



love in action

ANNUAL REPORT

JUNE 2021 - MAY 2022




pearl LIFE RENEWAL
SOCIETY
prostituted women exiting and renewing life



in the REPORT



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message from the **DIRECTOR**

Briefly portrayed in this annual report is another year of love in action to vulnerable women in our community. Enclosed are some stats, financials, staff, volunteer and donor testimonies, as well as some participant stories of hope and change.

Love in action on the “front lines” of our streets is very challenging work, but Jesus never said that love in action would be easy, just that it is necessary. This is because we believe every woman that comes through our doors is precious and valuable because she is an image bearer of her Creator.

Sharing love in action means meeting basic needs like offering women at the Centre a shower, a warm meal, help to get her ID, supporting her in court or at the doctor, life changing groups, job readiness skills, or referrals to other resources in the community. At the newly opened restoration home, Life Renewal Place, love in action means helping residents learn to live again within a supportive community.

Demonstrating love in action also means praying for, and sharing with women, the ultimate love in action: recognizing and confessing that we are all sinners who need to be reconciled with our Creator through faith in the death and resurrection of Jesus. It's this love in action that allows each of us to embrace life with real hope and joy, with the promise of heaven to come.

We are incredibly grateful for a supportive and praying community in the work at PEARL. It's because of you, and the grace of our good and loving God, that allows us to witness some miracles and “fruits” of our labors in the lives of the women we serve, as shared in this report.

Joan Goosen
founder/executive director



our mission, VISION & VALUES

Our Mission

PEARL empowers girls and women who are sexually exploited, trafficked and in prostitution through support, education and Jesus' love, to embrace hope and renewal.

Our Vision

We envision girls and women safe, protected from sexual exploitation and prostitution and experiencing wellbeing.

Our Values

Christ Centeredness

Because Jesus' love and words are foundational and transformational, we attempt to live those out in the promotion of truth and justice for sexually exploited and prostituted girls and women.

Caring

Extending respect, grace, confidentiality and compassion to sexually exploited and prostituted girls and women in the acknowledgement of their experienced traumas.

Excellence

In services offered and with integrity in using resources.

Holistic Transformation

Encouraging sexually exploited girl's and women's renewal and wellbeing in body, mind, spirit and relationships.

Collaboration

Encouraging community involvement in the continuum of care to facilitate sexually exploited girl's and women's access to services and resources.

PEARL'S TEAM

Current Board Members

Gerry Goosen – Chair/President
Sandy Mathies – Vice President
Deborah Woelders – Treasurer
Fran Westeringh – Secretary
Bill Boesterd – Director
Leo Vanderhoek – Director
Susan Chalkias – Advisory Member

Staff

Joan Goosen - Executive Director
Cindy Sommerfield - Program Coordinator,
PEARL Resource Center
Lindsey Slykhuis - Administrative Assistant
Jessica Kaarsemaker - Program Coordinator,
Life Renewal Place
Tracy Kucey - Client Care Coordinator, Life Renewal Place
Lia Kattenberg - Renewal Boutique

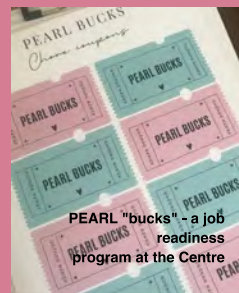
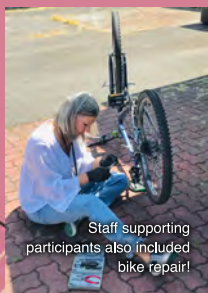
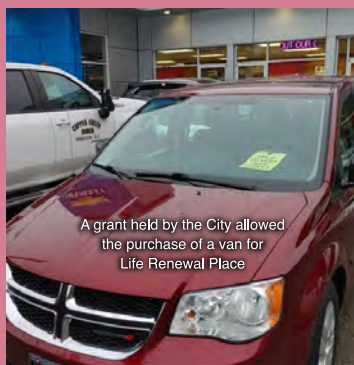


**Let us love
not in word
or talk but
in deed and
truth.**

1 JOHN 3:18



PEARL HIGHLIGHTS



sign up on our website to get our newsletters & follow us on Facebook to stay connected and up to date!

a message from our TREASURER

Greetings! It is my extreme pleasure and delight to share with you the generosity of our God. I have been blessed to be involved with PEARL as a board member, and presently as the treasurer, since we opened our doors. Having been associated with various charitable organizations over the years I've viewed the financial piece of many and seen first-hand the challenges and obstacles that come along with the funding of a not-for-profit society.

