson
Scotiabank Group
Shamrock Mechanical Sales Ltd.
Silk Pod
Standard Life
TD Mutual Funds
Wawanesa Mutual Insurance Co.
TkMC Ontario Inc.
Woodbine Entertainment Group
Zellers

FOUNDATIONS

BMO Fountain of Hope Employees' Foundation
Canadian Women's Foundation
Chum Charitable Foundation
Cliff Bar Family Foundation
HBC Foundation
IBM Employees' Charitable Fund
KPMG Foundation
OPG Employees' & Pensioners' Charity Trust
Power of Yoga Foundation
RBC Foundation
The C. Dennis Flynn Foundation
The Geoffrey H. Wood Foundation
The Three T Foundation
The Toskan Foundation
Toronto Hydro Employee's Charity Trust

COMMUNITY

Arts & Science Students' Union
Bloordale United Church
Canadian Federation of University Women
CAW Canada – Local 112
COSTI
Elementary Teachers' Federation of Ontario
Elementary Teachers of Toronto
Holy Trinity Church – ACW
Humber School of Health Sciences
Humbervale United Church Women
Islington Evangel Centre
Kingsway-Lambton United Church Women
Kinmount Park Estates Association
Martin Grove United Church
Michael Power/St. Joseph High School
RBC Women's Networking Group
Reconnect Mental Health Centre
Rehoboth Fellowship Christian Reformed Church
Revivaltime Tabernacle Worldwide Ministries
Rexdale Community Health Centre
Rotary Club of Etobicoke
Royal Canadian Legion Branch #286
Scotiabank Women's Charity Challenge
St. George's Junior School
St. Gregory's Catholic Women's League
St. Hugh & St. Edmund Anglican Church
St. Louis School
St. Matthew's Mar Thoma Church, The Women's Group
St. Paul The Apostle Anglican Church
The Church of St. Wilfrid – ACW
United Steel Workers
United Way of York Region
West Humber Collegiate Institute
Westway Ladies Auxiliary

IN HONOUR OF

Penny Samms
Tina Klein Real Estate
Grand & Toy Call Centre

IN MEMORY OF

Ernestine Van Marle

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Sophie Jaremko Real Estate
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UBS Securities

CORPORATE PARTNERS

Capital One
Intercontinental Hotel, Yorkville

financial report

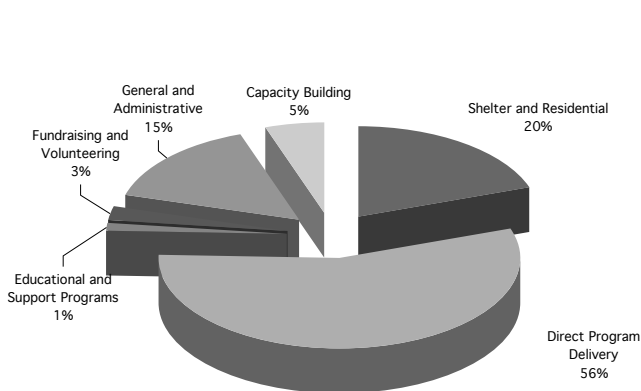
The presentation of the Fiscal 2006-2007 Condensed Statement of Operations and Condensed Statement of Financial Position are derived from the Audited Statements of Ernestine's Women's Shelter, as audited by Burns Hubley LLP.

The Condensed Statement of Operations this year shows a surplus of \$63,749. This amount is made up of operating surplus \$106,595 offset by \$42,846, which is the net amount of Amortization of Capital Assets and Amortization of Deferred Contributions related to Capital Assets. The operating surplus of \$106,595 includes \$40,000 of fundraising money spent on capital assets such as computers. The remaining amount of \$66,000 represents the operations of the organization, which is a result of prudent spending coupled with increased efforts in fundraising.

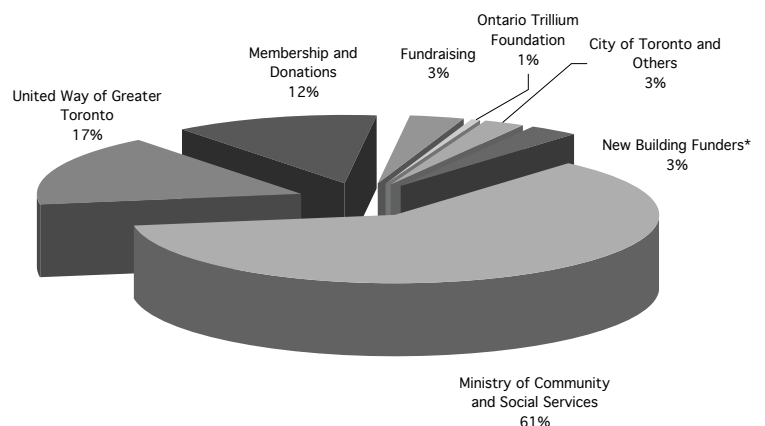
For the Condensed Statement of Financial Position, there are major movements between Building Cash, Capital and Deferred Charges from last year-end versus this year-end. This is the result of the completion of the new building in early 2007. As at March 2007, the building costs are now reflected under Capital Assets in the amount of \$4,626,769. There is still more work to be done on the building and the remaining cash for this is under Building Cash in the amount of 98,219. The remaining amounts in the asset section are related to the operations of the organization and have not changed much year to year.

