



in the spirit
OF HEALING



2018 ANNUAL REPORT

MESSAGE FROM OUR BOARD PRESIDENT

The board's inspiration comes from client's stories.

I get asked frequently why I have dedicated over a decade of my time to the Calgary Elizabeth Fry Society (EFry) and other than the story of paying it forward that I've shared in the past the thing that keeps me engaged is the stories from the clients we serve. The real-life day-to-day successes, the staff's consistent demonstration of respect, inclusion and empathy keeps the entire board engaged in lending our unique skills and support to their efforts.

As a governance board our focus is on planning, governance and risk mitigation. The client stories from our EFry team makes the board's work real and meaningful. The stories continue to engage our passion as a board for the organization.

Thanks to significant activity in 2018, EFry remains focused on realizing the priorities identified in our current strategic plan. Our progress is detailed in the annual report so, I'm not going to go in to excruciating detail here. However, I would like to emphasize that it was an exciting year where we had the privilege of realizing and advancing diversity in our funding streams from our wonderful funders. In addition, we achieved successes from the board in our personal fund raising efforts for the organization. This latter is one of our priority development areas.

We continue to leverage the board and organization's interactions with internal and external stakeholders whose insights help inform our priorities and strategic direction.

The foundational work we have invested in over the past few years has been instrumental in positioning EFry, to take the bold actions that will be needed to build a strong and sustainable future.

Much of what we accomplished came as the result of the amazing relationship between the board and the organization. Collaboration is high and mutual respect and open communication is the norm of our working relationships.

Our Strategic Plan will continue to reinforce and drive the EFry message ensuring that people from all walks of life passionately care about the way in which our Society works together to address the systematic issues that impact the core of our families our Mothers, Daughters, Sisters and friends.

My sincere thanks to the EFry Board who so tirelessly and generously give of their time to serve on our Board and to the wonderful collaboration and transparency enabled by Katelyn Lucas, the hard working EFry staff, volunteers, donors and community partners for contributing to a great year for EFry and the communities we serve.



VIRGINIA ASHLEY

Board President

MESSAGE FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

In 2018, there was a significant increase in Indigenous women and youth incarceration rates throughout Canada. In particular, Alberta's Minister of Justice Kathleen Ganley acknowledged disappointment in the fact that Indigenous incarceration rates continue to grow in the province. Almost all Indigenous offenders tend to be younger, are more likely to be under the influence of a substance during their criminalization, have a history with child services in foster care as a child and/or adolescent, and have been exposed to or experienced multiple traumatic events. These are vitally important statistics that inform our work and the importance of concentrating on Indigenous women and youth as a priority population of our work at EFry.

In 2018, we increased our focus on improving access to Indigenous language, ceremony, cultural teachings, as well as building stronger connections to Indigenous cultural supports and programming throughout the institutions. These services have supported and enhanced the connection to the cultural community in preparation of release, especially for those who have not had access prior to their incarceration.

Youth, in particular, identified a number of positive changes including awareness around how their engagement has had a positive effect on their overall emotional wellness and behaviour. Youth identified with feeling strongly connected to learning language and participating in ceremony the more actively they participated. For many

Indigenous youth, gang involvement has contributed to their identity, however being highly engaged in cultural supports has significantly increased their understanding of how "gangs co-opt culture and twist its teachings to serve their criminal agenda" (2018 EFry Indigenous Cultural Supports Report). This awareness has been imperative to improving their desire to affect personal change upon release.

Women accessing cultural supports during incarceration are more likely to engage in supports after release, and have indicated that access to cultural supports and programming has been beneficial and supportive of their personal healing during incarceration.

In addition to the work we conducted in the prison system, our court work in Calgary and the Regional areas has provided significant support to underprivileged Southern Albertans who are attending court on primary appearances. In particular our support to the Stoney Nakoda Nation in Morley has significantly improved access to the legal system and the potential of positive outcomes regarding their court matters.

(continued on page 4)

MESSAGE FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

In 2018, an increased number of individuals from the Nation attended court and the number of Administration of Justice charges related to warrants and breaches reduced more significantly. Importantly, the support is conducted in the Stoney language, contributing to stronger understanding of processes, supports and resources.

