

# 2012 Good Man Walking Calendar

On February 10th, 5 men strapped on high heels and headed out into the snow on what was arguably the coldest day of the year. On March 14th, our Fire Chief put on his heels and slid down the fire pole at St. Catharines Fire Station 1 an uncountable number of times, and on



that same day 3 year old Jacob sat quietly and cooperatively through a two hour photo shoot (if you know any three year olds, you know that this is a near impossible feat).

And, Joel Hannigan of JFHannigan Photography has donated more than 30 hours of his time so far, with a long way to go.

Why are they doing this? To support the 1 in 4 women in our community who have experienced violence at the hands of their partner. These men will be part of Gillian's Place's very first Good Man Walking Calendar.

Now it's your turn. Buy a calendar. Buy two! Buy one for yourself, buy one for your friends, your neighbours, your family, your coworkers, buy one for that person in your life that "has everything". I can guarantee, they don't have this!

Join us for the calendar launch where we will reveal who made the cover on August 28th at 1:00 pm at the Pen Centre, St. Catharines. Or, you can purchase your calendar online today at [www.gilliansplace.com/events](http://www.gilliansplace.com/events) \*

2011 SPRING/SUMMER NEWSLETTER

## the next chapter



One in four Canadian Women has experienced violence at the hands of a partner.



# GILLIAN'S PLACE

empowering abused women of niagara

24/7 Support Line  
905-684-8331

## Our Community, Our Future

Since our inception in 1977, Gillian's Place has been providing shelter and support services for women experiencing violence and their children. Gillian's Place has built a strong and committed organization that values partnerships and manages our resources well. We recently completed a strategic plan entitled Our Community, Our Future, which articulates the vision, mission and values of the organization and provides a framework for all of our decisions and actions in setting out broad strategic directions, goals and strategies for the next three years. This strategic plan will build on the incredible work that has been done over the past thirty years, and provide a foundation for the future.



### STRATEGIC DIRECTION 1 building our future through leadership

To build our future, Gillian's Place will continue to exhibit leadership to strengthen our capacity to transform our vision into a reality. We want to ensure that Gillian's Place can adapt, change and grow and remain a sustainable organization over time. To realize our leadership strategic direction we will focus on fostering exemplary governance and management leadership practices, ensuring sustainability and creating a culture that manages risks.

### STRATEGIC DIRECTION 2 building our future through public education and community engagement

Achieving our vision requires that Gillian's Place build our future by strengthening public education through the use of social marketing to inspire opportunities for the community to become more fully engaged in the prevention of domestic abuse and violence against women and children.

### STRATEGIC DIRECTION 3 building our future through partnerships

To achieve sustainable and positive change for women experiencing violence and their children, Gillian's Place recognizes that partnerships are key to success. Over the years, we have valued the working relationships and strategic alliances that have been established based on a common goal of improving life in our community. To continue to be responsive to the needs of women and children we will continue to pursue partnerships that enhance our outreach services capacity and capacity to support women with mental health and addiction challenges who experience violence.

### STRATEGIC DIRECTION 4 building our future by achieving excellence

To be fully accountable to our community, Gillian's Place will strengthen our ability to measure quality and effectiveness to enable us to improve our performance. We will build our future by evaluating our performance, implementing best practice and promote a learning culture.

### Mission

Gillian's Place offers hope to women and children by providing safety and support through a range of services and by working through effective partnerships with our community to end violence and abuse.

### Vision

Women and children are free from violence and abuse.

### Values

Respect and Dignity  
Community Education and Responsiveness  
Partnerships and Collaboration  
Leadership and Excellence  
Integrity and Accountability



P.O. Box 1387, St. Catharines ON L2R 7J8

Business Line 905.684.4000

Support Line **905-684-8331**

[www.gilliansplace.com](http://www.gilliansplace.com)

## Friends and Family. You can make a Difference.

In a recent survey, we learned that 50% of women who come to Gillian's Place were referred by a family member, friend or neighbour. However, for every woman who is still in a violent relationship, there are family members and friends who suspect their loved one is being abused and have concerns about whether or not they should help. It is important

to overcome your hesitation, and Gillian's Place is available any time to answer your questions and assist you in helping your friend or family member on our 24/7 Support Line at 905-684-8331.

