

*Nu's News



* Nu is the Vietnamese birth name for "Girl"

Sexual Assault & Violence Intervention Services of Halton

June 2006

SAVIS In Your Community



June: Pride Month

This year's pride month theme is FEARLESS. Members of the Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgendered and Queer communities are encouraged to be proud, true and honour those from the past who made it possible to live without fear. We know that like other marginalized women, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgendered and Queer women are more vulnerable to sexual violence and Canadians who are targeted because of their sexual orientation are more likely to suffer violent crimes, including assault. As we celebrate our diverse sexual and gender identities, histories, cultures, creativities, and lives SAVIS remembers and honours all Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgendered and Queer survivors of violence.

Client Feedback

"Thank you so much, I didn't know who to call"

"I don't feel like cutting anymore. Thanks for listening."

"I can't explain it with words. Thanks for helping me."

May: Sexual Assault Awareness Month

May was Sexual Assault Awareness Month. During this month, organizations held numerous events to mark this important time. SAVIS did its part in May:

- Conducted educational presentations in high schools in Halton
- Raised awareness on TVCOGECO
- Launched SAVIS' new crisis line poster
- Began the Relationship Skills and Violence Prevention Program for teenage girls between the ages of 14-19 who have experienced or witnessed violence in their lives
- Co-hosted a roundtable discussion with Kevin Flynn, MPP for service providers in Halton
- Had information booths and displays at community events

SAVIS' Roundtable on Violence in Halton

On June 8, 2006, SAVIS will co-host a roundtable discussion on violence in Halton with Kevin Flynn, MPP—Oakville at Oakville Central Library. The panel discussion will consist of individuals from SAVIS, Elder Abuse Prevention Committee, North Halton Cultural Awareness Council and Halton Violence Prevention Council. Participants will discuss: violence against women, youth violence, hate crimes, and elder abuse. The event will be attended by a spectrum of services providers including The Halton District School Board, and Transitions for Youth.

**Sexual Assault & Violence
Intervention Services of Halton**

1515 Rebecca Street, Suite 227
Oakville ON
L6L 5G8

Phone: (905) 825-3622
Crisis Line: (905) 875-1555
TTY: (905) 825-3743
Fax: (905) 825-3755
Email: savis@savisofhalton.org



Upcoming Events

June

June 2—Presentation to Halton
Regional Police Chief at Region of
Halton

June 3—Halton Pride Picnic, La
Salle Park, 11 a.m.—4 p.m.

June 8—Roundtable Discussion on
Violence in Halton, Oakville
Central Library

June 13—SAVIS AGM

June 27— Multicultural Day,
SAVIS will have a display booth



September

September 12, 19, 21, 26, 28 -
Volunteer Training

September 14—Take Back The
Night at Coronation Park in
Oakville

October

October 3, 5, 10, 12—Volunteer
Training

November

November 5—SAVIS'
Kneeknocker: 5K/10 K Run

For further information, contact
Eunice at 905-825-3622.

**SAVIS' Mother's Day
Celebration**

On Tuesday May 16th, the Women's Spanish Speaking Group celebrated Mother's Day at the Appleby United Church. Women and volunteers enjoyed an afternoon of entertainment and delicious food from different countries; but most important, they had a special time for reflection. In a very touching moment, women participants shared their experiences as mothers, daughters, sisters and caring women. Having this special day as a framework, women also highlighted how the Women's Multicultural Groups had positively impacted their lives. As part of the entertainment, Fatemeh, organized for belly dancer to perform, who was very happy to join the group. Thank you to everyone who participated!

Relationship Skills & Violence Prevention

Over the years, SAVIS has received many requests from service professionals and schools for a community support program that specifically addresses the needs of young women recovering from violence. They're alarmed by the coping strategies and changes they see in their loved one. She may be getting involved in drugs and alcohol, for instance. She may be angry or isolate herself. These are all very normal, human responses to violence. When we are violated, we will do anything to take back control.

What SAVIS doesn't want, however, is for youth to believe that violence in relationships is normal. Thanks to funds provided by the Community Foundation of Oakville's Children & Youth in Recreation Fund, SAVIS now has the opportunity to support young women in taking control of their lives in a healthy way. The R.S.V.P group incorporates educational, recreational and supportive activities - for example, relaxation techniques, creative writing exercises as well as group discussions to encourage positive self-esteem, self-analysis and relationship skills development.