

ANNUAL REPORT 2021-2022

THE VICTORIA CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION AND COUNSELLING CENTRE RESPONDS TO CHILDREN, YOUTH AND FAMILIES AFFECTED BY SEXUAL ABUSE AND OTHER TRAUMA BY PROVIDING VICTIM SERVICES, COUNSELLING, PREVENTION AND EDUCATION WITHIN THE GREATER VICTORIA COMMUNITY AND CONSULTATION THROUGHOUT THE PROVINCE OF BRITISH COLUMBIA



**Victoria Child Abuse
Prevention & Counselling
Centre**



STAFF AND BOARD OF DIRECTORS PAST AND PRESENT

Board of Directors

PREVIOUS

Melanie Duggan, Chair

Beth Sayles, Secretary

Graeme Leblanc

Tasha Mckelvey

Lauren Duffield

Jeremy Leahy

Marvelee Papaloukas

Miranda Kinniburgh

Mikhail (Misha) Smirnov

Chris Faulkner

CURRENT

Graeme LeBlanc, Chair

Beth Sayles, Secretary

Tasha Mckelvey, Treasurer

Lauren Duffield

Jeremy Leahy

Marvelee Papaloukas

Miranda Kinniburgh

Mikhail (Misha) Smirnov

Chris Faulkner

Staff

PREVIOUS

Sandra Bryce, Executive Director

Shawna Herlinveaux, Manager of Practice

Kelly Montgomery, Manager of Victim Services
and CYAC Coordinator

Samuel Cameron, Admin Manager

Renu Bawa, Anna Chadwick, Clare Conlogue,

Joban Dhanoa, Heather Duncan, Emmy

Lyytikainen, Susan Payne, Angela Scott, Ken
Seidman

CURRENT

Laura Vye, Executive Director

Shawna Herlinveaux, Manager of Practice

Renu Bawa, Manager of Victim Services and
CYAC Coordinator

Samuel Cameron, Admin Manager

Jeevan Atwal, Anna Chadwick, Clare Conlogue,

Joban Dhanoa, Heather Duncan, Lauren

Goostrey, Vanya Hanson, Emmy Lyytikainen,
Susan Payne, Angela Scott

REPORT FROM THE CHAIR

They say that the only constant is change, and that remains true for the Victoria Child Abuse Prevention and Counselling Centre. The past year has seen a great deal of change as our community sees itself slowly, (ever so slowly), coming out of the Covid-19 health pandemic. Despite all of the challenges, our dedicated staff continue to provide victim services, prevention, education, and counselling to children, youth, and families affected by sexual abuse and trauma throughout the Greater Victoria area. I can't think of many roles in our society as honourable and noble as those who help those who cannot help themselves.

It was my very great pleasure to assume the role of Chair of the Board of Directors from Melanie Duggan early this summer. Unfortunately, Mel cannot be in attendance today, but her steady and unwavering commitment to the Board and Agency was tremendously valued. We also said goodbye to Sandy Bryce as Executive Director and welcomed Laura Vye into the role. It is difficult to properly articulate the influence Sandy has had in her ten plus years as Executive Director towards the development and growth of our agency, but I think we can all agree it has been immense. She is a leader and a giant in her field, and we wish her good health and happiness in her retirement. The remaining Board members, Lauren Duffield, Chris Faulkner, Miranda Kinniburgh, Jeremy Leahy, Marvelee Papaloukas, Tasha Mckelvey, and Misha Smirnov remain dedicated and committed to navigating the agency through a positive future.

Looking forward sees us continuing plans to expand our services into the Westshore area, build and strengthen our partnerships with police, MCFD, and like-minded agencies. With our recent negotiated settlement to our former Cook Street lease and our amazing new work space here, the agency's future looks very promising indeed.

Graeme LeBlanc

CHAIR OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

REPORT FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Although I was just recently appointed as the new Executive Director of the Victoria Child Abuse Prevention and Counselling Agency (VCAPCC), I have been involved with the agency for over 10 years as a previous Board of Directors member, designer for both locations of the Child and Youth Advocacy Centres and the new agency office space, and as a volunteer. When I reflect on the past year, words that come to mind are resiliency, transition, and succession.

