

## Are YOU Man Enough? Men take the lead at fun event for a serious cause

It's one of Oxford County's most spirited and fun events and it returns to Museum Square in downtown Woodstock on **Thursday June 14, 2018** with a 12:15 p.m. walk time (see page 2 for details). But the motivation behind DASO's **Men in Heels & Lunch on Wheels** couldn't be more important and compelling: raising money for women who have been victimized by sexual and physical violence.

"The bright red high heels have become a symbol of support," says Executive Director Rhonda Hendel, adding that events like Men in Heels helped raise awareness of the overwhelming prevalence of gender-based violence. "The good news is that sexual assault and harassment are less taboo subjects and, as evidenced by the #MeToo movement, more women are starting to break their silence and seek help. The challenge for DASO now is keeping up with the demand for services."



DASO is the only organization in Oxford County offering women-centred therapeutic counselling programs and services for survivors of sexual violence. But while the need is great, government funding only covers the cost of a certified sexual assault counsellor for one day a week. Consequently, wait times can be long, counselling may be shortened and DASO is continually seeking other ways to ensure women who need these vital services can access them.



That's why fundraised dollars are so crucial and why the co-chairs of last year's inaugural Men in Heels (Leslie Farrell of Tim Hortons on Norwich Ave. and Diane Langner of Woodstock Print) are encouraging more Oxford County businesses and organizations to play a role.

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# “It’s about stepping up and working together to build a stronger, safer community”

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“We’re grateful once again for Vuteq’s generous leadership as Stiletto Sponsor,” says Leslie. Partnership opportunities are available at levels starting at \$125 and donations of all amounts are appreciated. “It’s the collective support and contributions that make this such an inspiring event,” says Diane. “Together we can make a positive and lasting difference in the lives of women who need the services DASO offers to heal from violence and abuse and to change their lives.”

Deroo Bros. Ventures was among last year’s sponsors and will be participating again this year. “Violence against women impacts everyone and we all need to do what we can to end it,” says Scott Deroo. “It’s about stepping up and working together to build a stronger, safer community.”

Event organizers urge everyone to participate on June 14th. Walking in the red high heels – or walking at all – is optional and there are many ways to show support (see the box below).

**The registration/donation table will be open from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. with the actual (short!) walk taking place at 12:15 p.m.**



The Deroo Bros. Ventures team will be back for the 2nd annual Men in Heels & Lunch on Wheels on Thursday June 14, 2018.

## Enjoy “Lunch on Wheels”

Food trucks will be on site during the event offering tasty and hearty lunch options. Participants and supporters can also shop the farm market vendors and the many downtown establishments.

For more information (including details about partnership levels) and to download forms visit [www.daso.ca](http://www.daso.ca) or contact: Heather (519-539-7488 ext. 236, [heather@daso.ca](mailto:heather@daso.ca)) or Rhonda (519-539-7488 ext. 223, [rhonda@daso.ca](mailto:rhonda@daso.ca)).

## Walk, pledge, sponsor, donate... so many ways to participate!

Please join us and help ensure the success of this great event! You can...

- Become an event partner. Partnership levels starting at \$125 are available.
- Register as a walk participant. The registration fee is just \$20 - or a minimum \$20 in pledges. Register on your own, or better yet, get a team together (e.g. friends, family, colleagues, neighbours) and encourage/challenge other teams!
- Pledge or donate. All amounts welcome and appreciated!
- Fill - a - Basket. Collect toiletries and other essentials for DASO’s clients.
- Register or pledge online!

Visit [www.daso.ca](http://www.daso.ca) and click the “REGISTER OR DONATE ONLINE” link on the website’s homepage.

Or go straight to the Eventbrite page: <https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/men-in-heels-lunch-on-wheels-tickets-43202299240>

Or register and/or pledge directly from DASO’s Facebook page (Domestic Abuse Services Oxford)!

For more information and to download forms and pledge sheets, visit: [www.daso.ca](http://www.daso.ca)

Charitable tax receipts can be issued for donations of any amount.

# DASO grateful to be the beneficiary of successful, high profile fundraising events

It was a sunny hot weekend in Woodstock when slo-pitch teams from all over Southern Ontario competed in a tournament hosted by the Woodstock Women's Fastball Association from September 22 - 24, 2017. The event featured good food, fun, sportsmanship and camaraderie and raised \$7,050 for DASO! "We're thrilled to be chosen to benefit from this first-class fundraising tournament," says DASO's Board Chair Mary Roberts.

