

# Call For Participation

## HIDDEN FROM SIGHT VOLUME II:

A WEEK IN THE LIFE OF  
OTTAWA'S VAW SECTOR

JULY 2010



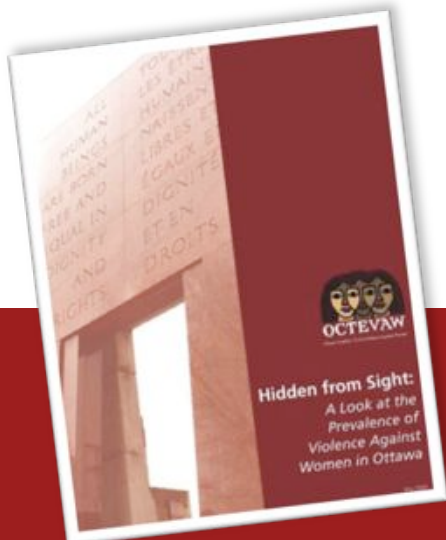
## IMPORTANT DATES

SEPT 27 – OCT 1, 2010	SNAP SHOT DATA COLLECTION PERIOD
NOV 2010 – MAR 2011	EXISTING STATS DATA SUBMISSION PERIOD
MAY 2011	FINAL REPORT RELEASED

## HIDDEN FROM SIGHT

- Hidden from Sight Volume I was a project designed to consolidate existing violence against women (VAW) data collected by local agencies and to educate the public on the prevalence of VAW in Ottawa.
- OCTEVAW pioneered a new research model and created a written report mapping the trends of violence within the city.
- Given the success of the first report, OCTEVAW has secured funding to replicate the report for the 2009-2010 timeframe and expand upon the project with the inclusion of a snapshot component.

**We are currently reaching out to agencies/groups/ institutions that may work with women who experience violence and would be interested in contributing to the second volume of this report!**



## CONTACT US

Telephone: 613-725-3601 x105

Fax: 613-725-5651

Trina Forrester, Research Coordinator [research@octevaw-cocvff.ca](mailto:research@octevaw-cocvff.ca)



OCTEVAW is an unincorporated, non-profit, non-partisan organization composed of a network of member organizations and individuals located within the City of Ottawa and surrounding regions. Our members include women abuse and rape crisis agencies, victim services, child protection services, hospital and police representatives, the crown, probation and parole, health and counselling services, academic researchers and other concerned community members.

**Mission:**

OCTEVAW is a coalition of organizations and individuals dedicated to ending violence against women and, through leadership, education, advocacy and political action, to promoting a coordinated response to women and their children who have experienced abuse

**Vision:**

OCTEVAW aspires to a future in which:

- no woman in our community need fear for her safety and well-being, or that of her children;
- respect for the inherent worth and dignity of all women is reflected in our public institutions;
- all members of the community are united in supporting efforts to ensure a permanent end to violence and abuse of women and their children in Ottawa.

**Values:**

In working collaboratively to achieve equality of rights, fair access to services and resources, and social justice for women and their children who have experienced abuse, OCTEVAW adheres to feminist, anti-racist, anti-oppression and pro-choice principles, and is committed to celebrating diversity, inclusiveness and the dignity of all women and their children.

**Membership**

OCTEVAW welcomes participation and input from all sectors and from all people. We are especially dedicated to ensuring accessibility and inclusivity of all women, including survivors of violence. Women who may have specific needs or requests regarding involvement are encouraged to contact the OCTEVAW office.

**Voting Member:**

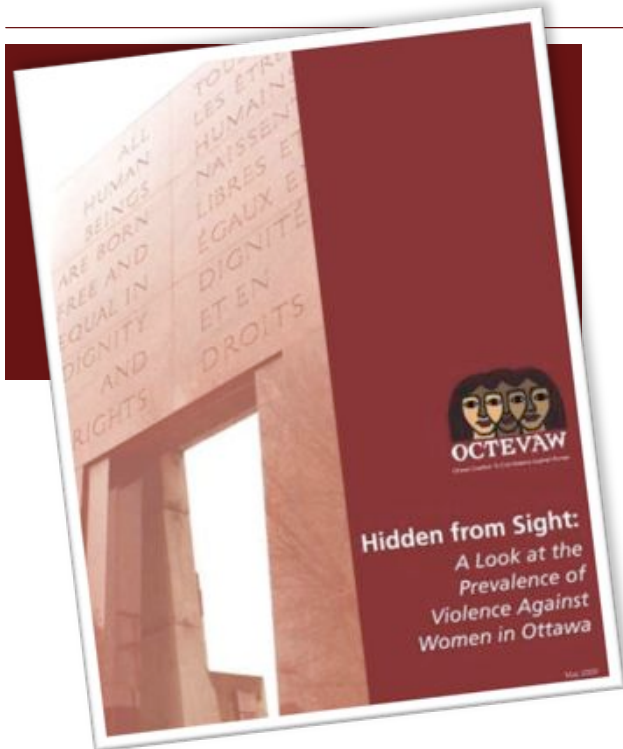
There are three types of voting members:

