My Story

I had always wanted my marriage to work. My husband seemed like such a good and caring person especially with my family, our friends, and other social relationships that we had. Our home life was very different. My husband would beat me and take my money. He demanded I find money and resources for him. He would often threaten to call the RCMP and state that I did things that he had done and tell me I would never see my children again. I could not bear to be without my children. I wanted so badly for everything to work out.

At my family reunion everyone said they loved him and congratulated me on 'such a fine young man'. He was a different person at home. The beatings got worse and I finally could take no more so I fled to the Transition House with my children where I could think and heal. I received counselling and referrals for other services. I talked with the staff about my life, my children and how much of myself I had lost. I did not realize that I was being abused – I began to think it was normal.

My husband called me and promised to do better. He said he was in counselling, so I wanted to give him another chance. The staff at the Transition House helped me understand the cycle of abuse and the need for a safety plan. My children and I were also referred for long term counselling.

I went back but could see that things were not going to change. With help from SOWINS I was able to relocate with my children. It was hard because I had wanted my marriage to work. But the man I married had become a controlling, angry person. I am so grateful for the help I received; my children and I are happy and healthy. I never felt judged when I sought help for us. I am very lucky, for things could have taken a much different turn.

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