

## For Immediate Release

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## For more information, please contact:

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## **Update on Programs & Services at Nova Vita during Province Wide Shutdown**

As we all prepare for the province wide shutdown to stop the spread of COVID-19 and to save lives, we have updated our list of programs and services and how they may be impacted:

- **24 Hour Crisis and Support Line**: Dial **519-752-HELP** to receive immediate support and safety planning. This service is available to all members of our community. For those note able to safely place a call, you can text us at *519-754-5332* (text only line).
- **Emergency Shelter:** is open to provide safe shelter and essential support to women and children impacted by domestic violence and homelessness. Our safe intake room is available for walk-in appointments for shelter services.
- Community Outreach, Intake, and Other Support Services, including Women's Community
  Counselling, Men's Community Counseling/Challenge to Change, and Transitional Support
  Services: Emergency support is always available by calling <u>519-752-HELP</u>, and while in-person
  meetings are cancelled our teams continue to offer phone and video counseling.
- **Donations:** At this time we cannot accept physical donations of any kind (clothing, hygiene products, prepared food, etc.). You can still make a difference:
  - **Donate Grocery Store Gift Cards** cards valued at \$25 or \$50 can be distributed by our counsellors to give to their outreach clients to help ease the financial burden during these volatile times. Contact <a href="mailto:jpowless@novavita.org">jpowless@novavita.org</a> after January 4, 2021.
  - **Donate Online** monetary donations ensure the required equipment, necessities, and services are supplied to residents and clients in need of additional support at this time. You can specify how you would like the money to be used at **canadahelps.org**.
- Closet Couture Boutique: Our retail boutique, located at 415 Fairview Drive in Brantford, will be closed until the Government of Ontario announces that all non-essential workplaces are cleared to re-open. For more information, or to shop online, visit <a href="www.closet-couture.ca">www.closet-couture.ca</a>.
- **Volunteer Program & Student Placements:** Nova Vita is unable to have volunteer's onsite and we are postponing all student placements for the 2021 winter and spring semesters.

We will continue to monitor this situation closely and will provide updates on our website <a href="www.novavita.org">www.novavita.org</a> and on our social media platforms @NovaVitaBrant. We wish you safety and good health this holiday season and in 2021.