

MEDIA RELEASE

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For Immediate Release

Local anti-violence agency partners with iSisters Technology Mentoring to launch a computer training program for women

Lanark County - Wednesday marked the official public launch of a one year partnership program between Lanark County Interval House (LCIH) and iSisters Technology Mentoring (iSisters) made possible as a result of a \$43,500 grant from the Ontario Trillium Foundation (OTF). Over the next year, Lanark County Interval House will work with the leadership of iSisters to embark on computer skill building opportunities for women who have fled abusive situations and are working toward a future free of violence. Local MPP Randy Hillier officially congratulated the organization on Wednesday when he met with representatives from the two groups.

“The iSisters project creates an opportunity for victims of abuse to reclaim their lives and move forward from difficult times,” remarked Randy Hillier, MPP for Lanark-Frontenac-Lennox & Addington. “It will further enhance the great work Lanark County Interval House does to help those who find themselves forced to start over.”

As a leader in technology, learning and development, iSisters Technology Mentoring empowers women in need to live better lives, create brighter futures and build stronger communities. This will be the first project for the group in a rural setting.

“We look forward to the opportunity to partner with Lanark County Interval House, and to increase computer literacy and access to technology for women in rural Ontario. We are grateful to the Ontario Trillium Foundation for making this possible,” said Linda Milton Perreault, iSisters Executive Director.

Initially LCIH will host and support a learning lab for 10 women each session with three sessions scheduled leading to June 2016.

“We hope to continue to offer computer access once the project ends through a peer support model and with additional funding,” said Erin Lee, LCIH Executive Director. “Funding and access remain critical to women in their journey of healing, empowerment and self-development.”

This program will offer both over the next year. Other such programs created by iSisters in various communities have continued to be sustainable and have graduation rates of up to 75 or more participants annually. The program will be offered through Lanark County Interval House at a confidential location in order to ensure that women’s safety remains paramount.

A leading grantmaker foundation in Canada, the Ontario Trillium Foundation strengthens the capacity of the voluntary sector through investments in community-based initiatives. An agency of the Government of Ontario, OTF helps build healthy and vibrant communities. For more information, please visit www.otf.ca.

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