

Annual Report 2006



SjIWC

St. Joseph Immigrant
Women's Centre

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**Message
from the
President**

On behalf of the Board of Directors, I would like to commend Ines Rios and the staff of sjIWC for jobs well done in 2006.

Over the past year in her position as Executive Director, Ines has continued to establish substantial funding partnerships in order to provide a sustainable fiscal platform for sjIWC. With the expert assistance of staff, she has made significant gains in proving the needs of immigrant women and providing a broader range of services to meet their unique issues. Furthermore, she has maintained an excellent level of accountability to these women, to staff and to partners who support and enhance these services.

The community has responded very positively. Immigrant women respond by seeking the services of sjIWC and bringing their own expertise to the programs through participation and volunteer support. Staff numbers and skills are growing in order to meet the demands of new programs and services. Community partners request Ines and her staff to commit to the ongoing social development initiatives such as the Poverty Roundtable and the Hamilton Immigrant Employment Symposium. The profile of the Centre is increasing in our city due to the valuable services and expertise sjIWC offers to our immigrant women and their growing families.

It is the responsibility of the Board of Directors to support the Executive Director and the Centre in the most effective ways possible. This past year, the board embarked on the development of an evaluation framework for the organization. The framework was adopted in December and board members have been committed following through with performance appraisals of the board itself, and of the Executive Director. In addition, the Board of Directors continued its work on the Strategic Planning process. More groundwork was accomplished in 2006 and the board will be pleased to present the outcomes of the planning process at the end of 2007.

On a final note, we are sorry to say good-bye to longstanding board members, Claire La Fleur and Clare Mitchell. They have served the organization well indeed over the past few years. It is my pleasure, however, to close 2006 with the renewed commitment of the remaining members of the boards ongoing service to sjIWC and this community.

— Kathryn King

**Board
Of
Directors**

Kathryn King, President	Sarah Wayland
Silvia Kajiura	Dawnna Griese, Vice President
Jennifer Zdriluk	Sister Aloysia Fischer
Anne Flanagan	Fauzia Viqar

**Message
from the
Executive
Director**



The year 2006 marked our 18th anniversary and as such we are about to enter maturity. We have gone through many phases of growth. As we have grown so has our role in the community. We have more responsibility and with that comes more accountability to funders, staff and volunteers, the women with whom we work and the public at large.

Thanks to the dedication of our staff, volunteers and amazing program participants we made great steps towards immigrant and refugee women participating in a just and supportive society. We take pride in the little steps and the risks that we have taken to get here. I am very, *very* proud of what the staff accomplishes every day as they work very hard to assist in the transformation of the conditions that affect immigrant women. I am even prouder to hear how modest actions can have a domino effect of positive results in the life of many women.

As we plough ahead, our main tenet is to renew our commitment to quality of service and quality of work. In 2006 we broke new ground in many areas – developing Literacy and Basic Skills programming for women, Community Based Research Training & Services, and developing as an incubator for cooperative social enterprise. In 2007, we are already breaking ground again: for the first time we will explore our capacity to work with and for women who have experienced violence, and to work with and for immigrant girls through our first Summer Power Camp for Girls.

Other community agencies working towards empowerment must also be recognized as contributing to our success through support and collaboration. This year it is important that I express, on behalf of sjIWC, appreciation to the Social Planning and Research Council of Hamilton, which has been a significant partner in many initiatives and has supported our Centre with their knowledge and through their engagement and participation in our work.

In expanding our range of services we extend our reach to community and to individuals. Our work becomes more effective, we see more results and are inspired further by the small steps towards social change. With the goal of empowerment for immigrant and refugee women as a driving force in our organization, we are revitalized and invigorated not only by systemic and community change, but by the small successes and victories of our Centre and our clients. We saw many victories, big and small, in 2006 and look forward to many more in 2007.

