

**CANBERRA WOMENS REFUGE INC.**

**21 - 23 Burke Cres.,  
Kingston, A.C.T.  
Phone 95 9618**

**P.O. Box 203,  
Kingston, A.C.T., 2604.**

**FIRST ANNUAL REPORT**

**JUNE 1974 - JUNE 1976**

**Prepared by the  
Canberra Womens Refuge Collective  
July 1976.**

**PRE REFUGE DAYS**

June 1974 - February 1975

In June 1974 a meeting was called of interested women of the Women's Movement in Canberra to establish emergency accommodation for women and children in the A.C.T. An open committee, the Canberra Women's Refuge Committee, was formed from this meeting.

There were only two known precedents in Australia - Elsie Women's Refuge in Globe (Sydney) and the Adelaide Women's Shelter. Committee members visited Elsie and Adelaide and held discussions with other interested people from Melbourne in order to identify problems which would need to be resolved and effective ways of running such a place. We also contacted most welfare agencies and organisations in the A.C.T. to try and establish the need for a refuge and gain support from these groups.

Out of this work developed the ideas on which the Refuge at Watson is based:

1. **Needs:** There was no doubt that the need for a refuge was hidden, that its extent could not be determined in the existing vacuum, that many women stayed in intolerable situations for lack of somewhere to go; and we were informed by welfare organisations that women who did leave home went to police, hospitals, hotels, relatives (if any were within reach) or even to the streets.
2. **Self-Help:** The Women's Movement, with an understanding of how women's dependency and low self-image are created, felt it vital that the refuge promote the autonomy of each woman, allow her to reach her own decisions in her own time, with some help particularly with information.
3. **Normality:** It was felt a place more like a home than an institution would help the women feel more normal, have the usual household jobs to do, and would be preferable for the children. Such a place, however, would need to be large, with good access to welfare, schools and shopping facilities, and with some privacy and security.
4. **Non-professional:** There are many professional services available in Canberra. There was no need to duplicate these but rather to provide a lead-in or back-up service. To this end, volunteers were to regularly staff the refuge to talk to and be with the women. A training course was designed to teach these volunteers the basic skills of effective helping.
5. **The Co-ordinator:** There needed to be a full-time employee with counselling skills, an understanding of problems facing homeless women and a knowledge of Canberra's professional welfare

services. It was clear that the task would be overwhelming should this person live in the refuge. It gradually became clear that this person needed another employee to work with, to share the workload, the problems and to reduce the isolation felt in this job.

6. **By Women for Women:** The decision to run the Refuge for women was not difficult in that emergency accommodation already existed for men and the need for family refuges was concerned more with the shortage of housing in the A.C.T. than the problems of women in our society. To have exclusively women there would promote trust amongst those fleeing from men and avoid role-playing caused by the presence of men. Hence, obviously the place would have to be staffed by women and decisions affecting the running could only be taken by involved women. Of course, there would be professional help and other support from men, as needed.
7. **Incorporation:** We needed to be incorporated as a charitable association in order to deal with the financial aspects.

Based on these ideas, submissions were prepared for the Department of the Capital Territory requesting a house and assistance in establishment, and to other Commonwealth Government departments requesting financial assistance for running costs and salaries. Discussions were held with members of parliament, public servants and other people to promote the cause of homeless women in Australia and in Canberra in particular.

#### SINCE ESTABLISHMENT

In March 1975 the Department of the Capital Territory gave the committee the use of a three bedroom house in Watson and \$4,000 as an establishment grant. An extra toilet, new cupboards, secure windows and interior painting were also provided by the Department. Furnishings were donated by various people and organisations.

On 8 March 1975, International Women's Day, the Refuge was officially opened when Mrs Pat Bryant, wife of the then Minister for the Capital Territory, handed the key to Ms Beryl Henderson. The first group of volunteers had been trained and immediately began a 24 hour daily roster.

