

SHELTER NEEDS

- Non Perishable Food
- Diapers (Medium Size)
- New Bed Pillows
- Rubbermaid Totes

CLIENT NEEDS

- Beds
- Used Cell Phones for 911 usage, and Chargers
- Quart-size Zip-lock baggies for Cell Phone distribution
- Towels and Wash Cloths
- Family Movies/DVD- Rated PG/G
- Large/Medium Storage Containers (Glad-Ware)
- Couches, Love Seats
- Kitchenware- Silverware, Pots and Pans - non-teflon
- Baking Utensils, Cake Pans, Cookie Sheets
- Gift, Gas, Phone & Grocery Cards
- Alarm Clocks • Dishes, Silverware

OFFICE NEEDS

- Bleach Wipes • Toilet Paper
- Paper Towels • Post-It-Notes
- Window #10 Envelopes
- Plain #10 Envelopes
- Ink Jet Cartridges for Cannon Printers:
#6 & #8 & #40, #41
- Ink Jet Cartridges for HP Printers:
#s 15, 11, 21, 22, 56, 57, 78, 93, 94, 95 and 98
- 8x10 and 10x14 Large Manila Envelopes
- Laminate Sheets
- Sheet Protectors
- Gas Cards & Grocery Cards

VOLUNTEERS

- On-Call Advocates
- Shelter Advocates
- Special Event help

LEGAL ADVOCACY NEEDS

- Lawyers to provide pro-bono services

TRANSITIONAL LIVING NEEDS

- Storage for furniture donations
- Carpet cleaner (new)
- Volunteers to pick up donations

MISSION STATEMENT: The mission of Women and Children's Horizons is to provide support, education, training, and healing for victims of sexual and domestic violence/abuse.

Women and Children's Horizons
2525 - 63rd Street
Kenosha, WI 53143
www.wchkenosha.org
Office: (262) 656-3500
Fax: (262) 656-3402
Crisis Line: (262) 652-9900
or 1-800-853-3503

Return Service
Requested

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
Paid
Kenosha, WI
Permit 776



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

DECEMBER 2009

Christmas Holiday Donation Hours

WCH is always grateful for all the donations it receives. In order to distribute your donations and gifts in a timely manner, please consider making arrangements to deliver your holiday donations by Mon., Dec. 14th. Thank You

December 24th & 25th,
Thursday and Friday
Christmas Holiday **WCH Admin. office will be closed.**
Shelter remains open
24 hrs / 7 days a week

JANUARY 2010

January 1st, Friday New
Year's Day **WCH Admin. office will be closed.**
Shelter remains open
24 hrs / 7 days a week

FEBRUARY 2010

Mardi Gras 2010
Saturday, Feb. 27th
PUBLIC INVITED!
UAW LOCAL 72 Hall
6:30 p.m.
Join us for an evening of fun, food and festivities!
Contact WCH at
262-656-3500

APRIL 2010

Sexual Assault
Awareness Month

MAY 2010

Mother's Day Paper
Drive, Friday, May 7th

CELEBRATE WITH WCH AT THE 2010 MARDI GRAS FUNDRAISER

You are invited to WCH's Annual 2010 Mardi Gras Fundraiser. Don't miss WCH's fun-filled event held on Saturday, February 27th, 2010. It will be another memorable evening held at the UAW Local 72 Hall. The hall will be transformed by David Varek of Exceptional Events, to bring New Orleans to Kenosha. Dance the night away to the music of 3D band, shop the Silent Auction, take a chance at the King Cake, and buy your raffle tickets for wonderful prizes. Top the night off by taking home all the treasures you've won. . . all of this to help Women and Children's Horizons. Sponsored by Johnson Bank.

CASH RAFFLE!

Mardi Gras 2010 will feature three Cash Prize Raffles. Contact WCH to buy your tickets for a chance to win \$2,500, \$1,500 and \$1,000. Limited tickets will be available - so your odds of winning are 'better than the lottery'. Tickets are \$30 each.

Everyone is welcome! Costumes are encouraged! For an invitation - or to RSVP, please call WCH at 262-656-3500.

BECOME A SPONSOR!

