



THE  
CENTER  
FOR  
WOMEN  
AND  
FAMILIES

# THE *strength* WITHIN

SPRING/SUMMER 2006



**WHAT ABOUT  
THE CHILDREN?**

.....

**CONCERT FOR KIDS**

.....

**CELEBRATING OUR CELEBRATION!**

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## SPOTLIGHT: DREAM CLEANING

It is no easy task keeping three residential facilities housing more than 100 women and children spick and span, but that sure is the goal of Missy Walker and Kris Mandy, Owners/Operators of Dream Cleaning, LLC.



*Pictured here: Dream Cleaning's Missy Walker-Mandy, Heather Hall, Kory White, and Kris Mandy.*

***The Center appreciates the match in our mission and Dream Cleaning's vision statement, which states the company seeks to empower its employees to be the very best at what they do.***

The Center appreciates the match in our mission and Dream Cleaning's vision statement, which states the company seeks to empower its employees to be the very best at what they do. "At the end of the day, it's all about taking care of our clients," explains Missy. The Center couldn't agree more.

Missy and Kris began Dream Cleaning, LLC ten years ago. The company grew by word of mouth reputation from just one employee in a couple of homes to 14 employees and several major custodial contracts. Missy and Kris have identified community involvement as a company priority and already have made several in-kind donations to The Center. "We want our company to be engaged with The Center's mission and needs. Our staff really understands the sensitive nature of the work The Center does and respects it."

"Dream Cleaning impressed us with their commitment to quality, as well as their understanding of our mission," explains Jennifer Hancock, Chief Operating Officer of The Center. "Missy and her team are compassionate and conscientious – just the right ingredients for this partnership!"

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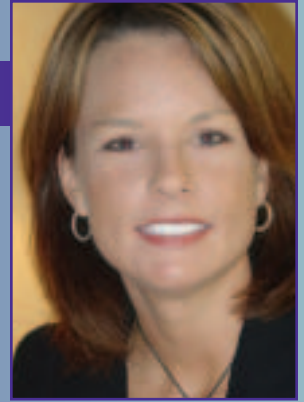
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**CONCERT FOR KIDS**

# Letter FROM THE CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER



Jennifer Hancock  
Chief Operating Officer

Since school is officially out and all things summer have begun to settle on our Kentuckiana community – pollen, sunshine, picnics, baseball, and lightening bugs to name a few – we thought it appropriate for this issue of our magazine to focus on The Center’s children’s services.

It is staggering to consider over three million children are exposed to domestic violence each year. As most children look forward to the weeks of homework-free play and exploration during the summer, children exposed to domestic violence continue to endure challenges to their safety and well-being. National statistics indicate almost half of all shelter residents are children, and this is true for The Center for Women and Families and its regional shelters too. On average, when a victim seeks our residential services, she brings two children with her. Whether it is working with local school systems to find a way to keep the children in their own school, finding safe transportation to and from extra-curricular activities or providing age-appropriate recreation and counseling opportunities, The Center’s children’s advocates are dedicated to responding to our younger clients’ needs.

As a friend of The Center, you know that domestic and sexual violence challenge the welfare of our entire community-including our children. The Center’s staff and volunteers are committed to engaging individuals and community in the elimination of this violence through service, education and advocacy. This is why we were encouraged by the support of our legislature and governor for increased statewide service provider and capital funding for our organization in Kentucky’s final biennium budget. Championed by Senator Tim Shaughnessy and supported by the whole of the Louisville delegation, the allocations in the budget send a clear and powerful message that our state is dedicated to ending domestic and sexual violence in our Commonwealth.

Integral to the concerted statewide efforts to end violence are the coalitions in which The Center is fortunate to be a member, including the Kentucky Domestic Violence Association, Kentucky Association of Sexual Assault Programs, Indiana Coalition Against Domestic Violence and Indiana Coalition Against Sexual Assault. These member organizations offer The Center essential fiscal support, program cooperation and service assistance. We cannot do it alone.

A handwritten signature in white ink that reads "Jennifer Hancock". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

## OUR MISSION

*The Center for Women and Families engages individuals and community in the elimination of domestic violence, sexual violence and economic hardship through service, education and advocacy.*

# What About

## THE CHILDREN?

It is estimated that 3.3 million to 10 million children between the ages of 3 and 17 are exposed to domestic violence. Reflective of national statistics, almost half of our clients at The Center for Women and Families are under the age of 18.

Whether they are directly abused, have witnessed the abuse, or are coping with the aftermath of violence, the children are always affected. Safety planning conversations teach children in our shelters important steps to take for their own survival. Through tutoring, counseling and support, our advocates let children know they are not alone.

If your church or community group would like to know more about how domestic violence affects children and how you can support our children's services, call **581-7200** in Kentucky or **944-6743** in Indiana and ask to speak to a community educator.



