



HOPE

Journey of

— Safety. Support. Hope. —

Fall/Winter 2003 - www.ftp.on.ca



Brooms, rocks & laughs for FTP

Curlers from Sobeys's staff swept away a Galaxy Movie Party at last year's sold out Curling Funspiel. Register early to guarantee your spot at the February 7th, 2004 Curling Funspiel for FTP! Help us raise the \$263,000 needed this year!

Community Kudos!

To our community newspapers - **Orangeville Banner, Orangeville Citizen, Shelburne Free Press & Economist, Caledon Enterprise and Caledon Citizen** - for their efforts in reporting information and thought-provoking editorials about the social issues faced by the people of Dufferin and Caledon.

Linn Kuceba, Jeremy Brydges and Jon Sanders of ODSS together with Christina Sangregorio from Robert F. Hall are completing their high school co-op placement at FTP, teaching other students about Teen Relationship Abuse Prevention.

Winners celebrated the official opening of its new store by donating \$5,000 to Family Transition Place.

Hope is...

"...being able to sit down and actually relax without guilt, apprehension or fear." - Shelter Client

"...the look in a woman's eyes when she finally understands that a life without violence is possible, that she didn't cause the violence and doesn't have to accept it. It marks the beginning of a new life for her and her children." - Counsellor

"...building a community where all women are treated with respect; where equality of men and women is seen as enhancing the lives of both, not something that takes away from men and gives to women." - Board Member

"...more people realizing the importance of their financial support so women and children may live in violence-free relationships." - Donor.

"...having a safe place to go, support and information to help me start over again. - Counselling Client.



2 family transition place

Legal Support Service

Information, support and referral help navigate the legal process



"I needed help sorting out the whole issue of custody, access, and child support. The options are confusing."

They receive support for the emotional and practical stresses they're experiencing while exploring the options available to them. Legal advice and mediation is not provided.

"Knowledge is power. The more information a woman has, the more confidence she has in making informed, well thought-out decisions for herself and her children," said Tonetti.

Women who leave an abusive situation and those who choose to remain often find that their anxiety level has decreased with the insights they've gained.

Knowing their rights, knowing what their partner can or cannot legally do often reduces their fear for the future.

"A lot of time is spent reviewing options and supporting women to believe that they can make suggestions to their lawyers or in the case of a criminal matter, the police and Crown Attorney," said Tonetti.

Women seek information, support and referral from the legal support counsellor on a number of other legal issues including:

- how to hire a lawyer or legal aid and what to expect
- ways to prevent and stop harassment
- enforcement of custody orders, support payments, restraining orders & former partners' probation orders

Stephanie (a pseudonym) sat in the counselling waiting room at Family Transition Place, twisting a clump of damp tissues.

She was feeling scared, stressed and unsure of what was going to happen to her kids, her home, and her safety when her partner discovers she's gone to the emergency shelter to escape the verbal and emotional abuse she'd suffered for years.

"Child custody and access visits are the number one concerns women have when they come to see us for legal support," said Katie Tonetti, Legal Support Counsellor at Family Transition Place.

Women obtain needed information about Family Law matters such as custody and access, child support, spousal support and division of assets.



"FTP helped me understand the legal system and not feel so intimidated by it."



294 women

Last year 294 women sought legal support services at Family Transition Place.

This year, a shortfall in funding has created a waiting list for clients seeking legal support. Some of the services, such as court attendance and support, are limited. Clients are seen on a priority basis and those in crisis receive support without waiting.

Your financial donation is needed.

2002-2003

- 141 women & 153 children in the shelter
- 687 women in counselling
- 3,837 crisis calls
- 3,700 students in violence prevention



Family Transition Place

20 Bredin Pkwy,
Orangeville, ON L9W 4Z9
p. 519-942-4122
f. 519-942-8243
admin@ftp.on.ca
www.ftp.on.ca

24 Hour Crisis Line
519-941-HELP (4357)
1-800-265-9178

Legal support information and appointments are available by calling 519-941-HELP (4357) or 1-800-265-9178.

Community presentations are also available through the Violence Prevention Coordinator.

Imagine a Community of Safety, Support & Hope

Woman abuse is a family issue, a community issue

Bert Gauthier, Sgt. Dave Quinton and Dick Fearon are three of the men taking part in a community awareness campaign to “speak out and speak up” about family violence. Look for more about our community’s response to woman abuse in the “Imagine” insert in the Orangeville Banner & Caledon Enterprise this November as part of Woman Abuse Prevention Month.



Sgt. Dave Quinton,
Dufferin
OPP

In most domestic situations police are called to, there’s a lack of trust, a lack of credibility, and lack of respect between the people.

Respect, whether you’re a man or a woman, means not talking down or treating the other as an inferior person. Don’t criticize or insult someone’s looks, their weight, their personal habits, their beliefs.

