



2018 ANNUAL REPORT



Mentoring Women in Need

A Year of Gratitude



iSisters Technology Mentoring

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A Year of Gratitude

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A Word from the Executive Director

Gratitude

Ten years ago, I was asked to volunteer as a Board Member for iSisters. That would have been plenty of benefit, but today, I'm here as the Executive Director of this incredible organization.

No leader accomplishes anything alone. So many people are involved in the truly transformative achievements.

We have created exceptional programs that have changed the lives of women for over 17 years.

We have mentored over 2,900 women in Ottawa — providing them with an education in technology as a means to pursue and secure financial independence.

We continue to be a leader in technology learning and development by designing innovative ways to empower young women — and now, with Assistive Technology as well.

Gratitude is what makes you aware of the good things that are happening in your life.

I want to express my deepest gratitude to the Board of Directors for giving me the opportunity to be Executive Director of this remarkable organization. I am proud of my relationships with donors, partners, and volunteers that continue to grow. I am proud of what this organization has accomplished, and I believe iSisters is an organization well-positioned to meet the opportunities and challenges yet to come.

Linda Milton Perreault, *Executive Director*

Gratitude can transform common days into thanksgivings, turn routine jobs into joy, and change ordinary opportunities into blessings.

- William Arthur Ward

A Word from the Chair

We believe in education that empowers women to succeed. I am proud of another fruitful and productive year at iSisters, as we continued our work in mentoring less fortunate women in our community about technology. By equipping them with essential computer skills, we are giving women who would not normally have access to computers and the Internet the opportunity not just to expand their knowledge, but also to grow their self-esteem and realize their full potential. Partnered with like-minded community organizations in the region, this past year, we've been able to build on our modular framework to offer programs that address the needs of our client base as they arose.

iSisters is predominantly funded by the generous support of a small number of private foundations and our individual donors; we receive no government support to undertake our programming each year. With gratitude, we extend our appreciation to those who have chosen to support us year in and year out – helping us reach more disadvantaged women with each new program offering. As we look forward to 2019, we see the need for services such as those provided by iSisters only increasing in our area. There is more work we could do to help our young mothers, newcomers, indigenous women and those fleeing family violence - will you help us to move the yardsticks yet again?

Claire Toplis, *Chair*

Board of Directors

Claire Toplis, *Chair*

Patricia den Boer, *Past Chair*

Alycia Shaw, *Director*

Ashley Kelahear, *Director, Communications*

Cathy Lewis, *Director, Founder*

Janet Clarke, *Treasurer*

Judy Puritt, *Director, Volunteer Management*

Kathryn Bean, *Director*

Mackenzie Bartlett, *Director, Secretary*

Sarah D'Angelo, *Director, Human Resources*

About iSisters

Mission

We create and deliver technology programs at no cost to learners as we believe in equipping women with the skills and confidence to participate fully in their community.

Vision

iSisters Technology Mentoring, a leader in technology learning and development, helps empower women in need to live better lives, create brighter futures and build stronger communities.

Our Values

We are passionate and committed to:
being Learner-Focused, being Community Oriented, Excellence, being Respectful, being Accountable.



*Alone we can do so little;
together we can do so much.*

- Helen Keller

Program Update

It has been another busy year at iSisters. We have delivered training sessions at four partner centres and provided on-going technology support at one partner centre. We have touched over one hundred thirty-two learners with our training this year.

Our biggest accomplishment this year was to implement pre- and post-evaluations for each and every session of iSisters' programs. This is the first time we have ever had a full-year of measurable data to use for program evaluation. Seeing a complete picture of a full-year of data will now enable us to better plan our programs to meet the needs of the learner, and provide the board and funders with measurable data. We will continue to tweak our surveys to gather relevant data.

Our new program this year was the LifeSkills Foundations program which was delivered for our new partner Ottawa Community Housing, at their Britannia Woods location. This program serves as our most basic training for learners. The intention is for learners move from basic (Life Skills) to intermediate (ICT Foundations) to advanced (Career Connections) programs with iSisters.

We recruited one of our standing volunteers (Dana Jorgensen) to begin teaching in the classroom at Bethany Hope Centre. Dana taught WIX website development. It is our hope to continue to move Dana into further teaching and continued volunteer work with iSisters.

Work was done on the Program portion of the Continuous Improvement Plan with a working team of Linda, myself and Adobe Volunteer, Jane Hext. Our work will continue on this plan again this year.

We look forward to another successful year of mentoring women!

Beth Nightingale, *Program Director*

“Two kinds of gratitude: The sudden kind we feel for what we take; the larger kind we feel for what we give.”

– Edwin Arlington Robinson

With Gratitude from our Learners

How has this course helped you in your daily life?



