

# Background to the Renfrew County Crisis Support Clinic for Youth & Families

In June of 2012, **The Robbie Dean Family Counselling Centre** joined the mental health service providers of Renfrew County. The Center was created to enhance the existing support services by focusing on four vulnerable population groups:

- Youth at risk & in transitions,
- Youth & Families in Crisis,
- Individuals of low to no income and
- Military, veterans & their families.

In September of 2012, **the Robbie Dean Family Counselling Centre** partnered with **Tom Sidney & Associates** to develop the concept behind the Crisis Support Clinic. In April of 2013, thanks to the generosity of the area Rotary Clubs and the help of the Knights of Columbus, the Clinic became a reality.

It is with great enthusiasm that we introduce to  
you the Renfrew County Crisis Support Clinic for  
Youth & Families.

## **What is the Clinic?**

The Youth Crisis Support Clinic will provide intervention support for youth and their families during a personal crisis as well as provide support and educational tools to help de-escalate future crisis so to better triage a family response. This nine month pilot project will meet all three of the following; basic human and crisis services and will be preventative and developmental in nature with a goal of addressing the underlying causes. The Youth Crisis Support Clinic will address all these by providing front line de-escalation support to youth and their families faced within a crisis. It will offer supportive peer to peer group work for parents as well as training to the community at large to be able to support, de-escalate and gain a better understanding of youth issues including crisis, suicidal ideation and self injury

## **The Purpose**

To provide youth and their families with a supportive place to receive crisis support and resources to aid in the intervention needs of the individual and family member dealing with suicidal ideation, self-injurious behaviour and concurrent associations including but limiting the potential involvement of illegal substance use.