



## Building Opportunities for Women (B.O.W.)

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# Connecting to Community after Intimate Partner Violence

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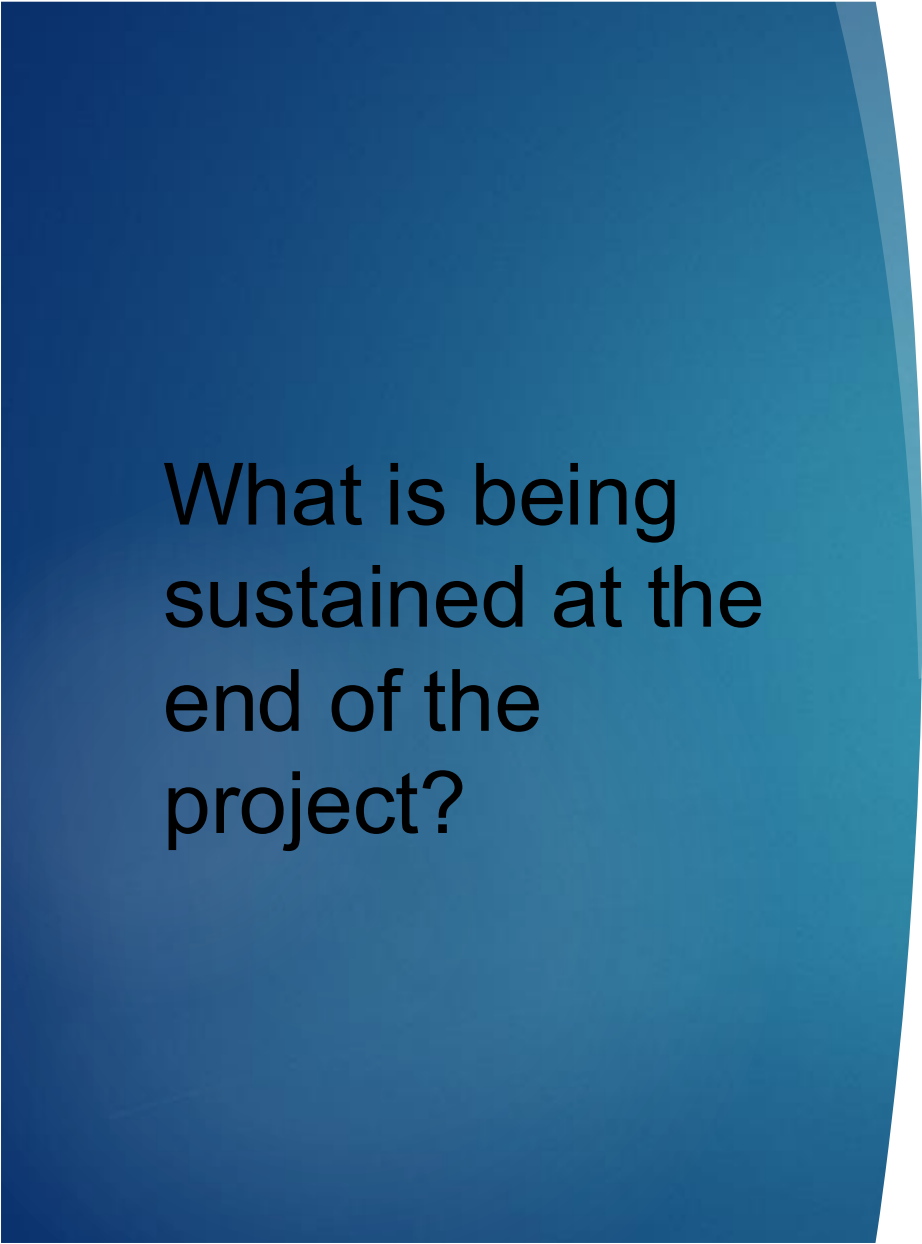
Marlene Gorman, RSW, MSW

The BOW Program  
reached 111  
participants  
between  
2023-2025

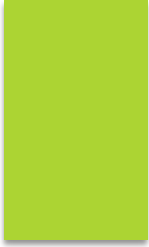
- ▶ Self-identified women, ages 16-84
- ▶ Formal education: < gr 10 - postgraduates
- ▶ Language: English, French, Urdu, Luganda, Gujarati, Hindi, Farsi, Spanish
- ▶ ~ 30-40% of participants self-identify as Black, racialized, Indigenous
- ▶ Commonalities: isolation from peers, family, and local services; unsure how to improve access to education, housing and healthcare; interest in learning more about gendered violence

## Lessons Learned

- ▶ Engage a larger research team! Attempt comparative work between similar programs
- ▶ Provide a Facilitator's 'helper' to ethically document the reactions of participants during the group and further enhance the program evaluation
- ▶ Consider ways to follow the successes and challenges women face, post-BOW Program



What is being  
sustained at the  
end of the  
project?

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- ▶ Facilitator's Manual - can be revised, updated, adapted to future groups
  - ▶ Program Evaluation methodology and materials can be repurposed
  - ▶ Research Ethics Training for staff
  - ▶ NEW partnerships reflect emerging needs in community



Project Impact, 111 participants cumulatively:

- ▶ 90 % participants report changes in knowledge and/or skills
- ▶ 90% participants report changes in behaviour
- ▶ 82% participants report improved health outcomes

Thank you Merci  
Miigwech

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