

What's Inside

Silence is the Real Crime
Understanding the impact of domestic violence and the value in speaking up

Page 2

In the Media
Pushing the issue of family and sexual violence to the forefront of local public perception

Page 3

Welcome to the
Hi-5 10/11 Club
HomeFront recognizes the positive and dedicated work of Calgary's frontline officers

Stop the Tears Gala-
Oh What a Night
A benefit concert featuring Frankie Valli and The Four Seasons

Page 4

2008 HomeFront
Selinger Awards - Call for Nominations!
Shining the spotlight on our "unsung heroes"

Up to Par
Success of the 8th annual HomeFront Selinger Golf Tournament.

Silence is the Real Crime

With a significant increase in domestic homicides in Calgary, including the recent and devastating fatality in Bridlewood, the murder-suicide of the Lall family and the death of a Calgary local in Ottawa at the hands of her ex-fiancé, the need for citizens to understand the impact of domestic violence and the value in speaking up is ever-apparent.

Affecting people across all socio-economic strata, domestic violence impacts not only those who directly experience violent behaviour, but also friends, neighbours and co-workers etc who witness the effects of abuse and often struggle with deciding who, if anyone they should tell.

Domestic violence commonly happens behind closed doors. The inherent stigma of domestic violence causes people to believe they should not interfere in personal matters and often causes victims to refrain from speaking up and seeking support. Working with thousands of clients and families who have experienced domestic violence in their relationships, Laura Woollard, HomeFront's Manager of Early Intervention and Partner Support Programs, knows firsthand that speaking up and seeking support can make a difference and could save a life.



“Cases such as those earlier in the year illustrated to us that someone knew there were problems in the household and possibly could have prevented the inevitable,” states Laura. “Many of us are challenged with what we would do in a similar situation, but given what we have seen recently in the city, what are the potential results of not getting involved?”

Calgary has an array of services available, easily accessible and many of which offer outreach support. HomeFront’s Early Intervention and Partner Support Programs continually refer clients to many of the services available in Calgary in order to ensure everyone involved is receiving the support and care they need.

Working with clients on both ends of the continuum, Laura knows the impact of domestic violence is broader than just with the individuals at risk. “Our support callers and outreach workers take a holistic approach to addressing domestic violence. Often family members, friends or neighbours also require support and we encourage them to access appropriate resources.”

If there are concerns surrounding domestic violence, HomeFront encourages supporting the individual in need by contacting local agencies who ensure everyone involved receives the appropriate care to achieve a healthy and safe future. “You only have to pick up the phone and speak to someone,” advises Laura. “You could be the person who prevents a domestic violence tragedy.” HF

If you or someone you know is being abused, please call one of the numbers listed.

Emergency:
Police/Fire/Ambulance
911

Distress Centre
403-266-1605

Child Abuse
(Emergency Social Services)
403-297-2995

Calgary Women’s
Emergency Shelter
403-234-SAFE (7233)

Kerby Rotary House (Seniors)
403-705-3250

YWCA Sheriff King Home
Crisis Line
403-266-0707

Men’s Line
(phone Info & Support)
403-266-4357

Calgary Counselling Centre
(support/counselling)
403-691-5991

In the Media

The Calgary Domestic Violence Committee (CDVC) has recruited communications specialists from within their own organizations to help push the issue of family and sexual violence to the forefront of local public perception. To this end, a coordinated media response plan was developed by the communications sub-committee and approved by CDVC. The communications subcommittee will be responsible for monitoring the media for family and sexual violence incidents seven days a week.

When incidents occur, a CDVC communications

member will send out a press release responding to the incident. The press release will outline CDVC’s key messages, list 24-hour help numbers and contact information for experts from the committee who can immediately speak to the media about the issue in more detail.

As a result of working collaboratively, CDVC and the domestic violence sector looks forward to consistent messaging between organizations to ensure the media will be well-informed and can offer appropriate resources for those in need. HF

Welcome to the Hi-5/10-11 Club

Working together with the Calgary Police Domestic Conflict Unit and the HomeFront Hi-5/10-11 Program, "On The HomeFront" recognizes the positive and dedicated work of Calgary's frontline officers. The officers are also recognized throughout their departments and districts, with exceptional service receiving the distinguished Star Award from the Calgary Police Service.

