



2022

DATA: BELEASE

Data release of ACWS member shelter experiences in Alberta from April 1, 2021 - March 31, 2022

ACWS acknowledges the traditional lands upon which we live, work, and play.

We recognize that all Albertans are Treaty people and have a responsibility to understand our history so that we can learn from the past, be aware of the present, and create a just and caring future. ACWS celebrates and values the resiliency, successes, and teachings that Indigenous people have shown us, as well as the unique contributions of every Albertan.

The ACWS office is located on Treaty 6 land in Amiskwacîwâskahikan, which is the traditional territory of the Plains Cree

and an ancient gathering place of many Indigenous peoples for thousands of years. These lands have also been home to, and a central trading place of, the Blackfoot, Nakota, Assiniboine, Dene, and the Métis people of western Canada.

We honour the courage and strength of Indigenous women. We honour them as life givers and care givers as we honour and learn from their continuing achievements, their consistent strength, and their remarkable endurance.

Our members serve all nations and all peoples. They are located on Treaty 4, 6, 7, and 8 lands across this province which include the six Métis regions of Alberta.

About ACWS and the Data Release

The Alberta Council of Women's Shelters (ACWS) is the provincial network organization of domestic violence shelters in Alberta.

We bring close to four decades of experience and knowledge to serve our 39 members operating over 50 shelters across the province for people facing domestic violence and abuse. Every year, ACWS compiles and analyzes the data provided by its members from the previous fiscal year. This data provides important insight into the experiences of domestic violence survivors and the frontline agencies that support them.

A note about gendered language:

ACWS recognizes that domestic violence and abuse happens to people of all genders. Shelters serve a wide range of people and in order to reflect this experience, we have used gender neutral language in this report wherever possible. However, it is important to note that those who identify as women, girls and gender minorities are at an increased risk of experiencing gender-based violence, more severe forms of gender-based violence, and longer-lasting psychological and socioeconomic impacts of violence¹.

This is reflected in this report:

98.5% of the individuals served in ACWS member shelters during the last fiscal year identify as women.

1.1% identify as men.

0.4% identify as another gender.

People of all genders can access support from ACWS member shelters. We affirm the importance and the need for resources and supports for gender-diverse people who have experienced violence, as well as safe spaces for them to share and discuss their experiences. Scarcity of resources and aging shelter stock in our sector means that not all shelters, at this point in time, may be able to serve all genders well. 5 ACWS member shelters offer residential stays to men, and all ACWS member shelters can provide support and services over the phone, in addition to other programming which may include programs specifically for men.

Given that women are overwhelmingly harmed by gender-based violence, our work at ACWS focuses on those individuals who identify as women, but we stand as allies with survivors of all gender identities and sexual orientations and pro-actively affirm the dignity of all, in our pursuit of a world free from violence and abuse.



What The Public Needs to Know about Domestic Violence in Alberta

The Cost of Domestic Violence to Albertans

Domestic violence has serious implications for the individuals involved. But it is also a whole of society issue: a public health crisis, a human rights and equality crisis, and a resource crisis. The financial costs of this violence in the province are substantive, and the personal costs of pain and suffering inflicted on survivors, their children and families as well as the additional costs of misogyny and racism experienced in the broader community are staggering.

In addition to this immense human toll, domestic violence places an enormous cost on our already strained and hardworking government and community resources. We all pay the bills, generation after generation: in the health system, the criminal justice system, the education system and in both rural and urban parts of the province.

There are a number of models used to identify the costs of domestic violence. One model looks at annual cost. A University of Calgary study (2011) argued that a conservative estimate cost the citizens of Alberta over \$100m per year.² Another model is to identify the cost per incident. A University of Saskatchewan study (2016) showed that the direct costs to taxpayers of one serious incident of domestic violence is \$85,573.3 Stats Canada reported 13,291 incidents of police-reported domestic violence in Alberta in 2019.4 That results in an estimated total cost of \$1.14 billion to Albertans in only one year, and this is only including incidents that were reported—most remain unreported.5



Shelters received 65,390 calls seeking support

Of those calls, **25,530** were calls to request admission. Only **16.6%** of those calls resulted in the shelter being able to provide admission to the caller⁶. (See section on turn-aways, p.6).