PEARL is different..... since the beginning God has been pleased to not only bless PEARL with amazing staff and volunteers, but also the funds, to serve the most vulnerable of our community. I have been completely amazed by donors and funders alike, who through heart felt love, have graciously given of their time, talents and dollars.

Truth be told, not much can happen without an influx of funds, when it comes to serving others. Many "tools" are needed to be able to provide services to participants, and now residents, who access PEARL's services. All of us involved with PEARL directly are so very thankful that our serving is made easier by the donations and grants we've received.

I'm sure I speak on behalf of all the board when I say we are excited to be servants of our God and strive to show His "love in action" in all that we do in service to Him. I truly thank you for your love and financial support of this "Love in Action" shown here in this Annual Report.

Deborah Woelfers

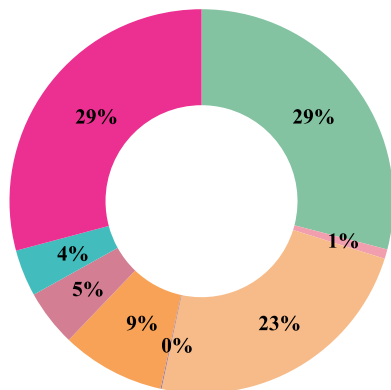


resources AND FINANCIALS

Income (JUNE 2021 - MAY 2022)

Donations	\$91,050
Sponsorships	\$27,350
Fundraising	\$14,939
Grants	\$73,682
Interest	\$12,347
Bracelet/Boutique Sales	\$2,515
Other Sources	\$230
Life Renewal Place Donations	\$91,378

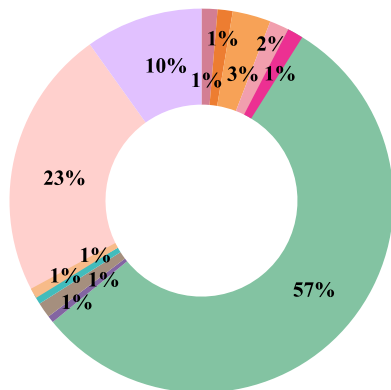
TOTAL: **\$313,491**



Expenses (JUNE 2021 - MAY 2022)

Wages	\$156,587
Rent	\$8,917
Accounting & Legal	\$3,705
Mentoring/Prof. Development	\$4,501
Events & Promotions	\$1,602
Administrative	\$6,248
Participant Supplies	\$3,579
Utilities/Security	\$3,511
Insurance	\$2,406
Life Renewal Place Expenses	\$64,341
Charitable Activities	\$27,308

TOTAL: **\$282,705**



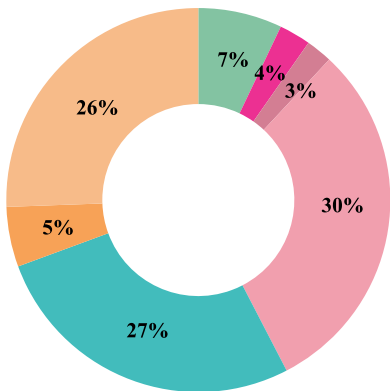
resources AND FINANCIALS

Life Renewal Place Start-up Costs and Expenses Breakdown

(JUNE 2021 - MAY 2022)

■ Amortization on Equipment, Van and Furniture	\$4,549
■ Counselling/Medical/Dental and Other Professional Fees	\$3,250
■ Insurance	\$1,419
■ LRP Start Up Costs	\$16,450
■ Program, Resident and House Supplies	\$17,363
■ Rent	\$19,600
■ Utilities	\$1,710

TOTAL: **\$64,341**



Life Renewal Place is a two year program for sexually exploited women.
See page 12-13 for more information.

