

• 2025 •

**The Elizabeth Fry
Society of Manitoba**



Nonprofit Impact Report

Changing Justice Through
Connection, Culture, and Care.



**Elizabeth Fry Society
of Manitoba**

LETTER FROM THE BOARD

Boozhoo,

On behalf of the Board of Directors I want to extend gratitude and appreciation to all of the staff, volunteers, sibling organizations and partners, funders and community members who have contributed to the growth, development, and expansion of The Elizabeth Fry Society of Manitoba over the past year. This has been an exciting year of new relationships and opportunities that have allowed for broader access to cultural and spiritual support, traditional life skills programming, and expansions of our transitional housing programs.

I would like to thank outgoing members of the Board for their time and dedication to the organization and look forward to welcoming new members going forward. I look forward to the year ahead as we continue to imagine a world without prisons; building supports, services and resources that are client-centred, trauma-informed, and rooted in Indigenous knowledge and values.

**Co-Chair –
Quinn Saretsky**



**Elizabeth Fry Society
of Manitoba**

LETTER FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

This year, the Elizabeth Fry Society of Manitoba continued to strengthen community-based supports for women and gender-diverse people involved in the justice system. We expanded our housing continuum with a second residence, offering more participants stability, safety, and belonging during some of the most vulnerable moments in their lives.

Our bail supervision and wraparound supports continued to earn the trust of Manitoba's courts, and we celebrated many participant milestones—reunifications, cultural connection, educational achievements, and renewed wellness. Bringing on a peer support worker with lived experience deepened our capacity to walk alongside participants with compassion, cultural grounding, and understanding.

None of this progress happens alone. Our staff, Elders, volunteers, partners, and funders stand with us in creating pathways that reduce harm, build confidence, and foster community connection.

At EFSM, we believe in healing, dignity, and the power of belonging. Thank you for supporting this work and helping create a justice system rooted in culture, care, and possibility.



**Elizabeth Fry Society
of Manitoba**

**Executive Director -
Tasha Banfield**



OUR MISSION & VISION



Mission: To empower, provide support, advocacy and guidance to women who are involved in the criminal justice system.

Vision: At Elizabeth Fry Society of Manitoba, we are building an inclusive and caring community rooted in Indigenous ways of knowing, being and doing.

Our vision is to help women and gender-diverse people overcome hardship, injustice, oppression, and trauma from criminalization.

We do this work through transformative programs and services, access to resources and advocacy.

Values: Belonging
Indigenous Knowledge & Practice
Relationships
Harm Reduction
Unconditional Love & Positive Regard
Courage