20,791 were requests for information.

16,260 were calls for crisis support.

2,809 were for other reasons.



69 older adults were admitted to senior shelters

Older adults experience intimate partner abuse, but also abuse from adult children, grandchildren, or other family members, and an increasing number are experiencing abuse and harm from roommates.

Most seniors requesting help are experiencing emotional, physical, and/or economic abuse. Two ACWS member shelters are dedicated to serving seniors, one in Edmonton and one in Calgary.



7,303 accessed outreach services from shelters⁷

Outreach services include safety planning, general counselling and support, assistance finding affordable housing, and advocacy, among many other services. These services can be accessed without the client residing at the shelter, or by clients who have transitioned from living in a shelter to living in the broader community.



7,620 were sheltered (this number includes 4,182 women and 3,373 children, 48 men, and 17 who indicated another gender.)

6,989 were admitted to emergency shelters.

Emergency shelters offer short-term residential support.

631 women and children were admitted to second stage shelters.

Second stage shelters, also known as transitional housing, are accommodations for clients who need a longer-term stay that still has access to the supports that shelters can provide—including safety/security, legal support, counselling, and more.



Women who have been subject to multiple and repeat turn-aways experience escalations in the complexity of their cases, and many are now sleeping rough. The ripple effect in terms of systemic costs is enormous.

- Calgary shelter director



TURN-AWAYS: Shelters are under-resourced. This means not everyone gets the help they need.



11,546 requests for admission were by women and seniors who had to be turned away due to shelters being at physical capacity, along with 6,241 children who would have accompanied them had there been space.



7,570 requests by women and seniors were turned away for other reasons, along with 3,336 children who would have accompanied a parent into shelter.8

A "turn-away" is a request to stay at the shelter that shelter staff are unable to accommodate because of capacity (the shelter is full), or because the shelter does not have enough staff to support them (staffing shortages), or because the shelter does not have the resources to meet the complexity of their needs safely (for example, a person whose substance use could negatively impact children and other shelter residents, with mental health concerns that the shelter doesn't have the appropriate resources to support, or other needs that the shelter is not resourced for.)

A note about waitlists: Not all shelters currently gather waitlist data or use a waitlist as part of their intake procedure. Currently, there are three second stage shelters in Calgary who use a common intake process and keep a waitlist for clients who would otherwise be counted as turn-aways. This means that these particular shelters are reporting fewer turn-aways, because people who might otherwise be counted among the turn-aways are placed on a waiting list until space is available.

Among the 3 second stage shelters in Calgary who share a common intake process:



Single survivors spent an average of **6 months** on the waitlist.



Survivors with children spent an average of **1.5 months** on the waitlist.



The two most common factors that contributed to waitlist times were lack of shelter capacity and lack of an available apartment with the number of bedrooms the survivor needed due to family size.



Families of all sizes need access to second stage shelters. Finding accommodation can be especially difficult for mothers with several children. Often, all the 3-bedroom apartments are full. What we really need is a variety of transitional housing units, including townhouses and singlefamily homes to support families of varying sizes. These units would require a mobile support team. This would be an effective model to support clients while helping them transition back into the community.

- Shelter director





No place to go

Our members tell us that people turned away from shelter may have limited options for a safe place to stay. Many will end up sleeping in cars, on the streets, living temporarily with friends or relatives, or returning to their abuser.

There is a critical need for safe and affordable housing in the province of Alberta. In 2021, 10% of Alberta families could not afford suitable and adequate housing in their community. Current estimates project that by 2025, 65,000 families in Calgary alone will be in need of affordable housing, 10 and that by 2026, there will be an additional 59,000 families in need in Edmonton. 11 This affordable housing crisis may be amplified in rural Alberta. According to a recent study,

24% of people living in rural areas are unable to find affordable housing that meets their needs, a percentage that is twice the national average.¹²

The length of time a client stays in shelter is impacted by a variety of factors including affordability of local housing markets and the availability of community supports, factors which deeply affect a survivor's ability to re-establish themselves safely in the community following a shelter stay. If they are unable to secure an affordable place to live, they may find themselves back in a precarious or unsafe living situation, including returning to their abuser. This happens when survivors have nowhere else to go.