I’ve seen women in relationships whose self esteem is so low that they’ve taken what’s been said about them until they finally explode saying “that’s not me, that’s not who I am.”

More people are willing to talk about woman abuse and family violence. We’ve taken great steps in protecting people in relation to physical assaults and there is more being done to empower people to deal with emotional and psychological abuse. But there’s still more to do.

In some convictions, the sentences are too lenient for the crimes committed. Programs to support the victims are being affected by financial constraints. Kids need help to talk about how it’s impacted them.



Bert Gauthier,
owner
Dods &
McNair
Funeral
Home

None of us is immune to family violence and abuse.

In my business and my community, I have heard and seen the tragic outcomes of family violence.

It’s in your neighborhood, it’s in some businesses. It’s not just in low income homes. It exists in families of all income levels.

We all need to get involved. When you hear or see abuse, don’t close your eyes. Don’t say “it’s their business”. Do something.

Offer support to others who are struggling emotionally. If you hear violent arguing or someone being hurt, call the police.

I’m concerned at the gaps in support for abuse victims with mental health or addiction problems.

Abusers shouldn’t have the right to possess firearms if they’ve been charged, and threats involving firearms need to be taken more seriously.



Dick Fearon,
owner
Data
Cable

People are now more aware that they don’t have to live with abuse even though they may have been raised in a family where it’s been a way of life.

Community awareness, education and services such as those available at Family Transition Place help.

We see the impact of family violence on the workplace: women coming to work with shiners, having trouble concentrating.

If something’s bothering them, if they’re having problems at home with a partner, it affects their productivity and impacts the staff around them.

Family violence, woman abuse, sexual harassment are all issues that more manufacturers are becoming aware of and taking steps to deal with through management training.

As individuals, we need to learn how to offer help to families experiencing problems. We need to be more aware of the community resources available.

Parents need to set an example for their children by handling disagreements respectfully and talking to each other without being abusive.

Golf Charity Classic Raises \$11,000

Competition was fierce but in a winner-takes all putt-off, **Mike Kozanczyn** (Data Cable) took 1st spot and **Patti Ambrock** (Maritime-Ontario Freight) took 2nd place in the Putting Challenge during the 2nd Annual FTP Golf Charity Classic at Caledon Golf & Country Club. Special thanks to major sponsors: Carter & Associates Ltd., Charlie Butler (Associate Broker Royal LePage RCR Realty), Famous Players & Marlin Travel (Wal-Mart).



Coming Events

Family Movie Mornings
Galaxy Cinemas, Orangeville
10 a.m. on selected Sundays
from December to March
 A family-friendly flick & snack!
 Adults \$10 Kids \$5

February 8, 2004
3rd Annual Curling Funspiel
Orangeville Curling Club
 Fee: \$25/curler & pledges.
 No curling experience necessary.
 Prizes, lunch, and fun!

March 2004
International Women's Day
 Look forward to a special evening in support of Family Transition Place!

For more information on these and other upcoming fundraising events, contact Shelley Chidlow, Resource Development Coordinator, 519-942-4122 ext. 240, shelley@ftp.on.ca

Leave a "Legacy of Hope"

Holiday time is almost here and that means gifts for family, friends and your charity of choice. Nearly 40% of all charitable giving occurs at this time of year, especially right before the holidays.

We invite you to donate to Family Transition Place this year and also consider giving a "Legacy of Hope" - a financial gift directed to FTP in your will.

Legacy gifts, or bequests, and other donations can take many forms. Let us know if we can help you support FTP!

Celebration Gift

Make a financial donation in lieu of a gift to honor someone or celebrate a special event such as

- Christmas
- birthday
- anniversary
- retirement

Monthly Giving

A convenient way for donors to budget their annual giving - helps FTP budget our expenses too! Automatic bank account deductions or charged to your credit card.

Hold Your Own Fundraiser

Whether it's dress down days, a hockey tourney or a dance-a-thon, special events develop team-building skills & help FTP too.

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I SUPPORT FAMILY TRANSITION PLACE!

Mail Your Tax Deductible Donation Today! 20 Bredin Pkwy, Orangeville, ON L9W 4Z9 Reg. Charity # BN10737 6378 RR0001
In an effort to keep you "in the know" we'll forward to you future newsletters with information about our programs and initiatives unless you advise us not to do so. FTP does not sell or share our mailing list.

Name: _____ **Address:** _____ **Phone:** _____

My donation is enclosed for: \$25 \$50 \$100 \$500 other amount \$ _____

I authorize FTP to process a pre-authorized **monthly** donation in the amount of \$ _____ from my bank account **or** charged to my credit card.

Authorizing Signature: _____

My donation is payable by Cheque VISA Mastercard **or** Electronic Debit from Bank Account.

Credit Card Number: _____ Expiry: _____ Signature: _____

If donating monthly by Electronic Debit from your bank account, please attach a void cheque. Thanks!