1. **Agency Members** Agency members designate at least one representative from their agency to join any OCTEVAW standing committee. All agency members are allocated one vote each.
2. **Individual Members** Individual members can join any OCTEVAW standing committee and are allocated one vote each.
3. **Honorary Members** The OCTEVAW Steering Committee may consider granting honorary membership to individuals who, by virtue of their past contributions or achievements in ending violence against women and children, merit the title "Honorary Member." Honorary members are allocated one vote each.

**Non-Voting Member**

Individuals and organizations who do not meet all the criteria for membership are encouraged to contribute to, and participate in OCTEVAW Standing Committees as well.

For information regarding membership please contact [ed@octevaw-cocvff.ca](mailto:ed@octevaw-cocvff.ca)



# HIDDEN FROM SIGHT PROJECT

"IT'S ESPECIALLY GRATIFYING FOR THE COMMUNITY FOUNDATION TO SEE THE WAY OCTEVAW HAS BEEN ABLE TO USE THE PUBLIC INTEREST CREATED BY OTTAWA'S VITAL SIGNS TO DELVE DEEPER INTO AN ISSUE THAT HAS BEEN LARGELY HIDDEN FROM THE BROADER COMMUNITY FOR TOO LONG"

BARBARA MCINNES,  
COMMUNITY FOUNDATION OF OTTAWA

OCTEVAW has received funding from The Community Foundation of Ottawa to replicate and expand on the original Hidden from Sight report.

## Goals:

- Consolidate available statistics regarding violence against women (woman abuse and sexual violence) and children, as well as corresponding services in the Ottawa area for the 2009 & 2010 calendar years.
- Double the number of participating agencies/institutions (goal is 32 agencies)
- Follow up on the recommendations made in Vol. I (where possible)
- Development of a one-week snapshot of VAW response in Ottawa
- Create a comprehensive report on the state of violence against women to serve as a resource for advocacy, public education and service planning.

The data collected for this report will focus on 5 main themes:

- Woman Abuse/Intimate Partner Violence/ Domestic Violence
- Sexual Assault
- Homicide/Femicide
- VAW Response Services (Snap Shot)
- Inclusion of women from groups that tend to be under represented in existing data including Aboriginal women, women from conflict and post-conflict situations, women involved in the sex trade, rural women, amongst others.



## HIDDEN FROM SIGHT VOL. I AVAILABLE NOW AT:

[WWW.OCTEVAW-COCVFF.CA/EN/PDF/REPORTS/HIDDEN\\_FROM\\_SIGHT.PDF](http://WWW.OCTEVAW-COCVFF.CA/EN/PDF/REPORTS/HIDDEN_FROM_SIGHT.PDF) (ENGLISH)

AND

[WWW.OCTEVAW-COCVFF.CA/FR/PDF/REPORTS/HIDDEN\\_FROM\\_SIGHT.PDF](http://WWW.OCTEVAW-COCVFF.CA/FR/PDF/REPORTS/HIDDEN_FROM_SIGHT.PDF) (FRENCH)

# HOW YOU CAN GET INVOLVED

## WHO CAN PARTICIPATE?

Any community group/not for profit organization/agency or institution that works with women, particularly those escaping or experiencing violence, are invited to submit data for this project.

## HOW DO I PARTICIPATE?

Our goal is to amalgamate data already collected by your group with data collected by similar agencies/organizations. The first step is to seek the approval of your board or governing agency to release your existing data to us. In an effort to maintain the confidentiality and privacy of your clients, we ask that no names or identifying information be included in any data you send to us for this project (for more ethical considerations see the Ethics section on pg. 5). Once you have received the consent of your governing body to participate you can email, fax or arrange for a pick up of your data with the project coordinator.