Kentucky Justice & Public Safety Cabinet  
Office of Juvenile Justice & Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP)  
Alcoa Foundation • Community Foundation of Southern Indiana  
Hanna Andersson Foundation • Macy's • WHAS Crusade for Children  
Verizon Wireless • Rotary Club of Jeffersonville  
Psi Iota Xi • Community Foundation of Louisville  
Younger Women's Club of Louisville

## KNOW THE TRUTH

**MYTH:** "No one would hit a pregnant woman."

**FACT:** Studies have shown that up to 25% of pregnant women are battered and up to 30% of battered women are battered while they are pregnant.

**MYTH:** "Infants are too young to know what's going on."

**FACT:** Physicians report treating injuries to the hands of infants who dig their nails into their palms during domestic disputes. The infant's first and longest-lasting impression is that the world is a dangerous place and that they are helpless to leave violent situations.

**MYTH:** "My partner only abuses me, he doesn't hurt the children."

**FACT:** Studies have shown up to half of men who abuse their wives also abuse their children. Older children have been found to be unintended victims of violence by accidentally being struck when they attempt to intervene in an attack on a parent. Simply being exposed to violence is its own form of abuse. Children who witness abuse often suffer the same symptoms as children who are directly abused.

**MYTH:** "My children are asleep or in the other room, when it happens...they don't see the abuse."

**FACT:** Reality shows that more than 80% of children see their mothers being abused. Through this, boys learn that violence is a good way to settle problems, gain control of a situation, or get what you want. Girls learn how to expect and accept abuse.

**MYTH:** "I have left that relationship, so my children will be fine now."

**FACT:** Fear, anxiety, powerlessness and low self-esteem do not simply fade away when the child is taken out of that environment. These feelings have been learned and, without intervention, will continue.

**MYTH:** "I thought my daughter would have learned not to let anyone treat her the way her father treated me."

**FACT:** In violent homes, girls learn that it is okay to be abused. They do not learn any other way to have a relationship. Studies indicate about 1 in 5 female high school students reports being physically and/or sexually abused by a dating partner.



# Concert FOR KIDS

Mark Kleiner is a man dedicated to giving back to his community.

"Sometimes you think one person can't really make an impact, but you can," says Mark.

On March 25, the 3rd Annual Concert for Kids, an event organized and implemented by Mark, attracted hundreds of people and raised more than \$5,000 for The Center's children's services. "I had heard Troy Roebuck and the late Ron Clay on the radio asking for holiday donations for The Center for years," he explains. "When The Center helped someone close to me who had been victimized, I knew I had to give back."

The recipe for Mark's success includes a convenient venue, great bands, event sponsors and good music. "I wanted to find a way to volunteer that utilized my strengths and interests. My strengths are not in volunteering in the traditional way, but I knew I could play music."

In just three years, Mark's Concert for Kids has raised almost \$15,000 for The Center's children's services. Sponsors of this year's concert included Peace of Mind Home Security Sales, Chase Marketing, George Shannarah, Blades Salon & Spa, Ten Broeck Hospital and Headliners Music Hall. "This all started with a phone call to The Center," he says. "Anyone can do it. If you have a hobby or talent, make the choice to use it to help in our community."



