## PRESS RELEASE

## **UNLOCK FEAR and Give a Woman a Safe Holiday**

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Women's Initiatives for Safer Environments (WISE Ottawa) kicks-off the upcoming holiday season with its "UNLOCK FEAR" Campaign. For every dollar donated, a new door lock and key will be distributed to a woman in Ottawa affected by domestic violence. This campaign is a sad reminder that Christmas isn't always a joyful time.

This campaign comes after success of the "Building Women Up!" a 4-Part workshop series held numerous times throughout the year giving female victims of violence the opportunity to gain knowledge and skills in the area of basic home renovation and repair; with a particular emphasis on safety items. Skills building provides confidence. A new lock and key will provide hope and a chance to feel safe and secure at home.

"With community support we can end domestic violence in Ottawa. Not only at Christmas, but year round", says Elsy David, WISE Program Director.

Donations towards the 16 days campaign are being accepted Friday, November 25 to Saturday, December 10, 2016 at <u>Canada Helps</u>.

LIKE | FOLLOW | SHARE with your own wise friends and colleagues who want to make a difference this holiday season. The campaign hashtags are as follows:
#UnlockFear
#16DaysCampaign
#WISEOttawa

## About WISE/IFSE:

Women's Initiatives for Safer Environments (WISE) continues to provide services in the City of Ottawa for over 24 years promoting women's safety and working to prevent and end violence against women. The campaign is being held in support of the 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Centre for Women's Global Leadership 16 Days of Activism.

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