

PROGRAMS, SERVICES AND SUPPORTS

For over 50 years, EFry has provided unique and effective supports to women, youth and those struggling within the legal and justice systems through a number of diverse programs and services designed to support systemic criminalization.

INDIGENOUS CULTURAL SUPPORTS

EFry provides a number of programs, supports and services that are specifically focused on healing and wellness both in the community and within provincial institutions for both women and youth. For EFry, Indigenous culture is at the core of how we operate as an organization.

Elders and Knowledge Keepers provide valuable guidance and contributions to our organization's work with women and youth on their healing path. This includes individualized supports, talking and healing circles, ceremonies, and gender-based teachings.

Cultural programming is provided weekly including beading, women's and youth Blackfoot language and drumming classes.



COURT PROGRAMS

Having a legal matter in the court system can be an intimidating and confusing process. We support individuals with legal information, which allows them to better understand the potential outcomes of their matters, their plea options, and the court processes. We also provide individuals with valuable referrals to legal and community resources.

Currently EFry assists in the following courts:

- Calgary Adult Criminal and Case Management Office
- Calgary Youth Criminal Court
- Calgary Traffic and Bylaw Court
- Calgary Domestic Violence Court
- Calgary Indigenous Court
- Airdrie Criminal/Case Management Office – Adult and Youth
- Airdrie Traffic and Bylaw Court
- Canmore Criminal/Case Management Office – Adult and Youth
- Cochrane Criminal/Case Management Office – Adult and Youth
- Didsbury Criminal/Case Management Office – Adult and Youth
- Okotoks Criminal/Case Management Office – Adult and Youth
- Okotoks Traffic and Bylaw Court
- Strathmore Criminal/Case Management Office – Adult and Youth
- Lethbridge Court Criminal/Case Management Office/Traffic Bylaw Court (2020)
- Siksika Criminal/Case Management Office - Adult and Youth (2020)

PRISON COMMUNITY OUTREACH PROGRAM

Women are supported while remanded and incarcerated in the provincial system of Calgary and Lethbridge Centres to assist with addressing their core issues and preparing for release. Individualized case management and group programming are provided during incarceration and for those interested in further supports in the community. Women who are at risk of criminalization are supported to reduce the potential of their charges and incarceration. Case management is focused on Indigenous healing through increased access to culture and ceremony, as well as the restoration of connections to Indigenous Elders, Knowledge Keepers and communities.



Women who have had barriers that have prevented them from achieving successes in the past are provided with a 12-week program that focuses on personal growth and healing with an emphasis on preparing women for the next steps of achievement. The SAGE program uses the foundation of Indigenous culture to support Indigenous women with reconnecting to culture and improving cultural identity and belonging.

LEGAL ADVOCACY PROGRAMS

The EFry Legal Advocacy Programs assist with individualized support to those who cannot afford legal representation and fit outside the boundaries of eligibility for subsidized services. We provide legal information on court processes and forms, assistance with filling out and filing forms, emotional support, and referrals to legal and community resources.

Adult Legal Advocacy – Women and their families are provided with legal information and support around a variety of legal issues including family, administrative, civil and criminal law matters.

Youth Legal Advocacy – Youth with criminal matters are supported with legal information and assisted to address individual issues before, during and post sentencing. Youth and their caregivers are provided with supports to assist youth in getting through their court appearances and post sentencing to complete their court orders.

Regional Court Legal Advocacy – Both adults and youth are supported on their criminal and family matters in the EFry Court Programs as well as in the rural First Nation Communities of Treaty 7.

Indigenous Legal Advocacy – The Indigenous Legal Advocate provides support to Indigenous peoples who have criminal matters and require legal information, support and connections to resources. The Indigenous Legal Advocate supports those attending the Calgary Indigenous Court and the Sohksipaitapiisin Community Case Management Table. Elders are consulted and included in decision making and supports for those utilizing this program.

Immigrant Legal Advocacy – The Immigrant Legal Advocate provides support to women and their families with complex immigration status. The main goal of the program is to support family unification and retain family structures in Canada. Assistance is provided with immigration forms, filing processes and referrals to legal and community resources.