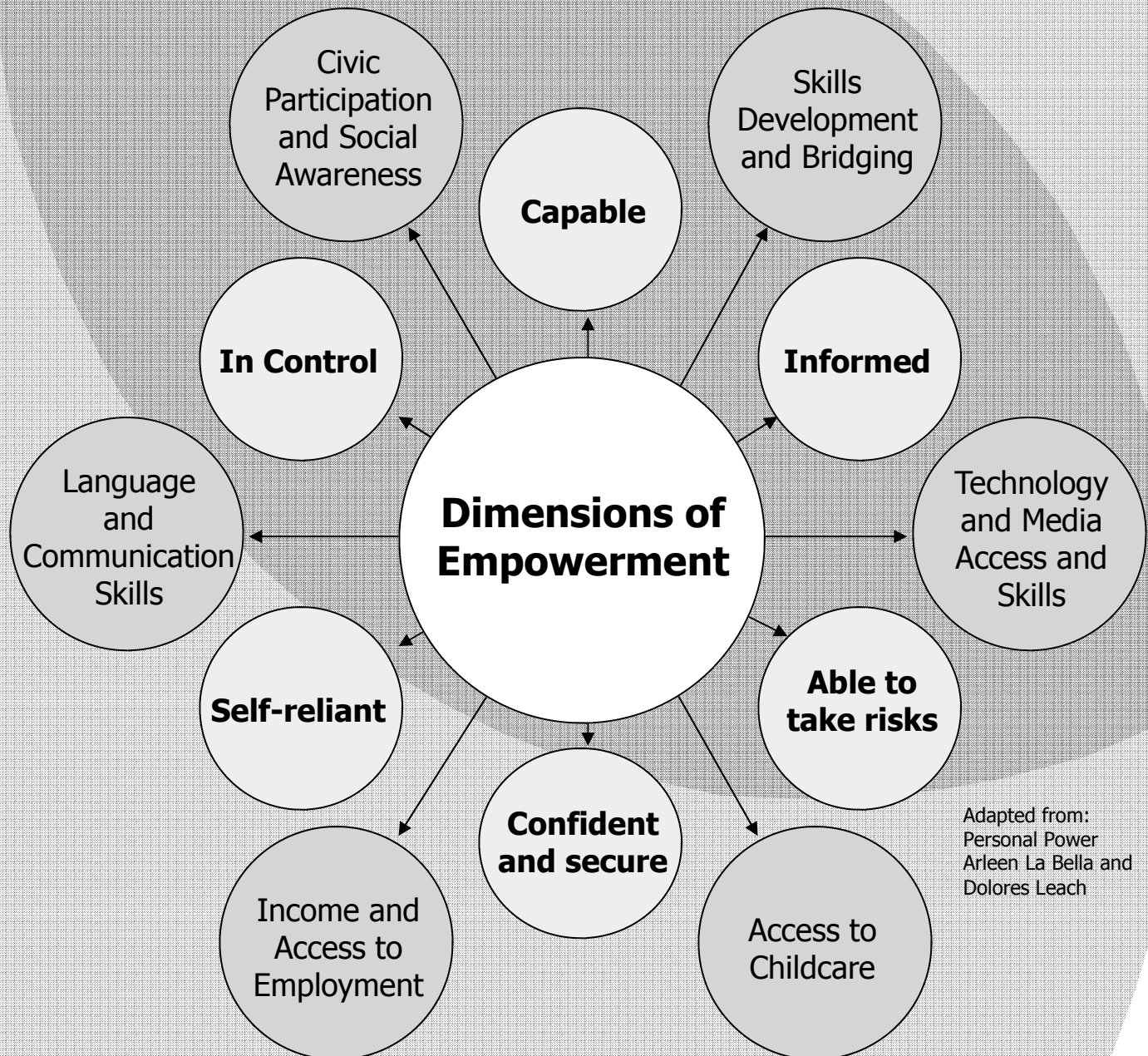
—Ines Rios

Women Empowered

What does empowerment for immigrant and refugee women look like? There are many dimensions to empowerment - personal, social, economic and political - often constrained by environmental factors, inequity and barriers to access.

Empowerment exists when an individual is informed, self-reliant, confident and secure, capable, in control, able to take risks and has the power to transform reality.

As an organization seeking to bridge participation and access for immigrant women and their families, empowerment is central to the work of sjIWC. Through holistic programming aimed at supporting women in all facets of their lives, sjIWC aims to collaborate with women to create the conditions for empowerment. In doing so we work towards a social environment where women can empower themselves, build independence and awareness, become active participants in their communities and, ultimately, empower others.



I-WORK! Orientation to the Labour Market Program

In the past year 96 women completed the 6 week workshop. Participant acquired techniques for job search and built confidence. 71% of graduates are now employed.

Language Instruction for Newcomers to Canada

This year 115 Learners attended LINC classes daily at 3 sites in Hamilton. In 2006, 36 Literacy seats were added to support women with limited access to formal education.



