

Languages: Hindi, Punjabi, Gujarati, Urdu, Vietnamese, Mandarin, Cantonese, Korean, Japanese, Tagalog, Visayan, Persian, Amharic, Tigrania, Arabic, Russian, Czech, Slavick, Polish, Italian, Spanish

COUNSELING, ADVOCACY, SUPPORT

For immigrant and visible minority women and their families who are facing family violence.

- ❖ Culturally sensitive services
- ❖ Free and confidential
- ❖ Bilingual, bi-cultural workers.

Individual and group counselling support to women in situations of family violence prior to, during and after their stay in a transition house.

Supportive services to women from situations of family violence, in their interactions with the legal and social system.

Volunteer program to develop leadership and organizational skills.

Educational programs within the multicultural communities on the dynamics of family violence and alternative models of treatment.

Consultation and educational programs to professionals working with immigrant and visible minority women in situation of family violence.

VANCOUVER & LOWER MAINLAND
MULTICULTURAL FAMILY
SUPPORT SERVICES SOCIETY

Tel# (604) 436-1025

Fax: (604) 436-3267

VANCOUVER & LOWER MAINLAND

MULTICULTURAL FAMILY SUPPORT SERVICES SOCIETY



Violence Is A Crime!

Need Help?

Call (604) 436-1025

WE ACCEPT REFERRALS FROM:

- ❖ Individuals
- ❖ Transition Houses
- ❖ Schools
- ❖ Hospitals, doctors
- ❖ Ministry for Children and Families
- ❖ Immigrant service agencies
- ❖ Victim Assistance programs
- ❖ Police, RCMP
- ❖ Any other agencies, ministries and institutions

PROGRAMS

- ❖ Counseling, Advocacy, Support to women
- ❖ Specialized Victims Services
- ❖ Children Who Witness Abuse
- ❖ Volunteers Program

5000 Kingsway Plaza Phase III
#306 - 4980 Kingsway, Burnaby
BC V5H 4K7

E-mail: againstviolence@vlmfss.ca

Website: www.vlmfss.ca



HISTORY

In 1991, the then Ministry of Social Services provided the funding to set up a

new service organization to serve immigrant and visible minority women and their families who are experiencing family violence.

OUR GOALS

We provide a safe and non-judgemental environment for women and their children in their own language and culture.

Individual counseling is provided at the office, out of the office and over the phone.

We also provide group counselling and support, counseling to women victims of sexual abuse, emergency intervention, and referrals to appropriate resources.

Our approach is to empower women in dealing with their issues, help them to develop coping skills, assist them in self-exploration, and to support them while they go through the different stages of rebuilding their lives at their own pace in a culturally sensitive environment.

SPECIALIZED VICTIMS ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

We offer court advocacy and assistance for immigrant and visible minority women and children who are in need of accessing the justice system. Services include court preparation assistance, liaison with lawyers and Crown Counsel, and ongoing emotional support throughout the process.

CHILDREN WHO WITNESS ABUSE

The Program provides one-on-one counseling and group counseling to children of different ethnic backgrounds. It supports the children and provides them a safe environment to express their feelings and to develop social, problem-solving and coping skills. They also learn safety skills and safety strategies. Children and youth, ages 0 – 19, need to be in a stable environment prior to receiving counseling. Counselling for expecting mothers and parenting groups are also provided.

PUBLICATIONS

- ❖ Through the Eyes of the Child (1994)
- ❖ Translations of Wife Abuse booklet
- ❖ What is Abuse, Discipline Vs. Abuse: A Multicultural Perspective (1996)
- ❖ Discipline Vs. Abuse: A Multicultural Perspective (1995)

VOLUNTEERS PROGRAM

Volunteers receive basic training in office work and participate in other projects such as helping to organize small discussion groups. *Work hours are flexible. Everyone is welcome.*

Educational workshops are offered throughout the year. For immigrant and visible minority women who have experienced abuse in the home or are motivated to help other women in their communities, we offer a *Leadership Training Program*, an interactive program focused on self-development and basic communication and leadership skills. It also provides basic education about the Canadian judicial system.

FUNDERS

- ❖ Ministry of Community, Aboriginal and Women's Services
- ❖ Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General
- ❖ Ministry for Children and Families Development
- ❖ Ministry of Education (Gender Equity Branch)
- ❖ Health Canada – CAPC
- ❖ Canadian Heritage
- ❖ United Way of the Lower Mainland
- ❖ Vancouver Foundation