



Informed Consent Webinar

Informed Consent in Shelter: Building Trust and Preserving Dignity with Survivors of Domestic Violence in a Data-Driven Age

**Wednesday, April 22, 2015
11:30-1:00 p.m.**

Register Now



The conversation about ethical guidelines in gathering and using client information/data to inform outcomes and practice is not a new one, but is rising to the surface in the context of funders under increasing pressure to show results for their investments in people. However, the increasing requirement by funders for outcome data to demonstrate efficacy, teamed with the increasing sophistication of information-tracking by non-profits - need to be tempered with the victim's needs in mind.

Confidentiality and privilege are key to keeping victims of domestic violence safe and represent the cornerstones of all successful shelter programs. At its most basic level, confidentiality equals safety. In order to maximize and safeguard confidentiality, shelter staff must be familiar with the current principles, policies and procedures surrounding informed consent.

What will the webinar cover?

This webinar will delve into the basic principles, policies and procedures of informed consent in shelters and address current questions and concerns shelter employees have regarding consent. Three experts in the field of informed consent in shelter will be speaking to the "what, when, how and why" of informed consent and sharing their knowledge and experience in the area. Next, current questions shelters are grappling with regarding informed consent will be explored by panelists. Lastly, the floor will be opened up for live questions and discussion amongst attendees and panelists.

Who should attend?

The webinar is intended for shelter employees, from Executive Directors to frontline workers. If you are interested in learning more about informed consent in your shelter, best practices around privacy and informed consent, and engaging in discussion with panelists and shelter employees across Alberta, this webinar is for you.

Panelists



Dr. Gaye Warthe, PhD, RSW
Chair of the Department of
Social Work and
Disability Studies,
Mount Royal University



Sarah Burton, JD, LLM
Research Associate,
Alberta Civil Liberties
Research Centre



Sherrie Botten
Executive Director,
Rowan House

About Our Panelists

Dr. Gaye Warthe

Gaye is the current Chair of the Department of Social Work and Disability Studies at Mount Royal University. Gaye serves on the Board of Directors for Discovery House Family Violence Prevention Society, the steering committee for RESOLVE Alberta, and SHIFT: The Project to End Domestic Violence. She joined the Alberta Council of Women's Shelters as the shelter board delegate representing Edmonton and Calgary in 2013. Gaye significantly contributed to and influenced community collaborative domestic violence work in the Calgary area and beyond for many years. In her recent doctoral research she developed "The Dating Relationship Scales" designed to inform dating violence prevention initiatives. She is a strong advocate for gender informed legislation, policy and programming in the area of violence against women.

Sarah Burton

Sarah is the Research Associate with the Alberta Civil Liberties Research Centre. She graduated with honours from Dalhousie University, and was called to the Nova Scotia and Alberta bars in 2009. After working as a civil litigation associate, in 2011 she returned to school to obtain a Master of Laws specialized in Human Rights and Public Law from the London School of Economics and Political Science. After graduating with distinction, she returned to private practice and worked as a litigator until joining ACLRC. Sarah has authored various publications and regularly sits as a panelist for human rights discussions. She is currently focused on a research project that examines the barriers to justice faced by the Alberta public.

Sherrie Botten

In six years, Sherrie has grown the Rowan House Emergency Shelter from a two-bedroom facility in Black Diamond to a 24-bed, high-security facility in High River. Her role as Executive Director at Rowan House included leading a successful capital campaign, ensuring continued service delivery for women during the 2013 floods and growing a community education programme to reach over 7000 individuals each year. Her education in psychology and non-profit management provide a foundation for Sherrie's energy and drive to help women live peaceful lives. Over the past year, Sherrie has been working with Kathleen Goreman to implement Trauma Informed Care into shelter practice at Rowan House.

Webinar produced by the Alberta Council of Women's Shelters and hosted by Mount Royal University

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For more information please contact (780)-456-7000 ext. 231