

FASSY AGM

May 2018



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"Bill it Forward"
Support Fund

remembering Bill Stewart
photo by RPlaskett

BOARD CHAIR REPORT

Submitted by: Andrea Bailey

May 30, 2018

It's been a year of mixed emotions for FASSY.

On the positive side, we were successful in securing additional money from Yukon Government to not only support our chronically underfunded lunch program, but also more importantly our overall operations, bringing our complement of outreach workers up and ensuring that Wenda has FT pay for her hard work as ED. FASSY also received funding through the Kids Brain Health Network to explore service options in two Yukon communities, which is something that has been discussed for as long as I have been involved with the organization. While most of the credit for this goes to Wenda, I would like to acknowledge the particular support of Terry and Katie in meetings with funders.

On a board level, it has also been busy. We once again administered a raffle to support the lunch program and played an active role in the FASD Day BBQ and annual Christmas dinner. We also undertook some policy reform. While much remains to be done with Board policies, I have been providing Board input with respect to updated staff and administrative policies and Mary is in the final lap of preparing two very large policy packages that the Board can look forward to reviewing and signing off on.

However, our feelings about the successes of this year are profoundly tempered by the passing of someone who was and remains very important to FASSY. The loss of our Secretary Bill Stewart partway through the year shook everyone here – Board, staff and especially clients – to the core. Bill was a tireless supporter of and advocate for people with FASD and someone I knew by reputation long before I had the privilege of meeting him. Bill continues to inspire and assist FASSY clients through the Bill It Forward fund. This fund is for the use of individuals who need some financial support for things that just aren't otherwise covered by community agencies; for example people who wish to pursue an educational, vocational or artistic program or who require one-time assistance in securing or maintaining housing or employment. FASSY is honoured to play the role of steward for a fund that commemorates such a well-respected and well-loved member of the community.

This was my last year on the FASSY Board. I have been fortunate to spend my time at FASSY with passionate, dedicated and insightful people, many of whom I may not otherwise have met. Based on the slate that has been put together, I know I am leaving the Board in very capable hands and, with Wenda at the helm, this upcoming year will only bring more recognition and success to FASSY and its services, which have been noticed and emulated not just across Canada, but internationally. I look forward to participating in my new capacity as a Friend of FASSY!!



TREASURER'S REPORT
FASSY AGM
30 MAY 2018

FASSY has successfully continued its regular programming and expanded this past year relying on funding from the Yukon Government through Health and Social Services and the Government of Canada with their Homelessness Partnering Strategy. We also received funding from the United Way as we have in the past for our lunch program and this year Holland America donated money too. The Mental Wellness Initiative through YG has given us money for our Out and About program through the Yukon Government. Kids Brain health is giving us money to run a multi partner program. Yukon Government is considering further funding for this project.

All of this funding allows us to run programs and services to support adults with FASD, foster support throughout our communities and provide education related to FASD.

Wenda, our ED, has done an incredible job of securing funding and expanding our programming all while staying on budget and meeting the requirements of our funders. She has spent our funding down to the last penny and has worked closely with our bookkeeper to keep herself organized. Our budget has expanded exponentially in the last couple of years thanks to her tireless work..

Our raffle raised \$8,870 to fund our lunch program.

This year we had an operational net loss of \$8,187.84. Most of this loss was due to the start-up costs of our LWEH program when we were renting units that were without tenants. All of our units are now full.

Our bookkeeper, Meg, Organizes our financials in a way that we can see the monthly progress of our spending to make sure we are on target. She has split our programs into their own columns so that we can see a breakdown of how each are running and the remainder of the funds for the rest of the year. Meg provided us with insight and assistance that was crucial to negotiating our new annual budget with YG, our largest funder.

This past fiscal year we completed our three year funding agreement with YG. We have our new annual agreement in place. For the foreseeable future YG is offering 1 year agreements as they reassess their programming. We will need to submit a new budget proposal by August for 2019/2020. All of our funding agreements end in 2019 and will have to be renegotiated.

Respectfully,

Katie Hunter

FASSY AGM 2018

People using FASSY services achieve personal goals!

An individual who uses the supports of FASSY has exhibited incredible progress, most impressively, in the past 5 months.

