

## **ANNUAL REPORT OF THE CHAIR OF NEW START**

**June 25, 2019**

New Start every year builds on past progress. New Start continues to step up, be loud about family violence and to thrive. We remain a key partner in the Domestic Violence Court which demonstrates the value of our clinical work, community outreach and advocacy to impact change in the area of domestic violence. The programming, individual counseling, group work, outreach and advocacy continues to be rich, diverse, professional and exciting. Our Board of Directors has grown as well in diversity, knowledge and strength. This growth is inspiring and continues to be the reason why we remain committed year after year to deliver the best service to men and their families and our communities.

As part of the governance responsibilities, we continue to strive for stable funding and explore every area to generate revenue. We continue to work on the development of our research methods to ensure that we are capturing the impact of New Start services on the clients we serve. We also continue to revise and upgrade our website to ensure it is inclusive and reflects the work we do. The Corporate package continues to be worked on, but has still not been finalized.

On behalf of the Board, our most sincere “thank you” to Staff for remaining committed to New Start and for working hard each day to impact the lives of families to end family violence. Each of your unique professional skills and willingness to explore and develop services that meet individual and family’s right where they need it is a testament to your expertise, your passion and your deep commitment to everything New Start stands for. Thanks as well to our committed Board members for sharing their skills and their belief in the work of New Start and for returning meeting after meeting to ensure we are on the right track. As I have said many times, on our small board, every person makes an important contribution. This next year will bring much change with the announcement that our wonderful Executive Director after 10 years of dedicated service is considering retiring in the fall and that I as well after ten years will be looking for someone new to lead as Chair of our Board of Directors. Each staff, student and board member has impacted and helped to make New Start be the strong, professional and solid organization that it is today. We have come a long way and I am so very proud of everything that we have accomplished over this past decade. Special thanks to our departing board members Angela Jeffries and Nathalie Borden. I wish them both the best for the future and thank them for their contributions.

Led on the ground by our Executive Director and Staff, we continue to be invited into key conversations with community and government about creating new policies and directions for services for individuals and families impacted by violence. We continue to be, very much, a key part of the team in our Province that is striving to prevent violence for our families and our communities. As we wrap up another year and move into the next with continued excitement and growth opportunities lets be proud of the steps we have taken and the steps to follow.

Respectfully submitted, Peggy Nash-Butt, MSW, Board Chair