

November 25<sup>th</sup> is designated as the United Nations' International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women.

Until violence against women is a thing of the past, having community resources available to support women who are victims of abuse and violence is important. Once such resource, the Bridges of Kawartha Lakes hub, launched today in Lindsay. The launch was attended by a number of community partners as well as MPP Laurie Scott.

This new hub is the result of a collaborative initiative of Women's Resources of Kawartha Lakes and the Kawartha-Haliburton Children's Aid Society. The goal of the Bridges hub is to reduce barriers to services for women ages 16 and over who have experienced abuse and violence by providing multiple services at one location. The hub, which is located at 22 Russell Street East in Lindsay, is open on Mondays from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Women can choose from a number of services including:

- Safety planning
- Family court information
- Admission to safe shelter
- Information about making a police report
- Counselling
- Children's Aid support/advice
- Applying for social assistance
- Housing

Funding for the project was received from the Ministry of Community and Social Services through the Rural Realities Fund and from the Trillium Foundation in the form of an eleven month Seed Grant. Women's Resources of Kawartha Lakes manages the program.

**Contact information for the Bridges of Kawartha-Lakes Hub:**

- Open Mondays. Walk-ins welcome 10AM – 3PM
- 222 Russell Street East (Bus stop in front of the building)
- Call or text 705-879-9759 to book appointment
- All services free and confidential
- Free parking
- For more information, email [bridges@womensresources.ca](mailto:bridges@womensresources.ca)

**If you are in crisis, please contact the Woman Abuse 24-hour Crisis Support Line at 1-800-565-5350.**