



HARBOR LIGHTS

SPRING 2005

MISSION

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

Ethel's Wing Opens!

Harbor House is again undergoing a major transformation to meet the needs of its growing and diverse population.

The facility will celebrate the grand opening in March of **Ethel's Wing**, an addition that will accommodate another 12 beds in five bedrooms. Made possible by a generous donation from the John J. and Ethel D. Keller Donor Advised Fund at the Community Foundation for the Fox Valley Region, the additional space will be more conducive to housing a changing demographic of women.

Community Education Coordinator, Kathy Flores, says "There's been an evolution of the face of domestic violence over the last 20 years. We're seeing more and more older battered women coming in and a growing number of women with mental illness."

This change in clientele brings a unique set of needs. For example, it is sometimes a challenge for older battered women to share a bedroom with mothers and young children. The same can be said for women with mental health issues, who in addition to suffering the oppression of domestic violence, may also suffer from depression, anxiety and post-traumatic stress disorder.

"We needed to create some privacy in our new space," Flores says. "We have some unique opportunities to work with women on their journey."

"There are a number of reasons why these women are seeking help now, although the need for services by these groups has always been there, she adds, an increased public awareness of the issues of domestic violence and mental illness has helped service providers identify those who need help earlier."

An awareness of Harbor House Domestic

Abuse Programs also contributes to increased usage. Media coverage around the organization's privatization in 1997, along with the opening of an outreach program in Chilton, contributed to that. The move in September 2001 to the current facility at 720 W. Fifth St. in Appleton also contributed. Since moving to its current location, the number of women and children provided with 24-hour shelter has increased 40%, while days of care provided have almost doubled. "We have seen a rise in overall numbers and have a particular need to improve our ability to shelter single women, women with mental health issues and older battered women," said Beth Schnorr, Executive Director.

(Continued on Page 3)

PLEASE JOIN US PUBLIC GRAND OPENING ETHEL'S WING

Thursday, March 10 at 3:30 p.m.

720 W. Fifth Street Appleton

Refreshments & tours
will be available!

Please RSVP to Patti
at 920-832-1667

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B. Schnorr

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A Time To
Laugh

CALUMET
COUNTY
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What lies
behind us
and what lies
before us are
tiny matters
compared to
what lies
within us.

Ralph
Waldo
Emerson

YOU CAN HELP!

Did your mom ever tell you to "TAKE YOUR FEET OFF THE COUCH!" or "NO EATING ON THE FURNITURE!?" Since we moved into our new shelter in August 2001, 561 mothers have told their 766 children the same things. And even though the children always listen to their mothers, and do exactly as they are told, our furniture is showing signs of wear. The fabric is tearing, fraying and fading and generally our couches and chairs are looking old and worn out.

We are hoping to purchase a few new pieces of furniture for our two living rooms; rooms where our residents gather together to create community and spend time with their children. Those of you who have visited our shelter know that we consistently keep an extremely clean and welcoming home for all who enter. We believe that the women and children who come to Harbor House deserve to stay in a beautiful and calm environment. With your financial contribution, we can continue to offer such an environment to our clients by providing new furniture for their use. Thank you for opening your hearts.

NATIONAL CRIME VICTIM RIGHTS WEEK

Theme: Justice isn't Served Until Crime Victims Are

"What others see as an inconvenience is for the victim an endless nightmare." - Crime Victim

"The lessons of the victims run like a thread throughout and are the foundation of all the proposals that follow. Please take the time to learn, as we have, the depth and the human aspect of this grave social problem, then join in seeking and implementing the solutions." Hon. Lois Haight Herrington, Chair "Statement of the Chairman," 1982 President's Task Force on Victims of Crime

April 10-16 marks the 25th commemoration of National Crime Victims' Rights Week. For seven days, victim service providers, justice professionals and others seek to promote greater public awareness about a serious problem that affects our nation and its people 365 days a year. For one week, we share the opportunity to have a serious national dialogue about victims of crime and the impact on us as individuals, communities and the nation as a whole.

The National Center for Victims of Crime is the nation's leading resource and advocacy organization for crime victims. Since 1985, they have worked with more than 10,000 grassroots organizations and criminal justice agencies serving millions of crime victims. The mission of the National Center for Victims of Crime is to forge a national commitment to help victims of crime rebuild their lives. We are dedicated to serving individuals, families, and communities harmed by crime.



WOMEN'S ADVOCATE

Hi, my name is Mariana Stout. I am the new Women's Advocate at Harbor House.



I graduated from South Texas Community College with an applied science degree in health and human services. I am a member of the Oshkosh Human relations Council, Oshkosh Diversity council, the League of Women Voter's and the Winnebago Democratic Party. I am also currently a City of Oshkosh Common Council Candidate.

I feel privileged to have the opportunity to work and learn from the wonderful, dedicated staff at Harbor House. I think the organization really makes a difference in people's lives, and I like being a small part of it.

CHILDREN & YOUTH ADVOCATE

I am Tracy Plamann and I am the Children & Youth Advocate at Harbor House.



