

milestones

Annual Report 2008/2009





This year's annual report theme is *milestones*. By definition, a milestone is a significant event or point in development. Of course, what is considered significant is highly subjective and contextual. What may seem significant to one person may not be to another.

Marymount, in its goal to help each young person who passes through its doors find the good we all have inside, recognizes and appreciates some of the small achievements that might otherwise go unnoticed. We understand that it is through this recognition that we can help to start young people on the road to valuing their own worth.

Feelings of self-worth are crucial to well-being and growth. At Marymount, we nurture and encourage young people's feelings of self-worth and provide opportunities for them to acquire experience and tools that will assist them in becoming healthy, independent and contributing members of society.

We hope you enjoy reading about the milestones achieved throughout the organization in this annual report.

Marymound's Mission

Marymound's primary mission is with children, youth and families who need support as they face the challenges of growing, learning and parenting. Through culturally diverse care in safe living environments, individual relationships, academic preparation, therapeutic intervention and advocacy, Marymound supports Manitoba children and their families to reach their fullest potential and independence.

Anchored in the values of the Sisters of the Good Shepherd, Marymound believes in the intrinsic worth of every person. Our programs respect, nurture and enhance the strength in every individual and family.

The Marymound Vision

Marymound is a leader in providing a continuum of care, from early intervention to support for independence as our clients transition out of care and into their adult lives.

Marymound is an inclusive and diverse organization that promotes the cultural competency of its employees and programs.

Marymound follows a family-centred service delivery philosophy.

Recognizing we must leave a healthy world to the children we serve, Marymound is a leader in environmental stewardship, which will include raising awareness of environmental issues in our clients.

Marymound's reputation for service excellence makes it the agency of choice for child and family services in Manitoba. As a result, Marymound will attract the best employees, volunteers and donors.

Marymound provides the evidence-based programs necessary to offer effective service to an increasingly complex client base.

Marymound Board of Directors 2009-2010

Mr. John Carlyle, Chair
Sister Tomasita Antigua, rgs
Mr. Rob Bennett
Dr. Harvy Frankel
Ms. Laura Goossen
Mr. Hugh Goldie, Past Chair
Ms. Irene Halipchuk, Vice-Chair
Mr. John Lovell
Mr. Jean Piché
Father B. Pinet O.M.I.

Executive Management

Ian Hughes
Chief Executive Officer

Chris McDonald
Director of Finance and Administration

Anneliese Serzu
Director of Programs

Mark Miles
Principal, Marymound School

Lynda Gilchuk
Manager of Fund Development

Brenda Cannon
Manager of Human Resources

Charlene Calder
Aboriginal Cultural Coordinator

Gwenda Nemerofsky
Manager of Communications

Our Values

Marymound adheres to the principles set out in the Standards of Care for Good Shepherd Agencies. The following is a summary of those standards.

- 1. Spirituality** – We strive to be inclusive of all spiritual beliefs in our multi-faith world. We will promote spiritual understanding among the various creeds of our clients and staff. We will provide spiritual programs for our clients because we view them as essential.
- 2. Client Services** – We will strive to meet and exceed licensing and accreditation standards and will ensure that every activity of the agency regardless of its function is part of the therapeutic setting.
- 3. Human Resources** – We will ensure that employees are dealt with in a respectful manner and will create a work atmosphere aimed at meeting employee needs so that they can serve clients most effectively. We teach the Good Shepherd Values as an integral aspect of the training of all staff.
- 4. Communication** – We believe in healthy, honest and open communication among all persons at all levels in the agency. Where relationships have been broken—with clients or one another—we will do everything we can to restore communication.
- 5. Stewardship** – All resources such as financial, human and property are at the service of the agency in the fulfillment of the mission. While practising a prudent distribution of resources, we will not compromise the quality of services provided to individuals and families.
- 6. Environment** – A welcoming, pleasant environment reflects Marymound's respect and caring for clients and staff and is important in terms of enhancing the therapeutic and educational setting. This value applies to the buildings and grounds of the agency as well as off-site locations. A welcoming, pleasant environment is essential, giving individuals a sense of safety and stability.
- 7. Partnership with the community** – We are partners with our community. We are here to serve the community, as well as to involve the community in carrying out Marymound's mission.

Marymound

442 Scotia Street
Winnipeg, Manitoba R2V 1X4

Administration
Clinical Services
Crisis Stabilization Unit
Cultural and Spiritual Care Services
Managed Care
Marymound School
Treatment Foster Care
Volunteer Services
Youth Emergency Education Service

Sexual Abuse Treatment Program
538 Atlantic Avenue
Winnipeg, MB R2W 0S3

Youth Addictions Stabilization Unit
Mayfair Avenue
Winnipeg, MB R3L 0A1

Independent Options/
Young Parents Programs
349 College Avenue
Winnipeg, MB R2W 1M2

Short-term 24-Hour Care
Treatment Foster Care Program
116 Hemlock Crescent
Thompson, MB R8N 0R6

Futures
125 Commercial Place
Thompson, MB R8N 1T1

Please visit our website:
www.marymound.com

Services

Managed Care

Marymount's Managed Care Program provides a continuum of 24-hour care to young people at risk in the community. The program aims to meet the physical, emotional, spiritual, and social needs of each young person.

Community Group Homes – Marymount operates five community group homes in Winnipeg, each offering home-like environments for three to six young people. Emphasis is placed on promoting healthy, age-appropriate activities and interaction, while still providing a therapeutic milieu, including counseling, support and psychiatric consultation.

All young people residing in Marymount group homes attend school – either the school in their neighbourhood or Marymount School. All transportation arrangements are looked after by group home staff.

Secure Living Units – Marymount has two secure living units on its premises in Winnipeg, each providing a home-like, nurturing environment for up to eight girls. A young person who behaves in a manner that puts herself at risk can benefit from the structured program, with an emphasis on promoting healthy, age-appropriate activities and interaction.

The setting of each unit is modern, well-equipped and homey, yet still provides a therapeutic milieu that includes counseling, support and psychiatric consultation. Staff provides extensive evening recreation programming, including community activities as treatment progresses – and all young people residing in Marymount secure units attend Marymount School.

Treatment Foster Care

Twenty-four-hour care is provided in the homes of individuals, couples and families who have specialized training and/or expertise in working with boys and girls who are at risk.

