



HARBOR LIGHTS

Winter 2010

Newsletter of Harbor House Domestic Abuse Programs



Learn More On Our Website

www.harborhouseonline.org

Helping Survivors Focus on Personal Financial Security

As part of Harbor House’s Women’s Program, our Women Obtaining Work (WOW) initiative partners with other local agencies to help women improve their financial self-sufficiency through education, job training and job skills enhancement. WOW is funded by Allstate Foundation, Myra M. and Robert L. Vandehey Foundation, Basic Needs Giving Partnership and Women’s Fund for the Fox Valley Region.

Matching Grant Available for Year-End Gifts

As of the printing of this newsletter, Harbor House is about halfway to reaching the \$20,000 match for year-end gifts made by John and Sandy Nussbaum. To join in, note “Annual Appeal” on your envelope.

Looking to Add to Our Group of Fundraising Volunteers

We are in need of volunteers for our Fundraising Events and Development committees. Individuals with a passion for our cause, who are outgoing and connected are encouraged to apply online.

FINANCIAL STABILITY KEY TO MEETING NEEDS OF ABUSE SURVIVORS

As a grassroots human services agency, Harbor House’s primary focus has always been on providing high-quality services to our clients. To do so in the face of greater demands for services and more complex client needs, we’ve had to ensure we are equally focused on maintaining our financial stability.

“As the need for our services grows, our need for greater financial support from the community grows,” said Harbor House Executive Director Beth Schnorr. “Being financially secure means that we not only respond to crisis, but we work toward prevention, which is the epitome of acting fiscally responsible, with the goal of not having to exist longer than needed.”

From a stewardship perspective, Harbor House’s nonprofit fiscal management is strong, with 95 cents of every \$1 given going directly toward client-centered services. A mere 5% is spent annually on fundraising and strictly administrative activities.

“We believe that we are here to be a resource for those who need us,” Schnorr said. “That’s why when donors give to our cause, we want to be sure their gifts are spent wisely because

they are giving to support our mission, and our mission is focused on serving others and preventing future violence.”

Despite tough economic circumstances over the past couple years, Harbor House has weathered the storm, thanks to the generosity of its supporters. Although mid-year projections for 2010 indicated a possible year-end shortfall, strong support from the community in the fourth quarter looks to have brought the finances back in line. Continued involvement in the way of volunteerism and in-kind donations also has helped keep expenses down.

“When we look at where we are financially,” Schnorr said. “We are just so grateful to the many funders—individuals, foundations and corporations—who continue to help us respond to the challenges. We thank all of you, our supporters, who give so generously.”

Focus on Strategic Initiatives

Maintain a Financially Secure Organization

To prevent domestic violence, Harbor House needs to be a financially secure organization, capable of supporting its short- and long-term strategic programs.

Learn more: www.harborhouseonline.org

Harbor House’s 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.



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Harbor House is supported by United Way

HARBOR HOUSE HAPPENINGS:

7th Annual A Time to Laugh Dinner Gala and Comedy Night

Heading into its seventh year, Harbor House's A Time to Laugh Dinner Gala and Comedy Night is our annual signature fundraising event, reminding us of the importance of laughter in the healing process for survivors of domestic abuse.



The event, which will take place on Friday, March 25, 2011 at Liberty Hall in Kimberly, features comedienne Nancy Redman, a two-time prize winner on ABC's *America's Funniest People*.

And speaking of funny people, have you ever wanted to try stand-up, but were afraid you'd be met with an unfriendly crowd or not enough material to get you through an entire show? Now's your chance to put aside those fears and vie for your chance to win the title of "**FOX VALLEY'S FUNNIEST.**" Here's how:

- ☺ Create a 7-minute audition video with clean material only
- ☺ Mail in your DVD by no later than Jan. 5, 2011, along with name address, phone, e-mail and written reason why you'd be great for

this competition (250-word max). Send to: Harbor House, Attn: Maria Turner - Fox Valley's Funniest, 720 W. 5th St., Appleton, WI 54914.

☺ Wait to be notified as to whether you will be one of three local comedians to perform their 7-minute acts as the warm-up for Nancy Redman.

Not one to get on-stage? Join us in the audience instead! Tickets to the event are just \$75 apiece, which includes sit-down dinner. Corporate sponsorships start at \$1,500. An amazing raffle, centered around the theme of Milton Berle's quote, "laughter is an instant vacation," also will take place.

For an invitation to A Time to Laugh or for more information, please e-mail Communication and Development Coordinator Maria Turner at mariat@harborhousedap.org or call (920) 955-9119.

Watch for details on other upcoming events on our Website at www.harborhouseonline.org, our Facebook page (Harbor House) or e-mail mariat@harborhousedap.org.



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