Sponsor a portion of Mardi Gras and be a part of the success by funding the following:

General Sponsor
French Quarter Buffet
Wine Bar
Banquet Hall
Printing and Mailing Costs

Hurricane Bar
Entertainment
Billboard and Advertisement

All sponsors will be recognized in the WCH newsletter, on the WCH web site and at the event. Contact WCH at 262-656-3500 or wchfrontdesk@wchkenosha.org



FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

KATHRYN COMSTOCK



As I write this piece WCH has just concluded its activities for Domestic Violence Awareness Month and its Annual Awards luncheon. I've been looking at trends and statistics from the past couple years with chilling results. In 2008 I let go of some part-time staff because funding dollars were falling or disappearing completely and monetary donations were down over 30%. WCH, even with a decreased staff, had client contacts (agency wide) of 34,420. There were 2141 unduplicated clients served, 1635 hot line calls, our shelter served over 10,000 meals and had 4487 bed nights.

I wish I could tell you WCH's client count has gone down this year, however the reverse is true. If anything the atmosphere surrounding domestic violence and sexual assault is more violent. More children are experiencing aggression as the economy has tumbled and brutal behavior has accelerated. In 2008 Wisconsin had 46 deaths attributed to domestic violence.

Soon it will be Thanksgiving and then Christmas. I would entreat you to pause in the midst of your celebrations to remember those who have died because of violence which permeates our society; remember those who fight the effects of domestic violence and/or sexual assault every day and especially remember the children who will grow up looking at the world through eyes which have already seen more than any child should see.

The Board of Directors and Staff of Women and Children's Horizons wish all of you a joyous Holiday Season and ask that you keep WCH on your Holiday gift list.



WAYS TO HELP WCH

REMEMBER WCH IN YOUR WILL

All gifts to Women and Children's Horizons Foundation, Inc. are tax-deductible. In addition to monetary donations, you may give appreciated assets to the Foundation. Today's planned gifts create tomorrow's opportunities. The Foundation Board will maintain and safeguard your contribution and use it for ensuring the operations and programs which serve victims of Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault.

SHOP THE INTERNET USING IGIVE'S SURF-A-THON

Sign on to IGive from www.wchkenosha.org and you might help Women and Children's Horizons receive \$500 to \$1000! Five causes every month are chosen to win. Simply find and select Women and Children's Horizons from the list of causes, register your name and email, then start shopping. There are over 700 shops to choose from. A portion of every sale will go to WCH. The special Surf-a-thon selects a cause from those registered to receive a special donation amount.

NIFTY THRIFTY

Remember to shop our resale shop, Nifty Thrifty & ask about great special sales.

MR. THOMAS MAHONEY, PRESIDENT, JOHNSON BANK

I remember the first experience I had with Women and Children's Horizons. It was for an Eagle Scout project with one of the boys in our Boy Scout troop. Seeing the impact of domestic abuse first hand was very challenging for me. At the same time, it was very rewarding to see the great work everyone at WCH did for vulnerable women and children to help them get back on their feet, maintain their dignity, and build their confidence in the wake of traumatic circumstances.



Today, we may see or realize the social impact of domestic violence, but there is also a business impact to managers and business owners as their employees experience these challenging situations. We understand the missed work days, showing up late, or the need for a different schedule for an interim time period. But do we really understand the need for safety and security for the victims of domestic violence? In many cases, the workplace is the one safe haven for these victims; a place where they can feel secure and protected. Our compassion as business owners and managers and our ability to care for these at-risk individuals is critical. Productivity may slow down for a short period of time, but think of the positive impact a business can have by being flexible and understanding. A place where the fear of abuse is removed for 4 to 8 hours a day is a wonderful benefit to a victim. Our employees' dignity and confidence are restored because we provide a basic human need - Safety!

As businesses, let's take the opportunity to help someone in need and provide that safety. Although it may not appear to have payback today, the future rewards are significant, both individually and for the business. From an individual perspective the satisfaction of helping someone in need is very gratifying. From a business perspective, we have created a long term, loyal employee who understands the company cares about more than just the bottom line.

Women and Children's Horizons works hard to provide a safe environment and resources to those affected by domestic abuse and sexual assault. We as businesses have a responsibility too. While many of you may not have used their services personally, I encourage you to lend a helping hand to Women & Children's Horizons. The need for volunteers and financial support is crucial as we continue to strengthen our community and support those going through challenging personal times. Please do your part to help those in need, whether it's financial, volunteering or supporting your employees at work with flexibility or safety.

Johnson Bank is proud to support the Women and Children's Horizons organization in Kenosha. Providing resources for victims of violence, especially during this economy, is critical. Right now there is more pressure than ever on families which can lead to increased violence and domestic abuse situations. WCH's work to diffuse these situations not only helps uplift our neighbors in need, but our entire community.

