



THE
CENTER
FOR
WOMEN
AND
FAMILIES

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More Than a Shelter

FALL 2010 NEWSLETTER

The Center for Women and Families

Helping Victims Become Survivors for Nearly 100 Years

KENTUCKIANA PRIDE FESTIVAL

A team of The Center's staff, volunteers and community allies walked in this summer's Kentuckiana Pride Parade, an annual event culminating in a week-end-long festival at the Belvedere in downtown Louisville. Our participation was intended to show support for our constituents who identify as gay, lesbian, bisexual or transgender, and to bring further awareness of The Center's services to Kentuckiana's LGBTQ community.

DRIVE TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE

The Center's Director of Community Engagement, **Steven Bowling**, poses with **Debbie Hannan**, Director of Marketing for **R&R Limousine** at the tailgate-themed 2010 Garage Gala. Debbie handled planning and coordination for R&R's 3rd annual party, and all of the proceeds from the event were once again donated to The Center.



PEACE BEGINS AT HOME

Denise Vazquez Troutman (left), President/CEO of The Center for Women and Families posed with Executive Director of the Kentucky Domestic Violence Association, **Sharon Currens**, and State Rep. **Joni Jenkins**. They gathered for a reception to honor Jenkins, a recipient of the 2010 "I Am Committed to Peace in Kentucky Homes" award.

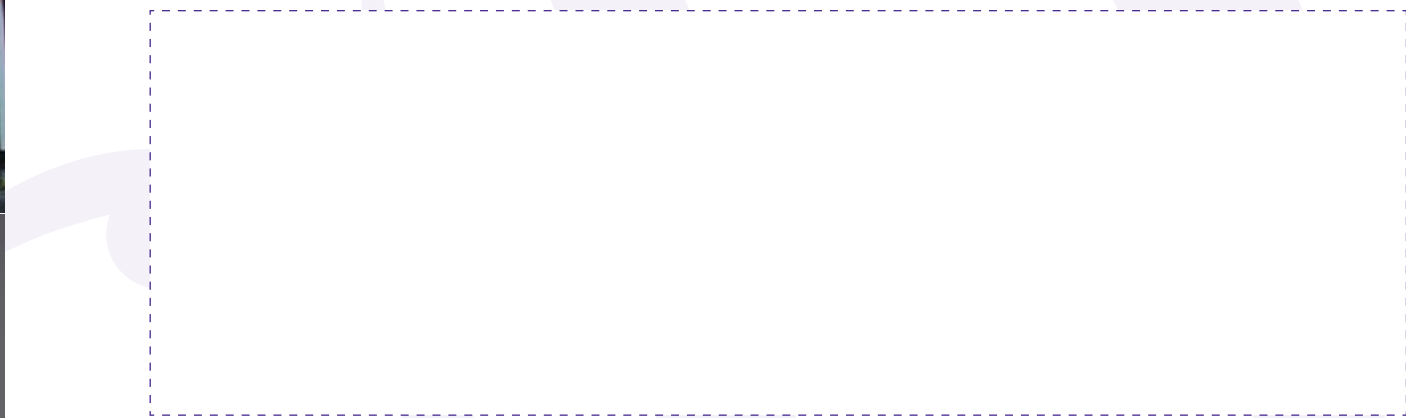


WE PICKED UP THE PACE

The Center was one of 13 beneficiary partners at the **Norton Women's Pavilion Champions4Her Walk, Run & Festival** on June 19. A few members of our team posed with friends and families and were thrilled to be presented with a check for more than \$16,000.

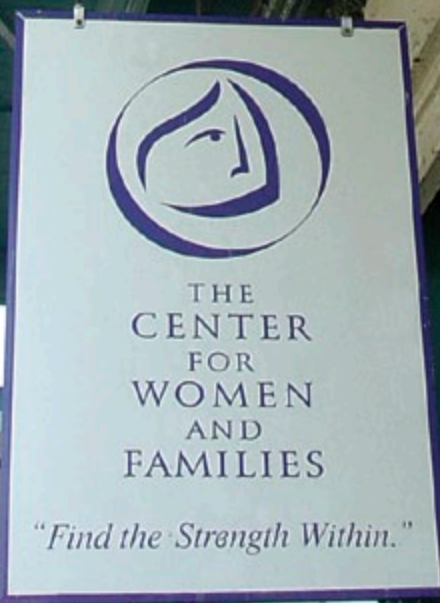
BofA GIVES AN ABC

A group of **Bank of America** employees dropped off donations from a huge back to school drive. They presented our clients with a downright impressive amount of supplies for the new school year—the results of a bit of friendly competition at their corporate offices!