Emergency Shelter Length of Stay

Region	% of clients who stayed in shelter				
	Up to 1 week	1-3 weeks	More than 3 weeks		
Calgary	24.3%	33.3%	42.4%		
Edmonton	30.7%	34.8%	34.6%		
Small municipalities	44.7%	30.2%	25.1%		
Small towns and rural areas	50%	29.7%	20.3%		

Second Stage Shelter Length of Stay

Region	% of clients who stayed in shelter				
	Up to 3 months	3-6 months	6 months - 1 year	More than 1 year	
Calgary	13.7%	16.4%	41.4%	28.8%	
Edmonton	26.3%	21.2%	44.7%	7.9%	
Small municipalities	22.9%	22.9%	40%	14.3%	
Small towns and rural areas	46.4%	17.9%	14.3%	21.4%	

Key takeaways: a significant portion of survivors need longer stays in shelter to support their safety and well-being. Research suggests that the longer a survivor remains in shelter, the more likely they are to make progress in their goals and to secure long-term housing once they leave the shelter.¹³ All survivors should be able to stay in shelter for as long as they need, and all shelters should have the funding and resources to ensure that this is possible.

Shelters need appropriate funding

There is a staffing crisis in the shelter sector generated by stagnant wages which are substantially below market value, and staff exhaustion, as they have been providing an essential service throughout the pandemic. Stagnant funding contributes to high turnover and impedes staff recruitment. Funding for shelter staff is based on the provincial government's staffing model; shelters have had frozen salaries for close to a decade with few adjustments made to the model since the last century. Their basic operating costs have also been frozen.

Inflationary pressures on shelter operating costs, along with a drop in donations for many ACWS members, have made shelter budgets even tighter. Currently, shelters in some communities are unfunded and must fundraise all of their operating costs.

Shelters need appropriate funding in order to be able to recruit and retain qualified staff—this is essential to their ability to meet the needs of the people who need help.



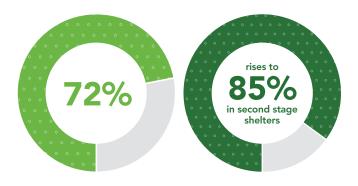
Frontline shelter workers provide care and support for people with complex needs around domestic violence, while also supporting them to navigate the multiple and intricate systems. The complex needs of clients seem to have been heightened by COVID, while the systems used by clients had their operations affected or closed by COVID. At the same time, frontline staff had to deal with the complex needs of their own life and family that was created by COVID (some being fearful of getting sick, isolation, school closures and childcare) causing a lot of uncertainty and change at the workplace and in their home life.

- Northern Alberta shelter director





Survivors are in severe and extreme danger.



of survivors who completed the Danger Assessment in emergency shelters were at severe or extreme risk of being killed by their partner or ex-partner. In second stage shelters, this number rises to 85%.14

The Danger Assessment (DA) is a validated tool developed by Dr. Jacquelyn Campbell that has been used by shelters in Alberta for almost two decades. It measures a person's risk of being killed by a current or former partner. Completing the assessment with a shelter worker is voluntary. It can help survivors understand the danger they are in and make informed decisions about their safety.



2,863

safety plans were developed with survivors in shelter and through outreach.

Domestic violence shelters can help survivors create a safety plan, which is a personalized, practical plan to support their safety while in a relationship, planning to leave, or after they leave.







reported being **strangled** by their partner.

reported that their partner forced them to have sex.





reported that their partner has threatened to kill them.

reported that they believe their partner is capable of killing them—this number is up over 10% from a decade earlier and has remained at its current level over the last 4 years.

This year's data release does not include police reported cases of domestic violence as experiences varied between police services across the province. Police statistics are unable to paint a full picture as domestic violence is chronically under-reported; not all forms of abuse are considered to be physically violent or criminal in nature, and there are multiple reasons women may be hesitant to seek police involvement. It is estimated that the large majority (80%) of spousal victims do not report the violence to the police.15

We have seen a huge increase in overdoses. There was no record of overdoses in the shelter prior to 2020. We have about one a month now.

- Alberta shelter in an urban area

22



had high to very high complexity overall, indicating that people facing domestic violence are often facing many other **traumatic and impactful** life circumstances at the same time.

Survivors of violence have increasingly complex needs.

