



# YOUTH SAFETY ASSESSMENT AND RISK MANAGEMENT (Y-SARM) MANUAL

## WHO IS Y-SARM FOR?

Y-SARM is a brief screening tool designed to identify experiences of gender-based violence (GBV) among **women, girls and gender-diverse people under 25**. It uses a brief set of questions to surface indicators of past or current abuse and potential future risk. The tool is intentionally short to reduce the likelihood of overwhelming or distressing a young person with unnecessary questions and to ensure it can be used effectively in time-limited settings. Its primary purpose is to quickly highlight key risk markers so youth can be connected to appropriate professional supports and services.

## WHAT IS GBV?

Gender-based violence (GBV) is any form of abuse directed at an individual or group because of their actual or perceived sex, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity or gender expression. GBV is rooted in structural inequality, power imbalances, harmful social norms and stereotypes. Women, girls and gender diverse people are disproportionately impacted by GBV, especially if they are:

- ▶ **Under 25**
- ▶ **Indigenous, Black or racialized**
- ▶ **Living with a disability**
- ▶ **2SLGBTQIA+**
- ▶ **Newcomer**
- ▶ **Living in rural areas**