In our efforts to reduce incarceration rates of Indigenous peoples, we recognize the importance of working collaboratively within the community to empower opportunities that lead individuals out of the criminal justice system and on a stronger path of healing and wellness. Therefore, we are grateful for our partnerships and collaborations within the community who are vital to improving access to the right resources.



KATELYN LUCAS
Executive Director

2018 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Virginia Ashley	President/Treasurer
Lisa Rothwell	Vice President until August 2018
Carlos Garcia	Treasurer until June 2018
Kate Baxter	Secretary
Emilie Cox	Director
Katrina Milaney	Director

Siobhan Doherty	Director until September 2018
Terry Robert	Director until July 2018
Tanya Morales	Director until August 2018
Lindsay Bilkoski	Director
Kylan Kidd	Director

2018 STAFF

Executive Director	Katelyn Lucas
Program Manager	Ronda Dalshaug
Manager of Philanthropy Agency Capacity Specialist	Heidi Lambie
Evaluation Specialist	Pamela Scott
Evaluation and Research Specialist	Nicole Williams
Past Volunteer Coordinator	Erin Ramsperger
Volunteer Coordinator	Kassandra Ostrowski-Haas Colin Harris

PRISON COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Ethel Stonechild	Team Lead
Cherish Love Bear	Nimis Case Manager
Brock Haug	Case Manager
Willow Burles	Community Resource Intake
Win Storm	Community Resource Intake
Barbara Smith	Indigenous Program Resource
Kachina Raymond-McGillis	SAGE Coordinator

LEGAL ADVOCACY

Bernice Olivares	Regional Legal Advocate
Melinda Bearspaw	Regional Legal Advocate
Yaneth Rodriguez	Adult Legal Advocate
Renee Monty Bird	Youth Legal Advocate
Erika Ramirez	Youth Legal Advocate
Larissa Szlavik	Indigenous Youth Community Integration
Nicolle Hans	Immigrant Legal Advocate





2018 PROGRAM STATISTICS

sage 21 

U.N.L.O.C.K 180 
INSTITUTION GROUP PROGRAMS

 **1726**
PRISON COMMUNITY
OUTREACH PROGRAM (PCOP)

867  **INDIGENOUS
CULTURAL
SUPPORTS**

136 **VOLUNTEERS**


140 **IMMIGRANT
LEGAL ADVOCACY
PROGRAM** 



221	REGIONAL LEGAL ADVOCACY
313	CALGARY ADULT LEGAL ADVOCACY

YOUTH
LEGAL ADVOCACY
& MENTORSHIP
PROGRAMS **80**

YOUTH
PREVENTION
PROGRAM
945



YOUTH
COURT PROGRAMS
CALGARY **3987**

ADULT CALGARY
COURT PROGRAMS

CRIMINAL **1926**

TRAFFIC **10747**

DOMESTIC
VIOLENCE **3918**

REGIONAL
TRAFFIC COURT **659**

ADULT REGIONAL
CRIMINAL COURT
PROGRAMS **3461**

YOUTH REGIONAL
CRIMINAL COURT
PROGRAMS **257**





Dovena's Story

“I OWE A BIG THANKS TO THE ELIZABETH FRY SOCIETY OF CALGARY IN HELPING ME BECOME THE PERSON I WANTED TO BE AND AM CURRENTLY,” DOVENA SAID. “AND TO BE THE MOTHER I AM TODAY.”

Dovena first came to the Elizabeth Fry Society of Calgary in 2008, when her caseworker mentioned the organization. She participated in a program the organization hosted at the time, and over the next ten years, Dovena came into the office for food, toiletry items, or just to talk.

“I always felt safe and connected with the staff. They were always so kind to me and accepted me.” Dovena said.

Knowing that the Elizabeth Fry Society of Calgary works in partnership with Calgary community agencies to provide safe, affordable housing for women, Dovena came to the organization seeking assistance in finding a place to call home after completing her sober living program. Shortly after she moved into her new home, she knew the next step in her journey was to enter the SAGE program.

