

I AM

POWER

Not knowing where to go in my time of adversity, I discovered a place of hope. The YWCA empowered me by helping me find the strength to be a better mom, the resources to be a leader and the educational opportunities to turn my fear into freedom. This power is mine, forever.

YWCA OF

The YWCA of Calgary is one of the oldest and most established social service organizations in Calgary. During our more than 100 year history, we have touched tens of thousands of lives and have evolved our programming to meet the changing needs of women in our community. Focused on family violence prevention and supports for women experiencing poverty, the YWCA of Calgary provides a continuum of services focused on moving women from a position of vulnerability to one of sustainable health and opportunity.

EMERGENCY & SUPPORTIVE HOUSING

Finding a secure place to stay when experiencing family violence or crisis can be a daunting prospect. The YWCA of Calgary offers a continuum of emergency and supportive housing and shelter options for women and their children. Sheriff King Home is a 42-bed emergency shelter where abused women can stay up to 21 days.

Mary Dover House offers 94 beds of safe, affordable, short-term transitional housing and six emergency beds to women experiencing homelessness. Support services including assistance in meeting basic needs, therapy, counselling, provision of life skills and housing referrals are provided.

Sheriff King Home Shelter
Mary Dover House
Community Housing

FAMILY VIOLENCE PREVENTION PROGRAMS

The impact of family violence can reverberate through all members of a family and become an inter-generational pattern. That's why the YWCA of Calgary is committed to the wellness, education and security of women, children, youth and men.

Through numerous therapeutic, skill building and supervised visitation programs, counsellors focus on breaking cycles of abuse and supporting clients in making positive changes that facilitate recovery and healing.

Outreach Services
Supervised Access Services
Women's & Men's Therapy Programs
Child & Youth Therapy Programs
Parenting Programs
High Conflict Custody Parenting Program

CALGARY

LANGUAGE & EMPLOYMENT SKILLS FOR NEW CANADIANS

For more than a century, the YWCA of Calgary has supported newcomers to Calgary with skill building and language instruction programs that help people establish new lives. When women and men build their English language

skills and gain an understanding of local workplace expectations, their employment prospects and ability to participate fully in the community increase.

Language Instruction for Newcomers to Canada (LINC)
English for New Canadians
Canadian Employment Skills

CHILD & YOUTH DEVELOPMENT

To grow up great, children and youth need quality experiences that focus on their emotional, social and cognitive development.

Community-based programs offer opportunities for families to learn valuable communication and conflict resolution skills and strive for healthier relationships. Youth programs foster

leadership development and positive community engagement. The YWCA of Calgary's accredited child care centres offer high-quality services at subsidized rates for qualifying families. Professional caregivers emphasize creative play, provide a structured environment and offer opportunities for exploration, discovery and positive growth.

Child Care Centre
Child Care at Bow Valley College
Community, Parent and School Support (COMPASS)
Youth Leadership
Chill Zone After School Drop In
Parent Link Corridor

VERMILION ENERGY/YWCA SKILLS TRAINING CENTRE

Increasing the participation of women in non-traditional careers in trades benefits women, employers and society.

Through a 20-week program, the Vermilion Energy/YWCA Skills

Training Centre helps women build basic construction and communication skills, an understanding of site safety and a view to long-term employment that will enable them to thrive.

Vermilion Energy/YWCA Skills Training Centre

LEADING THE WAY FOR WOMEN IN OUR COMMUNITY

The YWCA is committed to leading a collective effort to end family violence and poverty in our city. We explore new avenues with our partners to lead the way by supporting vulnerable women and children as they move from unsafe, unhealthy and dependent environments to safe, economically stable environments that foster independence. Through the implementation of our strategies, we encourage YWCA supporters, partners and alumni to be leaders themselves by mentoring and supporting those who follow them.

“There are staff here who really care and understand and are very supportive. No one judges.”