Elizabeth Fry Society
of Manitoba

OUR BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2024–2025

Co-Chairs -

Morgan Lawrence
Quinn Saretsky

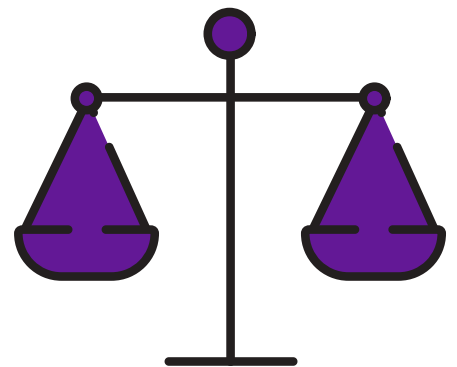
Treasurer -

Carly Nicholson

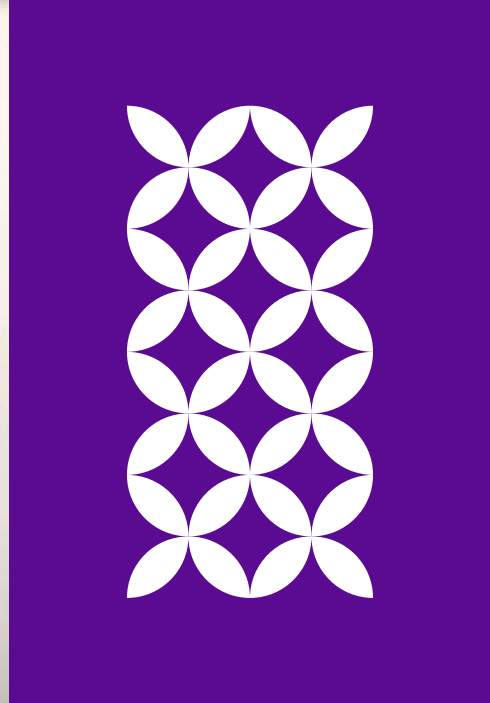
Directors at Large -

Jacqueline Boily
Eric Friesen
Julia Mann

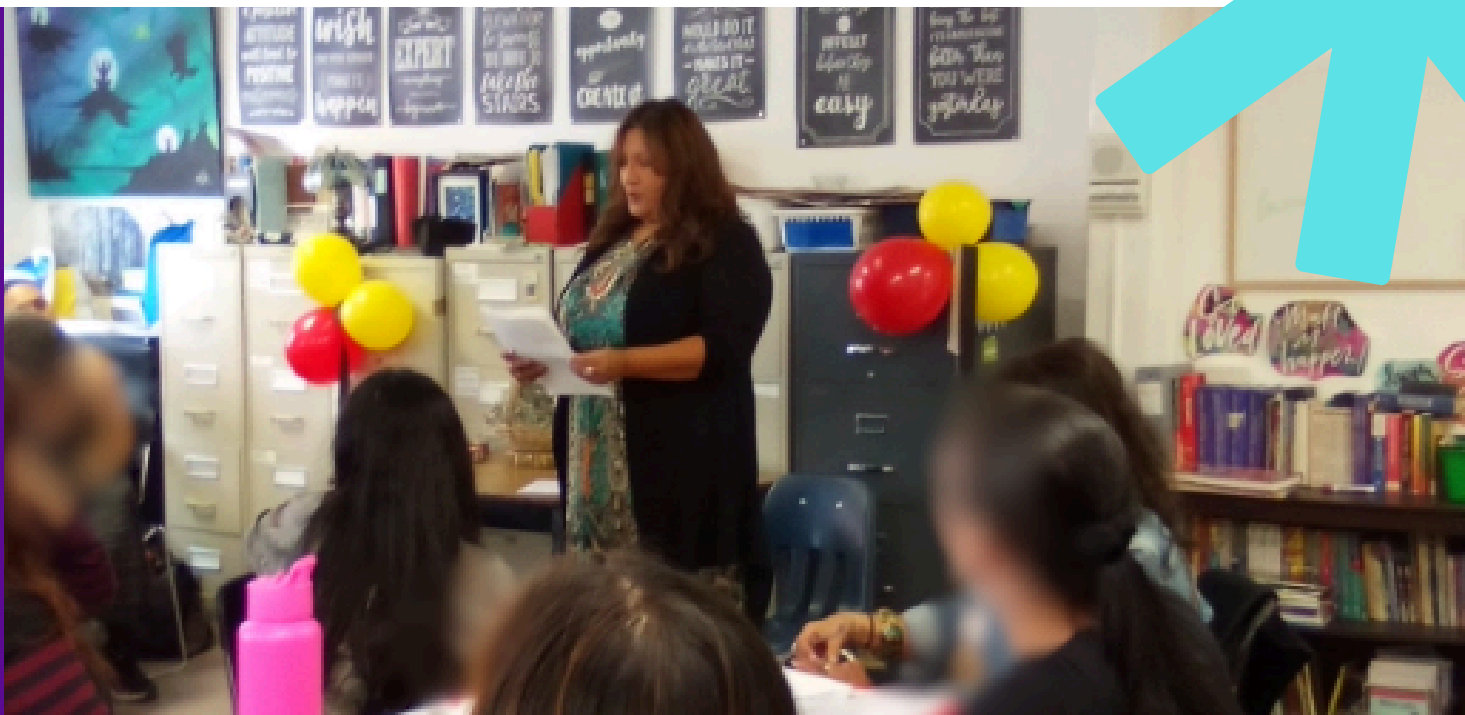
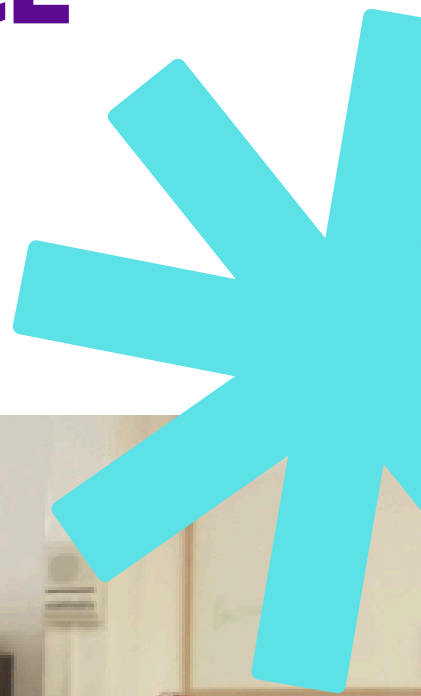
Ex Officio (Non-Voting)
Tasha Banfield, Executive Director



