

2011 ANNUAL REPORT



~ providing crisis intervention ~ public education ~ counselling

MISSION

he Sexual Assault Centre of Edmonton exists to empower individuals affected by sexual abuse and assault and to empower communities so they can take action against

CORE BELIEFS

We believe...

- ~ sexual violence is an abuse of power and trust;
- ~ people can heal;
- ~ in valuing diversity and respecting all people;
- ~ individuals should be free to make their own life choices;
- ~ each person should have the opportunity to learn and grow;
- ~ in creating a safe environment and maintaining confidentiality;
- ~ inability to pay should not be a barrier to receiving service;
- ~ in providing support and advocacy for people who have been affected by sexual violence;
- ~ services must be accessible to children, adolescents, women and men;
- ~ communities must take action to protect vulnerable people and to become free from violence;
- ~ offenders, not victims, must take responsibility for violence;
- ~ teamwork is essential;
- ~ volunteers are crucial to our agency and provide a link to the community.

Message from the Board Chair

Warm greetings from the SACE Board of Directors. It is my pleasure to direct you to the reports contained in this Annual Report which showcase the great work of the agency over the past year.

I would like to publicly acknowledge and thank the following funders for their continued support and belief in what we do: The United Way of the Alberta Capital Region, City of Edmonton Family and Community Support Services, Alberta Human Services, and Alberta Solicitor General and Public Security.

I would also like to thank my wonderful colleagues on the Board for their support and continued commitment to SACE throughout the year: Ryan Schetzsle, Mary Frances Fitzgerald, Denise Watson, Sean Armstrong, Michelle Boden-Rutherford, Allison Downey-Damato, Gillian Evans, Mona Gill, Pat Harrish, Amber Krasowski, Elizabeth Lafferty, Laura Lee, Carlynn McAneeley, JoAnn McCartney, Sherry Melney, Kirsty Prasad, John Ratcliff, and Board Intern, Alexis Buzzee. We also need to thank and say farewell to Michelle Boden-Rutherford for all of her hard work and contributions to the agency.

To all of our wonderful volunteers - thank you for your support and hard work. We cannot do our work without your help.

Credit must be given to the hardworking and dedicated staff members who deliver the services to our clients and community....you make us all tremendously proud to volunteer with this agency.

Special thanks always to Karen Smith who leads and mentors the staff with tremendous ability and skill.

Susan Jamieson, Chair

Board of Directors

EXECUTIVE

Susan Jamieson Chair

Mary Frances Fitzgerald Secretary

Ryan Schetzsle Treasurer

Denise Watson Past Chair

BOARD MEMBERS

Sean Armstrong Michelle Boden-Rutherford Allison Downey-Damato Gillian Evans Mona Gill Pat Harrish Amber Krasowski Laura Lee Carlynn McAneeley JoAnn McCartney Sherry Melney Kirsty Prasad John Ratcliff

BOARD INTERN

Alexis Buzzee

"Unselfish and Noble Actions are the Most Radiant Pages in the Biography of Souls." David Thomas

Treasurer's Report

From a financial perspective, SACE's goal each year is to use the available financial resources in a highly efficient manner such that SACE can continue to provide the much needed services to the community that it has for many years. SACE again achieved that goal in 2011. SACE continues to remain in a financially stable position due to the generous contributions of our funders, combined with the efficiency and dedication of the Board, volunteers, staff and management of SACE.

SACE is extremely grateful for the financial support received from its core funders, the United Way of the Alberta Capital Region, City of Edmonton Family and Community Support Services, Alberta Human Services, and Alberta Solicitor General and Public Security.

Additional funding is provided to SACE from a number of other organizations. This funding provides supplementary support to our core services, and also presents opportunities for additional, unique service provision. SACE would like to thank the following organizations for their financial support: City of Edmonton Community Investment Grant, the Province of Alberta Community Spirit Grant and Community Initiatives Program, Donner Canadian Foundation, Royal Alexandra Hospital Employees Charitable Donations Fund, and Union #52 Benevolent Society. SACE would also like to acknowledge the continued generous support and assistance received from our landlord, Allan Edie, of A.B. Edie Equities Inc.

