



HARBOR LIGHTS

Spring 2002

HAVEN HELP HOPE

by Leota Ester

Where did you start? In what building?
How did you recognize the need?
We ask, wondering aloud about the beginnings.
That time before we knew that woman, babies, boys and girls,
old women, professionals, ministers' wives, anyone, everyone,
you, ...me
Might need a place to go for solace from abuse
for love comfort encouragement, a sense of self worth,
new belief, regenerated faith, a way to live again.
How did you know a place was needed?
What was that place?
Where was the beginning?
I don't know.

I do know that place you just have been, inside the door of the
small frame house on Russet Court
Where cars parked along the streets in ditches
We saw desks piled high filling the room,
staff jammed together, taking time to look up
Welcome. Smile. Help.
Crowded ...always crowded...really crowded.
Crowded with folks, Crowded with learning,
Crowded with hope.

But not ever so much hope as now.
Here...spirits abound with hope.
Bright carpeting, bold windows, big white kitchen
with space for pots, pans, cutting boards
A special room, a big backyard,
where kids play safely when bidden to depart
their homes for strange surroundings.
New rooms, unknown faces, wonder what's next.
Wide stairs, elevators, immense hallways
Privacy, companionship... ah, privacy.
Bathrooms, big enough to move around in
Places for pictures, warmth, hope, happiness,
All in this space of help.
Here, in this haven of help and hope,
lives will be saved.

Invited... staff, board, and us, alike,
cared for, gave, built, worked, lived stories to someday tell, and
retell that we made possible those who would cross these doors
to leave one day strong, resourceful, filled with friendships,
ready for blessed tomorrows.

Excerpts from the Dedication Ceremony on October 11, 2001

HAVEN. HELP. HOPE.

In 2001, Harbor House experienced a 25% increase in the number of people accessing its Shelter Program. On September 5, 2001 Harbor House moved into its new home at 720 W. Fifth St. in Appleton and increased its bed from 20 to 32. Since the move Harbor House has experienced 75 days of 20 or more residents in the shelter. In the old facility, this would occur about one third of the time. In just 6 months, there has been 20 or more Residents approximately 50% of the time. In 2001 Harbor House also experienced the following increases:

- *14% more women receiving individual counseling
- *39% more children receiving individual counseling
- *14% more women attending support group
- *42% more children attending support group
- *27% more women receiving legal advocacy
- *43% more children receiving legal advocacy
- *10% more calls to the 24-hour crisis line

“The move was a culmination of more than 3 years of planning and work to create expanded facilities to adequately serve all families in need and work towards long-term solutions to domestic violence”, said Beth Schnorr, Executive Director. “We have lived in our new building for 6 months now and it still seems like a dream come true to have this beautiful space for families experiencing domestic violence.” The poem to the left was adapted from the poem written and read by Leota Ester at the official opening of the new Harbor House. Leota's poem is a lovely and accurate account of the kind of change this building represents - not only for the families that stay here but also for the community as a whole.



Harbor House Hosts Russian Visitors

“In spite of all the cultural differences between women the world over, and the many miles that separate us, we are still like sisters; ready to support and empathize with each other.” - support group participant.

Harbor House, along with the Appleton Police Department, was recently host to two women from Kurgan, Russia, Appleton’s sister city. The women were part of a continuing exchange program funded by a Domestic Violence Prevention Grant from Sister Cities International and the U.S. State Department. The visit was the 7th time professionals from the two cities met under the grant program to discuss the issue of domestic violence prevention. The focus of the recent exchange was to expose the participants to the wide-range of programs and services offered by Harbor House and to generate ideas for programs that could be replicated in the Kurgan Region.

The participants were Tatyana Cherepanova, Deputy Director of the Social Welfare Department and Larisa Zhirova, Professor of English from Kurgan State University. The women participated in numerous day to day activities at Harbor House, including: individual counseling appointments with shelter residents, women’s support groups, children’s support group, staff meetings and board meetings. They were trained as crisis phone volunteers, observed a group for domestic violence perpetrators, observed trainings both of medical professionals and of police officers, attended a statewide conference on improving the community response to domestic violence. They also participated in providing domestic violence prevention education to elementary and high school students and even assisted one woman in filing a temporary restraining order. They also had the opportunity to meet with

other professionals who collaborate and work with clients of Harbor House, such as the Red Cross and the Outagamie County Department of Human Services. After visiting a local foster home, they found it interesting to compare methods for helping abused children. (In Kurgan many abused children live in orphanages, although the foster care concept is not foreign to them.) Because of their interest in services for the elderly and people with disabilities, they also visited Brewster Village, Goodwill and Valley Packaging.