– YWCA Mary Dover House resident



The YWCA of Calgary has provided family violence prevention services for 30 years. As leaders in the field, we are committed to developing, coordinating and delivering our programs in order to provide women, children and men – regardless of their role in family violence – access to comprehensive services at every stage, from prevention to intervention and follow up. Through our integrated family violence prevention services, the YWCA of Calgary empowers women, children and men to make healthy, informed decisions in order to begin healing and break the cycle of violence in their family and our community.

THE “Y” OF WHAT WE DO



The vision of the YWCA of Calgary is “women thriving in a safe and equitable community.” To achieve this, we lead, empower and intervene where and when women need us most. In pursuit of the vision, we will be a catalyst to a city sensitive and responsive to the real needs of women. We will continue to be a leader in ending family violence and poverty and strive to be a workplace of choice for people committed to measurable impact.

THE NEED IN OUR COMMUNITY – FAMILY VIOLENCE PREVENTION

In the past five years, family violence incidents reported to the Calgary Police Service have increased by 31.6%.

Almost two-thirds of Calgarians are either personally affected by domestic violence or know someone who is.

On one day in 2011, Alberta women’s shelters housed 744 women and 606 children and turned away 70 women and 78 children due to lack of resources.

YWCA’S FAMILY VIOLENCE PREVENTION MEASURES

Ending an issue as persistent and complicated as family violence requires more than shelter for women and children fleeing their homes. The YWCA of Calgary offers a continuum of family violence prevention services ranging from an emergency shelter for women and children and therapeutic services for children, youth and adults to community education, information, support and referrals for families.

Looking at the needs of all family members involved with or exposed to violence, we have developed programming that allows us to intervene when and where women need us most.

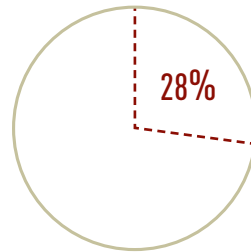
In 2011, we served 6,372 clients in family violence prevention programs, including 2,520 children.

SERVICE SUMMARY

CLIENTS SERVED BY KEY PROGRAM AREA 2011:



TOTAL PERCENTAGE OF CHILDREN SERVED ACROSS KEY PROGRAM AREA 2011:



THE NEED IN OUR COMMUNITY – POVERTY REDUCTION

In Alberta, 66% of minimum wage earners are women, and 50% of all women earn less than \$25,000 per year as compared to only 28% of men.

Women, Aboriginal persons, recent immigrants and visible minorities are more likely to have precarious employment, which is characterized by low wages, lack of benefits, lack of continuity and risk of injury and ill health.

Poverty affects a women's ability to acquire and keep safe and affordable housing.

One in four immigrants to Alberta have received recognition of their educational credentials.

YWCA'S POVERTY REDUCTION MEASURES

Through service delivery and advocacy in the areas of short-term supportive housing, language instruction services, construction trades training and child care, the YWCA of Calgary strives to bolster women's ability to thrive in a safe and equitable community.

The YWCA of Calgary is committed to remaining relevant to the changing needs of women, incorporating new and innovative social development programming to better serve our clients.

In 2011, the YWCA of Calgary served 3,100 clients in poverty reduction programs, including 275 children.

FUNDING

The work of the YWCA of Calgary is made possible through the support of government, agencies and community partners as well as donors. Ongoing investment in services and programs will enable the YWCA to be a catalyst for change for some of Calgary's most vulnerable women and children.

YWCA OF CALGARY REVENUE BY SOURCE:



The YWCA of Calgary recognizes that the issue of poverty is about more than a lack of economic resources. Poverty is a physical, emotional and social reality which results in a lack of opportunity and choice. The causes of poverty are complex and it impacts not only women and their families but the community at large. Our social development and poverty reduction initiatives are focused on the empowerment of women, providing them with the resources and training they require to transition out of poverty, increase personal capacity and experience greater social inclusion.

The YWCA of Calgary works to break the cycles of family violence and poverty by building capacity in women and their families and advocating for necessary social change. Providing a continuum of services, we give women the power and the opportunity to thrive in our community.

YWCA OF CALGARY

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