We believe in the importance of strong communities and the key role organizations like Women and Children's Horizons play in supporting them. That's why we don't simply write checks to causes we believe in, our people get involved. I'd like to thank my Johnson Bank colleagues for their volunteer efforts and recognize the progressive spirit and energy of Women and Children's Horizons. I look forward to our continued partnership.

Thank you for all you do for Kenosha!

Tom Mahoney, President, Johnson Bank

BETSY BROWN, PRESIDENT, BOARD OF DIRECTORS

24 Hours at WCH

Beginning in 2006 the National Network to End Domestic Violence (NNEDV) surveyed local organizations whose missions support victims of domestic violence and gathered statistics on their activities. NNEDV asks agencies across the country for an unduplicated count of adults and children seeking services during the same twenty-four hour period. Information collected is instrumental in pressing for increased federal funding for DV programs and is used also to validate the needs of local agencies.

This year, statistics collected beginning on September 15th at 8 AM and ending September 16th at 7:59 AM indicated that Women and Children's Horizons served 85 unduplicated individuals seeking shelter, information or programming.

Shelter served 13 women and 3 children

Transitional Living served 8 women and 15 children

Non-residential services served 43 women, 2 men and 1 child (includes individual counseling, legal advocacy and children's support)

In addition, during the same period 24 individuals called the hot line for support, information or safety planning and two public educational training sessions served 14 individuals.

The value of Women and Children's Horizons is measured by the number of women and children seeking help and served by the agency. Economic conditions spawn social conditions which incubate into situations ripe for our services. Statistics such as these are at the same time eye-opening and heartbreaking. WCH's services are needed more than ever.

STEPHANIE KARLS

WINTER WRAPS

The 2009 Winter Wraps event resulted in over 971 households receiving winter coats. Women and Children's Horizons (WCH) collected winter coats, scarves and mittens for children and youth last spring and again early this fall. All items were then sorted, cleaned and organized for the give away the end of October. Martino's Cleaners joined in the effort by offering to clean and repair all coats free of charge. This is a large undertaking that provides children and teens in need with warm coats and accessories for the winter.

Through the Winter Wraps program WCH was able to help a total of 3,996 individuals which included 2,081 children 12 & under and 403 Teens ages 13-17.

ERIN DAVIS, SEXUAL ASSAULT COORDINATOR

Sexual abuse is one of a parent's worst nightmares. In 2007, 1902 of the 56,460 children in the United States who were victims of reported and substantiated child sexual abuse were from Wisconsin. Only a fraction of incidents ever get reported to authorities.

In Kenosha County, there are several agencies that work to address sexual abuse issues. Agencies such as Juvenile Crisis or Child Protective Services serve an investigative purpose and work to ensure that children are safe in their homes. When the perpetrator is alleged to be an adult in a caregiver role, the child victim's family is generally assigned a caseworker through the Division of Children and Family Services (DCFS). This caseworker provides support and connects the family with any necessary services.

In the past year, it was realized that there is a gap in services for families with a child sexually abused by a perpetrator in a non-caregiver role. These families may not receive ongoing supportive services through DCFS. Working with the Kenosha County Organizational Review Committee, Women and Children's Horizons (WCH) was provided a new opportunity to reach out to these families by meeting with parents or caregivers whose children are being forensically interviewed at the Child Advocacy Center (CAC). These parents or caregivers are provided with information about supportive services available through WCH and other community agencies, as well as resources for helping their children and families cope with the abuse and its aftermath.

As a result of this new opportunity to meet with families at the CAC, there has been a significant increase in the number of child sexual abuse victims served by advocates from WCH. Between January and November 2008, WCH served 77 child sexual abuse victims. Between January and November 8, 2009, WCH served 105 child sexual abuse victims. These numbers include both primary victims (sexually abused children) and secondary victims (parents and caregivers of sexually abused children). Feedback from families receiving WCH advocacy at the CAC has been very positive, and advocates have not encountered any families unwilling to learn more about the support and services WCH can offer.

In many circumstances, parents and caregivers are more outwardly affected by child sexual abuse. Younger children may not be able to verbalize their feelings about their experience, and may not have a concept of the long-term impact the abuse may have on their lives. Older children may not see their experience as abusive. Parents and caregivers not only have to cope with their own feelings and emotions about the abuse, but also the feelings and emotions of the abused child, other children in the home, and sometimes other family members.

