

Standing Strong: A Story of Hope

"Four years ago, I separated from my husband, and a very bad situation. For the last four years, I have moved around to avoid him. I have feared him. I couldn't go to my family because he threatened them. I lost my friends because he turned them against me by lying so he wouldn't look bad. I couldn't tell new friends that I've made because of my embarrassment. People looked down on us if they knew our story, unless they have either gone through it themselves or understand the scope of what this situation does to us. The only ties of comfort and hospitality that I have felt over the last four years have been the women's shelters, like Christine Ann, that I encountered. Only someone in this situation could possibly know how much people like me need organizations like yours. Thank you for allowing me to continue on with my life. Thank you for giving me my smile back! I no longer feel like a sobbing weakling that can't do anything by herself! I can do it. I have done it with your help."

— Christine Ann Domestic Abuse Survivor

ANNUAL MEETING RECAP

Annual Meeting Celebrates Hope to Empowerment

On May 2, Christine Ann supporters gathered to celebrate the hope of survivors when they finally seek help, and the empowerment the agency strives to instill in them through its programs and services. The memorable evening featured guest speaker Lauren Cook, Fox 11 news reporter, who shared her journey from an abusive relationship to the moment she would say, "I know my worth."

We also celebrated the accomplishments of Herb Henne, recipient of Christine Ann's Volunteer of the Year award. Herb's enduring dedication and compassion contribute to the protective, healing environment that women and children experience at the shelter.

Christine Ann's first annual Spreading Hope Award was presented to Julie and Michael Waite. The Waites have spread hope to victims of domestic violence and made the work of Christine Ann possible through their generous donations of financial and in-kind gifts, in addition to their time and talents. Thanks once again to these special individuals, and to all our supporters, who help us to spread hope and empower victims of abuse in our community.



Julie and Michael Waite receive Christine Ann's first annual Spreading Hope Award from Executive Director Julie Fevola.



Herb Henne, Volunteer of the Year, celebrates with Facilities Manager, Jacki Kossik.

NOTES FROM GREEN LAKE COUNTY

Project Independence Contributed by Lorri Bohn, Green Lake County Coordinator

Independence Day will come early for some families affected by domestic violence, thanks to a Department of Justice project grant awarded to Christine Ann Domestic Abuse Services in collaboration with ADVOCAP, Inc. The aptly named Project Independence aims to empower rural families struggling with the devastation of abuse. Twenty-two families residing in Green Lake County will be empowered with stable housing, occupational education, transportation assistance, child care, and more. To date, five families have benefited from the project.

Participants in Project Independence, and others who are beginning to seek help, experience a "journey inward" as they seek freedom from abuse. The journey is not simply a matter of "getting over it" or "growing up." Many victims discover for the first time their true identity and value. Christine Ann has developed "Journeying Inward," a support group to guide and nurture victims. The group will offer activities such as yoga, drumming and other expressive arts. The program is made possible by a grant from the Lucille M. Grams Fund at the Green Lake County/Ripon Community Foundation.

For more information on Project Independence or "Journeying Inward," contact Lorri at 920-294-4131 or 800-261-5998.



IN MEMORY OF JASPER

On January 21, 2007, Jasper Butzlaff was tragically killed in a car accident at the age of five. Family and friends were asked to bring new toys instead of flowers to his funeral for distribution to children in need. Christine Ann was humbled to be one of the recipients. The family's caring and generosity in their own time of loss is a testament to the strength of the human spirit. Jasper, your toys have brought joy to many children who have faced a lot of sadness in their young lives. Your smile and laughter live on in the children staying at the Christine Ann Center.

HELP IS HERE FUND

Christine Ann Domestic Abuse Services relies on the generosity of the community to meet basic needs including bedding, toiletries, clothing, food and other day-to-day items. But, at times, the agency faces unforeseen needs.

Last fall, a woman sought shelter after leaving her abusive husband. She finally seized the courage to leave, and she simply wanted to return to her family in Ohio. She didn't want advocacy, support groups, or community resources. Her need was a one-way bus ticket. Staff made phone calls; a bus was leaving at 9:00 the next morning. The \$86 dollar bus fare stood in the way of this woman's freedom from abuse and her hope for a better life. It was literally the price of freedom. She didn't have a suitcase, or clothes to put in a suitcase, and she certainly didn't have the money. Christine Ann came up with bus fare, clothes, a suitcase, and snacks for the trip, and gave her a ride to the bus station. The staff thanked her for seeking the agency's help and wished her well.

This unanticipated need prompted the creation of Christine Ann's Help Is Here Fund. A long-time supporter generously gave the first \$100; this initial gift created a fund to help women whose needs we cannot anticipate, but for whom a small amount of money can make a life-changing difference. To contribute, please mark your donation for the Help Is Here Fund, and Christine Ann will make sure that the money is used for these very special circumstances.

LEAVE A LEGACY

2 Easy Ways You Can Leave a Legacy to Christine Ann:

- Include Christine Ann Domestic Abuse Services in your will or trust.
- Include a modest percentage to Christine Ann Domestic Abuse Services on your retirement plan's Beneficiary Designation Form.

Please contact us or your advisor about other ways to create a legacy of your own design and choosing that will benefit both you and the agency for years to come.

DONOR SPOTLIGHT

Christine Ann was thrilled to celebrate with Verizon Wireless the Grand Opening of its first Communications Store in Oshkosh in April. In conjunction with the Grand Opening, Verizon Wireless presented Christine Ann with a check for \$1,500 to benefit the agency's mission. In addition, Verizon Wireless launched an initiative to further benefit the agency by asking Oshkosh residents and businesses to donate no-longer-used wireless handsets and accessories to the company's award-winning HopeLine® program. For every handset collected at the Oshkosh store from April 19 to May 31, Verizon Wireless will contribute \$1 to Christine Ann.