Many ACWS members use a standardized assessment tool developed by ACWS, the MOSAIC, or Measure of Survivor Assessments Illustrating Complexity.

The MOSAIC is a tool which is used to better understand how many different circumstances in a survivor's life can intersect in ways that intensify their experience of domestic violence and increase their need for support as they recover. It records the presence of factors which can cause additional barriers to a survivor's healing journey. The MOSAIC was developed for use in second stage shelters, and thus far has predominantly been used there.

In 2021/22 the MOSAIC indicated that among the individuals who completed the tool in second stage shelters:



had moderate to high complexity in exposure to oppression and marginalization (for example, people who identify as Indigenous, Black, or people of colour, members of the 2SLGBTQ+ community, and newcomers).



had moderate to high complexity in issues involving **housing**.





had moderate to high complexity in issues involving **substance use.**

had moderate to high complexity in issues involving **mental health.**

A note about substance use: Research demonstrates a significant link between exposure to domestic violence and substance use. The use of alcohol or drugs can provide a temporary distraction and relief for people who are coping with either current or past experiences of domestic violence. Shelters are often in the difficult position of trying to support clients who engage in substance use that could negatively impact children and other shelter residents, while also maintaining everyone's safety while in shelter. Most shelters do not have the appropriate staff or resources to be able to function as a detox facility in addition to the other work they do. This problem is exacerbated in rural areas where detox beds are limited or nonexistent.



We lost one individual to an overdose while they were in shelter. This is an extremely traumatic event for everyone involved. We don't have a medical model; the shelter is not set up to be able to provide a level of support that could have prevented this.

- Alberta shelter in a small urban centre





Positive Outcomes and Ongoing Barriers

What happens when survivors transition back into the community?

One of the best tools we have for reporting on the positive impact shelters make on the lives of their clients is the Goal Attainment Tool, which measures the progress clients make as they work towards rebuilding their lives. Clients set goals for themselves during the intake process, and report on their progress as they work through shelter programming.¹⁷

56% of clients who set goals reported good progress or completed at least one goal.



of clients made progress on safety, childcare, parenting, and physical health goals, which speaks to survivors' incredible determination to care for themselves and their families even through the most difficult circumstances.

Goal attainment can also help to identify areas where systemic barriers are limiting clients' probability of meeting their goals. In 2021/22, clients who participated in Goal Attainment encountered more barriers in areas including basic needs (necessities like prescriptions, dental care, clothing, food security), legal issues, employment, education, and housing.



A program such as **Universal Basic Income** (UBI) would be highly beneficial to survivors escaping domestic violence. UBI would allow people the dignity of making their own choices while supporting their ability to meet the basic needs of themselves and their children.



Many survivors of domestic abuse have experienced economic abuse and may have limited resources to access legal support. They may have limited or no employment and are likely to be the primary caregiver for children with no access to or control over the family's finances. These financial restrictions often place them at a significant disadvantage as they try to navigate the complexities of the legal system. Abusers are also known to use the court system as another way to wield control over their former partners, using legal avenues to manipulate and intimidate their (ex)partner. A program to provide free legal support to domestic violence survivors would help address this issue.

Emergency Shelters – Residential Admissions

Second Stage Shelters – Residential Admissions



While the pandemic made survivors more fearful to seek help, we are seeing admissions rise to prepandemic levels and we anticipate that this will continue to increase, while shelters remain under-resourced.



This course was amazing. I wish everyone would take it. I'm going to start changing the conversation. I already have begun discussing it with colleagues and friends and family and I hope to help change things.

- Online training participant



Prevention & Intervention Go Together

Shelters provide much more than a bed. In addition to all the violence intervention work shelters do, they also do prevention work—educating and connecting with people in their communities to work towards a world free from violence and abuse. **Shelters fundraise to support a significant portion of their prevention work;** standard shelter contracts do not specifically earmark funding for prevention activities. ACWS member organizations participate in Leading Change™ initiatives and through a train-the-trainer model are given tools to lead violence prevention work in their local communities.

Leading Change™ is Our Call to Action

Leading Change™ is the prevention arm of ACWS and offers tailored gender-based violence prevention training to workplaces, schools, government, sports groups, and communities.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, Leading Change™ adapted its programming to meet the changing circumstances caused by the pandemic and to ensure that gender-based violence prevention work continued to make progress across Alberta even in the midst of a global health crisis.