Volunteer Program

In 2006 46 volunteers supported sjIWC and contributed over 2,700 hours of work in programs including LINC, I-WORK!, and administration



Front Line Employment Services

The sjIWC employment team served 716 women in 2006, connecting many with meaningful job opportunities. 65% of women found employment in the last year.

Art of Wellness for Women

NEW

An arts-based program through which women who have experienced violence communicate a collective message through art.

Community Based Research Program

24 women completed the CBR Training Program this year, becoming equipped to develop and support community research initiatives and bridge access to research initiatives for underrepresented communities.

Internationally Trained Accountants Program

32 women completed the 12 week bridging program aimed at refreshing skills and enhancing communication. To date 57% are employed.



Programs and Services

FI Leadership Enhancement

In the next generation of the Facilitating Inclusion Project, 17 women engaged in project design, media relations, anti-oppression, evaluation and public speaking training in order to enhance leadership and access income generating activities.

Mom & Child Homework Club

An exciting new program aimed at strengthening connections between parents and children and promoting participation in children's academics.



Family Home Visiting

74 new families were supported this year as our family home visitors made 1455 visits, resulting in access to health care and an enhanced understanding of growth and development.

Computer Classes

Over 125 women completed computer training in 2006, including Windows, Internet, Excel and PowerPoint classes.

Personal Support Worker Certificate

In response to the continued growth of the field, 38 women completed the 18-week hands-on training and found work as PSWs.

Mom at Work

Our extended childminding services hosted 576 children in 2006, providing support for mothers accessing front-line services and various Centre Programs.

Co-op Incubator

13 women are participating in the development of the cooperative that will eventually provide progressive services and programs around anti-oppression, wellness, facilitation, leadership, and research.

Driving Instruction

New in 2006, our G2 Driving Club extended our driving program. Over 130 women participated in the G1 & G2 training, 70 % have gained their license.

Facilitation Training

In 2006 17 women from underrepresented multicultural communities were trained in participatory community facilitation, and participated in a variety of forums, committees and projects.



ST. JOSEPH IMMIGRANT WOMEN'S CENTRE

Balance Sheet

August 31, 2006, with comparative figures for 2005

	2006	2005
Assets		
Current Assets:		
Cash and cash equivalents (note 2)	\$ 167,341	\$ 40,360
Accounts receivable	6,649	33,415
Prepaid expenses and deposits	17,039	7,548
	191,089	81,232
Capital Assets	50,447	41,648
	\$ 241,536	\$ 122,971

Liabilities and Shareholders' Equity

Current liabilities

Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	\$ 27,773	\$ 15,220
Deferred revenue (note 4)	176,317	80,392
	204,090	95,612
Net Assets	37,446	27,359
Commitment (note 5)		
	\$ 241,536	\$ 122,971

Full Financial Statements including accompanying notes are available to the public upon request.

ST. JOSEPH IMMIGRANT WOMEN'S CENTRE

Statement of Earnings and Net Assets

Year Ended August 31, 2006, with comparative figures for 2005

	2006	2005
Revenue		
Citizenship and Immigration Canada	\$ 564,109	\$ 528,753
Sisters of St. Joseph of Hamilton	-	108,000
Human Resources and Skills Development Canada	370,826	302,296
Social and Public Health Services of the City of Hamilton	101,104	96,794
The Ontario Trillium Foundation	55,500	27,700
City of Hamilton (Ontario Works)	77,608	94,320
Hamilton Community Foundation	50,200	27,048
City of Hamilton (NCBR Grant)	29,600	10,600
Social Planning and Research Council of Hamilton	-	670
Status of Women Canada	10,853	-
Operating Revenue from Fundraising	5,570	-
English and computer classes	9,808	-
Other	33,000	14,658
Revenue previously deferred for capital assets	14,712	9,439
	1,322,890	1,220,278
Expenses		
Language Instruction for Newcomers to Canada	568,469	525,440
Core administration/Front-line services of settlement	158,226	173,217
I-WORK	378,212	308,124
Healthy Babies Healthy Children Program	100,719	96,706
Leadership Program	56,266	-
Talent at Work	55,423	-
Other programs	116,422	143,022
Elimination of interprogram charges	(120,934)	(52,059)
Total expenses	1,312,803	1,194,450
Excess of revenue over expenses	10,087	25,828
Net assets, beginning of year	27,359	1,531
Net assets, end of year	37,446	27,359

sjIWC Staff



Driving Club & Computer Classes

Wellington
Wasan Mohamad

Main Street
Vivyan Salih

Administration

Ines Rios, Executive Director
Armando Ruiz, Accountant
Alinamaria Rodriguez



Facilitating Inclusion

Jennifer Aggus, Coordinator
Nabila El-Ahmed



Talent at Work

Jennifer Aggus, CBR Coordinator
Elizabeth Webb, Accountants Coordinator
Alinamaria Rodriguez, Administrator

