



NOVA VITA
Help • Hope • Heal

For Immediate Release

Saturday March 14, 2020

For more information, please contact:

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Nova Vita Prepares for COVID-19 (Coronavirus)

With growing concerns around COVID-19 (Coronavirus), we want to provide you with an update on our response and our commitment to our community moving forward.

The health, safety, and well-being of our clients, employees, and volunteers is Nova Vita's top priority. We are following the recommendations of the provincial government and local public health authorities and are taking active measures to reduce the spread of the virus as we continue to provide essential services to those impacted by domestic violence and homelessness.

During times of uncertainty, emotions are heightened and the risk of domestic violence could increase. We want you to know that we are doing everything we can to safely support you during this difficult time. If you need someone to talk to because you are afraid of your partner, we are here to help. If you need someone to talk to you because you might hurt your partner, we are here to help. Please call 519-752-4357.

The following essential services will continue to operate:

- **24 Hour Crisis and Support Line: 519-752-HELP** will remain open to provide safety planning and support to our community.
- **33 Bed Emergency Shelter:** will remain open to provide safe shelter and essential support to women and children impacted by domestic violence and homelessness. As this is a shared living space, we are taking all appropriate measures to minimize the exposure of COVID-19 within the shelter.

59 North Park Street, Brantford, ON N3R 4J8 [w: novavita.org](http://www.novavita.org) [e: info@novavita.org](mailto:info@novavita.org) [p: 519-752-1005](tel:519-752-1005) [f: 519-752-0811](tel:519-752-0811)

Emergency Shelter 519.752.4357 • Individual & Group Counselling • Transitional Housing & Support • Children's Programming
Differential Response • Challenge to Change • Community Development • Public Education • Closet Couture Boutique

Registered Charitable Tax # 10777 1727 RR0001



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The following services will be changed as follows:

- **All Group Programs are cancelled until April 5:** all on-site groups at Nova Vita, as well as off-site PAR/SCRIBE groups will be cancelled. If you are currently enrolled in one of our group programs, a counsellor will be in touch with you to talk about next steps and to provide support during the weeks that groups are cancelled.
- **Intake, Individual Counselling, and other support services available by phone:** these services will not be taking place in person or on location at 59 North Park Street in order to minimize risk and limit exposure to our communal residential shelter and main building. Our team of counsellors will be connecting with clients to provide support services over the phone.
- **Donations Bin is closed until April 13:** Please do not drop off any donations during this time as we need to focus on the safety and well-being of our clients. If we need donations, we will post on our website and through our social media channels.

We will continue to monitor this situation closely and will provide updates on our website as the situation evolves www.novavita.org and on social media @NovaVitaBrant.

About Nova Vita Domestic Violence Prevention Services

Nova Vita works to end interpersonal violence and abuse by supporting individuals and families who have experienced domestic violence, intimate partner violence, or gender-based violence through the provision of crisis intervention, emergency shelter, transitional support, children's programs, and counselling; and by fostering accountability for those who harm through intervention, counselling, public education, and systemic advocacy.

If you are someone you know are in need of support, please contact our 24 hour Crisis & Support Line at **519-752-HELP**. For more information visit our website at novavita.org.

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