We are leaders in the community in the area of Treatment Foster Care. Our professional Treatment Foster Parents and knowledgeable Clinical Case Managers work together with other members of the young person's treatment team to address his/her needs.

Independent Options Program

The Marymount Independent Options Program (IOP) is uniquely designed to meet the needs of teens transitioning from services provided by Child and Family Services to independent living prior to the age of majority. This service includes a Young Parents Program (YPP) for teens.

Marymount School

Marymount School provides specialized education to young people with exceptional learning needs from the Managed Care program as well as the broader community. Using a creative, dynamic approach, Marymount School delivers the provincial education curriculum from elementary to senior grades.

Youth Emergency Education Service (YEES)

YEES provides support and assistance following a student's crisis in the public school system. The goal is to stabilize and maintain the student's school placement. This service is part of the Youth Emergency Crisis Stabilization System.

Crisis Stabilization Program

Short-term, 24-hour care for girls designed to stabilize the young person and her family or caregiver during acute psycho-social crisis. This service is part of the Youth Emergency Crisis Stabilization System.

Sexual Abuse Treatment Program (SATP)

SATP provides therapeutic services to young people (and their families) who have experienced sexual trauma. Methods used include individual, family, play and group therapy. The program also provides training to other professionals.

Youth Addictions Stabilization Unit (YASU)

This safe, secure facility provides an opportunity for young people severely affected by substance abuse to stabilize physically in order to consider options for treatment services. Marymount delivers this service under the provisions of the Youth Drug Stabilization (Support for Parents) Act.

Spiritual Care Program

Provides pastoral care and counseling to the young people and families Marymount serves through traditional services, groups, and special celebrations.

Aboriginal Cultural Services

Provides traditional Aboriginal and Métis cultural and spiritual teachings to the young people and families receiving services from Marymount. Also provides cultural awareness training to Marymount staff.

Stable Path (Equine Assisted Psychotherapy)

Young people can benefit from the experiential learning offered by Equine Assisted Psychotherapy, especially those with issues such as aggressive behaviour, histories of abuse or relationship issues and who have shown resistance to traditional counselling. Youth learn a great deal through this experiential program by participating in activities with the horses and then processing or discussing feelings, behaviours and patterns.

Marymount North

Located in Thompson, Manitoba, Marymount North provides 24-hour care services to young people waiting for permanent care arrangements. It also provides specialized foster care.

Futures

Located in Thompson, Manitoba, Futures provides a wide range of education, counseling and training programs with an emphasis on support and sharing to young parents and their children.



Past Board Chair Report

Having recently resigned as Chair of Marymound, it seems appropriate to comment on the transition that has occurred to our organization over the past four-and-a-half years, the current state of the Board, and the optimism I have for its future.

I became Chair as the Sisters of the Good Shepherd decided to cede the responsibility for governance to a lay board. It was a major decision on their part and certainly made at a time when the agency was troubled and without any guarantees for future success.

Ian Hughes had just become the new Executive Director. Chris McDonald had just become the new Director of Finance. Marymound's administration was in distress. The three of us set out to re-establish the reputation and management structure which we knew Marymound had enjoyed in the past. Ian, with his superb talents for calming the group and bringing them together as a team, quickly gained the respect he enjoys today as one of the most capable not-for-profit CEOs in Winnipeg. Chris fought with the accounting system for a while but eventually replaced it entirely and created a superb financial capability that admirably serves the needs of both the administration and the Board. I set out to build a board that would reflect the talent, skills and experience that would serve Marymound and its administration, and would set it apart as a governance leader.

With the inspiration, support and council of the Sisters of the Good Shepherd, I believe we have succeeded. Marymound is a model of good management and good governance. We are well positioned for our next phase.

John Carlyle becomes Board Chair at a time when the board has set as its goal to gain a better understanding of Marymound's operations and become more engaged in the ways of the Good Shepherd. He is uniquely positioned to lead in this new direction. His long experience in the education system has given him a strong appreciation for management. His empathy for youth will keep his mind open to the unique challenges faced by Marymound. His humility will keep him grounded.

My experience with Marymound and the Sisters of the Good Shepherd has given me the opportunity to use my skills and experience in organizational and board governance to give back to my community. I am very grateful to have been able to help this capable and caring organization begin its journey to new successes.

Hugh Goldie



(L to R) Sisters Brigid Hussey, Barbara Wells and Lorraine Perreault.

Chief Executive Officer Report

In October 2008, Marymount established a Strategic Plan encompassing the next five years. As we worked through this very future-oriented task we often found ourselves compelled to also examine our roots.

In two years we celebrate the 100th anniversary of the founding of Marymount. Throughout the Strategic Planning process we reflected on the change and growth the past century has seen in our organization. At the same time there has always been a foundation that allowed, and continues to allow Marymount to evolve to meet new and more complex challenges.

Although the Sisters of the Good Shepherd have relinquished much of their responsibility (2008 saw them transfer their Winnipeg property to Marymount and sponsorship of the organization to the Catholic Health Corporation of Manitoba), as we move into to our second century of service, we find that the values on which the Sisters founded Marymount still remain as our guide.

The enduring strength of those values, and the solid foundation built over the past 98 years allows us to plan for the future with confidence. Marymount has always cared for and nurtured youth while they were in our care. Our goal now is to extend that care beyond our walls and support them as they move into independence and adulthood.

Treatment Foster Care has dedicated a position to supporting youth in residential care to live in a family setting, allowing for an easier transition from group living. We are expanding our continuum of care beyond the age of majority through the Independent Options Program and Young Parents Program, allowing young adults to learn the life skills and parenting techniques they need to be successful.

In Thompson, our Emergency Receiving Home works with young sibling groups, and even adolescent mothers and their babies, incorporating extended family into the unit's programming to support reunification. With community partners we are moving closer to establishing a residential support program for young mothers, the only one of its kind in the North.



Young Parents Program

A new Mission Statement and Vision have been developed, with input from the complete staff group incorporated into the final version. It was gratifying to see the changes suggested by staff were related to wording rather than substance, suggesting we had captured a spirit recognized by all of Marymount. The enthusiasm with which the vision and direction was embraced speaks to a passion for our clients, our heritage and for Marymount itself that is clearly the strength of the organization.

