WRAPPED IN COURAGE

PRESS RELEASE



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Wrapped in Courage Campaign Launches *"Purple is for Everyone"* & Calls for Action to End Gender-Based Violence Across Ontario

This November during Woman Abuse Prevention Month, The Denise House is calling on all Oshawa community members to take action to respond to high rates of femicide and other forms of gender-based violence (GBV). Across Ontario, communities are coming together to support this year's Wrapped in Courage Campaign that will run throughout November under the theme *"Purple is for Everyone"*; it takes a community to gender-based violence.

The Denise House, a not-for-profit organization providing vital services and support to survivors of gender-based violence (GBV) in our community, is a proud agency partner of the 2023 Wrapped in Courage campaign that has been raising awareness of gender-based violence and working to prevent femicide in Ontario since 2013. The Denise House is concerned about the high rates of femicide and other forms of gender-based violence (GBV) across Ontario, with over 55 femicides reported by the Ontario Association of Interval & Transition Houses (OAITH) in the past 12 months. Last year in Ontario, on average every 7 days a woman or child was killed by a man known to them. These femicides are preventable tragedies which devastate communities and families.

Through the month of November, communities across Ontario will be coming together to show their support for GBV survivors, their children, and the services that provide resources and safety through Wrapped in Courage flag raisings and proclamations. A Wrapped in Courage flag will be raised in our community at Oshawa City Hall, 50 Centre Street South on Friday, November 24th at 9:30am and a Proclamation will be declared by Oshawa Mayor, Dan Carter declaring November 25th as the International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women and the first day of the 16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence.

Wrapped in Courage purple scarves and flags are symbols of the courage needed by communities in supporting survivors of violence and ending the epidemic of intimate partner violence, GBV and femicide across Ontario. They signal not only a commitment to ending hate-fueled violence but letting survivors in our community know they are not alone.

The Denise House is selling handmade, Fairtrade Wrapped in Courage purple scarves throughout November, contact info@thedenisehouse.com for details and to learn more about how you can support our work. Every community member has an integral role to play when it comes to preventing gender-based violence, supporting survivors and promoting gender equality.

Access the 2023 Wrapped in Courage Flag Location List via: <u>www.wrappedincourage.ca/flag-locations</u>

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