# To Honor & REMEMBER

## IN HONOR OF

**Mr. and Mrs. J. Bernard Backert**

*Ms. Janet Spencer*

**Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Bayersdorfer**

*Dr. and Mrs. Norton Waterman*

**Ms. Anne Davidson**

*Ms. Linda Davidson*

**Ms. Serafino Finocchiaro**

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**Ms. Charlotte S. Tharp**

*Nina and Joe Brill*

**The Cotton Family**

*Mr. Martin Bryan*

**Ms. Alethea Victor**

*Ascension Lutheran Church*

**Ms. Anne Wilhelmus**

*Ms. Gayle M. Griffin*

**Ann Zimmerman**

*Ms. Betty S. Fleischaker*

## IN MEMORY OF

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*Judie and Erwin Sherman*

**Mr. Walter Beale**

*Ms. Sandy Smithers*

**Mr. Stephen Dunaway**

*Mrs. Karen Dunaway*

*Mr. and Mrs. William Forbis*

*Ms. Mary Martin*

*Mr. and Mrs. Matthew Ott*

*Ms. Patricia Reid*

*Mr. and Mrs. Dennie Rogers*

*Ms. Sharon Stetter*

*Mr. and Mrs. Glenn W. Thompson*

*Ms. Donna Wolf*

**Paul Fortney**

*Anonymous*

**Mr. Jim Humphreys**

*Mr. Thomas Clasby*

*Ms. Jill A. Jones*

*Marylou and Mike Mayhall*

*Anonymous*

**Mary Lou Manger**

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**Mr. Jo Marshall**

*Ms. Johnetta F. Marshall*

**Zoe Jones Mundy**

*Mrs. Johnnie Jones*

**Johneva and Rozell Poignard**

*Ms. JoAnn P. Stikes*

**Beverly Radaj**

*Ms. Eileen Goggin*

*Alice Lucille Martin*

## IN HONOR OF COS WOMEN OF DISTINCTION

**Ms. Reba L. Doutrick**

*Mr. David A. Jones and Mrs. Betty A. Jones*

*Mr. Michael Willner*

**Mrs. Jean Frazier**

*Ms. Judy Bennett*

*Ms. Michelle McElwaine*

*Mr. and Mrs. Lee W. Robinson*

*Ms. Deborah Topcik*

*Mr. and Mrs. William Wittenberg*

**Ms. Adele Leight**

*Arnold M. Belker, M.D.*

*Ms. Judy Bennett*

*Mr. and Mrs. Bruce Roth*

*Mr. and Mrs. William Wittenberg*

## IN HONOR OF YOUNG WOMEN OF DISTINCTION

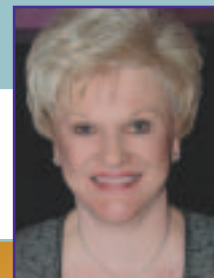
**Ms. Christi Robinson**

*Ms. Elizabeth Bruenderman*

## HONORING THE 2006 WOMEN OF DISTINCTION

- Juanita Beach
- Reba Doutrick
- Jean Frazier
- Adele Leight
- Alice Lucille Martin

*Juanita Beach*



*The evening's event honored the accomplishments of the 2006 Women of Distinction.*



*Jean Frazier talks with Mayor Jerry Abramson.*



*Adele Leight is presented her award.*



*Reba Doutrick admires her Woman of Distinction brooch.*

*Honorariums and Memorial Gifts received 12-31-05 to 3-31-06*

# Helping HANDS



The evening's silent auction featured festively packaged baskets and fun-filled vacations.



Alethea Victor, a Community Educator at The Center, sang the Star-Spangled Banner.

## CELEBRATING CELEBRATION OF SERVICE

On March 7, 2006, The Center paid tribute to five strong women as a way to raise funds to aid and support women and families finding the strength within to heal from domestic and sexual violence at the safe harbor of The Center for Women and Families.

Nearly 1,000 people attended the 19th Anniversary Celebration of Service, which raised more than \$150,000 to support shelter, therapy and programming to help survivors throughout our 14-county service area.

The Center thanks the event sponsors, committees and attendees for support of this important evening.



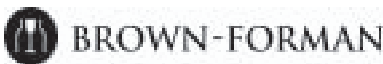
Kiffany Griffin, the evening's special guest speaker, shared her story of survival.

# Thank You!

**Flagship Sponsor: Bettie and Charlie Johnson**



Christi Lanier-Robins (right), Gabriela Alcalde (top) and Kay Vetter (bottom) were honored as Young Women of Distinction.



& more than 60 other corporate and individual sponsors.





**"My friends and I put together baskets to help The Center."**

## BASKET DONATIONS

It's easy to reach out and help women and children living or receiving services at The Center. Just get together a group of friends, colleagues or family members and choose a 'basket' theme like one of the following:

- **Self-Care items in a make-up caddy**
- **Entertainment items in a suitcase**
- **Household items in a bucket**
- **Baby items in a plastic bath tub**
- **Laundry items in a clothes basket**

Then, pick up items on your 'basket' list while you're out and about during the next couple of weeks. 'Baskets' can be delivered to any of The Center's locations throughout the 14-county service area. Contact Janet Sonner, Development Manager, at **502-581-7268** or **janet.sonner@cwfempower.org** for more information.

**PLEASE CONSIDER MAKING  
A FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTION TO THE CENTER  
BEFORE THE END OF OUR FISCAL YEAR ON JUNE 30.**

*A remittance envelope is enclosed in this magazine for your convenience.*

**VISIT US ONLINE AT: [www.thecenteronline.org](http://www.thecenteronline.org)**



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## 24 HOUR HOTLINES

**VICTIMS MAY CALL COLLECT OR TOLL FREE, 24 HOURS  
877.803.7577**

### DOMESTIC VIOLENCE & RAPE CRISIS

502.581.7222 or 812.944.6743  
502.581.7242 TDD

### ECONOMIC SUCCESS PROGRAM

502.581.7200

### KENTUCKY OFFICES:

#### LOUISVILLE-KENTUCKY CAMPUS

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#### SHELBYVILLE OFFICE

502.633.7800

#### MT. WASHINGTON OFFICE

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#### WEST LOUISVILLE CAMPUS

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