

Woman Abuse Statement

'We believe that all women have the right to live and work in a safe environment, to be respected physically, emotionally and psychologically. We will strive to prevent the occurrence of abuse for women by awareness, education, support and advocacy.'

'It is every woman's right to live in an environment that is safe, supportive and without fear of violence. Public health nurses will work toward increasing awareness, advocacy and education toward this right.'

We acknowledge the existence of woman abuse; that woman abuse happens regardless of age, ability, race, economics, geography, religion, or sexual orientation. Woman abuse is never the fault of the woman.

We will endeavour to provide non-judgemental care to all women. In order to do this nurses will ask all women about abuse, define abuse for their clients and colleagues; ensure privacy; maintain confidentiality; allow opportunity for disclosure; offer support; provide referral information; advocate to have adequate, accessible and available resources and make woman abuse prevention a priority.

Woman abuse affects women, children, families and communities. Woman abuse is a public health and safety issue: its prevention is an issue of respect, equity and social justice.

Abuse is not tolerated here.