Another fundraising event – the 2nd annual Hops 'n Heels – took place at the Upper Thames Brewing Company on November 9, 2017. "It was a colder day but it was another 'hot 'n happening' sold-out event and a fabulous evening that brought in \$4,366 for DASO, thanks to the generosity and hard work of so many supporters, including the team at Century 21 Heritage House," says DASO Residential Manager Jen Weicker.

fashion show has raised more than \$30,000 dollars for DASO, thanks to the dedicated organizing committee led by Mary Anne Silverthorn.



Mary Roberts and Karen Greenham, volunteer members of DASO's Board of Directors, accept the cheque from the WWFA organizing committee. Our thanks to all who participated including the ball players, volunteers and



Attendees enjoy good food, beverages, fun and prizes at Hops 'n Heels.

At the time of publication, the Spring Fashion Show, scheduled for May 1, 2018 was nearly sold out. Over the past 10 years the



supporters, some pictured here with DASO staff, Woodstock City Councillor Jerry Acchione and Batman!

To learn about upcoming events and fundraisers, visit [www.daso.ca](http://www.daso.ca).

**YES!** I would like to help Domestic Abuse Services Oxford and help women and children begin new lives free of abuse and violence.

Enclosed is my gift of: \$40  \$75  \$100  Other \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Please apply this donation to DASO's sexual assault counselling program:

Donation made by: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ Prov.: \_\_\_\_\_ Postal Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone number: \_\_\_\_\_ Email.: \_\_\_\_\_

Enclosed is my cheque  (Please make cheque payable to Domestic Abuse Services Oxford and mail to 975 James Street, Woodstock ON N4S 0A5)

Or, please charge to my credit card Visa  MasterCard

Name on card: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Card number: \_\_\_\_\_ Expiry date: \_\_\_\_\_

Please contact me about other ways to give.

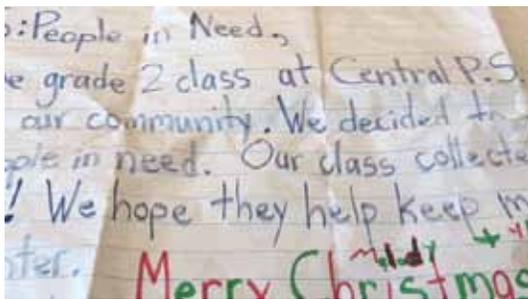
Charitable registration # 10821 9767 RR0001

# Generous and thoughtful donations help improve lives

It was another busy holiday season at DASO and once again we were touched by the generosity and the caring commitment of our friends and benefactors.

The contribution of money, toys, food, clothing, toiletries, gift cards and household essentials helped ensure that the Christmas season was a warm, comfortable and enjoyable one for the women and children using our services. We appreciate every donation and kind act, from the ongoing support of our friends at Unifor – who dropped by to present a cheque in the amount of \$2,000 – to the Grade 2 class at Central Public School in Woodstock.

The children wanted to help our residents stay warm and



cozy during the winter, so they organized a sock drive!

More recently, DASO was the

grateful recipient of donations collected in celebration of International Women's Day on March 8. Heartfelt thanks to all, including friends at GM CAMI Assembly and Unifor Local 88 who presented us with a cheque for \$4,143 from their #PressforProgress fundraiser.



**Domestic Abuse Services Oxford**  
24-hour Help Line: 519-539-4811/1-800-265-1938  
Text 519-788-9993  
All other calls: 519-539-7488  
Email: [info@daso.ca](mailto:info@daso.ca) / website: [www.daso.ca](http://www.daso.ca)  
Facebook: Domestic Abuse Services Oxford  
*All services for women and children are free and confidential.*

## Find and Like us on Facebook!



Find us at **Domestic Abuse Services Oxford** and join the conversation. Share with your friends and post on our timeline. The more ways we can spread the word, the better for our clients and the community!

**Would you prefer to receive future newsletters via email?**  
Let us know by sending an email message to [info@daso.ca](mailto:info@daso.ca).

*daso*

975 James Street, Woodstock, Ontario N4S 0A5