

# Seasons of Hope

A Shelter Update



## Message from our Executive Director

April 2025

**Happy Spring!**



We have now been in our new facility for 5 months and continue to settle in. We have made adjustments to our workflow to adapt to our new, beautiful space, and continue to make improvements to how we serve clients. Our families have been enjoying increased programming which includes educational sessions on topics such as domestic violence 101, budgeting, and boundaries. We also offer programming for children including crafts and story hour, and for families including games night and movie night.

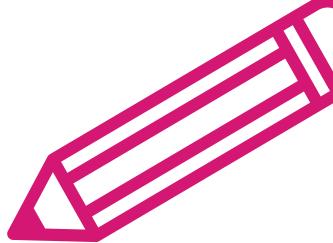
In January, our Board of Directors met for two days to work on a new strategic plan that will see CAWES through this period of growth. New building, new season, new strategic plan! Speaking of the board, CAWES is seeking new members. If you are interested in joining this governance board that provides strategic direction to the organization, please email me at [executive.director@cawes.com](mailto:executive.director@cawes.com) for more information. Mark your calendar for 5 p.m. on Thursday, June 19, 2025 for our CAWES AGM.

Our Outfitting Our New Shelter capital campaign continues to progress. Over the past few months, we were excited to receive grants from the Rotary Club of Red Deer, the Sylvan Lake Community Foundation through the Community Foundation of Central Alberta, and Cenovus Energy. We are also deeply grateful for generous contributions from individuals and Central Alberta businesses. If you would like to learn more about how you can be part of building a safer future for women and children fleeing domestic violence in Central Alberta, please reach out and support your CAWES.

**Danica Hoffart, Executive Director**

### Jot this down!

**Our AGM is coming up June 19 at 5 p.m.**



Now is your chance to **join our Board!**

We have some amazing **volunteer opportunities** coming up.

The lives CAWES impacted so far in **2025\***

 **63**  
women admitted into emergency shelter

 **74**  
children admitted into emergency shelter

 **242**  
crisis calls answered

# Update on our New Home



## Phase Two is well underway!

On schedule and on budget, this phase of our new shelter includes 23 units of affordable housing, extending a family's stay from 21-days to up to two years. The projected completion of phase two is late 2025.

[More Information](#)

# Calling all Volunteers!

## CAWES has upcoming volunteer opportunities!

June 10-11: Casino

(Two shifts per day: 1:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. and 7:15 p.m. to 2:00 a.m.)

June 13: Charity Golf Tournament

Contact us at [fundraising@cawes.com](mailto:fundraising@cawes.com) or call 403-346-5643 ext. 4 for more information.



# Join our Board

Help us provide life-changing support to women and children in Central Alberta. Join our Board of Directors!

**Interested?** Visit [our website](#) for more information.

# Sharing their Stories

This edition, we are sharing a Q&A with **CAWES Volunteer, Carolyn!**

**Q: How long have you been involved with CAWES and in what roles?**

**A:** I started volunteering with CAWES in November 2024 and help with supper service. Also, I'm looking forward to helping out at the fundraiser golf tournament in June.

**Q: Why did you decide to become a part of CAWES?**

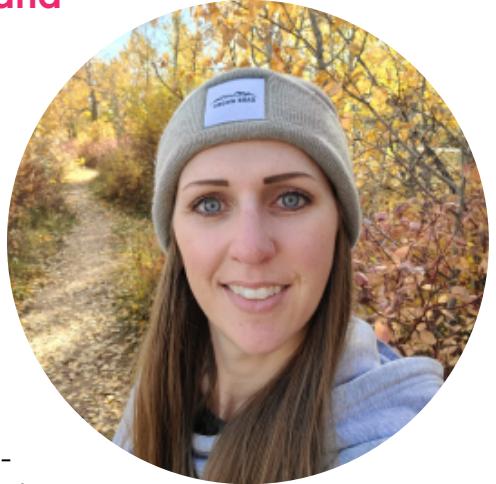
**A:** I've volunteered with other organizations over the years, and while I always enjoy helping out, I didn't feel truly satisfied with my experiences. CAWES' cause feels a little closer to the heart for me, so I decided to dedicate my time to volunteering there.