Elizabeth Fry Society
of Manitoba



PROGRAMING -A YEAR AT A GLANCE



BAIL VERIFICATION & SUPERVISION PROGRAM

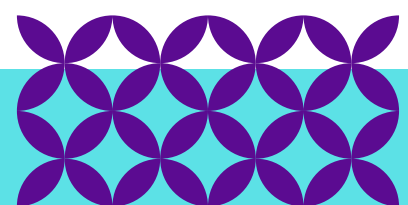
The 2024–2025 year saw significant growth in EFSM's Bail Verification & Supervision Program. As a trusted, community-based alternative to remand, the program provided safe housing, consistent supervision, and wraparound support for participants navigating the justice system.

This year, EFSM supported four individuals through to sentencing, with three receiving Conditional Sentence Orders (CSOs). These outcomes highlight the effectiveness of stable community supervision in promoting safety, accountability, and positive long-term change.

A major milestone was the opening of a second residence at 552 Selkirk Avenue, increasing capacity from 7 to 13 beds. This additional housing strengthened stability for participants, reduced wait times, and resulted in zero breaches, demonstrating the impact of long-term, culturally grounded support.

EFSM also strengthened relationships with justice partners through ongoing communication with the Crown's Office and a Lunch & Learn with provincial judges. Regular consent releases continue to reflect strong court confidence in our supervision model.

This year, the program was further enhanced by the addition of a Peer Support Worker, a graduate whose lived experience supports cultural safety, belonging, and day-to-day connection within the residences. Her leadership contributes to a welcoming, empowering environment for participants working toward stability and reintegration.



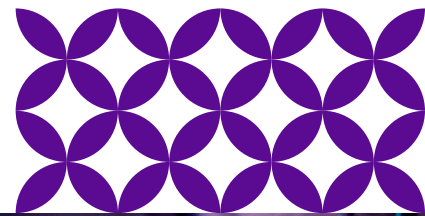
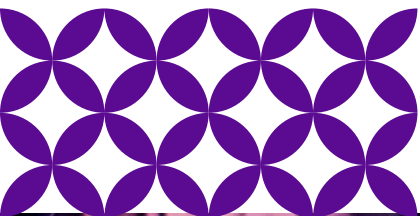
REINTEGRATION SUPPORTS

EFSM's reintegration supports reduce immediate barriers and create stability during some of the most vulnerable moments in a participant's journey. These resources help people meet basic needs, reconnect with community, and take meaningful steps toward wellness and independence.

This year, participants accessed:

- 5,489 food hampers to support daily nourishment and stability
- 366 hygiene packages that promote dignity and wellbeing
- 6,546 in-house resources, from crisis support to planning and life skills
- 349 community referrals to education, counselling, housing, employment, addiction support, and more
- 260 participants engaged in Tell Me A Story, our narrative healing and reflection program

These supports play a vital role in helping participants regain confidence, rebuild connections, and move toward healthier, more secure futures.



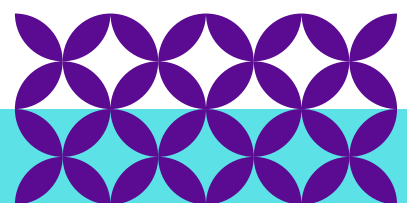
TRADITIONAL TRAUMA-INFORMED LIFE SKILLS PROGRAM

EFSM's Traditional, Trauma-Informed Life Skills Program offers a culturally grounded, healing-centred space rooted in Indigenous knowledge, the Medicine Wheel, and the Seven Sacred Teachings. Guided by Elders and cultural practitioners, participants learn communication, boundaries, emotional regulation, healthy relationships, and job/education readiness through ceremony, sharing circles, and experiential activities.