In 2021/22, Leading Change™ facilitated both online and in-person training activities, including new training that has been developed specifically for family lawyers. We also continued to distribute the Leading Change Expansion Pack, which is a subscription-style box filled with activities and information to help people better understand how they can be actively engaged in interrupting and changing cultures of gender-based violence, and that they can work through at their own pace.



through Leading Change™

programming.



Over 600 Leading Change™ Expansion Packs delivered to every region of Alberta and across Canada.



Leading Change™ is highly effective. In 2021/22, almost 90% of evaluation respondents agreed that as a result of taking Leading Change™ training they had a better understanding of gender-based violence, were better able to participate in discussions about gender-based violence, and were better able to support people experiencing gender-based violence or to otherwise take action against gender-based violence.



I found it to be packed with evidence-backed information on evaluating situations for abuse, taking trauma-informed approaches and determining the risk of harm to children. This would be especially useful training for the judiciary, but I think the content is excellent and will be helpful in centering my practice around the clients' evidence-backed needs no matter what their situation is coming into my office. Thanks!

- Legal training participant



Frontline Perspective: Shelter Stories

*All names have been changed to protect identities.

From Client to Volunteer

Margaret* now volunteers at the shelter where she was once a client, sharing her story and supporting the people living there.



-(66)

Last year I was at the end of my rope in a relationship I had been in for several years. I was in a very toxic relationship with my partner, which included verbal and emotional abuse on a daily basis. I was referred to the shelter and spent the summer there and it was the greatest thing that could have ever have happened to me. When you're in a situation like this you don't really know what to do, where to go, who to have help you. At first, you're petrified, but you find as the days progress, you meet a lot of wonderful women and some men that work at the shelter, and they are like angels on the ground. They help each and every one of us to get our self-esteem back and teach us how to start over. It was a tough process, but very rewarding. 10 months later, living in my own home again, I am still supported, and it has been a wonderful experience that has allowed me to pass along my knowledge to anyone that is interested in hearing my story.

"

- Calgary shelter

Journey to Freedom

Domestic violence can happen to anyone. Shelters offer wraparound supports within a continuum of services to meet clients' unique needs.

-(66)

Nancy* is an intelligent, professional woman with a master's degree and a first-generation newcomer to Canada. Her husband had similar credentials and held a leadership position in the family's church and community. Nancy shared that her husband treated her like a queen in the beginning, but things quickly changed as they had children. He would accuse her of being disrespectful if she disagreed with him about anything or said 'no' to any request. He was very controlling and required Nancy to literally kneel and submit to him.

Nancy was consumed with guilt and shame when she came for her intake interview and moved into the second stage shelter with her children. She wondered how 'an educated, independent woman' could have let this happen to her and that her kids had to witness it. In shelter, she learned to identify the abuse in her marriage, which came in many forms. She is dealing with the effects of trauma on her and her children, and the financial fall out of long-term financial abuse. She has also had to deal with judgement and hostility from some of their community and friends. Luckily, Nancy did have the support of her family and some community members.

Nancy took a few months off from her high-pressure job and then returned. She has since received a promotion. She is an amazing woman, a very good mother, a new voice and advocate in the fight against domestic violence, and an asset to our community. It has been and remains a pleasure to serve her and her children.



'')

- Edmonton shelter





When we first met Alex*, an almost 2-year-old boy, when he and his mother came to shelter, we fell in love with his big bright eyes and beautiful dark and curly hair. When he joined our program, he was shy, quiet, and overwhelmed by the adjustment to the new routine of being in the program. He didn't feel comfortable with new people, could not settle in the room, and was non-verbal. However, with time, love, and care from educators, Alex became a confident and independent little boy. It took him a couple of months to slowly start to interact more with staff and to begin to engage in playful activities with peers. Now Alex has meaningful connections with staff and the other children. After our Family Day celebration, Alex went home so happy, he was dancing in the hallway and waving at everyone walking by. Every morning, when he comes to childcare, he greets everyone with a huge smile on his face. He is so excited to see his friends and ready to play!