This year also marked a significant transition as Hugh Goldie, Board Chair since January 2005, left that office and was replaced by John Carlyle. Hugh and I came to Marymount at the same time and I greatly appreciated the guidance and support he provided me at a time he was learning about the agency himself.

Hugh's expertise in Board Governance allowed us to develop a strong and exceptionally competent Board of Directors. His leadership has helped provide the strength and direction that has allowed Marymount to move so positively into the future.

Hugh's successor, John Carlyle, is well suited to maintain the tradition Hugh started. A Marymount Board member since 2006, John has been an educator all his professional life. After a long career as a teacher and principal, John was appointed Deputy Minister of Education in 1988, a position he held until 1999. He subsequently served as Superintendent/CEO of River East-Transcona School Division, retiring in March 2006. I look forward to working with John as Marymount moves into a new century.

The past year has been an exciting one at Marymount and we are proud of the many milestones celebrated in the pages that follow. I expect the future to be even more interesting.

Ian Hughes
Chief Executive Officer

Marymount Then and Now



First location on William Avenue

Marymount has come a long way since the five founding Sisters of the Good Shepherd first stepped off the train in Winnipeg in 1911. Coming at the request of Judge Thomas Daly of the Juvenile Court, they set about immediately to work with women and girls experiencing poverty, abuse and/or addiction issues. Judge Daly and the Sisters knew that there was a better, more effective alternative to incarceration for these young women.

While the Sisters still residing at Marymount came some years later, they nevertheless have a combined 88 years at Marymount – and a vast compendium of memories.

Sister Brigid Hussey arrived in 1957 from the Home of the Good Shepherd, a convent in Halifax, Nova Scotia where she worked with “very disturbed girls.”

Sister Lorraine Perreault came to Marymount in August of 1973 from Windsor, Ontario where she was teaching Home Economics and was in charge of the kitchen at what was then the Maryvale Treatment Centre. She was

summoned here to replace an ailing Sister who “prayed for her to come.”

At that time, there were 17 Sisters at Marymount as well as several laypeople, many of whom were social workers and teachers. Today, Marymount staff is made up entirely of laypeople and the Sisters, while officially retired, assist in various programs and offer an invaluable presence that helps maintain a solid grounding in the values of the Sisters of the Good Shepherd throughout the organization.

Milestones and Memories

With almost 100 years of history behind us, there are numerous milestones and memories. Here are a few very personal ones that came to mind as the Sisters reminisced:

✱ “My years in the school were very good,” said Sr. Lorraine. “We had a wonderful principal, Sally Gonzalez. One year there was a Science teacher – he was a little guy – I helped by giving him a break now and then and teaching his class. I remember the girls being fascinated as they looked under a microscope at how an onion grows.”

* Sr. Brigid recalls the youth being involved in putting on operettas. *Windmills of Holland* holds a special memory for her. "About 20 young people were involved," she said. "They practised and practised. The audience was made up of all the kids, teachers and the public. A pianist who lived down the street helped them prepare and accompanied them. It was wonderful!"

* Sr. Lorraine mentioned special chapel services. "Especially when the Mennonite Central Committee (MCC) volunteers who worked here sang with the kids. Many of them (the MCC volunteers) stayed at the White House (now Treatment Foster Care offices).

* "Upstairs there was a great big recreation room," said Sr. Brigid. "The kids loved to go there and put on an act, telling jokes. Some were pretty smart and they enjoyed it, laughing their heads off."

* Sr. Lorraine talked about going out looking for youth who had run away. Dressed in their habits, the Sisters would be rather conspicuous as they strolled along Main Street, Notre Dame and Portage Avenues or situated

themselves at the end of the tunnel at City Hall. When past or present Marymount youth would encounter them, they would often be concerned for the Sisters' safety and exclaim, "What are you doing here, Sisters? You shouldn't be here!"

* For many years, Marymount held an annual bazaar, attracting many members of the community who dropped by to pick up bargains. It was a great way to have all the different departments at Marymount pull together to help with an event.

* Marymount School used to run mini courses on Wednesday afternoons. They were in subjects not covered in the day-to-day curriculum, like photography, Chinese cooking and more. Members of the community and volunteers helped run these, giving students a break from the usual school subjects and getting a few different people into the school.



Dining room circa 1940.

Managed Care

This past year marks some noteworthy milestones in the area of Managed Care.

Continuum of Care

We are pleased to report that our well-developed model of continuum of care has enabled many of our young people to “graduate” from secure unit living to residing in the community in one of Marymount’s five group homes or in foster homes. This is an important milestone step for young people, offering them more freedom and independence. It is also closer to living at home with a family.

As well, a full 60% of the young people living in Marymount group homes now attend their community school, more than in any previous year. It has always been a goal at Marymount for students to transition from Marymount School to community public schools and this objective is being achieved.

One of our young women who lives in a Marymount secure unit is going to a community high school this fall, after completing a successful internship at FortWhyte Alive this summer. This rare accomplishment is a true milestone.

It was a great year for special recreation with three girls from one of our group homes going to the Tim Horton’s Camp in Alberta Kananaskis Country during Spring Break where they had a terrific time.

Independent Options Program/ Young Parents Program (IOP/YPP)

An area that has really thrived over the past year is the Independent Options Program (IOP). Now ideally housed in the community at 349 College Avenue, IOP, in conjunction with the youth’s agency, helps young people aged 16-21 as they transition to independent living.

Upon relocation to the College Ave. location, we aimed to have 20 young people in the program. During the year, we met and surpassed this goal and have been able to grow the program in additional ways through grants and donations.

Youth live in their own apartment or suite and receive regular support and assistance from a support worker in finding a residence, budgeting, school registration, finding employment and more. Assistance is provided in maintaining personal health, through help in arranging/attending regular medical and dental appointments.

The College Ave. location also houses the Young Parents Program (YPP) for young parents aged 16-21. Marymount support workers offer support and guidance on parenting and independent living. Young parents receive hands-on assistance in looking after a baby – bathing, feeding, finding child care, budgeting, school registration or finding employment and more. They receive training in parenting skills, first aid and nutrition and respite is also available.

