

ACWS Board:

*Barbara Young, President
Karen Pease, Vice President
David Monroe, Secretary
Lois Day, Treasurer
Lorne Goddard
Marjorie Luger
Janene Moch
Sister Joanne Macaulay
Edna Willier
Brigitte Baradoy
Sandra Ermineskin
Pat Garrett
Cassandra Putman*

ACWS Staff

*Jan Reimer, Provincial Coordinator
Carolyn Goard, Director Member Programs & Services
Ken Seto, Finance and Information Management Administrator
Agnieszka Wyka, Communications and Partnership Advisor
Charleen Shaw, Office Administrator
Dorothy Sam, Project Manager: Walking the Path Together
John Ratcliff, Program Director for DV and the Workplace
Jennifer Ness, Administrative Assistant Projects*

ACWS 2011 OUTCOMES CONFERENCE

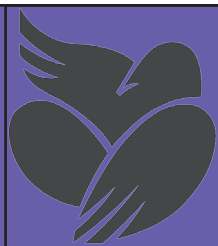
Celebrating Successful Shelter Practices



www.acws.ca

April 13, 14 & 15th

Edmonton Crowne Plaza Hotel



"We believe in a world free of violence and abuse."

**ACWS 2011 OUTCOMES CONFERENCE:
Celebrating Shelter Success!**

**APRIL 13th, 14th & 15th
Crowne Plaza Hotel
Edmonton, Alberta**

Welcome to the 2011 Outcomes Conference!!! We are delighted that you are able to join us for the next three days as we celebrate the amazing and important work of Alberta shelters that welcome more than 12,000 women, children and seniors very year. We hope this event will educate, inspire, and support your work with women, children and seniors!

The Conference offers training geared to front-line shelter workers with a focus on promising practices in Legal Aid; Danger Assessment; and Child Support. It also offers individual shelters opportunity to showcase promising practices they have implemented. Results from our collective work on "Community Based Outcomes" will be highlighted by participating shelters at two plenary sessions: Practical Frameworks for Change and the Children's Plenary, featuring Walking the Path Together and the Helping Hands projects.

The Outcomes Conference is the ideal platform to share and showcase what we have learned about the implementation of outcome measurement frameworks that inform and improve shelter services.

We look forward to sharing and learning with you as we work together to inform solutions to end domestic violence.

Sincerely,

Jan Reimer & Carolyn Goard

Jan Reimer Carolyn Goard



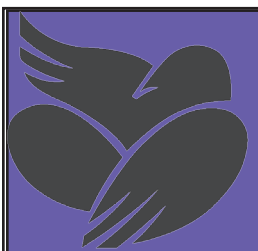
"We believe in a world free of violence and abuse."

A Word of Thanks.....

Our sincerest gratitude goes out to volunteer members of the 2011 Outcomes Conference Planning Committee: Mary-Ellen Proctor, Bernice Sewell, Dianne Finch and Ian Wheeliker. Thank you for your terrific ideas, guidance and support!!

ACWS would also like to thank the following sponsors who contributed to make this conference a success:

**Alberta Children and Youth Services
Alberta Justice
Status of Women Canada
National Victims of Crime Awareness Week
United Way of Calgary & Area
Wintergreen Learning Materials
Corus Radio**



"We believe in a world free of violence and abuse."



"We believe in a world free of violence and abuse."

Joan Wolfe was born on December 7, 1961 into the Montana First Nation. Over the last 11 years her jobs have always included working with children. She studies at the University of Alberta in the Faculty of Education. She initially studied to be a high school teacher but ended up working with K4 and K5 students after completing her APT. Using the holistic approach to healing, Joan designed, created and launched the AWASIS program as part of the Child Support program in the Ermineskin Women's Shelter. She now works as the Eagle Feather worker working with families and children who have witnessed abuse.

Carolyn Woodroffe is the Residential Program Coordinator of the Awo Taan Healing Lodge Society in Calgary, Alberta. She has been with Awo Taan for over ten years and has witnessed and participated in the positive changes and growth of Awo Taan. Carolyn is a trainer for the Danger Assessment tool.

Kate Wyse has a Bachelor of Arts degree and holds a current membership with the Canadian Group Psychotherapy Association. She has worked for over 10 years in the field of Domestic Violence and began her career in this field with the Central Alberta Women's Emergency Shelter as a Crisis Worker. Kate's passion to work within the area of Domestic Violence has allowed her the opportunity to help initiate the Partner Safety Check Program in Red Deer. During this time she also worked as a Facilitator with men who were court mandated to attend Domestic Violence Counselling through the Jim Freeman Psychotherapy Group. Over the past year, Kate has worked as RCMP Case Worker within the Red Deer City RCMP Domestic Crime Unit and in October 2010, moved into the Domestic Violence Court Case Coordinator position. Kate has a background in Addictions and worked as an Addiction Counsellor for Edgewood Treatment Centre in British Columbia.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 13th

LEGAL AID TRAINING

8:00 am – 4:30 pm

Lunch @ 12:00 - 1:00 pm

Location: SALON B

Presenters: Wendy Hinz, Tony de Jong, Dawn Nelson, Cyndy Barbar & Janan Jarrah

This full day session presented by Legal Aid Alberta is designed to provide front line counsellors with an understanding of the legal issues women experiencing domestic violence face and the legal support available to women in the province, particularly through Legal Aid. Participants will leave with enhanced understanding of how they can better advocate for the women they serve. This session builds on the outcomes of the Practical Frameworks for Change Project.

