

Sheltersafe.ca - A lifeline to safety for abused women and their children



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With the launch of [Sheltersafe.ca](https://sheltersafe.ca) - a new online resource - women and children across the country now have a one stop connection to help in their community. Any time of day or night, through Sheltersafe.ca, women can find help and support.

[Sheltersafe.ca](https://sheltersafe.ca) connects women to help close to home. Using a clickable map, women can connect quickly with shelter services in their community. In addition to being a safe place to stay, shelters have 24-hour phone lines to assist women in crisis. This includes helping women to make a safety plan for themselves and for their children. The site underlines that women do not need to be a shelter resident to access shelter services. "We want women to know that they are not alone, that help is available 24-hours a day," said Lise Martin, Executive Director of the Canadian Network of Women's Shelters and Transition Houses.

[Sheltersafe.ca](https://sheltersafe.ca) provides a single point of information for women seeking safety and quickly identifies a shelter in a specific geographic area. The map provides 24-hour emergency telephone numbers, while protecting the confidential locations of shelters. "The most typical experience for victims of domestic violence is isolation. A map indicating hundreds of points of light, of hope, and of safety is more than a tool. It is a reminder that you are not alone, it is a reminder that whether you live in a large urban centre or in a remote community, that there are resources that can help," said Dawna Pritchard, Executive Director of a remote shelter in Manitoba.

On any given night, 4,600 women and their 3,600 children are forced to sleep in women's shelters as a result of domestic violence. The majority of children in shelters are younger than five. On average, every six days a woman in Canada is killed by her intimate partner.

[Sheltersafe.ca](https://sheltersafe.ca) is also an important new tool for other helping agencies, employers and the neighbours, friends and families of women experiencing domestic violence.

ABOUT THE CANADIAN NETWORK OF WOMEN'S SHELTERS & TRANSITION HOUSES

The Network brings together 12 provincial and territorial shelter organizations. It works as a unified voice to collaborate, educate, and innovate for systemic change that ends violence against women, making Canada a model for safety in the world.