



HAMILTON URBAN CORE COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTRE

Community Health – It's a Partnership

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Hamilton Urban Core initiates Neighbours, Friends and Families (NFF) Diverse Communities Hamilton Project – a community-based approach to woman abuse

HAMILTON – Hamilton Urban Core Community Health Centre is responding to community needs through the Neighbours Friends and Families (NFF) Diverse (Immigrant and Refugee) Communities Hamilton Project. The project is funded through the Ontario Women's Directorate and involves the collaboration of community members, leaders and representatives from diverse communities and agencies serving women and their families in Hamilton.

"Our approach is based on the knowledge that comprehensive, culturally appropriate strategies are needed to reach out to and engage immigrant and refugee women, neighbours, friends and families, to raise awareness of the warning signs of woman abuse," says Nadine Favics, NFF project coordinator. "There are many barriers to accessing information, services and opportunities for engagement which make immigrant and refugee women uniquely vulnerable when faced by domestic violence."

Neighbours Friends and Families is a public education campaign to raise awareness of the signs of woman abuse so that those close to an at-risk woman or an abusive man can help. Two Cultural Facilitators and a Project Coordinator will carry out the project activities at Hamilton Urban Core including educational and learning forums, individual and community meetings, focused outreach, special events and community specific activities.

"More attention is being drawn to the Neighbours Friends and Families campaign in communities across the province", commented Denise Brooks, executive director of Hamilton Urban Core "because it encourages approaches to addressing woman abuse that engage everyone in the community."

Hamilton Urban Core Community Health Centre is a fully accredited thriving inner city health centre and leader in the provision of high-quality primary health care services, health promotion programs and community development and has 15 years of experience delivering services to marginalized populations including immigrants and refugees.

FURTHER INFORMATION:

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