To maintain confidentiality, only the district in which the police officer works is noted.

Taking the Time

Calgary Police Officers from District 2 responded to a domestic complaint where the male in the household indicated he had been assaulted by his spouse. Officers became suspicious after observing both parties exhibited injuries.

Taking the time to thoroughly investigate the matter, the officers interviewed both parties separately at length,

obtaining an interpreter for the female who did not speak English. After careful consideration, they determined his spouse was the victim of long time abuse.

Taking her into care, they obtained medical treatment for the woman, assisted her with finding suitable housing away from the abuser for her and her children and ensured she connected with appropriate community resources. When the victim began to express she wanted to return to the relationship, the officers attended court (which isn't required) to further ensure the victim was utilizing the resources available to her and understood the importance of her safety.

The DCU and HomeFront would like to recognize the officers' commitment to resolving this case. The officers demonstrated significant dedication, empathy, understanding and excellent service orientation. Congratulations on a job well done! HF

HOMEFRONT

Stop the Tears Gala

A Benefit Concert featuring

Frankie Valli and The Four Seasons

Tuesday, September 16th, 2008
Southern Alberta Jubilee Auditorium

A blast from the past, guests will enter a time warp celebration of the 1950s and 60s Rock 'n' Roll era featuring **Frankie Valli and The Four Seasons**. Surrounded by juke boxes and 45rpms, tickets also include a sampling of favourite dishes from local eateries and bakeries, and a Silent Auction to benefit HomeFront's domestic violence programs.

A portion of the proceeds will be directed to support domestic violence programs offered by Jewish Family Services Calgary and the YWCA Sheriff King Home.

Get your tickets now!

**Tickets: \$175 To order tickets contact
Shone Thistle at 403.206.2100 ext.221.**

www.homefrontcalgary.com

2008 HomeFront Selinger Awards - Call for Nominations!



With a new and exciting direction in place for the 2008 HomeFront Selinger Awards in November, one thing remains at the core of the event: honouring frontline workers and volunteers working to end domestic violence and abuse in our city.

A call for nominations was posted at the end of June with the search continuing until August 10th for

three outstanding individuals deserving of this award. HomeFront encourages community partners, agencies and systems to gather nominations together and shine the spotlight on the “unsung heroes” of the sector.

Nominees are selected by an independent judging panel and are eligible to receive an award for one of the following categories:

- (1) Frontline Practitioner—Justice/Law Enforcement
- (1) Frontline Practitioner—Community
- (1) Volunteer- Domestic Violence Sector

Award recipients will receive recognition by demonstrating commitment, excellence, innovation and effective approaches to the problem of domestic violence and abuse and for making a significant contribution to families impacted by this crime. Frontline practitioner recipients will be eligible for a bursary of up to \$2000 to facilitate and build on their relevant work in the sector and all award recipients will be honoured at the HomeFront Selinger Awards in November during Family Violence Prevention Month.

To nominate a frontline worker visit www.homefrontcalgary.com and nominate online! HF

Up to Par

The 8th annual HomeFront Selinger Invitational Golf Tournament was a fantastic success. Surrounded by sunshine, golfers from the justice, law enforcement and corporate sector hit the links in support of HomeFront, raising significant funds to help end domestic violence and abuse.

Thank you to all those who attended the River Spirit Golf Club and a special thanks to our sponsors for making the day an exceptional one!

Fifth Avenue Auto Haus
Allan S.Kay Professional Group
Emerald Management & Realty Ltd.
Stampede Toyota & Lexus of Calgary

AXIA MediaNet
C3 Associates
Microsoft Canada Co.
Scott Hall LLP HF

HomeFront is funded by **Alberta Children’s Services, Alberta Mental Health Board, The Calgary Foundation, City of Calgary Crime Prevention Investment Plan, Community Incentive Fund, The Prairieaction Foundation, United Way of Calgary and Area and the Victims of Crime Fund**

Corporate Partners

Visionary:  **ARC** ENERGY TRUST

Mentor: Petro-Canada

Innovator:  **ENCANA**

Contributors: FirstEnergy Capital Corp., Canadian Pacific, Graycon Group Ltd., Precision Drilling, TriAxon Resources Ltd.