

## April is Child Abuse Prevention Month

### Help Raise Awareness of Child Abuse

#### In Our Community

The families of Harbor House are asking for your help to end child abuse in our community. There are many ways you can help; here are just a few suggestions;

- ⇒ Become a volunteer at Harbor House; there are many opportunities to get involved.
- ⇒ Become aware of domestic violence issues, such as “why women stay.”
- ⇒ Wear a “Blue Ribbon” to show your support to end child abuse.
- ⇒ If you suspect a child is being abused get involved. Call the Police, Harbor House or Human Services.
- ⇒ Organize an employee contribution drive for Harbor House.
- ⇒ Hold an event with the proceeds going to Harbor House.
- ⇒ Make a financial contribution to Harbor House
- ⇒ Start a blue ribbon campaign at your work place or with your favorite group.
- ⇒ Be a role model for children. Domestic violence is a learned behavior.
- ⇒ Educate your children on domestic abuse issues.
- ⇒ Teach children that violence is never o.k.

#### Blue Ribbon Campaign

The blue ribbon stands as a symbol for over 3 million children who witness abuse in their homes each year. It serves as a memorial to the children who have been affected by abuse and neglect. It also a reminder that all of us have a role in preventing child abuse.

The blue ribbon campaign started as a woman’s personal battle to combat child abuse by tying a symbolic blue ribbon on the antenna of her car. The ribbon served as a tribute to her grandson, who died as a result of child abuse.

Today, the blue ribbon campaign is used nation -wide during the month of April to show support to end child abuse.

Blue ribbons are available through the Harbor House Outreach Office in Chilton.

#### Child Abuse Statistics

Over 3 million children witness abuse in their homes each year. Children who witness violence at home are 5 times more likely to commit or suffer violence as an adult.

- \* 1 in 5 high school girls is a victim of dating violence, while 40% know some who is a victim.
- \* In a survey of 3,000 teens nationwide, 1/3 of boys and 1/4 of girls said they expected husbands to hit their wives.
- \* 42% of students said they would talk to a counselor, school administrator or a teacher about an abusive situation.
- \* Only 38 % of schools address the issue of abuse.

#### Chilton High School Teen Survey

This survey was taken from Bonnie Mallmann’s Sophomore Class. Seventy-two teens were involved in this survey.

- \* 39% know of someone in a real abusive relationship
- \* 30% felt there was nothing they could do if they knew someone in an abusive relationship.
- \* 39% of these students have been with someone who made them feel uncomfortable or have been in an abusive relationship.

Harbor House Outreach also had 55 of these students fill out a questionnaire, regarding suggestion on how we can help. Here are a few of the comments;

- \* “Just talk about it more to teens, even younger kids who see it and don’t know what to do”.
- \* “I think teens should be aware of the hurt abuse causes and difference between verbal and physical abuse”.
- \* I think we should have a teen hot-line. People and peers answer phones. Teens can ask questions about anything. This could also help if they feel they have nowhere to go.

If there was a teen support group on teen dating issues 15 would attend, 11 would maybe attend,

# Harbor House Calumet County Outreach Programs

<p align="center"><b>Rural Women's Serenity</b> Wednesdays 5:30-6:30 PM</p>		<p align="center"><b>Women Empowered</b> Mondays 4:30-5:30 PM (Odd weeks of the month) A gathering of women sharing their thoughts and feelings on effects of domestic abuse. No Facilitator is present.</p>		<p align="center"><b>Children's Circle</b> Mondays (Odd weeks of the month) 4:30-5:30 PM For Children Ages 5-11</p>	
April 9	Effective Listening With Your Child	May 7	Effects of Abuse On Women	April 7	Family Night: "Chicken Soup For the Family Soul"
April 16	Understanding Your Teen	May 14	Where Do Men Learn to Abuse	April 21	Who Can I Trust?
April 23	Building Structure After Divorce	May 21	Mind Games There Not Games	May 5	Problem Solving
April 30	Child Custody	May 28	Burning Party! Let It Go	May 19	What Is A Friend?



**Facilitators Needed**

## Harbor House Outreach Wish List

### Office Supplies

What/Color Printing Paper  
Pens  
Easel  
Display Board  
Light Bulbs  
ED. Pictures Framed  
HHO Banner  
Binders  
Small Refrigerator  
Legal Pads

### Women's List

Laundry Detergent  
Liquid Soap  
Fem. Hygiene Products  
Kleenex  
Toilet Paper  
Hand Lotion  
Band-Aids  
Paper Products  
Cleaning Supplies  
Cold/Allergy Medicine

### Children's List

Non-Violent Videos  
DAD Player  
Game Boy  
School Supplies  
Art Supplies  
Dolls  
Pens/Markers  
Snacks for group  
Water/Juice/Soda  
Games

### Gift Certificates

Gas Stations  
Car Wash  
Oil Change  
Restaurants  
Grocery Stores  
Hair Solons  
Wall-Mart  
Farm & Home  
Theatres  
Calling Cards

### Volunteer Training

April 26

10:00-1:00 PM

For details or to sign up call the Harbor House Calumet County Outreach Office.

### Volunteer Meeting

May 15th at 6:30

For all volunteers.

If you are unable to attend, please contact Sue before the meeting to set up another time.

## A Note From The Calumet County Advocate

My name is Sue Schmidlkofer. I have been the advocate for Harbor House Outreach for 2 1/2 years. I find my position to be very interesting. I grew up in Chilton and always thought it was a very safe town, like all small towns.

However, after I began working for Harbor House I realized that abuse happens in small towns just like the cities. After I was here for a while, I realized how true it is and this concerns me. I feel that as a community we need to join hands and put an end to domestic abuse. We need to have zero tolerance for abuse, and make perpetrators accountable for their actions. You can help make a

difference! If you are interested in helping end domestic abuse in our community, please contact me for more information.

What you think of our first news letter? Questions & Comments are welcomed at:

**Harbor House  
Calumet County Outreach  
Domestic Abuse Programs  
18 W Main St. Suite T  
Chilton, WI 53014  
849-7819 or 1-800-970-1171  
hhcal@danet.net**



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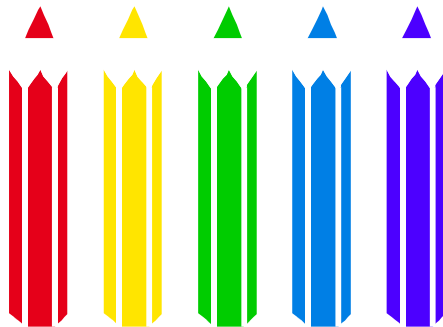
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