A 24-hour phone line is available for advice, referral (or just to talk) for both programs. All IOP and YPP participants have access to Marymount’s Spiritual Care and Aboriginal Cultural Programs and are eligible for the Marymount Bursary Program.

A recent grant from the McKesson Foundation enabled Marymount to furnish and renovate a second floor room of the building to house a playroom for young parents and their children. Daytime and evening programs take place there, offering parents a time to share and socialize in a safe environment, while their youngsters play together, enjoying the many toys and games supplied.

Enhanced Cultural Programming

Marymount’s Aboriginal Cultural Centre expanded this year, (see page 17) and this meant an increased level of programming for our youth in Managed Care. Several are involved in drum groups and are regularly invited to perform at pow wows and special events around Winnipeg and neighbouring communities.

Many young people contributed to the handcrafting of regalia for their participation in this year’s Family & Culture Day, at which they were more involved than ever.

This was a true source of pride for many Marymound young people and has instilled in them a desire to continue to learn more about their culture and heritage. The sense of identity they have begun to nurture has shown in positive ways in many areas of their lives.

Ongoing Staff Training

After many years of preparation and planning, Good Shepherd Training was delivered to two staff groups in Winnipeg and one in Thompson. It was provided through the Mission Integration Office of the Good Shepherd Sisters based on the belief that living and acting upon the values of our Good Shepherd organizations enhances the quality of our services and improves the outcomes for the young people we serve.

These values and philosophies are unique to Marymound and set us apart from many agencies doing similar work. It is crucial that these values be passed along to our staff to maintain the quality caring work for which we are known.

Staff representatives from Marymound attended National and Ontario Child and Youth Care conferences in Prince Edward Island and Toronto in the past year, and two members from Marymound's Youth Addictions Stabilization Unit were selected to host a presentation, *Bridge Building from Within a Locked Youth Addictions Stabilization Facility* in Charlottetown.

Clinical

Marymound's clinical team continues to expand its expertise through professional development, particularly in the area of Attachment and Trauma. Research in the field compels us to include verbal and non-verbal techniques and skills when working with youth. We are dedicated to increasing the scope of our clinical treatment.

In June, we held a clinical retreat to explore the mind-body connection with a focus on enhancing our expertise for assessment of youth and helping them to manage reactions to past abuse. Integrating guided meditations, mindfulness training, brain gym exercises and self regulation therapy with traditional counseling skills were

the challenges we set for ourselves. Team cohesion has been a wonderful by-product of exploring and sharing creative strategies to respond to the needs of our young people.

Milestones of the year include the conversion of a quiet room into a play therapy room. Bright colours, soft pillows and an array of therapeutic objects provide a comfy room for the youth. This environment supports stepping away from the daily stresses.

Clinicians have an updated job description which complements the values of Marymound and provides guidelines that clarify expectation and responsibilities. It enhances our relationship within Marymound. To that end, clinicians joined with Marymound School and Cultural Centre staff to provide two groups for the youth. *Substances in your Life* described the impact that substances like drugs and alcohol can have on your body, in your life and at school. Sessions called *Wellness* joined Aboriginal healing with mainstream health and wellness practice.

New for 2009-2010

We are very much looking forward to the arrival of Dr. Dell Ducharme who will be consulting with us beginning in the fall of 2009. He will assist us in improving our assessment skills and treatment. His depth of expertise will greatly enhance our work with challenging youth and will certainly complement our quest for ongoing professional development.



Play therapy room

Treatment Foster Care

It has been a year of transition for Treatment Foster Care. As changes were implemented, many milestones emerged.

The Independent Options and Young Parents (previously Baby Steps) Programs moved out of the Treatment Foster Care premises to a new refurbished location at 349 College Avenue where they run independently with their own program manager and additional staff.

This enables the Treatment Foster Care Program to focus all its energies on its many foster homes and on recruiting more foster parents. With 89 young people in care this year, the need for foster homes remains great. This past year, we hired an additional Clinical Case Manager to recruit foster mothers for some harder to place youth.

Our Clinical Case Managers now meet bi-weekly. They make sure they see the youth in their foster homes every month. As well, we have made it easier for foster parents to complete paperwork by changing the forms to be more user-friendly.

In April 2009, we held a two-day workshop for foster parents with Stephen DeGroot, a specialist in the

development and implementation of strengths-based interventions. DeGroot spoke on approaches to discipline with youth. This was the first time we held a two-day workshop and it was very successful and well attended by foster families.

Marymount always stresses the importance of education and this past year saw several students working especially hard in school. Many have accomplished a great deal, and have moved into Grades 11 and 12. One young person graduated from high school and another received a Marymount Student Bursary to go on to post secondary education.

Another foster care youth worked at Marymount full time over the summer, looking after the grounds, planting, trimming hedges, maintaining the yard and garden.

Four youth attended Tim Horton Camps in Ontario and six youth, accompanied by a clinical case manager went to Disneyworld for a fun-filled day courtesy of the Dreams Take Flight Program.

It has been a good year at Treatment Foster Care.

Marymount North Receiving Home

A true milestone this year was an increased feeling of connection between the three programs in Thompson: Futures Program, Specialized Foster Care and The Receiving Home.

We have worked strongly together supporting each other's programs. This has benefited both staff and clients.

We also have appreciated the positive support we have had from Marymount in the south, including:

- The maintenance staff came up and took out an old vapor barrier under the house and put in a fresh new one. They were all decked out in air masks to make breathing safe. (They said it was the worst job they had ever done). It has made a huge difference in the air quality in the house. Thanks so much, guys!
- Regular visits from the Director of Programs and the CEO were welcomed as we could talk face to face and share our joys and burdens.

• Bob Interbartolo of Mission Integration brought Marymount Values training to us and the Spiritual Care Coordinator did a training session on the grieving process. They were both encouraging and helpful to us.

• The Managers of Human Resources, Communications and Fund Development as well as the Aboriginal Cultural Coordinator came to see us; bringing their expertise to our jobs here was encouraging and helpful.

• We had visits from two Marymount Board members which were most appreciated.

We are still involved sitting on committees where we are trying to get a Crisis Stabilization Unit here, a Young Parents Program spearheaded by our CEO, a street outreach position, and a Sexually Exploited Youth Committee working with agencies in the North to stop sexual exploitation in our communities.