~~Watson:~~ There were three bedrooms, a lounge room, a kitchen, a dining room, a bathroom, two toilets, a laundry, a double garage and a large fenced backyard, a pantry.

We had sleeping accommodation for sixteen (bunks, divans and stretchers) and three cots. We had

only one wardrobe and a linen press - other things were stored in the garage.

The lounge room was used as an office, relaxation room, playroom and bedroom.

The Women's House: 3 Lobelia St, O'Connor, headquarters of the Women's Movement in Canberra, has served as a meeting place for the Committee, roster women's discussion groups, roster women's training course, newsletter publication and a place to keep our files.

Kingston: In July 1975 the committee was approached by a Canberra businessman who was interested in having one of his houses used for women and children in need as medium-term low-cost accommodation. It was agreed that the committee would clean, paint and furnish the house and use it as a home for such women to live in for three to six months. It was given rent-free for one to two years and was to be self-supporting. The women would need to be able to get along together, support themselves and the co-ordinator and roster women would occasionally assist. It has been an invaluable annex, a place where women, once over the immediate crisis, can safely be housed until an alternative becomes available, thus freeing the Refuge for more people in crisis. It, too, has been constantly in use.

In March 1976, the Department of the Capital Territory became concerned at the complaints of neighbours about noise, over-crowding, messiness etc. at the Refuge. The house at Watson was too small. The Hon. A. Staley, Minister for the Capital Territory, met members of the Refuge collective with Senator Susan Ryan. He promised the Refuge more suitable accommodation. Other A.C.T. Members (Senator John Knight, Mr. John Haslem and Mr. Ken Fry) also offered and gave support in our request for new premises. In May 1976 a two-storey duplex was offered to the Refuge. We moved into one half in May (a house as big as Watson house in itself) and into the other in August. Previous residents were happy to move to places they preferred. Lifeline offered a valuable telephone service while we were without a phone for 3 months.

Burke Crescent, Kingston: With both houses fully used we have five bedrooms, a large lounge/dining room, a large children's playroom (the other lounge), two kitchens, two laundries, two bathrooms, an office, two car-ports and a small shed.

Although we have sixteen permanent beds again, each person has wardrobe space and room to move in the bedroom. As well we have a divan and several folding beds. The separation of sleeping

and living areas is a great improvement. The office will be a quiet room.

This house is, again, rent-free. This time valuable renovations, particularly the creation of a connecting door between the houses, was donated by the Phillip Branch of the Lions Club.

FUNDING - (see Treasurer's Report for detailed expenditure breakdown)

1. \$4,000 establishment grant from the Department of the Capital Territory.
2. Following the decision of the then Prime Minister that all women's refuges were to be funded by the Hospital and Health Services Commission through State Health Commissions, in September 1975 we received a grant from the C.T. Health Commission for running costs (backdated to July) and the salary of a full-time co-ordinator from September. This grant totals \$17,000 for the financial year ending June 1976 and includes \$9,200 for the co-ordinator's salary. In May because of enormous pressure on the co-ordinator this job was split in half and two part-time co-ordinators employed.
3. Since February 1976 we have paid a part-time administrator who deals primarily with our files, the management of our books, maintenance on the house, correspondence and liaison with the C.T. Health Commission.
4. In November 1975 we were granted the services of a community health worker who is funded by the A.C.T. Mental Health under the Health Education Programme. She came regularly to the Refuge one evening per week to run relaxation classes or hold discussions amongst the women. It has proven difficult to maintain this with the numbers of women in the Refuge and the constant changeover and this has now lapsed. Various health workers are able to occasionally visit the Refuge.
5. From donations received by the Refuge Committee we were able to ~~new~~