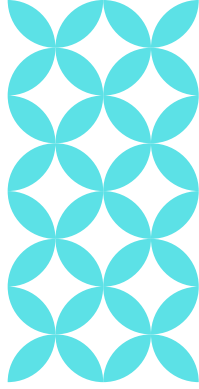
This year, 14 participants took part:

- 8 completed the program, with achievements including post-secondary enrollment, employment, and academic upgrading
- 4 continued participating, balancing work, education, and family responsibilities
- Most participants experienced meaningful gains in confidence, cultural connection, and readiness for next steps

The program remains a cornerstone of EFSM's approach — restoring identity, strengthening wellness, and supporting participants to move forward with clarity and pride.



PEER SUPPORT & CULTURAL PROGRAMMING



Peer and cultural supports are at the heart of EFSM's community-based model. Our Peer Support Worker — a graduate of EFSM's programs — provides culturally safe, lived-experience guidance that fosters trust, belonging, and connection.

Participants engaged in a range of cultural and peer-led activities this year, including:

- Beading circles
- Sweat lodge ceremonies
- One-on-one peer support
- Cultural teachings with Elders
- Community-based cultural outings

These offerings honour Indigenous ways of healing and help participants feel understood, grounded, and supported. For many, cultural programming is one of the most meaningful and transformative parts of their experience at EFSM.



RESULTS & METRICS

Bail Program



2,164 safe overnight stays



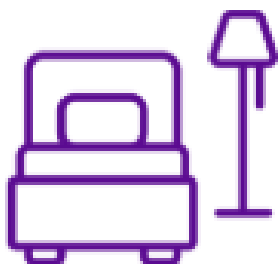
38 bails granted



4 Sentencings Supported

3 CSO Graduates

1 Custodial Outcome



13 Beds 2 Residences

ZERO

Breaches @ long term residences

RESULTS & METRICS

Traditional Life Skills Program

Fourteen participants engaged in EFSM's Traditional Life Skills Program this year—and the momentum is remarkable.

Participants moved into meaningful next steps:

3 are now pursuing post-secondary studies, building toward long-term career goals

2 have gained employment, putting new skills and confidence into action

3 are upgrading their education, strengthening their foundations for future success

These accomplishments reflect the power of culturally grounded, trauma-informed learning to spark real, sustainable change.

Resident Voice – “To my Future Self”

“I hope you have accomplished everything you’ve set out to do. I just had so many things I would like to accomplish and see through, and I know your my ticket to getting there. When days get hard, just remind yourself that you’ve been through a lot worse so you can get through it, and you will! Don’t let yourself get to the point where you feel the way you did before you went to jail. Let go of your pride and quit being stubborn and reach out to someone and tell them. I’m so proud of you, keep going and stay strong. Love yourself”