The SAGE program is a 12-week program that provides a cultural foundation and supports women through experiential learning and expressive activities like photography. Participants are empowered and equipped with skills to help them on their path towards accessing training, education or employment.

“Through the program, I learnt that I am not very good in making eye contact with other people until I trust them,” Dovená said. “I am getting better at this. The program helped me become more self-assured, I did not give myself enough credit before and would always second guess myself.”

“I enjoyed coming in the morning seeing the staff member of the program and being able to talk with her about what was on my mind, before the program started for the day.”

At the SAGE program, she felt a connection with her fellow participants as well.

“We had some similarities which we could relate to with one another,” she mentioned.

“I have grown in my confidence and am comfortable enough with myself now to stick up for myself. Having the dedication to complete SAGE was a huge accomplishment,” she said.

Another great moment for Dovená occurred in February, when she gave birth to her son. Dovená does not currently have custody of her three other children, but she is in the process of changing this situation. Dovená’s eldest daughter, who is very protective of her youngest sibling, wishes to come home and live with her mother permanently. This may occur as soon as July. For her two other children, the process will take a bit longer, but she is grateful for a renewed connection with them.

“They fear that I will not come back when I leave

after visiting them, but they know that I am making a home for them and it is a matter of time we are all under one roof together,” Dovená said.

When asked what family means to her, Dovená says, “being together, showing love for each other and sharing time together.” She explained that she and her four siblings were all separated at a young age as their mother was unable to take care of them. So the sole essence of having a family together under one roof means a great deal to Dovená.

In September of 2019, Dovená will begin a new chapter in her journey of recovery and stability by going to back to school to upgrade some classes. Her ultimate goal is to become a social worker in addictions counselling.

“THE ELIZABETH FRY SOCIETY OF CALGARY IS A GREAT SUPPORT FOR ME,” DOVENA SAID. “IF THE STAFF DIDN’T HAVE WHAT I NEEDED THEY WOULD GO TO GREAT LENGTHS TO FIND IT. THE RESOURCES THEY DIRECTED ME TO WERE PRICELESS. THEY ARE MY HOME AWAY FROM HOME.”

2018 highlights





IN THE SECOND YEAR OF OUR STRATEGIC PLAN WE HAVE CONTINUED TO MAKE PROGRESS UPON THE FIVE CORE PRIORITIES. IN 2018, THE FOLLOWING ACTIVITIES WERE CONDUCTED:



One

We will utilize and apply evidence-based practices to enhance programming to be inclusive, strength-based and break the cycles of dependency and vulnerability.

In 2018, we had a number of University students in undergraduate and graduate studies support evaluation of our programs, conduct literature reviews and support ongoing research projects.

EFry reviewed our court and legal advocacy programs in 2018, identifying areas of improvement to include stronger branding and identification, positioning of services, and gaps in services resulting from systemic barriers that affect access to individuals attending court hearings.

We completed our bylaw research project in partnership with the Justice Constellation membership. We identified transit bylaw tickets as the primary area of concern for those in poverty who are unable to afford transit fare. During the period that the research study was conducted, the City of Calgary implemented a sliding scale for low income Calgarians. A second notable change was the Province's change of legislation under Bill 9 to reduce incarceration of those in default of bylaw tickets. These factors contributed to addressing a number of concerns raised by the study. A continuation of this study will be reviewed again in 2021 to identify how the fare transit sliding scale pilot and provincial legislation have improved the disparity of low income Calgarians and the effects of bylaw ticketing.

Throughout 2018, we continued to leverage the 2016 Elder's review of EFry's programming, and revised areas that have strengthened our work with more effective and genuine cultural practices. This has increased our capacity as an organization to deliver programming, ceremony and cultural teachings within the guidance of the Elders.

In 2018, in partnership with the Aboriginal Standing Committee on Housing and Homelessness (ASCHH) we conducted a literature review on Indigenous housing programs and case management best practices. This was leveraged further through 6 Elder consultations that were finalized and reviewed by the Elders in January 2019. Both of these projects supported the subcommittee collaboration between ASCHH and the Collaboration from Health to Home and their continued work in development.





two

Leverage and enhance partnerships with community initiatives and service providers

A partnership with Horizon Housing was developed to increase our access to housing in 2018. This has been an essential partnership to ensure that housing options for housing ready women was more accessible and affordable.