## WHAT KIND OF DATA ARE WE COLLECTING?

### *Demographic information of clients served*

- Age
- Gender
- Language Spoken
- Sexual Orientation
- Geographic Location (ex. Orleans, the Glebe, Vanier or postal codes)
- Disabilities

### *Number of Individuals accessing service*

- Number of individuals accessing the service
- Number of calls for information or aid
- Number of times an individual accesses a service

- Was this the first service they accessed?

### *Reason for accessing service/chief complaint*

- Type of violence experiences (physical, sexual, emotional, financial, etc.)
- Counselling (if voluntary or court mandated)
- Medical Attention
- Relationship between survivor and perpetrator

### *Referrals*

- Had the individual been referred from another organization?
- Was the client referred to another service/agency/organization for additional aid?

- If yes where?
- Were the police contacted?

### *Current Resources*

- Number of staff, volunteers, etc.
- Number of shelter beds versus average number of women seeking aid
- Wait times for a client to receive assistance

### *Any information on children who witness/experience family violence*

- Any demographic information
- Number of children served

These are just examples of the kind of information you may be collecting for your own purposes or for your funders. This list should not be considered exhaustive and if you have other data that may be of interest to this project, please feel free to forward it on.

## HOW WILL MY DATA BE USED?

In order to better understand how your data will be represented in the final report, please consult the first volume of Hidden from Sight available online at [www.octevaw-cocvff.ca/en/pdf/reports/Hidden\\_from\\_Sight.pdf](http://www.octevaw-cocvff.ca/en/pdf/reports/Hidden_from_Sight.pdf).

## WILL MY ORGANIZATION BE SINGLED OUT?

Only those institutions/programs that are government mandated (police, PAR programs, hospital programs) are named in the final report. Shelters, community groups, resource centres and similar groups are never singled out. For example, the report will state, "One Ottawa resource centre reported that..." but not specify which centre. Of course, if you would like to have your agency singled out/highlighted, accommodations can always be made.



## ETHICAL CONSIDERATIONS

Due to the sensitivity of the data this project will be collecting, we ask that you please follow all ethical guidelines outlined by your service, institution or organization. There are two main ethical concerns to bear in mind for this data collection project: confidentiality and legality.

### *Confidentiality*

The confidentiality of the individuals accessing services must be maintained. Therefore, we ask that absolutely no names be included in the data sent for this project. This includes those individuals who may have consented to have their names appear in any other research projects and/or published report, as they have not consented to be named in this report.

### *Legality*

We ask that all administrative channels be followed prior to sending any data for this project. While we appreciate the enthusiasm of members to participate, we want to ensure that proper procedure for your organization is followed. Please confer with your colleagues, supervisor, ED, board of directors or legal consultant as necessary.

## DATA FORMAT

Data can be emailed to the Research Coordinator in an excel, word, powerpoint, or .pdf document.

The more detailed the information the more useful it is for the purposes of this project. For example, it is better to send a break down of the number calls by month or quarter than to say there were 4000 calls in a year. It is ideal to send a data file that contains more than one piece of information about an individual, however, we are aware this may not always be possible. We will work with whatever level of breakdown or detail that is possible. Please do not hesitate to send us whatever data you have available regardless of the level of detail.

## TIME FRAME

This project is collecting data from the 2009 and 2010 calendar years. If time and/or resources are limited for data assembly, then we would prefer the most recent data you have.

## SNAP SHOT PROJECT

The Snap Shot Project is an original data collection project being run under the umbrella of the larger Hidden from Sight project. Participating agencies will be asked to fill out a form for each client they serve during the one-week data collection period. This will allow us to have unique insight into Ottawa's VAW response and answer many questions that arose out of the first report. Participation in this side project is voluntary and participation in the snap shot is not required to participate in the larger Hidden from Sight project.

**If you are interested in learning more about the upcoming snap shot project please contact our Research Coordinator at [research@octevaw-cocvff.ca](mailto:research@octevaw-cocvff.ca)**

## WHAT IF I HAVE QUESTIONS/CONCERNS OR NEED HELP?

Our Research Coordinator is always available to answer any questions, alleviate any concerns and help ensure you are able to participate in this project as easily as possible.

Please feel free to contact:

**Trina Forrester**  
**Research Coordinator**  
[research@octevaw-cocvff.ca](mailto:research@octevaw-cocvff.ca)

**Erin Williams**  
**Executive Director**  
**613-725-3601 x105**  
[ed@octevaw-cocvff.ca](mailto:ed@octevaw-cocvff.ca)

