



Golden
Family
Center

ANNUAL GENERAL REPORT

GOLDEN FAMILY CENTER SOCIETY

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September 28, 2026

Finding Our Steadiness: A Year of Returning to Purpose

This year, the Golden Family Center found its way back to that place.

The past period of transformation brought considerable change to our organization. We moved spaces, reconsidered how our programs were delivered, adapted our ways of working, and continued to respond to the evolving needs of our community. Transformation can be energizing, but it can also be disruptive. There is a necessary period of finding our way—of asking what still fits, what needs to change, and what we want to carry forward.

This year felt different. This was a year of returning to steadiness.

Our new space has become more than a new address. It has become an environment that reflects a deeper understanding of what therapeutic work requires. The physical surroundings in which people access support matter. Privacy, accessibility, comfort, sound, light, safety, and the ability to feel at ease all contribute to whether someone can arrive, settle, and engage in the work of counselling. Through the development of our new space, we have been able to create an environment that is more intentionally in service of the therapeutic needs of the people who come through our doors. There has also been a return to program alignment.

After a period of growth and change, we have had the opportunity to look closely at our programs and ask whether they continue to reflect who we are, what we do well, and what our community needs from us. Rather than continuing simply because something has always been done a certain way, we have been able to refine, realign, and strengthen our offerings. This has allowed the Golden Family Center to return to a clearer sense of purpose: providing accessible, responsive mental health support that meets people where they are at.

Perhaps most importantly, our staff have begun to adopt the new space and the new ways of working as their own.

There is still evolution. There will always be evolution. We continue to learn how our programs, space, systems, and relationships can work better. But the feeling within the organization is no longer one of constant transition. There is a sense of familiarity beginning to take hold. Staff have found their rhythms. Programs are settling into their intended purpose. And the organization itself feels increasingly grounded. There is contentment in that.

While we have found greater steadiness within our organization, the broader system in which we operate continues to experience significant turbulence.

Finding Our Steadiness: A Year of Returning to Purpose

We continue to navigate uncertainty with our funders at the provincial government level. Even following an exceptional negotiated new collective agreement, there remains considerable uncertainty about how funding structures, compensation commitments, and the broader social service system will evolve. We continue to work diligently alongside our funders and partners to create systems that better serve our employees and respond to their needs in a timely and sustainable way.

The reality is that the social service sector in British Columbia continues to operate within a fragmented and fragile system. Organizations are asked to respond to increasingly complex community needs while simultaneously navigating funding pressures, changing expectations, workforce challenges, and uncertainty about the resources available to sustain the work. For the Golden Family Center, this has required resilience and creativity.

We continue to carefully manage our resources, make thoughtful decisions about where funds are most needed, and find ways to maintain the quality and accessibility of our services despite ongoing financial pressures. The shortage of funds is no longer an occasional challenge; it increasingly appears to be a chronic condition within the social service sector. And yet, within this uncertainty, the Golden Family Center continues to show what is possible when a committed staff team, engaged Board, and responsive organization work together. We continue to adapt without losing sight of our purpose. We continue to advocate while maintaining our partnerships. And we continue to find practical, thoughtful ways to ensure that our community can access the support it needs.

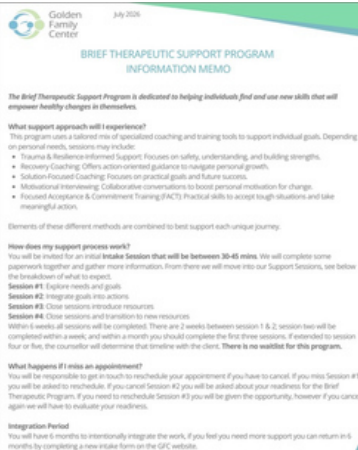
Our external environment may remain uncertain, but our commitment to the community does not. In many ways, this is another expression of the steadiness we have found this year: not the absence of uncertainty, but the ability to remain grounded in our purpose while navigating it.

Message from the Board Chair- Jennifer Petrovics

The Golden Family Center Board would like to thank all staff and clients for making 2026 a year of growth as we settled into our new physical space and continued to advance our shared vision of supporting vulnerable populations in our community. As we look ahead, we recognize the importance of pausing to reflect on the remarkable work our staff do every day and the direct impact they have on the families and individuals who live in and around Golden. Rather than focusing on new initiatives, we want to prioritize and strengthen what we already do well, ensuring that our staff and clients continue to feel supported, valued, and cared for.

