Portage College

Women's Shelter Crisis Worker Program
Portage College

Program Description

Program Goal - To assist in the provision of a continuum of quality educational training for crisis intervention workers in women's shelters. This program was developed by Portage College as a result of discussions with the Alberta Council of Women's Shelters (ACWS) who wanted to enhance the skills of crisis workers in shelters. The program has been designed so that a crisis worker can build on their skills as the work through the program. Successfully completing all ten courses will result in a Crisis Worker Training Certificate, which is recognized by Portage College, ACWS, and Alberta Advanced Education and Technology. Eight of the courses in this program are taken through computer-mediated learning (online), and two courses are face-to-face workshops that assist in the learning process and in reinforcing practice skills. Instructors and experts from across the women's shelter movement will be available for learners throughout this program to assist in the integration of theoretical material and practice. The program is designed to be completed in two years (24 months). The Training Program consists of 8 courses and 2 face-to-face workshops:
1. Foundations of Family Violence
2. Dynamics of Family Violence
3. Shelter Life
4. Skills for Support and Counselling
5. Skills Development Workshop I
6. Intake, Risk Assessment and the Law
7. Skills for Independence
8. Others Affected by Abuse
9. Community Resources
10. Skills development Workshop II

Computer requirements too participate in a Moodle course you will need basic knowledge of word processing, file management, email and Internet navigation as well as access to a computer with Internet access, CD ROM and a printer. Basic Hardware Recommendations: - Windows XP OR MacOS System 7 - Modem or direct connection to the Internet Basic Software Recommendations: -MS Word 2003 or later version - Anti-virus software - Internet Explorer 6.0 or greater, or Mozilla Firefox 2.0 or greater - Adobe Reader 8.0 or better - Flash Player 2.0 or better Computer Mediated Learning (On-line) 1. This format of delivery utilizes the learning management software Moodle which is accessed through the Internet, and offers learners a virtual classroom in which they can interact with their instructors and classmates in on-line conferences or "discussions", access program and course information and materials, submit assignments, and keep track of their grades. 2. Students may be required to use a headset with speakers and a mic to communicate in real time with instructors through the internet.