



## Walk Info Package

**Sunday, June 8, 2025**

### **About the Walk for Rape Relief**

Thanks for joining our annual Walk for Rape Relief! We've held the Walk for Rape Relief since 1979. Collective members past and present, current volunteers, long-time Walkers, friends, family, and allies come together to collect donations and talk to our community about violence against women. The event is lighthearted and celebratory and an invite to enjoy the beauty of the Stanley Park during early summer!

### **How Do I Get Started?**

- 1. Call us to register (604) 872-8212**
  - a. let us know if you want us to mail you pledge sheets
  - b. or download them from our website
  
- 2. Create or join an online team** (collecting donations online is optional):  
<https://www.canadahelps.org/en/charities/vancouver-rape-relief-society/p2p/2025walkforraperelief/>
  
- 3. Talk to your friends, family, colleagues, neighbours, classmates, etc.** about male violence against women, the work at Rape Relief we do to support women who've been victimized, and our campaigns to stop men's violence. You can use some of the current statistics on violence against women below to help you get started.
  
- 4. Ask people you know to:**
  - a. Donate to your pledge sheet in support of your participation at our event!
  - b. Join you by collecting their own pledges!

5. For any cash, e-transfer or cheque pledges that you collect make sure to clearly **fill out the information portion on the pledge sheet** for each person who donates. This ensures that we can issue them a tax receipt! Any pledge given through Canada Helps automatically receives a tax receipt issued by Canada Helps.
6. **Gather with everyone on June 8, 2025** to bring the donations you've collected and walk along the marked loop at Lost Lagoon in Stanley Park. The walk is not competitive and some of us don't walk at all, instead having coffee and catching up with other participants! After Walkers have returned, we'll have lunch and some live music and good company.
7. If you can't make it on June 8, that's okay! After you've collected your pledges: for any cash, e-transfer, or cheque pledges that you collect: you can mail us the cheques, and a cheque or e-transfer to [info@rapereliefshelter.bc.ca](mailto:info@rapereliefshelter.bc.ca) for the sum total cash and outstanding donations to be collected. Make sure to also send us your pledge sheets by mail or email.

### Why Fundraise?

The issue of sexual violence against women and girls continues to be a stark reality, in particular against women and girls who face additional forms of marginalization and discrimination in the world.

Of the calls we received from women last year:

- 432 women were victims of violence by their current or ex-male partners
- 29 women were sexually harassed or assaulted by their male supervisors or coworkers.
- Another 22 women were sexually assaulted by men who delivered services to them
- 101 women were raped by someone they knew through social circumstances like a party, mutual friends, or someone they had a first or second date with
- 88 women were raped when they were girls by their own father or other adult male family members or family friend
- 62 women were sexually assaulted by men who were strangers to them
- 537 women needed a safe shelter for themselves and their children



More about Vancouver Rape Relief and Women’s Shelter

Vancouver Rape Relief and Women’s Shelter is a registered Canadian Charity and non-profit society. We have a 24-hour rape crisis centre and transition house serving women in Vancouver and the Lower Mainland.

Vancouver Rape Relief and Women’s Shelter is a registered non-profit society.

Our charitable tax number is: 119282143RR0001

We were one of the first rape crisis centres in Canada when we opened in 1973, and since then we continue to operate our 24-hour rape crisis line and organizing centre for women who’ve experienced violence. In 1981 we bought a house and opened it for battered women and their children.

We see to the safety of everyone who calls our lines. This may mean that we will send a taxi to help get them out of a dangerous situation. We’ll make sure they have a safe place to go whether it’s our transition house or elsewhere.

All services are free and confidential, available to women without a waitlist.

Each year we respond to over 1200 women who are new to us call us seeking our support after experiencing sexual violence. We offer refuge to dozens of women and children each year in our transition house.

Our support and advocacy extend beyond the initial response and we continue to work with women throughout lengthy legal processes and in navigating their own understandings of the violence.

When a woman calls, she can expect an empathetic, immediate response including one or more of the following: support and information during and after a crisis; risk assessment; safety planning; crisis intervention; accompaniment to police, medical, and crown appointments; legal referrals and advocacy; connecting through small and large groupings with other women in the form of support groups or peer counseling.

In addition to the frontline aspect of our work, we try to affect systemic change through public education via presentations, publishing our frontline knowledge and organizing events in alliance with other women's groups. We present before Parliament and Senate committees on topics related to advancing women's equality.