



MEDIA RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

“4th Annual Walk a Mile in HER Shoes Raises \$37,000 in Support of Gillian’s Place

St. Catharines, On (October 5, 2009) – Gillian’s Place challenged men to **Walk a Mile in HER Shoes** on Saturday, October 3, 2009 at The Pen Centre, St. Catharines and raised \$37,000 in support of Gillian’s Place.

The pledged walk is a symbolic gesture of men marching in female footwear to better understand the experiences of abused women and to help raise funds in support of Gillian’s Place. Participants this year battled it out for the coveted golden shoe awards for the highest money raised by a corporation, individual, and school. The winners were as follows:

Highest Pledged Individual **Doug Chreptyk** raised a staggering \$12,341.00; The highest pledged team the Sitel Stilettos raised \$2188.00; and the highest pledged School Team was Brock University bringing in \$1863.00.

Other notables were first time walkers Joe Carlomusto who raised well over \$5000.00 and Karl Vanderkuip who brought in over \$3500.00.

Approximately 90 Niagara Men adorned the heels to support Gillian’s Place and there were many community supporters. The Laura Secord Junk Band also lent their musical talent to kick off the Walk this year with a “bang” assisted by Bones, the Niagara Ice Dogs mascot.

Gillian’s Place would like to thank the following sponsors: The Pen Centre, TV Cogeco, 105.7FM EZ Rock, Newstalk 610 CKTB, 97.7 HTZ.FM, The Standard, East Side Marios, Boston Pizza, Lake House Restaurant, West 49, Cares Foundation, Sitel, Deloitte, Meridian, Inteleservices Canada, Silicon Knights, Aquatruue Water, Party Shoppe, Sweet Rage, Focus on You Photography, and Advantage Wellness Clinic.

Gillian’s Place is the only organization providing safe shelter and essential support services for abused women and their children from Grimsby, Lincoln, Niagara-on-the-Lake, St. Catharines,

Thorold, and West Lincoln. These essential services include 24-hour support counselling, safe shelter, safety planning, emotional support, legal advocacy and transitional support. The programs and services Gillian's Place provides help abused women and their children with the opportunity to rebuild their lives. Abused women who never stay at our shelter still benefit from the free and confidential services we offer. Gillian's Place also works diligently to provide public education and raise community awareness on the issue of violence against women.

For more information, please contact:

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