Immigrant Women Services Ottawa
Services pour femmes immigrantes d'Ottawa

"I will be comfortable to search a good job for me, apply and do a good interview" - Anemone Ingabire

"I have learnt how to redo my resume and do more research in what I would like to do" - Vanessa Desir



*Every accomplishment starts with
the decision to try.*



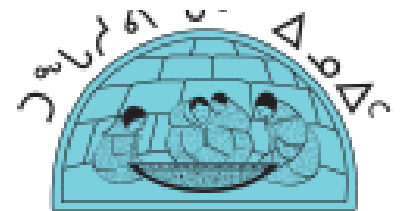
Britannia Woods Community House
Maison communautaire Britannia Woods



*"Composing emails, sending formal request emails"
- Dolly El Rehaoui*

*"Check emails, set up the appointments, check the time for bus"
- Zahra Miftah Idrissi, Fatouma Mohamed Ahmed*

*Even the smallest act of caring,
has the potential to turn a life around.*



Tungasuvvingat Inuit

*"Helped me a lot with many things on refreshing with excel."
- Barb Porter*

"To help me how to use the computer" - Penny

*"This course has helped me learn more about excel and word."
- Mona Qamanirq*



Highlights and Accomplishments

14

of partners to date

13

program deliveries this year

90%

iSisters Graduation Rate

29000+

Total # of women who have graduated iSisters since 2001

99%

% of learners doing something further as a result of taking an iSisters course

132

of women enrolled and empowered this year

5

of active partner centres

Thank You

2017-2018 Donors

INDIVIDUALS

Kathryn Bean | B. D'Angelo | Sarah D'Angelo | Fran & John Harding | F. Fotia | Arlene Hall
Jane Hext | S. Legakis | D. Lewis | Cathy Lewis | S. Lewis | Beth Nightingale | Ashley Kelahear
M. Medina | Judy Puritt | Elaine Rainboth | L. Rainboth | N. Rainboth | Kelly Rasmussen
Jacob Samuel | Adrienne Stevenson | Lauren Thibodeau | Claire Toplis | Denyse Toplis
Tom Leroux & Tracey Vibert | Neil Wainwright | Dr. and Mrs. N. R. Willis

CORPORATE & OTHER ORGANIZATIONS

Accenture | Askari Solutions Inc. | Benevity Community Impact Fund | Canadian Online Giving
Flex Foundation | Leacross Foundation | The Johansen-Larsen Foundation | Ottawa Community
Foundation | Tease Tea | TELUS | 100 Women Who Care | United Way Work Campaign



*Giving is not just about making a donation,
it's about making a difference.*

– Kathy Calvin

Financials I

iSisters Technology Mentoring Inc.
Statement of Operations and Changes in Net Assets
Year Ended April 30, 2018

Fiscal year 2017-2018 financial figures as compared to prior years presented here as prepared by Welch LLP, iSisters' accountants of record.

REVENUE	2018	2017	2016
Grants	\$ 70,184	\$ 87,250	\$ 105,794
Donations	13,608	14,624	5,931
	<u>83,792</u>	<u>101,874</u>	<u>111,725</u>
EXPENSES			
Contract Services			8,160
Programs	56,199	66,713	74,058
Administration	21,889	26,745	24,406
Salaries and benefits	2,260	2,277	1,483
Professional Fees	2,331	2,283	2,329
Insurance	713	2,645	2,139
Scholarships	500	500	1,000
	<u>83,892</u>	<u>101,163</u>	<u>113,575</u>
Excess of revenue over expenses (expenses over revenue)	<u>(100)</u>	<u>711</u>	<u>(1,850)</u>
Net assets (deficit), beginning of year	<u>100</u>	<u>-611</u>	<u>1,239</u>
Net assets, end of year	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 100</u>	<u>\$ (611)</u>

Financials II

The year-end deferred revenue positioned iSisters for a great start to execute our planned programs in FY2018-2019.

Fiscal Year	2017-2018	2016-2017	2015-2016
Revenue	83,792	101,874	111,725
Grant	70,184	87,250	105,794
Expenses	83,892	101,163	113,575
Net Assets	100	711	(1,850)
Grants as % of Revenue	84%	86%	95%

General Information

iSisters Technology Mentoring

3781 Strandherd Road
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Tel: 613.565.7337 | Email: info@isisters.org
www.isisters.org
Registered Charity Number: 874302714RR0001

Staff

Linda Milton Perreault, *Executive Director*
Beth Nightingale, *Program Director*

Mentors

Iskrena Puhleva, *Technology Instructor*
Dana Jorgensen, *Technology Instructor*
Kelly Rasmussen, *Instructional Design & Technology Instructor*

*A special thank-you to all our volunteers...
without you none of this would be possible!*

iSisters is iSocial



Visit our website at
www.isisters.org

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