

## Family Violence Initiative

General Information	
Lead Department	Health Canada
Partners	<p>Partners: Other participating federal departments/agencies/Crown Corporations include: Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation, Department of Justice, Canadian Heritage, Status of Women Canada, Royal Canadian Mounted Police, Statistics Canada, Indian Affairs and Northern Development Canada, Human Resources Development Canada, Citizenship and Immigration Canada, Correctional Service of Canada, Department of National Defence, Canadian International Development Agency, Privy Council Office, Department of Finance, Treasury Board Secretariat.</p> <p>Departments frequently work in partnership with other levels of government, the private sector, non-profit organizations, academic institutions, front-line workers, volunteers, other professionals and individuals.</p>
Effective Date	Phase 1 – 1998/92; Phase 2 – 1991/95-96; Phase 3 – December 1996
Expiry Date	Permanent funding, reviewed 2002
Website	<a href="http://www.hc-sc.gc.ca/hppb/familyviolence/index.html">http://www.hc-sc.gc.ca/hppb/familyviolence/index.html</a> (each department has its own web site)
Purpose	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• to reduce family violence particularly against women and children;</li> <li>• to promote continued public awareness of the risk factors of family violence and the need for public involvement in responding to the problem;</li> <li>• to strengthen the ability of the criminal justice and housing systems to respond to the problem;</li> <li>• to support data collection, research and evaluation efforts to identify effective interventions.</li> </ul>
Roles and Contributions	<p>The Family Violence Initiative consists of federal government activities, projects or programs carried out by departments, agencies and Crown corporations. The respective roles include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Protection (strengthening the ability of the criminal justice and housing systems to respond to the problem of family violence): DOJ - legislation; RCMP - policing; CSC - correction; CMHC, DIAND - safe housing.</li> <li>• Prevention (promoting public awareness of the issues and the need for public involvement): CIC, CH - new Canadians; Health - health policy; DND - personnel management; HRDC, SWC, CIDA - social/economic policy.</li> <li>• Data collection: SC and other departments - collection, surveillance/surveys.</li> <li>• Roles and contributions are included in the Annual Report, available on the National Clearinghouse on Family Violence (NCFV) website. Hard copies are mailed out by the NCFV, distributed at conferences, and disseminated by departments.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>FVI does not track public understanding and the recognition of the federal government's role/contribution in its annual report.</li> </ul> <p>Given our resources, the FVI approach is collaborative and its Intervention Model revolves around influencing other players - provincial/territorial/municipal levels of government, NGO and professional organizations and the private sector to adopt proven interventions. The Annual Report is intended to report on FVI results toward achieving its five identified key results. The FVI Public Awareness Research Strategy contains four elements: establishing a baseline against which to measure shifts in public awareness, for which EKOS Research has developed and will launch a Family Violence Public Awareness Syndicated Survey this Fall, a media analysis, which has just been completed, and Environmental Scan, for which a Request for Proposal process is in process and regular monitoring of provincial/territorial activities, which is completed for each FVI/P/T meeting in collaboration with Provinces and Territories.</p>
<b>Resources</b>	
Funding	<p>The federal government has permanently allocated \$7 million per year for family violence prevention activities, commencing with FY 1997-98. The annual allocation is specifically dedicated to conducting research, operating the NCFV and coordinating the FVI. For the first five years, seven federal departments share the resources: Health Canada \$2.14M; Canada Mortgage &amp; Housing Corporation \$1.90M; Justice \$1.45M; Canadian Heritage \$0.46M; Solicitor General (RCMP) \$0.45M; Statistics Canada \$0.35M; Status of Women \$0.25M.</p> <p>Most family violence prevention policy development and programming is carried out in departments with departmental resources: \$0.5M indirect, and \$45.1M direct. (FVI FTEs - 17.9, Departmental FTEs - 16.58).</p> <p>Health Canada's resource share is: FTEs: FVI 11, departmental 9.34; annual funding: PPHB \$2.53 (98-99), \$2.07 (99-00), \$1.5 (00-01), \$1.035 (01-02); Child Maltreatment \$550K; ARAD \$20K; Grants and Contributions approx. \$25M indirect funding.</p>
Tracking and Reporting	<p>Federal spending is tracked and documented in the FVI Accountability Framework and the FVI Reporting Framework.</p> <p>Information on spending is included in the FVI Annual Report to Treasury Board Secretariat. The report is available on the NCFV website.</p>