ACWS Conversation Cafés:

Thursday: 12:30 - 2:30 and Friday from 10:00 am - 2:45 pm

Location: SALON A

- Irene Hoffart and/or Susan Plesuk will be on hand to talk about Outcome Tracker and outcome measures.
- Join ACWS Staff to learn more about ACWS initiatives and resources, including the Canadian and Global Network of Shelters.



"We believe in a world free of violence and abuse."



"We believe in a world free of violence and abuse."

OPENING CEREMONY – Wednesday, April 13th @ 7pm

Reception: 6 pm – 6:45pm

Location: Salon A

- 7:00 - Welcome remarks by Carolyn Goard and Jan Reimer
- 7:05 - Opening Prayer & Blessing, Linda Oldpan from Ermineskin First Nation.
- 7:15 - National Anthem performed by ASANI
- 7:20 - Introductory remarks, ACWS President Barb Young
- 7:30 - Welcome from the Province by the Honourable Minister of Children and Youth Services Yvonne Fritz
- 7:40 - Keynote Speech by Lana Wells
- 8:00 - ASANI Performance:

"Rise up! " Making change for a better world is up to all of us. We can, we - must....our survival depends on it!

Okisikowak" celebrates and acknowledges the determination and selflessness of so many Aboriginal women whose giving spirit and sacrifices are often taken for granted. Okisikowak is sung in honour of these amazing women and the many, many others who are working for all of us on a daily basis with little recognition.

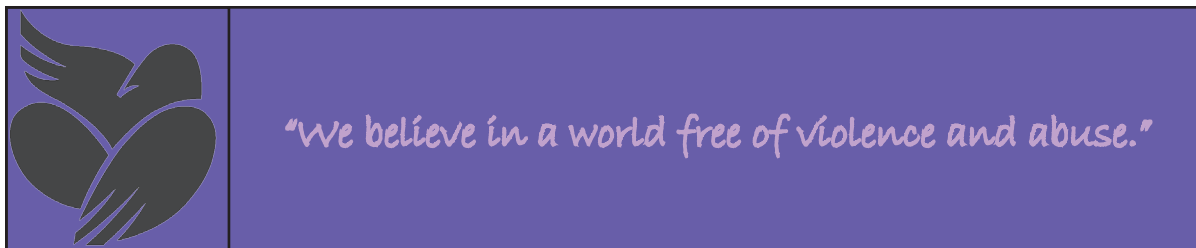
8: 10 Closing Remarks by Jan Reimer & Carolyn Goard

8: 20 ROUND DANCE with ASANI

" Kiyanaaw" celebrates community and all the variety of forms it comes in. It's so easy to lose sight of its importance in today's world... but it sure is amazing what can happen when we work together.

Melanie Dawn Ward-Awenose is from the Driftpile First Nation in Alberta and was raised by her Grandparents in a traditional Cree home. Melanie is a survivor and the mother to a son and a daughter. They are her source of inspiration to work hard every day and continue learning how to maintain a healthy lifestyle. Melanie follows her cultural beliefs, values, and the practices passed down from her grandparents. This helps to keep her balanced and grounded. A warrior is someone who has lived through personal hardships and come full circle to speak-mentor about those experiences. Melanie's life is filled with personal experiences that have made her who she is today. She believes she can make a difference through her role as an Eagle Feather worker and offers her experience to empower children.

Ian Wheeliker is the Executive Director of the Central Alberta Women's Emergency Shelter in Red Deer Alberta. His life and work have taken him across the country – literally. Ian studied psychology and sociology with a concentration in criminology at both Dalhousie University and Carleton University. Later he certified in Reality Therapy and Choice Theory. Ian began his career in 1986 in Cape Breton, Nova Scotia counselling young offenders. As a Program Coordinator at Second Chance Project Ian worked within the frameworks of a psycho-educational program for men who batter. He also served on the committee for Nova Scotia Government's Frame Work for Action on Family Violence. Ian later moved to Saskatchewan where he worked as Executive Director of the West Central Crisis and Family Support Centre. Over the span of 25 years in the industry Ian has worked with over 5,000 violent offenders and thousands of victims. Ian and his family currently live in Lacombe Alberta.



Anjulie's practice frame work encompasses Anti-Oppressive practice and the importance of relationship building. And she has a musical gift - before entering Social Work, Anjulie worked as a piano teacher.

Pat Vargas is the Executive Director of A Safe Place, a shelter for women and their children fleeing violence. Her past work includes the creation of websites with legal information for abused women and as the coordinator of community responses to family violence in Edmonton and area. She has also worked for Alberta Human Rights Commission and as the Coordinator of a multi-agency diversity project. In 2009 she developed a Governance Model for a Global Network of women's shelter and played a key role in organizing the Ottawa summit for Shelters in 2009 which led to the creation of the Global Network of Women's Shelters, she is also a current board member of the network and a member of the Inter-Americas Shelter Network. Pat's experience also includes work as a United Nations Canadian delegate in 2009 and 2010 and composing the position paper which was presented at the 54th session of the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women, March 1- 12 2010 in New York. Pat has been involved in a multitude of international projects raising awareness and educating about Human Trafficking.