- Edmonton shelter

Cultural Supports

INDIGENOUS LIAISON PROGRAM

Wheatland Crisis Society, Strathmore



This program offers all families and clients accessing the shelter information on Indigenous practices and traditions, as well as education surrounding the impact of residential schools. The program also focuses on supporting Indigenous clients with culturally sensitive support and trauma-informed care. Some of the programming that our Indigenous Liaison Worker offers is advocacy from a culturally specific perspective, smudging practices, drumming groups, language support, and beading. Our Indigenous Liaison worker has also worked towards fostering better relationships and collaboration in the community, especially with our local Reserve. This role has been imperative in reconciliation efforts and in building better relationships with the Indigenous families that we serve.



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MULTICULTURAL NEEDS

Maskan Safe-Home for Women and Children, Calgary





Our shelter is a safe transitional home for women and children fleeing domestic violence. The unique value of Maskan is in the integration of multicultural competence in services and programs for immigrants, newcomers, refugees, and culturally diverse communities. For example, something as simple as being able to offer Halal food can make a huge difference for women who might otherwise not reach out for support. Our shelter receives no funding from the provincial government, which is extremely challenging given we have sheltered over 500 women and children since our doors opened in 2019.

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Poverty continues to be an impactful factor in the complexity of many clients who are served by shelters. While many shelters have a mandate that focuses on women who are in crisis because of domestic violence, many also serve as a hub of support for people in need within the community.

Food Insecurity

COMMUNITY KITCHENS PROGRAM

Stepping Stones Crisis Society, Cold Lake



We launched Community Kitchens in February of 2019, to support the women in our second stage housing program develop important kitchen skills to support them in providing healthy, nutritious, and budget-friendly meals for themselves and their children. Very shortly after that, we expanded the program to support our outreach clients and then began including participants from multiple other agencies. Not only did this program teach valuable food skills, it allowed moms the opportunity to interact and connect with other moms and build lasting supports.

When COVID hit, we shifted our program to the Second Helping Program, as so many of our clients were facing food insecurity in addition to all the stresses of the pandemic. This program offers free, nutritious, fully prepared meals one day per week. This has now grown to provide meals for clients facing food insecurity who are not necessarily clients of the shelter. Because we had a grant to offer this program, but not a location where

we could have people stopping in to pick up the meals, we offer the meals to those accessing other supports. This is set up so that workers from other agencies (Healthy Babies, FASD, Chaplain's Office, etc.) notify us how many meals they will need, and then that agency picks up the meals and distributes them. We have also recently been working with the outreach workers in the schools, as they are seeing the children who are going without food. We have set up a second day per week for the schools (due to our capacity) and provide family meals where needed.

Our grant is currently done, and while we are now ready to switch back to in-person Community Kitchens, the food insecurity among our most vulnerable community members is increasing, not decreasing, so we are looking to find additional funding.

To date, we have provided over 5,600 meals.

Over Capacity and Under Resourced

Mountain Rose Women's Shelter Association, Rocky Mountain House



We opened the new Mountain Rose Centre in September of 2019. This increased the bed capacity from 10 beds to 22 beds, which was thought would meet the needs of our community. In the last year, the Emergency Shelter has on a regular basis operated with more than 22 women and children in the shelter. This is due to a variety of reasons: a lack of rooms able to accommodate families with several children; increase in gender-based violence; women accessing services with complex needs (staying longer), and lack of affordable housing across the province.

The impacts of operating over capacity on a regular basis are the increase in costs for food, resources, utilities, etc. It also impacts staff wellness—we don't have the resources to increase the staffing model, so staff on shift must do more to meet the needs of all the clients in the shelter. The staff team has a willingness to 'make it work' as we navigate having to move clients around to accommodate a new family or to support a woman impacted with an addictions disorder. A shelter can't operate without that well-oiled staff team who are the first responders for all persons impacted by gender-based violence, but they can't operate at over capacity forever without suffering the consequences of burnout. It's not sustainable.