Futures

Summer Program 2009

This summer we once again offered Family Camp. We did, however, change the format slightly to provide more choice for our families. Last year we offered only two sessions of five days each, one in July and one in August. This year we offered three sessions of three days each, two in July and one in August. As in previous years, the attendance was very good, both the families and staff enjoyed the activities and most of all; families were given the opportunity to play together and meet new friends.

Young Parents on a Journey

This is the name of our teen parenting group that takes place every Wednesday from 10 a.m. – 3 p.m. It is a well-attended group with the focus on decreasing feelings of isolation, while increasing a sense of belonging and supporting the young parents through parenting and problem-solving.

One of the milestones for Futures and this group came when the participants expressed an interest in having an evening group in addition to the regular Wednesday group. We started by offering seven evening sessions. During the evening session, we were able to have the Crisis Centre do some really good work around dating and violence. At the participants' request, together we made Christmas gifts, as most of them are under 18 with no income. They wanted to give little gifts to some special family members (grandparents, aunts, uncles, etc.)

The evening group was very well attended and the moms loved it. Because it was offered during the cold weather, it was often commented upon by the participants that attending Futures on that evening was pretty much the only evening they got out during the winter months. Staff felt those types of comments indicated that we were having an impact on the feelings of isolation. We are pleased to say that of the eight who signed up, we enjoyed the company of at least five on most evenings.

The Baby Think It Over Program (BTIO)

It is with this program that Futures was able to enjoy another milestone. As reported in the past, this program is a very well received program in a couple of Thompson elementary schools and our high school. This past school year we were asked to deliver this program in two more local elementary schools. For Futures staff this is a huge success as we did not have to "sell" the merits of the BTIO program. Students and staff were convinced by their peers that it was a program they wanted in their own schools. In addition to them approaching us, it was the two schools in our community that are considered affluent and very hard to get into by any outside agency or community group. Unfortunately, we had to refuse one school due to schedule and staff constraints.



Futures Summer Program 2009

Parenting Programs

Most of our parenting programs are "Drop in" in nature, so much of the programming in this area happens in a "soft service" style. Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays are considered "drop in" days with the centre opened to participants from 10 a.m. – 3 p.m. These are very well attended; however Thursday tends to be one of our busiest days.

In this area of programming we are seeing two pretty neat milestones:

- More fathers are attending, to the point we set aside Tuesdays as being "Dad's Day."
- In the past, on days when families received their child tax credit or social assistance, our numbers were pretty low, but the last little while our numbers are remaining consistent. Instead of going shopping, the participants are choosing to come to Futures.

School's Cool (April 1, 2008 – March 31, 2009)

This year we were able to offer five separate sessions of this pre-kindergarten program. The positive feedback from parents lets Futures know that we are on the right track as 40% of parents/caregivers responded to evaluations and have indicated 100% satisfaction with the program.

Roots of Empathy

This program is delivered in partnership with the School District of Mystery Lake and is recognized across Canada. With this program we achieved a couple of milestones:

We were invited to deliver the program in two local elementary schools (instead of one as in previous years.)

We were invited to have another member of the Futures team be trained to deliver the Roots of Empathy program. This program is solely delivered by teaching staff and Futures is the only outside agency to be invited to partner with them.

Staff

One of the more sentimental milestones is seeing Michele Ducharme leave the Coordinator position and transfer down to Marymount South. Michele has been with the Marymount organization for many years either with the receiving home or Futures here in the North. She will be missed but it is a huge comfort knowing she is still with the Marymount organization.

In closing, Futures has been able to achieve many milestones this past year. The Futures team continues to work hard at being participant-driven so it is guaranteed to see more milestones in the years to come. Many other agencies and educational institutions are requesting Futures be part of their boards, steering committees and advisory committees – a clear indication of the level of confidence and credibility that is seen in the staff of the Futures program.



Futures – family fun

Marymound School

Marymound School works with students with multiple challenges. Rather than viewing these as roadblocks, we see these challenges as opportunities for growth.

All youth in Marymound secure units attend Marymound School, as do some of the young people residing in Marymound group and foster homes.

As well, we offer a Day Treatment Program, which provides youth from around the city who would benefit from our special programming, with a quality school experience. They are referred to Marymound School by their community public schools for a variety of reasons, including behavioural, emotional and environmental.

The ultimate goal for each student is for them to re-integrate successfully into a community school-based program.

Students receive an academic and psychological assessment to identify their specific strengths and

challenges so that Marymound School staff may best develop a customized and fully supported plan for success. Testing evaluates age and grade equivalent functioning and assesses particular learning styles, to help develop an appropriate learning plan for each student.

Programming

Class sizes are small and staff meets weekly to review the functioning and planning for each student as well as monthly in intensive classroom reviews with the Resource Teacher, Treatment Coordinator and the Opportunity Room staff. This attention to individual students provides enhanced monitoring of student progress and allows for quick modifications to programming or intervention as needed.

Teachers, educational assistants and school support staff complement one another in providing a comprehensive educational package that is uniquely successful.

Marymound School also provides instruction in physical education, music, art, media, cooking, bicycle maintenance and work experience. The Student Work Experience Program (SWEEP) combines classroom teaching with community work experience. Partnerships in the community provide students with opportunities to gain first-hand knowledge of what it's like to hold down a job; the responsibility needed, the reliability, the skills and more. One of our SWEEP participants worked full time over the summer at FortWhyte Farms and received a glowing report for her efforts. This marks a major milestone for a Marymound youth. You can read more about her story on the Milestone Award page.

Data Collection

This was our first full year using our newly designed data collection system. We are now able to compile accurate and detailed information about our students in a secure method. This is useful in supporting the treatment and planning for Marymound students and is especially valuable in the fast-paced environment of our school.



Marymound School entrance of grads

Cultural and Spiritual Care

Cultural Program

The Aboriginal Cultural Centre has been a flurry of activity this past year. The addition of two full-time staff members enabled us to accommodate more requests for programming from all areas of Marymount and from agencies in the community.

New! Sewing Program

The introduction of a sewing program gave Marymount youth an opportunity to complete projects they designed and planned themselves. Some of our young women crafted traditional ribbon skirts which they wore to ceremonies, including Full Moon Ceremonies at which all participants wear skirts to acknowledge and honour who they are as women. Others made pillowcases using fabric passed to us by an elder, while some designed and sewed blankets for their walls or for others.

It was wonderful to witness the growth of these young women who were introduced to the traditional teachings about the items they chose to sew.

Family and Culture Day

Attendance at the annual Family and Culture Day was the biggest ever with over 750 people visiting during the course of the day.

Several youth participated in the crafting of their own regalia. They chose their fabric, helped cut out their motifs and made grass (made from yarn). These 14 youth were initiated into the Pow Wow Trail at Family and Culture Day. As a result of this initiation, some of the dancers now attend pow wows in their home communities and around the province.

Students were involved with the craft tables at the Family and Culture Day this year. They spent time each week over the course of a month making jewelry and other items to sell. The students received half the monies from their sold items.

Girls' Drum Group

The Strong Singing Turtle Women, a group of young women from Marymount group homes and units

continue to receive numerous requests to sing in the community (on average, five to six times per month.) Their reputation has spread far and wide. We have to decline on occasion because of scheduling conflicts- a nice problem to have! The commitment these youth have shown is phenomenal. They are very poised while they are with us and this behaviour does not go unrecognized by those who have invited us. The drum group members now wear matching skirts - black with one big red turtle and three smaller red turtles. They are so very proud when wearing these skirts while drumming.

Igniting the Fire

Seven youth attended Igniting the Fire in the Whiteshell, a gathering of people from all over the world who congregate to listen to the elders and to heal. This four-day gathering was a great place for the youth. They were able to be on sacred ground and experience things they will remember for quite some time - if not a lifetime. It was a time for them to be welcomed by other Aboriginal people. They were complimented on their behaviour as well. Other agencies approached the staff several times asking "What do you do to your kids? They are so focused and so well-mannered."

They took the teachings they learned through the Cultural Centre and lived them. It was an honour to be a witness to their growth. We are very proud of them.



Marymount drum group

Sweat Lodge

Another milestone this year was the making and dressing of the new sweat lodge. It is about twice the size of our previous lodge. We can now accommodate the growing numbers of youth who wish to attend Sweat Lodge Ceremonies during the week.

Full Moon Ceremonies

Growing numbers of female youth and staff attend the Full Moon Ceremonies held at the Behavioural Health Foundation.

Sundance

This July, one youth attended a Sundance Ceremony. She has now asked to dance next year. This is a big commitment from anyone let alone one of our youth. This young woman has taken to her traditional teachings like a duck to water. She is a member of the drumming group and attends other ceremonies. She has become a proud Anishanabe woman, walking tall and carrying herself with dignity. This is a big change for her. While at Igniting the Fire she received her first hand drum. This is a huge honour for her.

Special Events

The youth have attended various awards dinners, award ceremonies and events. This exposes them to successful Aboriginal people who have overcome hardship to be successful in their lives. Respect is one of the things that is given freely by our youth while in the community representing Marymount. In fact they now comment on other youth and their behaviour if it is not up to the Cultural Centre standards.

Partnerships in the Community

The Cultural Centre has partnered with the Snow Bird Lodge, All Nations Child and Family Coordinated Response Network (ANCR) and with Métis Child and Family Services. These agencies hold their sweat lodge ceremonies on the Cultural Centre Sacred Grounds. The Snow Bird Lodge built their own lodge on the property.

The Cultural Centre has also partnered with the Aurora Centre and the Needs Centre. One of the purposes of this partnership is to bring Aboriginal youth and New Canadian Youth together to discover the commonalities between their cultures.

Collaborations within Marymount

The Cultural Centre continues to partner with other Marymount departments and programs, complementing each other's efforts and maximizing the resources we have. A successful collaboration between the Cultural Centre, a clinician and the youths with whom she works resulted in a successful wellness workshop. This was a first.

The Cultural Centre also provides a safe and comfortable place for students who participate in the cultural program to calm down in if they are having a difficult day in school.

Mandatory Aboriginal Awareness Training for staff is well underway, with regular two and three-day workshops being held on-site. We have had a great deal of positive feedback as a result of this training.

Spiritual Care

This past year has seen changes in the area of Spiritual Care. After more than four years at Marymount, Spiritual Care Coordinator Helen Mikolajewski left to pursue other opportunities. Helen was the driving force behind many important initiatives at Marymount and she provided countless young people with compassionate spiritual care and counsel. Her inimitable laugh and hearty vocal solos in the chapel will not soon be forgotten.

Since Helen's departure, we have continued with some of the traditions she began or rekindled, holding feasts for special occasions like Christmas, Easter and school graduation. We wish to thank the Reverend Bruce Miles for conducting several chapel services as we transitioned to our new Spiritual Care Coordinator who is starting in the fall of 2009.

Heritage Day in April has become an annual event and this year included Aboriginal teachings, a special lunch and the rededication of the school resource room as the Pelletier Room, honouring St. Mary Euphrasia Pelletier, foundress of the Sisters of the Good Shepherd. Students participated in the ceremony, reading selected passages and poetry that was meaningful to them.

We look forward to the arrival of the new Spiritual Coordinator and the important part she will play in the lives of everyone at Marymount.

Volunteer Report

We are pleased to report that volunteers contributed over 1,162 hours to Marymound this year!

This impressive number accumulated through a variety of positions, tasks and special events. These include the many people who came out to our Marymound Marketplace in May and Family and Culture Day in June, volunteers helping prepare bulk mailings, selling raffle tickets at venues across the city, sewing regalia, putting together Christmas hampers, and even rolling coins.

We also have a good sized contingent of volunteers from Red River College, as prospective students for the Child and Youth Care program benefit from the opportunity to complete their volunteer requirements at Marymound.

Volunteering Pays Off

Marymound's longstanding Volunteer Coordinator Loretta Hoene offers several "perks" to Marymound volunteers to thank, encourage and support them. She provides special gifts during Volunteer Week in April of each year.

Volunteers can enroll in free Marymound sponsored First Aid workshops and can obtain their Crisis Intervention certification here as well. The Volunteer Coordinator ensures that new job postings at Marymound are distributed to volunteers.

Some of our volunteers act as mentors or special friends to Marymound young people. The youth are happy to have someone to spend time with on a regular basis. We are happy to provide references to volunteers who require them to obtain employment in the child and youth care field at Marymound or elsewhere.