EFry continues to partner with Pathways Community Services Association - Miskanawah around language programming. In 2018, we conducted a week long language camp incorporating land-based teachings, ceremony and cultural activities to women and their families.

In 2018, a steering committee including MIskanawah, Boys and Girls Club Calgary, Sunrise Healing Lodge, YW Calgary, Siksika Family Services – White Buffalo Parent Link Centre, Government of Alberta, Missing and Murdered and Family Information Liaison Unit began the development and planning of the Honouring our Voices Healing Gathering for Families of Murdered and Missing Loved Ones.

three

Build our brand and profile

We continue to identify the need to enhance our recognition and work within the community. While we have accomplished stronger recognition within the non-profit sector over the past few years, we are aware of the importance of expanding our branding recognition further to enhance fund raising capacity.

Our main goal in 2018, was to identify target markets to support funding diversification. We developed campaign materials to support concentrated fund development efforts to specific corporate sectors, and developed a plan to expand our donor strategies.

Late in 2018, we hired a Manager of Philanthropy to expand upon our funding diversification outside of grants and proposals. This role was implemented to increase awareness around the organization, and to build relationships with both private and corporate donors. In particular, advancing marketing and communication strategies in conjunction with donor strategies.

Participation in Social Venture's Fast Pitch Competition (2018) contributed to increasing our brand recognition and interest from private donors. The development of a three-minute pitch of the organization with mentor support from the corporate sector supported our ability to articulate our messaging of our work to a broader audience.

four

Enhance transparency and accountability by accessing progress towards our goals.

Annual progress reports ensure that we remain accountable to our partners and supporters.

five

Expand and enhance the role of Board of Directors in funding, community engagement and accountability.

The Board of Directors enhanced their understanding of fund development in 2018 including developing strategies with operations to diversify funding opportunities outside of the regular grant and funding streams. This included the development of training for board members to assist them with enhancing their professional networks and utilizing their knowledge of the agency to increase donorship and interest in the organization.

The Board of Directors worked collaboratively to expand the experience of the board more supportively within the organization. Collaborations on research projects contributed to access to academic support of our research projects. Legal advice and support provided essential advice in assisting the organization at a stronger level without excessive cost. Technological support and training has been another area of expertise that has contributed significantly to the agency's effectiveness.





ANNOUNCEMENT



Elizabeth Fry Society would like to congratulate Gord Sand on his retirement and thank him for the many years of partnership with our organization and his service to the justice sector.

After 38 years as Executive Director of the Calgary John Howard Society (CJHS), Gord Sand announced that he will be retiring on June 30, 2019. Since 1981, Gord has played a critical role in the growth of CJHS from 20 employees with one halfway house, to close to 150 employees and a multitude of programs that serve a myriad of needs for those involved in the justice system.

With Gord at the helm, CJHS has greatly increased its impact to provide housing, education, employment programs and support for at-risk youth and adults who have had criminal involvement. These programs help to reduce crime in Calgary by providing alternatives for those at risk of breaking the law.

Gord also played an integral role in starting a partnership with the Elizabeth Fry Society of Calgary for Berkana House, which continues to provide transitional supportive housing for women reintegrating into the community after incarceration.

Thanks AND RECOGNITION

Funders and Grantors

Alberta Justice and Solicitor General
Alberta Law Foundation
Calgary Learns
Heritage Canada
Human Rights and Education Ministry - Alberta
Ministry of Child Services
Service Canada
Soroptomists Canada
UWAY

Fiscal Support

Calgary Foundation – Knowledge Keepers Helpers
Calgary Homeless Foundation – Aboriginal Standing Committee on Housing and Homelessness
Calgary Homeless Foundation – Creation Lodge
UWAY – Knowledge Keepers Helpers

