



ANNUAL REPORT 2023-2024

Our Mission

Wesway provides personalized respite support services.

Wesway builds community partnerships and promotes inclusion through community development.

Wesway envisions a model of respite support services to meet the needs of the community with respect and dignity.

President's Report

Welcome to our Annual General Meeting for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2024. It's with great pleasure and pride that I stand before you today to reflect on the remarkable journey we've embarked on over the past year.

During this year we bid farewell to Daniel McGoey, our Executive Director of 24 years. His stewardship laid a solid foundation for Wesway's continued growth and success. We welcomed Dana MacMillan as our new Executive Director, a familiar face with over 30 years of dedicated service to Wesway. Dana's seamless transition into her new role reflects her deep-rooted commitment to our organization's mission.

Throughout the year, our Board diligently worked to ensure compliance with regulatory changes, particularly the transition to ONCA mandated by the Ontario government. Under Dana's leadership, we navigated this transition with ease, ensuring that Wesway remained steadfast in serving our community.

The formation of a governance committee prior to the pandemic exemplifies our proactive approach to enhancing organizational policies. With the invaluable assistance of our consultant Diane Walker, our policies were updated to reflect current needs and standards, ensuring we operate efficiently and ethically.

This year, we celebrated two significant milestones: Wesway's 50 years of operation and the opening of our Junot Avenue Respite Home. These achievements are a testament to our unwavering commitment to supporting caregivers and enhancing the lives of those in our community.



I am delighted to announce the addition of three new Board members: Rosie Vita, Verna Brannan, and Liisa Osala-Simi. Their diverse skill sets and fresh perspectives will undoubtedly enrich our Board and contribute to our continued success. And, we say goodbye to both Valerie Luck and Margie Rondeau, two long-standing Board members who retire today. Both have been instrumental in ensuring we stay grounded in our support of the people we serve. Thank you for your years of dedicated service to Wesway.

As we look to the future, we've been extremely busy working on a new Strategic Plan that will set Wesway's direction for the coming years. With this plan in place, we are poised to adapt to evolving needs and seize opportunities for growth and innovation.

None of these accomplishments would have been possible without the dedication and hard work of our staff, volunteers, partners, and supporters. Your unwavering commitment to our mission has made this year one of productivity and success.

As we conclude this fiscal year, let us reflect on our achievements with pride and look forward to the opportunities that lie ahead. Together, we will continue to make a meaningful difference in the lives of caregivers and those we serve. Thank you.

Filomena Gregorash, President, Wesway Board of Directors

Treasurer's Report

As we look back on this past year, Wesway has and continues to provide more service than ever before to caregivers. From a financial perspective, this increase in our service is reflected in our Statement of Operations which is captured in this report. Wesway continues to receive both annualized and fiscal revenue to support our service to families.

Our annualized funding from the Ministry of Children, Community and Social Services and the Ministry of Health ensures that families who are supported by these funds, continue to receive their much-needed respite support.

The fiscal funding we received this year enabled Wesway to reach even more families. This year we continued to provide services through our Wait-at-Home program that supported individuals and families, and the greater healthcare system. Our partnership with the Nokiwin Tribal Council and the Nishnawbe Aski Nation enabled us to provide respite services for children with exceptional care needs. One-time funding from the Ministry of Health enabled Wesway to once again address the respite needs of a number of senior families who were waiting for our services. Furthermore, through other partnership arrangements, we were able to provide urgent respite support to families who are caring for a child with Autism.

Funding for respite services from various sources is a strong affirmation of the ongoing confidence that the government and the community have in Wesway's ability to provide respite services within an ever-changing environment.

This year, Wesway served more families than ever before. Although the COVID-19 pandemic was officially declared over, the continuing impact of the pandemic on our service provision has resulted in a surplus position for Wesway.

