

JULY 2022

SUPPORT US

BETTER TOGETHER



A Note From Our Executive Director

This month, our staff at WCSS and our community has experienced loss, grief and challenge. Maybe that opening line is not very inspiring or happy but the truth is, as part of our healing and recovery from events, we need to also create space and room for conversations which support change, discuss trauma and promote conversations about mental health.

At WCSS, we lost one of our longest serving staff members Suleeporn Sailer. Her passing was unexpected and left a huge hole in our community and team. Her work will be done and continue but she cannot be replaced. She was a mentor, family member, friend and overall super human to many



Whistler "kids." Our hope is that her legacy will continue to be felt in the community through continued acts of kindness as we would refer to as "Sulee Style." At times when the world feels scary, disconnected and isolating, offering food to your neighbor or co-worker makes us feel more connected. Taking that person who feels alone out for coffee or dinner makes them feel like they belong. These gestures and acts that made Sulee a "grandma and auntie" or elder to many need to continue and if anything happens even more so we can ensure we all are in this **TOGETHER**.

This week's most recent event of violence in Whistler Village has left many residents and visitors feeling scared, concerned and with lots of questions. At WCSS, our Outreach team has been working directly with local businesses to offer critical incident debriefing and support, connecting with employers to ensure our services, programs and resources are referred and communicated to their teams. Our Outreach Services team provide free, confidential support to anyone in the community and refer or navigate systems and programs which may best support and benefit individuals during times of need. This can include access to subsidized counseling, food security programs, and financial support.

At times of grief, trauma and challenge we may feel that support rallied around us shortly after events take place but then that support may feel like it fades or the people around "go back" to a sense of normalcy. The truth is processing trauma takes time and there is no expiry date and the recovering and healing is not linear. Asking for help does not always happen shortly after an event; it could take months or years to reach out. Please know that our services will be here Monday to Saturday 9am-6pm to access Outreach Support. Please call our office or visit our website to learn more, make an appointment or connect with our team.

I hope today and everyday moving forward, despite these challenging times, a door is opened, a kind gesture is felt and a random act of kindness occurs. These are these important things that continue to help us heal, reach out and stay connected.

With gratitude, Jackie

Remembering Sulee

The longest serving employee of Whistler Community Services Society passed away suddenly on July 13th - leaving a hole in our collective heart. Sulee has been a fixture at the Re-Build-It and Re-Use-It centres for many years, and also played an important role of surrogate aunt for many of our team. Her love of cooking and taking care of others was apparent every day - she loved feeding her co-workers with her tasty creations, and was a mentor to many people who have worked for WCSS over the years. We will miss Sulee's presence terribly, but her soul and spirit will live on in all us who were fortunate to cross her path.





Financial Support For Kids Activities

Did you know that WCSS offers financial support for kids activities through our Kids On The Move, CampFund, and Kids Art programs? These subsidies are designed to assist financially restricted families with meaningful activities for young families members to learn, play, make friends, and participate in fun community sport and art opportunities. Could you or someone you know benefit from a subsidy for children's activities please connect with one of our outreach workers.

Contact Outreach

We have activated a cooling space and everyone is welcome at our location at 8000 Nesters Road. Open daily noon to 5pm until Friday July 29th. Hydration, snacks and support will be offered to anyone who would like to access the space. Water bottles, at no cost, will also be provided outside of the 8000 Nesters Road Location and available to the public.



More Information



Critical Incident Stress Debriefing

WCSS offers Critical Incident Stress Debriefing to businesses, organizations and staff. This is a structured, brief intervention provided in a small group setting immediately following a crisis. It's designed to help people process the event to minimize symptoms of traumatic stress, depression, and anxiety. Members of the WCSS have been trained in CISD and can offer it at no cost. To learn more and book a facilitated session please contact 604-932-0113 or contact info@mywcss.org.

Whistler Community Services Society provides inclusive support to build a resilient community. Following our values of *Trust, Respect, Inclusion, Advocacy, and Collaboration*; we aim to work with the community to deliver low barrier services for healthy living.

Considering leaving an estate gift to Whistler Community Services Society?

Learn more on how to do so here.

Thank You

Whistler Community Services Society is proudly accredited by









Copyright © 2022 Whistler Community Services Society. All rights reserved.

Our mailing address is:

PO Box 900. Whistler BC, V0N1B0

Want to change how you receive these emails?

You can unsubscribe from this list.