

Shaped by love... Shaped to love

Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who promised is faithful. And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works. Hebrews 10:23, 24 (ESV)



Dear friends,

I am thankful for this opportunity to share a sampling of all that was accomplished in 2022. We could not have done this without your faithful, generous, and sacrificial giving.

GLOBAL MISSION

In 2022, we participated in the global work of God's people in caring for vulnerable and marginalized and welcoming them into God's family. In partnership with CBM, we funded two life-changing projects in India.

Panina is a 36-year-old widow who was struggling to eke out a living for herself and her two children. With assistance through the Soura Widows Empowerment Program, Panina was able to open a grocery shop. She is now able to provide for her family, send her son to school and build up her savings. Today Panina is a respected and supported member in her church and community. Her witness offers hope to others.



Moldoi, along with her husband and four children, belong to the Mising Tribe. Moldoi and her family faced many hardships common to the region. These amplified when they converted from Hinduism to Christianity. Since becoming involved in a goat rearing program, Moldoi has been able to generate an income to support her children's education and has allowed her to contribute financially to her church and community. She says, "... we were facing a difficult time in our family. We will never forget your help."

LOCAL MISSION

Our partners in local mission, Matthew Houses in Ottawa, Toronto, Fort Erie and Windsor, the Friendship House in Brantford, and Oasis Community Centre in Toronto, worked hard this year to reach out, care for, welcome, and provide all levels of support to people in need. In Ottawa, Matthew House opened five new transition houses this year, making it a total of seven! Their goal in 2023 is to provide support for 100 refugee claimants.

We were also able to provide grants for two exciting and impactful initiatives led by women in our midst. Diane McBeth launched Life Circles, a spiritual formation program, in Liberia in the summer, and Jacqueline Bhatti and her team received funding for their outreach work in the Milton, Mississauga and Brampton areas through their organization, Women Arising For Destiny. Many doors opened for expansion for both Diane and Jacqueline in 2022.



LEADERSHIP AND DISCIPLESHIP

The CBWOQ staff and ministry leaders invested deeply into all generations of Baptist women across our provinces in 2022.

Our Uptick leaders, Laura Matthews, Kathleen Wilson, and Rev. Abby Davidson, guided a group of six young emerging female leaders through our Uptick program. This is the fourth cohort to graduate and join the Uptick network, making it a total of 24.



Our other staff and ministry leaders met with women online throughout the year for discipleship through our Soul Sisters and Complete programs. We also launched a brand-new Prayer Network program in which women are being equipped to cover their churches and communities in intercessory prayer. One woman commented on the moments she experienced a sense of standing on “holy ground” during these gatherings.

DISCERNING THE FUTURE

After much prayer and discussion, the Board made the decision to engage a consultant to guide us in discerning and planning for the future of CBWOQ. This involved seeking input from a cross-section of Baptist women. I believe we will bear much fruit from this investment for years to come. We are looking forward to share the vision and hope that arose from this exercise at our Baptist Women’s Gathering and AGM on April 29th.



Thank you for your partnership in 2022. We are deeply thankful for it and to God be all the glory!

With much hope,
Helena Bergen
Executive Director, CBWOQ

P.S. Do plan to join us on April 29th. We have much that we are looking forward to sharing with you there!

CALLED TO BE THANKFUL | ENCOURAGED TO TRUST

"Therefore let us be grateful for receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, and thus let us offer to God acceptable worship, with reverence and awe." Hebrews 12:28 (ESV)

unshaken

BAPTIST WOMEN GATHERING
SATURDAY APRIL 29, 2023
2:00-4:30PM
HIGHLAND BAPTIST CHURCH, KITCHENER