

Winnifred Stewart Foundation



2003-2004
ANNUAL REPORT

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BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President	Gunnar Anderson
Past President	Carolyn Graham
Vice President	Nada Thiru-Chelvam
Treasurer	Lise Grattan
Secretary	Colin Minor
Executive Director	Dennis Stockman
Directors	Bob Kachuk Ken Kowalski Doug Lane Jared Smith Louise Syme J. Angus Watt Catherine Whalley
Honourary Patron	The Honourable Lois Hole, CM. Lieutenant Governor - Province of Alberta

Responsibility of Directors

- a) To establish, receive, administer and distribute funds or other property of value for the benefit and advancement of persons with a developmental disability in the province of Alberta, with the major portion of funds received held in trust for the advancement of the Winnifred Stewart Association mission.
- b) To maintain, administer, and distribute the existing trust funds and other funds held by the Foundation in accordance with the trusts pursuant to which same are held and for the purposes in pursuit of which such funds were received.
- c) To receive monies, funds, and other property and rights by way of donations, subscriptions, legacies, grants or any other lawful method, to be applied for or towards the objectives of the Foundation in accordance with the purposes for which same were received or in accordance with the terms of such trusts with respect thereto as may be accepted by the Foundation.
- d) Generally to do and pursue such matters and things as requisite or advisable at any time in order to fulfill or advance these objectives and in accordance with the memory and inspiration of the late Dr. Winnifred M. Stewart.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

This past year marked the 50th Anniversary of the Winnifred Stewart Association, an organization dedicated to providing quality care and service to individuals with developmental disabilities. From very humble beginnings a half-century ago, this organization now delivers a variety of services to close to 250 clients, including employment and recreation day programs and living accommodations to some 70 of those individuals in 13 homes spread throughout the city.

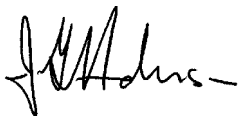
During this past year a number of objectives were achieved:

- Provided the balance of the funding (\$150,000) required for the completion and successful opening of the Parker Stewart House, an assisted living home for 10 aging clients.
- Increased the value of the Investment Fund to \$1.75 million, a gain of 22% over the previous year, because of sound portfolio management and in part by the strong equity markets.
- Held the first major fund raising event "Mission in the Mall (MIM)", last October in West Edmonton Mall, where 115 teams (4 individuals per team) from Edmonton and the surrounding area competed for incredible prizes. This event, based on television shows such as Amazing Race and Survivor, turned out to be a great success. MIM 2 is scheduled for Sunday, October 24, 2004.
- Secured 14 planned gifts from families who have been, in one way or another, supporters of the Winifred Stewart organization.

During the year, five new members joined our Board of Directors, Lise Grattan, Bob Kachuck, Colin Minor, Jared Smith and Louise Syme and three resigned, Stan Fisher, Rich Healey and Angus Watt. We extend a warm welcome to our new directors and a sincere thank you to the outgoing directors for their many years of dedication and support to the Foundation.

In May of this year, we were very saddened by the passing of our long-time director Bert Knowler. Bert had been an integral part the Winnifred Stewart family for close to 40 years and was totally committed to serving the organization in any way he could to make life as pleasant as possible for the clients it serves.

We look forward to a number of challenges in the coming year such as additional fundraising initiatives, support for the initial work on the creation of the Winnifred Stewart Centre and meeting the funding requirements of the Association. Our thanks to the Board, management and staff, and the numerous volunteers who's ongoing efforts and dedication make our Foundation a truly successful entity.



J. Gunnar Anderson
President, Board of Directors

ABOUT THE FOUNDATION

The Winnifred Stewart Foundation was incorporated in 1972 under the Societies Act to form a fund exclusively for the benefit of persons with disabilities. It was named after Dr. Winnifred Stewart, and the intent of the fund was to support projects and initiatives in the province of Alberta that were in keeping with her vision for people with disabilities. The major portion of funds is held in trust for the advancement of the Winnifred Stewart Association mission.

The Board of Directors is comprised of all active members of the Foundation. There can be no more than 15 board members at one time, all who must have an interest in the welfare of people with developmental disabilities. The Board meets quarterly to conduct Foundation business.

The Foundation's fund was originally formed from contributions made by individual donors to purchase life insurance policies in Dr. Winnifred Stewart's name, with the Winnifred Stewart Foundation named as the sole beneficiary. On Dr. Stewart's death in 1990, the Foundation was the beneficiary of life insurance policies totaling \$400,000.

The Foundation Board is responsible for the financial integrity of the fund and to disburse funds to support its objectives. From 1978 to 1999, a grants program provided an average of \$30,000 annually to various individuals and groups that met the Foundation's granting criteria. More than 150 projects were funded during this time, with grants ranging from \$500 to \$12,000.