Ryan Schetzsle, Treasurer

Strategic Planning Committee

he SACE Strategic Plan continues to provide the framework for our operations. During 2011, key strategic priorities included:

• Striving to meet the growing, unique demands of our caseload with a minimum of specialty trained resources. In 2011, SACE experienced a 13% increase of clients seeking individual counselling and group therapy services. The increased demands were managed through creative staff initiatives to stagger office hours and offering INDIGO triage groups to clients on the wait list.

• Enhancing the SACE 24-Hour Sexual Assault Crisis Line: The 24-Hour Sexual Assault Crisis Line continues to be accessed by over 10,000 callers a year. Given the specialized training provided to volunteers, both the Edmonton Police Service and SART (Sexual Assault Response Team) nurses refer all of their sexual assault cases to the crisis line.

• Collaboration with Edmonton Police Service and Community Agencies on Public Awareness and Education Programs. In collaboration with SAVE (Sexual Assault Voices of Edmonton), a very prolific public awareness "Don't Be That Guy" campaign was launched, aimed at the prevention of alcohol-facilitated sexual assaults. As well, continued collaboration between EPS and SACE has resulted in measures to ease the difficult process of victim navigation through the legal process, including enhanced methods of evidence seizure and facilitating EPS to take victim statements at SACE.

Pat Harrish Chair, Strategic Planning Committee

Message from the Executive Director

Uuring this past year, we have reached out to, and provided support for, more sexually abused or sexually assaulted girls, boys, women and men than ever before. Unfortunately, the necessity for our services is an ever-growing demand. While we have tried to keep pace, the resources required to meet that demand are more and more difficult to raise.

At SACE, we are now in our 38th year of service to survivors of sexual violence in our community. Countless clients, and their supportive family and friends, have called our 24-Hour Sexual Assault Crisis Line, listened to our presentations to schools and community groups, or gathered up the courage to walk through our door to access counselling.

With the help of our funding partners, we have gradually expanded and enriched our existing programs, while keeping our best practices current, accurate and relevant. We have added new services such as INDIGO in order to triage our clients on the waiting list, and Diversity Outreach to reduce barriers to accessing service by the marginalized communities within our city.

I would like to thank our funders for their continued support and belief in what we do: The United Way of the Alberta Capital Region, City of Edmonton Family and Community Support Services, Alberta Human Services, and Alberta Solicitor General and Public Security.

SACE is also very grateful for the financial support of many other donors including our landlord, A.B. Edie Equities Inc., Alberta Blue Cross, ATCO, Capital Power LP, Covenant Health, Edmonton Hadassah Wizo, Lloyd Sadd Insurance Brokers, Royal Alexandra Employees' Charitable Fund, Covenant Health Employees' Charitable Fund, TELUS Corporation, Team Telus, Union 52 Benevolent Society, Wawanesa, as well as many individual donors. I would also like to recognize the many individuals who donated their time for our "Work A Day For SACE" campaign, and who believed it was worth their time to give up a day's pay to support our agency.

I would like to thank the members of our Board of Directors for their vision and leadership: Susan Jamieson, Ryan Schetzsle, Mary Frances Fitzgerald, Denise Watson, Sean Armstrong, Michelle Boden-Rutherford, Allison Downey-Damato, Gillian Evans, Mona Gill, Pat Harrish, Amber Krasowski, Elizabeth Lafferty, Laura Lee, Carlynn McAneeley, JoAnn McCartney, Sherry Melney, Kirsty Prasad, John Ratcliff, and Board Intern, Alexis Buzzee. A special thank you is extended to out-going Board member Michelle Boden-Rutherford. Michelle and her family have supported SACE in so many ways during her time with us. A very sincere note of appreciation is given to our Board Chair, Susan Jamieson, for her mentorship, guidance, and listening ear!

