



HARBOR LIGHTS

Winter 2003

MISSION

To lead a community wide partnership in the awareness and prevention of domestic violence and abuse and to offer safety and support to diverse families in crisis.

Happy Holidays - A Herstory

It was only a few months ago that I made the move to break the cycle of violence in my life by leaving my abusive husband. My last memory of us together is an image of me with a bloody nose and split lip and him crouched over me choking me. As I started to see what I call 'prickly stars,' I was sure that I was going to die right there on my living room floor. In an instant, my two young children were on the stairs asking, "Daddy, what are you doing to Mommy?" It was enough of a distraction for him to let go and enable me to slip out from under him and get to the phone. The police came and he was arrested. I will never know what that violent image did to my children, but I knew then and there that I would never let them see it again.

As we made preparations to leave, I realized that it would not be easy. I had no money, only a high school education, small children and a low paying job. I got on the list for low-income housing but was told it would be a six-month wait. However, with the holidays arriving, I believe a true miracle came early for me and my children because I moved into my new apartment at the beginning of November after waiting only one month for housing.

I am so excited going into this holiday season! I am already planning to go crazy decorating the house in a festive mood and I am going to get the biggest tree on the lot! You see, in the past, my ex-husband hated real trees, so we always had a small, artificial tree. Last Christmas I had my favorite ornament hurled at me because he was so mad that I did not want tinsel on the tree because I was worried my small children would grab it off the tree and eat it. I was always afraid to voice my opinion because I just never knew when he would snap. After years of just trying to keep the peace, I will now sing carols loudly (off-key), I will

watch our favorite holiday shows and I will now put out my favorite childhood ornaments because this is OUR tree now. My walls are now clean and filled with pictures drawn by my kids instead of holes made by his fist of anger.

I know that our holiday meals will consist of just me and my children, but I look forward to the peace that it will bring. I can cook whatever I want without fearing being yelled at because I made some new dish he did not like.

I look forward to buying whatever gifts I want for my kids without being told that I am babying them or turning them into wimps.

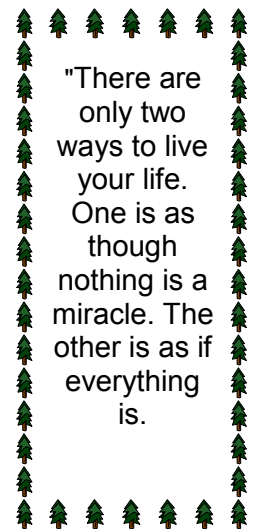
It is hard to describe how I feel about this new freedom because I have never felt it before. I once heard a quote that stated, 'you can't experience true freedom until you've known slavery.'

All I can say is that I now know the feeling of freedom. How do I feel going into this holiday season? I feel happy. I feel peace. I feel contentment. I feel empowered. I feel worthy. I feel like a good mom. **I feel free.**



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 "There are only two ways to live your life. One is as though nothing is a miracle. The other is as if everything is."

Fall Events Are a Big Success!

EVERY GIRL'S A PRINCESS

Princess continued....

"Every

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*Molly Quigley and friends - Just a few of the
"Royal Dresser" at the 5th Annual Every
Girl's a Princess event*

*Dave Oskin gets a cut from Style Etc. owner
Mary Selig at the 2nd Annual Cut-a-Thon*

*An adorable Princess being
escorted to her throne by
one of our Royal Dressers*

HARBOR HOUSE RECEIVES DOMESTIC VIOLENCE PREVENTION GRANT AWARD

Governor's Council on Domestic Violence Recognized Kathy Connolly, Women's Advocate at Harbor House

Since 1991, the Governor's Council on Domestic Abuse has presented an award to honor an individual or organization for extraordinary accomplishment in working with victims of domestic abuse to remove obstacles to safety, providing protection and services, or in promoting justice for victims of domestic abuse. This year Harbor House's Kathy Connolly was honored with this award. "It was such a surprise and a great honor," said Kathy. "I love the work I do and this will keep me going for the next 20 years," she said. Kathy has over 13 years of experience working in the field of domestic violence. She has worked extensively on children's issues as a member of the Children's Committee for the Wisconsin Coalition Against Domestic Violence and is a past board member of the Coalition. "Kathy is one of those people who works with kindness and compassion with everyone she approaches," said Beth Schnorr, Executive Director of Harbor House. "She is so well respected in the community and one of those people who doesn't look for accolades." It is wonderful to see her get the recognition she so richly deserves. Kathy received her award on October 8 in Madison. The Council chooses October, Domestic Violence Awareness month, as an especially fitting time to honor these unsung heroes.

PREVENTION EDUCATION

The Clothesline Project bears witness to the violence against women and children through the creation of art on T-shirts. It is an artistic message to the community about the impact of domestic violence on women and children working with Harbor House. The Project, which was on display during October at Appleton City Center Plaza, will be traveling throughout the community, breaking the silence that surrounds survivors' experiences.

To help support the end of domestic violence, you can purchase an artistic Clothesline Pin®, inspired by The Clothesline Project, to be worn on your shirt or jacket. Call Harbor House at 920-832-1667

As we prepare for a busy holiday season, we ask for your support. For Harbor House to successfully serve community members in need (survivors of domestic violence and abuse), we need your help. There are a number of ways that you can assist us in our mission. You can make a financial donation or adopt the shelter.

Adopt-a-Shelter donations that we receive during the holidays help to sustain our shelter program throughout the year. The ten most needed items are:

- | | |
|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1. Laundry detergent | 6. 8 1/2 x 11 copy paper |
| 2. Laundry baskets | 7. Twin size quilts |
| 3. Twin size sheet sets | 8. Gas vouchers |
| 4. Pillows | 9. Valley Trs.bus tickets |
| 5. Bath towels | 10. Diapers-sizes 3,4,5 |

3 We hope you can assist us in serving over 350 women and children staying in shelter this

HARBOR HOUSE IS REGISTERED AT "CLUB WED" AT TARGET



Harbor House Domestic Abuse Programs
 720 West Fifth Street
 Appleton, WI 54914

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domestic abuse programs

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



Harbor House is supported by United Way

Harbor House Staff

Beth Schnorr	Executive Director
Cheri Bricco	House Manager
Mary Buser	Volunteer Coordinator
Christy Coenen	Weekend/Overnight Advocate
Kathy Connolly	Women's Advocate
Kathy Fredericks	Community Ed. Coord./Outreach Advocate
Wendy Gehl	Legal Advocate
Dawn Gooding	Weekend/Overnight Advocate
Crystal Harrison	Weekend/Overnight Advocate
Emerald Hauser	Weekend/Overnight Advocate
Joy Hoffman	Weekend/Overnight Advocate
Tammy Jewson	Weekend/Overnight Advocate
April Kent	Weekend/Overnight Advocate
Cory Kuehl	Weekend/Overnight Advocate
Amanda Kreklow	Weekend/Overnight Advocate
Ann Landwehr	Weekend/Overnight Advocate
Emily Luebke	Weekend/Overnight Advocate
Pat Lund-Moe	DVIP Coordinator
Lisa Murphy	Children's Advocate
Connie Palm	Overnight Advocate
Jenny Plzak	Weekend/Overnight Advocate
Emily Probst	Weekend/Overnight Advocate
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