Rita Vermillion is a Cree woman born and raised on the Doghead Indian Reservation, adjacent to Fort Chipewyan, Alberta. Rita is currently the Eagle Feather Worker for Paspew House. She was previously employed at the Athabasca Delta Community School in Fort Chipewyan for 19 years as a Teacher Aide, E.C.S. Instructor, and Cree language Teacher but decided to make a career change and go into the field of social work. In 2004, Rita graduated from the Aboriginal Child & Family Services Program (Keyano College).



About Yvonne Fritz:

Mrs. Fritz was first elected to the Legislative Assembly of Alberta as the Member for Calgary-Cross in 1993 and was elected for her fifth term on March 3, 2008. Mrs. Fritz was appointed Minister of Children and Youth Services on January 15, 2010. In her capacity as Minister of Children and Youth Services, she works with families and communities to provide nurturing, safe environments for children and youth.

In addition to her ministerial appointment, she serves as a member of the Agenda and Priorities Committee.

About Lana Wells:



Lana Wells currently holds the Brenda Strafford Chair in the Prevention of Domestic Violence in the Faculty of Social Work at the University of Calgary. Wells brings a wealth of experience in leading social change movements. She has worked for all three levels of government and with a variety of non-profit organizations, including the United Way of Calgary and Area where she was the Senior Director of Community Investments & Collaborations responsible for research, community funds, government relations and public policy work. Lana holds bachelor's and master's degrees in social work from the University of Calgary and a BA in religious and women's studies from McMaster University. Lana was the President of the Alberta Council of Women's Shelters from 2000-2002.

About ASANI:



ASANI is an Aboriginal women's trio from Edmonton. They are Debbie Houle, Sarah Pocklington and Sherryl Sewepagaham. They have serenaded the Dalai Lama and Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, and more importantly performed at our World Conference of Women's Shelters in 2008.



"We believe in a world free of violence and abuse."

Thursday, April 14th

8:00 – 10:00 am

Plenary #1: PRACTICAL FRAMEWORKS FOR CHANGE

Location: SALON A

Presenters: Carolyn Goard, Sister Lucinda May Patterson, Suzanne Ranta, Noreen Cotton, Karen Pease, Lisa Morgan, Kerri Potvin, Katherine Sheppard, Ian Wheeliker.

The Practical Frameworks for Change project began in September 2008 as an outcome of the first World Conference of Women's Shelters hosted by ACWS. Eight shelters volunteered to identify, implement and evaluate promising practices learned at the conference in the areas of Safety, Health and Cultural Competence. This plenary features the eight participating shelter leaders sharing their unique project stories and learnings informed by 1,890 women and their 1,833 children accessing shelter services over an 11 month period.

10:00 - 10:30 COFFEE TIME...

10:30 am – 4:30 pm

DANGER ASSESSMENT - TRAIN THE TRAINER

Location: SALON B

Presenters: Noreen Cotton, Lissa Samantarya-Shivji, Sherrie Botten & Susan Plesuk.

This session is for designated Danger Assessment trainers providing an opportunity for trainers to share their successes and challenges when training staff in their shelter. Information regarding the DA, safety planning and the DA, and trauma interventions are some of the topics planned for this session.



"We believe in a world free of violence and abuse."

Heather Shupe is a registered Social Worker with the Alberta College of Social Workers. She has worked at Sage in various capacities since 2007, and spent two years working with seniors leaving abusive situations, at the Seniors' Safe House. This is where she became passionate about working with older adults, and working from a holistic and person-centered perspective. Since the fall of 2009 Heather has been working on her BSW through the University of Victoria, and in 2007 completed the MacEwan Social Work diploma program. Prior to entering social work, Heather worked in marketing and communications.

Tanya Sinclair-Gibson (BSW) is a Safe House Coordinator with the Sage Seniors' Safe House program and a registered Social Worker with the Alberta College of Social Workers. Before joining Sage in June 2010, Tanya focused her academic and professional career on working with seniors in various capacities including long-term care, community day programs and home care. Tanya developed a passion for working with older adults while volunteering in a seniors' day support program as a prerequisite to the Grant MacEwan Social Work Diploma program. Drawing on her ten years of experience working with older adults, Tanya now focuses on enhancing the safety and well-being of seniors who are being abused. Tanya is grounded in the belief that all individuals have strengths, intrinsic worth and value.

Doris Sweet Grass has worked in transition homes and shelters for 7 Years and prior to that worked in day cares and head start centers for 15 years as a teacher and director. Presently she is the Senior Manager for the Kainai Women's Wellness Lodge, a 13 bed facility for women. Throughout the years, Doris' main focus and compassion has been supporting and empowering women and their children to become healthy and strong independent members of our community

Anjulie Talwar is a registered Social Worker with the Alberta College of Social Workers. She is a new graduate from the University of Calgary and has been working with Sage for the past 4 months at the Senior's Safe House. She is devoted to the unique needs of senior's experiencing abuse and thoroughly enjoys working with the seniors at the Safe House.



"We believe in a world free of violence and abuse."

Sister Lucinda May Patterson, S.A., joined the Franciscan Atonement Order 18 years ago after a career as a teacher. Sister Lucinda has been the Executive Director of Lurana Shelter for the past twelve years. She is passionate, committed and devoted to helping women and children to discover their giftedness and voice.