Below is a list of some concerns you may have about whether or not you should try to help.\*

POINTS OF CONCERN	POINTS TO CONSIDER
You feel it's none of your business.	It could be a matter of life or death. Violence is everyone's business.
You don't know what to say.	Saying you care and are concerned is a good start.
You might make things worse.	Doing nothing could make things worse.
It's not serious enough to involve the police.	Police are trained to respond and utilize other resources.
You are afraid his violence will turn to you or your family.	Speak to her alone. Let the police know if you receive threats.
You think she doesn't really want to leave because she keeps going back.	She may not have had the support she needed.
You are afraid she will become angry with you.	Maybe, but she will know you care.
You feel that both partners are your friends.	One friend is being abused and lives in fear.
You believe that if she wanted help, she would ask for it.	She may be too afraid or ashamed to ask for help.

\*taken from [www.neighboursfriendsandfamilies.ca](http://www.neighboursfriendsandfamilies.ca)

## If you would like to learn more about Gillian's Place, our shelter and programs, and how you can help please attend an "If These Walls Could Talk" presentation.

A one hour presentation bringing you inside the walls of Gillian's Place, where you will learn about a real woman's journey to a violence free life, and so that you may give feedback on how we can get the word out to more people

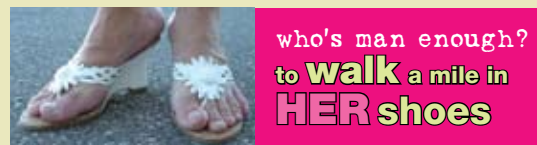
about the great work being done for abused women in our community. (please note that this presentation is a virtual tour and that we will not be entering the shelter.)

**Upcoming Dates: Tuesday, May 10th at 12:00pm • Thursday, May 26th at 5:30pm • Tuesday, June 7 at 12:00pm**



### THE LUCY PROJECT

All about empowering young women, this project gave participants from St. Catharines Collegiate the opportunity to express themselves and the issues that they see facing young women today. The participants also raised nearly \$200 for Gillian's Place! What a great program!



### SAVE THE DATE! SATURDAY, OCTOBER 1ST, 2011 THE PEN CENTRE, ST. CATHARINES

This will be the 6th year Gillian's Place will present Walk a Mile in HER Shoes; this symbolic gesture of men walking in female footwear becomes even more successful with each passing year. We are so inspired by the number of men who take up the challenge of walking a mile to raise awareness and money on the issue of violence against women and their children. Last year's walk was a great success, with over 150 walkers and 400 spectators raising more than \$55,500!

For more information or to register, please visit [www.gilliansplace.com/events](http://www.gilliansplace.com/events) or call 905-684-4000 ext. 235



### THE BODY SHOP

Every year the Body Shop Foundation provides a limited number of grants to deserving charities. Gillian's Place was one of the select few chosen internationally to receive one of these grants in 2010, and we were the very grateful recipients of nearly \$8,000! And, as an added bonus, we just received another \$1,000 from our local Body Shop retail outlet at the Pen Centre. Thank you to Deborah and the rest of the staff for your continued support.

## Celebrating Mothers

Looking for the perfect Mother's Day gift to honour mom? This Mother's Day, show her how much you value her by making a gift that helps other mothers who are struggling to provide their children with a safe and secure future. Donations to Gillian's Place help to support women in their transition to a violence free life. Please consider making a donation in honour of or in memory of a special Mom in your life. Honourees will be sent a card to notify them that their gift helped a woman take a step toward a safer life, and you will be issued a tax receipt.

*Together we can offer hope, help and a future.*

## Your donation can help abused women and their children

### I want to support Gillian's Place

- \$784 – one week of safe shelter for a woman (average stay is 34 days)
- \$270 – safe shelter for a mom and her two children for a day
- \$112 – one day of safe shelter for a woman
- \$65 – one hour of emergency counselling
- \$\_\_\_\_\_ another gift amount

### I want to be a monthly donor

I would like to donate \$\_\_\_\_\_ each month to all the ongoing services offered by Gillian's Place. (To give monthly, simply attach a cheque marked 'VOID' or fill-in your credit card information below)

- This is a gift in honour/memory of (circle one)

\*Tax receipts are only issued for amounts of \$10 or more. Registered Charitable Number 12971 8037 RR0001

### DONATION METHOD:

Make your secure on-line donation to Gillian's Place via [www.gilliansplace.com](http://www.gilliansplace.com).

- Cheque (payable to Gillian's Place)       VISA       MasterCard

Please print your name \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Credit card number \_\_\_\_\_ Expiry \_\_\_\_\_ Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Gillian's Place sends regular e-mail updates regarding programs and events. If you would like to be added to our e-mail list, please e-mail [development@gilliansplace.com](mailto:development@gilliansplace.com).

Gillian's Place does not solicit door-to-door or by telephone. Please mail to: Gillian's Place, PO Box 1387, St. Catharines ON L2R 7J8. Tel 905-684-4000 ext 233.