

ABOUT SUNSHINE COAST COMMUNITY SERVICES SOCIETY

For more than 40 years, Sunshine Coast Community Services Society (SCCSS) has been an integral part of our coastal community, providing connection and assistance through programs to all who call the Sunshine Coast home: pregnant and new moms, parents, children, youth, adults, and seniors.

Each year, our organization supports over 5,000 community members through 35 programs. Our services are provided all along the coast, from Port Mellon to Egmont and can be accessed at 13 sites, 4 sites in Gibsons and 9 sites in Sechelt. Additionally, we provide services through outreach which enables staff to meet participants where they are: in their homes, at a location they choose or out in the community.





HOW YOU CAN SUPPORT

- Sign up for SCCSS E-news at sccss.ca
- Attend a future open house about this project
- Share your support for this project with your neighbours
- Write a letter of support for this project to the District of Sechelt
- Email dkennedy@sccss.ca about capital campaign donations

Sunshine Coast Community Services PO Box 1069 5638 Inlet Ave. Sechelt, BC V0N 3A0 604-885-5881 | sccss.ca

Participate. Donate. Volunteer.

Building Housing, Building Community

Sunshine Coast

THE NEED

SEVERE

rental housing situation on the Coast ranked by Canadian Rental Housing

424

women and children impacted by violence and trauma were provided with support

40% over

of single mothers in BC

spend more than 50%

of their gross income

on rent**

of women 50 and over say they are not safely housed*

> 52% of Sunshine Coast renters spend more than 30% of their income on housing***

calls to 24 hour access

line from women

seeking support,

resources or transition

house access

* Hidden Homelessness Report, SCCSS, 2017

** BC Non-Profit Housing Association, 2015 Rental Housing Index

*** 2018 Canadian Rental Housing Index

All others: SCCSS 2018-2019 Annual Report

Abuse in relationships is still a hidden issue for many women and housing continues to be one of the biggest barriers to safety, as is ageism for older women on the Sunshine Coast.

"It is desperate out there. At age 51, I feel stranded, isolated and on the brink of having no shelter. I've worked my entire life but qualify for no assistance. It's frightening."

- Woman surveyed for SCCSS's "Hidden Homelessness Report", 2018

Studies show that safe, affordable and appropriate housing plays a central role in allowing women and families who are marginalized to re-establish their lives. It reduces levels of stress and can change the perspectives of women by providing them the opportunity to empower themselves and therefore generate a positive, healthy and nurturing environment for their children.

OUR VISION

Building an engaged, healthy and thriving Coast through affordable housing, the power of food and Community Services.

OUR EXPERIENCE

For over 40 years, SCCSS has been providing women and children safe and supportive short-term housing through our Yew Transition House and Thyme Second Stage Housing. SCCSS also provides housing and support for people living with mental illness at Legacy Housing.







35

units of affordable housing for women



a redeveloped Community Services space that is purpose built and better able to accommodate our programs while meeting current and emerging community needs.



The addition of a commercial kitchen and food programming space to increase our community's access to nutritious food and foodbank services



Increased safety and security of the neighbourhood through thoughtful design that will increase lighting, improve the pedestrian walkway, increase organized activities and build connections between neighbours.

THE SITE

Owned by SCCSS, the site is located in Sechelt's downtown commercial area and is accessible for the women who will live there. Schools, grocery stores, the hospital, parks, the library and recreation centres are within walking distance.