Lissa Samantarya-Shivji completed her B.Sc. in psychology at the University of Calgary. Lissa has worked in Research and Evaluation at the Calgary Women's Emergency Shelter for over seven years, and is currently the Manager of Strategic Development and Evaluation. Lissa was a significant contributor to the Alberta Council of Women's Shelter (ACWS) province-wide Danger Assessment research project. Lissa also served as chair of the ACWS Board Committee: Shelter Information Systems, advising member women's shelters on the development, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of information systems for reporting, research, and educational purposes.

Bernice Sewell is a Registered Social Worker through the Alberta College of Social Workers. For the past 21 years, Bernice's career has focused on working with individuals who have experienced abuse. This included 11 years as the Director of a women's shelter and ten years with SAGE's (Seniors Association of Greater Edmonton) Seniors Safe Housing program working directly with seniors who experienced abuse. Bernice was instrumental in the development of the collaborative model used by the Seniors Safe House program and the Seniors Abuse Helpline. Bernice is currently the Director of Operations for SAGE. She is deeply committed to working with seniors and on issues of abuse. Her basic philosophy is that each person's situation is unique to them and they are the best judge of what they require.

Katherine Sheppard is a registered Social Worker in the province of Alberta. She has worked at Odyssey House in Grande Prairie for fourteen years in various capacities and has been the Executive Director for ten. She is a past board member of the Alberta Council of Women's Shelters and sits on many committees and networks related to family violence prevention, affordable housing and homelessness. She upholds the vision of, "a violence - free World."



"We believe in a world free of violence and abuse."

BREAKOUT SESSIONS:

Time: 10:30 – 12:00pm

#1 THE SACRED CIRCLE

Location: SALON C

Presenters: Josie Nepinak & Carolyn Woodroffe

This presentation describes the Medicine Wheel model and its' use as an assessment tool. The Medicine Wheel provides a way to measure personal progress, development and is a way to assess areas of self that require attention. This session will also highlight the importance of understanding the Seven Sacred Teachings in the application of the Medicine Wheel.

The presenters will share the Sacred Circle of Life Teachings and the Seven Sacred Teachings which represent a code of conduct for the staff at the Awo Taan Healing Lodge.

#2 KNOWLEDGE BASED SERVICE DELIVERY

Presenters: Dr. Kathy Cairns, Irene Hoffart & Dianne Finch

Location: RIVER VALLEY ROOM

This session will focus on the significance of using long term information gathering (for example, ACWS's nine year trend analysis) to influence service development and delivery in order to meet the changing needs of women and children accessing Alberta shelters. Participants will leave with an increased understanding of how the collective data collection efforts of shelters across Alberta has positively influenced public policy and social change.

12:00 - 1:00 PM...LUNCH (SALON A)



"We believe in a world free of violence and abuse."

1:00 PM - 2: 30

#3 CHILDREN'S HEALING

Location: SALON C

a) Application of Neurosequential Model of Therapeutics in Domestic Violence in Shelters

Presenter: Helena Kreca

The Neurosequential Model of Therapeutics (NMT), an approach to clinical work that is Informed by neuroscience, is based on the primary assumption that the brain is the organ that mediates all human functioning. Childhood trauma results in abnormal organization and function of neural systems in the brain. Children's therapy groups, sand play and individual play therapy are examples of strategies that will be presented.

b) The SNOEZELEN Room

Presenter: Ian Wheeliker

The SNOEZELEN Room, at the Central Alberta Women's Emergency Shelter, is a healing place for children exposed to domestic violence, provides a rest and relaxation area and an activity area that soothes and positively stimulates children. This presentation will include a video about the healing centre, information about the theory supporting the healing centre and conclude with the results achieved so far.



"We believe in a world free of violence and abuse."

Susan Plesuk, MSW, RSW has been a consultant for ACWS for the past two and a half years. Between 1992- and 2008, Susan worked in various capacities at the YWCA of Calgary, including outreach, frontline, Supervisor of the Adult Clinical Services and Manager of Housing. In May, 2010, Susan along with Noreen Cotton, from Columbus House of Hope, facilitated the ACWS Danger Assessment Train the Trainer Session.

Kerri Potvin was born and raised in Lethbridge Alberta. After completing high school Kerri attended the Lethbridge College and attained her diploma in Child and Youth Care. Her last practicum placement was with the YWCA Harbour House program, back in the day when staff were mostly those women who survived family violence and made a commitment to help others find their safety as well. As a result, she has witnessed first hand, and been involved in the growth and professionalism of the sheltering movement in Alberta. After accepting a relief position following completion of the practicum she went on to work front line for 13 years, was supervisor for 7 years and has now been program manager for about 4 years. Kerri holds a deep belief in people's ability to overcome and grow through adversity and this is what has kept her going in the roles she has held with the YWCA for the past 24 years. Kerri has co-facilitated groups for female victims, worked with Probation in delivering treatment to male offenders and has attended uncountable trainings in the family violence arena. She is a frequent presenter at family violence workshops and conferences in the Southern Alberta area. She trains new volunteers with the Lethbridge Victim/Witness Service volunteers and has trained recruits to the Criminal Justice program at Lethbridge College.

Edwin Rogers is the internal program evaluator at Discovery House Family Violence Prevention Society. He holds an M.A. in Applied Social Psychology from the University of Saskatchewan and the focus of his work has covered a wide variety of sectors that include addictions, health sciences education, and domestic violence.



"We believe in a world free of violence and abuse."