PEARL RESOURCE CENTRE

PEARL Resource Centre is open three days a week from 10 - 3 pm in downtown Chilliwack. From June 2021 – May 2022, the “Centre” offered vulnerable women and girls a safe place to rest, to be heard, as well as have access to a hot shower, a homemade meal, and wash a load of laundry. Staff and volunteers also helped women access community resources with referrals to shelters, clinics, medical and mental health services, recovery facilities, addictions counselling and legal aid. Staff also supported women by booking, tracking and attending appointments, and by applying for government support and ID, as well as suitable housing. Women were mentored through acceptance, by speaking the truth in love, and through our ongoing one-on-one workshops which included pre-recovery, grief and boundaries, spiritual exploration and ongoing prayer.

This past year we have seen an increase in women making steps towards change in all areas. So many have expressed gratitude that PEARL is a drug-free facility so that they can have a break from that life, if even for a day. Being at PEARL is where they say they get a glimpse of what is possible.



Cindy Sommerfield
Program Coordinator

*“Pearl has helped me to realize
a dream to get my child back,
everything IS possible with God.”*

(Participant)

*“PEARL was there when
nobody else was. PEARL gives
me hope.”*

(Participant)

**“Yet he rescues the orphan from the sword of their mouth, the
needy from the grip of the strong; so the poor have hope
and violence shuts its mouth.”**

JOB 5:15-16

PEARL Resource CENTRE METRICS



A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another: just as I have loved you, you also are to love one another.

1 JOHN 13:34

SOME OF THE WORK DONE AT PEARL RESOURCE CENTRE IN 2021-2022

• Participant visits:	669
	<i>(by 89 different women)</i>
• Women met during outreach:	107
• Hours participants spent at the Centre:	1145
• New Centre intakes:	34
• Hours given by volunteers:	285

STAFF FACILITATED:

• Housing Support:	16
• Housing Placements:	1
• Recovery Inquiries:	76
• Attempting Recovery:	5
• Legal Support:	28
• Legal Inquiries:	25
• Medical Supports:	75
• Medical Inquiries:	81
• Meals:	590
• Necessities Provided:	277
• Workshops Attended:	68
• Government Inquires (ID, Social Assistance, Status, SIN #'s):	60

THERE WERE ALSO PAINFUL IMPACTS SEEN IN THE LAST YEAR:

- Increase reports of sexual violence and trafficking of women and girls
- Increase in mental health issues and psychosis among participants
- Seeing current "solutions" to addictions fail
- A lack of legislation to protect youth at risk such as the PChAd (Protection of Children Abusing Drugs) as is available in Alberta
- Lack of intermediate housing supports (housing with treatment or recovery in progress)

PEARL'S RESTORATION HOME LIFE RENEWAL PLACE

"Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom."

2 CORINTHIANS 3:17

Life Renewal Place (LRP) opened its doors in January 2022 and we welcomed our first resident that same month! LRP is a 6 - bed, 24 month restoration home for women, 19 and over, who struggle with life controlling issues, such as substance abuse, and who have a history of sexual abuse, prostitution, or sex trafficking. Women interested in the program can apply online at www.pearliferenewal.com. Life Renewal Place's first year's annual estimated budget of \$250 K has been reached due to generous donors and grants.



Jess Kaarsemaker,
Program Coordinator

In March of 2022 Jessica Kaarsemaker became the Program Coordinator at Life Renewal Place, in addition to her part time role as Director Assistant. Jessica considers her role at PEARL and LRP as an immense privilege - "walking alongside women and witnessing their personal growth and goals met, as they step bravely out in faith and make courageous choices one day at a time, is nothing short of miraculous." She is humbled and in awe of what the Lord is doing in this house. In her words: "He is on the move and hope is rising in this place! I am filled with wonder and excitement for what He has in store as He continues to work and transform lives from ashes to beauty. Everything He touches comes to life and I get to see His life-giving power at work on a daily basis."



