



Pat Vargas, Executive Director

*A Safe Place*

Theme: Systematic Risk Assessment and Safety Planning

A Safe Place is a shelter for abused women and their children located in Sherwood Park. The Community Outreach Program, launched in September 2003, offers services to the entire Strathcona County.

*Critical Elements*

- Danger Assessment is entered into the database and the information is linked to a woman's demographics resulting in an understanding of women with higher DA scores.
- A nurse on staff provides follow up for those women who indicate they have been strangled (choked – on the danger assessment.)
- A Safe Place is in the process of developing an on-line safety planning guide for professionals that is linked to specific responses on the Danger Assessment. If a woman answers yes to a specific question the on-line safety plan will generate information that is specific to that situation. A Safe Place also has plans to have the DA on their website – which women can complete and then be provided with information to assist them in developing a safety plan.
- Protocols regarding transferring women from shelter to another shelter in another country.