Karen Pease has been Executive Director of the Community Crisis Society in Strathmore since 1993. In that capacity, she has been instrumental in the development of Domestic Violence programming for her agency. She has sat on numerous committees to further protocol development with other community partners. Since 2007, she has served on the board for the Alberta Council of Women's Shelters. She also chairs the Shelter Education and Programs committee for Alberta Council of Women's Shelters and sits on other provincial and regional committees. Her background is in social work with a particular interest in leadership, yoga, and child development.

Dorothy Sam is a Wolf clan member of Northern Tutchone descent and a member of the Kwanlin Dun First Nation. Her educational background is in Business Administration, Indian Government and First Nation management. Dorothy was previously the Director of Eagle's Nest Stoney Family Shelter for 5 ½ years. Dorothy was also a member of the On-reserve Shelters in Alberta and was active in advocating for support to women's shelters on-reserve across Canada. Dorothy has 23 years experience managing organizations including Kwanlin Dun First Nation, Skookum Jim Friendship Centre and an Aboriginal Capital Corporation. She worked as a Manager of Economic Support and Field Service Officer with the federal government. She also owned and operated a First Nation eco-tourism business.

Teresa Snow is a member of the Stoney Nakoda First Nation located in Morley, AB, where she resides with her 4 daughters. Her parents are the late hereditary Chief John Snow and Alva Snow. Teresa received her diploma in Criminology at Mount Royal College and certificate in the Women's Shelter Crisis Worker Program at Portage College. She has worked at Eagle's Nest Stoney Family Shelter in Morley since 2007. From 2007-2009, as a Crisis Counsellor, helping women fleeing domestic abuse. Since 2009 as Eagle Feather Worker, working with children that have witnessed violence and their families.



"We believe in a world free of violence and abuse."

#4 COMMUNITY COLLABORATION

Location: RIVER VALLEY ROOM

a) Experiences in Community Collaboration

Presenters: Bernice Sewell & Anjolie Talwar

SAGE staff will discuss Edmonton's collaborative community response to elder abuse, and will highlight the benefits of working together. Presenters will share experiences in developing and maintaining collaborations, and will highlight strategies and learning from the experience of participating in collaborations.

b. Brooks Collaborative Outreach for Healthy Families

Presenter: Shauna Bell

This session will present an overview of the Healthy Families pilot project developed to address the needs of immigrant families in the community coping with family violence. The partners in this pilot project include Cantara Safe House, Lifetalk Counselling Services, and SPEC (Support, Prevent, Educate, Counsel).

2:30 - 3:00 PM COFFEE TIME..



"We believe in a world free of violence and abuse."

TIME: 3:00 pm – 4:30 pm

#5 A "HOUSING FIRST" APPROACH:

Safe and Sustainable Housing for Women and Children Leaving DV

Location: SALON C

Presenter: Heather Morley

Housing First is an approach that focuses on providing families experiencing housing instability with permanent housing quickly and then providing individualized support services. The presenter will outline the program design and share the evaluation results which will detail outcomes, challenges and successes of this innovative program. Pivotal knowledge to be shared involves the relationship development between homeless serving and domestic violence communities including the cross collaboration that enhances skills, knowledge and services to both communities to the benefit of clients.

#6. SUSTAINABILITY

Location: RIVER VALLEY ROOM

Presenters: Carolyn Goard, Irene Hoffart, Arla Liska

In order to run a sustainable non-for profit agency, the true cost of delivering programs needs to be calculated, communicated and linked to information that demonstrates service effectiveness. This presentation will feature a model designed to support shelters in completing a true cost analysis, highlighting how Outcome Tracker can be used to measure and cost service outcomes.



"We believe in a world free of violence and abuse."

The focus of Lindsey's role is to foster independence and support resiliency for women and children living free of domestic violence. Lindsey focuses on supporting mothers with parenting, attachment, and accessing community resources. Support for children includes continued assessment of children's developmental milestones through art and play therapy techniques, school assistance, and accessing community resources.

Heather Morley is the Manager of the Community Housing Program at Discovery House Family Violence Prevention Society. She holds a M.A. from the University of San Francisco and has over 20 years experience with non-profit and government agencies in Canada and the United States. The focus of her work has always been women and children in crisis.

Josie Nepinak is the Executive Director of the Awo Taan Healing Lodge Society in Calgary, Alberta. Josie has been a part of Awo Taan since its inception in 1992. Her passion, vision, determination and leadership have aided Awo Taan's ongoing growth and development over the years. Josie is dedicated to responding to the identified need of having in place culturally appropriate strategies for Aboriginal women and children accessing shelters.

Linda Oldpan is from Ermineskin First Nations. She is married and has one daughter, one adopted daughter and many grandchildren. She is the head of her family. She has accomplished many feats in her life including a B. Ed. and Master's of Art's in Administration and Leadership. Linda has worked at Maskwachees Cultural College for 22 years as a Cree instructor, cultural instructor and was the head of Cree language. At MCC she worked with many Elders from the Hobbema community thus acquiring the language and culture from them. She was very fortunate to work in these capacities and is forever grateful to the Creator, the Elders, and her parents. She is always willing to pass on her expertise in the Cree language and culture. At present, she works at Ermineskin Tribal Enterprises as the Director of the Cree Language department.



"We believe in a world free of violence and abuse."

