

WE ARE

STRONGER
together

*Aligning opportunities for
partnership with schools for
student-driven social impact*



Lurana Shelter



Sign of
Hope!



**ELK ISLAND
CATHOLIC SCHOOLS**
Seeing Christ in Everyone

Dear Friend of CSS:

Catholic Social Services (CSS) Sign of Hope is excited at this moment of transition as we adopt responsibility for the women and children served by Lurana shelter.

Lurana officially joined Catholic Social Services on April 1, 2021. The Franciscan Sisters of the Atonement entrusted CSS to continue their work and mission because our agency shares a strong alignment of values, a legacy of service to vulnerable women, and a commitment to helping those most in need.

We are honoured to continue this beautiful and transformative work, and know that bringing Lurana into the CSS family will enable us to provide a continuum of care to women and children seeking refuge from abusive situations. (You can read more about this work on the following page.)

The support of the staff, students and parents of Elk Island Catholic School Division has sustained us for many years now.

As we begin this new phase of our relationship I hope you will invest your creative energies in raising the funds which will keep the doors open at Lurana Shelter. I also request that you keep the women and children facing abuse in your prayers so that someday they, too, may “choose joy.”

Yours sincerely,

Gerald Sseguya

Faith and Community Liaison
Catholic Social Services

Lurana Shelter



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**Providing shelter, hope,
and healing to women and
children escaping violence.**



A Silent Epidemic

Alberta has the third highest rate of self-reported spousal violence. Womens' shelters in Edmonton turned away 6244 women and children who needed help in 2019 (ACWS)

CSS is working to end violence against women and their children by helping to break the cycle of abuse and uplifting them as they begin safe, new lives.

A typical women entering Lurana shelter may be in her 20's or 30's, often have 2 or 3 young children. She may have experienced extreme isolation because of her abuse and so may have little in the way of family or financial supports which is, in part, why she needs a shelter. CSS also offers counselling, community outreach, pregnancy support and transitional housing.

Lurana Shelter - a 21-day crisis shelter operating 32 beds for women and their children who are in need of urgent, safe housing. If you, or a friend, need help or advice call the Lurana 24 hour crisis-line: 780 424-5875.

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