



Design for a New Tomorrow

42nd Annual General Meeting

Report 2021-2022

Mission Statement

Design for a New Tomorrow supports individuals who have experienced abuse in intimate adult relationship in their journey towards healthy self-directed lives and respectful relationships.

"I am not what happened to me, I am what I choose to become."

Carl Gustav Jung

WOMEN'S PROGRAM

DFNT is a community based program funded by the Ministry of Children, Community and Social Services. DFNT provides individual and group counselling to women 16 years of age or older; available in St. Catharines, Welland, Port Colborne, West Lincoln, Niagara Falls and Fort Erie. One on one counselling is designed to empower women to lead a life free of violence, and/or physical or mental abuse, supporting them on their journey towards healthy lives and respectful relationships. DFNT provides group counselling which gives women the opportunity to gain education on abuse and related issues, develop skills and to build a support network. In turn, building confidence, self-esteem, and help to recognize that gender based violence shatters the sense of well-being that allows people to thrive.

PARTNER ASSAULT RESPONSE (PAR)

The PAR Program, funded by the Ministry of the Attorney General, is a 12 week program, led by an experienced male and female counselling team. The program is for individuals who have been ordered by the court system as part of their probation. The primary focus is to teach participants to understand, take responsibility for and change their controlling, abusive behaviour. The program strives to enhance the safety of victims of gender based violence by providing information, support, safety planning and community referrals. Design for a New Tomorrow offers PAR in Niagara Falls, Welland and Fort Erie.

Message from the Board President and Executive Director

It is with lots of gratitude and appreciation that we bring a summary of our year to you in this report. As most of us have felt, these past few years have been especially difficult for so many. We continue to see how the COVID-19 pandemic had an impact on our way of life and our community.

During the pandemic, there were times when face-to-face appointments were paused and services were offered virtually or by telephone. We continued the Partner Assault Response (PAR) Program, through a virtual platform in order to ensure clients had access to services. We presently are offering in person group sessions.

Although times have been challenging, our services continued to thrive. Clients who would not previously have had access to attend counselling sessions due to barriers are now able to attend virtually. This is the silver lining that has come from the pandemic. While back in person, we now offer a few different platforms to ensure accessibility is available for all clients.

Design's philosophy is a motivational, client-centered counselling style, meeting clients where they're at, recognizing a client's reality, and how they react. We strive to provide a judgment-free space. The staff have done a remarkable job continuing to offer support to the clients on their healing journey.

I would like to extend my utmost gratitude to the staff and Board of Directors for their hard work and commitment. The success of the organization would not be possible without their incredible contribution.