



Domestic Abuse
& Sexual Assault
Crisis Center
of Warren County®



Enlightener

*Mission: To support and empower those affected by domestic violence and sexual assault
To develop a community where there is no acceptance of or tolerance for either*

December 2008

Make the Season Merry and Bright with a Very Special Gift

Each year the agency collects toys, gifts, and other items to be provided to our clients and their children during the holidays. Last year one shelter resident was so overwhelmed that she burst into tears when she received the gifts. Children who otherwise would not have received presents once again believe in Santa Claus. One mother of six remarked that this was the first Christmas her children ever really had. Another said, "Life is truly beautiful and our community a better place to live because of good-hearted people like you."

This year, with your help, we would like to continue our tradition of giving. Items that are on everyone's wish list this year are gift cards to Wal-Mart, Target, Kohl's, and Shop Rite. Wrapping paper, gas cards, and phone cards are also a huge hit every year.

If you, or an organization you belong to, would like to donate gift cards to the holiday drive this year, please call Sue Allan at 908-453-4121 x 100. Or you can email her at sallan@besafewc.org. Please know that your donation will make the holidays brighter for many families in our community.



Directly Speaking: Pam Farago, Executive Director

Since its inception, the Domestic Abuse and Sexual Assault Crisis Center has provided shelter to over 2,000 women and children; located safe shelter for male victims; provided counseling to over 20,000 men, women, and children; provided legal advocacy to over 17,000 men and women; and touched over 260,000 in Warren County with its community education messages. Our clients have this to say about us:

"I never realized that I could find - in my whole life - so many angels on earth. I felt how I was in my own home, but feeling myself in peace and safety. So it's impossible to ask for something better."

"I just can say thank you very much and I hope that everybody who needs help and support in life can be so lucky as me. God bless you all."

"Thank you so very much for your help. Because of the unique experience of my counselor and her passion for helping, I have beaten the odds (that were against me). Thank you."

"I had stayed here previously and the changes that have been made ... are most definitely a positive change. I would have loved to have stayed longer. I felt very welcome and very comfortable."

Thank you to our Grantors

Target Grant to Fund *Mujeres en Transicion*

Each year, our agency receives many grants that help us continue our mission to support and empower those affected by domestic violence and sexual assault. This year our grantors included:

Department of Children and Families (DCF)
Warren County Human Services
IOLTA
Division on Women
United Way
VAWA
FEMA
Target
Mary Kay Ash Foundation

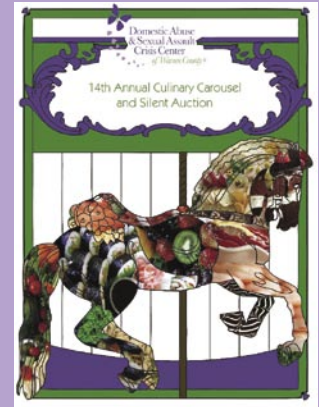
Most grants fund existing programs and enable us to continue the work we do each day in the community.

"It was great just having a safe place to go."

"The individual counseling has been a life saver to me. I don't know how I would get through without it. It is the first time I have been listened to and understood."

In 2008, our shelter has provided a safe haven for 84 women and children, which is more than we have hosted in a single year since 2004. The cost of providing shelter, food and services for these individuals is about \$35 per night per person, which includes utilities and maintenance to the property. With your help, we hope to raise \$17,500 during our year-end appeal. Please consider an investment in the future of our clients when you are planning your holiday charitable contributions.

As the clients above note, the shelter and services we provide are life-changing and you have an opportunity to be a part of it. Please use the enclosed envelope or make a donation online at www.besafeffc.org. We are sincerely indebted to you for your incredible support.



Culinary Carousel Raises over \$50,000

The Culinary Carousel, which took place October 20 at Hawk Pointe Golf Club, was a huge success this year, raising over \$50,000 for agency programs. Special thanks to Dr. Fisch, our honorary chair, as well as the committee, attendees, donors, underwriters, restaurants, chocolatiers, caterers, musicians, photographer, emcee, volunteers, and in-kind donors. Special thanks to our sponsors this year, without whose help the event would not have been possible:

Benefactor:
James Alexander

Patron
Kathy and Joe Detrano
Hackettstown Regional Medical Center

Sponsor
Einhorn, Harris, Ascher, Barbarito & Frost
Hackettstown Rotary Foundation
Diane Margolin and Mike Weiner
Margolin and Neuner
Skylands Community Bank

Supporter
BASF
Caristia, Kulsar & Wade
Centenary College
Einhorn, Harris, Ascher, Barbarito & Frost
First Hope Bank
HFI Trucking
Kanalstein Danton Associates, P.A.
Schwartz Hunter P.C.
ShopRite of Hunterdon County
Thomas & Betts Elastimold
Wal-Mart
Warren Hospital

Primary Prevention Coalition Up and Running

As you may have read in the last newsletter, the Domestic Abuse and Sexual Assault Crisis Center received a grant earlier this year to develop a primary prevention program related to sexual assault in Warren County. The grant will provide funding for a countywide sexual assault hotline, crisis counseling and accompaniment services for sexual assault victims, as well as sexual violence prevention activities – all in an effort to eliminate the incidence of sexual violence in Warren County. Sheila Garry Avery, our primary prevention and community education director is responsible for overseeing this program for the agency.

Some of the specific components of the primary prevention program include coalition building and community mobilizing, sexual violence prevention planning, and policy and social norms change. Over time, the program could include the development of educational seminars and training programs as well as preparation of informational materials about prevention-related topics.

