



**SACHA** SEXUAL  
ASSAULT  
CENTRE



Annual Report 2012-2013

*Working to end sexual violence since 1975*

## A Message from Rachel Puttock, Chair of Management Committee

I first learned of the remarkable support that the Sexual Assault Centre (Hamilton and Area) provides when I became a crisis line volunteer in 2001. Since then SACHA has markedly expanded its services, scope and client base and I am continuously amazed by the creativity and passion both staff and volunteers bring to this important work.

One example of this creativity is the work being done through the *It's Time* campaign, funded by Status of Women Canada. A joint partnership between SACHA and YWCA Hamilton, *It's Time* has been collaborating with students, staff, and faculty from the McMaster University community to raise awareness regarding intimate partner violence and sexual assault. As four out of five female undergraduates surveyed in Canadian Universities have said that they have been victims of violence in a dating relationship, there is clearly a need for prevention, education and support on the Canadian campus. Through comprehensive student engagement strategies, a gender-based analysis of relevant university policies, and an education and awareness campaign, *It's Time* is working towards understanding the various ways violence on campus is experienced and the services and support both available and lacking.

It is a privilege to be a member of SACHA's Management Committee and to work with such a dedicated and passionate group of women. I look forward to all that 2013/2014 has to bring.



## A Message from Lenore Lukasik-Foss Director

2012-2013 was a year of growth and development at SACHA. The following are highlights of our work:

### **24 Hour Support Line: 63% Increase in Calls**

Since 2010/11, SACHA has experienced a 63% increase in calls on our 24-Hour Support Line. We have also experienced a dramatic increase in the number of callers who are actively suicidal. Special thanks to our amazing (and award-winning) Support Line volunteers who work hard to offer high-quality services to the women and men who reach out for assistance.

### **New Digital Phone System**

Finally! With the generous assistance of Rotary Club of Hamilton AM, SACHA was able to purchase a new digital phone system. SACHA's old phones were twenty years old and were malfunctioning. Our new system offers tremendous flexibility and will bring improvements in our 24-Hour Support Line service.

### **Creating Connections: Sewing Circle and Women's Groups**

SACHA's Diverse Communities Outreach Program (DCOP) continues to develop and deliver innovative programming for women from Hamilton's diverse racial and cultural communities. In 2012/13 DCOP offered two, 15-week Multicultural Women's Sewing Circles and two, 12-week Women-Helping-Women Groups with the Somali community. DCOP programs help minimize barriers women face in accessing supports for abuse issues and encourage their active participation in the social, economic and political environment.

### **Strategic Plan**

SACHA members, guided by the Strategic Planning Committee and MenrvaSofia Consultants, came together to create a new Strategic Plan for 2013 – 2016:

Overarching Themes:

1. *STABILIZE – Growth, Administration*
2. *CONTINUE AND STRENGTHEN – Anti-Racist/Anti-Oppressive (AR/AO) Framework via Learning/Training & Work*

Four strategic directions have been identified to guide SACHA:

- To increase and strengthen staff & volunteer resources
- To strengthen and augment internal/external communications & SACHA visibility
- To strengthen & increase inclusivity by enhancing services, membership and space
- To stabilize & increase funding and explore new revenue generators

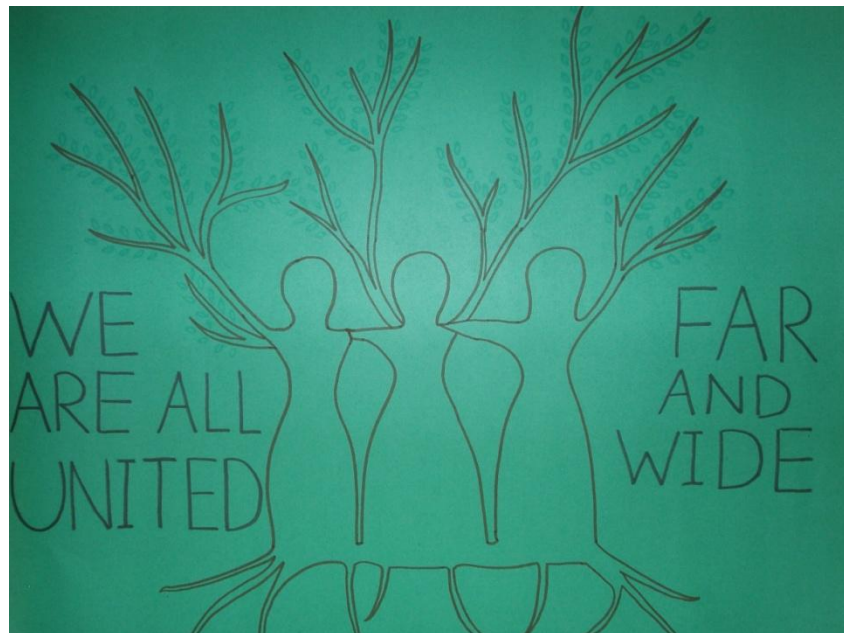
### **Community Partners, Friends of SACHA & Chocolate Fest Supporters**

Finally, I wish to thank the many organizations and community groups that partnered with SACHA in order to enhance and expand services for survivors of sexual violence. Our community is strengthened by our collaborative efforts. I also wish to acknowledge the numerous and generous "Friends of SACHA" and Chocolate Fest supporters – the individuals, groups and businesses who donated their money and time to our organization. Thanks for supporting survivors and for believing in the work of SACHA!



