

# MOTHERING INFANTS IN VIOLENT FAMILIES

*Supporting Mother-Infant Relationships Affected by Intimate Partner Violence*

## Completed Interviews

Service Provider: PEI= 6/10, NB=11/10,  
NS=8/10

Mother: NB=11/30, PEI=3/20, NS=7/40

## Academic Team Members:

Kimberley Critchley, Carmen Gill, Jean  
Hughes, Nicole Letourneau, Loretta  
Secco, Miriam Stewart, and Doug Willms

## Community Research Team Members:

Sylvie Boudreau, Rona Brown, Barbara  
Clow, Anne Darrah, Jeff den Otter,  
Shannon Edgett, Steven Fletcher, Natalie  
Galloway, Elizabeth Godbout, Blair Hill,  
Tammy Kitchen, Julie Gallant, Evelyn  
Kennedy, Claudette Landry, Liz Lautard,  
Joanna LaTulippe-Rochon, Bea LeBlanc,  
Christine LeBlanc, Marie-Beth LeBlanc,  
Darlène MacInnis, Anne MacMullin, Janet  
McGeachy, Helen Morrison, Michelle  
Pickles, Bernadette Poirier, Sheila Profit,  
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## Questions or Suggestions?

Contact Katie Young, Project Director, at  
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## Research Team Update March, 2008

Amanda Lawson is going on maternity leave and Sylvie Boudreau will be joining the team as a representative from Moncton HeadStart. Welcome Sylvie! Best wishes to Amanda and family! The first draft of the recruitment kit will be prepared for the week of March 17<sup>th</sup>, to be circulated at the quarterly research team meeting March 25<sup>th</sup>. A retrospective interview guide for women of older children who were infants while mom was in a violent relationship will be finalized at the meeting. The team will also decide how we want to move forward with this expanded approach to learning about the effects of violence on mothers and infants. The Academic Research team will be meeting on the 17<sup>th</sup> to discuss the initial service provider interviews.

*Prince Edward Island.* Recruitment efforts continue at the PEI site. Julie has prepared information for International Women's Day and Family violence Prevention Week activities.

*New Brunswick.* **Four additional mothers** have been interviewed in New Brunswick. Two of the mothers heard about the study at a presentation, one through a pamphlet, and the other from one of the mothers interviewed. An additional interview is also scheduled with a mother who heard about the study from a friend who was at a presentation. New Brunswick has now recruited a third of its anticipated sample. The New Brunswick site continues to schedule presentations with mothers and service providers across the province and share information through as many avenues as possible, including the Miramichi Health Authority's recent Day for Women and community websites and billboards.

*Cape Breton.* Cape Breton has had their **first eligible mother** volunteer and a second mother volunteer. Congratulations Karen and Patricia! Both mothers heard about the study through All Kids. Two service provider interviews have also taken place since the last update, and the final interview is scheduled. Karen and Patricia took part in Family Violence Prevention Week activities, and have presented to different interest groups. Some resistance was met by a small group of service providers, but the Cape Breton site has responded to their concerns.

*Halifax.* **Three more mothers** have been interviewed at the Halifax site. Nancy is in the process of scheduling the final service provider interview for the Halifax site. Nancy and Jean had a very positive meeting with the IWK Grace Family Violence Community Committee, and are currently seeking ethical approval to include study information in mother take home packages at the suggestion of the committee. They will also be meeting later this month with the Memory Lane Parent Group.

**RESEARCH TEAM MISSION:** The purpose of this research collaboration is to explore and understand the (1) impact of intimate partner violence on the relationships of mothers with their infants and (2) unique support needs, resources, barriers to support, and preferences for support intervention for mothering infants in violent environments.