I graduated from the University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh with a degree in Human Services in December 2004. I am the head women's basketball and volleyball coach at University of Wisconsin-Fox Valley.

I am very excited about my new position and working with the kids in the community and in further developing the children's program. I am glad to be to be working in an environment where staff values teamwork and diversity. I feel honored to be surrounded by the strong women and children I meet every day at the shelter and in our community.

2 Contact us at 920-832-1667 or 1-800-970-1171 Email: hhdap@athenet.net

Wendy Gehl Named Advocate of the Year

Wendy Gehl, Legal Advocate at Harbor House Domestic Abuse Programs, has been named Domestic Violence Advocate of the Year by the Wisconsin Sheriffs and Deputy Sheriffs Association. This award, created by the Association, is named "The Lynn Copen Memorial Advocate of the Year Award" and includes an all expenses paid trip to the International Conference on Domestic Violence, Sexual Assault and Stalking in San Diego this April. Wendy has been employed at Harbor House for twenty years first as a Children's Advocate and for the past 15 years as a Legal Advocate. Her accomplishments on behalf of victims have been many. From developing the Children's Program at Harbor House to implementing a Court Watch Program and spearheading the efforts to create a yearly Crime Victims Rights Ceremony, Wendy has been a consistent voice for victims of abuse. Wendy is a past recipient of the Outagamie County District Attorney's "Best Badge Award", past member of the Crime Victims Rights Council and remains an active member of the Outagamie County Domestic Violence Intervention Team.

"Advocates with twenty years of experience working in the issue of domestic violence are rare", said Beth Schnorr, Executive Director. "Working for twenty years in the same program is even more rare. Wendy has contributed greatly to the positive image that Harbor House has in our community. Never one to expect recognition, she is truly deserving of this award."



20 Years of Commitment!
Beth Schnorr, celebrates with Wendy

CONGRATULATIONS WENDY!

ADOPT-A-FAMILY & ADOPT-A-SHELTER THANK YOU!

A special Thank You to all who sponsored families during the holiday season for our Adopt-A-Family Program. With your help we served a record number of 105 families in need. Thank you to those who sponsored our shelter in our Adopt-A-Shelter Program. It is wonderful to provide basic personal care items and gifts for our clients throughout the year. Thank you to all who responded to the request in our last news letter for financial contributions to help us purchase furnishings for our new wing. Delivery of beds, night stands, washers & dryers, and living room furniture has been scheduled. We truly appreciate your support.

ETHEL'S WING OPENS! (Continued From Page 1)

Director, Beth Schnorr, says it can be difficult to quantify exactly why numbers increase, but she attributes a large spike in 2003 to awareness generated by the capital campaign. One day that year saw a record 54 people using a space that held 32 beds.

"I think, too, that as a society, people are more comfortable identifying the problem and stepping forward," she says. "We put a lot of effort into working with other professionals and letting them know about our services and learning ways to identify battered women in their practices. Also, there's a huge problem with affordable housing in the area. People stay with us longer and they have a harder time getting everything together to afford an apartment. Sadly, if they can't, sometimes they go back to the batterer. Hopefully, this will help with that."

When the Kellers learned of the need, they wanted to help. "Harbor House is filling a special need in our community," said Ethel Keller in November of 2004. "Abused women and children are some of our most vulnerable people. I am happy that I can play a part in providing some hope for a better future," she said. Ethel Keller passed away in December 2004. "Although she was not able to see the completion of the project, she was proud to have this project named in her honor", said Beth Schnorr.

WE ARE REGISTERED AT "CLUB WED" AT TARGET STORES



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

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domestic abuse programs

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Harbor House is supported by United Way

HARBOR HOUSE IS HAPPY TO ANNOUNCE:

"A Time to Laugh"

Thursday, April 21, 2005 at 7:00 p.m.

Radisson - Paper Valley Hotel

Dinner and Extraordinary Entertainment

By nationally respected comedienne: T. Marnie Voss

Tickets: \$75 per person; Corporate sponsorship invited and encouraged.

For more information or tickets, call Patti at 920-832-1667.



Hysteria—
it's an acquired taste.

"Our event is called 'A Time to Laugh,'" said Shannon Kennedy, Harbor House Board and Chair of the event. "One might think the combination of humor and domestic abuse is unusual and maybe even inappropriate. Our thoughts in using laughter as our focus are that we know personally that when an abused woman is hanging on for her life and the lives of her family, it is impossible to think that they will ever laugh again. Many of our residents shared with us that humor, finding someone to laugh with, was a saving grace", she continued. "Laughter is so very organic in the human nature. Domestic violence robs these women of a healthy and natural relationship to being human."

Milton Berle once said, "Laughter is an instant vacation from an unwanted moment." The intent of "A Time to Laugh" is to bring laughter to our community and hope to abused women and children that they will laugh again – a vacation from their unwanted and unacceptable moments.

Come and share in laughter, giggling, snorting and chortling!

Sponsored by:

