

About Us

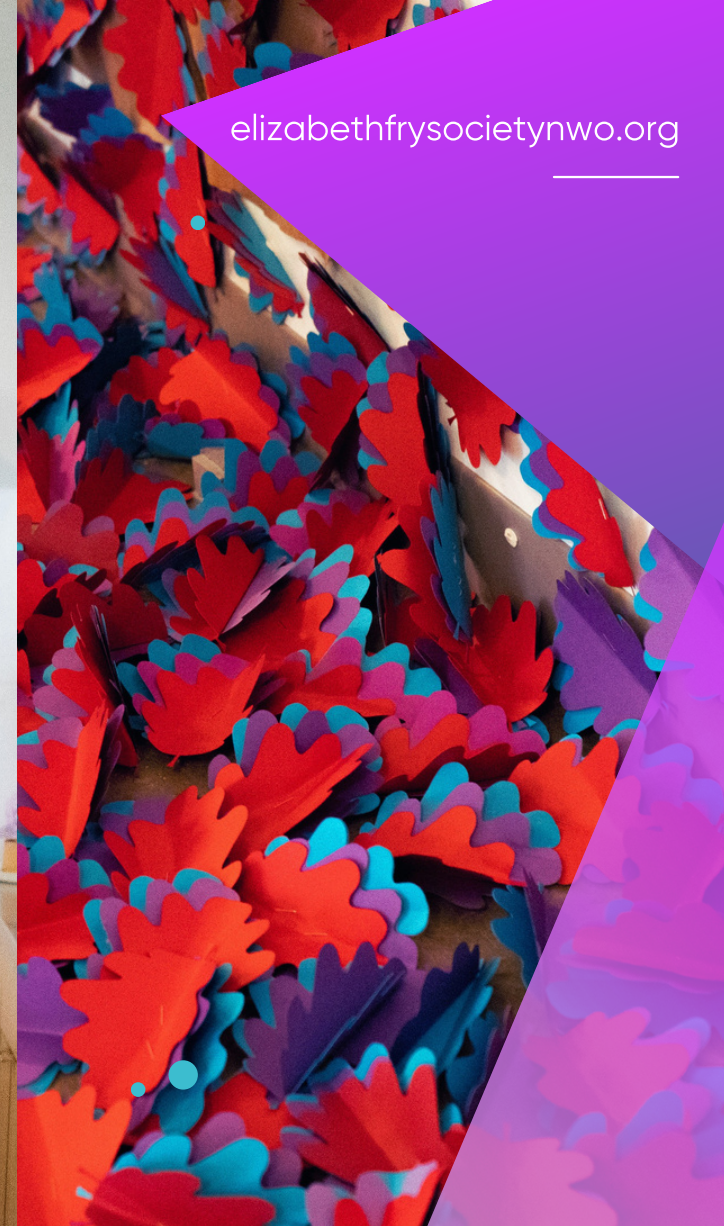
The Elizabeth Fry Society of Northwestern Ontario (EFSNWO) is a vibrant grassroots non-profit organization in Thunder Bay, Ontario. EFSNWO's mission is to challenge systemic oppression and stigma that forces the criminalization of Two-Spirit, women, and gender-diverse people. EFSNWO is an abolitionist organization committed to addressing the over-incarceration of Two-Spirit and Indigenous women. EFSNWO provides vital programs, services, and advocacy for those involved in the criminal justice system, at risk of criminalization, or experiencing homelessness.

Since 2021, EFSNWO has offered low-barrier harm reduction transitional housing for women+. This program provides stability, wrap-around support, and aids individuals in healing from past trauma to ultimately secure permanent housing. We offer several programs/services at the Thunder Bay Correctional Centre, including weekly support and advocacy visits, family liaison services, proactive release planning, a clothing bank, arts and crafts, meditation, and skill-based initiatives.

The EFSNWO Circle of Care offers a welcoming community drop-in providing access to essentials like food, clothing, hygiene products, and harm reduction supplies. Services include housing assistance, referrals to mental health and addiction services, and meeting basic needs. EFSNWO engages with the community by hosting events, conducting outreach, and a low-barrier food bag program.

EFSNWO also engages in systemic advocacy by educating the community about factors leading to the criminalization of women+ and inspecting and reporting on conditions and human rights issues faced by incarcerated women+.

Where to Reach Us



elizabethfrysocietynwo.org

Elizabeth Fry Society of Northwestern Ontario

705 Victoria Ave. E,
Thunder Bay, ON P7C 5X9

Office hours: 9am-4pm

**Main floor of the Chapples Building*

☎ 807.623.1319

☎ Toll free:
1.888.885.4072

✉ info@efsnwo.com

elizabeth fry
SOCIETY
NORTHWESTERN ONTARIO

Thunder Bay's only social service agency
exclusively supporting women and gender
diverse individuals involved in the criminal
justice system.

Who we are.

Advocacy

If you are incarcerated in a federal institution and require advocacy, or if you are part of the provincial network of advocates and have an inquiry about CEFSO, please contact our Operations Director & Systemic Advocate at 807.631.9065

Programming

If you or someone you know is incarcerated and are in need of support, are interested in programming provided at the correctional centre, or have an idea for programming, please contact our Program Coordinator at: 807.620.6059

Development & Communications

If you're interested in becoming a funder or would like more information our funded programs, please contact our Development and Communications Coordinator at: 807.620.5297

Fundraising

If you would like information on upcoming events, would like to donate to or participate in an event, please contact our Fundraising and Administrative Support at: 807.621.2725

System Navigation

If you are a woman or gender-diverse person in need of housing or court support, and are not currently incarcerated, please contact our System Navigator at: 807.630.5657

If you are a woman or gender-diverse person in need of any other type of assistance, please contact our System Navigator at 807.631.7363 and 807.252.8062

Get involved!

Volunteering with EFry makes a big impact!



Volunteering is a great way to make an immediate and tangible impact for the individuals we serve. We offer a variety of volunteer opportunities through fundraising activities, and in our recreational, creative, and educational programs at the Thunder Bay Correctional Centre.



Become a Member

As an EFry NWO member, you have the opportunity to vote on matters at our annual general meeting. For more detail or to fill out a membership form, Come and visit us at our office or visit our website:

elizabethfrynwo.org

Membership fee: \$10
(Annual fee)



Sponsors/Donations

Our donors can provide personal hygiene items, clothing, household items, as well as donations and sponsorships. Donations are received in-person at our office in the form of a cheque to "Elizabeth Fry Society of Northwestern Ontario" or by visiting our website and clicking on the blue DONATE button. A charitable tax receipt is given to donations over \$10.

How we can help.

- 01. Discharge Planning**
Helping clients integrate back into the community upon release from the Thunder Bay Correctional Centre.
- 02. Court Support**
Liaising with lawyers and Legal Aid, and accompanying clients to court and parole hearings.
- 03. Prison Recreational Programs**
EFry hosts a variety of programs at the Thunder Bay Correctional Centre including, crafts, book club, mindfulness, yoga, and certificate courses.
- 04. System Navigation**
Helping clients access social and health services, provide compassionate support, and advocacy.
- 05. Housing Access**
Assisting clients in finding affordable and sustainable housing that meets their needs.
- 06. Transitional Housing**
We provide short-term supportive housing for clients through harm-reduction and reintegration models.
- 07. Food Security**
We provide grocery vouchers, monthly food bags, we maintain a stock of food, personal items, and hygiene products for those in need.
- 08. Case Management**
We work with clients to identify areas of concern, consider options, and implement a plan to address their needs.