The SACE volunteers, our unsung heroes, are incredibly dedicated to improving the lives of individuals who have experienced sexualized violence. We are so grateful to them for their commitment to SACE and the clients we serve together.

The day-to-day work would not be done without out the passion and determination of our incredible staff: Chandra Ashton, Jasmine Bajwa, Nikki Bernier, Melanie Brochu, Pat C, Alycia Chung, Marion D, Karen Dushinski, Sandy F, Jill Green, Maddalena Genovese, Shirley Howarth, Terra Irvine, Mary Jane James, Matilda Kamara, Hala Kaiss, Laura Kennedy, Erin Martin, Christine Mhina, Shazin Mohamed-Standing, Monika Penner, Joy Schmold, Meagan Simon, and Natasha Z. Thank you.

Karen L. Smith, Executive Director

Personnel

Executive Director Karen L. Smith

Financial Administrator Melanie Brochu

Assistant Executive Director Mary Jane James

Office Manager Terra Irvine

Director of Public Education Meagan Simon

Public Educators Nikki Bernier Hala Kaiss

Director of Client Services Dr. Karen Dushinski

Child & Adolescent Therapists Dr. Karen Dushinski

Monika Penner Shazin Mohamed-Standing Alycia Chung Chandra Ashton

Intake and Adult Counsellors

Shirley Howarth Jill Green Matilda Kamara Laura Kennedy Shazin Mohamed-Standing Maddalena Genovese Alycia Chung Chandra Ashton

Director of Diversity Outreach/Court Support Program Dr. Christine Mhina

Diversity Outreach and Court Support Workers Matilda Kamara Maddalena Genovese

Director of Volunteer Services

Joy Schmold (Maternity Leave) Erin Martin (Acting Director) "I am only one, but I am one. I cannot do everything, but I can do something. And I will not let what I cannot do interfere with what I can do" Edward Everett Hale

Client Services Department

he year 2011 was another year full of challenges, which were balanced out with wonderful successes. I continue to be amazed at the passion and dedication of my colleagues, and I feel very fortunate to learn from each and every one of them. It has again been an honour to continue in the role of Director of Client Services with such an amazing group of professionals.

Child and Adolescent Program

In 2011, the Child and Adolescent Program consisted of five capable staff members whose time was split with the Adult Program: Monika Penner, Thea Comeau, Shazin Mohamed-Standing, Alycia Chung and Karen Dushinski. During 2011, our staff had over 1900 consultations with community members, parents and professionals, as well as over 1225 hours of individual counselling with children and teens. The Child and Adolescent Program received referrals from various sources including: the Zebra Centre, the Child and Adolescent Protection Centre at the Stollery Children's Hospital, Region 6 CFSA, Metis Child and Family Services, Edmonton Public and Catholic School Systems, Alberta Mental Health, physicians, psychologists and other community agencies.

Adult Counselling Program

The Adult Counselling Program at SACE offers group and individual counselling for individuals of all genders over the age of 18 who have been affected by sexual violence. Clients may attend individual counselling sessions, with the focus on stabilization and encouraging healthier coping mechanisms in their healing. Individual counselling also helps to prepare clients for the appropriate groups available at SACE.

Our adult counsellors received almost 600 calls for new intakes in the past year and logged over 2675 hours of client sessions. In addition, our adult therapists consulted with over 3860 community members. Over the course of the past year, we provided 12 therapeutic groups for a total of over 5040 participant hours. SACE continues to benefit from the hard work and expertise of the adult counselling team: Shirley Howarth, Matilda Kamara, Laura Kennedy, Jill Green, Alycia Chung, Maddalena Genovese, Shazin Mohamed-Standing, Chandra Ashton, and Becky Lee.

Another part of our role in Edmonton is to provide training to frontline professionals and students. Many of our counsellors have presented at professional conferences, provided formal training on the impact of trauma, and have worked to increase capacity in our community to respond to the issues of sexual violence. SACE also has relationships with the various counselling and social work programs in the city. In 2011, we provided placements for several students, including Alycia, Jasmine, Heather, Jesse and Clare. We thank them for their hard work and dedication to our clients.