SERVICES PROVIDED

1. Free Shelter to homeless women and their children (see statistics). The women have ranged from ages 16 to 64.

- a) We have found that a large number of adolescent girls have come to the refuge. They have mostly been in girls' homes and are either awaiting a court case or trying to establish themselves in the community. They have many problems but most especially need a constant loving adult to be involved with them. We only wish we had time, energy and people to adequately meet their needs; we cannot but we try. We are not of course adequate supervisors in official terms and we do not try to be. It is very apparent to us that alternative sources of help are needed for these girls. For the Refuge, there are often conflicts between the women with children and these girls, and it is difficult to adequately cater for either group when we have both. Most of these girls are referred by A.C.T. Welfare and we have had to ask them to avoid such referral.
- b) Since opening, the Refuge has had some publicity through media items but is primarily known through referrals from organisations and individuals. It has been constantly full since the first couple of months and the Committee has felt it impossible to advertise as there is no way of coping with extra people this would undoubtedly bring to us for help. In other words, there is still bound to be an enormous hidden need for emergency accommodation for women and children in the A.C.T.
- c) The women who have come to us have had a range of socio-economic backgrounds but it is usually the poorer who need most to stay. For most women the Supporting Mothers Benefit is their sole means of support but they rarely have this when they first arrive.
- We have helped a considerable number of migrant women with a varying grasp of English. Many cannot seek the support of their ethnic community as they are afraid of, or have experienced, pressure and condemnation. A few women have been Aboriginal.
- d) We have had a policy of not turning people away from the door. We know how hard it is to find an alternative. This has meant we are usually over-crowded. Many women come and return home when they see the crowded

conditions. A few times we have had to ask people to leave, primarily when they have endangered the Refuge, but we have always ensured they have alternatives open to them. For other women in severe emotional crisis or alcoholics who find it hard to live with others in the Refuge we have searched hard for alternatives but usually end up doing our best for them until they are much stronger and leave of their own accord.

2. Safe Shelter: Many of the women have been beaten and are very frightened. We find that women don't usually leave a violent situation until they are afraid for their lives or those of their children. Men are not allowed in the refuge without the permission of everyone present. If husbands or others come, or phone, the woman is asked whether she wants to speak to them. If not, we send them away. The police have been particularly helpful in removing violent men from the area.
3. Basic Food: Most women in the Refuge buy their own food, often co-operatively. The Refuge buys milk, bread, butter, tea etc and keeps a stock of other food for women without money. Food, especially fresh fruit and vegetables, is regularly donated.
4. Information: The Refuge aims to provide each woman with an awareness of her rights and avenues of assistance open to her. This includes - a) assistance in gaining legal aid, filing for custody, etc, b) assistance in gaining monetary entitlements, c) referrals to the Health Centres or doctors for check-ups, information on contraception, etc; d) referrals to personal counselling services, e) housing f) employment g) assistance in getting clothing, furniture, h) Schooling - Through an arrangement with local schools children are able to go to school together (which they find very supportive in a difficult time). Manuka occasional care is extremely helpful in taking our under 5 year olds at short notice for sessional and longterm day care.
5. Support: If asked, roster women will accompany women to court, to welfare, home to talk to their husbands or to other places, (legal aid, Commonwealth Employment Service).
6. Counselling: Roster women and more particularly the co-ordinator are often involved in low-key counselling aimed at helping the women express and accept their feelings and situation and to examine alternative courses of action open to

them. The choice is left to the women.

The Refuge also operates as a drop-in or phone-in counselling and information service for many women who have problems and queries other than the need for accommodation.

7. Home-Visits: Occasionally prior to coming and more usually after leaving the refuge, women need contact, information, and other types of support. In general, we try to put women in touch with the Community Services but have also now a network of women, both from the roster and former residents, who will follow up women in the suburbs. We never have enough people to do as much as we would wish.

#### THE CONCEPT OF COUNSELLING AT THE REFUGE

Traditional counselling from professional people is readily available in the community. We do not want to duplicate these services. Neither do we wish to be amateur counsellors. We provide for another need, in a different way.

