

Living Through Loss Counselling Society of BC

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To Whom It May Concern:

I am the Executive Director of Living through Loss Counselling Society of BC and I am asking for your help. Our major funding organization, the United Way of Lower Mainland, has changed its focus and after 25 years of support from them they have terminated our contract.

Our agency has worked with thousands of BC and specifically, Lower Mainland residents who have suffered from the pain of a traumatic, sudden or anticipatory loss, health issues, violent crimes and accidents. For 38 years we have worked with women, men and children through individual counselling, group work, art therapy, and the delivery of training and education to the communities at large. Professional development to care givers, medical students, lawyers, enforcement officers and social service professionals has also been a cornerstone of our benefit and value to the community. Over the history of our agency we have come very close to having to close our doors. But through the generosity of our Board of Directors through loans and donations we have managed to make it through the rough periods of time. However, without financial assistance our agency will have to close its doors and a service that has been relied on for the population of British Columbians who are in the lower socio economic levels will close.

My appeal to you is to let the community know that we will no longer be able to provide our services and support to those who need it. We are desperate as we do not know where else to go except to the media. I have sent letters to the local and provincial government representatives. We have a continuous letter writing campaign going to ask for gifts in kind, matching donations, grants or just a donation. What we need to sustain the agency for another year is \$50,000.00 to replace what United Way has taken away from our ability to continue on.

I have enclosed information about our agency, what we do and how we do it. I see every week that there are ads in the paper or on radio talking about agencies that need money. We are one of those agencies and would really appreciate it if you could help us by way of a media story or contribution in some way where we could raise funds to keep us going.

I would appreciate a response to this e-mail. I would be more than open to following up directly via telephone or in-person to discuss how you may be able to help us, or if you have any ideas on where I could be directed for help.

Sincerely,

Lynette Pollard-Elgert
Executive Director
Living through Loss Counselling Society of BC



A United Way Member Agency