

enCompass Community Safety Agency's Family Justice Centre

enCompass Community Safety Agency (enCompass) is proposing a Family Justice Centre (FJC) in Edmonton to provide a single, coordinated point of access for individuals and families impacted by intimate partner, domestic, and family violence.

The Centre will be led by enCompass, an experienced, community-based organization with deep partnerships across the Capital region's justice, law enforcement, and community agencies. enCompass has been supporting Albertans impacted by domestic violence, sexual violence, and exploitation for over twenty-five years.

The FJC will bring together critical supports—victim services, court support, police referrals, housing, legal assistance, counselling, and outreach—into one safe, welcoming space. For someone in crisis, this can mean the difference between being overwhelmed by a fragmented system and finding a clear, supported path to safety and healing.

The proposed Centre reflects a forward-looking, community-based solution grounded in prevention, early intervention, and lasting recovery for those most in need.

Family Violence Trends



The Edmonton Police Service reported **9,189 cases** of intimate partner violence in 2024. By August 2025, **7,774 cases** of family violence, which includes intimate partner as well as other family-related incidents, have been recorded.



In 2023–24, Alberta's women's shelters supported over **15,000** individuals, a **10% increase** from the previous year.



enCompass serves upwards of 2,000 survivors annually within its family violence programs.

Family Violence in Alberta: A System Under Strain

Across Alberta, individuals and families experiencing intimate partner and family violence often face a fragmented and complex system that can be difficult to navigate, particularly in moments of crisis. These challenges are amplified for individuals experiencing high-risk violence and for those in rural communities, where services may be limited or inaccessible.

Community agencies, including enCompass, are seeing growing demand and increasing complexity in the situations they respond to. With service providers under strain, victims are being left without the help they need, and the absence of coordinated supports means the true gravity of family violence is not fully understood.

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What We Can Build Together

The proposed Family Justice Centre offers a timely and impactful opportunity to improve outcomes for individuals and families experiencing intimate partner and family violence, particularly those facing complex, high-risk situations. By bringing community and justice partners together under one roof, the Centre creates a more cohesive, coordinated, and accessible response, ensuring that individuals are not left to navigate services on their own.

Modelled on successful hubs in San Diego and Ontario's Peel Region, the FJC builds on enCompass's Integrated Domestic Violence Response Team (IDVRT), a collaborative model with the Edmonton Police Service (EPS) and the YWCA focused on crisis response, risk assessment, and long-term safety planning for high-risk individuals. Services will be available in person and virtually, ensuring accessibility for rural and northern Albertans who often face heightened risk and fewer local supports. The Centre will offer supports across the full continuum of violence, from prevention and early intervention to justice navigation and recovery, ensuring that both victims and perpetrators are supported in a way that breaks cycles and reduces long-term system strain.

enCompass's Family Justice Centre reflects a growing recognition that family violence cannot be addressed in silos, and that meaningful prevention and recovery require an integrated, person-centred approach.

Supporting Alberta's Strategic Direction

The proposed Family Justice Centre aligns with provincial priorities to improve safety, reduce recidivism, and create more efficient, coordinated justice and social service systems. The Centre:

- Delivers on Alberta's 10-Year Strategy to End Gender-Based Violence through prevention, integration, and improved access;
- Aligns with Justice and Public Safety priorities to reduce court burden and repeat violence;
- Supports Mental Health and Addiction goals by enhancing recovery access and early intervention;
- Advances rural and northern access through virtual service delivery; and
- Offers a cost-effective model that reduces duplication and delivers long-term savings.

What's At Stake

Without the **Family Justice Centre**, individuals facing the highest levels of risk will remain unsupported by a disjointed and overburdened system. Survivors will continue to struggle to access the safety, services, and justice they deserve. For some, the outcome will be life-threatening. Additionally, the absence of early, coordinated interventions for perpetrators leaves communities vulnerable to continued cycles of violence and limits our ability to create lasting safety. Inaction represents a lost opportunity to reduce repeat violence, ease strain on emergency and judicial systems, and meaningfully advance Alberta's 10-Year Strategy to End Gender-Based Violence.

Establishing the Centre is necessary for a coordinated, effective response that protects lives and delivers long-term public value.

Help Us Deliver Change

enCompass Community Safety Agency (enCompass) is seeking government support to establish and operate a Family Justice Centre in Edmonton. To realize this vision, enCompass is seeking:

Year 1: \$1,925,330

To support start-up and initial operations

Year 2: \$1,836,780

To continue operations

Year 3: \$2,216,280

Annually to sustain operations, including the addition of supports for non-mandated perpetrators at a separate site

This investment will allow Alberta to respond to family violence with the urgency and coordination it requires while supporting the government's broader goals of reducing repeat victimization, preventing escalation, and improving justice system efficiency.