

**Surviving Not Thriving:
The Systemic Barriers to Housing for
Women Leaving Violent Relationships**



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The people that made it happen:

- 45 women across BC who shared their experiences with us
- Local Research Coordinators
- Local Advisory Committees in 4 communities who supported the project
- Staff at the BC Non-Profit Housing Association and the BC Society of Transition Houses
- Amy Bohigian, Watershed Productions


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PROJECT PURPOSES

1. To gather BC-based evidence on the barriers to housing for women fleeing violence.
2. To facilitate provincial and local actions to reduce barriers.
3. To provide a venue through which women can share their experiences.

Photovoice Research



Research Process

- Four communities
- Local researchers
- Local and provincial advisory committees
- 45 women
- 5-step data collection and analysis
- 547 photos, 42 transcripts

Ethics and Safety Protocol

FINDINGS:

SYSTEMIC & INTERCONNECTED BARRIERS

1. Poverty
2. Unacceptable & unsafe housing
3. Persistent patterns of revictimization
4. Health effects of violence

Knowledge Translation Toolkit

- Toolkit designed to foster community awareness, dialogue, and action on women’s barriers to housing.
- Two parts:
 - Digital Story-telling DVD
 - Facilitator’s Guide

DVD Showing

Facilitator's Guide

- Designed to foster dialogue and action after DVD viewing
- Works in tandem with DVD
- Information delivered in accessible language and geared towards broad spectrum presentations
- Clearly outlined interactive exercises aimed at stimulating curiosity, dialogue and leading to action

Arts-based Knowledge Translation

- Arts-based research is a powerful tool for innovative and effective KT
- Importance of working with artists to maximize creative impact
- Visual elements heightened effect with public audiences – stimulate awareness and action

Thank You!