Women in trouble often feel they are alone; that they are the only ones with such problems. At the Refuge they meet others in similar predicaments. In a sympathetic atmosphere we can share our experiences. Professional helpers are taught never to reveal their own problems, but the patient or client has to reveal all hers. This promotes feelings of inferiority in women which are detrimental to autonomous behaviour. If women who have left the Refuge return and talk about their experiences they can give others hope, and show how they can be responsible for themselves.

Each woman is given a sympathetic hearing. Being in a group of ordinary women allays feelings that she is silly, trivial, boring, or trespassing on a busy professional's time. We know these feelings are often unnecessary but they do exist and we try to overcome them.

Before a woman can make decisions about her future she must have self-confidence and self-respect. It is important that we accept what a woman says as what she means to say. We try not to analyse. And we try to avoid making her feel educationally inferior (especially through language). We also accept what she says as valid. (Other groups report that women are often not believed, or have violence from their husbands treated as a lovers' tiff.)

We do not give advice, only information. We want to help a woman to consider alternatives and to be able to determine her own future. A woman used to

situations where others are in authority can be confused by what they think others expect them to do, or they can feel that it is the others' job to straighten them out. This leads to further dependency.

Each woman must be allowed to complain and express her feelings about her situation. We do not expect her to solve her problems unless she can get these things out. We do not judge her. Women suffer tremendously from guilt about unhappy marriages; guilt blocks a solution. We put no pressure on her to salvage her situation, neither do we oppose this. We support what she wants. Women are amazed that they are not treated as wives and mothers and expected to go back to these roles. They are treated as human beings who can make their own decisions.

In a Refuge where contact is continuous, a woman can take her time and reveal as much as she feels she can handle. We try not to push her. We accord her independence.

Only a group of women being honest with themselves and with each other can confirm their feelings and identity as women.

#### HOW THE REFUGE IS RUN

##### (a) Paid Workers

Once a co-ordinator, Liz Beadman, was employed by the refuge, in particularly maintenance and information-giving to outside inquiries as well as the daily contact with the women, supporting and giving information to them and indeed the roster women as well. By October it became obvious that it was impossible for her to handle the amount of work needing to be done at the Refuge and administration was made the responsibility of some one else. This has been effective because it has enabled people with different skills to find different roles. (Which are not, of course, binding on them for all time.)

By early 1976 the effect of 60-80 hour weeks had taken its toll of the co-ordinator. She went on leave and it was agreed that the job should be split. We realise that it was unreasonable of us to expect a person to work in the highly-charged atmosphere of the Refuge constantly and without a colleague (a paid person with the same demands on her) to relate to. But, of course, the work load did not lessen for two part-time people. The second co-ordinator employed was Sue Zdenkowski.

The need for co-ordinators was obvious when we didn't have any. There needs to be continuity in the

Refuge, in getting to know the women, in following through with them the steps needed to re-establish themselves. People need to meet the women on their "home ground" where the informal contact offers counselling opportunities lost by not being there, or by being an authority, by being behind a desk. The services of counselors in the community are used extensively by the Refuge, particularly where a woman wishes to try improving her relationship with her husband (and we find about 50% return home) or where she identifies a specific problem she wishes to explore or tackle. It is the co-ordinators who help her to go to these services.

In many ways, roster volunteers act as co-ordinators too but without the guarantee of continuity. (By the way, co-ordinator is not a good word but we use it as we haven't got another.)

Until October 1975 various volunteers handled different parts of the administration. This proved unreliable and difficult. For the smooth running of the Refuge, we found we needed some one with prime responsibility for this area: financial and administrative matters had become complex. This became the responsibility of a volunteer, Marietta Russell, until January 1976 when, because the time involved had grown to be so great, we decided to pay her an hourly wage for the work. We would like to make it a regular job.

