



Huron Women's Shelter

Spring 2013



24 HOUR CRISIS LINE

1.800.265.5506

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

WHO WE ARE

A Message from the Executive Director
Inspiring Women in Huron

FEATURE ARTICLE

Men of Integrity Program

RECENT HIGHLIGHTS

International Women's Day Luncheon - March 4, 2013
One Billion Rising - March 8, 2013
Meet some new HWS Board of Directors

HOW CAN YOU HELP?

Please consider a donation to Huron Women's Shelter

PHOTO GALLERY

Breakfast With Santa - Dec. 1, 2012
International Day of Remembrance - Dec. 6, 2012
Interested in becoming a member?

WHAT'S NEW?

Second Stage Housing provides safe and stable transition
Stay informed through Twitter, Facebook and YouTube

UPCOMING EVENTS

Now Needed for Spring
Annual General Meeting - June 5, 2013
Safe Harbour Run - June 9, 2013
Women's Golf Tournaments - June 19 in Maitland, June 26
in Wingham. Mixed Golf Tournament - Sept. 21 in Seaforth
Festival of Arts and Crafts - July 5, 6 and 7, 2013

Huron Women's Shelter, Second Stage Housing & Counselling Services

Please send your comments, questions or
concerns to:

Huron Women's Shelter
376 Huron Road, Box 334,
Goderich, ON N7A 4C6

Contact us by phone at: **519.524.5333**
24 Hour Crisis Line: **1.800.265.5506**

FIND US ONLINE:

www.huronwomensshelter.com

Follow @huronshelter on Twitter 

Like Huron Women's Shelter on Facebook 

or watch our video on YouTube 

United Way  **Perth - Huron**

ARE YOU A MAN OF INTEGRITY?

As part of its outreach into the community, the Huron Women's Shelter plays a leading role on the Domestic Assault Review Team (DART) in Huron County. Led by Co-Chair and HWS staff member Melody Tigani, DART challenged the men on the team to become more engaged in preventing violence against women in Huron County. The result was the Men of Integrity program, now under the leadership of Jeff Sabin, a retired O.P.P officer.

"There has been a shift," says Tigani. "We all know now that we have to work with boys and men and help them become more educated about the issues around violence against women."

Men of Integrity is an educational program which teaches men about the signs and symptoms of woman abuse, so that they may be able to spot any potential abuse happening in the lives of their co-workers, neighbours, friends, and family.

"It's everybody's job to protect someone from getting hurt – that what is going on behind locked doors is everyone's problem – the same way you wouldn't drive past a car accident without stopping and helping, ""

Sabin tours the county making presentations to service clubs and workplaces on how to recognize woman abuse. His goal is to "engage men in this conversation", he says. "It's everybody's job to protect someone from getting hurt – that what is going on behind locked doors is everyone's problem – the same way you wouldn't drive past a car accident without stopping and helping," he says.

At the end of the presentation Sabin asks men to nominate individuals and companies in their communities who are working toward gender equality. These people are then recognized at a ceremony every spring.



MEN OF INTEGRITY PROGRAM LEADER AND PRESENTER, JEFF SABIN

Past winners have been Dave Steckle of Zurich who owns a landscaping company. "Dave believes that everyone should be treated with dignity and respect", says Sabin. Steckle discovered that one of his female employees was being abused by her partner. He stepped in and protected her and her children until they could receive professional protection. This included hiding her car and providing the female employee with an escape plan to a women's shelter.

"We want to recognize men doing good things!" says Sabin.

Another Man of Integrity winner was Phil LaPorte of St. Joseph who owns a window and door business. "Mr. LaPorte believes that everyone should feel safe in a work environment. In his business, gender doesn't decide the job you do," says Sabin. Instead, women are trained for traditionally male dominated jobs.

Over the past two years, 14 men have been nominated for the award. All have been recognized at the annual dinner, which has often been an emotional experience for the men and their families.

"We are telling men not to sit on their hands but instead to take a leading role in preventing and recognizing woman abuse. What these men do in Huron County makes me feel very uplifted," says Sabin.

To learn more about the Men of Integrity program please e-mail integrityproject@hotmail.com or call the Huron Women's Shelter and speak with Melody Tigani.

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY

The Huron Women's Shelter marked International Women's Day on March 4, 2013 with a special lunch at the Maitland Recreation Centre. The event featured guest speaker Lillian Kaluka, who shared her inspirational story as the first woman to be licensed as a Great Lakes Captain.