Life Renewal Place

METRICS

SOME OF THE WORK DONE AT LRP IN 2021/2022

• Applications	12
• Residents	1
• Alpha Classes	15
• Art/Equine Therapy	4
• Church Attendance	23
• Counselling	14
• Daily Programming Workshops	65
• Financial Literacy Class	6
• Job Readiness/Education	1
• NA/AA Groups	112
• Field Trips	3
• Relapse Prevention/Recovery Work	19

"God can use people and places in unexpected ways. This is especially true for Life Renewal Place. I arrived here lost and broken in body and spirit. Because of the caring staff and loving environment I have found here, I've been able to grow into a whole and flourishing version of myself. Not only have I found myself here, I also found God and that is the most beautiful gift I could ever receive. LRP is more than a program for women to grow, it's home. I go to bed every night thanking God for the blessings I have received here, a safe place to lay my head, food to nourish my body and a community of women around me that are more than staff and residents, they're family. Thanks to this home and all God has blessed me with while being here, I no longer see only darkness for my future. I see a bright and prosperous life ahead of me and that is something I have never believed possible."

Resident

*"And the God of all grace, who called you to his eternal glory in Christ, after you have suffered a little while, will himself restore you and make you strong, firm and steadfast."
(1 Peter 5:10)*

PEARL was one of number of grateful recipients of the Reaching Home Grant held by the City of Chilliwack in 2021. This grant, in addition to other donations and grant monies, allowed PEARL to rent a home for Life Renewal Place and purchase some new furniture and household supplies. With the help of volunteers and professionals, some minor renovations were completed, followed by a deep cleaning and then a fresh coat of interior paint!



Some new flooring was supplied by Carpet One and paint was supplied by Cloverdale Paints, all at no cost to PEARL. Additionally some area churches supplied student desks, start up groceries, gas cards, and welcome gift bags. We are grateful!

The house was fully furnished and decorated to become the beautiful home it now is. Staff welcomed the first resident in January!



RENEWAL BOUTIQUE

Renewal Boutique for women, a small store front in downtown Chilliwack, is open each Friday from 12-4pm. From June 2021 – May 2022, shoppers took advantage of the donated women's brand name, quality and gently used clothing and accessories at thrifty prices. Purchases help to fund PEARL Life Renewal's work with vulnerable women. In addition to online sales, handmade freshwater pearl jewelry was also sold at the boutique. We look forward to seeing the Boutique grow in 2022/23.

Renewal Boutique is also a future social enterprise component for Life Renewal Place, where formerly exploited women will be able to gain employable skills, volunteer experience, and income.

Bracelet/Boutique Sales
this fiscal year:

\$2,515.00

Renewal
boutique



Lia Kattenberg joined the staff as Renewal Boutique's Salesperson this year. Her fashion sense and bubbly personality made each shopping experience a fun and meaningful one!

annual PEARL FUNDRAISER 2022

PEARL's annual fundraiser, Love in Action, held on February 10, 2022, was an online event and silent auction due to COVID restrictions. Through generous donors and business sponsors, \$48,000 was raised in support of PEARL towards the yearly operating budget for the Resource Centre and the restoration home, Life Renewal Place.



We heard an inspirational survivor testimony, as well as staff insights, volunteer experiences, and an update from the Executive Director.

The day of featured a dessert pick-up drive thru at Central Community Church. The delicious treats were made by Cabin Fever Junction Bakery. It was a ton of fun seeing so many of your faces at this event!

Thank you for making this fundraiser a huge success and demonstrating Love in Action in Chilliwack!



PEARL LIFE RENEWAL SOCIETY
PRESENTS

Love in action

*Join us for an evening celebrating
the impact of God's love!*

Love in Action is an online fundraiser
and awareness event in support of
PEARL Life Renewal Society's downtown
Resource Center and the newly opened
restoration home, Life Renewal Place.

February 10th 2022 at 7pm

Purchase a special Valentines dessert box!
Register for this free event at pearlliferenewal.com

 PEARL LIFE RENEWAL SOCIETY
providing women exiting and renewing life

 REGISTER HERE!

why I support ASA DONOR

Why I Support PEARL as a Donor

My office is located in the downtown Chilliwack core I see the various homeless people, criminal activity, as well as many women who feel prostitution is their only way of survival – whether by choice or being trafficked by others. This is very troubling to see and tears at my heartstrings so much. A number of years ago Gerry Goosen approached me about a new ministry/support venture that his wife Joan was starting up to assist women in our community of Chilliwack who were involved in prostitution, exploitation, and other issues that desperately needed help – PEARL Life Renewal Society .