They had expressed a long term goal of being able to travel outside of the Yukon. We started with saving and budgeting \$300 per month since November.

As of April, they were able to save \$1800 towards a three day trip to Vancouver to see a concert in memory of their late partner.

An FASD friendly itinerary was created in order for them to be able to manage their time and money along with regular check-ins.

The trip was an absolute success – they returned safely home with nothing but positive stories and gratefulness for the support offered.

FASSY outreach worker 2018

An individual who was unstable for many years has been able to obtain their goal of housing and employment.

They attended and were successful at the YG- Mental Wellness and Substance Use Services programing, then became housed and have remained housed for over 6 months under the FASSY's LWEH program
They have been successfully employed for three months.

They remain connected to and come in frequently accepting continuing support.

A success for the individual and a testament to what collaboration of services can provide.

FASSY's strategic plan has again led our work over the last year. Funding opportunities have come our way which have enabled us to develop programming and create awareness of issues surrounding FASD in the Yukon. FASSY has benefited from funding from the Government of the Yukon under Health and Social Services as well as the Mental Wellness Strategy: Forward Together; from the Federal Government under the Homelessness Partnering Strategy under two streams – the Aboriginal Homelessness and Designated Community – administered by CYFN; from the United Way -Yukon and Holland America for the lunch program. The Yukon Liquor corp has supported us with funding for Awareness and prevention project – and enabling the expansion of the pregnancy test dispensers to the rural Yukon communities. We have a dedicated and passionate staff who work hard to support people who request our services.

We did experience a great loss this past year in that one of our board members – Bill Stewart - passed away. We are grateful that his family has allowed us to create the “Bill It Forward Fund” in his memory. We are developing terms of reference for using this fund.

Goal 1. Enhanced quality of life for people affected with, and by, FASD through compassionate support, public education and in providing a continuum of services

FASSY remains with a staff of 6 outreach workers, 2 support people for the Out and About program, 1 ED and 1 office administration person and a part time HR person.

Through this direct service to individuals who voluntarily come through our door the FASSY outreach team has been successful on many fronts. They have provided emergency housing, day to day support for food, discussion and connection to other services as well as helping to stabilize individuals in the areas of housing, finances, health and community connection.

Many of our client needs are complex. We have the support of clinical supervision to help us address the complex needs people using our service. This has been very valuable time spent and we will be continuing this to help us provide the best service we can.

We have a voice on the CAB (Community Advisory Board - CYFN-HPS), with YAPC on the 20,000 homes initiative, Healthy Families advisory committee, the FASD Diagnostic Advisory Committee, the Yukon FASD 10 year plan advisory committee as a co-chair, and a member of YIAND (Yukon Interagency Network on Disability). We also have a national voice with being members of the pNAT (under Nancy Poole), part of the Harm Reduction in Child Welfare National committee and on the advisory board for a national study under researcher Deb Rutman called Advisory Committee Meeting for Co-Creating Evidence Project which is focusing on evaluating support and housing for women who are pregnant and actively using substances.



Caregiver Support Group

A parent's support group has grown to two meetings a month – one in the evening and the second during the day and continue to evolve under Judy Pakozdy' guidance – although small in numbers some significant help has been offered through some trying times.



Lunch program

A socially inclusive lunch program served at the Yukon Government cafeteria. Monday to Friday FASSY provides a mid-day meal for all FASSY and OFI clients who request this – we work in collaboration with another NGO – Challenge Disability Resource Group who cook and serve this meal. We have served 2774 meals this past year – these meals are at no cost to the people who use our service and are greatly appreciated.

We will be continuing this service because of funding from the United Way – Yukon, HPS (Federal Government) Aboriginal Homelessness funding, YG funding and proceedings from our raffle and donations.



Out and About

FASSY in partnership with TOZ, OFI and YACL was able to obtain funding for a second year. A movie night venue has been the most popular but other outings have also been enjoyed. The Out and about program has also collaborated with the Yukon Arts Community (YAC) to provide “improv” opportunities using a program called “Playing to our Strengths” that helps with increasing Social connection, communication skills as well as fun!

Goal 2: To ensure a solid foundation of organizational capacity from which FASSY can fulfill its role in compassionate support, public education, and providing a continuum of services.

