

"We know this government is looking to cut costs and we just hope that they're not going to do it at the expense of women and kids."

THERESA GREER

Women's shelter director Greer says she's cautiously optimistic

By **KIM ARNOTT**
Special to The Champion

Battered women may see more consistent service, while women's shelters see more consistent grants, thanks to a newly-announced funding arrangement for shelters.

At least, that's what Theresa Greer, executive director of Halton Women's Place, is hoping will happen following last week's announcement that the provincial government will take over responsibility for women's shelters.

"I think it's a little early to tell, but we're cautiously optimistic," Ms Greer said.

Halton Women's Place, which operates two shelters (one in Milton, the other in Burlington), currently receives 50 per cent of its budget from the province and 30 per cent from the region. The remaining 20 per cent comes from fundraising efforts.


But fluctuating regional contributions — based on the shelters' occupancy — have often made it difficult for the organization to budget, said Ms Greer.

Knowing in advance how much money they will receive from the province should make finances easier to manage, she added.

However, she doubts the province is prepared to ante up the organization's entire \$1.2 million annual budget.

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