

Family, Gender-Based, and Intimate Partner Violence

Expanding survivor supports and system-wide accountability

Peel continues to experience significant demand for family violence, gender-based violence (GBV) and intimate partner violence (IPV) services. In 2025, police responded to nearly 17,000 family and intimate partner violence incidents in Peel, while community agencies supported over 14,400 survivors and received more than 26,500 crisis calls and self-referrals.

Despite strong community partnerships, emergency and transitional housing programs continue to operate above capacity, creating barriers for survivors. Many women and families fleeing violence face extended wait times for transitional housing or remain in unsafe situations due to a lack of available housing options.

Addressing this growing crisis requires sustained provincial leadership through predictable, multi-year operational and capital investments, stronger coordination across ministries, and support for integrated service delivery models that improve access to trauma- and violence-informed services.

Peel Actions to Address GBV and IPV:

Through its CSWB Plan, Peel Region convenes partners to strengthen regional coordination and advance shared priorities:

- The **Break the Cycle Summit: Centering Housing Solutions in Response to Gender-Based Violence** in June 2026 convened survivors, community partners, developers, system leaders, policymakers, and funders for a focused, action-oriented session on housing pathways for survivors.
- Peel's annual **Break the Silence** campaign raises awareness on family and intimate partner violence as a key prevention strategy, with a focus on strengthening alignment with broader system initiatives and community-led efforts across the system to help drive meaningful change and earlier intervention.
- The **Safe Centre of Peel** coordinates more than 30 community and system partners and supports over 2,000 survivors and family members annually. With Ontario STANDS funding ending in March 2027, this critical two-site model is at risk.



GBV and IPV in Peel

- Peel Regional Police responded to 16,915 family and intimate partner violence incidents in 2025, an average of 46 incidents per day.
- Women represented 78% of victims in Peel's family and intimate partner violence disputes in 2025.
- In Caledon, OPP reported a 44% increase in IPV and family violence disputes between 2020 and 2025.
- Survivors can wait two to three months for transitional housing placements, with significant competition for available spaces.

Solutions to strengthen support for survivors

Peel Region and community partners continue to advance practical solutions to improve coordination across priority areas including: crisis-to-stabilization pathways, housing development processes, innovation through partnerships, and alignment of funding and policy.

Delivering on these solutions requires coordinated local action and greater provincial alignment to improve housing stability and safety for vulnerable residents. Peel Region and its partners are seeking:

- A proportionate share of provincial investments, supported by sustained operating and capital funding, to expand emergency shelter and transitional housing capacity for survivors.
- Multi-year funding and stronger cross-ministry coordination to sustain integrated, survivor-centred service models, including the Safe Centre of Peel, and strengthen prevention, early intervention, and service coordination.



Key takeaway

Sustained investment in housing, prevention and coordinated services is essential to improving survivor safety, strengthening community well-being and creating a more effective system of care in Peel.

