



Survivors, Inc.

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Spring 2010

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Thoughts from the Executive Director

I recently had a moment of reflection. It had been a busy week on all fronts, and I was trying to catch up on some essential agency work from my home office. As I worked, I realized that many do not have a home that is peaceful, restful and a space that allows one to move their life goals forward. The need for safety is essential, and it should be an unshakeable foundation of our society, not a luxury for some. Think if there was a disease that harmed 1 in 3 women in their lifetime... wouldn't everyone work to ensure that it was eradicated?

Sadly, there is such a 'disease' ... it is called domestic and sexual violence. Home - where you would expect that most folks go to recharge, rest, and experience what is nearest and dearest to them. Home - a place that is often one of unspeakable terror, unthinkable acts and continuing cycles of dominance and control. Children hide in their beds, hoping that 'it' will not happen again tonight. Mothers attempt to do everything 'right' to avoid the inevitable- not realizing that no matter what they do, the abuser will choose to utilize power, control and violence as he alone deems necessary. The economy and other related issues ensure that the tensions within an abusive home continue to build, and the escalation cycle continues.

It would be easy to see the struggle against domestic violence and sexual assault as a problem that is terrible but, unfortunately, too large to tackle. The problem is huge and it is daunting. But we can work to eradicate interpersonal violence, and it takes a personal pledge to not be silent, to actively challenge the sense of entitlement that allows some to so heartlessly abuse those they should cherish most. Survivors, Inc. housed 585 women and their children at Claudia House last year, and provided 123 men, women and children with services to help them begin to heal from sexual abuse. Just this month (and without additional funding), Survivors, Inc. added additional beds to the Claudia House Shelter to better meet the increasing demand for shelter. This fiscal year began with a budget crisis that threatened the agency's 27 year existence, and the funding outlook for the next few years reflects significant decrease in funding over the long term. To continue to provide the high level of service that has been the benchmark of Survivors, Inc. over the past few years, the support of the community is urgently needed. How can you help? Donate to, be a sponsor of, advertise, or attend one of Survivors Inc.'s fundraisers- Clean Out Your Closets III or A Taste of Summer. Participate



Terri Hamrick, Executive Director, can be reached at 334-0589 ext 104 or via email at terri@survivorservices.org.

actively in awareness month activities such as Sexual Assault Awareness Month in April. Give freely of your time, talents, or financial resources to help those who need a fresh start- one free of violence.

Will you be someone who helps Survivors, Inc. help those seeking our services to free themselves of the pain of domestic violence and/or sexual assault? We can make a difference ... one person at a time.

Join us for our Spring awareness and fundraising events!

Advocate Spotlight!

For this edition of the *Advocate Spotlight*, we asked one of our employees to describe how their past experience has helped them in their work as an advocate. We also wanted to know what new perspective they have gained since working at Survivors, Inc. Kate Harmon is the new facilitator of our weekly support group for survivors of domestic violence and sexual assault. This is what Kate had to say about her experience working in advocacy and how it has related to her other job as a reporter for the Hanover newspaper, The Evening Sun:

“Coming from a newspaper to a domestic violence shelter, many would experience somewhat of a culture shock. But having worked the police and court beats at various newspapers for the past several years, I knew what I'd be coming into.

Much like the police beat, working in a shelter has its stresses and difficulties when you deal with other people's pain, but in taking on the responsibility of the weekly support group, I've found a way to channel that into something I think really brings results.

As a staff member, you can help a client come to the conclusion about what may be best for them, but in a support group setting, other women who have been where they are can offer more candid advice. I've seen women take that advice much easier than when it comes from a talk with a staff member. At times I can just sit back and watch them help each other, and those moments where you can see a light bulb illuminate over a client's head, it makes working 7 days a week at two stressful jobs completely worth it.”

Current Job Openings

Open positions-Full Time Client Services Specialist

Part Time Client Services Specialist

Full Time Community Education Specialist

Are you someone who has a passion for social justice and feels strongly that injustice anywhere threatens justice everywhere? Would you like to work for a dynamic, feminist organization that provides services to those impacted by intimate violence? Are you in the Gettysburg area, have a valid driver's license and have legal, safe and reliable transportation? Are you able to work a flexible schedule (including on-call expectations)? Then a position at Survivors, Inc. might be what you are looking for! We are looking for folks that have a true passion for client focused and centered service and a Childline clearance/background check to provide domestic violence and sexual assault services to those impacted in the Adams County area. A bachelor's degree in human services and English/Spanish bilingual skills preferred/strongly recommended.

Salary Range for Client Services Specialist position: \$22,800-\$23,920 annually based upon education and relevant experience. Salary Range for Community Education Specialist: \$22,800-\$24,960 annually based upon education and relevant experience. Competitive benefits package.