This fall, we will begin developing a robust 3 to 5 year strategic plan to help guide our future direction. In the meantime, we encourage everyone to deepen their connections with the land, with one another, and with themselves as we take time to celebrate our achievements and invest in the people who make our work possible. On behalf of the members of the Board we wish to thank the staff and clients for making 2026 a fantastic year for the organization and we look forward to continuing to work together.

2026 Program Highlights

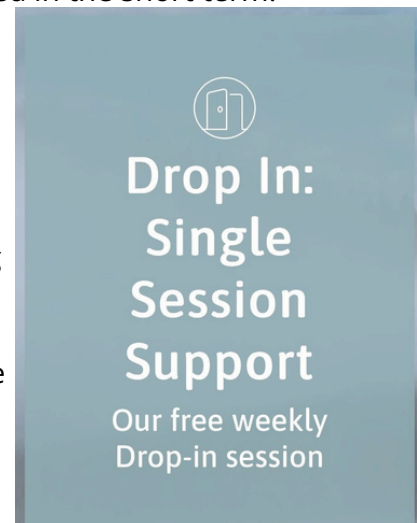


Brief Therapeutic Support Program

The Brief Therapeutic Support Program is dedicated to helping individuals find and use new skill that will empower healthy changes in themselves. The single session support program is designed to provide focused, practical support for immediate concerns. This services is solution-focused and intended to help the client identify realistic next steps that can be implemented in the short term.

Drop In: Single Session Support

This program experienced a rebrand in the Spring of 2026. The purpose was to bring program expectations into alignment with service delivery criteria. This program continues to be a free service every Wednesday and is facilitated by circulating staff. The free weekly Drop-in Single Session Support offers individuals who need someone to talk to a solution-focused approach within an encouraging and supportive environment. Support sessions are private, one-hour long, and offered on a first come, first served basis.



3rd Annual Schach Therapy

The Schach Therapy Relay Fundraiser was another fantastic community success! This year's event raised close to \$4,000—more than in any previous year—and brought together almost 80 participants for a fun day of cycling, connection, and community spirit. The event also strengthened our partnerships with the Golden Cycling Club and the Golden Rotary Club, whose support helped make the day such a success. It was a wonderful opportunity for Golden Family Center staff to get involved, have some fun together, and connect with our broader community.



2026 Program Highlights



Parent & Tot in the Park Returns

Parent & Tot in the park returned in the park in the spring and summer. The group was a partnership with the Golden Early Years Center and was facilitated by our Early Years Support Worker.



Conference Panelist- BC Federation of Social Services

Katie and her provincial colleagues presented on June 11th in Kelowna for a 75 min presentation. The title of the Panel Discussion is *Community Solutions in Crisis*. Topics discussed included a non-lower mainland perspective of crisis response, shared responsibility in crisis work, chronic crisis vs. acute (Wildfire), shared technical support etc.

2nd Annual SK8 Dark to Light

The event starts in darkness of night and participants skate into the morning light, symbolizing the journey through the darkness so many have faced, and others maybe facing today, while remembering those who never made it to the light. By remembering lost, sharing stories, and showing up for each other, the premise is to help break down the stigma around mental health and make it easier to reach out for support. This is an annual partnership where funds donated go directly towards the Drop In Single Session Support. This event is held in recognition of World Suicide Prevention Day, September 10th.



A CALL TO MEN
THE NEXT GENERATION OF MANHOOD

Healthy Masculinity- A Call to Men

This group was facilitated by Greg Gray and Ben Landry in partnership with Golden Secondary High School. The duration of the group was 21 sessions and was held every Friday in the Spring with two alternating time slots. There were 19 participants all male students. The structure of the group was that the class was divided into two separate groups, one group of 9 and one group of 10. On average there was 7-8 attendees per sessions for the first 8 sessions; then combining the classes for 5 sessions for a total of 21 sessions. The primary theme was 'The Man Box' and unlearned the unspoken, unhealthy rules of traditional masculinity. The group analyzed the differences between Intention vs. Impact, Reacting vs. Responding, Flirting vs. Harassment, and Teasing vs. Taunting. Key takeaways from the groups were high engagement with most participants arriving on early