

2010 PEGASUS PARADE

The Center for Women and Families made our debut in the Kentucky Derby Festival Pegasus Parade! The squad was full of The Center's staff, volunteers, friends and family, and we got a boost from Children's Volunteer **Portia Steele** (who choreographed a dance routine for the occasion) with several New Albany High School and Silver Creek cheerleaders.



THE
CENTER
FOR
WOMEN
AND
FAMILIES

PO Box 2048
Louisville, KY 40201-2048



THE
CENTER
FOR
WOMEN
AND
FAMILIES

More Than a Shelter

SUMMER 2010 NEWSLETTER



Photo by Bill Sheets Photography

23rd Annual CELEBRATION OF SERVICE & SURVIVAL

Nearly 800 people attended our February 25 event and the evening would not have been possible without the generosity of our Kentuckiana community. Joined by The Center's President/CEO, Denise Vazquez Troutman (third from left) are the 2010 Women of Distinction: **Kathy Grubbs Clemons, Bonnie M. Brown, Amy Weston Roth, Judi C. Patton and M. Gabriela Alcalde.**

EVENT SPONSORS

Presenting Sponsor **NORTON WOMEN'S PAVILION**

Flagship Sponsor **BROWN-FORMAN**

President Sponsor **Kosovo Charities**

Production Sponsor **Insight**



We are **The Center.** The Center for Women and Families 2009 Report to the Community



The Center's Fiscal Year 2008-09 Annual Report features profiles of some of the many staff members who contribute what President/CEO Denise Vazquez Troutman calls "heart work," and it's a touching tribute to all they do. Visit our web site to download a copy: www.thecenteronline.org.

CONGRESSIONAL SUPPORT FOR DENIM DAY

3rd District Congressman **John Yarmuth** showed his support for survivors on The Center's third annual Denim Day during Sexual Assault Awareness Month. More than 5,000 people throughout Kentuckiana wore jeans or a denim ribbon to honor those affected by sexual violence.



WE LOVE OUR LEGAL VOLUNTEERS!

They support survivors of intimate partner abuse or sexual violence in district and warrant court, they staff The Center's office at the Domestic Violence Intake Center, and they provide ongoing help to our advocates. We couldn't do the work we do without our team of Legal Volunteers.

- | | |
|------------------|--------------------|
| Andrianna Boer | Greg Moore |
| Joyce Bosse | Jessica Mossholder |
| Rachael Brisbane | Jeanne Murrell |
| Shaunay Crane | Sharon Noble |
| Jan Fadel | Nancy Peppers |
| Janet Ford | Michael Puckett |
| Tiffany Funk | Megan Sullivan |
| Kimberly Gant | Mary Tansey |
| Naiesha Gray | Mary Ann Thoren |
| Erin Horan | Huong Tran |
| Linda Jasper | Michaela Vaillant |
| Melissa McShane | Melissa Weinstein |
| James Millstead | Barbara Wittebort |

Call (502) 581-7200 if you're interested in becoming a volunteer at The Center for Women and Families.

www.thecenteronline.org
24 Hour Toll-free Crisis Line: 877.803.7577

FIND US ON
Facebook, Twitter, Flickr and YouTube @thecenteronline



THE CENTER THANKS KENTUCKIANA AS 2009/10 FISCAL YEAR ENDS

Spotlight On: OUR LEGAL JUSTICE TEAM

NOTE FROM THE PRESIDENT/CEO



DENISE VAZQUEZ TROUTMAN
Photo by Dawghaus Photography

As our 2009-10 fiscal year comes to a close, I wanted to be sure I personally thanked you—our generous Kentuckiana community of donors and volunteers—for the unwavering support you show to The Center for Women and Families. Even during extraordinarily difficult economic times, you have continued to support The Center's mission to help victims of intimate partner abuse and sexual violence become survivors.

Several key aspects of our services come via The Center's Legal Justice Team and their partners throughout Kentucky and Southern Indiana. Our advocates accompany clients to court hearings, ride alongside police officers responding to domestic violence or sexual

assault calls and provide vital links to community resources.

We're spotlighting just a few successes in this issue of our newsletter but I invite you to schedule a tour of The Center and you'll learn so much more. Check our online calendar or our Facebook page for regular dates and times.

