



**Guelph-Wellington Women in Crisis**  
PO Box 1451, Guelph, ON N1H 6N9  
T: 519-836-1110 F: 519-836-1979  
Crisis Line: 519-836-5710/1-800-265-7233  
[www.gwwomenincrisis.org](http://www.gwwomenincrisis.org)

Marianne's Place  
24-hour Crisis Line  
Sexual Assault Centre  
Volunteer Program  
Anti- Human Trafficking  
Support Program

Rural Women's  
Support Program  
Transitional & Housing  
Support Program  
Public Education  
Family Court  
Support Program

For Immediate Release: 03/20/2020

Sly Castaldi  
Guelph-Wellington Women in Crisis  
519-836-1110 ext 226  
[sly@gwwomenincrisis.org](mailto:sly@gwwomenincrisis.org)

**Guelph-Wellington Women in Crisis modifies services in the face of COVID-19 Pandemic  
Emergency Shelter and 24-hour Crisis line remain fully functional**

Guelph, ON- Effective immediately, Guelph-Wellington Women in Crisis will be modifying our services in order to promote self-isolation and social distancing while still providing essential services to those in need. We want to continue to ensure we are providing safety and security to the women and children in the shelter, women who are accessing other program areas and our staff who remain on site to provide support and maintain the crisis line.

In times of stress our services are still very much needed and essential for many members of our community. The practise of self isolation can put women at further risk for violence and create less opportunity for them to get supports, or exit an unsafe situation.

Effective March 23rd, all team members at Guelph-Wellington Women in Crisis that can perform their duties remotely will do so. We will retain only necessary and key members of our shelter staff team in order to operate our emergency shelter and 24-hour crisis line. Due to the current situation, we will be offering counselling supports and outreach in a remote capacity. Our team is working to provide accessible, accommodating, and flexible services via telephone, email and teleconferencing technology where it is safe to do so. We will continue to work to increase our capabilities in the face of this pandemic and will be diligent in ensuring that women who need Guelph-Wellington Women in Crisis have access to our services.

Our residential shelter remains operational and we have taken the following measures to ensure staff and resident safety:

- Increase sanitation and infection control measures have been put in place and social distancing practises have been implemented for staff and residents
- At this time we are unable to accept in-kind donations to our shelter. Financial donations can be accepted via direct mail or online through Canada Helps here:  
<https://www.canadahelps.org/en/dn/7880>
- Non essential guests and service providers are not permitted to access our shelter or administrative offices.

**At this time if you are in need of emergency shelter or support, we ask that you please call our crisis line at: 1-800-265-7233**

Please follow us on social media for further updates on services and capacities:

Facebook: Guelph-Wellington Women in Crisis  
Twitter: @GWWIC  
Instagram: @GWWIC

**You don't have to be hit to be hurt. • You don't have to leave to get help. • You don't have to be in crisis to call.**