Arla Liska is a Consultant with 20+ years of professional experience ranging from direct service to consulting, leadership development, community work, and executive management. For the past twenty years Arla has worked in the non-profit sector in the areas of counseling, residential and community-based services, with significant experience in the areas of children's services, addiction treatment, and domestic violence services. She has over 10 years of leadership and management experience. Arla has been consulting in the not-for-profit and public service sectors in Calgary for the past four years. She has led numerous projects from design through to implementation and evaluation.

Lisa Morgan, in 1986, managed to convince a room full of shelter board members that "she" was the right person for the job and they would never regret hiring her. That was 25 years ago... Between 1986 and 2011 Lisa has taken on many roles within the shelter as a: Child Support Worker, Front Line -Assistant Director, Janitor, and Program Coordinator. She has watched the shelter grow from 4 staff and eleven beds in a recycled school to a 24 bed 16 staff and a force to be reckoned with in the community. As the shelter grew, so did her family and in 1996 she became a grandparent for the first time. She was not expecting 10 more grandchildren in the next 14 years...but life had a different plan. In 2009 the Crisis Centre partnered up with affordable housing and were to open a 32 apartment complex with the 4th floor dedicated to transitional housing. Unfortunately the builder went into receivership and the building sits 85% complete...but empty. She has been told work will commence in April with occupancy in December 2011. If everything goes as planned (and it never does) Lisa will be heading up the programming for the transitional housing early in 2012. We wish her the best of luck!!

Lindsey Matkovich is a graduate of the Applied Child Studies program from Mount Royal University, Calgary Alberta. Lindsay is currently pursuing MS in Early Childhood Studies. As the Child and Youth Case Manager Lindsey works with families who are residents of Discovery House and who have departed from the shelter and are now living independently in the community.



"We believe in a world free of violence and abuse."

FRIDAY, APRIL 15TH

8AM - 10 am

PLENARY# 2

WALKING THE PATH TOGETHER & STOLLERY CHILDREN'S PROJECT

Location: SALON A

Helping Hands, Stollery Children's Project

Presenters: Pat Garret & Josée Ouellette

Supported by the Stollery Foundation, Edmonton shelters have partnered with the Family Centre to enhance services for children and mothers accessing shelter. Staff are learning to incorporate an increased understanding of how trauma impacts children's brain functioning and interferes with attachment processes into their daily interactions with children and their mothers. Please join project representatives as they share how this project is making a significant difference in the lives of their young clients and their mothers.

Walking the Path Together Project:

Presenters: Dorothy Sam, Lillian Bigstone, Teresa Snow, Rita Vermillion, Melanie Dawn Ward-Awenose & Joan Wolfe.

Using a holistic approach, Eagle Feather Workers, based in 5 participating on-reserve women's shelters in Alberta, provide one-on-one support to children who have been exposed to violence. By working with the child's family, school and community supports, the Eagle Feather Workers aspire to make the environment of the child safe and help the family heal. Please join the Eagle Feathers as they share stories of the incredible journey they have undertaken with 53 brave children and their families across the province.

10 AM - 10:30 AM COFFEE TIME....



"We believe in a world free of violence and abuse."

10:30 – 4:30

CHILDREN'S TRAINING

Presenters: Liz Leroux, Doris Sweetgrass

Location: SALON B

This session for shelter staff working with preschool children and their mothers will provide foundational knowledge and intervention strategies in three major areas: attachment, early brain development, and the impact of trauma. Participants will leave with a solid conceptual framework informing both short and longer term interventions with children and their mothers.

BREAK-OUT SESSIONS

TIME: 10:30 am – 12:00

#7 Domestic Violence Court Collaboration Project & High Risk Case Conferencing

Presenters: Ian Wheeliker & Kate Wyse

Location: SALON C

The Red Deer Domestic Violence Court has been in operation for five years. The Domestic Violence Court Coordinator plays a key role in the collaboration between police, crown, the shelter and other community agencies during the criminal court process. The presenters will provide an overview of the DV Court project. The presentation will also focus on the high risk assessment team and the process for referring clients and the steps involved in managing risk for clients.



"We believe in a world free of violence and abuse."

Karen Kingdom (RSW) has her BA in psychology and sociology as well as her Bachelor of Education. Karen began work in the field of domestic violence in 1987 as a front line crisis counselor in a first stage shelter. She has worked at Wings of Providence since 1991 and presently holds the position of Program Coordinator. Karen has completed the training for the DVSA measurement tool with Dr. Jacqueline Dienemann.

Helena Kreca has a Masters in Counselling Psychology and she has specialized in Clinical Psychology, Psycho-neurology and Art and Play therapy. She completed undergraduate and graduate studies at the International American University in Vienna, Austria and post-graduate certificate in Advanced Clinical Supervision at the University of Calgary in Calgary, Alberta. She has worked for fifteen years with children impacted by violence. She has worked for Discovery House for the last 7 years as the coordinator of the child and youth services.

Liz Leroux, MSW, RSW. Liz received her BSW and MSW at the University of Calgary. She has worked in the field of domestic violence for fifteen years. Her main area of practice has been with children and families. She has worked primarily with the YWCA of Calgary Sheriff King Home where she held the position of Manager of Child and Family Services. Liz has presented many training workshops focusing on neurosequential brain development, play therapy, filial therapy and effects of trauma on children. Over the past couple of years she has worked part time providing play therapy to children and clinical supervision.



"We believe in a world free of violence and abuse."