Resiliency: Resiliency is the ability to recover quickly from difficulties. The last two and a half years have been challenging for VCAPCC, our communities, and our children, due to the global pandemic. Our staff, management, and even our clients have all displayed resilience in responding to the changes forced upon us during this time. Our service excellence did not waver. We were creative and found innovative ways to continue to provide counselling, victim services, and advocacy to the vulnerable children and youth within our communities. While some services remained in person with restrictions and policies to ensure everyone's safety, others moved to an outside setting, or online platform. While not ideal, these proved to be good solutions for social distancing requirements. Our staff displayed grit and determination to continue business as usual. Our staff also displayed resiliency through their continuation of services during the physical move of the agency to the new office space. Many thanks to the administration team, Sam and Emmy, for the extra work this involved from their end.

We have continued to thrive and provide service excellence to the children we serve. In the last few months, we have welcomed our clients back for in person counselling and therapy. We continue to engage with community partners and host Multidisciplinary Team meetings each month with police, child protection, and victim service advocates. Our CYAC and child interview rooms continue to provide a safe, inclusive, environment for children and youth during their most difficult times. Thank you to our staff and community partners for your collaborative spirit and dedication to vulnerable children and youth.

Our Board of Directors are unwavering in their dedication to VCAPCC and throughout the pandemic engaged in virtual meetings to conduct business and support us. Thank you to each one of you.

REPORT FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR (CONT.)

Transition: This year we transitioned to a new and improved space in downtown Victoria that allows the administration and counselling sides of the agency to be collocated with the Victoria Child and Youth Advocacy Centre (CYAC). As many of you know, the agency was previously located on Cook Street in an office building, which, at the time, served our needs for the counselling and therapy for abused children and youth. Our CYAC was in another location. To have all of our services under one roof was always the dream scenario for the delivery of timely, effective services. Well our dreams have come true, and we are grateful. Our new location is a waterfront heritage building from the 1800's, which required extensive renovations during the challenging pandemic times, to become what it is today. What used to be a gutted warehouse style space and former nightclub, has become a warm, trauma informed, inclusive, and calm setting. Families are greeted at our reception in a comfortable setting with child friendly space and furniture, including a fireplace. Each counsellor has their own office, we have a dedicated art therapy room, and a large play therapy room with an "outdoor" space. We also have a multipurpose room for group sessions, meetings, and training. Our building manager Shawn Steele, the Board of Directors Building Committee, staff, and Executive Director Sandra Bryce, worked tirelessly to assist and support us in realizing our dream space.

Succession: Succession planning is passing leadership roles to other employees and ensures that businesses continue to run smoothly and without interruption, after important people move on to new opportunities, or retire. In our particular case, our long time Executive Director Sandra Bryce retired after 15 years. We also lost our dedicated CYAC Manager of Victim Assistance Programs, Kelly Montgomery, who also retired. Another important person we lost to retirement was counsellor, Ken Seidman, who was with VCAPCC for 30 years. Our Board of Directors Chair, Melanie Duggan, has also moved on after many years of service. Although we have lost key people, we have gained key people. Renu Bawa, formerly a Victim Service Advocate, has replaced Kelly. We have hired 2 new counsellors and a new Victim Service Advocate. Graeme LeBlanc is the new Board Chair and I look forward to working alongside him. Although we said goodbye to our former colleagues, we have welcomed new people with fresh ideas and a variety of experience, so we can continue to develop and progress as a center of excellence. Thank you to each and everyone of you for your dedicated service.

REPORT FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR (CONT.)

The VCAPCC has so much to be grateful for. In addition to the above, Sandy, as our agency representative, received the 2021 Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General-Crime Prevention and Community Safety award. This award recognizes exceptional leadership, celebrates, and recognizes individuals for their outstanding contributions to crime prevention and community safety in British Columbia. Three of our clinical counsellors completed EMDR-training which will allow us to offer another valuable form of treatment to our clients. We received 3 year accreditation by the CARF Association, which proves our commitment to continually improving service while receiving feedback and serving the community. Several of our community partners and staff attended the National Children's Alliance Conference in Washington DC, which brings together dedicated professionals from all over North America who are affiliated with Child and Youth Advocacy Centers. We are members of the BC Network of Child and Youth Advocacy Centres that champion the profound benefits CYACs have demonstrated since the first centre opened in British Columbia ten years ago.