In addition to this matter of continuity and reliability, there is another reason for our paying an administrator and the other workers. Even if some one has twenty hours a week regularly free, we are aware that women have traditionally not been paid or have been underpaid for their work and we do not wish to exploit them. This is also why we have gone to considerable trouble to pay salaries according to rates for comparable positions. People working in services to the community, including those run by voluntary organisations, should not be underpaid, for example, by not getting wage increases granted to all other workers.

#### (b) Volunteers

Volunteers do whatever they feel comfortable doing: Being there, talking, welcoming, driving, shopping, child-minding, fixing things, talking to other groups, attending seminars, writing submissions, interviewing etc. The Refuge involves volunteers extensively.

However, most volunteers are limited to a few hours a week (or a fortnight or a month) in time they can contribute. Also the Refuge is a difficult place to work. Unlike most volunteers, Refuge

volunteers find themselves in the middle of several people in crisis at once, and their distressed children. It is what we call a "high pain area". Many volunteers come irregularly depending on how strong they are feeling, what happened last time etc. The drop-out rate is very high.

We train four new groups of volunteers each year. The training involves 6 weeks of the Community Volunteers Course, sponsored by the C.A.S.S. and run by Lifeline and the Mental Health Branch of the Capital Territory Health Commission. This focusses on basic listening skills, empathy, and how to be effective as a volunteer. The Refuge then runs a 4-6 week follow-up course (one evening a week, as above) on feminism and the Refuge, how the refuge is run, and further self-awareness work. This is run by other Refuge volunteers, some of whom assist in running the Community Volunteers Course too. The training also acts as a self-selecting ground and a time to get to know others who are involved.

As there is a need for continuing support for roster people, to overcome inevitable feelings of inadequacy, isolation and fear, there is a monthly "rap" (discussion) group of volunteers to exchange news, ideas, new information and to analyse and understand the crisis in which they are involved.

#### (c) Residents

Women in the Refuge run the household themselves and organise the cooking and the cleaning. There are few rules (no alcohol, no physical violence, no men; no press or media without permission of other residents). The great strength of the Refuge lies in the way women provide their own continuity by supporting each other, talking and sharing experiences and information. Each woman is autonomous in deciding their own course of action and many gain the strength to do this after discussion with women in similar circumstances. Serious attempts are made to break down the them/us dichotomy, by talking, by keeping all records open, by sharing decision-making, by having residents as volunteers later on.

There are occasional house meetings of residents. Once a month there is a collective business meeting for all those involved with the Refuge who want to come - paid workers, volunteers and residents. There is always too much to do. Occasionally, when something very important happens, newsletters are sent out.

#### (d) Children

Children presently number half our residents. There is very little we can do for them and yet they are as confused, if not more so, as the women. They are distressed, often feel guilty and show this through "behaviour problems". Without help at the time of crises they may be emotionally crippled for

a long time, they may end up in court or in welfare institutions. They need to get to know people to trust them to be able to express their feelings to them.

The mothers, themselves in crisis, often have little energy to spare for their children, need help with them and need a break from them. And yet they, like the children, do not want to be parted for long. We do use community child care services but these do not fulfil the functions we would ask of a child care co-ordinator if we had one. This is one area in which we feel the Refuge must extend its services.

Our experience with the child care worker in December 1975 paid for with money generously raised for the Refuge by the A.N.U. students during Bush Week 1975, has convinced us that this work should be continued. To adequately do this we need a guaranteed salary.

#### THE REFUGE IN THE WIDER COMMUNITY

##### (a) Liaison with Government Agencies:

An integral part of our work involves discussing both individual problems and our general experiences and findings with government departments and agencies e.g. Legal Aid, Welfare Branch D.C.T., the Commonwealth Employment Service, A.C.T. Emergency Housing Committee, Police, Mental Health Branch, Ethnic and Community Relations, Dept. of Aboriginal Affairs, Health Centres, Community Services, Occasional Care etc.