In February, two Marymound volunteers were featured in the weekly Volunteer column in the Winnipeg Free Press.

We also maintain strong connections with Volunteer Manitoba, Providence College and participate in an interagency volunteer training network.



CBC News reporter Waubgeshig Rice speaking to Marymound School students

Marymound Milestone Award

Marymound has always honoured tradition and now we are beginning a new one. While we recognize our young people for their accomplishments, big or small every day, we feel it is time to go further.

The Marymound Milestone Award will be given each year to a youth or youths at Marymound who has been a trailblazer of sorts, achieving something life-changing. This accomplishment can be in the area of education, the workforce, the arts, volunteerism and more.

We are pleased to introduce the two worthy winners of the first-ever Marymound Milestone Award, which will be presented at our Annual Meeting on November 18, 2009.

Dakota

Dakota spent the summer of 2009 employed with Marymound's Summer Program. He was responsible for working on the grounds at 442 Scotia Street, doing everything from grass-cutting, hedge-trimming, tree replanting, weed patrol and sod laying outside. Inside, he and Summer Program Coordinator Daniel Scouten cleaned out the school – washing walls, cleaning

windows, mopping floors, cleaning ovens and cupboards in the kitchen, removing carpets, and moving furniture when the floors were being waxed.

"I found Dakota to be a very capable and agreeable co-worker," said Scouten.

"When faced with some of our more challenging jobs, he really stepped up. At lunch break, he would spend his free time reading. Dakota is a voracious reader, and it seemed to me that the patience and

focus he developed from that he brought to his work."

Dakota has a strong interest in going into the construction trades, especially carpentry. He will be 16 next summer, so could begin working in some construction jobs. "We talked with the volunteer coordinator from Habitat for Humanity, where he could gain valuable safety and skills training next year," said Scouten.



Alyssa

Alyssa spent the summer at FortWhyte Alive. During the school year she worked in the farm program on a weekly basis, never missing a day and, as a result of her dedicated attendance and quality work was asked back to participate as an intern over the summer.

Sixteen-year-old Alyssa took the bus early every morning, travelling some distance to work. She managed her earnings, setting aside savings for the future.

"This was my first year as an intern at FortWhyte Alive and I love it here," said Alyssa. "My first thought when I got here with the spring program was 'Oh great, now I have to be a farm girl!' I guess after about a week into the program my view changed and that's when I realized that working out here is actually relaxing."

Kristine Zylstra-Moore of FortWhyte Farms provided a thoroughly positive report about Alyssa. "Alyssa has demonstrated a lot of enthusiasm for our program and clearly values the time she spends here. She is especially good at working with the pigs and chickens and at making visitors feel welcomed."

"It is very encouraging for all of us who work with these young people," said Mardy Yager, the SWEEP Coordinator who helped Alyssa get started at FortWhyte. "To see them recognize that they are valued as people and are respected in the workplace. They see that they can make a contribution and that life is more than their issues, running away, etc."

"I guess the lesson from this is to keep trying different things with different youth, provide them with opportunities to try new things and encourage them."

Congratulations to Dakota and Alyssa!



Marymound Student Bursary Program

The Marymound Bursary Program provides educational and support funding to eligible young people who received services from Marymound or who resided in a Marymound placement for a minimum of six months.

Funds are provided to help cover costs such as tuition, books, living expenses and more while a student is attending school. Individual bursary awards may range from between \$500 to \$2000 with a maximum of \$4000 in total awarded in a calendar year. Bursaries are awarded dependent on available funds.

Marymound believes strongly in the importance and power of education. Every young person at Marymound attends school, either Marymound School or their local community school. We want to do everything possible to encourage post secondary education, and the Marymound Bursary Program assists with this effort.

We are pleased to have awarded bursaries to the following students in the past year:

Gina Dauriac

Tara Samborsky

Verna Watt

Congratulations to these worthy recipients and all the best to them as they pursue their education.

Workplace Safety and Health

Workplace Safety and Health is an ongoing concern for all organizations, and this past year at Marymound has seen us step up our efforts considerably to ensure that staff and youth are working and living in the safest possible environments.

A committee of staff from all departments of Marymound meets regularly to review the various needs of the many work areas.

In April 2008, the provincial Workplace Safety and Health Branch conducted a surprise inspection of all Marymound buildings and made recommendations. This set into motion a sizable amount of work, for the committee chairpersons, the committee itself and Marymound's maintenance and housekeeping staff. Within a matter of a few months, we were granted compliance with over 80% of the recommended improvements. By the summer of 2009, we were 100% in compliance.

Workshops

Marymound hosted three workshops – Safe Committee Basics and Safe Work Procedures in September 2008, Ergonomics and Musculoskeletal Risk Assessments in February 2009 and Workplace Hazardous Management Information Systems (WHIMS) in March 2009. Each attracted between 30 and 50 representatives from throughout Marymound and other agencies, including New Directions, Ma Mawi, Ndinawe, Macdonald Youth Services and Knowles Centre.

Ongoing

We continue to work on developing an improved fire plan and finalizing procedures needed for a comprehensive Fall Protection and Harness Program. Thanks go to the Workplace Safety and Health Committee, the management team for their assistance and support and all the staff involved in ensuring that Marymound is second to none when it comes to a safe working environment.



Fund Development

Marymount is very fortunate to live and work in the generous province of Manitoba – the most giving province in Canada.

We have worked hard to build relationships with organizations, businesses and individuals so that they understand what we do and who we help. This has been a very successful year for the Fund Development Department.

The generous support of our donors enriches the lives of the youth we support. It provides extras that otherwise wouldn't be provided – and allows us to grow, prosper and help more youth.

In addition to cash donations, we rely heavily on in-kind donations. They are crucial for our Family & Culture Day, and to offer our youth special outings at the theatre, MTS Centre, Royal Winnipeg Ballet, and other events they might otherwise not be able to access.

We submit proposals to numerous foundations and granting bodies every year. These donations are specific to capital projects, special programs and events as well as renovations and improvements.

Something new added this year is our coin box collection program. We did very well with boxes in all 18 Mac's Convenience Store locations and appreciate their willingness to help us pilot this initiative. We plan to expand this program so that we have coin boxes somewhere every month.

