

EVERYONE DESERVES A LIFE WITHOUT VIOLENCE.

HELP. HOPE. HEAL.

CALL NOVA VITA TODAY TO
FIND OUT HOW YOU CAN HELP

519.752.4357
NOVAVITA.ORG

AUSTIN'S STORY

I was a Nova Vita resident from March 24th, 2012 until June 9th of the same year. My experience at Nova Vita was bittersweet. I was happy to be in a place that was safe, but unhappy that I had to leave my home, and come to an unfamiliar place filled with unfamiliar people. The longer I stayed – the more alone I felt and I did anything I could to stay away from Nova Vita. I associated this place with hurt, pain, and loneliness. It wasn't until we left Nova Vita that I realized the impact Nova Vita has on families in need. I realized what a wonderful facility it is. They provided us with a roof over our head, food, clothing, bus passes, and toys

at Easter. They provided us with two mattresses when we left and helped us find a new home. However, the most important thing Nova Vita provided for us, and for all its residents, was safety from domestic violence. Nova Vita's ultimate goal is to end domestic violence – end of statement! Sadly, safe shelters like Nova Vita are necessary facilities that provide women and children with a safe haven during the storm of domestic violence. It helps women and children recapture their lives, their self-esteem and their self-worth. We are walking today to help keep women and children safe. Your job is to walk and, even for a brief moment allow yourselves to “walk a mile in the shoes of women and children who experience domestic violence.” Take another moment to acknowledge the turbulence women and children experience because of domestic violence and thank your lucky stars Nova

Vita exists to keep your mothers, wives, grandmothers, sisters, aunts and family friends safe. Together we can be proud of ourselves because we took a stand and championed to end domestic violence once and for all.

Austin's speech for the opening ceremony of Men in Heels - Standing tall against domestic violence.



novavita

International Women's Day 2014

Supporters of Nova Vita raise \$40,000 to help support the families affected by domestic violence at the 5th Annual International Women's Day event on Wednesday March 5th, 2014. Thank you to our wonderful guests and event sponsors – you all made this possible!

Guests enjoyed a fabulous evening with many special moments. The grand ballroom looked fabulous thanks to the wonderful decor donated by Wanda Brooks from In Seasons Living. During the cocktail hour guests enjoyed music performed by the Trio Brio and harpist Dianne Joyner. The hall was filled with wonderful supporters of Nova Vita. After a culinary delight compli-

ments of Chef Stephen Huszizo, our mistress of ceremonies - Kim Tulloch, from Jewel 92 - commenced with the evening's festivities. Scotia bank presented Nova Vita with a cheque for \$5,000! Laurie-Beth Russell from Brant News – our speaker sponsor- introduced Jessica Holmes as our guest speaker for the night. Jessica gave an amazing performance that included impersonations of Liza Minnelli, Celine Dion and the little “Happy Happy” Russian immigrant. She was a true crowd pleaser – the hall was filled with laughter. She also discussed daily struggles we can face and how laughter and a smile can help when faced with adversity. The five finalists for the Woman of



Our five finalists from left to right: Evelyn Picketts, Mieke Schroeder, Fran Welsh, Lucy Marco and Cathy Bohemier

ONE IN FOUR

ONE IN FOUR CANADIAN WOMEN HAVE EXPERIENCED DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AT THE HANDS OF A PARTNER

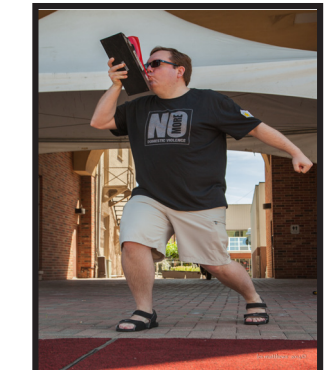
Excellence Award – Cathy Bohemier, Fran Welsh, Mieke Schroeder, Lucy Marco and Evelyn Picketts - were highlighted with personal vignettes produced by Roger and Grant of Digital Duck. Wendy Rose from the Expositor – our award sponsor - presented Evelyn Picketts with the Woman of Excellence Award. Evelyn works tirelessly to provide a better life to the orphans living at Homes for Hope in Malawi Africa and is known for random acts of kindness in her own community. Congratulations Evelyn.

2014 SUMMER NEWSLETTER



\$40,000 - SIMPLY AMAZING!

**TOP INDIVIDUAL
KEVIN MAGEE \$3,190**



TOP YOUTH - KARSEN NUNN



TOP TEAM - THE PIRATES \$8,600



We have a lot to be thankful for this year. We are thankful 125 men and boys were willing to strap on red high heels and stand tall against domestic violence. We are overwhelmed with gratitude for the \$40,000 they raised that will directly impact the women and children living at Nova Vita. We appreciate all the support for this event, from the walkers to the pledgers to the sponsors and volunteers - we couldn't do this without all of you. This event is so important to Nova Vita as it demonstrates the compassion and support

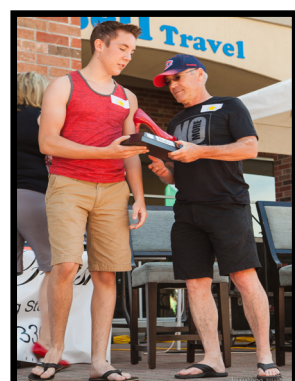
men in our community have for the women and children needing our help during this difficult and emotional time. As special thank you to Austin for having the courage to share his story and express first hand the devastating impact domestic violence has on families. And thank you to Police Chief Geoff Nelson for acknowledging Austin's bravery and encouraging men to look out for one another during the walk - no man left down. We all experienced a sense of unity on that day, from the laughter to the waxed legs to the sore feet

TOP SCHOOL - BCI \$800



we were all there for one reason - to keep our women and children safe. We look forward to seeing you all again for the 5th Annual Men in Heels - Standing tall against domestic violence event on Saturday June 20th at Harmony Square. If you would like more information on how to get involved with this amazing event please contact Nova Vita at 519-752-1005 ext. 232

**TOP FATHER & SON TEAM
TOM & AUSTIN \$675**



Closest Couture celebrates 1st anniversary

Closest Couture continues to blossom with the support from our community. This beautiful boutique is proving to be a wonderful social enterprise for Nova Vita - with all the proceeds directly supporting the shelter for abused women and their children. At the heart of Closet Couture is a team of dedicated volunteers. They work together to assist customers, price and steam clothes and display our beautiful previously loved items. We have another committed team of volunteers sorting donations every day at the shelter to provide clothing for the women and children living at Nova Vita. They are the reason we are still here celebrating our first anniversary and of course to all of

you - our loyal and dedicated customers. Our first year is filled with wonderful experiences - meeting new customers, Clarrisa's (our famous mannequin) special outings and the live fashion show with Ted Lehman on Rogers TV. To continue our path to success we need your help spreading the word about our wonderful boutique. Closet Couture is located on 222B King George Rd. inside the white house beside Galerie Lumiere. We are open Monday to Friday 10 - 6 and Saturdays 10 - 5. We believe you will be amazed at the wonderful unique pieces you will find at Closet Couture. We are always accepting clothing donations for the shelter and the store. You can drop off your

previously loved items to the shelter at 59 North Park street Monday - Friday between 9 -5 or after hours in our donation bin on site. To receive daily updates on specials and new items please visit our Facebook page - Closet Couture Boutique. We look forward to seeing you all at the store soon, and please, bring a friend!