Please send both a cover letter and resume to Survivors, Inc, PO Box 3572, Gettysburg, PA 17325. Incomplete applications will not be accepted. *No calls please.* EOE.

IT'S CCA TIME AGAIN!!!

Help Survivors, Inc. sprint to the finish line! We only have 2 months left to complete our goal and, with your help, we can accomplish this task- but we need you to save those receipts!!! Not only will you be helping out our organization, you will be supporting our local businesses.



Many of you know that Community Club Awards (CCA) was a staple on 1320 WGET for 23 years. In those years, the station, along with the generosity of hundreds of business sponsors, was able to give back nearly \$350,000 to local community non-profit organizations.

Survivors, Inc. is still participating in this wonderful program, but the rules have changed slightly. While we are still collecting your receipts from participating sponsors, WGET has decided to no longer collect any newspaper cut-outs (stars, logos, etc.) to accumulate points. All points are derived from sales receipts only. For more information on CCA and a list of its sponsors, please visit them online at www.wget.com/cca **SAVE YOUR RECEIPTS!!!** We will need them by the 29th of every month until May 14, 2010 - feel free to mail them to or drop them off at our administrative office located at 233 West High Street, Gettysburg, PA 17325 . Please call us at 717-334-0589 if you have any questions.



Thank you!

Each October, we at Survivors, Inc., along with many other domestic violence resource centers throughout the country, use a powerful display called *Silent Witness*. This display consists of life-size figures painted red and black. When displayed, each figure has information attached to it which informs passers by about state domestic violence homicide statistics or about a specific incident which occurred locally. Most who see the display comment that the statistics surprise them. Many also note that the figures of household pets made them aware that abusers often target a victim's pet- a fact that many do not realize.

Our older *Silent Witness* displays, which were made of cardboard, were getting a little run down. We approached the local high school to see if there was any interest in creating new, sturdier figures for us. Stanley Licharowicz, of Gettysburg Area High School, did not hesitate to help us. Last month Stanley gave us a call saying the figures were ready. We could not be more happy with their quality! These will last and help us to raise awareness for years to come.



Students Ronald Glass, Taylor McDannell, Jose Mendez, and Christopher Newman made these displays during their Building Trades and Construction class at Gettysburg Area High School. These displays are used during Domestic Violence awareness events. A special thank you to Stanley Licharowicz, a teacher in the Technology Education Department, who allowed his students to use class time to create these displays for us.

Mark Your Calendars!

You're Invited...



A TASTE OF *Summer*

April 30, 2010

Shake off your cabin fever by enjoying a spring evening with heavy hors d'oeuvres, wine, silent and live auctions, and live soft jazz to benefit Survivors, Inc. A large range of items will be auctioned including art, jewelry, and travel packages. We are currently accepting donations for these auctions. If you are interested in donating, or would like to volunteer your time to assist in preparation for and cleanup after this event, please contact Terri Hamrick, information below.

This second annual *Taste of Summer* event will, once again, take place at the Wyndham Hotel of Gettysburg. The event begins at 6pm on April 30. For more information contact Terri Hamrick, our Executive Director, who can be reached at 717-334-0589 ext 104 or via email at **terri@survivorsservices.org**.



An Evening of...

Fine Food & Wine

Live Soft Jazz

Auctioning of Fine Art & Travel

...All for a Good Cause!

RSVP by April 15, 2010

Upcoming Awareness Events!



Join us this Spring!



Survivors, Inc. is excited to invite our community to celebrate Sexual Assault Awareness Month this April. In addition to our annual spring fund raising efforts, Survivors, Inc. will also be organizing, co-organizing, and promoting several events to bring attention to the issues surrounding sexual assault. *Take Back The Night* is an internationally celebrated event which traditionally has taken place on college campuses. This year's rally will take place on April 15th from 6-8pm on the campus of Gettysburg College. We are always looking for individuals interested in volunteering, if you are interested contact us. The most important thing you can do is tell your friends and family, and show up to support this event!

Keep an eye out this April!

Since 1983, April has been nationally recognized as Child Abuse Prevention Month. Keep an eye out for Pinwheels Against Child Abuse displays put out by the Child Abuse Task Force, a part of Healthy Adams County. Also, throughout the community you may see teal ribbons, like the one on the top right of this page. These ribbons are nationally displayed to bring awareness to issues surrounding Sexual Assault. If you see a display that says "Take One", do it! Show your support for survivors!



Want to know what else is going on at Survivors, Inc.?

