

100 WOMEN WHO CARE TORONTO WEST

2025 YEAR IN REVIEW OUR IMPACT

A YEAR IN IMPACT

As we look back on another impactful year with 100 Women Who Care – Toronto West, we extend heartfelt thanks to all members for their continued generosity, enthusiasm, and support.

Together, this group has strengthened our community in meaningful ways, raising an impressive \$32,000 this year alone. It is a true testament to the power of collective giving.

In this report, you'll find highlights from the incredible charities that presented throughout the year—organizations doing vital work right here in our own community.

As you consider any year-end giving, we invite you to revisit these inspiring groups and the difference they are making every day.



2025 HIGHLIGHTS

This year was filled with inspiring moments that reflect the spirit of generosity, engagement, and community that defines our chapter of 100 Women Who Care.

Together, members participated in meaningful events, heard from inspiring presenters, and contributed to projects that strengthened the organizations we support.

Some standout moments from this year include:

- A memorable opening performance by **Mary Kelly and the Shout Sisters**.
- An inspiring presentation from Sara, the 16-year-old founder of **Helping Handbags**.
- The launch of our **Spotlight Series**, featuring our inaugural speaker Patty Lindsay on women's brain and heart health.
- A community **Diaper Drive** supporting Haven on the Queensway.
- Three hands-on **Volunteer Days** at Haven on the Queensway, Youth Without Shelter, and Kindred Kitchens helping organize clothing donations, assembling 250 food hampers and baking 200 homemade muffins.
- And, of course, welcoming many wonderful **new members** to our growing group!

We also marked an important transition as our founding members **Orysia, Sarah, and Louise** stepped down from the steering committee after years of dedicated leadership. Their contributions have shaped the success of our chapter, and we are deeply grateful for their service. This isn't goodbye, but a heartfelt celebration of their impact - raising **over \$200,000** for local charities since 2019.

Bloor West Food Bank

www.bloorwestfoodbank.ca

The Bloor West Food Bank is a grassroots, neighbourhood-driven effort rooted in compassion and practical help. What began in 2020 out of St. Pius X Church has grown into a reliable lifeline for hundreds of households in the west end of Toronto. Every Friday, volunteers distribute food in a welcoming way, ensuring that anyone who needs help can access it without judgement. Local residents, businesses, and faith communities deeply support this effort, contributing not just food but a spirit of caring that makes the food bank more than just a service — it's a gathering point for community solidarity.

Compass Award

www.compassaward.com

The Compass Award supports high school students working hard to complete their education while facing financial barriers. Through small monthly bursaries, the program helps cover everyday expenses so students can stay focused on school and their goals for the future. Teachers, guidance counsellors, and school staff nominate young people who demonstrate commitment and resilience, ensuring support reaches those who need it most. With all administrative costs covered separately, every dollar donated goes directly to students, making a real difference during a pivotal time in their lives.

CHARITY SPOTLIGHT

Hand Up Toronto

www.handuptoronto.org

Hand Up Toronto offers meaningful, dignity-centered support to families experiencing food insecurity. Volunteers pack and distribute essential groceries and pantry staples that help ease financial pressures and support overall wellbeing. Their approach is practical, compassionate, and community-driven, ensuring that families receive reliable help while fostering connection and care across the neighbourhoods they serve.

Kindred Kitchen

www.roncesvallesuc.com/kindred-kitchen.com

Located at Roncesvalles United Church, Kindred Kitchen is far more than a meal program, it's a welcoming gathering place rooted in compassion, dignity, and community. Each week, volunteers and guests come together to share nutritious meals and meaningful connection. Their philosophy is simple yet powerful: everyone deserves to be seen, heard, and supported. Through food and fellowship, Kindred Kitchen builds relationships, supports those facing food insecurity, and strengthens the community with kindness.

Music Share for Seniors

www.musicshareforseniors.ca

Music Share for Seniors brings comfort, connection, and joy to older adults through the power of live music. Their volunteer musicians visit seniors' residences, long-term care homes, and community programs to share performances that spark conversation, memories, and moments of genuine happiness. Beyond entertainment, these visits help reduce loneliness and create a sense of belonging for seniors who may feel isolated. With every performance, Music Share for Seniors reminds us how deeply music can lift spirits and strengthen community bonds.

CHARITY SPOTLIGHT

Rexdale Women's Centre

www.rexdalewomen.org

The Rexdale Women's Centre is a pillar of support in Etobicoke, focused on uplifting newcomer, refugee, and immigrant women and their families as they navigate the challenges of settling in Canada. Through language instruction, counselling, and employment services, the Centre helps women build stability and confidence in their new home. Their Youth Hub offers after-school programs, one-on-one mentorship, and settlement support, while their seniors' initiatives promote social connection and empowerment. The Centre also steps in during times of crisis – from domestic violence intervention to anti-human-trafficking outreach – always working from a place of respect, dignity, and cultural understanding.

Seeds of Hope 4 Autism

www.seedsofhope4autism.com

Seeds of Hope 4 Autism serves children and young adults with autism and other neurodevelopmental disorders, providing coordinated, multidisciplinary care through developmental pediatricians, psychologists, therapists, and clinicians. With long wait times for government funding, Seeds of Hope helps bridge the gap so families can access essential therapies when they are needed most. Donor support helps fund speech and language therapy, behavioral support, wellness services, and early intervention, giving children the tools to thrive

Weston Area Emergency Support

www.westonareaemergencysupport.ca

Weston Area Emergency Support is a neighbourhood-driven organization ensuring local families have access to the essentials when times are tough. Through its food bank and community programs, WAES provides practical, judgement-free support to people facing financial hardship, helping them meet immediate needs while navigating challenging circumstances. What sets WAES apart is its strong sense of community: volunteers, donors, and neighbours working together to make sure no one in the Weston area faces crisis alone. Their steady, compassionate presence has made them a trusted lifeline for many.

THANK YOU

We extend our heartfelt thanks to our generous sponsors, whose commitment makes our work possible.

We are deeply grateful to **The Crooked Cue - Etobicoke**, for generously providing the venue and food for our meetings, creating a warm and welcoming space for our gatherings.

We also thank **RE/MAX Professionals Inc.**, whose support covers both our MailChimp and website related expenses so every dollar donated by members goes directly to the charities we champion.

Thanks to our partners' shared spirit of giving and continued support, 100 Women Who Care - Toronto West can gather three times annually and make a big impact on small charities in our community.

As we head into the holiday season, we hope you find time to slow down, savour the moments with loved ones, and reflect on the good you've helped create this year. Thank you for the heart and generosity you bring to our community.

We look forward to gathering again on **Tuesday, January 20th, 2026** to begin another year of making a difference—together.

