



The 2011 Representative's Award of Excellence: Service The Mary Manning Centre

Mary Manning Centre (MMC) was founded by Mary Manning in 1984 to provide support services to child survivors of sexual abuse. MMC is Victoria's only non-profit agency dedicated to the treatment, education and health promotion, and support of child victims of abuse. The Centre serves more than 200 children and families every year.

In its other role, MMC is the primary provider of victim services for children and youth in Greater Victoria who have experienced abuse. Some children can be involved in legal proceedings where both families and children require specialized forms of support. Most referrals come from families, police, victim assistance programs and other government and community agencies serving children and families, health care workers and others.

Mary Manning Centre applies the best and wisest of practices of social service. MMC works to the following ends: helping people obtain concrete services; counselling and psychotherapy with individuals, families and groups; helping communities or groups provide or improve social and health services; and participating in legislative processes.

MMC also pays attention to the wisest of practices around teaching. Collectively and individually they have learned the impact the knowledge, values and skills used by contemporary services providers.

MMC believes they have not yet reached the limit of what they can do to contribute. They plan to take new risks, develop new capacities, recruit new partners and play unfamiliar roles as they balance donor and community needs. Wherever they fall on the spectrum from grant making to change making, they believe passionately in their organization's potential and responsibility to promote positive community change, family involvement and child and youth justice.

In our work with vulnerable families, victims of abuse and children at risk, we often are witness to the impact of those who have been victimized. We are also privileged to be witness to the impact of innovative, wise, compassionate, creative and culturally sensitive trauma support that Mary Manning Centre provides.

Mary Manning Centre has provided counselling of the highest standards for numerous children and youth in our community and are deserving of this recognition. They are also leaders in developing partnerships, engaging First Nations communities and advocating on behalf of children, families and our sector.

Mary Manning offers exceptional service to the community and is an agency that embraces partnership and innovation. It is truly a leader in our sector.