

Women's Community House Model of Care

(a picture of how we see the work we do, based on four pillars at the base)

Women's Community House
A Safe Place for Abused Women and their Children



FEMINISM – how it works

- counselling that is based on understanding women's lives
- we start with the woman's own strengths – what she can do
- we recognize women have been held down (oppression) in their lives
- we believe that differences between people is a good thing
- we work from where she is at
- our work is brief session & short term
- we believe in shared power in all relationships

INTERSECTIONALITY – what it means in our work

- every woman's is unique and her life is her reality
- we know that there are times in a woman's life when she is more "together" than at other times
- multiple factors intersect to affect woman's lives
- there are times when women feel more or less grounded in differing surroundings
- we understand & work within and with "systems" for the benefit of women but sometimes the systems are have not been designed to be helpful to women
- we know that sometimes women can feel strong where they are & at other times, not so much depending on their experiences & the environment she is in

HOPE – what the future will bring

- healthy relationships
- an end to woman abuse
- violence free lives for all
- that child witnesses to abuse will not repeat it in their own lives
- women's equality

SAFETY- from abuser; in our buildings & systems

- safety - both physical safety but emotional feelings of safety, for you and for other clients and staff
- understanding the use of substances and working to reduce the harm done by the substance – not abstinence only
- safety of your personal information (confidentiality)
- safety in a communal living space for all residents/tenants
- understanding the impact of trauma when working in this field on staff and others