PRACTICUM STUDENTS

Mount Royal

Rachel Reichert
Fatuma Farah
Euginia Olumo

University of Calgary

Natalia Sbarzella
Lindsey Ryland
Claire McMillan
Larissa Szlavik

University of Lethbridge

Jackson Eckes
Erika Ramirez

University of Calgary – Community Rehabilitation

Gillian Price
Candace Parsons
Jesse Young

University of Alberta – Public Health

Alexandra KanTERS

University of Illinois – Public Health

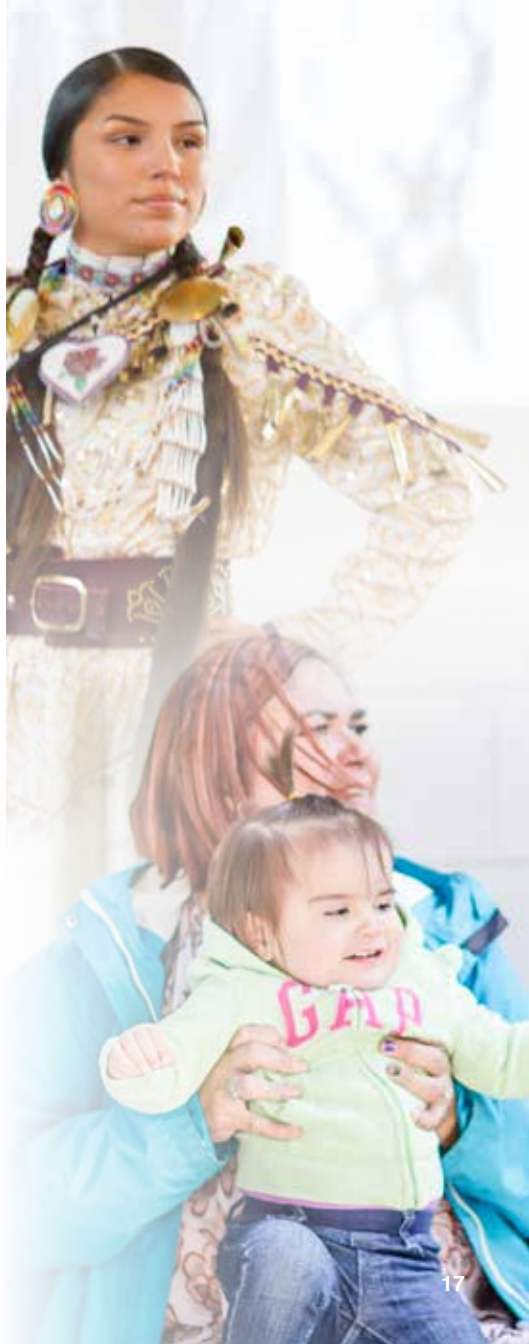
Karis Baker

“I REALLY APPRECIATE BEING GIVEN THE OPPORTUNITY TO COMPLETE MY PRACTICUM WITH EFRY. I AM GRATEFUL THAT I WAS ABLE TO TRY DIFFERENT ROLES AND BE INTRODUCED TO INDIGENOUS PRACTICES AND CEREMONY. I FEEL THAT THIS AGENCY IS A GREAT PLACE FOR A PRACTICUM STUDENT TO LEARN. THANK YOU!”

Claire

“ I WILL SAY I AM REALLY APPRECIATIVE OF THE FACT THAT I WAS ABLE TO PARTICIPATE IN THE INDIGENOUS PROGRAMMING. THE PROGRAM GAVE ME THE OPPORTUNITY TO INTERACT ONE ON ONE WITH INDIGENOUS PEOPLE WITHOUT THE COUNSELLOR/CLIENT BARRIER. “

Enginia



VOLUNTEERS

Adult Court

Adebola Wilcox – 2018
Brian Or – 2016 – 2018
Danika DeCarlo-Slobodnik – 2017-2018
Colson Buchanan – 2018-Current
Jayco Teng – 2018
Olga Brito – 2018-Current
Oxana Gryshchenko – 2018-Current
Peri Brosemer – 2018
Rameen Mazhar – 2017-2018
Richard Prepolec – 2017-2018
Stela Markaj – 2018 - Current
Tatiyana DeCosta – 2018-Current
Terry-Lynn Zefi – 2018-2019
Toni Fox - 2017 – Current
Zainub Rahman - 2017 - Current

