

"Children witnessing violence in the home suffer serious cognitive, behavioral, emotional and developmental impairments which significantly alter their lives."

(Jaffe, 1990)



# New and Different Ways of Supporting Children in Shelter

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Collaborating, Educating and Innovating to Shape Our Future

Montreal Sept 17-19, 2012

# Alberta Council of Women's Shelters (ACWS)

- -43 sheltering organizations
- -Support shelters and leverage collective knowledge to inform solutions to end DV
- -First world conference of women's shelters
- -Founding partner: Canadian Network and the Global Network
- -Abused women and their children

# The Literature



# Getting to Know You

#### **Collaborative Learning Endeavors**

-ACWS Core Values

- Definition



# Three Projects

- 1. Walking the Path Together
- 2. Helping Hands Project
- 3. Children's Project

# Collaborative Learning

- 1. Flex: unique circumstances each individual shelter
- 2. Implementation / Support
- 3. Meet
- 4. Evaluate

- Five on-reserve shelters
- 7-year old children
- Eagle Feather Workers
- Partners
- Unique holistic interventions
- 2-year pilot
- NCPC / Safe Communities





- Sharing stories



CollaborativeLearnings

- Next steps



- 1. Edmonton-area shelters
- 2. Pre-school aged children
- 3. Sharing a child-psychologist
- 4. Play-therapy

Thera-play video here?

- Sharing stories



- Collaborative Learnings

Next Steps



- 12 participating shelters
- Dr. Dawn Clarke of Mount Royal
   College
- Curriculum & training sessions

Video?

- Sharing stories



- Sharing stories



- Collaborative Learnings

Next Steps



#### Our Work

- Contribute
- Efficacy
- Direct Approach
- Evolve



#### Discussion