Carolyn Goard, M.A., has worked as a chartered psychologist in Alberta since 1973. Her experience includes twenty-five years clinical practice, twenty years managing non-profit agencies, the last thirteen in the domestic violence sector. During the latter period Carolyn's experience has afforded her the opportunity to develop, implement and evaluate innovative domestic violence programming. In 2002, Carolyn with Dr. Leslie Tutty, edited the third volume in the Hurting and Healing Series on Intimate Violence entitled "Reclaiming Self: Issues and Resources for Women Abused by Intimate Partners." As the Director of the YWCA Sheriff King Home Carolyn served for several years as the community representative for Alberta on the Regional Steering Committee of RESOLVE, one of the five Canadian Family Violence Research Centre's; on the Board of HOMEFRONT, Calgary's coordinated domestic violence court response; and as the president of the ACWS Board.

Irene Hoffart is the Director of Synergy Research Group and has been providing evaluation, research and accountability-related services to non-profit, government and funding organizations for almost 20 years. Irene has an impressive track record including the review of the Calgary domestic violence sector, implementation of the multicultural organizational change review in Calgary's not-for profit sector, management of a complex, multi-year study of the effectiveness of HomeFront initiative, the evaluation of the 7-cities on Housing and Homelessness Projects and reviews of the Homeless Family sector, and the Addictions sector in Calgary. Most recently Irene has been assisting Alberta Council of Women's Shelters with a variety of projects including research, program evaluation and software development.



"We believe in a world free of violence and abuse."

#8. SERVING WOMEN WITH DIVERSE NEEDS

Location: RIVER VALLEY ROOM

a) Examining the challenges women without children face when accessing family violence services

Presenter: Lissa Samantarya-Shivji

This session will provide a review of over 12 months of data collected on the CWES's 24-hour crisis Helpline, focusing on the frequency of women turned away from shelter, reasons for turn-aways, and the outcomes of these calls. Using comparative data collected from single women accessing the shelter, the presenter will discuss the complexities and system barriers this population faces when trying to escape a life of violence. This data demonstrates the need to review how shelters support women without children.

b) Trafficking of Women and the Role of Shelters

Presenter: Pat Vargas

Since 2006, A Safe Place has been part of a collaborative response to increase awareness of human trafficking and to provide services to victims of human trafficking. This presentation will provide an overview of the lens that a Safe Place uses when working with women, outline the services provided and highlight the collaboration with other organizations and law enforcement agencies.

12:00pm - 1:00pm LUNCH - SALON A



"We believe in a world free of violence and abuse."

1pm – 2:30 pm

#9 SHELTER SERVICES - MEETING WOMEN'S UNIQUE NEEDS

Location: SALON C

a. Strength Based Approach

Presenter: Lissa Samantarya – Shivji

A Strength Based approach emphasizes the importance of recognizing the client as the expert on their own lives and supports clients to identify goals and understand the goal planning process. The presenter will provide a comprehensive look at the development, implementation and successes in the use of a strength based client goal planning tool.

b. Holistic and anti-oppressive case management

Presenters: Heather Shupe & Tanya Sinclair-Gibson

SAGE Safe House staff will discuss and review the program's approach to working with older adults leaving abusive situations. This includes a discussion around recognizing oppression, working from an anti-oppressive perspective, and approaches that assist older adults identify resources and potential goals to work towards.



"We believe in a world free of violence and abuse."

Tony spent 10 years as a supervising lawyer for SLS; 10 years as Presiding Justice of the Peace; and 9 years on executive of Edmonton Sexual Assault Centre. He is currently a sessional lecturer at U of A Law School teaching legal philosophy and is a staff lawyer with Legal Aid Alberta involved with Edmonton LSC.

Dianne Finch is the Assistant Director of the Medicine Hat Women's Shelter Society which offers a continuum of service for victims of family violence, ranging from 21 days to 1 year at their two shelters. Dianne has been involved with MHWSS for over 15 years: for ten years as board member and volunteer, and for the last 5 years in administration. She has worked on numerous ACWS committees over the past 5 years, including the Shelter Information Committee (SIC) where she was one of the HOMES trainers, and the Shelter Director's AdHoc Data Committee. She has been a dedicated member of numerous committees involved in the evaluation and implementation of Outcome Tracker. Dianne was also involved in the implementation of Danger Assessment in Alberta shelters and is a certified DA Trainer. If you're wondering why Diane is super computer savvy – well, prior to coming to work at the shelter, Dianne taught computer software classes for 17 years at Medicine Hat College. And what you may have not known: Diane has been married to Cecil for 37 years and has 3 children and five grandchildren.

Pat Garrett is the Executive Director of Wings of Providence a second stage shelter for women and their children who have experienced family violence located in Edmonton. Pat has over twenty years experience working in the family violence prevention sector. In 2003 Wings completed a capitol campaign and moved to a newly constructed 20 apartment facility. Under Pat's leadership, Wings continues to provide a variety of programs and services to women and children including outreach and follow-up. Housing stability, community connections, choice, affordability and safety are all terms that describe the work being done at Wings.



"We believe in a world free of violence and abuse."

Sherrie's passion is training and workshop development. Sherrie volunteers as a group facilitator for the Canadian Society for the Investigation of Child Abuse, preparing children and youth who will be testifying in court. Sherrie is currently leading a \$2.6 million capital campaign to build a new Rowan House in High River. She is the mother of 4 children, with an additional 2 step children and a self-employed husband whose company books she maintains (but not well or often).