The organization is in a stable financial position and is committed to ensuring the viability of its programs, which provide a safe environment for abused women and children. There will be more challenges for the year ahead in 2007-2008 and we will continue to manage costs and increase fundraising sources.

**EXPENDITURES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2007
\$1,671,025**



**SOURCES OF FUNDING
FOR THE YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2007
\$1,734,774**



* Building Funders include: The Ministry of Community and Social Services, Canadian Mortgage and Housing Corporation, the Government of Canada's Supporting Communities Partnership Initiative, The United Way and other private donors.

**Ernestine's Women's Shelter
Condensed Statement of Operations
For the Year Ended March 31, 2007**

	March 31 2007	March 31 2006
Revenue		
Grants	1,354,496	1,086,609
Amortization of deferred contributions *	54,701	833,588
Donations	214,936	157,856
Other	110,641	151,137
	<u>1,734,774</u>	<u>2,229,190</u>
Expenses		
Direct Program Delivery	1,110,515	1,011,935
Residents' and house supplies expenses	205,060	153,651
Amortization of capital assets*	97,547	14,314
Other	257,903	178,355
	<u>1,671,025</u>	<u>1,358,255</u>
Excess of revenue over expenses	<u>63,749</u>	<u>870,935</u>

**Ernestine's Women's Shelter
Condensed Statement of Financial Position
March 31, 2007**

Assets		
Cash and term deposits	642,259	639,744
Building cash and short-term deposits	98,219	2,048,507
Capital	4,626,769	1,052,875
Deferred Charges	-	1,401,366
Other	207,098	111,995
	<u>5,574,345</u>	<u>5,254,487</u>
Liabilities		
Accounts payable and accrued charges	131,398	235,194
Deferred Ticket and sponsorship revenue	5,880	21,000
Long-Term debt	1,046,482	665,554
Deferred Contributions related to capital assets	2,725,154	204,158
Deferred Contributions	262,142	2,789,041
	<u>4,171,056</u>	<u>3,914,947</u>
Net Assets **	1,403,289	1,339,540
Liabilities and Net Assets	<u>5,574,345</u>	<u>5,254,487</u>

*Amortization of deferred contributions related to capital assets

** Includes \$855,133 invested in capital assets

“Violence again women and children is the most cowardly of acts that exists in our society. Violence again women and children is committed by the weakest and most ignorant people in our society. The protection of women and children from these people is one of the most important responsibilities of our society. We, as Canadians, must stand up and applaud, with hearts full of admiration, the remarkable and brave work that Ernestine's does so passionately and patiently second by second, minute by minute and hour by hour to empower and embrace all who pass through their doors.”

*Zanita DiSalle, Senior Account Manager, Not For Profit Market
RBC Royal Bank*

inspire.

Ernestine's Women's Shelter P.O. Box 141, Station B Etobicoke ON M9W 5K9
p: 416.743.1733 f: 416.743.1732 e: contact@ernestines.ca www.ernestines.ca
Registered Charity Number: 10167 8969 RR0001

Our Mission

Ernestine's Women's Shelter, an organization run by women, provides support and shelter for women and children escaping violence.

Ernestine's assists women and children in rebuilding their lives by providing crisis intervention and a range of holistic support services, while acknowledging the multitude of issues facing survivors of abuse.

Ernestine's adapts its services to honour diversity and the unique needs of the individual.

Ernestine's promotes awareness, education and advocates for early intervention and prevention.

Our Guiding Principles

Ernestine's Women's Shelter recognizes the impact of violence on children and acknowledges that the rights of children are separate and distinct from their parents.

Ernestine's recognizes each woman's right to self-determination.

Ernestine's acknowledges that violence can be physical, emotional, psychological, and sexual.

Ernestine's is managed by shared leadership and is a participatory organization accountable to our Board of Directors and Stakeholders.

Ernestine's operates from a feminist, anti-racism, anti-oppression framework.



Operations funded in part by the Ministry of
Community and Social Services, Province of Ontario



United Way
of Greater Toronto

A United Way member agency