While there are many resources available to help parents understand what child sexual abuse is, recognize warning signs, and where to report abuse, it is far more difficult to find information and resources about how to help a child who has experienced sexual abuse in the days, weeks and months following the abuse and the discovery or disclosure of abuse. WCH can help parents by providing such information and resources, and by serving as an outlet for parents who are trying to come to terms with their own feelings, their children's feelings, and the changes that may result following child sexual abuse.

For more information about sexual assault services, please contact the Sexual Assault Program at 262-656-3500 or edavis@wchkenosha.org

Board Counsel
Carl Holburn

WCH INFORMATIONAL AND SUPPORT GROUPS

CHILD WITNESS GROUPS

MONDAYS, TUESDAYS, WEDNESDAYS & THURSDAY
6 P.M. TO 8 P.M.
Call 262-652-9900

CONTROLLING RELATIONSHIP SUPPORT GROUPS

TUESDAYS, OR THURSDAYS
6 P.M. TO 8 P.M.
SPANISH SPEAKING
TUESDAY
6 P.M. TO 8 P.M.,
Call 262-656-3500

CONTROLLING RELATIONSHIP 50+ SUPPORT GROUP FOR WOMEN

TUESDAYS, 10 A.M. TO 12 P.M.
Orientation required.
Call 262-656-3500

CIRCLE OF CHANGE (BATTERER'S TREATMENT)

English and Spanish.
Call 262-656-3500

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE EDUCATIONAL AND SUPPORT GROUP

WEDNESDAYS, 6:30 P.M. TO 8:30 P.M.
Orientation required.
Call 262-652-9900

AMAC GROUP FOR WOMEN (ADULTS MOLESTED AS CHILDREN)

MONDAYS, 6 P.M. TO 8 P.M.
Orientation Required
Call 262-656-3500

CAREGIVER SUPPORT GROUP

THURSDAYS, 6 P.M. TO 7:30 P.M.
Orientation Required
Call 262-656-3500

ANNUAL AWARDS 2009

DOROTHY PREWITT AWARD:
MS. BEVERLY SORENSEN, UNDERSERVED POPULATIONS ADVOCATE

LEE AND LYNN COPEN FAMILY JUSTICE AWARD: CHIEF JOHN MORRISSEY

CORPORATE AWARD: KOHL'S, DIANE WALKER

OUTSTANDING VOLUNTEER AWARD
MS. CHRISTINE LEMAN

OUTSTANDING COMMUNITY SUPPORTER
MR. ROBERT PIERONI



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SUGGESTED RESOURCES FOR VICTIMS/SURVIVORS

INFO ON THE WEB:

WCH Website - www.wchkenosha.org

An Abuse, Rape and Domestic Violence Aid and Resource Collection - www.aardvarc.org

Adult Survivors of Child Abuse - www.ascasupport.org

A Women's Support Site - www.lavenderpower.org

Help for Abuse Later in Life - www.ncall.usa

Help for Children of Sexual Assault - www.darkness2light.org

Wisconsin Coalition Against Domestic Violence - www.wcadv.org

Wisconsin Coalition Against Sexual Assault - www.wcasa.org

PHONE NUMBERS:

WCH 24 Hour Hotline:
800-853-3503 or 262-652-9900

National Domestic Violence Hotline:
800-799-7233
800-787-3224 Hearing Impaired

National Sexual Assault Hotline:
800-656-4673

National Women's Health Information Center, "Violence Against Women":
800-994-9662

MEASURING SUCCESS

WCH UNDUPLICATED STATISTICS:
JANUARY - JUNE 2009

Hotline / Crisis and referral calls - 812
Nights of Shelter - 1282

Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Support
Clients Served: DV - 511, SA - 147
Clients with Limited English Speaking Skills: 241
Telephone Support: 280

Hospital Advocacy Responses:
Sexual Assault - 59
Domestic Violence - 12

Family Intervention Project (FIP)
New 80
Ongoing 6

Legal Advocacy
New Clients - 421
Ongoing Clients - 337
Total Clients served - 758

Circle of Change
Men served - 69
Women served - 7

Living Free
Men served - 95
Women served - 45

50+ Support Group
Supported 18 clients

Controlling Relationship Support Group
Supported 32 clients

Spanish-Speaking Domestic Violence Support Group: Supported 23 clients