

Building Community...



Together We Are Making a Difference

Women's Resources is a member of the Kawartha Lakes/Haliburton Domestic Violence Coordinating Committee (KLHDVCC). This committee is made up of 43 different service providers from the City of Kawartha Lakes, Peterborough and Haliburton who work with victims of violence. Last year, the KLHDVCC developed a protocol, a guiding document, that outlines how our agencies and services should work together to ensure a more coordinated, effective and responsive service delivery system for victims in our community.

SafetyNet is a unique and exciting feature of our protocol. It is a formal process that helps service providers to work together more effectively with priority attention to the best interests, well being, and protection of victims of partner abuse and their families. *SafetyNet* works best in situations where victims are at high risk for further victimization, have multiple needs or are involved with many different organizations and services.

There are two components to *SafetyNet*: Service Planning and Service Review. The purpose of Service Planning is for the many agencies involved with the woman to come

together, with the woman's permission, to develop a coordinated plan of action and service response that best meets her needs. Service planning can happen as soon as the victim becomes involved with services or at any time during service.

Service Review happens within the first year after service. Again, with the service user's permission, service providers come together to review what worked well, what could be improved on and what gaps in service do we, as a community, need to address. Service Review is not a complaint process, but rather, an opportunity for service providers to learn from past experience.

For many years now, we have been saying that woman abuse is not just a personal issue or family problem, but a concern for the whole community. It takes all of us, working together, in recognition and respect for the different perspectives, skills and resources we have, to end violence and build a safer community. *SafetyNet* is a unique, proactive, and innovative step in the right direction.

Lori Watson, Executive Director

**MAY IS:
Sexual Assault
Prevention Month**

More than one third of Canadian women report having had at least one experience of sexual assault since the age of 16.

Toy Ride
Sunday, August 10
Riverwood Park,
Lindsay
toys and donations
for children's
programs
All are welcome!

Tag Days
June 13-14
Lindsay
Bobcaygeon
Fenelon Falls
Coboconk
Kirkfield
June 20-21
Sobeys, Fenelon Falls

Vicky's Values
Gently Used Clothing Store
open to the general public
clothing for the entire family
...and more
books, housewares, collectibles
Monday-Saturday: 10-4 p.m.
50 Mary St. W., Lindsay
878-5938

Supporting Families...

Through Shelter Programs

The children's program worker is trained to respond with compassion and understanding to the unique and immediate needs of each woman and child. Two moms share their stories of how the shelter staff helped them deal with the pain of this transition period.

Ruth's Story

On September 13, 2007, I walked through the doors of Women's Resources. I had been without my children since July 27, 2007. I realized that I had found a place that could help me.

The woman in charge of the Children's Program at the shelter was soon on the phone with Children's Aid to set up visitation. Everything was dealt with swiftly, in order to reunite me with my children as soon as possible. Before I knew it, I had a schedule to see my children.

The first time we got to see each other, we were put in the children's playroom. All we could do was hug and cry and hug some more. I couldn't be more grateful as to how quickly the children's program worker had settled things.

Now I am at Amy's, Next Step Housing, and was reunited permanently with my children as of December 7, 2007. We're all just getting along very well, all thanks to Women's Resources.

Denise's Story

I have two children under the age of five. My son has severe ADHD and can be a handful at times. The children workers at the shelter are awesome, and they have been the best help to my children, as well as to myself. They give me helpful advice to help me improve my parenting skills, or suggest different ways of doing 'time-outs' that will work, and teach me and my kids how we can be more open with each other.

Every Wednesday, we have a women's meeting where we talk about stress topics or do small craft activities, while the children's workers watch the children. And several times a month, there are planned activities for the children to give the mom's a break, and the kids some fun. Also, I was very happy to find out that the children's workers were able to come to court cases with me. They gave me a tremendous amount of support.

I have accomplished so many things because of the children's workers. I can be more open with my children, and have found good discipline techniques that work for both kids. Thank you.

Within a Caring Community

Gowns for Girls ~ An evening of shopping and fun!

One day, over lunch, Yvonne Durand and Sandra Stubbings had a brainwave. They were very much concerned about the pressure on young teens to spend enormous amounts of money on clothes for special events such as proms, formals, graduations. In many cases, an expensive dress may have been purchased and worn only that one night.

Soon, their novel idea to 'recycle' previously enjoyed dresses hit the airways. The decision to create an event that would also be a fundraiser for Women's Resources attracted even more interest from the community. Donations of dresses, and calls from local businesses willing to help, began pouring in.

At 5:30 p.m., the lineup outside the Moose Lodge was amazing to behold. From 6 to 9 p.m., mothers and daughters were engaged in the excitement of choosing dresses from a wide selection of styles and colours. One mother vowed to re-donate the dress next year after her daughter had worn it this year. As a result of this successful venture, Sandra and Yvonne are considering a repeat performance next spring. Thanks to all planners, helpers, and supporters of this event. Proceeds will be used to fund programs at Women's Resources.



Yvonne Durand presents the donation to Lori Watson, Executive Director.

Women's Creativity ~ Sharing, Healing



Artist Isabelle Arcand and Shelter Coordinator Consuelo Kuettner celebrate the completion of the first mural.