**Q: Why have you remained involved with the organization for so many years?**

**A:** The kindness of everyone there - from the girls at the front desk to the residents - people are always smiling. I also like to see the friendships between the women staying there - I don't get to see much of this in the short time I'm there, but when the ladies are dining I can see the camaraderie between them and it's nice to see them supporting, encouraging, and uplifting each other even when they're going through their own difficult time.

**Q: Why would you encourage others to volunteer, join the board, or consider becoming involved with CAWES?**

**A:** It's a very necessary service in Central Alberta and it relies on the help of volunteers. If you're looking for a meaningful place to spend time volunteering, CAWES is a great choice.



**Interested in becoming a Volunteer?**

Send us an email at  
[fundraising@cawes.com](mailto:fundraising@cawes.com)



# CAWES in the Community



## Suitcases for Hope



CAWES has partnered with Expedia Cruise Red Deer for our Suitcases for Hope program. Clients and community partners donate gently used suitcases and duffle bags to our clients. This program has led to a steady supply of luggage for our families.

## Hitting the Ice for CAWES



CAWES was named this year's charity of choice for the Lindsay Thurber High School Megabowl, where students raised well over their \$3,500 target. Through sponsorships and ticket sales, the event raised over \$7,000 for CAWES.

## Sparkle for CAWES



CAWES offered glitter tattoos at the Red Deer Gasoline Alley Easter Market. A huge shoutout to our volunteers who helped us raise funds and awareness!

Keep an eye out at future community events for our team!

## Read all About it



Sylvan Lake News: [New beds at Red Deer's women shelter remain empty without provincial funding](#)

Red Deer News Now: [Alberta rolls out additional one-time payment for women's shelters](#)

Red Deer Advocate: [Rotary Club of Red Deer give grants to 7 local non-profits](#)

The Albertan: [Johns Manville spreads holiday cheer, donations in Innisfail](#)

# Ways to Donate

## Interac e-transfer

[donations@cawes.com](mailto:donations@cawes.com)

Please include your email and mailing address in the notes/message for tax receipt purposes.

## Cheque

Please make cheques payable to:  
Central Alberta Women's Emergency Shelter  
Box 561, Red Deer, AB T4N 5G1

Please include your email to receive your tax receipt digitally.

## Canada Helps

Click [here](#) to donate via Canada Helps

## Securities

Contact us for more information: 403-346-5643 ext. 9

## Our Urgent Needs

New, unopened women's underwear, women's and children's summer shoes (all sizes), twin bed sheets, women's sleepwear (M, L, XL), children's jogger's/athletic pants (Girls 2T, Boys 4T, Boys 5T) deodorant, diapers, pull-ups, and journals.

Please email [fundraising@cawes.com](mailto:fundraising@cawes.com) or call 403-346-5643 ext. 4 to arrange a day/time to drop-off your donation.



## Become a Champion of Hope

When you become a monthly donor, you are providing more than just sustainable funding for our emergency shelter services. You are making a direct impact on the lives of the women and children who come into our care.

**\$10/month** - Helps provide bagged lunches for children in shelter attending school

**\$25/month** - Helps provide the necessities for a family during their stay

**\$50/month** - Supports our outreach and educational presentations in the community

**\$100/month** - Supports our text and phone helplines, ensuring 24/7 access for those who need it

**Make a Donation TODAY**

#supportyourCAWES

[cawes.com](http://cawes.com)

Thank you for supporting  
women and children fleeing  
domestic violence



To unsubscribe to the CAWES Quarterly Newsletter, click [here](#).

The Central Alberta Women's Emergency Shelter Society is a Registered Canadian Charity #106885437 RR0001. Gifts will be acknowledged and an official receipt for tax purposes will be given to all donations over \$20.00. All information given will remain private and confidential.