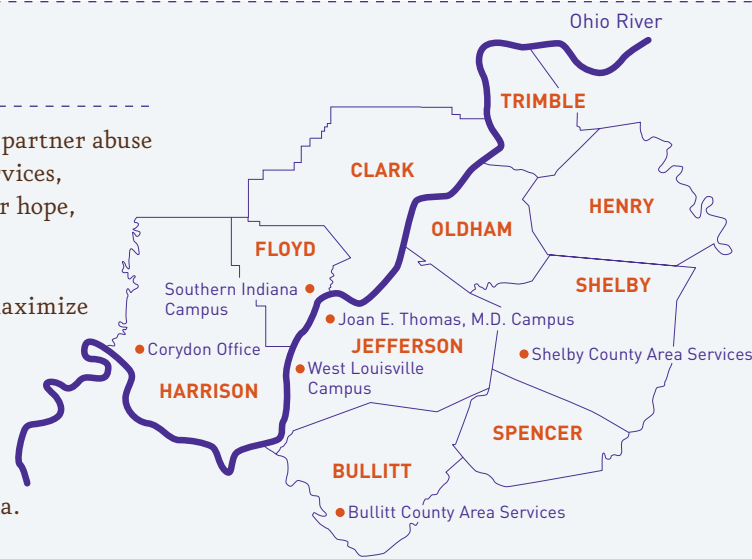
In peace,

P.S. I hope you enjoy our newsletter redesign! We decided to change the format in an ongoing effort to manage The Center's funds responsibly and also to be a bit more "green."

OUR SERVICE AREA

The Center for Women and Families helps victims of intimate partner abuse or sexual violence to become survivors through supportive services, community education and cooperative partnerships that foster hope, promote self-sufficiency and rebuild lives.

In order to provide effective advocacy and education and to maximize resources throughout Kentuckiana, our regional service area will change this summer. As of July 1, The Center will offer services in Bullitt, Henry, Jefferson, Oldham, Shelby, Spencer and Trimble counties in Kentucky; and Clark, Floyd and Harrison counties in Indiana. Our colleagues at Hoosier Hills PACT will continue providing services in Scott County, Indiana.



PARTNERSHIPS in the Community



Legal Justice Team Supervisor **Jamie Wyman** with UofL Law Clinic Director **Shelley Santry**. Since opening in 2008, the Clinic has offered domestic violence victims court representation under faculty supervision in a variety of courts.

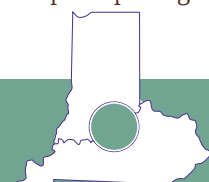
Innovative alliances are the hallmark of a community that is committed to seeing a day when intimate partner abuse and sexual violence no longer exist. The Center for Women and Families is dedicated to cultivating, building and sustaining these relationships with regional organizations and coalitions.

The Center's clients often find court representation from third-year law students practicing under faculty supervision at the **University of Louisville Law Clinic**. Students

handle Emergency Protective Order hearings, divorce actions and housing cases free of charge under the guidance of Director Shelley Santry.

At **New Albany Police Department**, The Center's Southern Indiana Legal Coordinator **Meredith Stevenson** has begun accompanying officers responding to reports of domestic violence or sexual assault. Along with our other advocates, Meredith is growing The Center's partnership in the region by alerting colleagues and community members of the vital role our services play throughout Kentuckiana.

Attorneys at **The Legal Aid Society** in downtown Louisville provide representation for survivors of domestic violence from start to finish, allowing for safety, efficiency and continuity of services. Though clients typically have to surpass 125% of the poverty level to qualify for services, a Metro United Way grant provides funds for all domestic violence survivors seeking representation. Legal Aid also offers regular *pro se* clinics where individuals get help completing legal paperwork, learn what to expect throughout the legal process and receive information about court costs.



DID YOU KNOW? The Center for Women and Families has about 200 active volunteers who bolster our staff by lending their time and talents in hospitals, childcare and in court? See the back cover for a full list of Legal Volunteers. We couldn't do it without them!



Judge Jerry Bowles, Jefferson Co. Circuit Court

"As a Family Court Judge, I've been trained to focus on relationship dynamics as an integral step in assessing danger for victims of intimate partner violence and sexual assault," explained Jefferson County Circuit Court **Judge Jerry Bowles**. "That expertise requires me to look beyond a single incident and consider other evidence that a general jurisdiction court might view as irrelevant, but which I know is critical to making decisions about safety."

Judge Bowles serves as the Chair of the Jefferson County Domestic Violence Prevention and Coordinating Council's Fatality Review Committee. He gives frequent domestic violence education trainings to prosecutors, police officers and fellow judges.



Tracey Leo Darbo, Family Law Unit attorney and Wyatt, Tarrant & Combs Fellow and **Lori Goodwin** of the Domestic Violence Advocacy Program work with a client on her case at the Legal Aid Society.

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE INTAKE CENTER Centralizes Services

Since opening in Fall 2009, the renovated Domestic Violence Intake Center (DVIC) at the Hall of Justice in Louisville has offered a central place for survivors seeking help. In a single location staffed by circuit court employees and the county attorney's office, individuals can file complaints or protective orders, speak to prosecutors about legal options, and safety plan with an on-site volunteer advocate from The Center for Women and Families. From there, safest next steps can be determined. The DVIC was conceived through a multi-pronged effort by Justice **Lisabeth Hughes Abramson**, County Attorney **Mike O'Connell** and County Circuit Court Clerk **David Nicholson** among many others in the community.