Innovative Programs

In early January 2011, two of our counsellors created a Therapeutic Movement Group for adult survivors of sexual violence. It was so successful that they also created a level two group and offered it in the fall of 2011. Participants were so "moved" by the impact of the group that one participant organized a fundraising event for SACE which included the Bonnie Doon Trio, a classical ensemble. We hope to be able to offer this program again in upcoming months.

Dr. Karen Dushinski, Director of Client Services

Diversity Outreach, Intake And Court Support Program

he Diversity Outreach, Intake and Court Support Program had another successful year in meeting its mandate of REACHING out to as many individuals as possible and assisting communities to take action against sexual violence. This program is responsible for establishing and maintaining relationships with diverse communities including Aboriginals, ethno-cultural communities, new immigrants, seniors, persons with disabilities, and those who identify as gender variant, while providing counselling, court support, outreach education and community engagement activities to prevent sexual violence.

One of the main objectives of this program is to facilitate the recovery and healing process of those who have been affected by sexualized violence. This envisioned healing and recovery is achieved through specialized services in the form of individual counselling to adults and adolescent survivors and their families. When individuals want to access the SACE adult counselling program, the counsellors working in Intake are often the first "face" of the Sexual Assault Centre of Edmonton. The intake process is comprised of gathering personal information, history pertaining to the reasons for accessing counselling, and pre-screening other issues that the individual may be dealing with related to the past or recent trauma(s). This process takes anywhere from 15 minutes to an hour, depending on the need of that individual.

Intake counsellors provide validation, normalization, and psycho-education to help the caller understand that their experiences and responses are common among trauma survivors. They also offer warmth and support to potential clients, many of whom describe their first call to SACE as one of the most difficult calls they ever made. Once the intake is complete, the individual is placed on our waitlist (usually a four to ten week wait, depending on call volume and counsellor availability) and is then contacted when a counsellor has an opening, at which time their first appointment is booked. In 2011, 779 individuals contacted SACE Intake to initiate the healing process.

The Diversity Outreach team also supports victims of sexual assault who choose to report to the police by providing counselling during court preparation and emotional support while clients go through the court process. A staff member of our program will accompany clients to make the initial complaint to the police and will provide them with a safe, quiet and private place to write their statements. In 2011, we spent 115 hours providing assistance with form completion (Financial benefit Application and the Victims of crime protocol). A total of 169 Edmonton residents were assisted with court orientation, preparation and/or accompaniment to court by our staff members.

Our program also provided various workshops and presentations throughout the year. In 2011, we facilitated 65 presentations for diverse audiences. Topics ranged from Victims'

Rights and Responsibilities, the Justice System, Domestic Violence in Lesbian Relationships; Sexual Exploitation among Sexual Minorities; The Experiences of Sexual Minority Youth in Newcomer, Refugees, and Visible Minority Communities; and Impact of and Strategies to Deal with Trauma.

One of the program goals has always been to increase the accessibility of our services to the targeted communities. We achieved this through partnerships with various community agencies and other community groups. In our efforts to enhance partnerships, we work collaboratively with various agencies supporting and protecting families and children and those fostering safety in our community, including Edmonton Police Service, Region 6 CFSA, and various faith leaders. We also participate actively on various committees, including Sexual Exploitation Working Group (SEWG); Community Initiative to Against Family Violence (CIAFV), Edmonton Cultural Coalition (ECC, CDC), Diversity Sexual Health Coalition (DSHC) and the Diverse Voices Steering Committee. In our interactions with community members, we strive to listen and understand the unique needs of community residents and truly embrace the cultural views being shared. We have come to appreciate how sustainable relationships generate feelings of trust and respect between SACE and our community partners. Throughout the year, we engaged in 120 community consultations and 65 community dialogue sessions.

