

How the Program Works

- Held Saturdays.
- Facilitated conversations by experienced individuals and cultural connectors that share knowledge about healthy relationships and preventing domestic violence.
- Individual and collaborative team sessions and workshops that are online and in-person.

Who Can Access Program

Newcomer men and boys who are:

- Permanent Residents of Canada
- Canadian Citizens
- Refugees with Positive Notice of Decision Letter

Find Out More

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Program Available

- On-site at EMCN Central
10170 112 Street NW
- Online

Funded by:



Immigration, Refugees
and Citizenship Canada

Immigration, Réfugiés
et Citoyenneté Canada



Community Programs

Safe Families

Supports smoother cultural settlement and integration into Canadian society by understanding values and accessing resources available.

emcn.ab.ca

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Edmonton Mennonite Centre for Newcomers

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EMCN Safe Families Program

Since 2016, this program enhances settlement into Canadian society by working with participants to understand the values and ways to meet expectations of settling and integrating smoothly.

Through facilitated discussions by experienced individuals and cultural connectors, newcomers learn about healthy relationships, available skills, resources and support groups to prevent and eliminate domestic violence.

Facilitated conversations are held on Saturdays with topics suggested by participants related to expectations and practices for smooth settlement and integration.

Although targeted to newcomer men and boys, females are also eligible to participate.

Participants benefit from:

- Mentoring and one-on-one coaching from experienced professionals.
- Access to a supportive cultural network.
- Access to resources and community agencies that can support them.
- Improved networking skills.
- Improved self-awareness.
- Improved interpersonal and emotional skills, such as communication, problem-solving, empathy and conflict management skills.
- Opportunities to build healthier relationship skills by doing activities together.
- Tools and strategies for managing work-life balance, anger management and stress.
- Support to boys in school for identity strengthening and academic skill development.



Participant Feedback

“I was brought up with the teaching that when children have made mistakes they should be physically punished. I am thankful for being part of this program as I would have been criminally charged with assault. This program must continue to educate my people so they can integrate positively.”

Participant Feedback

One participant shared that he has a respectful communication with his family members now as a result of being in this program.

“We now plan together and make decisions jointly without me pushing through pre-determined decisions. I have been positively impacted and that is why I invited both my wife and daughter to come so we can all learn together. I have been brought up in an environment where the man makes decisions without consulting with his spouse. I have learnt that the input of my wife and the family members is important. I believe this is why we have a great relationship now.”

Another participant had already been removed from the home because of domestic violence. He was too angry to learn anything from court-appointed anger management training and was referred to EMCN Safe Families program.

“When I came into program I learnt so much, and now I appreciate the non-violent methods of correcting each other. This program helped me to reunite with my family.”