<b>Measurement and Reporting</b>	
<p>Outputs / Outcomes</p>	<p>Outputs: Each department participating in the FVI has a reporting framework, which outlines specific outputs. Some of the key planned outputs include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Knowledge development through family violence research projects, research publications, databases relevant to family violence issues;</li> <li>• Knowledge dissemination through reports, fact sheets, information kits, videos, web sites, workshops;</li> <li>• Family violence programs in community and institutional sites; CSC staff training;</li> <li>• Shelter units built, repaired and/or upgraded.</li> </ul> <p>Performance information on outputs is monitored and collected by the individual departments and included in the reporting frameworks.</p> <p>Key outcome commitments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Effective, efficient and coordinated federal policy development and programming on family violence issues;</li> <li>• Enhanced prevention of and improved response to family violence and development and implementation of community activities;</li> <li>• Increased public awareness and reduced tolerance to family violence in Canada;</li> <li>• Reduced family violence in Canada.</li> </ul> <p>Health Canada measures the accomplishments and achievements of the key outcomes within the FVI Reporting Framework.</p> <p>Information generated through the above activities is shared with all interested parties.</p>
<p>Indicators</p>	<p>Measurement of Outputs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Knowledge development measured in terms of the number of databases, reports, fact sheets, etc. produced and the number of research projects completed;</li> <li>• Knowledge dissemination measured in terms of resource use, distribution statistics, website hits, etc.;</li> <li>• Number of programs in place, number of staff receiving training;</li> <li>• Number of available shelter units.</li> </ul> <p>Data is obtained by participating departments.</p> <p>Measurement of outcomes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Legislation, federal policies and programs developed in concordance with recent statistics and proven intervention models;</li> <li>• Relevant policies and programs developed by other levels of government, First Nations, NGOs, professional associations, private sector;</li> <li>• Utilization of effective intervention models;</li> <li>• Public accessibility to family violence prevention and treatment services;</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Public opinion on family violence issues and on tolerance of family violence;</li> <li>• Gap between victimization rates and crime statistics;</li> <li>• Self-reported family violence-related incidents; incidence of family violence</li> </ul> <p>Information is obtained through surveys monitoring statistics, review of network information. Health Canada coordinates the overall review of activities carried out by departments, agencies and Crown Corporations.</p>
<p>Comparable Indicators</p>	<p>Common indicators have been developed to measure outputs and outcomes (and are used in the FVI Reporting Framework); several indicators coincide with criminal justice system indicators and with indicators for women's economic well-being.</p> <p>Indicators of societal performance include statistics on crime, victimization, child maltreatment, shelter use, beliefs and behaviours. The data are available from criminal justice statistics, General Social Survey, Transition Home Survey, NPHS, NLSCY, Canadian Incidence Survey of Child Maltreatment and Neglect, Public Awareness Survey (planned).</p> <p>Participating departments have their own data collection mechanisms. The data is used jointly among participating departments for evaluation as well as by other related programs at the federal level. At this stage, there are no FVI/P/T indicators.</p> <p>No plan is currently in place to develop FVI/P/T indicators. The FVI has identified appropriate indicators in its reporting framework. In 1999, in the General Social Survey, Victimization Cycle, we repeated questions on violence against women from Statistics Canada's 1993 Violence Against Women Survey and began to ask men the same violence related questions. When that survey is repeated, we will begin to develop trend information, which we can analyse for robustness as indicators. As yet we have no national baseline data that would permit collecting trend information for indicators of abuse of children and older adults. Indeed, it has been an ongoing challenge getting questions about abuse into national survey instruments. The Ministers responsible for the Status of Women, through Status of Women Canada and Statistics Canada are developing indicators related to violence against women, which may serve as proxy indicators for family violence involving women.</p>

