



BRIDGES TO SAFETY:

Building the capacity of the settlement sector to respond to gender-based violence, together with the anti-violence sector

WHAT IS BRIDGES TO SAFETY?

Bridges to Safety is a comprehensive, nationally available, introductory online training course for settlement and anti-violence staff. It aims to build a common base of knowledge, build awareness and education, and increase the capacity of service providers to recognize and respond to gender-based violence (GBV) in a way that meets the unique needs of newcomer, immigrant, and refugee communities.

It also aims to increase the capacity of the settlement and anti-violence sectors to work

collaboratively in this area, and to focus on building bridges, not silos, between sectors.

Through this course, you will learn about many different forms of GBV, how to recognize them, and how to offer support in ways that are culturally safe, anti-racist, trauma and violence-informed, and that acknowledge the intersectionality of those we serve in our organizations. You will also learn the importance of collaboration in responding to GBV.



WHO SHOULD TAKE THIS COURSE & WHY?

- Leadership and frontline professionals in settlement organizations to support awareness about GBV and to offer appropriate responses when working with clients.
- Leadership and frontline professionals in anti-violence organizations to support awareness about the needs and experiences of clients from newcomer, immigrant, and refugee communities.
- Other interested service providers who work with newcomers, immigrants and refugees and want to learn more about GBV awareness and responses with diverse communities.
- Students, volunteers, or anyone else who wants to learn more about GBV in order to be better prepared to recognize and respond to it.

KEY FEATURES OF THE BRIDGES TO SAFETY COURSE:

- **Real-life scenarios** of immigrant survivors of GBV in Canada, taken from the *Domestic Violence in Immigrant Communities: Case Studies* textbook and other sources.
- **Key informant interview quotes** from experts on GBV across Canada, taken from our project needs assessment.
- **Survivor voices** to illustrate their unique needs and circumstances in their own words, taken from various research sources.
- **Links** to further learning opportunities on each topic presented.
- **Self-reflection exercises** that allow you to examine your own experiences with each topic both personally and professionally, as well as map out resources in your community.

[CLICK HERE TO VIEW THE COURSE SYLLABUS](#)

COURSE CONTENT

MODULE 1	MODULE 2	MODULE 3	MODULE 4	MODULE 5
Settlement and Anti-Violence Sectors - Working Together Towards a Common Goal	Understanding Gender-Based Violence in Immigrant and Refugee Communities	Safety Planning and Risk Assessment	Additional Forms of GBV & Considerations for Specific Populations	Becoming a Champion
The Crisis of Gender-Based Violence	The Roots of Gender-Based Violence	Responding to Disclosures	The Harms of Cultural Stereotyping	Allyship
The Importance of Collaboration and a Shared Base of Knowledge	Understanding Abuse Tactics	Safety Planning	Additional Forms of Violence	Engaging Men and Boys
Common Frameworks and Approaches	Recognizing Warning Signs of Abuse	Risk Factors for Lethal Violence	Child Protection	Self-Care and Community Care
Asset Mapping	Avoiding Victim Blaming	Risk Assessment	Intersectional Vulnerabilities	Building Bridges and Working Collaboratively





BENEFITS OF BRIDGES TO SAFETY

- You will gain knowledge about GBV and learn strategies to help you better support and meet the unique needs of newcomer, immigrant, and refugee survivors in your organization and community.
- At the end of the five modules, you will have been introduced to ideas for working together across sectors and mapping local resources for referrals, future collaboration, and raising awareness within your networks.
- You will learn how to respond to GBV in ways that are anti-racist, survivor-centered, and culturally safe.
- This course will encourage you to reflect on your own beliefs and actions and increase understanding about the root causes of GBV and the importance of intersectionality.