

## What's Inside

### Page 1

An Interview with Carol  
by Erin Lillywhite

### Page 2

Valued Partnership  
Honoured at the  
2009 Calgary Police  
Community Dinner

Fundraising for HomeFront

### Page 3

Hi-5 10/11 Club

E-HomeFront

### Page 4

An Interview with Carol  
(continued)

Donor Card

HomeFront Funders and  
Corporate Sponsors

## An Interview with Carol

By Erin Lillywhite, Communications Officer, HomeFront



Today I am meeting with Carol. Carol is a past client of HomeFront's and a domestic violence survivor. As part of Carol's healing process, she felt compelled to share her story, in the hopes it might help someone else. As for me, well I can only imagine the courage it takes to tell a story that is anything but a story; it is her life, a part of who she is, or who she once was.

When Carol walks in she is nervous. She starts by telling me she almost didn't make it. She almost changed her mind this morning, but thought about the difference her story could make to others and decided it was important.

Carol is a mother of two and says her kids are growing up fast, so fast that she can't believe her oldest just bought his first car. She is currently looking for fulltime work, but over the last while her focus has been on

healing and getting connected to herself again.

"Today I am stronger and more in touch with who I am, but I still have a ways to go."

I ask Carol about her experience with HomeFront and she tells me her Caseworker was amazing. "She was there with me through the court

process, but was also there whenever I needed her. On days when I started to head down the wrong path she helped steer me in the right direction. She made me realize the potential repercussions of my choice to return to my abuser. He was very manipulative and knew how to get things out of others. Once my Caseworker

---

**"I loved this man with all my heart  
and soul, but for him to hurt me,  
to give me drugs,  
take advantage of me,  
break my ribs and hurt my children;  
I knew this had to be the end."**

---

## Valued Partnership Honoured at the 2009 Calgary Police Community Dinner



Front row (left to right): Lindsay Huculak, Nadia Proano-McCloskey, Debra Mauro, Maggie MacKillip.  
Back row (left to right): Liz Frazer and Insp. Rosemary Hawkins

On May 5 HomeFront was honoured to receive the 2009 Community Policing Award at the second annual Calgary Police Commission Community Dinner, sponsored by EnCana Corporation.

Established in 2008, the Community Policing Awards recognize an individual or group who has worked with the Calgary Police Service unselfishly and in the spirit of community policing, to improve police policy and the ability of the Calgary Police Service to serve the community.

HomeFront's longstanding partnerships with the justice and law enforcement sectors, including the Domestic Conflict Unit, are undeniably critical to impacting how our city responds to domestic violence. Through our programs, such as Early Intervention & Outreach and the Specialized Domestic Violence Court, HomeFront and the Calgary Police Service are successfully responding in an improved and coordinated manner with families experiencing domestic violence.

HomeFront Board of Director, Debra Mauro, Co-Chairman of Albi Homes was pleased to accept the award on behalf of HomeFront, thanking the Calgary Police Commission by stating "HomeFront's partnership with the Calgary Police Service and the Domestic Conflict Unit is invaluable, and together we know saves more lives and keeps our families and communities safer."

"HomeFront is one of those rare organizations which demonstrate the successful mobilization of the Calgary community towards achieving a common goal," states Sergeant John Guigon of the Domestic Conflict Unit. "By bringing together social service agencies, law enforcement and the criminal justice system, HomeFront is able to deliver a coordinated, seamless and timely response to the families and individuals involved in domestic violence, ultimately working towards breaking the cycle."

Grateful to receive this award, HomeFront is reminded that as a collective of systems, this award is not only an acknowledgment of HomeFront, but also represents the hard work and dedicated success of all our partners and the community, who work together to ensure Calgary continues to be a safe and healthy place to live. **HF**

## Fundraising for HomeFront

Entering into our second year of public fundraising, HomeFront is taking steps to improve our resource development and donor stewardship capabilities.

Since January, Isabel Piggott, HomeFront's Fund Development Manager, has been involved with CentrePoint's Fund Development Plus Program and is working closely with Mentor Consultant, Barry McNamar, the Director of Operations, School of Policy Development at the University of Calgary. As part of the program, Mr. McNamar will develop a workplan with board and staff to further fundraising initiatives such as long-term planning, building a case for support and

strategizing.

HomeFront has also invested in @EASE, a fundraising asset management tool, which captures and retains data regarding our donors and volunteers, as well as shares important marketing contacts and activities that donors would like to participate in and much more. The tool will ultimately help HomeFront meet the challenge of funding our programs today and in the future.

HomeFront would like to thank Batsch Group, the designers and creators of @EASE, and CentrePoint for subsidizing their respective services, giving HomeFront a solid foundation to achieve HomeFront's long-term fundraising goals. **HF**

## Hi- 5 10/11 Club



*To recognize the positive and dedicated work of Calgary's frontline officers, HomeFront and the Calgary Police Service give a "High Five" to deserving officers for their work on a 10/11, which is police code for a domestic call.*

### Case:

During March of 2009 police officers in District 2 were involved in what could be called a 'classic case of domestic violence'.

Information was provided to police by a third party that a victim of a stabbing, currently at the hospital, may be a victim of domestic abuse. Police attended the hospital and spoke

to the victim and her partner, both of whom indicated the stabbing was accidental. Medical personnel at the hospital did not believe this to be the case, and for the victim's safety her partner was asked to leave the hospital. Even when questioned alone, the victim continued to say the stabbing was accidental. Police obtained further information from a third party that there was a substantial history of unreported abuse and that the victim had disclosed privately that the stabbing was NOT accidental.

