



Real Estate Staging Association (RESA) members (clockwise from left) Josée Lalonde, Melanie Henson, Valeria Westra, Dana Miller, Diana Zinck and Daria Bunting in the newly renovated Cridge Transition House for Women in Saanich. Through RESA's annual Hands-Up project, the domestic violence support home received a \$40,000 makeover. The facility helps hundreds of women and children each year. Not pictured are RESA members Tracey Jones and Stacey Kaminski.

Daniel Palmer/News staff

# Women's home gets a makeover

Daniel Palmer  
News staff

A quiet home in rural Saanich that shelters hundreds of local women from domestic violence each year is receiving a bit of love back from the community.

The 18-bed home, which houses about 150 women and 100 children annually, received a \$40,000 makeover, co-ordinated by members of the local Real Estate Staging Association (RESA).

"We can sometimes wonder if we're making a difference, because there's always more work to be done to stop violence against women," said Marlene Goley, manager of women's and family services with The Cridge Centre for the Family. "But having this kind of support rallying around us shows us people are remembering us."

The renovation included new paint, light fixtures, window dressings, furniture, artwork and landscaping.

"One of the favourite rooms of everyone is just the entrance hall coming in," Goley said. "They put a big mirror in, a lovely bench, and some artwork. It just makes such a difference and feels so good."

Women can stay for up to 30 days at the transition house and receive ongoing support from outreach workers confidentially as they rebuild their lives.

Learn more at [cridge.org/cthw](http://cridge.org/cthw).

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