

Making A Difference Workshop

Thursday October 2nd 2014 9:00am-4:00pm

Children's Aid Society of S.D. & G. (150 Boundary Road, Cornwall, ON)

Coordinated by:

Réseau d'action
communautaire
contre l'abus



Community
Action Network
Against Abuse

Stormont, Dundas, Glengarry & Akwesasne



Facilitated by:



The “Making A Difference” workshop is designed for anyone providing services to children, youth and families. The overall goal of the training is to gain practical knowledge about child abuse and children exposed to family violence, enhancing the confidence to respond to suspicions of abuse, the ability to provide support to children, youth and their families and to raise awareness and promote early identification and effective intervention.

The workshop will be delivered by **Pearl Rimer, Manager of Toronto's first Child & Youth Advocacy Centre (CYAC) at Boost Child Abuse Prevention & Intervention.** Pearl designs and conducts award-winning training for community service providers, children and youth. Pearl has dedicated 30 years to the fields of child care, child abuse and children's mental health as a consultant, instructor, trainer and research coordinator. Pearl designed and implemented the first child abuse course to be offered in an Early Childhood Education Program in Ontario, and co-authored the first Canadian textbook on child abuse, and is currently working on a second edition.

The morning topics will include:

- the current trends in primary prevention;
- the assumptions that have been made about children/youth and safety;
- the mixed messages children/youth have received in the past;
- appropriate messages for staff, parents and caregivers to give to children and youth;
- practical safety tips; and
- how to talk to children and youth about safety from a developmental perspective.

The afternoon topics will include:

- defining and identifying child abuse;
- legal and moral responsibilities with respect to reporting suspicions of child abuse and children exposed to family violence;
- responding to disclosures;
- how to report suspicions of child abuse, including strategies that assist in overcoming fears of reporting;
- the system's response; and
- how to maintain the client relationship when a report to child protection authorities has been made.

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