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## Victim Services funds two crisis line research projects

WHITEHORSE—The Department of Justice is providing \$20,000 to Kaushee's Place Housing Society in Whitehorse and to Help & Hope for Families in Watson Lake to collect data about usage of the agency's crisis lines, subject to legislative approval.

"The government is pleased to be providing funding from the Victims Services branch to support this important project," Minister of Justice Mike Nixon said. "The contribution reflects the collaborative practice Justice has achieved through the Victims of Crime Strategy and Sharing Common Ground review."

The project is collecting quantitative and qualitative data on the usage of the two crisis lines. The final report will summarize the findings and make recommendations for crisis line coverage in Yukon. Data collected during this project is intended to inform the role that Victim Services plays in future considerations of 24-hour support for victims.

"Due to the prevalence of domestic and sexualized assault in Yukon, where women are the primary victims, we must continually find ways to improve our response to those in crisis," Minister responsible for the Women's Directorate Elaine Taylor said. "This initiative will provide evidence-based information that will assist in developing best practices for crisis line delivery in Yukon."

Kaushee's Place Housing Society in Whitehorse provides shelter, outreach, support and advocacy for women and their children leaving abusive situations. Help & Hope for Families is a safe home and shelter for women and children in Watson Lake.

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