

HOME COUNTRY

FWIO Expands



rural ontario
sharing education

Program



FWIO President Dianne Orr accepted the grant cheque from Simcoe North MPP Garfield Dunlop.

The Federated Women's Institutes of Ontario (FWIO) President Dianne Orr accepted a \$223,600 Ontario Trillium Foundation grant from Simcoe North MPP Garfield Dunlop at the organization's Annual Meeting in January 2003 at the Kempfenfeldt Conference Centre in Barrie. The money will allow FWIO to implement the "ROSES Are Blooming" Expansion Project, a two-year plan to enhance and ensure the sustainability of the ROSE (rural ontario sharing education) Program. The goal is to expand upon the Program's current focus of health to include a variety of topics. Eight additional partnerships with various health-social service organizations will be established.

The ROSE Health Program, developed in 1999 to provide vital health information to women and their families living in rural communities in Ontario, has received high accolades. Eight partnerships with key health-social service organizations were established to provide Women's Institute (WI) members with a direct link to health information, programs, literature and support. During 2000-2001, Leadership Training Sessions were provided to approximately 800 WI

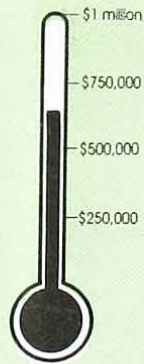
Branch representatives to assist with implementing the program at the community level. Each Branch in the province was provided with a Planning Guide, promotional material and support to organize ROSE sessions for their members and communities.

Expanding the ROSE Program means that many of the resources provided by health-social organizations will be more readily accessible to people in rural communities. Members and their families and communities will gain the confidence, tools and knowledge to take health and social issues into their own hands and make informed decisions. At the same time, the ROSE Program will assist in the sustainability of the Women's Institute organization by attracting new members.



Meet your new ROSE
Program Manager
Julie Annett
on page 11.

Headquarters Fund



To date:
\$616,546.32
of \$1 million

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