Financially, we continue to be in a strong position. We are thankful for funding provided by the Civil Forfeiture Office, Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General, Ministry of Children and Family Development, Federal Department of Justice, and BC Gaming. Our other generous donors include Vancouver Foundation, Victoria Foundation, Norgaard Foundation, Canadian Women's Foundation, Provincial Employees Community Services Fund, 100+ Women Who Care, and many individual, group, and business donors. We are thankful for many supportive community partners: David Levinson, from DA Levinson and Associates, Allen and Kraul Inc, Shaw Steele from Cedric Steele Realty, our police and child protection partners. Along with our focus on the transitions and successions, including pandemic recovery, we have also continued to focus on the sustainability of the integral community services we provide to the children, youth, and families of the Greater Victoria area who are affected by child abuse. With the ongoing support from the community, generous donations, grants, and funding, the Victoria Child Abuse Prevention and Counselling Centre will continue to be a primary resource and centre of excellence for all children in our community.

Laura Vye

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

REPORT FROM THE TREASURER

I would like to sincerely thank our members and stakeholders for their continued support of the Victoria Child Abuse Prevention and Counselling Centre. This year has seen a major change for the organization with the main office location moving from Cook St to the newly renovated address on Wharf St. Although there have been some growing pains and associated costs, it has been a strategic move for the benefit of the agency overall. I am happy to report that through these changes we have maintained fiscal stability in the 2021/2022 year.

It is important to acknowledge the continued support of the provincial and federal governments towards the agency's core programming and operations. In addition to this support, the Agency has continued to seek out annual and longer term grants and donations when possible in order to cover gaps in government funding for all forms of trauma. We are deeply thankful to the organizations and individuals who have generously donated to the agency and for the grants received, approved and considered in the past year. While we are conscious of continued risk factors, such as the rising costs of living, growing inflation, gaps in government funding, and the increased need for services in the outer regions of Greater Victoria, we are pleased with the grants and support that we have secured which will aid the agency in continued fiscal stability into the 2022/23 year.

I would like to thank David Levinson, Diondra Hall, and Rajvir Gill of D.A. Levinson and Associates Inc. for their accounting services and Sara Krauel of Allen & Krauel Inc. for her review engagement services. I would also like to express sincere gratitude to our previous Executive Director, Sandra Bryce, for her commitment to the VCAPCC's financial security and to our new Executive Director, Laura Vye who has made this a top priority as well.

Tasha Mckelvey

TREASURER

REFERRALS

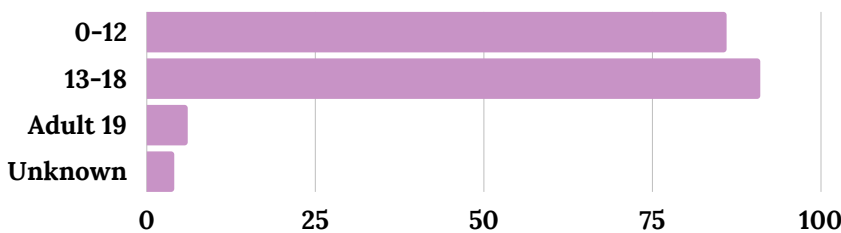


FIGURE 3. REFERRALS BY AGE (LEFT)

Number of referrals broken down by the age of the client at the time of the referral

FIGURE 4. REFERRAL SOURCE (RIGHT)