Many of the original donors of the fund continue to make contributions through planned gifts and memoriams. The fund is also supplemented by casino revenue, Mission in the Mall and other annual fund development activities and has grown to \$1.75 million dollars.

The long-term financial security of the Winnifred Stewart Association will be maintained through its ongoing agreement with the Winnifred Stewart Foundation.

INVESTMENT GUIDELINES

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES:

Provide a balance of longer-term growth of capital and income.

GUIDELINES:

	Minimum	Maximum
Short term	0%	20%
Fixed income	40%	60%
Canadian equities	40%	60%
Non-Canadian equities	0%	25%

FUND DEVELOPMENT REPORT

Fund raising by the Winnifred Stewart Foundation helps to advance the Winnifred Stewart Association's mission and vision in the community, and develop relationships with community and corporate supporters.

The Winnifred Stewart Foundation has an annual fund raising goal established in conjunction with the budgeting process of the Winnifred Stewart Association. More than \$750,000 is required annually for operating and program expenses, while any expansion or special projects are funded through additional fund raising. The Foundation provides regular grants to the Association to maintain a positive or balanced bottom line.

Fund raising activities are implemented by the fund development team in three areas:

- **PLANNED GIVING** cultivates potential donors to make planned gifts through marketing, seminars and personal visits.
- **SALES AND PROMOTIONS** sales of garbage bags and other products by telephone
- **PR AND FUND DEVELOPMENT** special events, annual direct mail campaign and partnerships

Gift Planning continues to grow at Winnifred Stewart Association. Over the past year we held group meetings with members of the Association and the Foundation to establish a Legacy Committee. This resulted in members assisting members to consider updating their wills, and various particulars around estate planning; ensuring that their dependent adult children are well secured, that members have secured their own future by establishing a well developed estate plan and have considered a legacy gift to Winnifred Stewart Association. Discussions were held on how to celebrate and acknowledge those individuals and families who have considered Winnifred Stewart as part of their estate plan. In the fall this year, we will be publishing the first Legacy Newsletter, which will be distributed to all the members.

We have held two seminars over the past year. One on "How Much is Enough" and the other on "Tax Planning for Families with children with Developmental Disabilities". Both seminars were well attended and members who have their adult children living with them learned that they could now back file for the caregivers tax credit to 1998. This encouraged many visits with members, and estate planning is now part of many households as is tax planning.

We continue to work one on one with members and their families, helping them with all aspects of estate planning. To date we have 14 gifts confirmed and many families are considering supporting Winnifred Stewart Association through their estates. It is wonderful to see such a commitment on behalf of so many members who consider Winnifred Stewart Association near and dear to their heart. These gifts will ensure that Winnifred Stewart Association will continue to deliver excellent services to our clients and the community in the future.

The Sales and Promotions program continued their fundraising this year through the sale of garbage bags, the Association History book and wooden products from the Work Opportunities program. Additionally, they brought back Christmas Wrap for the Christmas season and sold out of the Association Cookbook. In the early summer the Sales and Promotions program went through a program review and made some operational changes to the program. This was a rebuilding year for the Sales and Promotions program as they prepare for expansion to the donor base in the upcoming year. The funds raised through Sales and Promotions ensure the Association is able to meet its budget requirements.

Our Blitz campaign was once again a success, and we would like to thank Louise Suru and her son Davie for allowing us to share their story. Our Mission in the Mall campaign was a huge accomplishment as well as it has increased awareness of the Association in the community and has helped in developing partnerships and sponsors for future projects. These campaigns, along with general donations and donations in memory of loved ones, enable the Association to "top up" grant revenue in order to fund special projects and purchase equipment and supplies for our programs.

In addition to the existing fundraising activities, the Board has approved the development of a number of strategic initiatives to ensure a progressive and pro-active approach in dealing with new and emerging issues. Action plans will be developed by board members and staff, and will be implemented over the next year.

As we look into the future of the Foundation and Association, one of our main goals is to create the Winnifred Stewart Centre. This centre will triple the amount of clients that we can serve and will play a huge role in enhancing the Association's image and relationships within the community. Our goal in developing the Winnifred Stewart Centre, is to ultimately have a building that is fully accessible for all clients and visitors, and that can bring together all of the Association's programs. Increased flexibility in program development and support will be achieved, but more importantly it will reduce overall operating expenditures. The Association will be able to offer more choices for clients, especially those who are aging. Access to transportation will be improved and accessible washrooms and removal of barriers will increase independence for all users. Creating the Winnifred Stewart Centre will help meet the needs of more individuals in the community.

Our thanks to all of our donors who make it possible for the Foundation and the Association to continue providing quality services for people with developmental disabilities.

ABOUT THE WINNIFRED STEWART ASSOCIATION

MISSION

Working in partnership with individuals with developmental disabilities, their families and the community, to create and provide comprehensive services.

VISION

To enhance the quality of life for individuals with developmental disabilities.