Tom Forsythe, Treasurer, Wesway Board of Directors

Statement of Operations (For the year ended March 31, 2024)

REVENUE

Adult DS Support Services	\$ 907,706
Children's DS Support Services	\$ 887,402
Respite Services	\$ 259,582
Autism Spectrum Disorder Program	\$ 77,032
Complex Special Needs	\$ 81,788
Community Support	\$ 4,882,570
Assisted Living	\$ 1,336,504
Enhanced Pandemic Funding - MCCSS	\$ 39,382
Enhanced Pandemic Funding - MOHLTC	\$ 209,000
Other Revenue	\$ 12,624,934
Amortization of deferred revenue related to capital assets	\$ 72,864
Total	\$ 21,378,764

EXPENDITURES

Adult DS Support Services	\$ 946,832
Children's DS Support Services	\$ 929,532
Respite Services	\$ 260,103
Autism Spectrum Disorder Program	\$ 86,015
Complex Special Needs	\$ 81,788
Community Support	\$ 4,808,246
Assisted Living	\$ 1,504,186
Other Programs	\$ 11,123,786
Other Miscellaneous	\$ 249,040
Total	\$ 19,989,528
Surplus	\$ 1,389,236

Financial Overview

MCCSS
\$2,252,892

MOHLTC-CSS
\$6,428,074

Other
\$12,697,797

New Funding

Additional funding of \$2,546,514 in 23/24 to support families waiting for service, included in "Community Support"

Budget increase of \$3,851,707 in 23/24 from Nishnawbe Aski Nation Corporate Services through Jordan's Principle Funding included in "Other Revenue"

Budget increase of \$649,615 in 23/24 from Nokiwin Tribal Council through Jordan's Principle Funding included in "Other Revenue"

Executive Director's Report

I am pleased to present the 2023/2024 Executive Director's report for Wesway.

In October 2023, Wesway achieved a remarkable milestone. Celebrating 50 years of providing respite support to family caregivers fills us with immense pride as we continue to strengthen the invaluable efforts of caregivers. In early 2024, we marked this significant anniversary with a captivating pictorial tribute showcasing Wesway's journey through the years. This poignant display now adorns the hallway of our Victoria Street Office, preserving our rich history for all to appreciate.

Throughout our five-decade journey, we have cultivated innovative respite models tailored to meet the unique needs of the caregivers we serve - from our humble beginnings at a respite home on Brodie Street, where we initially supported families caring for children in Thunder Bay, to our present-day services that support individuals from infancy to old age across Northern Ontario with a diverse array of respite options.

As we emerged from the challenges posed by the pandemic, we have grown our service models even more. Our commitment to responsiveness and creativity has enabled us to better address the unique needs of caregivers. This report highlights our growth, both in terms of the number of individuals we have supported as well as, the hours of support they have received.

Wesway continues to benefit from sustained funding, ensuring that caregivers receive the vital support they require. Moreover, we continue to secure additional funding on a one-time basis to address the needs of caregivers awaiting services, individuals who would otherwise be hospitalized, caregivers of children with exceptional needs in collaboration with the Nishnawbe Aski Nation and Nokiwin Tribal Council, and families facing urgent needs or crises. We remain steadfast in our pursuit of funding from diverse sources to extend our reach to as many caregivers as possible.

As the newly appointed Executive Director of Wesway, I eagerly anticipate the charting of our strategic priorities for the future. I am fervent in my commitment to providing unparalleled support and services for caregivers while collaborating closely with our broader community to champion the needs of caregivers and the vital role they fulfill in our healthcare system.

In conclusion, I extend heartfelt gratitude to all of our volunteers, staff, and community partners for their steadfast support, unwavering dedication, and belief in the essential role of caregivers. Together, we are effecting meaningful change.