## Service Delivery

Programme	Statistics
24 hour Support Line	<b>1358</b> calls – 63% increase from 2011/12
<b>Counselling &amp; Advocacy</b>	
- Number of Women	<b>245</b>
- Number of men	<b>28</b>
- Number of Contacts	<b>1576</b>
<b>Public Education</b>	<b>3501</b> participants
<b>Information and Referrals</b>	<b>2069</b> requests
<b>Diverse Communities Outreach</b>	
- Outreach events	<b>1030</b> participants
- International Women's Day	<b>400</b> participants
- Number of Women's Groups	
a) Sewing Circle	<b>2</b> (15-week group)
b) Women-Helping-Women: Somali Community	<b>2</b> (12-week group)



## Volunteer Hours

Programme	Hours
Crisis Support Programme: Support Line	7037
Administration and Events	1985
<b>Total</b>	<b>9022</b>

## Staff and Volunteers

### Staff

Elizabeth Albrecht-Maracle, Counselling and Advocacy Programme  
Maria Contreras, Office Coordinator  
Erin Crickett, Public Education Programme  
Htee, Naw Pa Saw, Financial Coordinator  
Sandra Lemus, Diverse Communities Outreach Programme  
Leslie Lamont, Chocolate Fest Event Coordinator  
Lenore Lukasik-Foss, Director  
Trisha Nightingale, Bookkeeper  
Meaghan Ross, Project Coordinator  
Miriam Sager, Crisis/Support Programme  
Maria del Carmen Sarmiento, Counselling and Advocacy Programme  
Diane Sharp, Counselling & Advocacy

### Sewing Circle Facilitators

Myriam Builes  
Selma Nagir

### Somali Group Facilitators

Shamso Elmi  
Hadsen Aden Mohamed

### Childminders

Elizabeth Castellanos



## Volunteers

### International Women's Day Committee

Allison Vandea  
Amanda L.  
Brittany  
Carolina Richardson  
Catrina  
Charlene Kang  
Deb

Fanny Rios  
Fionna Overgaaung  
Hilda Arango  
Holly  
Idali Montalvo  
Jahnekque  
Jan

Jenny  
Jessica Gilberth  
La Keisha Tomas  
Lisa Persad  
Maria Arache  
Melissa Rose  
Miracle Chucwo

Narmin  
Neeke Pirani  
Ngozi  
Rani  
Samantha  
Violet Nikol  
Wilamina M



### Take Back the Night Committee

Aileen Duncan  
Andrea Krock  
Caroline Fram

E Espérance  
Ngendandumwe  
Jennifer Gibbs

Jennifer Rollings  
Lisa Boucher  
Patricia Reece

Sinthu Srikanthan  
Tristan Dart



## Crisis/Support Program Volunteers

Abigail Puttock Allana Beavis Alicia R Andrea Cole Andrea Krock Carolyn Piccinin Chandel McAuley Cindy Smith Dana Muma Devon R Eileen Griffett	Emily West Erin Ellison Erin Nahrgang Eve Mpofu Genevieve Romanek Gessie Stearns Gwen Sharp Heather Watson Holly B Jacqueline de Schutter Jennifer Gibbs	Jessah H Jessica Bonilla-Dampthey Julie Buffett Julie Cule Kathryn Wrong Laura Buchner Laura Roughley Lisa Boucher Lisa-Marie Hill Lisa Watson Maggie Mawerera	Megan Bowers Natasha Gandhi Rebecca Schultz Sarah Adejkum Shabeeh Ahmad Shannon Jamieson Sherry Ives Sonia Start Stephanie Laurensen Wanda Truong Wendy Wilson
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## SACHA Management Committee

Kristene Viljasoo** Lynn Lohfield Maria Khoushnood, Treasurer Meaghan Ross*	Amy Katz** Molly Elliott, Treasurer * Rachel Puttock, Chair Laura Henderson*	Umeshaa Pararajasingham, Secretary Osiris Lopez-Chevez**  * Resigned during the year; **Appointed
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## MC Subcommitties

### Fundraising Committee

Carrie Bullard Casie Welch-Duyzer Jodi Goodram	Htee, Naw Pa Saw, Staff Kathy Taylor Lenore Lukasik-Foss, Staff	Leslie Lamont, Staff Mackenzie Becker Mallika Kapur	Maria Contreras, Staff Rachel Puttock Roseanne Leddy
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### Personnel Committee

Lenore Lukasik-Foss, Staff  
Amy Katz

Rachel Puttock, Chair

### Strategic Planning Committee

Elizabeth Albrecht-Maracle, Staff  
Sandra Lemus, Staff  
Lenore Lukasik-Foss, Staff

Linda Bouchier  
Eileen Griffett, Chair  
Umeshaa Pararajasingham

### Finance Committee

Carol Sheppard  
Htee, Naw Pa Saw, Staff

Lenore Lukasik-Foss, Staff  
Maria Khoushood, Treasurer

### Recruitment Committee

Diane Sharp, Staff  
Eileen Griffett

Rachel Puttock, Chair

### Recognition to 5+ year Volunteers

Alicia Ziemiak  
Aileen Duncan  
Lisa Boucher  
Jodi Goodram

Osiris Lopez-Chevez  
Sherry Ives  
Wendy Wilson

### Recognition to 15+ year Volunteers

Carol Sheppard

### Thank you to our funders:



Ministry of the Attorney General  
Victims and Vulnerable Persons  
Division



City of Hamilton



United Way of Burlington and  
Greater Hamilton



Status of Women  
Canada

Condition féminine  
Canada

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