

## Supports for Albertans Fleeing Abuse

Albertans in abusive situations can get help 24 hours a day, seven days a week through Alberta Works. All they need to do is call 1-866-644-5135 toll-free in Alberta or 780-644-5135 in Edmonton to find out what is available. These financial supports are available through Alberta Works, providing the program's eligibility criteria are met.

### Getting to Safety

- Emergency transportation to a safe place is provided (such as a woman's shelter).
- If shelters are full or not available, emergency accommodation is arranged in a hotel or motel.
- A \$56 allowance to cover incidental expenses not covered by the shelter.
- Emergency items not available through shelters are covered, such as prescription drugs, dental or optical services, and child care.
- Relocation costs within Alberta or Canada are covered if a person must move out of their community to escape the threat of violence.

### Setting up a new household

- A \$1000 allowance is issued to help set up a new home.
- A damage deposit to secure a residence is covered.
- Financial help provides for needs such as food, clothing, shelter and other basic needs, free from the expectation to seek employment, so personal or family matters can be dealt with.
- An \$86 monthly benefit is provided with the recognition that Albertans fleeing abuse are not ready to go to work.

### Starting a new life

- \$90 per month for telephone and transportation costs are provided to ensure access to additional supports, such as being able to call for help and travel to get counseling or legal advice.
- Employment and training services are available to help find jobs.
- Child support payments from the other parent(s) are arranged, if it does not endanger the family's safety.
- To help increase their income through working, earnings exemptions take only a portion of their wages into account when their monthly financial support is calculated.
  - Single parents and singles get the first \$230 in monthly earnings, plus 25 per cent of any amount over \$230, without any deductions from their financial benefits.
  - Couples each get the first \$115 in monthly earnings, plus 25 per cent of any amount over \$115, without any deductions from their financial benefits.
- Supplementary health coverage continues for the whole family after they stop receiving financial support when transitioning into work.
- Extended health coverage for children – through the Alberta Child Health Benefit – is available to all families with limited income.

### For more information:

**Call:** 1-866-644-5135 toll free