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Theme: Legal Services

HomeFront is a non-profit organization in Calgary that works alongside the justice system, police and community partners to help free families from domestic violence. Through a unique collaborative model, HomeFront works to ensure that victims are safer and offenders are being held accountable.

#### *Critical Elements*

- Model developed a collaborative response in an urban setting, different approaches may be required in a rural setting;
- Emphasis on well developed relationship with justice partners, including police and courts (dedicated Domestic Violence Court); that is guided by a common purpose;
- Protocols guiding information sharing are in place and balance the issues of risk and consent);
- Co-location with police particularly valuable in information sharing;
- Use of assessment tools is tempered by professional judgement;
- Caseworkers focus on victim and children's safety and ensure that victims' wishes are considered in the justice system;
- HomeFront, court and treatment work together to keep offenders accountable through treatment and judicial approaches.