Art of Wellness for Women

Priya Verma

Childminding

Bozena Woszczyk, Supervisor
Maria Nunez Monica Van Overbeeke
Nada Tuta Wendy Johnson
Hodan Farah Rosa Maria Arauz
Fardosa Salat Belquis Mohammad Niaz
Paula Melao Hoorah Mohammad
Seema Sultani Hoshneara Begum
Samina Sehrai Masooma Muzaffar
Janina Sobczuk Sanaa Mohamed
Naheed Tariq Sima Arif

I-WORK! Employment Support

Veronica Dichoso, Program Coordinator
Jennifer Aggus, I-WORK! Facilitator
Vivyan Salih Rakhi Chowdhury

Employment Counselors/ Job Developers

Doris Carranza Rosemary Aswani
Lois Freeman-Collins

Homework Club

Vivyan Salih
Rennae Baker

Language Instruction for Newcomers to Canada

Elizabeth Webb, Program Coordinator
Alinamaria Rodriguez, Program Administrator
Wasan Mohamad, Site Coordinator
Isabella Marchese, Education Coordinator

Teachers

Maria Crapsi Jennifer Weiler
Jacinth Brissett Audrey Beaulne
Pamela Wise Varoodhni Chrysostom
Rose Coffey Marjory Ingrassia
Krista Fleury Agnes Kucharska
Adriana Iliescu Victoria Hlahla

Supply Teachers

Pauline Lowe Shefali Sawhney
Laura Lafleshe Ning Wang
Jacinta Gwanyama-Akonteh

Family Home Visiting

Nada Tuta
Bothaina Mohamed
Jane Sumwiza



Project Committees

IRWWAA Committee Art of Wellness for Women

Darina Vasek	Lisa Watt
Deborah Simon	Mirela Sima
Deepa Dayal	Molly Elliott
Iman Rifai	Salome Kamotho
Jennifer Aggus	Yekta Esfeanian
Ines Rios	Silvia Galvez

Facilitating Inclusion Advisory Committee

Maxine Carter	Denise Doyle
Madhavi Reddy	Marg Kowalski
Jennie Vengris	Raimonda Gorishti
Fatima Homid	Christine Mackenzie
Suzanne Skinner	

Cooperative Members

Claudia Vargas	Ellen Sambou-Manneh
Heather Greaves	Fatima Homid Amin
Silvia Guerra	Martha Cecilia Rivera
Wendy Johnson	Salome Kamotho

Talent At Work Advisory Committee Internationally Trained Accountants

Judy Travis	Chuck Reid
Sana Khairo	Sarada Devi

Community Based Research

Olive Wahoush	Don Jaffrey
Joyce Hand	Margaret Black

2006 Volunteers



Sanela Smailagic	Ban Adnan Sadik	Beth Paulin
Alinamaria Rodriguez	Shefali Sawhney	Iman Rifai
Rosa Maria Arauz	Catherine Beaulne	Ilang Rivera
Rebecca Monyethabeng	Loretta Cassiani	Gloria Pope
Dodji Ahmad Ousmane	Rakhi Chowdhury	Knair Rashid
Arlete Da Silva	Carol Csengeri	Jon Clark
Maria Teresa Duque	Meenu Sharma	Eileen Booty
Wilma Van Keulen-Kloet	Maria Elena Farias	Grace Su
Osmara Hernandez	Jenny Heyward	Alex Dichoso
Mahsa Kalatehseifary	Maria Weimer	Paula Esteves
Zeeta Lazore -Cayuga	Luke Sobczuk	Hibaaq Abdi
Claire MacPherson	Sipiwe Mapfumo	Elsa Almeida
Sanaa Mohamed	Brenda Mitchell	Pauline Lowe
Gabriela Navarro	Sanaa Mushaal	Chantal Krena
Sheila Van Leusden	Zeynep Ugurluol	Lisa Masucci
Belquis Mohammad		

Photography by Matthew Nelson

St. Joseph Immigrant Women's Centre is generously funded by:



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