All Staff are supported to obtain required knowledge for the work through mandatory trainings in the following areas.

- SFA/CPR
- FASD Core Competency
- Non-violent Crisis Intervention

- Suicide prevention
- Trauma Informed Care
- Communication skills and team-building
- ASIST – (Applied Suicide and Interventions skills training)
- FN Historical trauma information

Through our work with YIAND (Yukon Interagency Network on Disability) we are also now able to access a program called “Open Future learning” -- this is an online program that allows staff to learn at their own pace about issues that are related to working with people who have disabilities like sexuality, FASD, Autism, active support, and many other issues.

We continue to work on our Outreach and administration manuals. These have taken longer than anticipated but are close to getting through to completion.

Goal 3. Increase public awareness of FASSY’s services and educational resources that are provided within Whitehorse and the rural communities.

We are actively involved in Education having presented many time throughout the previous year. We’d like to thank the people who provide this education through contracts service with FASSY. We are increasing the number of people who are able to present so that this good work can continue.

We provided public education through YG funding -- we have been collaborating with NISJ on this project and hope to continue providing 2 sessions a year. These educational opportunities are done on a contract basis with instructors who are well versed in FASD. The name of this program is “FASD: Informed support”.

Awareness workshops were also given to the following groups over the past year. These took different formats and were dependent on group need.

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| WCC information Fair | Healthy Families - |
| Community Tour – of NO’s | Social work class at Yukon College |
| Association Franco-Yukonnaise (2 sessions) | Wellness Fair – Mayo |
| Trade Show table | Vanier School grade 10 class (2 groups) |

The stats from the trade show indicated that 14 pregnant women stopped and talked, 12 teachers, 8 people asked about the Out and About program, 3 university students asked about FASSY program and took info back with them, others asked about diagnostic services how they could get workers in their communities and people picked up our Trying differently booklet.

Rural Education – FASD - we have completed the agreement with CYFN that provided education to the rural communities of the Yukon – this has been a three year project. Our evaluation over time has shown that we were successful and indicated that further support in “hand on” application of knowledge is wanted. A verbal report will be given to CYFN Health Directors Commission and discussion on future needs/collaboration will take place.



1 Workshop in Watson Lake

We would like to thank the contractors who provided their valuable services to make these educational opportunities available to people living in the Yukon –Ray Marnoch, Lesley Carberry, Judy Pakozdy, Shannon Ryan, Donna Jones, Donna Rowland, Michele Palk and Kat Secord and welcome Emerald Gillespie to this team.

Prevention



FASSY has a level 1 (PHAC prevention model) project aimed at prevention of FASD –it is a Pregnancy test dispenser project that has been ongoing for 3 years now. We have 6 dispensers (charge of \$3.00 per test) within Whitehorse (CGC, Gold rush Inn, High Country Inn, Dirty Northern Pub, 2 units at the Yukon College Campus in Whitehorse) - We have sold within Whitehorse 812 test since the program started in April 2015.

There are two free dispensing dispenser – one @ the ISY (Integrated Youth Services-YG) and the 2nd @ at VFWC (Victoria Falkner’s Womens Centre). There are 6 outside of Whitehorse that FASSY has distributed and two in Dawson City under the CPNP. We are looking to create an evaluative process for these in the near future.

Action Forward

We are looking forward to increasing the collaboration with the new YG - HCOS (Housing and Community outreach service) in providing direct wrap around support services to people with FASD.

We are leading a project (on behalf of the FASD Interagency Advisory committee) and have received new funding from them and Kids Brain Health Network (KBHN) as well as many in kind contributions from local agencies for a new program opportunity to help increase community capacity to support individuals with neurodevelopmental difficulties, their families and communities that are living outside of Whitehorse.

FASD has remained one of the focuses of the Yukon Government. The Yukon government has promoted the development of a Yukon - FASD 10 year Strategic plan. This interagency committee (Family members, NGO and intergovernmental services) have worked over the last 22 months and have a plan with actions now ready to present to the ADM committee on FASD. An implementation plan is still in development but will be finished soon to also be present. FASSY will remain engaged with this process over the coming year.

We are looking for new ways to increase our capacity but to maintain a high level of support to individuals requesting our service.

FASSY would like to thank its many supporters without whom we would not be able to do our work.