##### (b) Liaison with Voluntary Agencies and Community Groups

(i) We offer and receive help and information to and from such voluntary community agencies as:

Caroline Chisholm Refuge	Marriage Guidance
Smith Family	Lifeline
St. Vincent de Paul	Single Mothers Assoc.
Salvation Army	Women's Information
Good Neighbour Council	Service
A.N.U. Stress Cottage	Abortion Counselling
Dr. Barnardo's Homes	Service
Other refuges	Parents Without Partners
Shelter	A.C.T. Council of Social
Family Planning Assoc.	Service

(ii) We regularly speak to other organisations about the Refuge and its work and usually receive assistance from them e.g. Lions, Rotary, Quota.

(iii) We are members of Southside Inter Agency and the Council of Social Service are involved with their work.

(iv) We use and help run the Community Volunteers Course, and have also contributed to the training programmes of the Public Service Board Administrative Trainees, Nurses (Woden and Canberra), Lifeline Telephone helpers. We have assisted individuals training for Welfare Certificate, Occupational Therapy, A.N.U. Psychology.

(v) We have analysed and commented on our experiences for the benefit of the Royal Commission on Human Relationships, the Women's Health Conference (Brisbane), the Alternative Women's Health Conference (Sydney), National Shelter.

(vi) We are members of the National Confederation of Women's Refuges, a loose association of Refuges: We have attended meetings in Brisbane and Sydney, sent information to other refuges, talked to people establishing new ones, visited other Refuges to discuss common problems etc.

(c) Other Contacts

We have had a constant stream of visitors including the former Minister for Health and representatives from the A.C.T. Health Commission, from the Department of the Capital Territory, local Members of Parliament, various women's groups, a delegation of Vietnamese women, an Indonesian journalist, the A.B.C., Channel 7, The Canberra Times etc. People come to us for live-in help, courts ask for evidence, agencies ask for information about people we have and have not seen .....

WHAT NEXT?

SERVICES WE WOULD LIKE TO PROVIDE:

- Counselling on alcohol and drug dependence, sex and sexuality, home management and nutrition, child/parent relations, migrant/community relations.
- More assistance with accommodation, employment, child care, follow-up support.
- Research into important issues for the community the government etc.
- Deeper and wider liaison with all agencies and services.

URGENT NEEDS WE HAVE SEEN:

- More women's Refuges in Canberra.
- Adolescent refuges.
- Half-way houses for people leaving institutions (hospitals, mental homes, gaols).

- More low-cost accommodation, (lower bonds, no discrimination against sharing etc.)
- Many other pensions, the law, services, community attitudes .....
- We particularly need salaries for child care, administration and more general co-ordinators.

ANNUAL STATISTICS

8th March 1975 (opening day) - 30th June 1976

Numbers of individual women and children housed at Watson, then Kingston, refuges:

Women: 160  
Children: 178

Greatest Number on Any One Night:

11 women  
14 children

Reasons for Seeking Refuge: (women only)

Leaving home (often violent): 54%  
Homeless: 44%  
Temporary accommodation: 2%

Referred to Refuge by: (women only)

Self ..... 37%  
Welfare ..... 18%  
Police ..... 10%  
Lifeline ..... 7.5%  
Hospital ..... 5.5%  
St. Vincent de Paul ..... 2.5%  
Marriage Guidance ..... 2%  
Single Mothers Assoc. .... 2%  
M.P.'s office ..... 2%

Other referrals from Taxi drivers, Commonwealth Employment Service, Minister, Priest, General Practitioner, Guidance clinic, Legal Aid Office, Smith Family, Scullin Welfare, Parents without Partners, Neighbours, Ex-Residents, Emergency Housing, P.M.G.