I jumped on board supporting PEARL Life Renewal as I see the incredible work, passion and dedication that Gerry and his wife Joan have for this cause, as well as Joan's team of staff and volunteers that help these women and families in our community. I see the efforts, the personal financial sacrifices that Joan and Gerry do for this cause, and it makes me want to do more to help out financially. They are incredibly generous and dedicated to making this work - the stuff that I am aware of behind the scenes is an incredible testimony to their faith – they live out Jesus's call to help the weak, the hurting, the people who do not have God in their lives – all without worry about where the finances will come from – “God will take care of us” is their belief and they live that out in His abundant grace and will.

I have heard the stories from sexually exploited women who have gone through recovery. So whether you are a person of faith, or a person who just loves others, and want to help them out of a very bad situation, this ministry is so important to our community. There are a lot of causes in our community that need help and servitude, and if you are looking for a cause to help out with some financial support – especially one that will impact the lives of those living here in Chilliwack, then I would strongly urge you to contact Joan and PEARL Life Renewal Society and get involved. You can also ask to have a tour and look a little more into their operations.



Justin Cathcart
Cathcart Financial Solutions Inc
Co-operators Insurance, Chilliwack , BC

why I serve AS VOLUNTEER

Why I volunteer at PEARL

My first introduction to PEARL was at a Sunday morning church service. A special speaker came to share about what PEARL was all about and how it got started on the Northside of Chilliwack. It was a shock to learn that this happens in our small little Bible-belt town, that these women truly exist, and human traffickers could be our next-door neighbor. I felt a tug in my heart to help these women...these women that Jesus was friends with... He sought out these women, to preach His Love, to show Love and to be Love to humanity. He was ridiculed for it... mocked and challenged... but Jesus defended them... "He who is without sin, cast the first stone." It was after a lot of prayer and bible reading that God gave me my answer with this verse.... "Each of you should use whatever gifts you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms. If anyone speaks, they should do so as one who speaks the very words of God. If anyone serves, they should do so with the strength God provides, so that in all things God may be praised through Jesus Christ" (1 Peter 4: 10-11).

The only way I could teach my children about the love of Jesus was to get out of my comfort zone and simply serve... no matter what the serving would be.

Life circumstances opened the door of opportunity for me to become involved with PEARL and it has challenged me to become stronger in my walk with God, to practice what the true nonjudgmental love of Jesus looks like and to show Grace repeatedly. It has taught me that the blood of Jesus is unending, that we can never fall out of His love or favor, that a soul can be saved through one prayer. We have one life to make it count, to reach the broken souls, to put others above our own comforts, to pray, to minister, and to be a small light in the darkness. One person's worth is invaluable, and if I only reach one, then it was worth it all.



Esther Maloney
Volunteer

why I serve AS STAFF

Why I Serve as Staff at PEARL

I first heard of PEARL through a newspaper article highlighting a fundraiser back when PEARL was in its planning phase. I was instantly drawn to the work and loved that Christ was the centre. Over the next few years, the Lord continued to put PEARL on my heart, and I knew that someday I wanted to be a part of it. When I saw the Administrative Assistant job posting, I felt God asking me to step out onto the waters and follow Him. My heart's desire has always been to respond, "Here I am! Send me," so I applied to the position, and here I am.

The blessing of serving with an amazing group of co-workers who love the Lord and desire to press in with God as He works and moves in our city, has enriched me. Starting out each day in the Word and prayer helps us to fix our eyes on the One who has the power to heal, free and restore the lives of the women who come to the centre.

As I have gotten to know the women who come to the Centre by name and as we walk along side them, at whatever stage they are at, I am continually blessed and humbled to know these precious individuals in our community.

As we "press on toward the goal", I am encouraged by all those walking along side us at PEARL. The prayer team, donors, board, and volunteers who support and pray for us are so important. We cherish each of you, as a partner of PEARL.

The work of PEARL is love in action, the kind of love Jesus so beautifully demonstrated, and I am honoured to serve as part of the team at PEARL.



Lindsey Slykhuis
Administrative Assistant

stories of hope and change!

