

## 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 and pro-choice principles, and is committed to celebrating diversity, inclusiveness and the dignity of all women and their children.

# OTTAWA COALITION TO END VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN HERSTORY PROJECT



OCTEVAW is a coalition that for decades has sought to engage the Ottawa community with the goal of being a vehicle for change and being a voice for women and children who have experienced abuse. Today OCTEVAW includes members such as women's counselors, shelter workers, community advocates, criminal justice members, police, academics, and health care providers who work to promote accountability. The victimization of women and children must not be silenced.

## What is the Herstory Project?

It is a project that seeks to document the evolution of OCTEVAW from being the Regional Coordinating Committee to End Violence Against Women (RCCEVAW) to the coalition that we know today. The founder of OCTEVAW, Joan Gullen, wrote "our herstory is a testament to our determination not to let the issue of violence against women and all its manifestations fall into the background". This project will document the pivotal events that make up OCTEVAW's herstory. We believe that the narratives by those who have been dedicated to ending Violence Against Women and children are fundamental to OCTEVAW's herstory.

We will be starting to conduct focus groups and individual interviews in September and we would like you and/or your organization to participate. Our hope is for those who have advocated for and supported women and children to share with us their experiences that led OCTEVAW to be the coalition it is today.

If you are interested in participating and would like to be made aware of the focus group dates and times please contact Stefanie Lomatski at [herstory@octevaw-cocvff.ca](mailto:herstory@octevaw-cocvff.ca).



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