



May 27, 2020

Dear SACHA friends and Hamilton community,

The Province of Ontario announced as of Tuesday, May 19, 2020, "in-person counselling services such as those delivered by rape crisis centers, may resume." The province stresses that the delivery of such services can resume "provided that they are delivered in compliance with the advice, recommendations and instruction of public health officials. Wherever possible, remote service delivery is still encouraged."

The health and safety of service users, volunteers, staff and communities in Hamilton remains our priority. Therefore, SACHA staff will continue to work remotely. Counsellors will carry on providing distance counselling and telephone intakes to survivors. Administrative staff continue to assess the situation in Hamilton and are working on return to office plans including acquiring personal protective equipment, reviewing sanitization processes and setting up social distancing measures in the office.

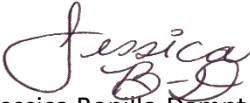
I would like to inform you that we have made the difficult decision to cancel our annual Chocolate Fest Fundraiser that was rescheduled to the fall. All tickets sold will be refunded. Thank you very much to Sadie, our Chocolate Fest Coordinator, and to members of the Fundraising Committee for your hard work and dedication to Chocolate Fest. We are hopeful to have a successful and celebratory Chocolate Fest in 2021.

Finally, as we end Sexual Violence Awareness Month, I'd like to remind all survivors that you are not alone, our 24-hr Support Line is available by calling 905-525-4162; you can also visit the Ontario Coalition of Rape Crisis Centres <https://sexualassaultsupport.ca/support/> for a listing of centres across Ontario.

If you would like to get in touch with a staff member, please call our office at 905-525-4573 and leave a voicemail. You can also send us a message using our online contact form <http://sacha.ca/contact>.

You are not alone.  
We believe survivors!

Sinceramente,



Jessica Bonilla-Dampthey  
Director

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24 Hour Support Line  
905 525-4162

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