

PURPOSE OF PART A: PARTNER ABUSE PROTOCOL

This Protocol is designed to:

- Promote a collaborative and cooperative response to victims and survivors of partner abuse and their children with attention to best practice guidelines and the most effective use of existing community resources in Central and South Hastings.
- Facilitate and support effective communication between service providers involved with victims/survivors of partner abuse and their children, including but not limited to professionals in health, mental health, social service, justice, education, violence against women services, victim services, and children & youth services.
- Clarify the respective roles, responsibilities, and practices of various service providers involved with victims/survivors of partner abuse and their children, including professionals in health, mental health, social service, justice, education, violence against women services, victim services, and children & youth services.
- Recognize and respect the specialized areas of expertise of each service provider.
- Provide information to assist agencies in working with diverse populations.
- Serve as a guide to the development and implementation of policies and programs for victims/survivors within agencies.

This Protocol has been written to support and facilitate the efforts of **front-line service providers and managers**, working with victims and survivors of partner abuse and their children to ensure effective delivery of services. While it was not designed to serve as a resource for victims of partner abuse, service providers are welcome to share relevant sections of the Protocol, and/or the entire document, with persons using their services in those instances when they believe the information would be beneficial to their clients. Service providers are welcome to download, print/copy and distribute pages or sections of this Protocol to colleagues or clients.