The first step in the process was to build a Coalition to mobilize community partners and initiate a collaboration effort to address primary prevention. On October 31, our Coalition had its first meeting. Coalition members focused on understanding the Center of Disease Control risk factors for perpetration and selected the one risk factor they felt could best be impacted in Warren County: “General tolerance of sexual violence within the community.”

At the next meeting, scheduled for November 14, the Coalition will select a specific goal to address that risk factor and begin developing strategies and activities to achieve that goal.

If you would like to be considered as a candidate for the Coalition please call Sheila Garry Avery at 908-475-8581 x 300. Or email her at sgarryavery@besafewc.org.



Calling All Volunteers: *Be there for someone in need*

The Domestic Abuse and Sexual Assault Crisis Center has a need for volunteers to join in its Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Response Teams. Comprehensive free training is provided for all volunteers.

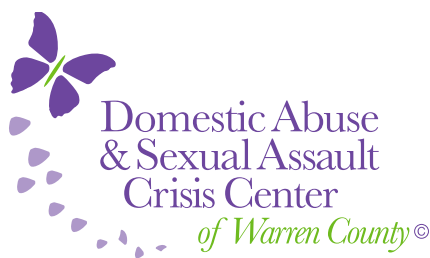
As a volunteer advocate, you will assist victims in the aftermath of a domestic violence or sexual assault incident. Response teams provide support and assistance as victims work through the immediate crisis following either domestic violence or sexual assault.

These services are free to those who seek them.

Specially trained advocates provide confidential assistance and support to victims who have been brought to police headquarters or the hospital for the purposes of filing a temporary restraining order or pressing criminal charges, or providing support during a forensic exam. Advocates also work with victims to refer them to other services in the community and help them secure temporary shelter, legal

advocacy, and counseling as needed. Confidential victim advocates work with medical and law enforcement professionals in support of victims.

Advocates must complete 72 hours of training that is provided free of charge by the agency. If you are interested in taking the training classes please contact Sheila Garry Avery at 908-475-8581 x 300 for an application. Or, you can email her at sgarryavery@besafewc.org. The next training class will start in February 2009.



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County Community College
Lean, Compassionate, Accountable

Community Partner Sponsor
for this newsletter

Wish List

Caring members of the community always ask us how they can help and what items we need. Our shelter is currently in need of the items listed below. If you would like to donate any of these items (new items only please), please contact Robin Sielski at 908-453-4121 x 107.

- Paper Towels (rolls)
- Freestanding Paper Towel Holders
- Toilet Paper
(Scott, ShopRite, or Marcal, single ply white preferred)
- Cleaning Products
(no ammonia or bleach), all purpose floor cleaners, bathroom, tub and tile cleaners, countertop cleaners)
- Latex Gloves (powder free)
- Mops, Brooms, Dust Pans
- Fabric Softener, Dryer Sheets
- Liquid Hand Soap
- Liquid Dish Detergent
- Sponges, Dish Brushes, Scrubbers
- Ibuprofen, Tylenol (current dates only please)
- Alarm Clocks/Clock Radios
- Composition Books, Day Planners, Journals
- Hairbrushes
- Bath Gel
- Body Lotion
- Night Lights/Flashlights w/batteries
- Tweezers, Nail Clippers
- Cotton Swabs (Q-tips)
- Feminine Shaving Gel & Feminine Sanitary Products
- Garbage Bags, (small, kitchen and large)
- Light Bulbs (40 Watt, 60 Watt standard medium base)
- Batteries (9 volt, AA, C, and D)
- Baby Wash & Baby Wipes
- Diapers



Domestic Abuse
& Sexual Assault
Crisis Center
of Warren County®

Contact information and phone numbers:

Hotlines: 866-6BE-SAFE
908-453-4181
908-453-2553 (TTY)

Office: 908-453-4121

Outreach: 908-475-8581

Fax: 908-453-3706

Website: www.besafewc.org



How to Donate

If you would like to make a donation to the agency there are a number of ways to do this. With a PayPal account you can visit our website www.besafewc.org and make a donation that way. Or, you can call Sue Allan at our office (908-453-4121 x 100) to make a credit card donation over the phone. Alternatively, you can mail a check to the agency at:

**Domestic Abuse and Sexual Assault Crisis Center
P.O. Box 423 • Belvidere, NJ 07823**

Room sponsorship is another lovely way to support the clients we serve. For an annual donation of \$1,000 a plaque will be placed in a room either at the Morningside Shelter or the Dorothy Blake Transition House. Your donation will assure that the room has furniture, lighting, a supply of linens, towels, rugs, etc. A portion of the donation will be set aside so that when large purchases for the facility such as refrigerators, roof repairs, painting, etc. are needed we will be able to take care of those items in a timely manner. If you wish to be a room sponsor please contact Pam Farago at 908-453-4121 x 102 or email her at pfarago@besafewc.org.

The agency also accepts car, truck, boat, or real estate donations. To make a donation simply call 1-800-320-0476 and say that you want to donate to the Domestic Abuse and Sexual Assault Crisis Center.

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The Enlightener is published by the Domestic Abuse and Sexual Assault Crisis Center of Warren County as a public service in addressing the issues and consequences of domestic violence and sexual assault. Readers are encouraged to send articles, letters and information on issues for publication. Please send materials to: Domestic Abuse and Sexual Assault Crisis Center, PO Box 423, Belvidere, N.J. 07823. ATT: Editor, Enlightener. The Enlightener is funded by Warren County Community College.