PARTICIPANT STORY

"Being homeless for the first time in my life, I was scared and had no idea what to do or where to turn for help. I am so glad that I reached out to Pearl Life Renewal Society, as they helped me in so many ways. Honestly, I don't know what I would have done without their support and guidance. From the minute I walked in the door, I knew I had come to the right place, as the staff was incredibly helpful and understanding, there was no judgement whatsoever, and it didn't matter to them what kind of situation I was in. They provided me with a meal, hot shower, clothing, and directed me to other resources that I had no idea about. Based on the time I spent there, I know that all of the other women who came in would agree that Pearl is an invaluable resource that Chilliwack so desperately needs.

They could tell that I am Christian so before I left, they respectfully asked if we could say a prayer together for me and my future. This had the most impact and meant the most to me, out of everything offered during my stay. Because of this prayer, I finally felt a sense of peace and hope."

Participant



THANK-YOU!



Love in action within a community takes a team. I am humbly grateful for the amazing team that I get to observe in action, from on the front lines, and see the difficult but amazing work that gets done each week at PEARL Resource Centre and Life Renewal Place. Love in action looks like a lot of different things, as demonstrated in this annual report, but the heart of love is action - coming alongside vulnerable women through support, education and Jesus' love to embrace hope and renewal.

Thank you for your prayers and financial support in the work of reaching vulnerable women at PEARL in 21/22. Be blessed knowing you have helped to make a difference in many lives this past year, through your love in action.

sincerely,

Joan Goosen

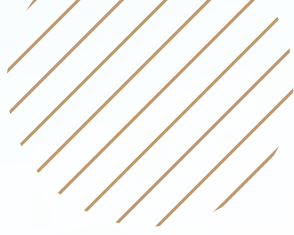
LOOKING AHEAD

When we have enough funding in place, we anticipate starting a social enterprise program for the residents at Life Renewal Place. We aren't sure exactly what that will look like yet, but we have some ideas, along with mentoring support to achieve that.

