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"She Deserves It"Rebuild Haven House

Cambridge, ON- Women's Crisis Services of Waterloo Region is honoured to thank RBC Royal Bank for their commitment to a community without violence and abuse.

John Clifford, Vice President Commercial Financial Services and Kevin Leu, Commercial Account Manager, presented a donation to Rebuild Haven House, the shelter supporting abused women and their children in Cambridge and North Dumfries. **The \$20,000 donation from RBC** will be put towards the community campaign of \$6 million that was announced in September 2014.

To date, supporters and stakeholders have committed over \$3 million and with the investment from RBC, the goal is now \$3.2 million.

Mary Zilney, CEO of Women's Crisis Services says "We sincerely appreciate the financial support of RBC toward the rebuild Haven House project. It takes an entire community to be successful in a campaign of this magnitude. We are pleased to partner with RBC and have them help us break the chains of abuse." Located at the corner of Acorn Way and Elgin Street, the new shelter will increase current capacity from 30 beds to 45 beds, will accommodate adequate space for programming and partnerships, and be an environment conducive to healing. The rebuilt Haven House will feature a notable security system, private entrance for clients, a commercial kitchen and servery, expandable bedrooms (for women with several children), designated program spaces for youth, music therapy, spiritual care, medical care and much more.

"It is unacceptable that the prevalence of violence against women in Waterloo Region has driven the need for this project. Every abused woman in Cambridge and North Dumfries deserves a facility that is conducive to her being able to move forward and break the intergenerational cycle of abuse so that the next generation of children does not need to seek our help. We now turn to each of you for your support. Please join the "She Deserves It" campaign so that abused women and their children do receive what they deserve, a new Haven House" says Zilney.

In 1991, the existing Haven House was originally built for 11 women and children, but now regularly houses 30-32. In the past, the location of the shelter has been kept confidential, but in 2011 a new philosophy was brought forward by releasing the address to facilitate access for women and their children and to help bring the issue of violence against women to the forefront in the minds of the community.

Women's Crisis Services offers two emergency shelters, Haven House and Anselma House, plus Outreach services for abused women and their children throughout Waterloo Region. We are the only agency of its kind to provide these services in Waterloo Region.

www.wcswr.org/rebuild-haven-house

Contact: Mary Zilney, CEO

Mary.Zilney@wcswr.org

519-741-9184 ext 2111