Source of the referral broken down by percentage

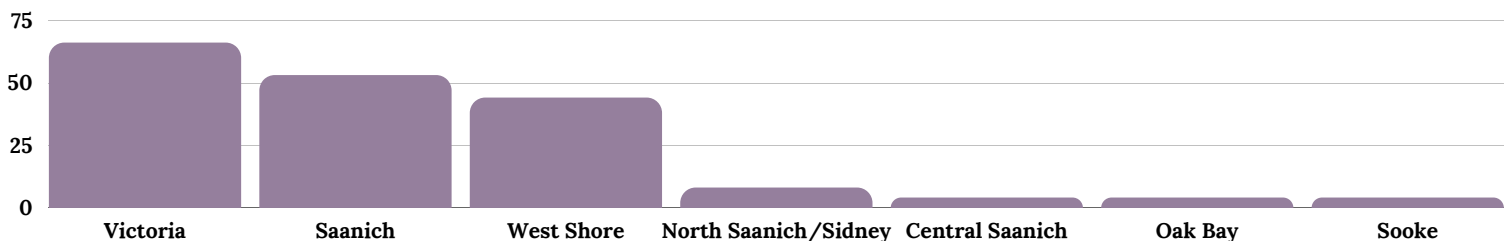
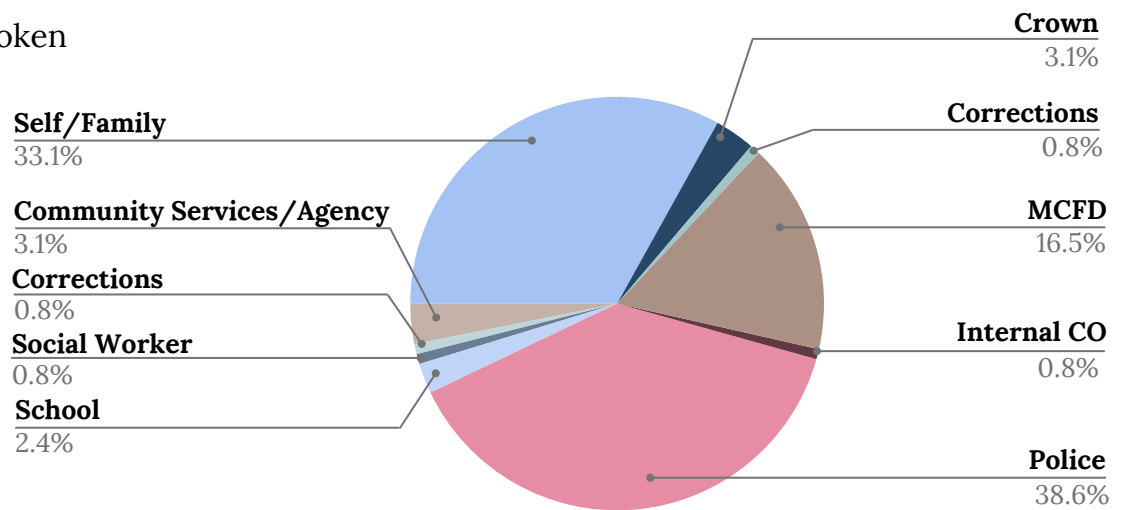
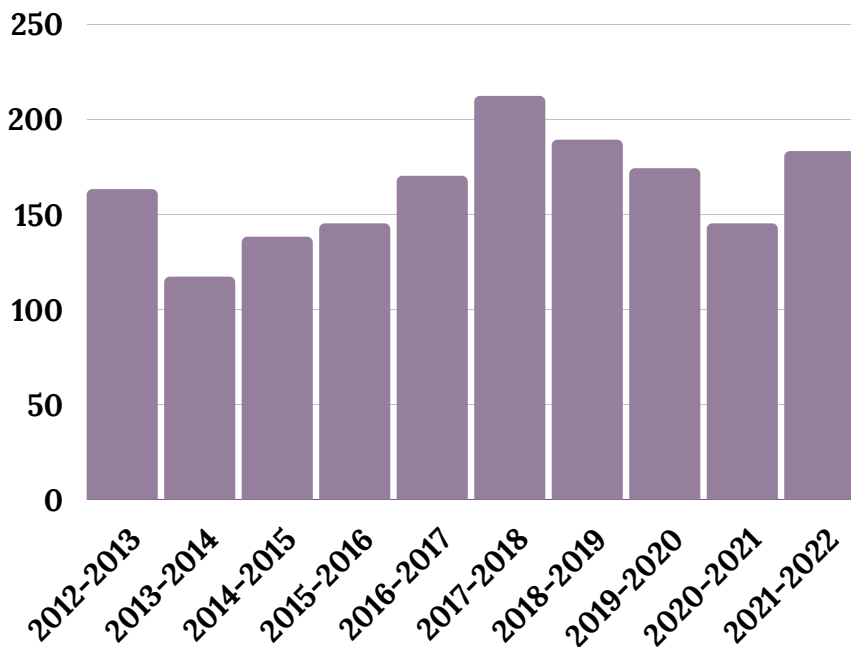


