

Nova Scotia Association for Sexual Health

Office Profile: Sexual Health Centre Lunenburg County

Year founded:

- Established in 1988 as Planned Parenthood Bridgewater. Later changed to Planned Parenthood Lunenburg County.

Clients seen in 2000 and 2005:

- 2000: data not available
- 2005: 716 clients plus 16 presentations to 1700 people

Staff complement:

- 1 part time employee, 2 volunteers, 12 volunteer board members

Total annual office budget in 2005:

- \$35,075.00

Most urgent sexual health issues facing community today:

- Need for teacher training in schools
- Overcoming community discomfort with sexuality education
- Lack of financial resources

Most urgent sexual health issues facing community 5-10 years from now:

- Lack of resources mean we are barely keeping up with demand for core services
- STI transmission

Areas where office excels in serving community today:

- Expertise in sexual health education including community & school presentations
- Providing information and confidential counselling

Areas office is currently unable to adequately serve community today:

- Inconsistent sexual health services as we do not have funding to be open full time – usually open 3 days / week, 9 months / year

Critical facts about office that are misunderstood or unknown locally that need clarification, correction or reinforcement locally:

- We cover all of sexual health, throughout the human lifespan, not just birth control and sexually transmitted infections

Office claims to fame

- Offer *Let's Talk* series for parents of preschoolers, young children and teens, who want to learn what sexual health aspects to talk about with their children, and how to go about it.
- Until 2005, we were the only Planned Parenthood affiliate in south-western Nova Scotia serving Lunenburg County and Queens County as far down as the Yarmouth and the Valley – an area almost half the size of Nova Scotia.

Contact: Carol Rock, Director B.Sc. (K), B.Sc. (H Ed)
902-527-2868, lunco@nssexualhealth.ca, www.lunco.cfsh.info