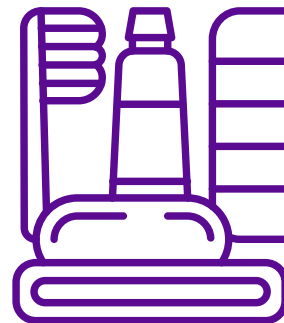


RESULTS & METRICS

Reintegration Supports



5,489 food hampers



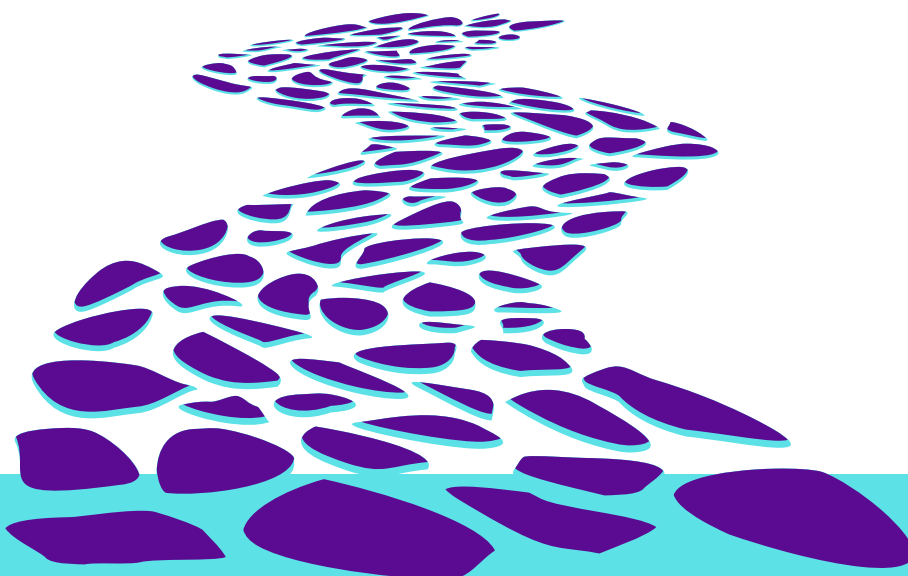
366 Hygiene Kits distributed



6,546 in house supports

349 referrals

260 participants in Tell Me A Story



DONATE ♥



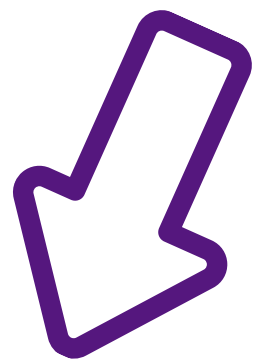
JUSTICE CONTEXT & SYSTEM IMPACT

Systemic Realities

- Highest female remand rates in Canada (Manitoba)
- Indigenous women disproportionately incarcerated
- EFSM reduces reliance on remand

Cost Comparison

- Custody: \$514/day
- EFSM Supervision: \$160/day









~70% cost savings per participant!