Dana MacMillan, Executive Director

Wesway Board of Directors 2023-2024

Filomena Gregorash
President

Heather Gray
Vice President

Tom Forsythe
Secretary/Treasurer

Andre Korstanje
Past President

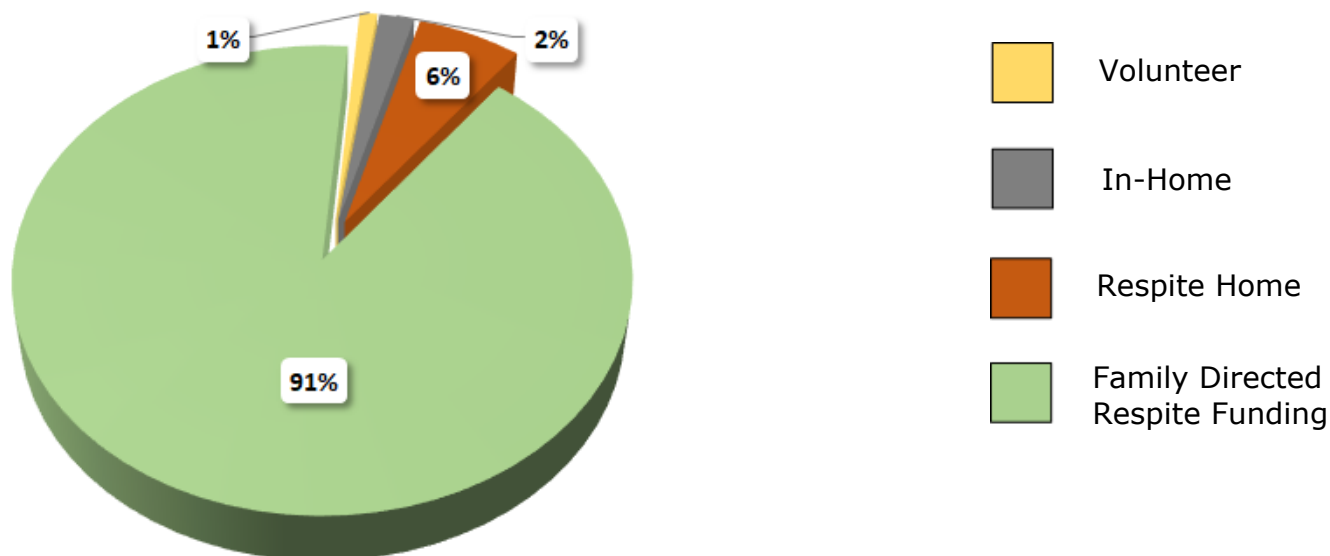
Directors

Brenda Coopman
Valerie Luck
Margie Rondeau
Michael Scarcello (retired Feb/24)
Nancy Veal

Snapshot of Services 2023-2024

Individuals Served -1,727

Hours of Service - 1,397,864



Respite Home

A variety of respite services are available in Wesway's comfortable home-like settings. With the support of trained Respite Workers, small groups of participants enjoy social and recreational activities tailored to their interests, while being supported with their daily life routines.

In-Home

Wesway's Respite Workers perform the daily care routine typically provided by the family caregiver. This support may be carried out in the family home, or if preferred, the worker may accompany participants to activities outside of the home.

Volunteer

Every week or two, Community Friend Volunteers share their time with an individual and together they enjoy a few hours of social or recreational activities in the community. Host Family Volunteers provide longer periods of respite by welcoming an individual into their home.

Family Directed Respite Funding

Family caregivers decide how they would like to receive their respite and Wesway reimburses the approved costs. Families are able to use the funding in a variety of ways.

With the support of our fundraising efforts, generous donations, and our other funding sources, Wesway was able to provide approximately 94,054 hours of crisis respite support to 228 individuals. Since no one can predict when an emergency might occur - a death, illness, or other extraordinary situation, Wesway strives to support families through some of life's most difficult respite care challenges with our crisis support.

What Our Families Are Saying ...



"Allowing me to tailor the needs of the service to my family works great for me."

"As long as I am receiving Wesway's help, I think I can have some control over my needs. Without Wesway's help, I would crash emotionally and psychologically."



"Wesway makes it possible for me to take care of my needs. Without them, I would be lost."



"Keep up the good work. It is nice to know other people understand what we go through as a caregiver!!"

"Services from Wesway are a Godsend. It has made me realize how much in need of respite I was. I make a point in accessing help."