



To our valued clients, volunteers and donors,

In this time of uncertainty, there has been a great deal of activity by My Friend's House. We thank everyone for their continued support as we have raised over \$20,000 during the quarantine period to support our services.

However, due to the cancellation of fundraising events and increased costs due to COVID-19, **we are anticipating a shortfall of \$100,000 by year end.**

We are touched by our community's quick and generous response since mid-March and we can assure you that we have maintained services for women and their children.

"Generosity is the most natural outward expression of an inner attitude of compassion. Thank you to our community for your kind words of hope at this time and generous donations received in response to the challenges faced at My Friend's House due to COVID-19." Susan Brindisi, Board Chair, My Friend's House

SERVICES ARE AVAILABLE

When lockdown measures began, My Friend's House acted quickly to provide physical distancing for those living and working at the shelter. However, due to our small physical structure, physical distancing was not attainable so families were moved to a local motel so that each person had their own living space and access to cooking facilities.

We have now moved clients to safe homes in the area until physical distancing guidelines are lifted. We are also operating our 24/7 crisis line along with the transitional and legal advocacy program. Our counselling and children's program are offered through phone or video conferencing. At the beginning of the pandemic, our phones were eerily quiet but we have started to see a shift in demand. It won't be long before we will see a surge in calls as the abuse suffered in isolation becomes intolerable. Our entire team is ready to help, day or night. Abused women are not going to be turned away.

COVID-19 COMES WITH A COST

Every year My Friend's House must fundraise over 34% (about \$400,000) of our operating budget to offset the Ministry of Child, Community and Social Service funding shortfall. Due to social distancing, many fundraising events were cancelled so our revenue is down and costs are up due to COVID-19. My Friend's House is **projecting a revenue shortfall of \$100,000 at year end**

We need your support more than ever! Help us safeguard the women and children in our community.
[DONATE TODAY](#)

Become a [Champion of Courage](#). Please consider joining our monthly giving Campaign. Monthly giving provides a predictable source of revenue to ensure a continuation of services for women and children seeking safe refuge.

We thank all our supporters who have given this spring Together we can help protect the one in four women in our community who are abused by their partners!

Alison FitzGerald,
Executive Director
My Friend's House
(705 999 2504)

P.S: Thank you to everyone for reading our update and staying engaged with My Friend's House. We are privileged to be part of such a supportive and giving region. On behalf of

the board, our staff team and the women we serve - stay safe and good health to you and your loved ones.

My Friend's House | [Website](#)