Domestic Violence Court

Ademola Emiloju – 2018-Current
Chioma Ahaneku – 2018
Danika DeCarlo-Slobodnik – 2017-2018
Deepti Sharma – 2018-Current
Erika Bustillo – 2018-Current
Everlys Roa – 2018-Current
Lynda Ezike – 2018
Luz Marina Ramirez – 2018-Current
Tanaaz Padania – 2018
Temitope Oluleye – 2018
William Musani – 2016-2018
Yemi Yorinde – 2018

Traffic & Bylaw Court

Aamara Hameed – 2017-2018
Amanda Kruis – 2017-2018
Andrea Fong – 2018-Current

Anna Berselli – 201-Current
Alessandra Virga – 2017-2018
Alexander Chaudhry – 2018-2019
Alexandra Champagne – 2018-2019
Allison Warshawski – 2017-Current
Auska Adhikari – 201-2018
Aymen Sherwani – 2018-Current
Carrie Sheffel Fryer – 2017-Current
Danielle Dufresne – 2018-2019
Diana Rochester – 2018-Current
Erika Bustillo – 2018-Current
Gurmeet Sawaich – 2018-Current
Gursharan Gill – 2018-Current
Husam Arafat – 2018
Jaskirat Ghuttora – 2018-Current
Jooyeon (Caley) Shim – 2018-Current
Laura Sandau – 2017-2018
Lindsay Nguyen – 2018-Current
Manraj Ghuttora – 2018-Current
Maria Biado – 2018-2019
Marie Rebustillo – 2017-Current
Natalia Montanez – 2017-2019
Nyssa Birkett – 2018-Current
Ponle Ojemakinde – 2018
Renalene Balatico – 2018-Current
Sarah Rizvi – 2018-Current
Serena Sajan – 2018-Current
Shaina Suleman – 2018-2019
Shayla Olsen – 2018-Current
Shelby Page – 2017-2018
Sohyun (Christine) Cho – 2017-Current
Sonali Sharma – 2016-2018
Sydney McIvor – 2017-2018
Tatiyana Decosta – 2018-Current
Taylor Leckman – 2018-2019

Youth Court

Allison Warshawski – 2017-Current
Ashna Dhalla – 2018 Current
Bradley Allen – 2018-Current
Brian Or – 2016-2019
Elizabeth Murray – 2016-2018
Evan Lintick – 2017-2018
Natasha Gaspar – 2018-Current
Sabrina Chehade – 2018-Current

Regional Court

Gurmeet Sawaich – 2018-Current
Nyssa Birkett – 2018-Current

Legal Advocacy

Vikas Rao Panguanti – 2017-2018

Special Events

Auska Adhikari – 2016-2018
Alexandra Champagne – 2018-2019
Anna Berselli – 2018-Current
Brittney Wagner – 2017-Current
Carrie Sheftel Fryer – 2017-Current
Natalie Jovanic – 2018-Current
Toni Fox - 2017-Current
Sohyun (Christine) Cho – 2017-Current

Program Resource

Aymen Sherwani – 2018-Current
Bianca Smetacek – 2018
Bret Crowle – 2017 – 2018
Brittney Wagner – 2017-Current
Navjot Jassar – 2018
Jeannine Moore – 2018-Current
Johanna Marklund – 2018
Julianna Kierzek – 2018 - Current
Camila Jaco – 2017-2018
Eugenia Olumo – 2018
Kuldeep Sandhu – 2018-Current
Selby Quinn – 2018-Current
Selwynne Hawkins – 2018-Current
Sheryl Thompson – 2018

