

Collaborative Service Delivery Site for Victims of Sexual and Domestic Violence

What is the “Collaborative Service Delivery Site”?

There are many excellent services in the Kingston area for individuals who have experienced sexual violence and/or partner abuse; however, victims and survivors are often required to visit many different agencies or locations in order to get the support and services they need. A coalition of community professionals and service providers are currently working together to establish a single, centrally-located site where male and female victims and survivors will be able to access a wide variety of acute/crisis intervention services, practical supports, and short and long term supportive counselling services: a **“one stop” service delivery site** for victims and survivors of sexual and domestic violence.

The Collaborative Service Delivery Site (CSDS) will not replace any of the existing services in Kingston but rather will serve as an **additional direct service option** for victims and survivors of sexual violence and partner abuse, and their children. The service providers and professionals at the CSDS will work together in a cooperative and collaborative manner to develop and implement a service delivery plan designed to meet each client’s unique needs.

Where will it be located?

The CSDS will be centrally located in Kingston, Ontario.

When will it be open?

The community coalition hopes the CSDS will be operational by or before December 2011.

Who’s involved in this initiative?

A coalition of community partners has been established to develop the CSDS including representatives from:

- City of Kingston, Social Services
- Crown Attorney’s Office
- Frontenac Children’s Aid Society
- Kingston Community Counselling Centre (K3C)
- Kingston General Hospital, SA/DV Program
- Kingston Interval House Kingston Police Services
- Legal Aid Ontario: Duty Counsel Services
- Pathways for Children & Youth
- Sexual Assault Centre, Kingston
- Victim Witness Assistance Program

Can I or my agency get involved?

Agencies, organizations and professionals who work with victims of sexual or domestic violence in any capacity, or who are interested in ensuring that these members of our community have access to effective, coordinated services, are welcome to serve on the community coalition or on one or more of the committees working to develop the CSDS.

The **community coalition** meets approximately once a month to address various issues relating to the mandate, philosophy and structure of the CSDS, identify priorities for action, and oversee and coordinate the specific tasks and activities undertaken by the various committees involved in the initiative.

Small **work groups**, or committees, meet as needed to complete specific tasks. Work groups are currently developing a funding strategy for the CSDS, exploring requirements and options for a centrally-located site, and developing the service delivery model that will be embraced by all partner agencies.

In addition, a **Survivors' Advisory Council**, comprised of male and female survivors of partner abuse and/or sexual violence, has been established to work cooperatively with the work groups and ensure that the voices, perspectives and needs of the people we serve are well represented during the development of the CSDS and its services. The Council will be "opened" to accept new members periodically during the development phase of this initiative.

Tell me more about the service delivery model

The community coalition has developed and adopted a collection of "Working Agreements" to guide and inform the ongoing work of the coalition and the work groups. These Agreements outline the basic mandate and services of the CSDS.

The Programs & Services Work Group is currently working with the Survivors' Advisory Council to develop the service delivery model and confirm the specific supports and services that will be available at the CSDS.

To date, the coalition has confirmed their commitment to:

- providing services which acknowledge and speak to the relationship between sexual violence and partner abuse
- developing effective strategies to address the cycle of violence within intimate relationships and the inter-generational cycle of violence
- working collaboratively with clients and adopting a flexible approach to the pace, direction and duration of intervention
- evaluating the programs and services on an ongoing basis with attention to short and long term benefits experienced by clients, service providers and the community-at-large

How can I get more information about the CSDS?

If you are interested in learning more about the collaborative service delivery site or the community coalition, please contact:

Lisa Fox, Co-Chair of Community Coalition
Kingston Interval House
613-546-1833 ext. 38
lisaf@kingston.net

Inspector Antje McNeely, Co-Chair of Community Coalition
Kingston Police Service
613-549-4660 ext. 6118
amcneely@kpf.ca

Additional background information about the Collaborative Service Delivery Site can also be found at www.kfacc.org

Date: January 2009