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Calgary Domestic Violence Collective (CDVC)

Theme: Prevention and Awareness

The Calgary Domestic Violence Collective (CDVC) has set engaging men and boys as an area of focus for 2016-2018. The goal behind this is to identify areas where men can become more involved with the issues of domestic and sexual violence. Domestic violence is not just a woman's' issue and men need to be part of the solution if we are going to end it. By focusing on ways to better engage the current and future generation of men, we hope to help them use their position within the community to affect change within our culture and become strong allies in reducing incidents of these crimes. We can also help promote healthy views on masculinity and gender equality.

Critical Elements

- This priority area has been identified by the collective (it is one of three: men and boys addressing violence, coordination along the service spectrum and informal supports) and aligns with the I2L2 model (Impact, Influence, Leverage and Learning).
- Working with an expert and relying on promise practice research is critical (CDVC is engaged with Shift from the University of Calgary).
- CDVC emphasizes working from a collective impact model, recognizing that it takes time, starting to build a framework before anything else.
- The focus of CDVC is on forwarding the agenda, rather than ownership of the model. Engaging men and boys is an emerging area that "nobody is an expert in but everybody is an expert in".
- Building a framework, rationale, a theory of change, a strategy and a set of outcomes is essential to ensure that the focus of the work is clearly defined and can be communicated to others.