SOHKSIPAITAPIISIN INDIGENOUS JUSTICE PROGRAM AND COMMUNITY CASE MANAGEMENT TABLE

Sohksipaitapiisin provides support to vulnerable Indigenous peoples who struggle with complex issues that continue to cycle them in and out of homelessness and the justice system. Through a collaborative case management table, members of the table identify individuals who are high systems users and are motivated for change. Members of the table provide collective support to participants by identifying needs, solutions and services. The table provides support for healing plans to those attending the Calgary Indigenous Court.



YOUTH MENTORSHIP PROGRAM

Youth involved in the criminal justice system are supported with mentors who provide long term supports and mentorship throughout the time they are involved with the justice system. Youth gain from positive relationships with role models who engage them in activities and connect them more significantly into the community.



THE ELIZABETH FRY SOCIETY OF CALGARY



WHO WE ARE

Elizabeth Fry has been providing **support, programs** and **services** to women, youth and marginalized populations who have been systemically criminalized since 1965. We work collaboratively within the community to **empower change** and **encourage new opportunities**.

We believe that every person benefits from the journey of healing to enhance their life circumstances and connection to their communities.

CREATING OPPORTUNITY

We are all one choice from being criminalized, even if that choice appears to be a good one at the time.

Few people are innately criminal, but more likely to be drawn into the lifestyle due to their life circumstances that are often out of their personal control. Poverty, trauma, addiction and mental health are often the issues that lead people to making poor choices causing their criminalization. It is possible to create opportunities to reduce the effects of systemic issues that result in negative interactions with the law. Elizabeth Fry does this through building relationships, understanding the needs of those we serve, and working together as a community to address the core issues to prevent further interactions with the law.



BREAKING DOWN BARRIERS

Life can be challenging for many individuals who do not have the resources, skills or supports to address complex issues.

It is easy to condemn those who commit crimes without understanding the barriers affecting people who have not been given opportunities to do their best.

Elizabeth Fry works hard to address systemic issues to improve the lives of those who experience criminalization as a result of the barriers that deny them of options that lead to stabilization. In addition to supporting those struggling with trauma, addiction and mental health concerns, Elizabeth Fry assists with improving personal skills, and addresses housing and employment issues that prevent potential for personal independence. Through awareness and breaking down the barriers, Elizabeth Fry improves lives and empowers personal change.

REUNITING FAMILIES

Many families are disrupted as a result of criminalization, immigration, and trauma. Elizabeth Fry strives to support mothers and their children in retaining the essential ties of family. Reuniting families may occur through assisting with the process of immigration documents that bring children to Canada to be with their mothers, or working collaboratively with child protection to have children returned from care back with their mothers and families by strengthening skills and relationships.



COMMUNITY COLLABORATION AND SUPPORT

HOW YOU CAN SUPPORT CHANGE

EFry collaborates with the community to break the cycles of criminalization.

VOLUNTEER: You can give your gift of time to support our programs and services. Your time, allows EFry to improve access to justice through providing legal information and/or giving your time to support operations and services, and events within the agency. More information on how you can apply to volunteer and the various roles you may participate within are at www.elizabethfrycalgary.ca

GIFTS: Elizabeth Fry relies on the kindness of the community to support our programs and services and ensure that we are able to continue to provide quality assistance to those we serve. Every bit of support small or large is valued and put forth directly towards programs, supports and services. All donations above 10.00 are eligible for tax receipts.

In kind donations of hygiene products, new clothing and under garments are always welcomed. Those donations accompanied by a receipt will receive a tax receipt.

Inquire about our ongoing donorship program at reception@elizabethfrycalgary.ca.

AWARENESS: Receive our news blog to stay informed about the issues that create systemic criminalization and the solutions and successes that EFry works towards. If you desire to become a member of the organization (\$20.00 annually) you may be invited to our annual meeting, and other events at a discount. With membership you become a voting member of the society.

CONTACT US



It takes more than one person or organization to rebuild and assist individuals in effectively returning to their communities. Working collaboratively with other organizations and systems contributes to the personal successes of those we serve through encouraging connections and opportunities to improve lives. Elizabeth Fry works in collaboration with many community organizations through shared resources and supports.

1731 – 10 Avenue SW Calgary, Alberta T3C 0K1
Across the street from the Sunalta LRT station

EMAIL reception@elizabethfrycalgary.ca
TELEPHONE (403) 294-0737
TOLL FREE 1 (877) 398-3656
FAX (403) 262-0285



elizabethfrycalgary.ca
f [EFryCalgary](#) @EFryYYC
in Elizabeth Fry Society of Calgary