



MEDIA RELEASE

Women's Business Network donates over \$22,000 to YWCA's Safe Night's Sleep Program to support local women and children fleeing violence

Peterborough—Wednesday, January 9, 2019

The Women's Business Network of Peterborough (WBN) is proud to announce a \$22,486.15 donation to YWCA Peterborough Haliburton, thanks to the successful 2018 WBN Holiday Gala held in December at the Holiday Inn Peterborough-Waterfront.

For over thirty years, through this annual fundraising event, WBN has committed to supporting YWCA Crossroads Shelter, a vital, yet under-funded, service that protects local women and their children from violence and abuse and provides them with the resources they need to rebuild their lives.

"We feel strongly about giving back to our community and supporting our local YWCA's Safe Night's Sleep Program this year. We are thrilled that we surpassed last year's donation of \$20,000 and that the money raised will help mothers and their children experience warm and secure nights," says Lori McKee, WBN's Program Director. "This is further proof that we are indeed surrounded by a genuinely supportive community. We are grateful for the generosity of our WBN members, guests, volunteers and local businesses for making this event a huge success. Thank you for all your hard work and support that has allowed us to reach our fundraising goal "

Tonight, at WBN's member's meeting at Holiday Inn Peterborough-Waterfront, WBN Program Directors, Lori McKee and Danielle McIver, presented a cheque to Donna Masters, YWCA Director of Philanthropy and Communications, and Ria Nicholson, YWCA Associate, Fundraising Events.

The funds raised from the WBN Holiday Gala will support the YWCA's Safe Night's Sleep Program at Crossroads Shelter, which provides emergency shelter, meals, counselling and personal care supplies for women and children. Last year, YWCA Crossroads Shelter and Haliburton Emergency Rural SafeSpace provided 8,159 safe nights for women and children.

One safe night at YWCA Crossroads Shelter costs \$45.96, typically beyond what government funding provides, and includes everything from the physical safety of a private room and 24-hour support, to nutritious meals, linens, clothing, and personal care items.

According to a report released by the Ontario Association of Interval and Transition Houses on December 6, 2018, 48 women were killed last year as a result of intimate partner violence in Ontario. Three of those 48 victims were from the Peterborough and the Kawarthas region.

"The need for safety is ongoing," says Donna Masters, YWCA Director of Philanthropy and Communications. "Continued support helps change lives in Peterborough and Haliburton by sustaining

a broad range of YWCA programs and services for women and their children. Together, we can continue to provide a path to safety and the opportunity for a fresh start."

Hear how the YWCA Peterborough Haliburton is helping women like Carissa build a better life for herself and her kids: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VbDAiLp8EJ8&feature=youtu.be>

About Women's Business Network of Peterborough

The Women's Business Network of Peterborough (WBN) is a networking channel for women who wish to enhance and expand their business contacts and grow their businesses. Formed in 1961 as the Peterborough Chapter of the Canadian Advertising and Sales Association, the network has evolved into a dynamic and growing membership of women with diverse backgrounds and careers who meet to share their knowledge and experience and promote their businesses. From September to June, a diverse program of learning, sharing, and socializing is provided for members. Guest speakers, trade shows, special events, and gala socials make the WBN the premier network for women in the Kawarthas and surrounding areas. For more information, please visit www.womensbusinessnetwork.net or connect with us on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), and [Instagram](#).

Media Contact:

Rencee Noonan
External Communications Director
Women's Business Network of Peterborough
publicity@womensbusinessnetwork.net
705-772-9351