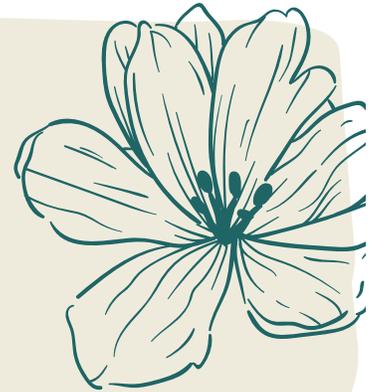


## Annual Report 2020



*58 unique women*

This is the number of individual women from all over the island who have accessed Blooming House this year alone

*1555 bed nights*

The number of beds occupied in total (8 beds per night is capacity)

*53% average occupancy per night*

An increase from 45% last year

*12 women we've helped transition*

This is the number of women we have helped transition into their own housing this year

*[bloominghouse.ca](http://bloominghouse.ca)*

PO Box 963 Charlottetown, PE, C1A 7L9

902-213-9969

[info@bloominghouse.ca](mailto:info@bloominghouse.ca)

Open all week from 4pm to 8am

*\$143,000 funds raised (approx)*

This is the amount of fundraising dollars we were so thankful to receive this year



## Our Story

Blooming House Women's Shelter Inc. is a registered charity, nonprofit organization dedicated to improving the lives of women experiencing homelessness. This shelter serves as a low-barrier, harm-reduction, safe space for all women. Blooming House opened its doors on January 25th, 2019 and now continues to operate a 12-hour overnight shelter, 7 nights a week.

The organization currently has a small support staff team of 3 employees including an Executive Director, Operations Manager, and Resource Coordinator in addition to an overnight staff team of 8 employees. In addition to these teams, the co-founders and board members volunteer their time to oversee business operations and management.

## Growth and Expansion

Blooming House will continue to work in providing safe shelter for women as their core mission. However, gaining an understanding of the underlying issues that are root causes of inequality, violence, poverty, and homelessness for women in Prince Edward Island is also a key focus area.

2020 was a year of expansion, change, and growth for Blooming House. They hired their first Executive Director to take the vision of Blooming House forward. They also created the brand new role of Resource Coordinator who works directly with guests in helping them navigate government services, resources, and other systems. These roles were created and filled to move Blooming House beyond only offering safe shelter, and towards becoming a key resource for vulnerable women on PEI.

Located in Charlottetown, Blooming House serves women from across the island including Prince and Kings County. The organization relies on support from communities, local businesses, government, and other nonprofit organizations. Blooming House would not be where it is today without the generous contributions of the community. Any contribution, monetary, volunteer, in-kind or other is generously accepted. To give an idea, the definitions of in-kind donations and monetary donations are below.

**In-kind donations:** in-kind donations in the form of retail dollars, food and beverage, transportation or other are an incredible asset to our guests. The off-set of costs allows our guests to prioritize their health and safety, spend time on professional development, and save money for long-term housing solutions.

**Monetary donations:** We rely on the support of government, other not-for-profit organizations and community members to provide housing and services to Island women.

## Testimonial

*"The support & safety they provide with an empathetic heart.....I couldn't have felt any safer or at home."*

## Board members

### LIZ CORNEY

#### CO-FOUNDER & PRESIDENT, BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Liz Corney is the co-founder and President of the board of directors for Blooming House. She is a new mother to one very busy baby boy. She works full time as the Content Marketing Manager at an IT company in Charlottetown. Her company sells software to nonprofit organizations in order to improve fundraising efforts and overall good in the world. Her educational background is in journalism, communications, and marketing and she has a passion for nonprofit, volunteerism, and women's issues. She has over 10 years of professional experience as a consultant, a creative problem solver, and a strategic communicator in business.

### BRYNN DEVINE

#### CO-FOUNDER & VICE PRESIDENT, BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Brynn is a Business Analyst and mother of three. She is a part of the core Blooming House team in charge of business planning and funding submissions. She is project-oriented, is able to take requirements and plan a successful implementation. She has strong skills in engineering, systems, and planning details. She is an expert problem-solver and is passionate about helping vulnerable women.

### EMILY GILLIS

#### MEMBER, BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Emily Gillis is a Registered Nurse who has been working as the Executive Director of the Island Pregnancy Centre for over six years. She has served on nonprofit boards in the past and has invaluable hands-on nonprofit experience. Emily maintains her professional license by working casual shifts at the QEH and on contract with UPEI's Faculty of Nursing as a clinical instructor. She enjoys volunteering here and abroad with annual trips to serve with a non-profit medical clinic in Honduras.

### ERICA VANNIEUWENHUYZEN

#### TREASURER, BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Erica is a bookkeeper currently working with several local PEI businesses and charities and is a mother of four. She has a background working for a local accounting firm where her experience taught her to navigate the world of accounting for large and small companies in every business sector. Her work included year end financials, tax prep, financial projections and client relations. She also earned her Bachelor of Social Work degree and has several years of experience working in social services. Through her family business and her own time, she is a passionate supporter and champion of causes that help the most vulnerable and hurting in her community.