Verizon also demonstrates a strong commitment with its "Domestic Violence Prevention" program, which aims to "raise public awareness about the quiet epidemic; working in partnership with nonprofits to help prevent domestic violence and help victims." Thank you, Verizon, for all you do to help domestic violence victims in our community!



Deborah Skowronski, Christine Ann's Fund Development Manager, accepts a generous donation from Verizon Wireless in Oshkosh.

FUNDING HIGHLIGHTS

Christine Ann Domestic Abuse Services is proud to announce the following grants received from January 1 to April 30, 2007:

Alliant Energy Foundation
Aurora Foundation
Condon Oil Company
Green Lake County/Ripon Community Foundation
Neenah City Block Grant
Oshkosh Area Community Foundation, Community Impact Grant
Oshkosh City Block Grant
Peace Lutheran Church
Roundy's Foundation
Jane and Tad Shepard Family Foundation
Wal-Mart
Women's Fund of the Oshkosh Area Community Foundation
WPS Resources Foundation

We are also proud to be a partner agency with the Oshkosh Area United Way and United Way Fox Cities and wish to thank them for their continuing support

NEW FOX CITIES LOCATION

In order to serve our Fox Cities clients better, our office in Neenah will be moving. Effective August 1st our new address will be:

1488 Kenwood Center, Menasha (off 441 and Midway Road)
Our phone number will remain the same.



P.O. Box 99
Neenah, WI 54957-0099

Oshkosh:
206 Algoma Blvd.
Oshkosh, WI 54901
920.235.5998

Neenah:
1215 Doctors Drive
Neenah, WI 54956
920.729.5727

Green Lake:
500 Lake Steel Street
Green Lake, WI 54941
920.294.4131



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NEWSLETTER

New Beginnings



FROM THE DIRECTOR'S DESK

Voices of Men

Christine Ann Domestic Abuse Services was honored to partner with sister domestic violence and sexual assault agencies to bring nationally acclaimed *Voices of Men* to the community in April. Actor Ben Atherton-Zeman, the play's "one-man show," used humor and celebrity voice impressions to raise awareness of the issue and emphasize men's critical role in ending violence against women. The performance reached more than 1,800 high school students and 150 community members over two days. Led by Ben, many men and boys pledged to do their part in ending violence against women. Ben also provided training to staff of collaborating agencies, focusing on providing more effective school presentations, and teaching the steps needed to get more men involved. Bringing Ben to the area helps achieve the first step in this process — raising awareness.

The next step is to encourage men and boys in the community to continue their involvement in ending gender-based violence. Possible future endeavors include:

- Ongoing communication
- Focus groups
- Community events by and for men

The direction of this initiative will largely be left in the hands of men in leadership roles who step forward and get involved.

Enclosed with this newsletter is information on our largest fundraiser, "Men Who Cook for Christine Ann." In addition to using their voices, these men will use their cooking talents to take a stand against violence. We are grateful to all the men who have served the agency, and we invite those who want to raise their voice or show off their culinary skills to join us. We can't do this important work without everyone's support.

As we contemplate violence around us, whether national tragedies like the Virginia Tech shootings or local stories of women and children who are abused in their homes by someone they love, we know that Christine Ann's work is paramount in creating a healthy future for the community.

Julie Fevola

Julie Fevola
Executive Director

Join us for

**MEN WHO COOK
FOR CHRISTINE ANN**

June 23, 2007.
6:00 – 10:00 P.M.
Reeve Memorial Union,
UW-Oshkosh
Call for tickets
920-729-5727



PS: Notice the new look?

Thanks to the generosity of Directions in Neenah, we are giving ourselves a makeover, updating our logo and colors to better reflect the hope that we strive to instill in our clients at Christine Ann. While our look is changing, our commitment remains constant — to provide hope and healing to all victims of domestic abuse.

24-Hour Helpline

Winnebago County
920-235-5998 or 920-729-6395

Green Lake County
800-261-5998 or 920-294-4131

SUMMER 2007
Volume 31

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SHELTER NEEDS

Christine Ann Domestic Abuse Services relies on the community for donations of new items for survivors who are leaving the shelter and building new households. We also need the following items for the shelter.

Shelter Needs:

- Paper towels
- Bleach
- Dish Soap
- Brooms & mops
- Freezer & storage bags
- Household Cleaners
- Pillows
- Women's Deodorant
- Powdered Laundry Soap
- Journals

Gift Card Vouchers:

- Fleet Farm
- Menards
- Gas Stations
- Grocery Stores
- Book Stores
- Discount Stores
(Target, Wal-Mart, etc.)

CALLING ALL VOLUNTEERS

Christine Ann is excited to announce that Dan Scoville, a recent UW-Oshkosh graduate and a former intern at the agency, has joined us as volunteer coordinator. "We are excited that Dan has decided to join our team. He is full of energy and has many great ideas," said Julie Fevola, Executive Director. The agency has an ongoing need for volunteers of all ages to share their time and talents on regular projects or event-specific duties. Please call Dan at 920-235-5998 to learn about how you can help make a difference to families affected by abuse.

OUR MISSION

Christine Ann Domestic Abuse Services' mission is to prevent domestic abuse and violence and to provide intervention and safety to all individuals affected by domestic violence.