Kathy Cairns Dr. Cairns was a professor of Applied Psychology at the University of Calgary for more than twenty-five years, and now works as a consultant in community development, research and program evaluation for a variety of organizations, most recently including the Calgary Homeless Foundation, Alberta Mental Health Board, the Calgary Health Region, Western Diversification, the Calgary Urban Aboriginal Initiative, Calgary's Addictions Sector, Alberta Council of Women's Shelters. She is the author of numerous academic publications and research reports, with particular interests in mental health and addictions, homelessness, domestic violence, and program evaluation

Noreen Cotton is the Executive Director of Columbus House of Hope Women's Emergency Shelter in St. Paul. Prior to assuming the role of executive director two years ago, Noreen worked as a crisis intervention worker in the shelter, administering Danger Assessments with the women. Noreen received her training from Dr. Jackie Campbell and received Danger Assessment Certification in October 2007. In her role as ED, Noreen has supported Danger Assessment training for the CIW's at Columbus House of Hope. It was under Noreen's leadership that Columbus House of Hope became one of the eight Alberta shelters that participated in the Practical Frameworks for Change Project.

Tony de Jong graduated from University of Alberta Law School. He served as the student chairperson of Student Legal Services and Associate Editor at the Alberta Law Review. Tony articulated and associated with A.D. Pringle where he practiced in



"We believe in a world free of violence and abuse."

#10 DANGER ASSESSMENT: Keeping Women & Children Safe

Location: RIVER VALLEY ROOM

a. Implementation of DA

Presenter: Noreen Cotton

This session will provide an overview of the Danger Assessment implementation process experienced by Columbus House of Hope. The presenter will highlight the learnings as a result of being involved in two research projects involving the Danger Assessment. The session will also review the successes and challenges of utilizing the Danger Assessment over the past three years.

b. Choose Safety

Presenter: Pat Vargas

Choose Safety is a collaborative project between A Safe Place and Integrated Threat and Risk Assessment Centre (I-TRAC). Choose Safety will be an interactive series of questions that clients will answer to receive a Danger Assessment and a customized safety plan including specific action items for any high risk category. The presentation will showcase the online tool, demonstrate how individual safety plans are developed and review the potential of the tool to reach women impacted by domestic violence.

2:30pm - 3:00pm COFFEE TIME ..



"We believe in a world free of violence and abuse."

3:00pm – 4:30 pm

#11 THE SACRED CIRCLE

Presenters: Josie Nepinak and Carolyn Woodroffe

Location: SALON C

This presentation will describe the Medicine Wheel model and its use as an assessment tool. The Medicine Wheel provides a way to measure personal progress, development and is a way to assess areas of self that require attention. This session will also highlight the importance of understanding the Seven Sacred Teachings in the application of the Medicine Wheel.

The presenters will share the Sacred Circle of Life Teachings and the Seven Sacred Teachings which represent a code of conduct for the staff at the Awo Taan Healing Lodge.

#12 Domestic Violence Survivor Assessment (DVSA)

Location: RIVER VALLEY ROOM

a. YWCA Sheriff King Home

Presenter: Suzanne Ranta

This presentation will highlight the use of the DVSA to assist frontline workers to be mindful of the way of working with women at the various stages of change. Case examples will be presented to demonstrate how YWCA Sheriff King Home is supporting women at specific stages of change.

b. Wings of Providence

Presenters: Pat Garrett & Karen Kingdom

Wings of Providence, a second stage shelter, has been utilizing the DVSA as a tool to guide frontline workers in their work with women accessing the shelter. The presenters will share how the use of the DVSA supports their longer term work with women accessing their shelter.



"We believe in a world free of violence and abuse."

ABOUT OUR PRESENTERS:

Shauna Bell has a BSW and is a registered social worker. She has worked in the field for 20 years with experience ranging from working with individuals with disabilities, mental health, working as a high school social worker to working with Alberta Employment and Immigration. All of her experience however, has centered around crisis intervention of various sorts in locations around central and Southern Alberta. Two years ago, she returned to her home town to work at Cantara Safe House where she continues to expand her horizons, knowledge and work with families in crisis.

Lillian Bigstone is an Eagle Feather Worker with a long and rich history of social work in the Province. Lillian graduated from the Secretarial Sciences Certification Program in 1989 at the Alberta Vocational College in Slave Lake and later completed the Mental Health Diploma Program at Grant MacEwan College. She went on to work for the Native Counseling Services of Alberta, the 'Let's Talk Society and Big Stone Cree Nation NNADAP. Lillian then completed a one year life skills training program called "Turning Wounds to Wisdom" which she says was a major stepping stone for her as a beginning of her personal life discovery and healing from residential school trauma. She went on to be a Program Coordinator at the Canadian Wellness Society in Calgary, and later took on a position at the Bigstone Women's Emergency Shelter. Lillian says coordinating a walk across Alberta to raise money for women and children affected by family violence was one of her major accomplishments. The desire to make a difference in people's lives has always played an instrumental role in her personal life and she has continually focused on this important value in her education and employment.

Sherrie Botten is the Executive Director of Region 3 Family Based Care Society which oversees both Eagle House Group Home (for adolescents) and Rowan House Emergency Shelter. Sherrie has degrees in Psychology and Non Profit Management.