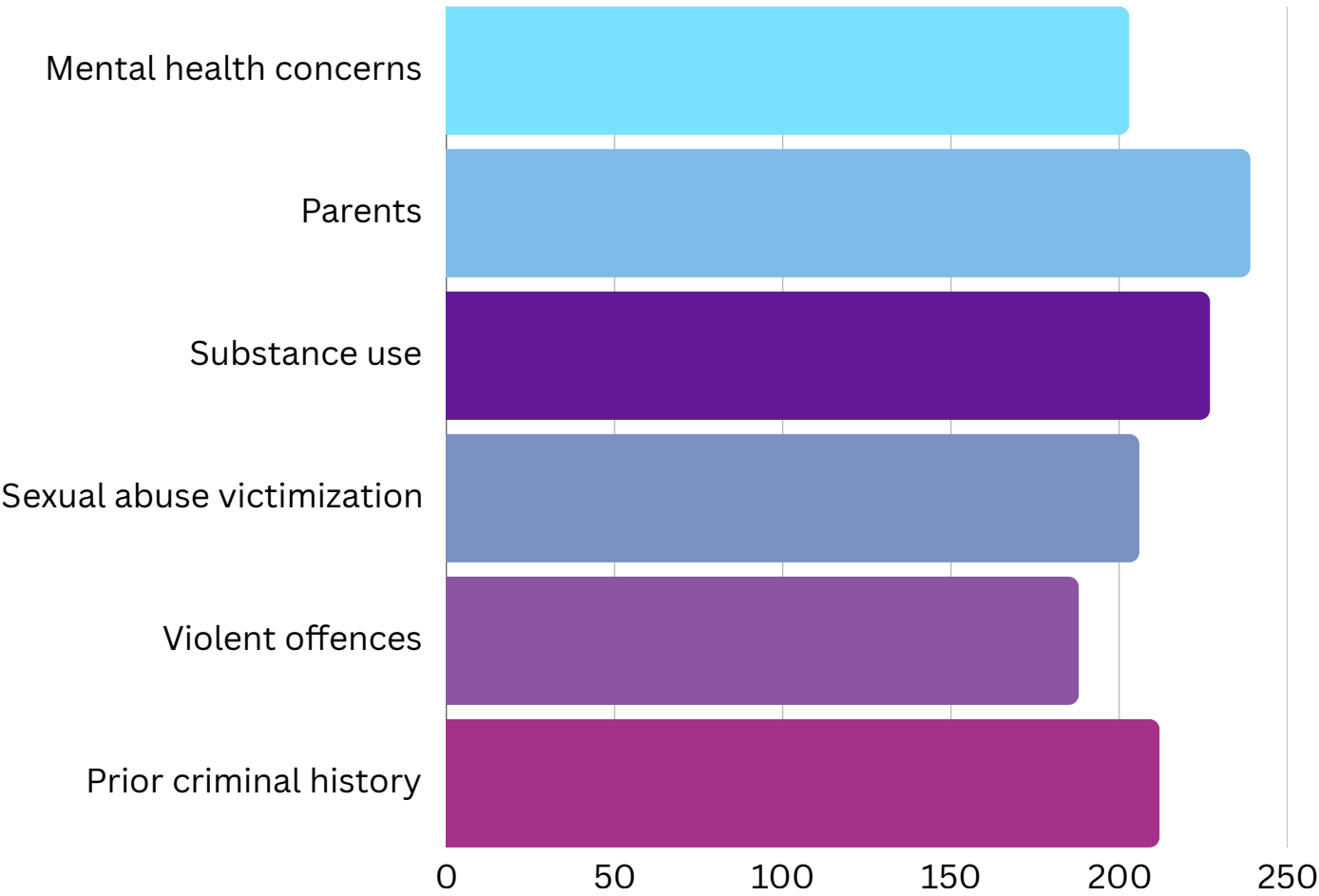
HUMAN IMPACT



DONATE 

Carcerality Project – Client Histories (N = 303)

-  Mental health concerns
-  Parents
-  Substance use
-  Sexual abuse victimization
-  Violent offences
-  Prior criminal history





Thank you to the funders and donors who stand with us in creating safer, more compassionate pathways for women and gender-diverse people in the justice system. Your commitment makes healing and reintegration possible.

PARTNERS & COLLABORATIONS

Government of Manitoba – Department of Justice
Reaching Home – End Homelessness Winnipeg
Open Doors Adult Literacy Program
Morning Star Consultive Services
Manitoba Liquor & Lotteries
The Richardson Foundation
Heartwood Healing Center
The Winnipeg Foundation
United Way of Winnipeg
Department of Housing
Starbuck All Charities
John Howard Society
From the Ground Up
Brothers Pharmacy
McNally Robinson
Assiniboine Zoo
Second Harvest
Village Bikini
SEED Winnipeg
Linking Hope
MC College
Superstore
Toad Hall
CAEFS
NERI
MITT