The addition of a Fundraising Coordinator has been a great asset to our department, enabling us to research and contact more granting bodies, funding organizations and potential corporate donors.

On behalf of all of us at Marymount, it is an honour to thank the following:



Individuals

Marymount thanks the following individuals who contributed monetary and/or in-kind donations during 2008 and 2009:

Gerry Alcock
Christopher Allard
Kyla Allard
Jean Bailey
Mary Bancroft
Reinhard Banek
Janice Barclay
Earl Barish
George Battershill
Gerald Bazylewski
Jean Beaulieu
Thomas Beggs
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George Bilan
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Joyce Birsten
Barbara Boes
Helen F. Bowen
Ronald Boyd
Tracy-Lyn Brown
Beverley Brun
Shelly Buhay
Most Rev. Michael Bzdel
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Gabriele Cozzolino
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Beverley Darke
Ronald Derksen
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Dr. S. Michelle Driedger
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Ruth Dyck
Lori Elias
Mary Ellor

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Maryann Gebel
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Frank Luschak
Jared Lyons
Char MacDonald
Barry Maclean
Chris McDonald
Craig McIntosh
Marni Miles
Rona Mills
Lorraine M. Molteni
Arline Moor
Charles Mossman
Elsie Myk

Individuals

continued

Peter Nawrot
Gwenda Nemerofsky
Kathryn Mary Newcombe
Joan Nicholson
Jennifer Parkinson
Shirley Parsons
Nancy Partridge
Patricia Patterson
Danielle Pchajek
Keith Penhall
Lawrence Peterson
Brian Pettitt
Gerald Price
Deanna Provost
Mina Rae
Rachelle Regnier
Martin Reinhorn
Tara Ricard
Kathy Richard
Ida Rocan
Betty Romano
Paulette Ruth
Sybil Ruvinsky
Diane Sereda
Anneliese Serzu
Tammy-Rai Shaw
Grace Shedden
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Jean Sinkwich
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Thomas Struthers
Sheila Sturley
Tai Tang
Lyle Taylor
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Celeste Thibeault
Beverly Thiessen
Maria Tomberli
Gwenn Umphress
Dan Voth
Morley Walker
Joan Wilkie
Ruth Wray
Mardy Yager
Amanda Yonka
Diane Young
Wanda Young
Deborah Zanke
Dan Zhang

Funders

Marymound receives funding for programs and services from the following:

Manitoba Education, Citizenship & Youth
Manitoba Family Services & Housing
Manitoba Health & Healthy Living
Public Health Agency of Canada
Manitoba Métis Federation

Corporations, businesses & organizations

7 Eleven
Accès Direct Promotions
All Charities Campaign
Association of Manitoba Chiefs
Aramark Canada Ltd.
Arctic Glacier
Be-Dazzled Jewellery
Bill Worb Furs
Bio-Static Ltd.
Bison Building Services
Bleak House Centre
Boogies Diner
Brian Morwick
Canadian Linen and Uniform Service
Carey Corporation
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CSB Management Corp
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DMV Design
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Direct Data Products
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Eagle Nest Lodge
Eastern Chrysler Dodge Jeep Eagle
Faucet Signs Ltd.
Forest Park School
FortWhyte Alive
Graffiti Art Gallery
Gardewine North
Hillis Insurance Agencies Ltd.
Holy Eucharist Ukrainian Catholic Centre

IGA on Main
Imperial Soap & Supplies Ltd.
Institute of Corporate Directors
Investors Group Financial Services Inc.
Ka Ni Kanichihk
Kelekis Restaurant
Ken Segal Gallery
Knights of Columbus – Council 10569
KPMG
LaCoste Garden Centre
Ladouceur Professional Services Inc.
Leo's Home Decorating Ltd.
LITE
Mac's Convenience Stores
Manitoba Blue Cross
Manitoba Hydro – Thompson
Manitoba Hydro – Winnipeg
Manulife Financial
Mariaggi Hotel
McKesson Canada
Mid Canada Production Services Inc.
Mother Of Red Nations
My Terrific Tale
Northern Meat Service
Norwood Hotel Banquet & Catering
Oreck Vacuums
Out 'N About Travel
Oxygen Technical Services Ltd.
Oyate Tipi Cumini Yape
Peak of the Market
Pollock Hardware
Pratts Wholesale Limited
Quantum Printing & Consulting
Rainbow Stage
Red River Exhibition Association
Rim Consulting Group
River East Optimists Club
Rotary Club of Winnipeg North
Royal Canadian Legion – East St. Paul
Royal Canadian Legion – Main St.
Scotch Bakery
Sisters of the Good Shepherd
SMS Engineering
Sobeys – Northgate
Sobeys – Rivergrove
Sonya's Flowers
Sparkus Construction
Springhill Lumber Wholesale Ltd.
St. Joseph's Church
St. Joseph's Residence

Stalwart Machinery & Appliances
Swandel & Associates
Sysco
T.C.I.G
Taché Pharmacy & Medical Supplies
The Press Room
Tim Horton Children's Foundation
Wahbung Abinoonjiiag Inc.
West Kildonan Auto Service
Winnipeg Blue Bombers
Winnipeg Building & Decorating
Winnipeg Cobras Volleyball Club
Winnipeg Free Press
Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra
World of Water

Grants & Foundations

Cardinal Foundation
Culture, Heritage & Tourism – Arts Branch
Culture, Heritage and Tourism – Community Places
F.K. Morrow Foundation
Graham C. Lount Family Foundation
Green Manitoba
Manitoba Neighbourhoods Alive!
North End Revitalization Inc.
RCMP Foundation
The Catholic Foundation of Manitoba
UMAYC
Winnipeg Foundation
Youth in Philanthropy – Dakota Collegiate
Youth in Philanthropy – Transcona Collegiate
Youth in Philanthropy – Miles Macdonell Collegiate
Youth in Philanthropy – St. John's Ravenscourt
United Way of Winnipeg

Coin Boxes

Mac's Convenience Stores

Every effort has been made to ensure that this list is current and accurate. We apologize for any omissions or errors.



Finding the good

www.marymound.com



Originally established by the Sisters of the Good Shepherd, Marymound is a member of

Catholic Health
Corporation of Manitoba
Corporation catholique
de la santé du Manitoba

