

Dear friends and partners,

When faced with crisis or uncertainty, we each have an individual choice – ***Will I retreat or will I step forward to help?*** **Anxious. Uncertain. Alone.** You may have been experiencing these feelings lately. These are unexpected times. This is not what we had planned for. Suddenly everything is different.

What you're feeling right now is how many women feel when they find out they are unexpectedly pregnant. It can be pretty overwhelming. That's why abortion can seem like a viable choice for some. It seems like a quick, possible solution to fix an impossible situation.

This is why it's so important for Pregnancy Concerns to come alongside women in the TriCities– to offer accurate information and compassionate support. Any pressures a woman may be feeling because of her unexpected pregnancy are likely amplified because of the COVID-19 crisis. She needs to know she is not alone. She needs to know that there are people like you who care about her.

Just this past week through telephone calls and a Zoom meeting we had the privilege of offering hope and support to a woman wrestling with her pregnancy decision which in her words “has been very helpful and has meant a lot”. You can pray for her as it is her desire to carry her baby to term and parent her child but she is lacking the support of her boyfriend and family. Please also pray for a woman who called seeking to have an abortion but is now considering placing her child for adoption.

As churches remain closed for the foreseeable future we are particularly challenged by the effect on our major annual **OPERATION BABY BOTTLE FUNDRAISER** which normally runs from Mother's Day to Father's Day. **Sadly, we have had to lay-off our two part-time staff,** our director's assistant/client care and our Healthy Relationships Coordinator/presenter. However, we have been favoured by our landlord who has graciously agreed to a rent abatement and lease adjustment over the next few months. This makes us more optimistic that we can continue to serve our clients both now and into the future.

I understand that these may be uncertain times financially for many, so we are asking you to either give what you are able to or pray and ask God how you can best help. **I believe that if we each give what we can, together we can reach and help those in need.**

Hope is contagious. Help us spread hope.

To donate, please go to <https://www.canadahelps.org/en/dn/11546>

We and, more importantly those we serve, would be most grateful for any donations.

With prayers of gratitude,

Joy Gove, Centre Director