

# Beary Merry Christmas

## Greetings from Halton Women's Place

Every day we are inspired by the strength demonstrated by women who desperately want to make changes in their lives. Women come to Halton Women's Place with their children because they want to escape the violence in their homes. The choice to leave is a difficult one and comes with many challenges, including lower income, lack of affordable housing, custody issues, health concerns and the loss of family traditions. Overcoming these obstacles takes a great deal of courage.

At Halton Women's Place, we are dedicated to ending violence against women by offering crisis and shelter services. We are the only organization in the Region of Halton that provides residential services to abused women and their dependent children. Halton Women's Place operates two shelters, one in Milton and one in Burlington. Between the two, we provide 52 beds on a daily basis. Last year, over 800 women and 1000 children called Halton Women's Place home. In addition, our staff responded to over 2500 crisis calls. As we enter the holiday season, our capacity is consistently over 100%.

Halton Women's Place core services include emergency shelter, 24 hour crisis lines, therapeutic children's programs, one-to-one and group counseling, referrals to other social services agencies and safety planning. We also provide non-residential services through our Transitional and Housing Support Program, the Outreach and Public Education Program, and the Bridging Families Program. These programs offer flexible services for women and children as they attempt to establish violence-free lives in the community.

This year, Halton Women's Place will supply hampers to 300 women and their families who are spending their first Christmas on their own. Our Holiday Hamper Program matches "wish lists" with sponsor families, companies, groups, or individuals. The fulfilled wishes/hampers are dropped off at Halton Women's Place locations and are given to the families for Christmas. Aside from sponsoring a family hamper, we have numerous ways you can participate in making the holidays less stressful for women and children, and to support the work of Halton Women's Place.

Donations of Cash or Gift Certificates are much appreciated. "Halton Women's Place needs your help to close the door on abuse".

For services please call 905-332-7892 or 905-878-78970 or for more information on how you can help call 905-332-1200 ext 221 or visit [www.haltonwomensplace.com](http://www.haltonwomensplace.com)



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