One highlight of their visit was their meeting with the Fox Cities Chapter of the National Organization for Women. “In Russia, there is a national goal of improving the position of women in society”, said

Tatyana. The local chapter holds their monthly meetings at Harbor House and members were interested in comparing the status of women and laws to protect victims of abuse in the two countries. “Although laws exist in Russia making physical battery to a spouse a crime, there is nothing like our restraining order. Direct services specifically for domestic violence victims are rare”, said Beth Schnorr, Executive Director of Harbor House. “However, momentum is building. When I visited Kurgan in September of 2001, I noticed increased support for creating domestic violence services and improvements in community education efforts. These included the development of public service announcements for

television. I also observed a domestic violence training for police officers, which has now been incorporated into their training program”, she said. On March 7th, Tatyana received word that the first ever “Telephone of Trust”, a 24-hour crisis line for victims of domestic violence, was now operational in the Kurgan region. One of their next goals is to open a crisis center for abused women and children. A building has been donated, but they currently lack the funds for renovation.

The Facts

A woman is battered in the United States every 9 seconds (Russia every 2 seconds)

There are approximately 1800 domestic abuse programs in the United States, 69% of those provide shelter (Russia: currently less than 10 shelters nation wide)

In the United States intimate partners murder 30 - 40% of the women murdered each year (Russia 60 to 75%)

Russian Visit (continued)

“Sometimes dreams come true, and we will continue to voice our dreams”, said Tatyana.

Both Tatyana and Larisa were recognized for their ongoing work to prevent domestic violence by Outagamie County District Attorney, Vince Biskupic at the recent Best Badge awards held on March 14th.

Larisa and Tatyana were very impressed with the wide array of programs and services available to the citizens of the Fox Valley area. The current economic conditions in Russia and the Kurgan region make replicating what they observed here a challenge. But there is a great desire and passion for the work of preventing domestic violence. Larisa Zhirova has said, “If I have an apple and you have an

apple, and we exchange apples, we each have one apple. But, if I have an idea and you have an idea and we exchange ideas, then we each have two ideas”. “ I have no doubt that there is great commitment to ending domestic violence in Russia and the U.S.”, said Beth Schnorr. “Sharing our ideas and resources will continue to enrich both of our efforts.

“These are strong women who will guide lost souls. Help is needed everywhere and it takes a lot to deal with your own problems. But it gives us a lot of courage to hear how they are helping others.”

-Harbor House support group participant's comments after meeting Larisa and Tatyana

Sadly, the Domestic Violence Prevention Grant program through Sister Cities International and the U.S. State Department has not been renewed

by the current administration. However, partners on both sides of the world are currently exploring new funding options.

Just a Different Day

Written by Terri, a survivor

I have come to write this for women and men who are abused. It's hard for me to do because now everyone will know. Physically, mentally, sexually, and verbally...it's not a pretty subject. Mostly a hush, hush subject. We don't want to talk about it because we think it will go away. We don't want people asking questions. We don't want the abuser to find out we told anyone. You make excuses for the bruises or scratches. You say you ran into something, fell, tripped, you're just clumsy. Anything.

But Never the Truth, Just Denial

In our minds we think it's our fault. We can fix it. And make it all better. After things happen, what ever the circumstances, the abuser is always on the defense. They blame the victim. “You made me do it”. “I didn't hurt you”. “You don't know what pain is”. “Do you want to see what pain is?” Then they go into denial. They never did anything. “How did you get those bruises?” “Why are you home?” “Why don't you talk?” “Are you mad at me?”

We don't say anything to our families. We want them to believe that everything is fine. We don't want to see them hurt. We don't know if we should smile or not, for fear that it will set the abuser off. We don't know what kind of mood

they are in or what sets it off. So we pull away from family and friends, maybe we get depressed, shout out of anger at fellow workers. Then the abuser does the turn around. Sweet, loving, brings flowers, makes you supper and every thing is calm. You think everything is fine. They say they love you and only you and that it will never happen again. They promise and beg. “Please don't leave me!” And then it starts all over. It's all the same... just a different day.

You may have been hit when you were growing up or maybe you saw mother or siblings get hurt and figured, well...“my mother (or whoever went through this) deserves it.”

But You Don't. No One Should Live In Fear

Talk to others. There are people who know what you are going through and can help you. But first you have to believe in your heart that you do not deserve this.

Just remember if children are involved, they usually grow up to be an abuser. Seek counseling and give them help and all of your love. Be there for them. Show them a future! I'm not saying it's easy. With a lot of love from family and understanding and counseling, you can be a survivor, not a victim and not a dead one.

HARBOR HOUSE HAPPENINGS!

Win a Saturn SL1!

Show your patriotism by buying a raffle ticket to win a **Red, White or Blue** Saturn SL1 and help three local non-profit agencies raise funds to provide essential housing services in our community.



Mayor Tim Hanna will draw the three winning raffle tickets on June 8th at the annual Flag Day parade.