FIGURE 5. LOCATION DURING REFERRAL

Location of client during time of intake

REFERRALS



GENDER OF NEW CLIENTS:

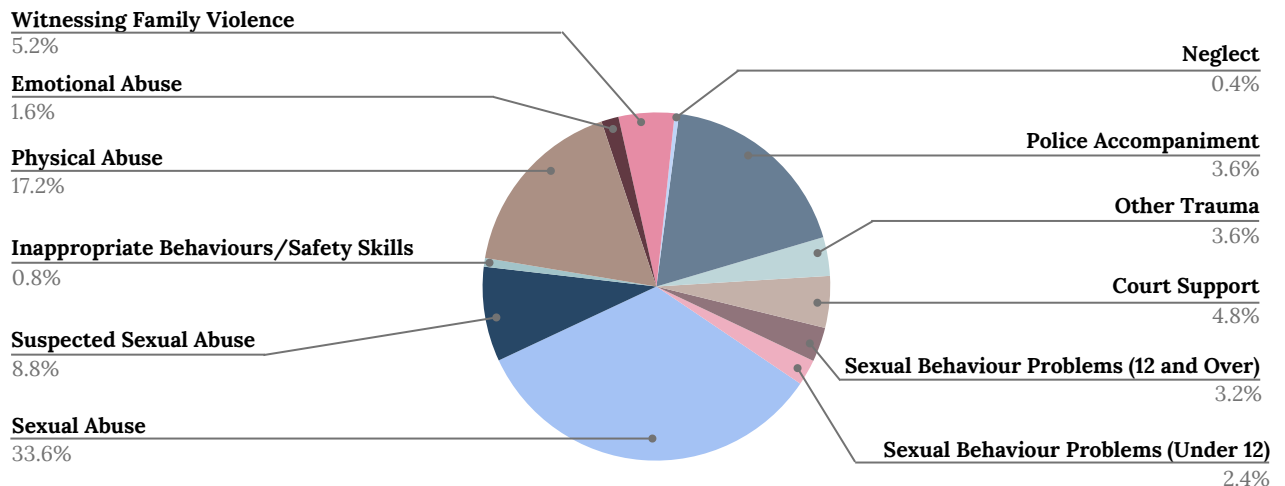
Female: 109
 Transgender Female: 0
 Male: 67
 Transgender Male: 1
 Non-Binary: 1
 Unspecified: 6

FIGURE 1. NUMBER OF REFERRALS IN THE PAST DECADE

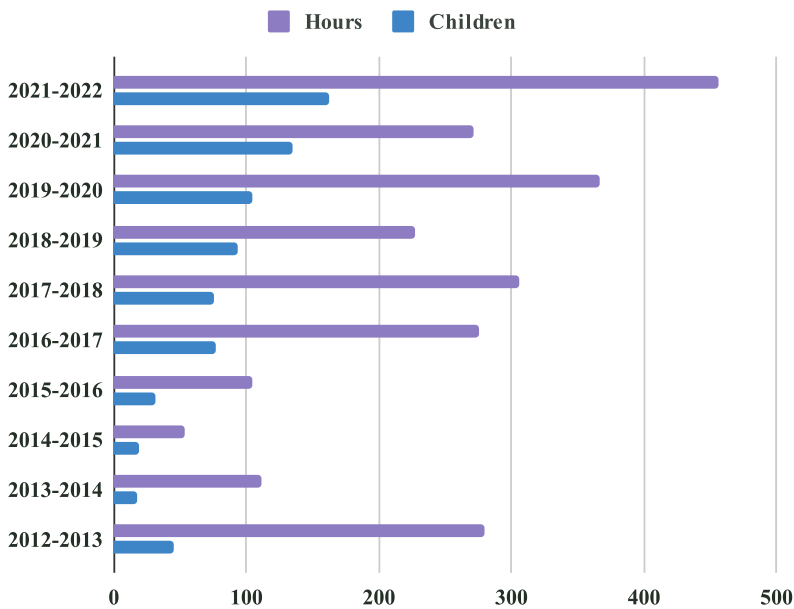
In 2021-2022, VCAPCC received a total of 183 referrals