Special guest speaker, Lillian Kaluka.



Guest speaker Lillian Kaluka addressed those gathered at the International Women's Day Luncheon on March 4, 2013.

ONE BILLION RISING

One Billion Rising was celebrated in Goderich on March 8th, International Women's Day. East Street Station held a special event inviting all women from the community to participate in dancing to the original song written specifically for One Billion Rising by Monique Wilson. The dance was led by Nia instructor Ruth Percy. Women attended and also made personal donations to the shelter. Ruth led a second group of enthusiastic participants of staff and patients at Goderich's Alexander Marine and General Hospital.



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

These volunteer Board Members come from across Huron County for monthly Board meetings in Goderich. To qualify as an applicant to sit on our Board of Directors, you must first be a member of our organization for at least three months. Anyone can be a member by paying an annual fee of \$10 or purchasing a lifetime membership for \$50.

Membership runs from June to June each year, which is also when we hold our Annual General Meeting to elect new Board Members.



HWS BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Back Row (L-R): Danielle Durand, Gary Martin, Melanie Ball, Steve Frayne.

Front Row (L-R): Heather Moffat, Michele Hansen, Sharon Creighton, Susan Pye.

Absent: Steve Hildebrand, Rick Hillner, Janette McClean, Pat Senn, Marilyn VanderWoude.

Please consider making a donation to Huron Women's Shelter

- Give to the Alice Munro Fund**
a benevolent fund which supports the dignity and self worth of women and children by covering the financial cost of things that may be challenging for women in crisis to afford (including dental care, participation in recreational activities, etc.)
- Give to the Roma Harris Fund**
which provides for shelter and care of pets while women are escaping violence.
- Help HWS purchase gift cards**
which are used throughout the year as birthday presents for the women and children in our shelter and second stage housing facilities.
- Allow HWS to direct your donation to any area of need**
including providing for food, clothing, or meeting the basic needs of the women and children in our shelter and second stage housing facilities.

Thank You!

Huron Women's Shelter received a remarkable \$12,000 in cash donations over the Holiday season, and we are very grateful for this ongoing support of the organization's many needs. This year's goal is to raise \$100,000 to help the organization keep the doors open to ensure that services continue to be available to the community.

Your support will make a real difference in the lives of women and children in need.



I support Huron Women's Shelter

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Please direct my donation to _____

Enclosed is my donation for \$25 \$50 \$100 \$250 other amount

My donation is paid by Cash Cheque Money order \$ _____

Thank You For Your Support

HOW CAN YOU HELP?

BREAKFAST WITH SANTA

The 18th annual Breakfast with Santa event and fund raiser last December was a great success once again! Thank you to everyone who attended and enjoyed a wonderful meal, activities and, of course, a visit with the guest of honour! Thanks to the generosity of our donors, volunteers and guests, the 2012 Breakfast with Santa raised a total of \$2,300.



Volunteer Kent Gillan provides service with a smile.

INTERNATIONAL DAY OF REMEMBRANCE

On December 6, 2012, friends and community partners of Huron Women's Shelter gathered in Courthouse Park for the International Day of Remembrance. On this day in 1989, Marc Lepine walked into a classroom at Ecole Polytechnique in Montreal, Quebec. He separated the men from the women and opened fire on the women, believing that because women had been accepted to engineering school there was no place for him.



Community partners and friends of all ages gather to show their support.

Photo by Sarah Caldwell



The hungry patrons enjoy a delicious breakfast feast!



Nina Reynolds captures memorable moments from behind the camera at the 2012 Breakfast with Santa event.

INTERESTED IN BECOMING A MEMBER?

For an annual membership fee of only \$10, you can attend and vote at our Annual General Meeting, and will become a part of the larger voice of our organization within the community. Board meetings are held monthly at the Huron Women's Shelter in Goderich. Everyone is invited to attend. New members are elected annually.

For more information, visit our website at: www.huronwomensshelter.com/membership.html

SECOND STAGE HOUSING PROVIDES SAFE AND STABLE TRANSITION

Once the immediate need for emergency shelter is met, often after about 6 weeks of living at the emergency shelter location in Goderich, abused women with or without children have the option of moving to a controlled entry apartment with rent geared to income where they can continue to receive counselling while working and gaining further independence.