Youth Mentors

Alyson Fogarty – 2018-Current
Avalon Forrester – 2018-Current
Ashna Dhalla – 201-Current
Bradley Allen – 2018-2019
Brad Rains – 2017-Current
Brandon Stoehr – 2018
Bryce Patton – 2018-2019
Chantel McCullough – 2018-Current
Chynthya Gindele – 2017-2018
Du'ah Alsoubani-2018
Erika Ramirez – 201-2018
Evan Lintick – 2017-2018
Felicia Fuerstenberg – 2018-Current
Garrett Sauer – 2018-Current
Hasham Kamran – 2018-Current
Hope Sommerville – 2016-2019
Irene Chan – 2017 – 2019
Jackson Eckes – 2018-Current
Jason Baker – 2018-Current
Jayme Kantor – 2018-Current
Jessica Zuk – 2018-Current
Kimberly Sherger – 2018-Current
Kendra Mueri – 2018
Laura-Anne Goulding – 2018-Current
Lily Harris – 2017- 2018
Lyndsay Allen – 2016-Current
Lyndon McMaster – 2018
Mitchell Rains – 2017-2019
Natasha Gaspar – 2018-Current
Rafia Babar – 2018
Richard Kelsey – 2016-Current
Ryan McCullough – 2018
Sandra Ilic – 2016 – 2019
Zainub Rahman – 2017-Current



VOLUNTEER PROFILE

Selby Quinn

Selby Quinn is an undergraduate student at the University of Calgary. Currently, she is enrolled in a Bachelor of Social Work degree, having returned to school after graduating from a Women's Studies program and working in the social services industry for several years. After learning about the Elizabeth Fry Society of Calgary while working for the Calgary Food Bank, she realized it was the perfect blend of her areas of interest. She started volunteering with the Community Outreach Intake team as a Volunteer in January of 2018. Her role includes answering phone calls and emails, and interacting with clients to ensure their needs are met. Selby loves that no two days are the same in this role! Selby is also part of the Social Workers

for Social Justice group in Calgary, who work to bring attention to issues such as racism and sexism. In her free time, she likes to teach herself to sew, embroider and spend time at her parents' farm.

What has working with the Elizabeth Fry Society taught you, both in your personal and professional life?

Through working with the Elizabeth Fry Society, Selby believes she has gained a significantly deeper understanding of the criminal justice system. She has also been striving to learn more about the effects of colonialism on Indigenous

populations. Working with the organization has helped her reach this objective. In addition, she has learned the importance of empathy within the field of social work. This has built her confidence in working and interacting with clients more significantly.

Why do you believe the community should be supporting the Elizabeth Fry Society? OR What impact do you think the Elizabeth Fry Society has made in the community?

When asked what people should know about the Society, Selby said: “One of the most incredible aspects is that I can say without reservation that there is care and empathy that goes into every single interaction with clients. I have seen so often staff members go above and beyond to support anyone walking through the door. The flexibility the staff has to use discretion with each client to tailor supports to them is inspiring.... the organization looks at the many intersections that women face when involved in the justice system as well as other social services institutions. They do so with a concerted effort to adopt Indigenous perspectives and ways of knowing. Most importantly, they do this from a trauma-informed lens with dignity and respect at the forefront.”

To potential volunteers, Selby says: “I would wholeheartedly suggest they join the team. As a Community Outreach Intake volunteer, I would make sure that they were comfortable with being flexible and rolling with the punches, because when you volunteer in human services, it is important to stress the human side of it. Things change quickly and we are there to support our clients in the best way we can!”

How has your role with the Elizabeth Fry Society changed you as a person? How do you think it has changed or impacted those who’ve come to its doors seeking help?

Selby recalls a meaningful encounter in February of this year: “I volunteered for the Honouring our Voices Gathering. It was truly amazing to be a part of this event. As a volunteer supporting attendees through the Tea Dance Ceremony, I was able to witness the grief, sorrow, and pain that so many Indigenous families experience. We know the statistics, but a completely different education to listen to the accounts of such tragedy. More importantly, I was also able to see the incredible resilience of people, the power of culture and community, and the importance of honouring through ceremony.” On making a difference, Selby says “I feel like I do make a difference to clients, but I feel that I also do this by supporting the various staff members in the office allowing them to do their work. The staff are exceptional and really do make a huge difference in people’s lives.”

About volunteering, Selby adds “I love it so much. It is an incredible way to put action behind words. Being a student and on a tight budget it is not as easy for me to give financially to the causes that are important to me but being able to use my skills to support is the best!” Specifically, on volunteering with the Elizabeth Fry Society, she beams “I have mentioned so much of what inspires me about the organization, but one thing I do want to point out is the strong women that lead the organization. They lead a great team. I am truly blown away.”