FIGURE 2. REASON FOR REFERRAL

Reason for referral broken down by percentage



VICTIM SERVICES



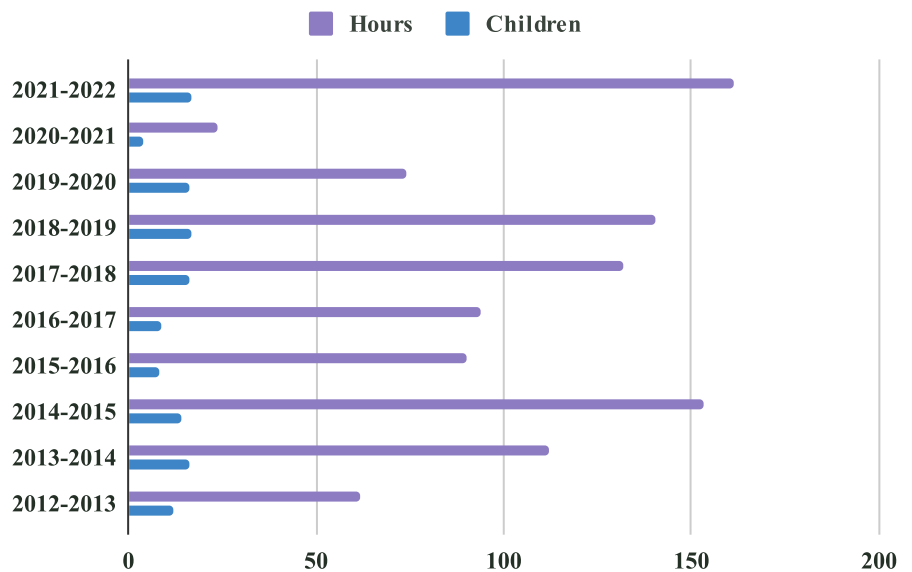
Our intake and victim service team handles all of the referrals to VCAPCC. Our statistical report includes the following charts which illustrate the number of clients and hours of service provided in court preparation, and court accompaniment.

FIGURE 6. COURT PREPARATION

Number of children provided with court preparation and number of hours spent on court preparation over the last decade

FIGURE 7. COURT ACCOMPANIMENT

Number of children provided with court accompaniment and number of hours spent on court accompaniment over the last decade



CHILD AND YOUTH ADVOCACY CENTRE

The Victoria Child and Youth Advocacy Centre received 148 referrals with 47 interviews completed. Over 117 individuals were supported by Victim Services and connected with resources.

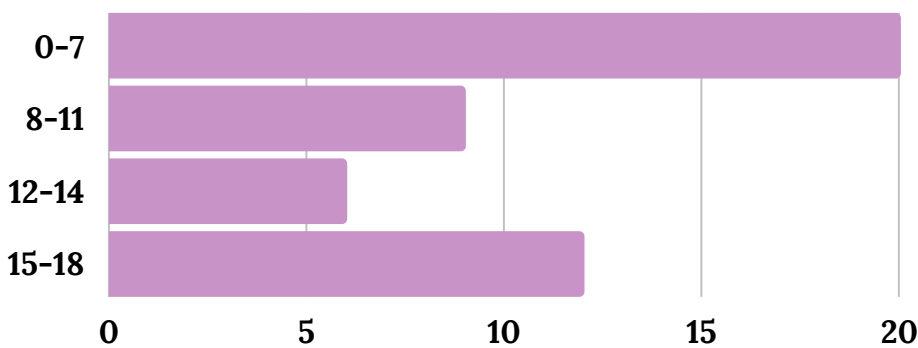
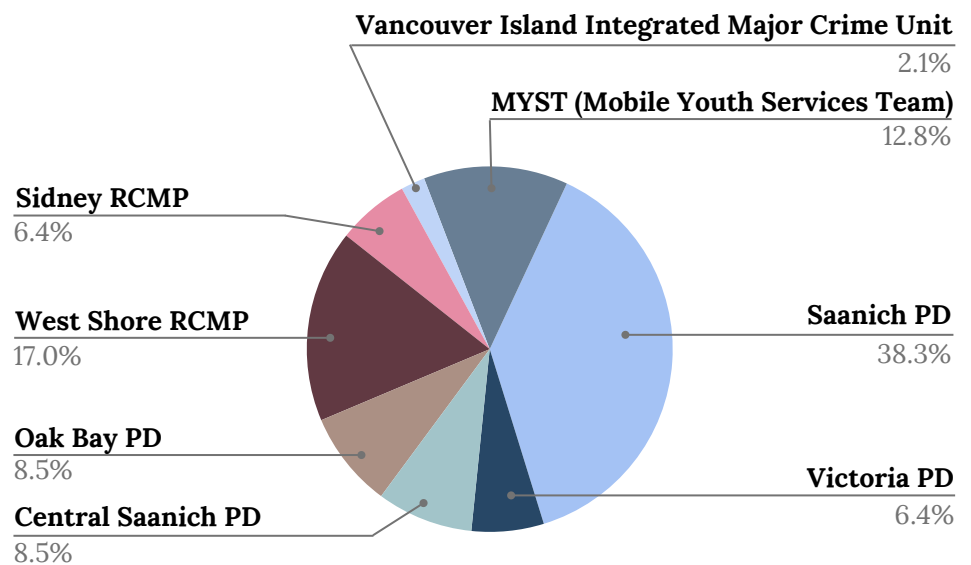