Due to the officers' belief an assault had taken place, paired with the victim's unwillingness to provide more information, the file remained active and officers liaised with an investigator in the Domestic Conflict Unit. Based on additional information that was learned during the course of the investigation and expertise knowledge provided by a DCU investigator, a search warrant was obtained and evidence was located that supported the belief the victim was in fact assaulted by her partner. This allowed police officers to lay charges without having a written statement from the victim regarding the assault.

When allegations of criminal offences are reported to police regarding an unwilling and/or uncooperative victim of domestic violence, this can often make an investigation very complicated and more often than not, results in these cases not proceeding all the way through the justice system.

This case can be classified as 'classic' because the victim never reported the incident and at no time during the process admitted to any kind of abuse by her partner, even when faced with clear evidence to the contrary. CPS members did a fantastic job dealing with the true elements of domestic violence and created a case that is completely evidence based.

Great work! **HF**

## E-HomeFront

Over the past year, HomeFront engaged Urban Lighthouse, a technology consulting firm to help design and implement a case management web application that would store our client files electronically.

The online database, aptly named FrontLine, helps HomeFront's Court Caseworkers manage their caseload files more efficiently and effectively, by allowing real-time information sharing and access, as well as improving the security of our client files.

Launched in March of 2009, FrontLine has dramatically increased HomeFront's ability to evaluate our work by tracking entered case files and extrapolating data that pertains to our clients' demographics. We are now able to better understand the nature of our cases, how many clients we serve, if children are involved, whether they are a past complainant and much more.

For Maggie MacKillop, HomeFront's Director of Operations, one of the most important benefits of FrontLine is the ability to streamline information access across our programs. "With real-time data entry in court, our Partner Support Program is able to connect with clients once a case has been closed and can identify any high-risk files that may require immediate attention," indicates Maggie. "Likewise, once files are entered into the system by our Early Intervention & Outreach Program, the client history is accessible if the case then goes to court."

Funded by The Calgary Foundation and Alberta Health Services, the development of FrontLine is a tool that overall has enhanced HomeFront's collaborative response to be more timely and successful in ensuring victims safety and offender accountability. **HF**

made me aware of his behaviour, I knew, I didn't want to be his anymore."

Carol's story is similar to many we hear at HomeFront. After enduring abuse over the years, subjected to drugs, and having watched her children get abused, Carol had finally had enough. In 2008, Carol was held hostage in her own home by her abusive partner for two days; she was physically, emotionally and verbally abused. Determined to leave her abuser after being badly beaten, Carol escaped to her neighbors where she called the police and was taken to the hospital to be treated for her injuries. Her partner was arrested immediately and with the help of HomeFront, Carol was able to see her abuser sentenced and slowly, but confidently find herself again.

"I loved this man with all my heart and soul, but for him to hurt me, to give me drugs, take advantage of me, break my ribs

and hurt my children; I knew this had to be the end."

As an employee of HomeFront, I am always amazed by the bravery of our clients and the strength of our caseworkers and support staff. HomeFront is constantly receiving thanks from clients like Carol, who often refer to our caseworkers as their angels. I think it is this thanks, above all else, that reminds us of why we do the work we do here.

As I walk Carol to the elevator, I thank her again for coming. In turn, she thanks me for allowing her the opportunity and shares one last thought with a smile. "I had a friend tell me once that I always put other people first, and that I don't make myself a priority. Finally, I am learning to put an emphasis on me." **HF**

\*Names have been changed to maintain anonymity.

**YES! I want to help HomeFront improve the lives of those affected by domestic abuse.**

Please direct my contribution to:

- |   |               |
|---|---------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Wherever needed most                       | Amount: _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Coordinated Justice/Domestic Court Program | Amount: _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Early Intervention and Outreach Program    | Amount: _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Partner Support Program                    | Amount: _____ |

Individual donors, please provide your name and address for us to send you an income tax receipt. Corporate donors, please provide the name and address of your firm. HomeFront protects the confidentiality of your information. We do not share or sell donor lists or information.

- Tax receipt required  Non-tax receipt required

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone No. \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Postal Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Method of Payment:  Cheque enclosed  Visa  MasterCard

Cardholders Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Card no. \_\_\_\_\_ Expiry: \_\_\_\_\_

Authorized signature: \_\_\_\_\_

**Mail cheques to:** HomeFront, #501, 620 – 7 Ave. S.W., Calgary, Alberta T2P 0Y8  
For credit card donations you may phone 403-206-2100, ext. 221 or fax your form to HomeFront at 403-206-2106.

**Charitable Registration #:** 88272 1111 RR0001  Please contact me about volunteer opportunities

**HomeFront** is funded by **Alberta Children's Services, Alberta Health Services, The Calgary Foundation, City of Calgary, United Way of Calgary and Area and the Victims of Crime Fund**

**CORPORATE PARTNERS**

**Visionary**



**Innovator**



**Ambassador**

Birchcliff Energy Ltd.

**Leader**

RBC Capital Markets

**Mentor**

Agrium  
Burnet, Duckworth & Palmer LLP  
Canadian Natural Resources Ltd.  
Petro-Canada

TransCanada  
Tristone Capital Inc.

**Contributor**

ATCO Ltd.  
Canadian Pacific Railway  
Canadian Utilities Limited  
Feslesky Flynn LLP  
FirstEnergy Capital Corp.  
Fraser Milner Casgrain LLP  
Graycon Group Ltd.

Harvard Energy  
KERN Partners Ltd.  
Louis Dreyfus Canada Ltd.  
Mawer Investment Mgmt Ltd.  
Tara and Ronald P. Mathison  
Precision Drilling  
Progress Energy Ltd.  
Rencor Developments  
Scotia Waterous  
Strategic Group  
TriAxon Resources Ltd.  
Vermilion Resources Ltd.