

DOORS OF HOPE
SECOND STAGE PROGRAM
PROGRAM DESCRIPTION



Sussex Vale Transition House



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DOORS OF HOPE PHILOSOPHY

Vision

We aspire to offer a sustainable, safe, supportive and affordable housing program for women and their children moving forward from domestic violence.

Mission

We are committed to safe, affordable housing for women and children leaving domestic violence, providing ongoing counselling, programming and support. We offer tools to empower women to lead independent, successful, healthy lives.

Values:

- **Respect** – each individual is valued and shall be regarded and treated as such without prejudice
- **Confidentiality** – services may be accessed with all personal information kept in confidence
- **Collaboration** – working jointly with other agencies and service providers to assist clients enhances the effectiveness of all resources at hand.
- **Equity** – individuals shall be treated equitably regardless of gender, race or diversity
- **Empathy** – offering services with understanding of, and being sensitive to, the feelings, thoughts, and experience of the other
- **Professionalism** - conforming to the technical and ethical standards of the domestic violence sector while exhibiting a courteous, conscientious manner in the workplace
- **Education** – providing information necessary to break the cycle of violence. We believe that it is our responsibility to raise community awareness on the realities of domestic violence and housing crises
- **Affordability** – housing is a human right which should be affordable for people of limited means
- **Accessibility** – housing and services should be accessible to all persons
- **Advocacy** – standing up with and being a voice for the voiceless and vulnerable
- **Community** – fostering relationships in the spirit of unity and cooperation
- **Healthy Relationships** – a commitment to intentional healthy choices within personal and professional relationships
- **Safety** – ensuring a space free from harm or danger

Strategic Pillars:

- **Participant Personal Growth**
- **Participant Empowerment**
- **Affordable, safe, medium-term Housing**



DOORS OF HOPE PROGRAM OUTLINE

Second Stage programs support women survivors of Domestic and Intimate Partner Violence (DIPV) as they rebuild their lives, heal from abuse, develop resiliency, and move toward living violence-free lives and fully independent living. Doors of Hope provides mid-term (12-month) safe housing and supports for women and their children who have left an abusive relationship.

Successful program participants will have learned the protective skills needed to better cope with her trauma experiences, to not return to her abusive relationship and to understand how the trauma of abuse affects herself and her children. To that end, Doors of Hope will provide safe affordable transitional housing and wrap around services, which include but are not limited to; trauma-informed training, emotional support, safety planning, and referrals.

Individual Case Management

- One-on-one sessions with the Program Coordinator
- Goal setting
- Building individual support systems
- Referrals
 - Legal, educational, employment, community resources, etc.

Weekly Group Programming

- Psychoeducational and support group sessions at a minimum of once a week
 - 12-week Beyond Trauma (Covington)
 - Financial Literacy, Food Security, Parenting Support, Peer Support, etc.

Accommodation Services

- Safe, Affordable Housing Unit for up to a 12-month period, subject to continued enrolment.



ADMISSION CRITERIA

Doors of Hope enrolment is available to women 19-years or older, together with their dependent children 18-years or younger, who meet the following criteria:

- Having past and/or current experiences of abuse from a partner, family member(s)
- Dealing with ongoing social and/or health impacts resulting from their experiences of violence that affect her safety, health, and wellbeing
- Prepared to exit the abusive relationship in which she is currently living
- Is currently on the Housing NB waiting list and is eligible for a subsidized unit under the admission criteria of the Department of Social Development
- Physically and emotionally capable of taking care of herself and her children
- Exhibits no abusive behaviour toward staff or other residents
- Willing and able to refrain from use of recreational drugs or alcohol. Intoxication will not be tolerated on Doors of Hope property
- Willing to participate fully in the program; attending all required meetings and group sessions.

Women entering the program with children accept full responsibility for the complete care of their children which includes:

- Medical conditions they may currently have, including treatment and dispensing of medications
- Supervision and appropriate discipline
- Responsibility for any damages made by their children to personal property, property of other residents or property belonging to DHSS,
- Any injuries or accidents to the children
- Ensuring their children adhere to all DHSS policies and procedures

Children 19-years or older may also be permitted as unit occupants if they remain dependent due to circumstances such as disability, attending post-secondary institutions, etc.

*Children of participants who are 19-years or older who **do not attend** an educational institution are not permitted to live in the participant's apartment unless authorized by management who may consider special needs.*