The raffle will benefit Harbor House Domestic Abuse Programs, COTS and Pioneer Village. Tickets are \$25 each or 5 for \$100.

For tickets call Harbor House at 832-1667 or 800-970-1171

Victim Rights Awareness Week

April 21 through April 27th

- "Bringing Honor to Victims". Please join for our Victim Rights commemoration gathering on **April 23rd** at 9:30 a.m. in the Outagamie County Board Room. This year our focus is on children as April is Child Abuse Awareness month.
- Come and hear Steve Van Dyn Hoven, father of murder victim Shanna, talk about his experiences as a victim. Wilson Middle School students will provide music and Appleton North Drama Troupe will perform.
- Watch for display at the Justice Center. You are invited to add a name of a victim you would like to be remembered.

National Volunteer Week

April 21 through April 27th

If you have volunteered for Harbor House in the past, come back to see us. There are new opportunities available, from working with children, to receptionist duties, maintenance work and special projects. And there is more space to work in! If you are currently a Harbor House volunteer or are interested in becoming one, you are invited to attend: "Your Light Touches Us," an open house gathering to celebrate our Volunteers' gifts in honor of National Volunteer Week

Tuesday, April 23

4:30 – 6:00 p.m.

At Harbor House 720 W. Fifth St., Appleton

Please RSVP

by Friday, April 12th at 832-1667)

We have more space than ever before to work creatively with volunteers and WE NEED YOUR HELP! Come and tour our new facility and learn what exciting new volunteer opportunities await you.

Human Race - June 22

Watch for more details about this 2nd Annual fundraiser. This year it is scheduled for June 22 at AAL/LB grounds off of Ballard Road. Last year, Harbor House volunteer walkers/runners

raised the highest amount of all the agencies involved. We now have a reputation to keep. We need you... so mark your calendars for this fun event!

4th ANNUAL ALTRUSA CLUB GOLF OUTING

proceeds to benefit Harbor House Domestic Abuse Programs and Altrusa community service programs



Enjoy a day of fun while helping
to support prevention of domestic abuse.

WHEN: Friday, July 26, 2002

WHERE: High Cliff Golf Course in Sherwood

FORMAT: 4-person Scramble

TIMES: Shotgun starts at 12 noon. NOTE: only one
shotgun start

REGISTRATION: Begins 90 minutes in advance of shotgun start

COST: \$70 per golfer
Fee includes 18 holes of golf, cart and
lunch

LUNCH: Lunch served from 11-11:45 ***

AWARDS: Awards given in Men's, Women's and Mixed
foursomes

PRIZES: Event, Door and Raffle Prizes will be given.....
away.

REGISTRATION FORM

Register early! Limited to first 144 golfers!

NAME	ADDRESS	PHONE	\$ ENCLOSED
1. _____	_____	_____	_____
2. _____	_____	_____	_____
3. _____	_____	_____	_____
4. _____	_____	_____	_____

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: ALTRUSA OF APPLETON
Mail registration with fees to :
Mary Klein
6140 Rosewood Drive
Appleton, WI 54913

Boldt Construction and Harbor House: **Together They Build a Home**

Harbor House nominated Boldt Construction for Business of the Year

(Following are excerpts from the nomination letter submitted to the Post Crescent by Beth Schnorr)

When I think of words to describe the relationship that Harbor House has developed with Boldt Construction words like partnership and collaboration most definitely come to mind. But those words don't fully describe the scope of this relationship. Family is a much better word. The work we have done together, the way we have worked together, and what we have created together: I believe this is truly unique.

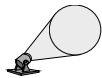
In 1998, when Harbor House began investigating the possibility of expanding its facility, we needed a very unique kind of assistance. Boldt was there with people who were skilled in helping us determine the scope of our needs. Every single contractor that was involved in the project gave. When there was not enough money in the budget to hire a contractor to paint some of the rooms, Boldt organized their employees to come in after work hours and paint. They did it without our asking. They saw a need, and they were there.

The construction phase of the project was a totally new experience for Harbor House. No one involved in our organization had any background or expertise in this area. The people

at Boldt guided us, advised us, consulted with us and were honest with us every step of the way. We put our total trust in them.

Boldt Construction devoted a great deal of time and energy to this project. . They became our number one campaign donor. They treated us like one of their most important customers, not a charity case. They watched over the project not because they had to, but because they thought it was important. So important that they expressed pride and ownership in the project and it was not longer Harbor House's project, but "our" project. They took extra care because they knew who would someday live in the building – it had to be right, no short cuts. They mentored us and grew with us. They treated us like family. And it continues, as members of the “family”, they will be back in spring to help us put up our playground equipment.

This facility is something very special. It is something that was created because of the kind of partnership we have built. Together we built a community that will grow and nurture hundreds of people in the years to come. Together we built a home.