FIGURE 8. CYAC INTERVIEWS BY AGE

Number of interviews broken down by the age of the client during the time of the interview

FIGURE 9. INTERVIEWS CONDUCTED BY PARTICIPATING POLICE DEPARTMENT

Number of interviews broken down by police department



OUR TREATMENT PHILOSOPHY AND PRINCIPLES

- Every individual is unique and worthwhile and has the capacity to change.
- Child abuse affects the whole person and recovery or healing requires addressing all parts of the person including: psychological, physical and spiritual
- Child abuse affects the family and significant others of the person who has experienced abuse and treatment must address the needs of the family and others significant to the individual
- Child abuse affects the whole society: the treatment of child abuse is a shared community responsibility

VCAPCC strives to tailor its treatment program to be consistent with the following principles:

- The goal and primary objective of all interventions are to promote and facilitate the emotional, physical and social well-being of the family and child. This objective takes precedence over any investigative or other objective
- The agency recognizes the complexity of issues involved in child abuse and that in many instances abuse is inter-related with other issues. Accordingly, treatment must be provided by qualified, professional counselors with broad experience in counselling and therapy and specialized skills related to treating child sexual abuse.
- Clients are accepted in a non-judgmental manner.
- The clinical team values the contribution of a number of different therapeutic perspectives in the areas of child abuse. Different perspectives and techniques are used in accordance with the assessed needs of the client.

THANK YOU TO OUR DONORS

PROVINCIAL/FEDERAL FUNDING AND GRANTS

BC Gaming Grant, Civil Forfeiture, Federal Department of Justice, Ministry of Children and Family Development, Ministry of Public Safety & Solicitor General

ORGANIZATION/GROUP DONATIONS

Acoustic Panels Canada, Beatrice Stevens Memorial Foundation, Canadian Women's Foundation, Canada Helps, 100 Women Who Care Victoria and Langford, CIBC, Cedric Steele Realty, Community Energy Association DA Levinson & Associates, Federation of Community Social Services of BC, Institute of Ocean Sciences, Johns Southward Glazier Walton & Margetts LLP, La Mer Jewellery, Lovett Westmacott, Morello Communications Incorporated, Norgaard Foundation, NTT Data Services, Pixelart Computers, Saanich Peninsula Christadelphian, Provincial Employees Community Services Fund, Ryzuk Geotechnical Ltd., Service Canada, Smith Hutchison Law Corporation, TD Bank, Telus Communications, Tim Cormode, United Way, Vancouver Foundation, Victoria Fire Fighters Charitable Foundation, Victoria Foundation, Workday, Youth and Philanthropy Initiative Canada

INDIVIDUAL DONORS

Anastasia Schwarze, Andrea Katz, Ann Jackson, Beverly Brookman, Carmen Reppel, Cheryl Pardue, Christina Holmes, Cindy LeBarron, Craig Shillington, David McArthur, Diana Nicholson, Jonathan Bell, K. Sheanne O'Sullivan, Macarena Schindler, Maddy Bentley, Mary Donna Brunger, Mike and Jane Leahy, Pamela Dawson, Raya MacKenzie, Sarah Priddy, Theresa Kirillo, Tomer Sasson,

And to all of our anonymous donors... Thank you!