



WomanACT  
WOMAN ABUSE COUNCIL OF TORONTO

# ANNUAL REPORT

# 2020

# Reflection



This was a year of change and learning at WomanACT. From the outset of the COVID-19 pandemic, we found ourselves responding to the immediate and emerging needs and experiences of community agencies and survivors. At the same time, we had to reimagine the ways in which we bring people together, communicate, conduct research and mobilize communities. We worked hard, tested out new approaches and learned a lot.

Despite the challenges faced by our communities and the change to our every day work, our work did not slow down. We were fortunate this year to grow our programs, our team, our membership and our partnerships.

In the pages ahead you will see some of the work we have been undertaking this past year. We welcome you to reach out, engage, ask questions and stay connected.

## Vision

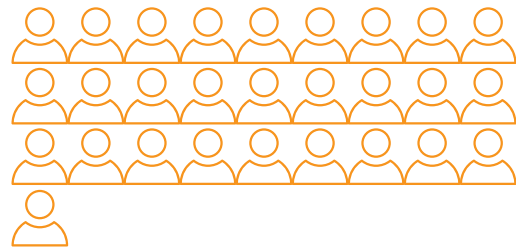
WomanACT envisions a world where all women are safe and have access to equal opportunities

## Mission

Our mission is to work collaboratively to eradicate violence against women through coordination, research, policy and education.

# Impact

28 Organization Members



7 Research Publications



5 research projects  
10 survivors trained as researchers  
108 survivors engaged in research  
281 practitioners engaged in research



73 cross-sector meetings  
63 agencies engaged

2 Campaigns

- ☞ Paid sick days
- ☞ Residential Evictions Moratorium



6 Policy Consultations

- Inclusionary Zoning
- Residential Evictions Moratorium
- Rapid Housing Initiative
- COVID-19 Shelter Strategy
- Community Safety and Well-being Plan
- National Action Plan on Gender-based Violence



12 online webinars  
461 participants

# Highlights

Research has consistently shown that risk assessment and management is more successful and achieves better outcomes for survivors when a multi-agency approach is adopted. Despite the overwhelming evidence, multi-agency collaboration for high-risk intimate partner violence remains an inconsistent practice across Canada.



A MARAC is a multi-agency meeting that brings together community stakeholders to share information on high-risk domestic violence cases.

In 2019, WomanACT received funding from Women and Gender Equality Canada to test MARAC - a multi-agency high risk domestic violence response - in Canada. MARAC was developed in Wales in 2003 and is now in place in more than 250 communities across the United Kingdom.

WomanACT is working with three communities including Toronto, Perth County and Grey Bruce County to implement, test and evaluate a local and multi-agency high-risk table. The five year initiative is also undertaking research to help adapt the MARAC model to the Canadian context and share the learning and knowledge to support replication across Canada.

# Highlights



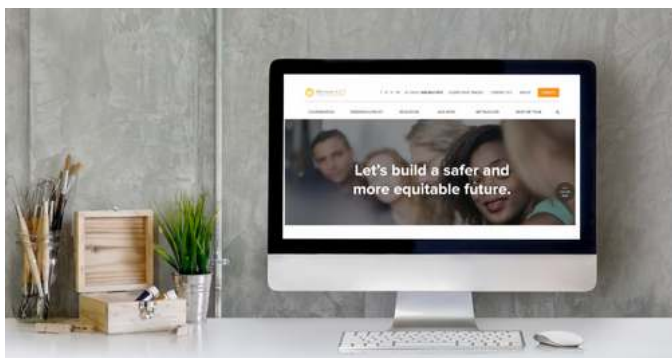
## Tech for Women's Justice

The research project is looking into the intersections between technology, access to legal information and intimate partner violence.



## AGM 2020

Our 2020 AGM hosted a panel discussion on the pressing needs of women as a result of the global pandemic and how to ensure a more equitable future.



## New website

In 2020, we created a new website to make it easier for you to find resources, access our training, download our publications and engage in campaigns.



## Paid sick days campaign

During the pandemic, WomanACT undertook a provincial campaign on paid sick days. A total of 37 agencies were engaged in the campaign.

# Financials

## Revenue

Ministry of Children, Community and Social Services	\$106,141
Women and Gender Equality Canada	\$194,980
Toronto Foundation	\$88,723
Canadian Women's Foundation	\$25,000
City of Toronto	\$63,945
Canada Emergency Wage Subsidy	\$74,083
Membership, donations and misc.	\$54,088
Interest	\$9,050

\$616,010

## Expenses

Program staff	\$349,546
Program consultants	\$21,222
Training	\$1,353
Occupancy, office and general	\$24,184
Telecommunications	\$150,254
Volunteer expenses	\$9,016
Insurance	\$6,759
Travel	\$294

\$575,647

# Supporters

Women and Gender Equality Canada  
 Uber Canada  
 Employment and Social Development Canada  
 Ministry of Children, Community and Social Services  
 Canadian Women's Foundation  
 The City of Toronto

Community Foundations of Canada  
 The Law Foundation of Ontario  
 Catherine Donnelly Foundation  
 Toronto Foundation  
 Equality Fund

# Members

Abrigo Centre  
 Aura Freedom International  
 ACT – AIDS Committee of Toronto  
 Barbra Schlifer Commemorative Clinic  
 Catholic Children's Aid Society of Toronto  
 Catholic Family Services of Toronto  
 Child Development Institute  
 Children's Aid Society of Toronto  
 Elizabeth Fry Toronto  
 Ernestine's Women's Shelter  
 Family Service Toronto  
 Greek Orthodox Family Services and  
 Counselling  
 Interval House  
 KCWA Family and Social Services

Legal Aid Ontario  
 National Council of Jewish Women of Canada  
 Nellie's  
 Oasis Centre des femmes  
 Restoring Smiles – Dr Meisami Commemorative Foundation  
 Red Door Family Shelter  
 Scarborough Women's Centre  
 South Asian Women's Centre  
 Toronto Public Health  
 Uber Canada  
 Victim Services Toronto  
 West Neighbourhood House  
 Yorktown Family Services  
 YWCA Toronto



Our work and our impact is only possible because of the commitment of our staff and volunteers and the support of our Members, community partners and donors.

**We thank you for your continued support and commitment.**

---

## Contact

Woman Abuse Council of Toronto  
1652 Keele St. Toronto, ON  
M6M 3W3

[www.womanact.ca](http://www.womanact.ca) 

[Info@womanact.ca](mailto:Info@womanact.ca) 

[@WomanACT](https://twitter.com/WomanACT) 