



April 1, 2025

## Pause on new Outreach Program referrals

Regrettably, Liberty Lane has had to make the incredibly difficult decision to pause all new referrals into our Outreach Program. Effective immediately, outreach services will only be available to existing clients who have been actively participating in the program within the last 6 months (since October 2024) and prospective clients whose names have already been added to the waitlist we created in May 2024. This pause will be in effect for a period of at least 3 months. We will reevaluate our situation at the beginning of July 2025 and then issue another notice accordingly.


Like other Domestic Violence Sector organizations in New Brunswick and across Canada, Liberty Lane is experiencing a labour crisis. Years of inadequate core funding have created significant challenges in recruiting and retaining the high-quality staff required to provide services to victims / survivors in our community. As a non-profit, we simply have not had the resources to provide financial security for prospective employees, and we have been unable to compete with government and private sector compensation packages. These recruitment and retention challenges have been exacerbated by drastic increases in service demand and case complexity.

The impacts of this labour crisis are being felt most acutely in our Outreach Program. Over the last year, we have been working as best we can to continue delivering high-quality services with the resources at our disposal. We are truly grateful for the generous donations and grants from our community, which for many years have enabled us to operate at a capacity far beyond what would otherwise have been possible. Unfortunately, it has become clear that our current state of operations is no longer sustainable – nor is it a fair and trauma-informed way of supporting either the victim / survivors in our community or our staff. We deeply believe in the value of our work and take our commitment to victims / survivors very seriously, so please know that our decision to pause new Outreach Program referrals has not been made lightly and that we will continue to work tirelessly (both internally and with our funders) to find sustainable solutions.

With that said, we are beyond thrilled about the Government of New Brunswick's recent budget announcement (March 18, 2025), which included plans for a significant monetary investment into our provincial Domestic Violence Sector. This investment will be vital in our efforts to address the current labour crisis, and to ensure that both our clients and staff receive the level of support they so greatly deserve. Because it will take time to implement any necessary change, we must proceed with the pause on new referrals to our Outreach Program. However, we now have far more confidence that this pause will indeed be temporary and that it will serve as an important organizational renewal measure, thereby increasing the capacity of our Outreach Program in the long run.

Should you have any comments, questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact our Executive Director at [executivedirector@libertylane.ca](mailto:executivedirector@libertylane.ca)

Yours Sincerely,

  
Alyson Pizzey  
Executive Director  
Liberty Lane Inc.