As advocates of social change, SACE continues to seek innovative and creative ways to reduce future incidences of sexual violence through primary prevention. We are actively working with various community groups at the grassroots level to promote community capacity building. It is our hope that community members will eventually discover their own strengths and become advocates for making a difference in their communities by seeking solutions themselves to prevent sexual violence

This year's work was possible because of the enormous passion, dedication, creativity and wisdom that Mary Banda, Maddalena Genovese, Matilda Kamara, and Christine Mhina brought to SACE. The spirit of cooperation among team members allowed the opportunity for mutual learning and combination of synergistic ideas and abilities, which eventually opened the door for successful accomplishment of the difficult tasks planned for this year. It is our hope that, with the same spirit, new approaches to tasks may be discovered.

Dr. Christine Mhina, Director of Diversity, Intake and Court Support

"How do I thank a group of people who saved my mind, my life, my soul? You showed me that I had the courage to initiate change in my life, the strength to stand with the changes, and now, because of your support, dedication and guidance, I know I was right to invest in myself. Thank you." SACE Client

Public Education

Public Education has had a successful and productive year achieving its mandate to empower individuals and communities through sexual assault awareness, information, and education initiatives.

The Public Education team represented SACE at many events in 2011, and held booths and information fairs throughout the year. Most notably, we had booths at the 2011 Diverse Voices conference, at City Hall for Edmonton Interagency Youth Services Association (EIYSA), and at Edmonton's Queer Prom, increasing our visibility in diverse settings. The vast majority of our work within the community has been our facilitation of information sessions for schools, community organizations, and professional groups. In 2011, SACE facilitated presentations to over 10,000 students and adults in the Edmonton area.

Our department presented at the North Central Teacher's Convention in February on the topic of "Youth and Sexting: Understanding and Supporting without Blaming." We were able to build our expertise in this area and solidify our stance as a resource for valuable information and education for youth and those who support them. Since that time, we have developed information sessions on sexting for youth, and are increasingly being asked to incorporate this information in our presentations.

In addition to our presentations and information sessions, the Public Education team has been involved in various community events, initiatives, and committees. We planned and organized "Take Back the Night" (TBTN), which was held on September 23, 2011. Sponsors of TBTN included Starbucks and Earth's General Store. In addition, we've been a part of "Expecting Respect," the Community Initiatives Against Family Violence committee, the Sexual Assault Voices of Edmonton coalition, Challenge by Choice, the YWCA's GirlSpace program, and Making a Difference Canada.

We planned, organized and implemented our successful conference in October, 2011, titled, "Sexual Violence in Marginalized Communities." Our three outstanding keynote speakers were Dr. Janice Ristock, from the University of Manitoba; Jessica Yee, Executive Director of the Native Youth Sexual Health Network; and Aishah Shahidah Simmons, director of the powerful, **No! The Rape Documentary**. With over one hundred delegates from across Alberta and Canada, we explored the diverse ways in which individuals and communities in Canada are affected by sexual violence, and what we can do to support them. The Public Education team successfully conducted two sessions during the conference on "Anti-Oppression."

In the summer of 2011, SACE launched an innovative fundraising campaign titled, "Work a Day for SACE." We were able to gain media attention and television spots, increasing the visibility of SACE in our community and awareness about sexual violence in general. In 2011, the Public Education team facilitated the triage group, INDIGO, for clients on our waitlist and their supporters. We will continue to provide this essential program and look to new ways to support our clients as they wait for counselling services.

The Public Education team's dedication, hard work, and passion have made the successes of this year possible. While our department saw the departure of Pragya Sharma and Lily Tsui, we welcomed the creative energy of Nikki Bernier, who adds a new perspective to our work. We look forward to the development of our program in 2012, as we welcome Hala Kaiss to our team and continue educating Edmonton communities about sexual violence.

Meagan Simon, Director of Public Eduction

Volunteer Services

I am excited to have the opportunity to share some of of the highlights of 2011 on behalf of Joy Schmold, our Director of Volunteer Services. 2011 was an exciting year with many highlights over the course of the 12 months. Congratulations to Joy Schmold on the birth of Tate Alexander into their loving family.