JOINING FORCES

Vince Robison, Lieutenant Colonel in the Louisville Metro Police Department and a member of The Center's Board of Directors, credits our advocates as having a vital role in the process when citizens report domestic violence or sexual assault.

Lt. Col. **Vince Robison** joined **Denise Vazquez Troutman** to recognize **Denim Day**. LMPD's entire on-duty force pinned denim ribbons on their uniforms **March 31, 2010**.



EVERY TRUE
strength

IS GAINED THROUGH STRUGGLE

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- Chair**
George Bell, III, *ORI (Office Resources, Inc.)*
- Chair Elect**
Debbie Murphy, *Healthcare Recoveries*
- Vice Chairs**
Toni Clem, *Creative Alliance*
Laurie Kemp, *Dinsmore & Shohl*
- Treasurer**
Lori Moore, *Strothman & Company*
- Secretary**
Natalie White, *Humana*
- Members-at-Large**
Nolen Allen, *Cotton & Allen, PSC*
Diane Everse, *Custom Solutions, Inc.*
Kim Tharp-Barrie, *Norton Healthcare*

- Directors**
Beth Andrews, *Hound and Hoof Photography*
Rebecca Brown, *Baptist Hospital East*
Barbara K. Dickens, *Louisville Water Company*
Marjorie Farris, *Stites & Harbison*
Scott Graff, *Churchill Downs*
Julie Hermann, *University of Louisville Athletics*
Henry L. Hensley, *Raymond James Financial Services*
Kristen A. Holt, *Frost Brown Todd LLC*
Rachel Horton, *Humana Inc.*
June Junikon Huggins, *Indiana University Southeast*
Ellie Kerstetter, *Ellie Kerstetter Attorney at Law*
Benjamin P. Marmor, *Brown-Forman*
Houston Mills, *United Parcel Service*
Shirley Rivoli, *Group Nine*
Lt. Col. Vince Robison, *LMPD*
Olu A. Stevens, *Jefferson County Circuit Judge*
Paul R. Surowiec, *General Electric*
Henry "Jay" Walter, MD, *Beargrass Medical Associates*
Joanne McCarten Weis, *Artist and Community Volunteer*
Casey C. Wilson, *Republic Bank & Trust Company*

- Emeritus**
Joan E. Thomas, M.D.
- Emeritus in Memorium**
Lewis Cole

We welcome your feedback. Questions or comments about *More Than a Shelter* can be directed to media@cwfempower.org or (502) 581-7261. Opt out of receiving the paper version of *More Than a Shelter* and receive an electronic version instead by emailing media@cwfempower.org.

SPOTLIGHT Legal Justice Team



The Center's Legal Justice team (top row, l to r): Meredith Stevenson, Lindsay Bostock, Ashley Haering, Leslie Manley, Robin Valenzuela, Melissa Paris and Annell Lough. (bottom row, l to r): Karen Daniel, Megan Richardson, Sharon Albert, Vickie Edmonds, Paul Troy and Jamie Wyman (standing).

Throughout our Kentuckiana service area The Center's Legal Justice Team offers key services to survivors of intimate partner abuse and sexual violence. They attend district and family court hearings to offer clients direct support, accompany police officers responding to calls in Louisville and Southern Indiana, and follow up with survivors after domestic violence or sexual assault has been reported. Our advocates also engage folks working in courthouses, police departments and law offices to offer information about The Center's legal services. Educating community members about issues victims face is often a large part of the job and can be key to helping clients navigate services. In both Kentucky and Southern Indiana, the work the Legal Justice Team performs is another reminder that The Center continues to be much more than a shelter.

SAFETY + SUPPORT

The Center's six Louisville Metro Advocates are uniquely situated to support survivors since they split their time between offices at the Joan E. Thomas, M.D. Campus and at their respective LMPD divisions. The federal Violence Against Women Act authorized a program called **Grants to Encourage Arrest**, providing funding to support these positions. This affords a close working relationship with detectives in each division and means our advocates are effectively embedded throughout the Louisville Metro districts.



Metro Advocate Paul Troy nearly takes flight with the winning balloon he and the Legal team made for The Center's Derby week celebration.

ON THE COVER: President/CEO Denise Vazquez Troutman, outfitted with a "Thank You" sign for our supportive community, led a squad of The Center's staff and volunteers in the 2010 Pegasus Parade during Kentucky Derby Festival. Team members got plenty of appreciative cheers from the crowd along the route. [Visit our Facebook page to see a photo gallery.](#)