Volunteer Spotlight on Lynn Van Schyndel

Lynn Van Schyndel is truly the picture of the perfect volunteer. She goes above and beyond the duties of a volunteer. She does not just put in her time she puts her heart into it. Lynn has been an active volunteer at Harbor House for the last two years. She volunteers at least two days a week. Through Lynn's determination and drive, she has recruited many volunteers to assist Harbor House. I wish that all agencies had volunteers like Lynn who shows how much volunteers can accomplish.

Lynn takes the initiative and fills in where she is needed. A few of the things that she has done

include: provided support to victims, help prepare safety plans for victims, updated a client database, organized several offices, assisted with our statistics, gained legal knowledge and helped with our monitoring committee. At times, Lynn has even run the shelter when staff has had to attend meetings off site. That says a lot about Lynn. Without Lynn's assistance, we would not be able to serve the community as we do.

Lynn has made a difference in many lives and made our community a better place. Thank you Lynn for being part of the Harbor House Family.

Thanks from the heart.

With community help, we can get the job done!

There are so many wonderful people and organizations that give to Harbor House – large and small. There are quite simply no gifts that we consider small! Each in-kind or cash donation represents a great deal of thought and caring on the part of the donor. They have a profound effect on the women and children we serve. These gifts say in so many ways that the community cares about domestic violence. It helps to take away some of the shame victims so often feel, and sends your message that you, too, believe that no one deserves to be abused. The gifts we have received in recent months are too numerous to mention. But the following is a sample of just a few:

Recently Harbor House was the happy recipient of a new van! This gift was made possible by a grant from the **John J. and Ethel D. Keller Fund**, a donor-advised fund within the Community Foundation for the Fox Valley

Region, Inc. Our van gets a lot of use transporting the families who use our services to appointments, taking children on field trip, picking up donations from St. Joe's Food Pantry, etc. We all know the value of the peace of mind that comes in traveling in safety!

Harbor House Domestic Abuse Programs ability to provide direct services to children from abusive homes has been greatly enhanced over the years by support received from the **St. Elizabeth Hospital Community Foundation**. Living in a violent home is a very frightening and traumatic experience for a child. The Children's Program at Harbor House provides a supportive environment where children and their parents can receive the kind of support they need. We are grateful to the Foundation for their help in improving the health and future of our community.

Notes from the desk of the House Manager

by Cheri Bricco

720 West Fifth Street---Harbor House---Home. Although our shelter on Russet Court served our needs for many years, Fifth Street is just right for us now. Our new home is spacious, comfortable, easy to access, and very beautiful. It is a pure joy to come through the doors each day to begin work in such a welcoming building. The women and children who stay here feel "safe, at home, comfortable, and stable in this environment."

We feel blessed to have the support of the community. You help to meet many of our needs on a daily basis. If you have donated money-*thank you*. If you have donated furniture, window blinds, office supplies, library shelves or books-*thank you*. If you have donated items such as personal care products, clothing or accessories for our home-*thank you*. It has been

nice to meet so many donors these past seven months. You have made it possible for us to create a very welcoming home to the women and children who stay at Harbor House.

In the past we published a needs list with general items. We now have several needs lists with different themes such as Women's Needs, Children's Needs, Household Supplies, Food, and Office Supplies. We also have a list for a monthly e-mail of current [urgent] needs. Please feel free to request a needs list or to be put on the monthly e-mail list. If you are able to donate large items such as a Power Point Projector or a \$249.00 Display board from Office Depot (#209-459-381), please call me at 832-1667 (hint, hint). We truly do appreciate the generosity shown to us. Thanks from the heart.



domestic abuse programs

Harbor House Domestic Abuse Programs
720 West 5th Street
Appleton, WI 54914
RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Non Profit
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit No. 312
Appleton, WI.
54911

Harbor House Staff:

Beth Schnorr	Executive Director
Marie Abraham	Weekend/Overnight Advocate
Carol Bloemer	Community Education Coordinator
Cheri Brizzo	House Manager
Katie Callan	Volunteer Mgr./Outreach Advocate
Wendy Gehl	Legal Advocate
Dawn Gooding	Weekend/Overnight Advocate
Crystal Harrison	Weekend/Overnight Advocate
Stacy Hove	Overnight Advocate
Cory Kuehl	Weekend/Overnight Advocate
Ann Landwehr	Weekend/Overnight Advocate
Sally Law	Office Manager
Pat Lund-Moe	DVIP Coordinator
Lisa McDowell	Women's Advocate
Lisa Murphy	Children's Advocate
Jenny Plzak	Weekend/Overnight Advocate
Anna Puryear	Weekend/Overnight Advocate
Christina Romatowski	Prevention Education Coordinator
Sue Schmidlkofer	Calumet County Advocate
Angela Willes	Women's Advocate

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Dave Oskin	Appleton Coated
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Mark Schaefer	AFLAC
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