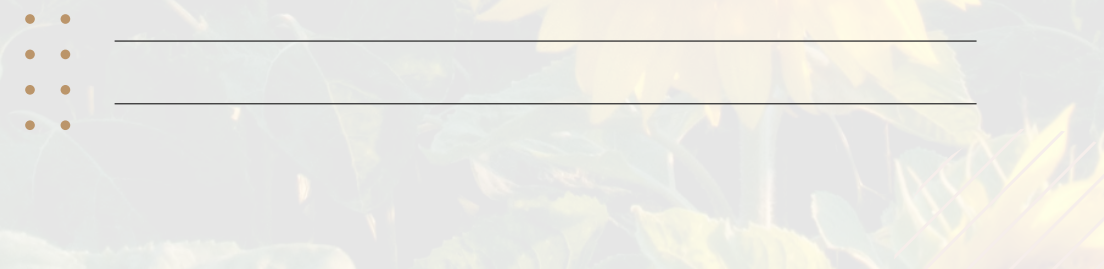
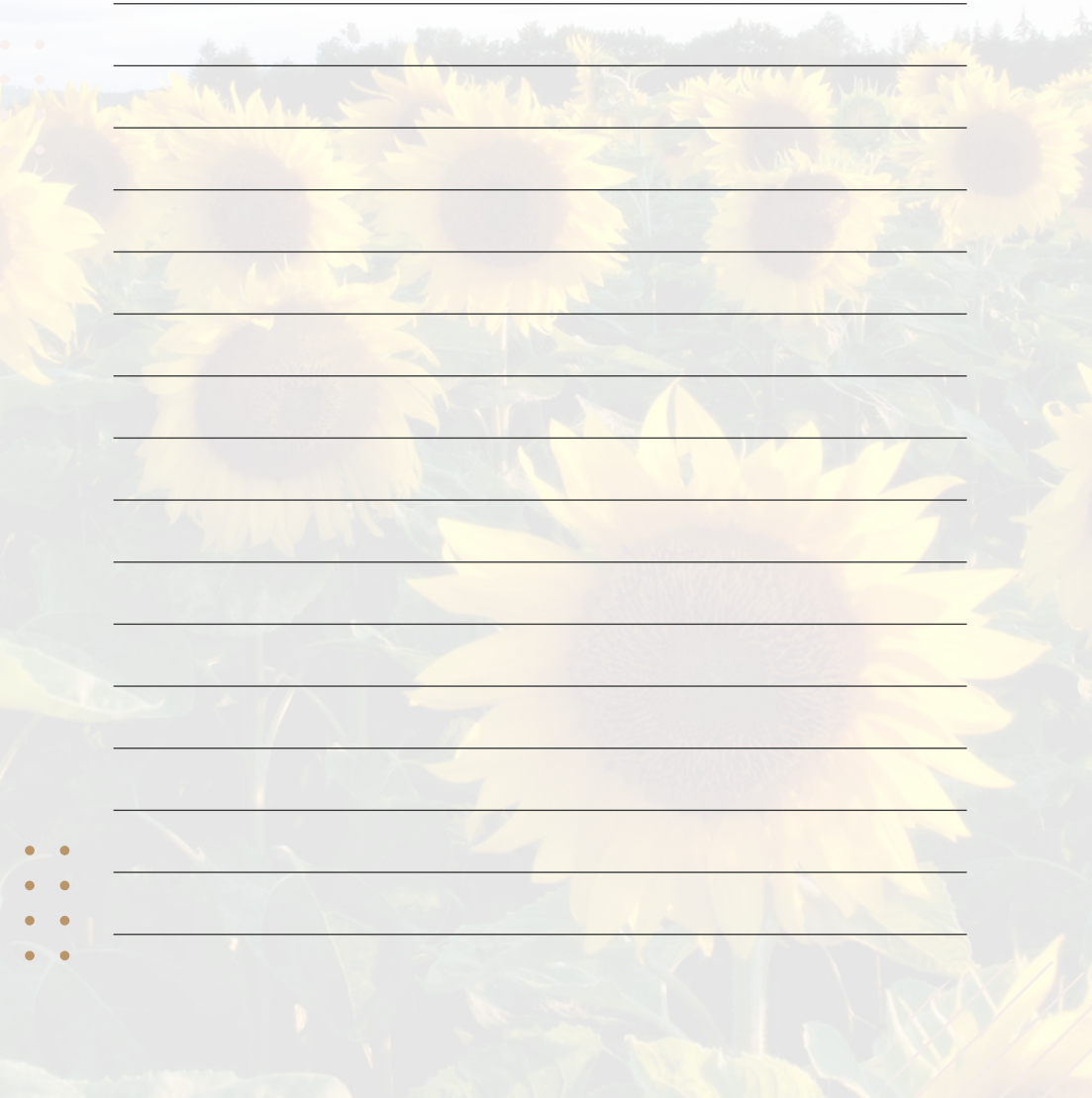
Women who come to Life Renewal Place often struggle with many life controlling issues, self-defeating beliefs, lack of education and job skills training, or gaps in their resumes, along with unhealed trauma. All together these inhibit them from finding meaningful work and consequently be able to provide for themselves and their children. We strive to change that.

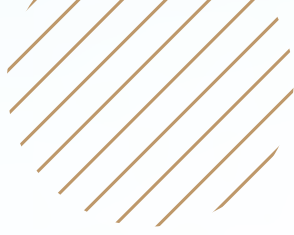
With your ongoing support and the gracious provision of our good God, the program at Life Renewal Place will help women to renew their lives, to become survivor leaders and give back to their communities!