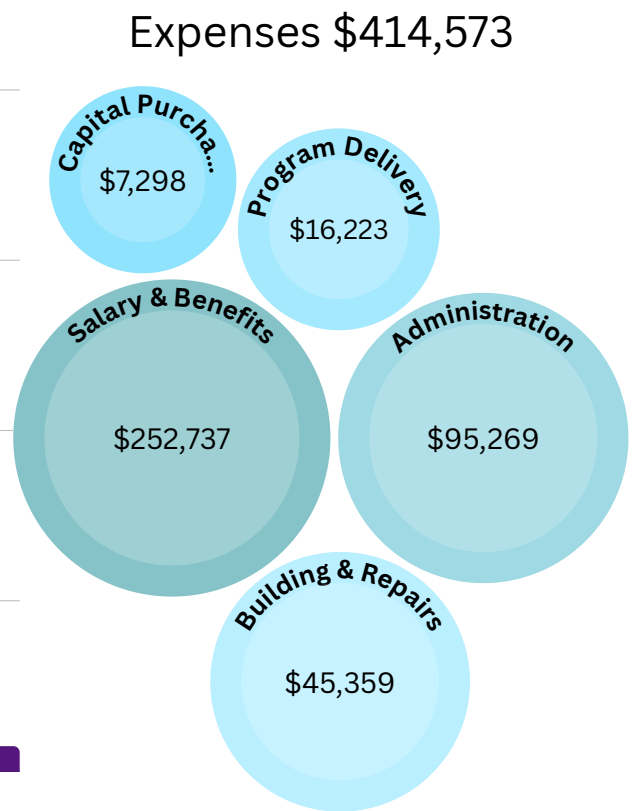
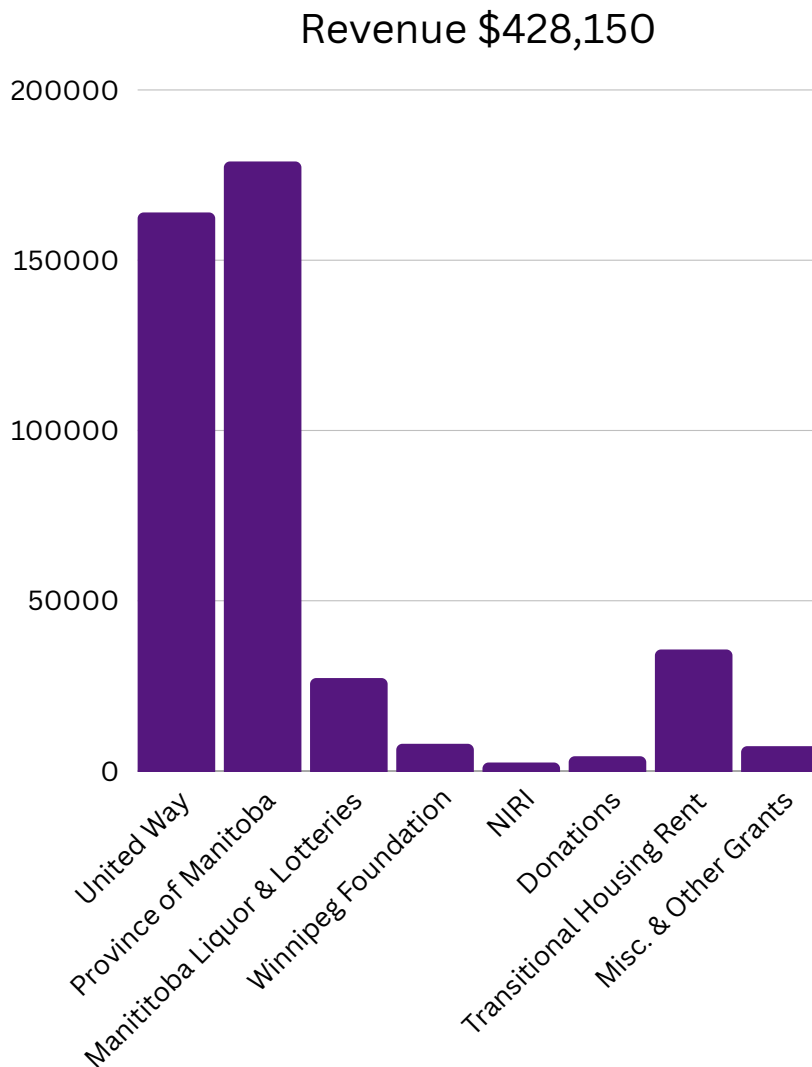
◆◆ Gratitude ◆◆

DONATE ♥



Elizabeth Fry Society
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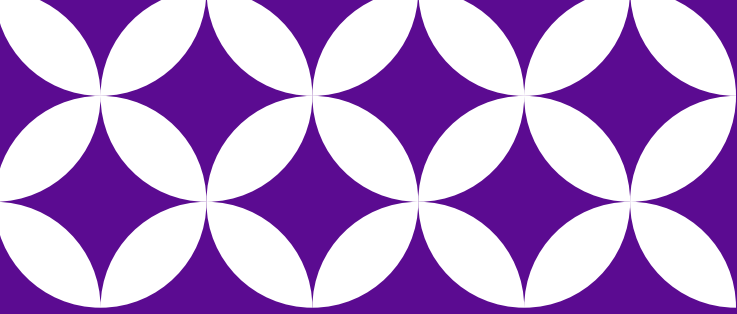
FINANCIAL OVERVIEW



Financial Highlights (2024–2025)

EFSM closed the fiscal year with a surplus of \$13,577, bringing total net assets to \$205,482. Permanently restricted funds remain strong at \$386,420, while the unrestricted balance is –\$180,938, reflecting ongoing investment in frontline programming. EFSM ended the year with \$296,932 in cash, a \$23,543 increase from the previous year.

Operationally, the organization carried \$33,938 in deferred revenue, \$44,235 in grants repayable, and successfully paid off all long-term debt, closing the year with a debt balance of \$0.



Break the Cycle. Change a Life.

DONATE 



Every day, women and gender-diverse people walk through our doors carrying the weight of trauma, poverty, and criminalization. Your support helps them find safety, healing, and the chance to rebuild.

When you give to EFSM, you are investing in cultural connection, stable housing, education, and second chances. You are standing with people who have been told “no” their entire lives — and helping them hear “yes” for the first time.



*Together, we can
break cycles and
build futures rooted
in dignity, belonging,
and hope.*



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