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

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WE'RE SO MUCH MORE THAN A SHELTER

The Center's residential facilities provide safe, temporary haven for survivors of sexual assault or domestic violence, but we also offer a variety of assistance to individuals and families who don't actually live in our shelter. We refer to these as "non-residential" services. Advocates provide support at area hospitals or during court proceedings, and Crisis Counselors are available 24 hours a day. Survivors of sexual assault may visit our Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner (SANE) Clinic for an exam or information. And our therapists treat survivors days, weeks, months or even years after the abuse or assault has happened.

Pictured: The sign outside of our Shelbyville Office, which serves Shelby, Henry, Oldham, Trimble and Spencer counties in Kentucky.

Call (502) 581-7230 if you're interested in becoming a volunteer.



Spotlight On PREVENTION

NOTE FROM THE PRESIDENT/CEO



DENISE VAZQUEZ TROUTMAN
Photo by Dawghaus Photography

As summer cools into fall it seems like the perfect time to highlight some innovative and energizing efforts led by our Community Education & Training team here at The Center for Women and Families. Much of this work revolves around preventing violence before it ever happens, and involving our community in practicing *bystander intervention*. In simple terms, bystander intervention means stepping up if you hear a friend make a rape joke, see someone treat their date inappropriately or have a family member in an unhealthy relationship. We all have a role in stopping intimate partner abuse and sexual violence in our schools, homes and neighborhoods.

Experts—including our Community Educators—know that prevention is the only way to eliminate domestic violence and sexual assault. Effective

prevention programming often requires multiple training sessions and the Education team often uses curriculum and materials developed right here at The Center.

We remain committed to a balance of prevention and intervention until The Center's crisis lines stop ringing, until our shelter is empty, until we no longer find sexual violence and intimate partner abuse in our homes, hospitals and courtrooms. We are so grateful for community members like you who also remain committed to our mission—we couldn't do it without your continued support. **Thank you.**

SPOTLIGHT ON PREVENTION



The Center's Community Education Team
(l to r): Jessy Haywood, Loren Droege, Rebecca Metcalf and Amanda Houpt. For more information or to schedule a trainer, contact Jessy Haywood at (502) 753-3202 or jessy.haywood@cwfempower.org.

In August, JoAnn Rowan retired from The Center after 25 years of employment. Though she was most recently part of the Community Education team, she had also been a Family Advocate and supervisor during her long tenure. JoAnn's calm demeanor and wisdom will be missed by clients and fellow staff alike.

The very first step toward mobilizing a community around ending violence is creating awareness about the issue. At The Center for Women and Families, our Community Educators drive all over our ten county service area doing just that. But once we've raised awareness about intimate partner abuse and sexual assault, our job is to bolster the community's skills and knowledge about how to prevent it from happening in the first place. Whether your school or workplace needs a program that empowers bystanders by giving them valuable intervention skills or you're seeking a program that looks at a spectrum of violence in the lives of young people, our Community Education team has a program for you.

WHAT'S A GREEN DOT?

Visualize for a moment that unforgettable image of small red dots spreading across a computer generated map of the United States, symbolizing the spread of some terrible epidemic. With disturbing speed, the three or four single dots multiply and spread until the whole map emits a red glow comprised of a zillion tiny dots.

Imagine a map of Kentucky or Indiana filled with red dots. Each red dot on the map represents an act of dating violence, intimate partner abuse or sexual assault, or a choice to tolerate or justify this violence.

What if we created just as many green dots? A green dot is any behavior, choice, word or attitude that promotes safety for everyone and communicates utter intolerance for violence. Visualize green dots spreading just as quickly as the red dots once did. And so it begins...



SO, WHAT'S YOUR GREEN DOT?

Become a Green Dot school, office, coffee shop or retail space!

Call Amanda at (502) 581.7239 for more information.

FROM GARDEN TO TABLE

Top: The Center for Women and Families Kitchen Assistant **Jennifer Judd** is joined by a **Sierra Club** volunteer at The Center's raised garden beds. The five beds were constructed and planted by several Sierra Club members and have been brimming with herbs and vegetables like squash, tomatoes and kale at the Joan E. Thomas, M.D. Campus.

Bottom: **AARP** Volunteer Kitchen Aide **Margo Patterson** washes greens culled from the garden. The beds are located right outside of the food preparation area, so kitchen assistants visit daily to pluck what they can feature in freshly prepared lunches and dinners for The Center's residents.



COMMUNITY PARTNERS in Prevention and Education



Rus Funk, Executive Director of **MensWork**, paused during a meeting with Community Education team members **Jessy Haywood** and **Amanda Houpt** at a local coffee shop. MensWork is a collective of men working to educate, mobilize and organize men to prevent all forms of sexual and domestic violence and The Center is fortunate to have them as frequent collaborators.