Length of Stay at Refuge (women only)

Less than one week ..... 50.3%  
One to two weeks ..... 15%  
Two to three weeks ..... 5.4%  
Three to four weeks ..... 6%  
Four to six weeks ..... 7.7%  
Over six weeks ..... 15.6%

Destination on Leaving Refuge:

Private accommodation ..... 29%  
Returned home ..... 23%  
Unknown ..... 24%

Interstate .....	13%
Hospital .....	4%
Emergency Housing .....	3%
St. Vincent de Paul refuge ...	2%
Half way house .....	1%
Y.W.C.A. ....	1%

FINANCIAL STATEMENT FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDING  
30/6/76

EXPENDITURE was as follows:

Salaries	\$9876.05	
Food and other domestic expenses	1369.21	
Fuel, light and power	691.93	
Telephones, postage, stationery	1573.64	
Travel and transport	835.59	
Rents, rates, insurances	384.36	
Books, newspapers	69.38	
Linen, blankets, minor hardware etc	681.04	
Repairs and maintenance	510.79	
Capital expenditure	1463.88	
Incorporation expenses	40.05	
Miscellaneous	184.00	\$17679.92

This was FINANCED by:

Capital Territory Health Commission	\$16209.65	
Establishment Grant	537.95	
Donations	932.32	\$17679.92

Many thanks to everyone in the Collective and,

A.N.U. Students Association  
Apex --- Canberra Lakes Group  
Baptist Ladies Fellowship, Nth. Canberra  
Beta Sigma Phi --- Alpha Chapter  
Brownies, 1st Mt. Majura Pack  
Bowling Club, Nth. Canberra Women's group  
Business & Professional Women's Club  
of Canberra  
Council of Social Service of A.C.T.  
I.W.Y. Secretariat  
Jay Cees --- Canberra & Woden Valley groups  
Liberal Action  
Lions --- Phillip Metropolitan branch  
National Council Jewish Women of Australia  
Quota Club of Canberra  
Religious Society of Friends  
Rotary Club of Canberra North  
Rotary Club of Belconnen  
Salvation Army  
School Without Walls  
Hacket Primary School  
Smith Family  
Soroptimist Club of Canberra  
Soroptimist Club of Sth. Canberra  
South Woden Uniting Churches Women's  
Fellowship  
Traveller's Aid  
Victoria League  
W.E.L. Housing  
Zonta Club of Canberra  
  
Bradmill Ind. Ltd.  
Capital Territory Health Commission  
C.S.R. Building Materials Ltd.  
C.B.C. of Sydney  
Dunlopillo Pty. Ltd.  
J.B. Youngs Ltd.  
  
Jo Aldridge  
Mr. & Mrs. G. Bartlett  
J.H. Birrell  
Caralie Clark  
Sue Currie  
W. & M. Harris  
Dr. Valerie Hill  
Rex Jones  
Mrs. J. Kelly  
Karla Knight  
Colonel Langtry  
Ray Lehrer  
Jan Loyo  
Heather Meeks  
Margaret Ryan  
Senator Susan Ryan  
Stephen Wenger

CANBERRA WOMEN'S REFUGE INC.

P.O. Box 203  
Kingston, ACT 2604

QUARTERLY STATISTICS 1 JANUARY to 31 MARCH, 1979

TOTAL NUMBER RESIDENT

71 Women  
84 Children

Bed Occupancy:

January	576	Average 8.5 Women	10 Children
February	553	8.6 Women	11.2 Children
March	601	7.4 Women	12 Children

Greatest Number on any One Night: 13 Women 14 Children (1/2/79)

Least Number on Any One Night: 4 Women 6 Children (8/3/79)

New Arrivals:

January	21 Women	23 Children
February	18 Women	28 Children
March	26 Women	23 Children

LENGTH OF STAY

1 night only	20
Less than week	22
1-2 weeks	9
2-3 weeks	6
3-4 weeks	2
4-6 weeks	5
Over 6 weeks	7

NUMBER OF CHILDREN ACCOMPANYING WOMEN TO REFUGE

No children	30
1 child	14
2 children	12
3 children	12
4 children	2
7 children	1