We are deeply grateful for the 213 volunteers that contributed to our agency and therefore our community in 2011. These volunteers gave their time, energy, and passion in a variety of ways that are vital to the work that SACE does to combat sexualized violence in our communities.

Last year Joy trained nearly 40 new crisis line volunteers who joined the individuals who are already trained in taking calls on our 24-Hour Sexual Assault Crisis Line. Our crisis line volunteers continue to demonstrate the strength, courage, and compassion as they face an issue that many in our community turn away from. These volunteers answer crisis calls with empathy and understanding as they support survivors of child sexualized abuse and sexual assault.

SACE's fundraising volunteers deserve a special thank you as well. Each year, these volunteers support SACE through regular attendance at fundraising events and bingos. 2011 was a particularly big year for SACE because it was our Casino year. Thank you so much to each and every volunteer who made our Casino possible this year, working all hours of the day and night, doing all the things that are required to made a Casino run!

And, of course, our office volunteers: the incredible people who continue to inspire us with dedication and kindness. These volunteers are pivotal in helping SACE run as smoothly as it does and are responsible for many things, including keeping our data bases up to date and current. This is incredibly valuable work as it is information that we pass on to our funders so they can see all the incredible work that our agency does. These volunteers are always eager for work to do and new tasks to take on. For that, we are all incredibly grateful.

Each one of our volunteers is doing incredible work in the ways that they know best in order to join us as we work towards making change in our community. They continue to inspire hope in me that a caring community is a powerful motivator for change. Our volunteers are proof that our community cares about making change in the issue of sexualized violence. Thank you, thank you, and thank you to every single one of you.

Erin Martin Acting Director of Volunteer Services

Volunteers

Alex R. David D. Alfie L. David M. Allison D.D. David S. Deb D. Aly J. Alycia C. Deb G. Alyssa C. Deb I. Amber K. Debbie D. Amy L. Debra W. Andrew G. Denise W. Andy D. Deviyani P. Andy L. Donna B. Angele L. Donna T. Doreen C. Anna G. Anna Y. Doreen J. Anne R. Doug R. Alexis B. Edward S. Allison D.D. Elaine B. Ashley W. Elizabeth L. Audrey Y. Ellen H. Avril H. Emily C. Becky L. Erin M. Belinda R. Field B. Beverley N. Francess T. Bill H. Gerald D. Bill T. Gerry Brendan Gillian E. Brent G. Glenda P. Carlyn M. Glenis S. Chandra A. Glynis T. Charlie B. Hala K. Chelsea G. Heather C. Cheyvonne G Herma R. Hilda Clara B. Chris I. Chris J. Jackie D. Christie B. Jacklyn M. Christine H. Jacqueline L. Christine M. Jacqueline M. Claire Janice D. Claire D. lessa Daniela V. lill G. Danielle C. Jillanne B. Dave D. Ioan L. Dave M. JoAnn M.

John N. John R. Joy S. Kalyea R. Karen D. Karen S. Kat R. Kathleen S. Kathv B. Kelly S. Kelsey B. Kevin B. Kevin F. Kevin M. Khushbo H. Kim M. Kim W. Kirsty P. Kristine H. Kvra K. Larissa P. Laura B. Laura B. Laura K. Laura L. Leigh A. Leslie B. Lillian G. Lily T. Louise B. Lule B. Mackenzie G. Maddie G. Maggie C. Maggie F. Marion D. Mary B. Mary Fran F. Mary Jane J. Mary P. Mary S. Mathew G. Matilda K.

Megan S. Melinda M. Meryl F. Mia I. Michelle B. Michelle M. Michelle R. Mike A. Mike L. Millie H. Millie I. Miriam W. Molly J. Mona G. Monika P. Mya I. Myrna D. Natasha F. Natasha P. Natasha V. Nikki B. Noha B. Pam F. Pam F. Pam O. Pat C. Pat H. Pat P. Pat W. Pauline W. Peter B. Pragya S. Priyanka P. Rachelle P. Rawle T. Rav L. Rebecca Rick N. Rita B. Rob J. Rod G.

