

20TH ANNIVERSARY SUPPORT FOR THE WEST CENTRAL WOMEN'S RESOURCE CENTRE'S TRANSITIONAL HOUSING INITIATIVE

August 4, 2021 – Located in the heart of Winnipeg, the West Central Women's Resource Centre (WCWRC) has worked since 1999 to “empower women, families and the community to move from where they are to where they want to be.” Supports include drop-in and food services, housing and income resources, training and skill building, and services in childminding and for newcomer women. They also offer Restoring the Balance, a “trauma-informed program founded on traditional Indigenous values, teachings and ways of healing to provide holistic support.”

Now, the WCWRC is looking to provide assistance in an entirely new way: transitional housing for women, gender-diverse individuals and children exiting situations of violence. The conversion of an unused apartment building just two blocks from WCWRC to 17 units of varying sizes will provide a home for these community members for up to two years while they envision and build new lives of safety, security and support.

Payworks is honoured to help the WCWRC bring this critical resource to the community with a \$100,000 donation as part of our 20th anniversary donation series.

“We’re calling on this community to help us create a new option for women and gender diverse people,” says Lorie English, Executive Director of the WCWRC. “We want to build a space that’s not only safe and clean but also encourages the building of connections between our residents, where they can find community and break free from the isolation they’re leaving behind. The WCWRC is deeply grateful to Payworks and all other donors who are helping us bring this to life.”

“Starting out with a safe place to call home is a crucial first step in building a secure future,” says JP Perron, President and CEO of Payworks. “The WCWRC already does such tremendous work in supporting the women, gender-diverse individuals and children of our community, and has taken on the sizeable task of identifying – and overcoming – a major barrier to their basic safety needs. We extend our sincere thanks to the WCWRC and wish them the best of luck as they officially begin this leg of the journey to a better, healthier Winnipeg.”

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