- Emergency **1,879**
- Second Stage 28

Shelters provided 31,023 services to adults, children, and seniors

Edmonton admissions of adults and children

- Emergency **1,226**
- Second stage 106
- Edmonton Senior admissions 24

Calgary admissions of adults and children

- Emergency **1,092**
- Second stage **358**
- Calgary Senior admissions 45

 HIGH LEVEL FT. MCMURRAY • • PEACE RIVER SLAVE LAKE GRANDE PRAIRIE COLD LAKE WESTLOCK GRANDE CACHE LLOYDMINSTER **EDMONTON** CAMROSE JASPER WETASKIWIN • RED DEER BANFF **CALGARY** MEDICINE HAT LETHBRIDGE

Northern Alberta

Central Alberta

Southern Alberta

2,863 Safety plans developed with survivors

Shelters connected survivors to other supports 19,362 times

Central Alberta

admissions of adults and children (excluding Edmonton)

- Emergency **1,302**
- Second stage 119

Southern Alberta

admissions of adults and children (excluding Calgary)

- Emergency **1,421**
- Second Stage **20**

List of sheltering organizations that participated in the 2021/22 Data Release

Brooks and District Women's Safe Shelter Society

Canadian Pakistani Support Group Association

Camrose Women's Shelter Society

Capella Center Alberta

Catholic Social Services

Central Alberta Women's Emergency Shelter Society

Central Alberta Outreach Society

Discovery House Family Violence Prevention Society

Edmonton Women's Shelter Ltd.

Fairview and District Women's Center Association

FearlsNotLove (formerly the Calgary Women's Emergency Shelter Society)

Grande Cache Transition House Society

Grande Prairie Women's Residence Association Hope Haven Society

Jessica Martel Memorial Foundation

Kerby Assembly

Lloydminster Interval Home Society Inc.

Lurana Shelter Society

Medicine Hat Women's Shelter Society

Mountain Rose Women's Shelter Society

Northern Haven Support Society

Northwest Alberta Resource Society

Peace River Regional Women's Shelter Society

Pincher Creek Women's Emergency Shelter Association

Rowan House Society

Safe Haven Women's Shelter Society

Sage Seniors Association

Sonshine Society of Christian Community Services

Stepping Stones Crisis Society (formerly known as the Dr. Margaret Savage Crisis Center Society)

Stoney Tribal Administration

Strathcona Shelter Society Ltd.

Heart Home Network (formerly known as The Brenda Strafford Society for the Prevention of Domestic Violence)

Waypoints Community Services Association

Wellspring Family Resource & Crisis Centre Society

Wheatland Crisis Society

Wings of Providence Society

Yellowhead Emergency Shelter for Women Society

YWCA Calgary

YWCA of Banff

YWCA of Lethbridge and District

Footnotes

- Alexa R. Yakbubovich and Krys Maki, "Preventing Gender-Based Homelessness in Canada During the COVID-19 Pandemic and Beyond: The Need to Account for Violence Against Women," Violence Against Women 28, no. 10 (2020); Marina Morrow, Olena Hanvisky, and Colleen Varcoe, "Women and Violence: The Effects of Dismantling the Welfare State," Critical Social Policy 24, no. 3 (2004).
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 A Cost Savings Perspective," The School of Public Policy Research Papers 5, no. 17 (2011),
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 of%20Domestic%20Violence%20in%20Alberta.pdf.
- "Economic Impact: The Cost of One Incidence of Domestic Violence," The Circle Project
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- Shana Conroy, "Family violence in Canada: A statistical profile, 2019," Canadian Centre for Justice and Community Safety Statistics (2021). https://www150.statcan.gc.ca/n1/pub/85-002-x/2021001/article/00001-eng.htm
- Conroy, Shana. "Spousal Violence in Canada, 2019." Government of Canada, Statistics Canada, 6 Oct. 2021, https://www150.statcan.gc.ca/n1/pub/85-002-x/2021001/article/00016-eng.htm
- This number was determined using the number of adults who were admitted for residential stays in shelter. It does not include the number of children who accompanied adults.
- 7. These numbers are slightly lower than the previous year. As COVID-19 restrictions have lifted, more people have sought services in shelter. Additionally, not all shelters have reported their outreach numbers. Some shelters have experienced turnover in their outreach and data staff positions, which may have resulted in a reduced capacity to gather this data.
- 8. These numbers refer to the total number of people who were turned away from shelter services, and may include survivors who were turned away more than once. The impact of being turned away from shelter services is devastating, and that impact increases exponentially when a survivor is repeatedly turned away.
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