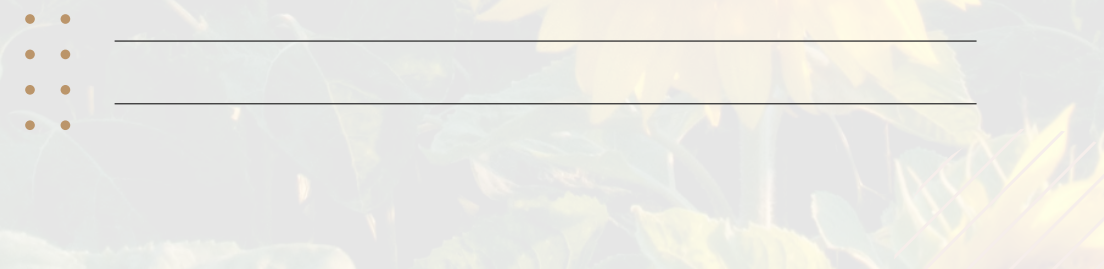
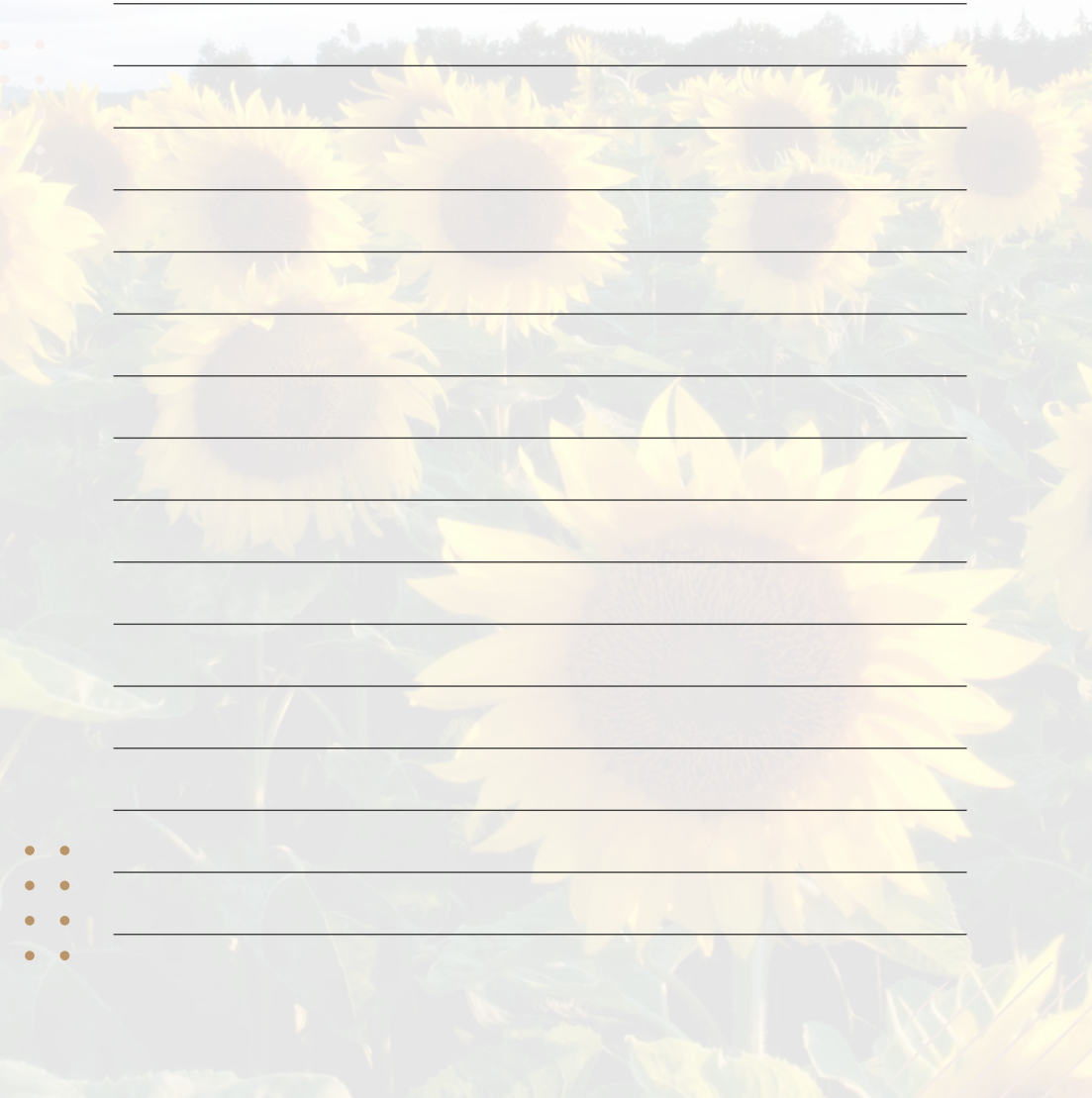


NOTES





NOTES



**So now faith, hope, and love
abide, these three; but the
greatest of these is love.**

1 CORINTHIANS 13:13



pearl LIFE RENEWAL
SOCIETY
prostituted women exiting and renewing life

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