Second Stage Housing in Exeter, Clinton and Goderich offer one, two or three bedroom apartments, which are designed to provide abused women and their children a safe and stable transitional home between emergency shelter and independent living. Apartments are furnished by the tenant, although fridge and stove are provided, and utilities are included in the rent.

Each location offers an outside, fenced-in playground, and an indoor playroom. A counselling office is on site for women receiving counselling. A furnished lounge with access to the backyard is used as a meeting space for groups. There are also laundry facilities on site.

The average length of stay is eight to nine months, however women can stay in the units up to a year, or longer, especially if they are at high risk. While at Second Stage Housing they also learn safety planning and how to obtain a credit profile/history which will allow them to rent in the wider community. Showing others that they paid rent in Second Stage Housing is often a strong first step towards establishing that credit history.

To apply for Second Stage Housing applicants must complete a form which can be found online at: www.huronwomensshelter.com.

STAY INFORMED WITH THE LATEST UPDATES FROM HWS



Huron Women's Shelter is reaching out to the public like never before -- and keeping you informed of all the latest updates on programs and services, upcoming events, the needs of our organization, and much more, through social media. Here are some of the places you can find us online:

Follow us @huronshelter on Twitter

Like Huron Women's Shelter on Facebook

Watch our latest video "More than just a bed: Inside Huron Women's Shelter"

on YouTube at:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OBQwf5zWIh8>



Visit our website: www.huronwomensshelter.com

HOW CAN YOU HELP?

At the Huron Women's Shelter we're all about providing shelter, support, counselling and advocacy to women in need, and the best way for us to achieve our goals is through your continued support. Here are just a few of the ways you can help us make a difference in the lives of others:

- ✓ BECOME A VOLUNTEER
- ✓ JOIN OUR BOARD OF DIRECTORS
- ✓ DONATE
- ✓ STAY INFORMED

Subscribe to our newsletter, visit our new website, or contact our staff for more information.

NOW NEEDED FOR SPRING

Donations are gratefully accepted year round, and can include basic needs, personal care items, non-perishable food items, and monetary donations. Basic needs can include:

- large bottles of shampoo and conditioner
- personal care items and toiletries
- clothing for women and children
- new underwear for women and children
- blankets, pillows, pajamas and slippers

Some items we are presently in need of are:

- diapers (especially size 4 and 5)
- baby wipes
- micro-fleece blankets (twin size)
- spring jackets (any child/youth size)

Gently used household items can only be received Monday through Friday. Your support is greatly appreciated, and makes a real difference in the lives of women and children in need.



Safe Harbour Run

The Safe Harbour Run is taking place once again in Bayfield on Sunday, June 9. This event is open to everyone from serious competitors to recreational runners.

The event will be held throughout the village and is a certified course which features a 5 kilometre competition, a 2 kilometre fun run/walk and the kiddie trot. There are door prizes and t-shirts available for those who register (\$25 fee or free registration with \$50 in sponsorship). Registration begins at 8:00 a.m. and the races begin at 9:30 a.m., starting and finishing in the Square. Please contact the HWS at 519-524-5333 for more information.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

June 5, 2013
376 Huron Road
Goderich, ON

Please join us on Wednesday, June 5, 2013 at 5:00 p.m. for our Annual General Meeting. We are located at 376 Huron Road in Goderich.

“TAKE A SWING AGAINST VIOLENCE” GOLF TOURNAMENTS

Join us for a Nine Hole Women’s Tournament and a day of fun, fitness, and friendly competition on Wednesday, June 19 at the Maitland Golf & Country Club in Goderich and/or Wednesday, June 26 at the Wingham Golf and Curling Club. We will also be hosting a Mixed Tournament for both men and women at the Seaforth Golf Club on Saturday, September 21.

Registration begins at 9:00 a.m. with Tee Off at 9:30 a.m. It is a “stepaway” best ball format. Teams must pre-register. For more information, and to register, please visit our website and follow the links to the registration form or contact us at 519-524-5333. All proceeds support Huron Women’s Shelter.

FESTIVAL OF ARTS AND CRAFTS

July 5, 6 and 7, 2013
Courthouse Park on the Square
Goderich, ON

Share your talents and creativity and purchase a table for the annual Goderich Festival of Arts and Crafts. Register early to secure your spot. Spaces are \$220 each. For full details, please contact the Huron Women’s Shelter, or visit our website.