

The implementation of an advocacy intervention for diverse women in midlife and older experiencing intimate partner violence - Effectiveness and experiences of participants and community-based researchers

## The AIM Study



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# Research Team

## Lead Investigators & Staff

- Lori Weeks (Dalhousie)
- Cathy Holtmann and Joni Leger (UNB)
- Cathleen Allen, Research Coordinator

## Co-Investigators

- Suzanne Dupuis-Blanchard (Université de Moncton)
- Marilyn Macdonald, Elaine Moody, Christie Stilwell (Dalhousie)
- Colleen MacQuarrie (UPEI)

## Partners, Collaborators

- Government of New Brunswick
- Government of Nova Scotia
- PEI Family Violence Prevention Services
- Beausejour Crisis Centre
- Advisory Board Members

## Background

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Less focus on women in midlife and older compared to younger women

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Few interventions exist in Canada to support women in midlife and older

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Many women have unique needs requiring individualized and person-centred support (e.g., Francophone, new immigrants, Black Nova Scotian, rural)

# Study Overview

**Design:** Randomized controlled trial with a qualitative component

**Goal:** To test the effectiveness of the 2 components of an advocacy intervention for women in midlife and older who have experienced intimate partner violence (IPV) and to learn from the experiences of those who implemented and participated in the program.

## Research Questions:

1. What is the impact of the 2 components of the intervention on participant's knowledge about IPV?
2. What is the impact of the 2 components of the intervention on changes in behaviours (e.g., developing safety strategies)?
3. What is the impact of the 2 components of the intervention on IPV well-being (e.g., physical and mental health)?
4. What are the experiences of the community-based researchers who implemented the program?

## The AIM Intervention

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An empowerment component involving individual telephone or virtual sessions focusing on education about abusive relationships, safety planning, decision making, problem solving, and information about resource

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A social support component provided through weekly telephone or video calls for 12 weeks.

## Contact Information

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