We have recently added a new Events Calendar to our website. Here you can find details about upcoming events that Survivors, Inc has organized or will be taking part in. Volunteer opportunities are also displayed on our new calendar. If you have an event which you would like us to participate in- let us know! If you have an event that promotes non-violence and you would like us to add it to our calendar- let us know! Find it under the News/Events tab on our website, at:

www.adamscountysurvivors.com

3rd Annual

CLEAN OUT YOUR CLOSETS SALE



Have you lost a few pounds? Are you inspired by all those shows on TV that show you how to reduce clutter in your closet? Do you have clothes that you haven't worn for ages and don't fit anyway? Well, Spring is a great time to finally go through your closets and GET RID OF THAT STUFF!

Battlefield Harley-Davidson is now accepting nearly new and gently used clothing for the entire family for the Third Annual Clean Out Your Closets Sale to benefit Survivors, Inc. on April 10th and 11th.

Here's how you can help: Bring your nearly new or gently worn clothing to the dealership anytime from March 8, 2010 through April 9th. Only items that are clean and in good condition will be accepted. All items should be folded or placed on wire hangers. You will receive a donation receipt for the items that you drop off.

Please note: No toys, household items or appliances will be accepted.

WHERE? The Warehouse behind Battlefield Harley Davidson!

WHEN? 10am–5pm on Saturday, April 10th, 2010

& 10am– 4pm on Sunday, April 11th, 2010

All unsold items will be donated to the Adams County United Way and the Adams County Rescue Mission.



2008—A Year In Review

The Pennsylvania Coalition Against Domestic Violence recently published the *2008 Domestic Violence Fatality Report*. This comprehensive report gives detailed information on all 147 domestic violence related deaths which occurred in Pennsylvania in 2008. It also tells us the end of year statistics, breaking down the victims by age, gender, relationship to perpetrator, and method by which they were killed. A complete copy of this report can be found on the Coalition Against Domestic Violence's website: www.pcadv.org

Here is some of the data from 2008:

- The victims came from all generations— the youngest was 2 months old, and the oldest was an 85 year old woman
- 147 individuals died in domestic violence related homicides
 - 110 were victims
 - 35 were perpetrators who committed suicide
 - 1 was a perpetrator killed in self-defense
 - 1 was a intervener killed by a perpetrator
- There were 112 perpetrators in these crimes
 - 99 males
 - 13 females
- 56.4% of victims were shot by their perpetrators
- At least 35 minor children witnessed a domestic violence related fatality

Knowledge is the key to changing these trends...

Survivors would like to remind community stakeholders of the services available through our Community Education Department. Though the above statistics are shocking, we are strong believers in prevention education as a tool to change societal trends. We also believe that the learning process never stops and are available to speak to a wide range of groups. Here are some examples of the services we can provide to your organization...

Schools / Youth Groups:

- *"Ten Things To Do Instead of Hitting" Violence prevention lesson*
- *"Gum In My Hair" An anti-bullying course*
- *"Safe Touch" A boundary teaching curriculum*

Community Groups:

- *Informational booths for your fairs*
- *Presentations on recognizing & responding to violent crimes*

Professionals:

- *Informational booths at your employee events*
- *Presentations to staff*
- *Resources such as posters & pamphlets for public places*

Survivors, Inc.
Post Office Box 3572
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SURVIVORS, INC.
HOTLINE
1-800-787-8106
717-334-9777

Staffed by trained
Survivors, Inc. advocates
24 hours, 7 days per week,
365 days a year.

Visit us on the web!

Our website-
www.adamscountysurvivors.com

Facebook-
[www.facebook.com/
SurvivorAdams](http://www.facebook.com/SurvivorAdams)

MySpace-
www.myspace.com/survivorsinc1

Twitter-
[www.twitter.com/SurvivorsInc#/
SurvivorsInc](http://www.twitter.com/SurvivorsInc#/SurvivorsInc)

Survivors supports those who experience domestic violence
or sexual assault and strives to create a world in which
violence against women and children is unthinkable.

Nonprofit
Organization
US Postage Paid
Gettysburg, PA
17325
Permit No. 56

Donations are welcomed by Visa/MasterCard or check made payable to Survivors, Inc.: _____ \$25 _____ \$50 _____ Other

Name (as it appears on card) _____

Billing Address _____

Credit Card Number _____ Expiration Date _____

The official registration and financial information of Survivors, Inc. may be obtained from the Pennsylvania Department of State by calling toll free (800)732-0999. Registration does not imply endorsement. Our registration number is 3789.

HELP UPDATE OUR MAILING LIST: If you no longer wish to receive our newsletter, or if this newsletter is coming to your residence but not to an addressee currently living there, please let us know by calling our administrative office at 717-334-0589. Thank you for your help!