Magical Murals

Isabelle Arcand has a vision and a purpose. She was deeply upset by the recent murder of a young Muslim woman by her father. As an artist, she wanted to help other abused women, and approached Women's Resources with the offer of painting murals in the shelter.

Her first design, in one of the bedrooms, is alive with breathtaking scenes of nature ~ trailing vines, flitting dragonflies, colour-drenched flowers, birds, and butterflies. She has a different plan for each bedroom, but all will revolve around the theme of bringing 'the outdoors' indoors. In fact, that is her artistic strength, the so-called 'fool the eye' technique of painting.

After taking the volunteer training program, Isabelle would like to introduce the women and children at the shelter to the world of art through hands-on activities. As for the response of the women in the shelter, they all want their room to be next on the list!

To view examples of Isabelle's art, you may contact her at her home studio at 705.786.0700.

Thinking about volunteering?

The next volunteer training program begins in September. Contact Trish Campbell, Volunteer and Housing Services Coordinator, at 878-4285.

An Evening of Women and Art

Agnes Kedmencz, Education Outreach Worker for Women's Resources, and Edna Smith, Community Coordinator for Upstairs at Loblaws, make a fantastic team. For three consecutive years, they have prepared a sensory feast for the community, combining an exciting display of local women's artwork and an assortment of tasty appetizers.

During these three years, the number and variety of artists, and admirers of art, has multiplied. A participant in this year's show was delighted when the painting she generously donated as a door prize was won by a grade 10 student. The student, as it turned out, was herself a practising artist intent on pursuing a career in the visual arts!

If you missed this spring event, held on March 27th, you will get a second chance to appreciate some of the artists' work in the fall of 2008. Watch for information about the celebration of Persons Day on October 18th, presented by the Spiritual Community of the Baha'is of Kawartha Lakes, in collaboration with Women's Resources.



Artist Andrea Percy and door prize winner April Davie share an interest in the visual arts.

Have you ever considered planned giving?

You can arrange to make a bequest to the charity of your choice now through your assets. Planned giving has significant tax advantages. For more information, contact your financial advisor or call Kathleen Wild at 878.4285.

Women's Resources

Working with the community to provide services and support for abused women and their children and to provide opportunities to end violence against women.

Victoria's Women Shelter: 18-bed emergency shelter for women and their children.

Crisis Support Line: 24-hour toll free line 1-800-565-5350

Resource Centre: information and education on women abuse and women's issues. The lending library is open to the public Mon-Fri, 9-4.

Outreach Services: supportive, one-to-one counselling for women who are experiencing abuse or issues of past abuse.

Community Support Program: connecting women with necessary community resources such as housing, legal aid, and parenting support.

Workshops: Are open to all women in the community and provide information on a variety of issues affecting women.

Support Groups: for women who have experienced violence in their lives.

Child Witness Program: groups for children who have witnessed or experienced abuse or violence in their homes and parenting groups for moms.

Vicky's Values: volunteer run gently used clothing store open to the public at 50 Mary Street W., Lindsay. Hours: Mon-Sat, 10:00-4:00.

Amy's Next Step Housing: short-term supportive and affordable housing for women and their children.

All programs are free, confidential and provide safety planning.

Women's Resources is a member agency of:



Working together to promote healthy relationships

Kawartha Lakes & Haliburton
Domestic Violence
Coordinating Committee



United Way for the
City of Kawartha Lakes

*Hope Vision Impact
Together we care*



Kawartha Lakes Food Source
Hunger is Everyone's Concern

The Gift of Time

(The following is an edited version of a letter from a service user which previously appeared in the Lindsay Post.)

To all the kind people here in The Kawartha Lakes:

Last year I stayed at the Women's Shelter for almost three months and my kids and I were quite surprised by the donations. Everything from sandwiches and treats from weddings and parties to clothes, toys, craft supplies, even makeup. Some stores even donated new boots and coats! The generosity just amazed me, as well as many other moms and kids.

And I must say to one or more ladies out there who crocheted some blankets for the shelter, I treasure mine still, it's real warm and cozy and it's extra special because I imagine it was very time consuming. We all know how precious time is. And last but not least, to the staff of the shelter, I miss you and your sweetness. This is a great community. I'm so glad to be a part of it. And I hope someday we ladies will be able to return the favour of donating. Even if it's our time. There is something important every single person could do to make a difference, a way to put a smile on someone's face. Life really is what you make it.

Gifts for special occasions...

Christmas is the season for giving.

But what about women who are in the shelter at other times of the year?

Donations of personal care products, or fresh flowers create memorable moments. Perhaps you, or a group of women would like to take on this project of bringing joy year round?

WOMEN'S RESOURCES

22 Russell St. E., Lindsay, ON K9V 2A1
www.womensresources.ca

Women's Resources

Resource Centre: (705) 878-4285

Amy's Next Step Housing: (705) 887-9806

Victoria's Shelter & 24-hour Line: (705) 878-3662

Vicky's Values: (705) 878-5938

Working Together ~ Supporting Women ~ Building Community

MAILING INFORMATION:

Do we have your complete mailing address including your "911" number? Please forward any address changes/updates or call the Resource Centre at 878-4285.

Women's Resources recognizes the importance of privacy and is committed to handling contact information in a respectful manner. Personal contact information will not be shared or sold to any other organization.