PARTNERSHIPS AND COLLABORATIONS

Our community partnerships and collaborations are key to our success. No organization can resolve social issues without the expertise and support and collective action of the community. To advance our work at the highest level possible we rely on collaborative solutions by working within the overall system of care. EFry is proud of our relationships with other organizations and our ability to share knowledge and resources to improve the lives of those we serve.

Aboriginal Futures

Alberta Health Services (AHS) – Mental Health Diversion and Calgary Remand Centre

Alberta Justice and Solicitor General (Calgary Remand, Lethbridge Correctional and Calgary Young Offender Centre)

Alberta Justice and Solicitor General (Calgary Court Centre and the Regional Courts of Airdrie, Canmore, Cochrane, Didsbury and Okotoks).

Albertaworks

Alex Youth Centre

Athabasca University

Bow Valley College

Brenda's House

Calgary Alpha House Society

Calgary Bridge Foundation

Calgary Bridges to Youth

Calgary Chamber of Voluntary Organizations

Calgary Women's Emergency Shelter

Calgary Immigrant Education Society

Calgary Immigrant Women's Society

Calgary Legal Guidance

Calgary Public Library

Calgary Region Immigrant Employment Council

Calgary Women's Emergency Shelter

Canadian Association of Elizabeth Fry Societies

Centre for Newcomers

Chinook Learning Services

City of Calgary Affordable Housing

Columbia College

Coordinated Access and Assessment – Calgary Homeless Foundation

Correction Services Canada – Calgary Parole (The) Duke of Edinburg's Award (Alberta)

Homefront

Immigrant Services Calgary

Legal Aid of Alberta

Pathways Community Services Association – Miskanawah

Propellus: Volunteer Centre of Calgary

Regional Courts Victim Assistance

Rowan House

Siksika Family Services – White Buffalo

SORCe

Stoney Community Health Centre

Stoney Tsuut'ina Correctional Services

Sunrise Healing Lodge

Temporary Foreign Worker's Advisory Office

Turning Point – Morley

University of Calgary

Walk in Closet

Welcome Centre for New Immigrants

Women's Centre of Calgary

Women in Need

Youth Criminal Defence Office

YW Calgary

COMMITTEE WORK

Aboriginal Standing Committee on Housing and Homelessness

Action Committee on Human Trafficking

Calgary Legal Guidance - Sahwoo mohkaak tsi ma taas Advisory Council

Calgary Court Case Management

City of Calgary Affordable Housing - One Window Affordable Housing Common Assessment

Collaboration for Health to Home – previously Calgary Recovery Services Task Force

Honoring our Voices Healing Gathering

Indigenous Health, Housing and Homelessness Collaborative

UWAY Natoo'si – Community of Practice Group

Vibrant Communities Calgary – Justice Sector Constellation

2019 OUTLOOK

In 2019, EFry will continue to advance our role in providing supports to women, youth and vulnerable populations. Housing is one of the main factors for women returning from incarceration. Therefore, having housing after incarceration is a priority need for women to regain their stability, particularly women with children or pregnant women. We will continue to build upon our community partnerships and collaborations to support better access to housing supports that fits the needs of the women we serve.

We are in the process of completing a research study on the effects of criminal records and employment. Our desire is to utilize recommendations from the study for strategies that reduce barriers to women when seeking employment. Without viable and sustainable employment, women are more likely to resort to criminalization for survival.

As we continue to strive towards excellence we consistently review and evaluate our programs and structures to ensure we are operating effectively and our services are achieving optimum outcomes.

FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO HELP THE
WOMEN AND YOUTH WE SERVE,

Connect
with us

1731 – 10 Avenue SW
Calgary, Alberta T3C 0K1

Across the street from the Sunalta LRT station


reception@elizabethfrycalgary.ca
(403) 294-0737

TF 1 (877) 398-3656

FAX (403) 262-0285

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 EFryCalgary  @EFryYYC

 Elizabeth Fry Society of Calgary