GUIDING PRINCIPLES

We respect the fact that all persons should have privileges, rights, responsibilities and freedom to enjoy a quality of life that is in keeping with their lifestyle and abilities.

We are committed to continuously improving our programs and services and focusing on meeting client needs.

We believe in open communication and honesty with everyone in all our works.

We respect the physical, intellectual, social and spiritual needs of each individual.

The Winnifred Stewart Association is primarily funded by the Persons with Developmental Disabilities Board- Edmonton Region (PDD) to cover staff salaries and benefits. Additional operational funds, program development and equipment purchases are made possible through fundraising by the Winnifred Stewart Foundation.

PROGRAMS AND SERVICES

Residential Services offers personalized supports to individuals in a variety of residential settings in Edmonton. Individuals receiving service are presented with opportunities to maximize their quality of: home living, health care, family relationships, employment and community involvement. The Winnifred Stewart House and Parker Stewart House are assisted living homes designed for individuals who are requiring increased supports as they are aging.

Work Opportunities offers facility-based work skills training, as well as support in achieving employment or volunteer opportunities while working toward independence in community-based settings. In addition, Work Opportunities provides opportunities to participate in supported employment and volunteer settings.

Recreation and Leisure Support Services offers individuals the opportunity to participate in a variety of recreation and leisure activities in both facility-based and community settings. Services and goals for personal development are based on the individual's unique skills, abilities and interests.

Volunteer Services offers the opportunity for members of the community to provide support to the Association and enhance the quality of service provision through a variety of volunteer experiences.

Client Services assists clients and their families in making application for services, acquiring and maintaining funding. The Service Coordination Committee reviews all applications to determine if the program meets the applicant's needs.

PROGRAMS AND SERVICES REPORT

This year has been an exciting year for all of our programs. With the acquisition of 3 new homes and a second Recreation and Leisure site from Pearl Villa, and the opening of our second assisted living home for ageing adults, we have been able to continue growing rapidly. We now have 13 homes and two Recreation and Leisure sites, providing services to an additional 29 clients. Our Work Opportunities program has also grown with the many new contracts, custom orders and new employment opportunities for the clients.

Highlights:

- June 27th was a tremendously exciting day for us as we held an event to formally open the Parker Stewart House. Behind the scenes furnishing were put in place, staff were hired, orientated and trained, families were involved with moves and clients were welcomed to their new home.
- Gathering people together on a regular basis is even more important as we grow and move to different parts of the city. Together with friends continues to be a popular event, providing opportunity for socializing through movie nights, bingos, and entertainers. To further enhance social opportunities drama therapy and art therapy are also offered in the evenings on a monthly basis. Money received through a grant allowed us to purchase craft supplies, games & equipment.
- The Recreation and Leisure program continued to take advantage of the many facilities, events and activities that Edmonton has to offer. A few of the destinations frequented include recreation centers, parks, trade shows, seasonal festivals and aquasize at local pools. Those individuals with an interest in art have been able to participate in activities such as the Art Express program at the Edmonton Art Gallery, a creative expression program at the Nina Haggerty Center, ceramics through a community center, or through our continually improving in-house crafts program.
- The music therapy program at the Recreation and Leisure program was expanded to include the development of a choir. Clients also attended numerous musical performances throughout the city. Some of these performances include lunch hour concerts at the Winspear Center, Juno Festival performances and afternoon performances at the University of Alberta.
- A variety of new contracts and custom orders were completed in woodworking at Work Opportunities, providing increased skill development and also resulted in a slight increase in sales. Clients were provided opportunities to become active participants in their community through participation in employment and volunteer settings.

- Work Opportunities has received grants from the Wild Rose Foundation and IBM Consulting Services. These grants have allowed the program to create an exercise room and develop a variety of modules such as the computer module, which will benefit the clients accessing the program.

The programs and services offered by the Winnifred Stewart Association continue to be proactive in identifying and meeting client's changing needs. The challenges of meeting the needs of both older and younger clients continue to require creativity, flexibility and a long-term vision. Much of what we can do in our programs is because of the support of the community to provide the "extras", such as vehicles for community access, and equipment to provide additional choices and opportunities for clients.

We will continue to work at improving and developing our programs to ensure they remain innovative, comprehensive and provide for both the present and future needs of our clients. The continued involvement of community volunteers helps us to meet these needs and provide us with fresh ideas and enthusiasm.

Our programs have identified goals to help meet program needs as well as those of our clients. Some of these goals include:

- Increase client involvement in the community by increasing the number of supported volunteer sites and competitive employment.
- Increase the number of contracts within the Work Opportunities facility to allow for more choices and learning opportunities.
- To increase business partnerships for contracts, volunteering and fund raising.

We will continue to work at improving and developing our programs to ensure they remain innovative, comprehensive and provide for both the present and future needs of our clients.

If you are interested in learning more about the Winnifred Stewart Association, please request a copy of the Association's full annual report by calling 453-6707.

Audited Financial Statements