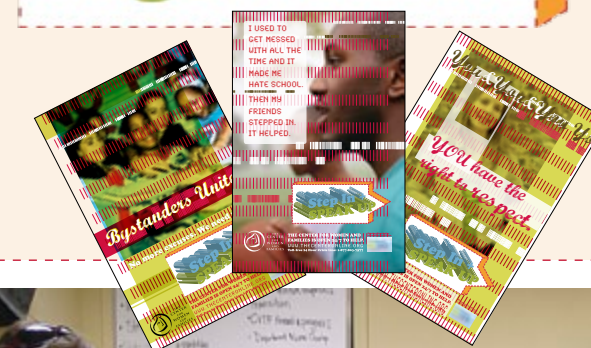
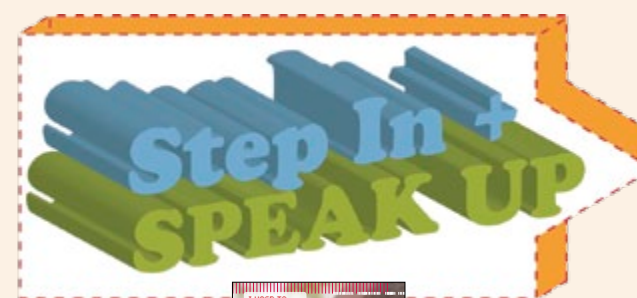
One in four teens report being a victim of verbal, emotional, physical, or sexual abuse within a dating relationship each year. The Center for Women and Families and **Jewish Hospital & St. Mary's Foundation (JHSMH)** have received a second year of funding from **Catholic Health Initiatives** to continue facilitating the **Coalition to Prevent Teen Dating Violence**, a group of our community's policy-makers directly invested in the welfare of teens.



JHSMH operates **Children's Peace Center at Our Lady of Peace**, the state's largest provider of behavioral health care to children and adolescents. "Each year, Our Lady of Peace serves more than 2,000 kids, most caught in a cycle of violence, abuse and neglect," said **Tom Gessel**, JHSMH senior vice president. "This grant focuses on the primary prevention of teen dating and sexual violence, addressing the problem in schools and in families before youth become victims or perpetrators."

Ultimately, the Coalition to Prevent Teen Dating Violence is helping to create a groundbreaking vision for Louisville in which teen dating violence is no longer a part of the social landscape.

STEP IN + SPEAK UP Empowering Bystanders



The Center's Community Education team offers an innovative project that's currently being presented to schools in our community. In collaboration with local filmmaker Pam Swisher and with help from talented actors at duPont Manual's Youth Performing Arts School, we've created *Step In+Speak Up*. It's a video, accompanying curriculum and poster series—three posters shown below—that aims to prevent seeds of violence from sprouting well before students enter high school. Based on the bystander intervention model of bullying prevention, the program helps participants develop practical solutions based on real experiences in their schools and communities. Contact Jessy Haywood at jessy.haywood@cwfempower.org or (502) 753-3202 to learn more about Step In+Speak Up.



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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.

DOES YOUR DOCTOR ASK ABOUT PARTNER VIOLENCE?

Gabriela Alcalde, the State Director for **Kentucky Health Justice Network** meets with Jessy Haywood, The Center's Supervisor of Community Education & Training. They were discussing prevention efforts including **Health Cares About Domestic Violence Day**, a national awareness event dedicated to educating healthcare providers about the importance of assessing their patients for intimate partner abuse. This year, *Health Cares About Domestic Violence Day* is Wednesday, October 13, 2010. Contact Jessy for more information about how to get involved: (502) 753-3202 or jessy.haywood@cwfempower.org.

UoFL COACH CHARLIE STRONG BRINGS PREVENTION TO THE TEAM

Louisville Metro Legal Advocate **Paul Troy** recently co-facilitated a conversation about healthy relationships and domestic violence prevention with the University of Louisville football team. Paul was joined by **Shawn Gardner**, founder of **2NOT1**, a nonprofit organization which advocates the importance of fatherhood and healthy families. UofL Coach **Charlie Strong** is an avid proponent of intimate partner violence prevention, and has let his players know that perpetrating partner violence warrants ejection from the squad.

Photo ©University of Louisville



ON THE COVER: The Center's Prevention Coordinator, Amanda Houpt, leads members of the Coalition to Prevent Teen Dating Violence in developing vision and mission statements. The Coalition is comprised of a diverse group of community members, all with the impassioned goals of determining a plan to prevent teen dating violence and measuring our area's assets around this issue.



DID YOU KNOW? October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month. Our staff and volunteers take these weeks to continue the work of letting our community know about the prevalence of intimate partner abuse—there's still plenty of awareness raising to be done! Visit www.thecenteronline.org to find out about events happening throughout the month.