<p>Evaluation/Third Party Assessments</p>	<p>Health Canada chairs an Interdepartmental Evaluation Working Group on Family Violence. The IWG developed a Reporting Framework, and monitors progress in collecting and reporting on key results and performance indicators.</p> <p>Each participating department, agency and Crown Corporation develops performance indicators related to the activities and outputs of the FVI and summarizes its resources, reach and results. Health Canada compiles annual narrative reports on the performance of federal government interventions on family violence. A cumulative Five Year Report will be completed by June 1, 2002.</p> <p>An informal FPT of Chairs of provincial/territorial interdepartmental working groups and the Government of Canada IWG meet annually.</p> <p>There is no provision for an audit.</p>
<p>Shared Information and Best Practices</p>	<p>The Interdepartmental Evaluation Working Group on Family Violence identifies detailed measures for performance indicators, and reviews the appropriateness of performance information.</p> <p>The National Clearinghouse on Family Violence is managed by Health Canada on behalf of all Departments participating in the Family Violence Initiative.</p> <p>Its web site is: <a href="http://www.hc-sc.gc.ca/hppb/familyviolence/index.html">http://www.hc-sc.gc.ca/hppb/familyviolence/index.html</a>. Its toll free numbers is 1-800-267-1291. Its TTY number is 1-800-561-5643. It produces a biannual newsletter that is distributed to a mailing list of 5500 and is also posted in the web site. Analysis of direct contacts to the NCFV (phone, drop in, letter) shows that 40% of NCFV clientele are social service providers, 20% are health service providers, 12% come from the education sector, 10% are general public. A questionnaire designed for web use will soon permit tracking of web site users. IWG participating departments, including Statistics Canada, Justice Canada, Status of Women Canada and Canadian Heritage all have publications programs. Statistics Canada annually produces Family Violence in Canada: A Statistical Profile and publishes survey results in its Juristat series. The former is available on-line (<a href="http://www.statcan.ca">http://www.statcan.ca</a>) and the latter can be purchased. Justice Canada supports dissemination of information on family violence through its Public Legal Education and Information program. It also publishes research results on its web site (<a href="http://www.justice.gc.ca">http://www.justice.gc.ca</a>). SWC has aided in distribution of results of its Girl Child Project with the Alliance of Five research centres on Family Violence and Violence Against Women. Canadian Heritage, Multicultural Program has also been involved in an extensive awareness campaign to inform ethno-cultural communities across Canada.</p>
<p>Public Reporting</p>	<p>Performance information on outputs, outcomes and societal indicators is included in Annual Reports, available on the NCFV website.</p>

<b>Involving Canadians</b>	
Provisions for Citizens to Participate in Developing Social Priorities and Reviewing Outcomes	<p>Departments have consultative processes to involve Canadians in developing priorities. For example, Justice frequently puts position papers on-line for feedback; Statistics Canada consults to develop questionnaire content; NCFV includes feedback form with all publications it distributes. Projects often have advisory groups. IWG meets P/T counterparts annually.</p> <p>There are no plans to develop a structured citizen engagement mechanism for FVI.</p>
Feedback Mechanisms to the Public	<p>The involvement of Canadians is tracked through the FVI Accountability Reporting Frameworks.</p> <p>Annual Reports of the National Clearinghouse on Family Violence and the Family Violence Initiative are available on the NCFV web site:  <a href="http://www.hc-sc.gc.ca/hppb/familyviolence/family.htm">http://www.hc-sc.gc.ca/hppb/familyviolence/family.htm</a>.</p>
<b>Service Commitments</b>	
Public Availability of Eligibility Criteria	<p>Eligibility requirements for participation in FVI programs are available through the departments responsible for funding.</p> <p>The NCFV is operated on behalf of all FVI departments and is funded through the annual FVI allocation. This resource centre is accessible on the web site.</p>
Existence and Availability of Service Commitments	<p>Service commitments for programs are available through the departments responsible for funding.</p> <p>The NCFV has clearly established service standards. Information on service standards is contained in the NCFV Annual Report available on the website.</p>
Measurement and Public Reporting	<p>There are regular reviews of client satisfaction for the NCFV. (In 1998/99, 99% of users believed NCFV to be a useful service; 97% agreed that getting material was an easy process; 99% felt that service was adequate and staff were courteous and helpful).</p>
<b>Appeals and Complaints</b>	
Existence, Availability and Communication of Mechanisms	<p>Not applicable<sup>1</sup> - The Family Violence Initiative is a way of managing an issue horizontally across departments, <i>Per se</i>, it does not have an appeals and complaints mechanism because, as an Initiative, it does not have grants and contributions programs or other programs that might generate administrative practice concerns. Its \$7M annual allocation is used to operate the National Clearinghouse on Family Violence, collect data, conduct research and evaluate and coordinate the FVI.</p>
Tracking and Public Reporting	<p>Not applicable<sup>1</sup>; see above</p>
<b>Mobility</b>	
Existence of Measures	<p>The FVI, <i>per se</i>, does not include residency based policy or practices, nor does it have programming that is affected by education, training, health or social service/social assistance requirements.</p>

<sup>1</sup>Not applicable: when the section does not apply.