Meagan P.

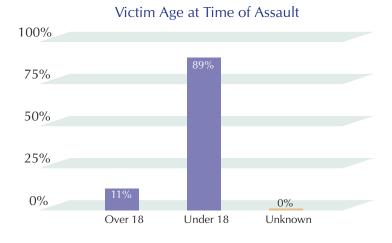
Ronald S. Ross O. Ryan S. Sabrina B. Saleena H. Sandi F. Sandra G. Sarah C. Satie S. Sean A. Shandra N. Shazin M. Shelly B. Shelly N. Sherry M. Shirlev H. Sholly S. Stacey P. Stacey W. Stacy N. Stephanie B. Sue P. Susan I. Sylvia H. Tammy B. Tasha S. Terra I. Thea C. Tiffany L. Tracy D. Tracy J. Tricia M. Troy G. Troy M. Vinu M. Vivian L. Wade W. Wence L. William P. Yvonne S. Zelekash A.

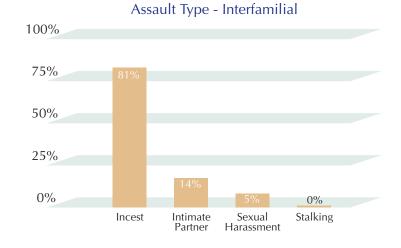
"What we have done for others alone dies with us. What we have done for others and the world remains and is immortal." *Albert Pine*

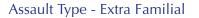
~ providing crisis intervention ~ public education ~ counselling

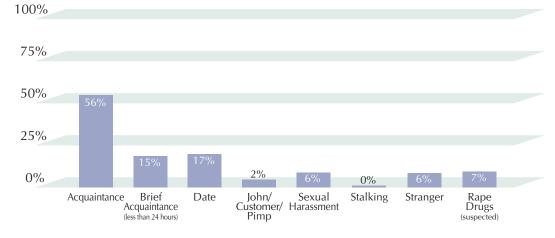
Ronald B.

2011 Crisis Line Stats

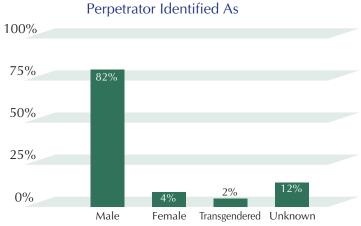


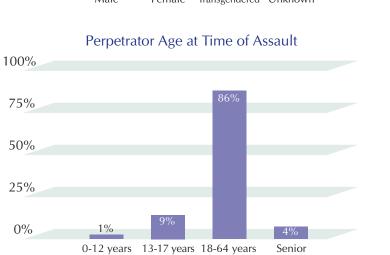






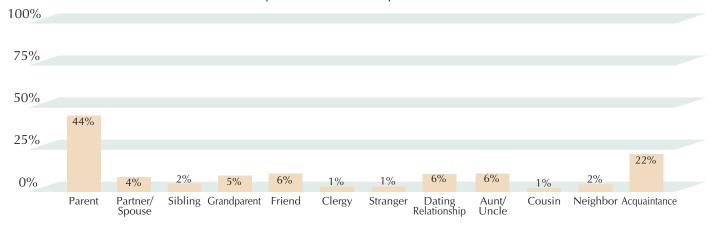
2011 Crisis Line Stats







Perpetrator Relationship to Victim



~ providing crisis intervention ~ public education ~ counselling

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~ providing crisis intervention ~ public education ~ counselling

Suite 205, 14964-121A Avenue Edmonton, Alberta T5V 1A3 Business line: 780-423-4102 T.T.Y. (Telephone Device for the Deaf) line: 780-420-1482 fax: 780-421-8734

24 hour crisis line: 780-423-4121

www.sace.ab.ca

info@sace.ab.ca







