



north east outreach
and support services

Future Hope Capital Campaign

Capital Campaign Information

Updated June 8, 2015

North East Outreach and Support Services

- North East Outreach and Support Services (NEOSS) is a non-profit organization that was established in 1984 (31 years ago) to provide services to individuals and families in north east Saskatchewan affected by domestic and sexual violence.
- North East Outreach and Support Services offers personal violence prevention and support, community outreach services and public awareness programs, as well as a resource centre and 24-hour crisis line. It also provides counselling, information and education, advocacy and referral programs to help women and children achieve safety and stability in their lives.
- Future services will include safety, wellness, personal growth, knowledge around domestic violence, self-care, life skills and parenting information.
- NEOSS provides service to all victims of domestic violence – women, men and children. NEOSS helps everyone, regardless of race, age, status, etc. However, NEOSS does not work with offenders.
- Executive Director – Louise Schweitzer:
 - 2006-2007(covered mat leave)
 - 2008 crisis worker
 - 2009 (covered mat leave as Executive Director)
 - July 2010 permanent Executive Director
- NEOSS staff:
 - Executive Director
 - Outreach Workers (2)
 - Shelter Manager (1)
 - Office Administrator (1),
 - Financial Manager (1)
 - Crisis Line Workers (3)
- Governed by a seven-member Board of Directors.

- NEOSS receives funding through government grants, individual and community donations, and fundraising initiatives. However, NEOSS does not receive First Nations funding. In order for First Nations to commit to funding, they must have 51 per cent of the operational control.
- The NEOSS office has been located on McKendry Avenue in Melfort since 1994.

Domestic violence

- There is a significant need for domestic violence programs and services in north east Saskatchewan – an area that includes Nipawin to the north, Hudson Bay to the east, Wadena to the south and St. Brieux to the west.
- On a yearly basis, NEOSS' Personal Violence Prevention and Support Program serves nearly 400 clients, while the crisis line receives well over 400 calls per year on such issues as sexual assault, personal safety and suicide intervention.
- In Saskatchewan, domestic violence is twice the Canadian average. The province also has the highest reported rates of domestic violence in the country.
- On average, 1 in 4 women will be victims of abuse.
- The Government of Saskatchewan last built a domestic violence shelter in 1989 (26 years ago).

House of Hope – Domestic Violence Shelter

- NEOSS received permission to build the new domestic violence shelter in 2013. It was the fourth submission to government for the shelter since its initial application in 2010.
- The sod turning took place in April 2014, followed by the beginning of construction in May 2014.
- The new facility is 7,350 square feet on the main floor – 5,000 for shelter space and 2,350 for NEOSS administration. However, the administration area can be converted to shelter space, if necessary
- With seven family rooms, the shelter is licensed to hold 16 women and children, but has a capacity of up to 20 people if changes are made to the license.
- The new shelter is for women and children only. NEOSS will help men find a safe place, with services available in Prince Albert and Saskatoon.
- This shelter is located in Melfort due to the legal requirements for a shelter to be situated in a community that offers full-time services from the Ministry of Justice and Ministry of Social Services.
- Built with the support of the federal, provincial and municipal levels of government.
- The land for the shelter was provided to NEOSS by the City of Melfort. It is located beside the Melfort Mall.

- Project Manage – Jason de Haan
- Contractors - Trombleys, Scisson and Thorpe Brothers

Future Hope Capital Campaign

- North East Outreach and Support Services is conducting the capital campaign to raise \$1.25 million to cover the second phase of development of the shelter – the House of Hope. Funds will be used to develop:
 - An enclosed play area for children;
 - Group counselling rooms for women;
 - Meeting rooms for use by North East Outreach and Support Services and other community organizations; and
 - A facility to store residents' personal possessions, as well as donations of large items.
- In addition to the enhancements to the new shelter, funds from the campaign will be used to develop second-stage housing for women and children to provide them with the tools needed to transition to their new lives. The existing NEOSS office will be developed into three suites of second-stage housing where women and their families will be able to stay for six months to a year.