



KDVA Update

The Kentucky Domestic Violence Association Quarterly Newsletter
Winter 2004

Federal Grants Help Morehead & Maysville Programs Move Into Bigger, Better and Safer Shelters this Year

DOVES Will Double Its Size

By Mary O'Doherty
Newsletter Editor

Staff at DOVES in Morehead referred more than 75 women to other shelters last year because DOVES was full. That won't be happening nearly as often this year because DOVES is moving into a new shelter — a two-year-old building with double the space of the existing shelter.

Overbee said she won't miss telling domestic violence victims they had to go to other shelters. "It was

horrible to have to tell someone you didn't have room for them, especially if they were from our area. They don't want to go some place where they don't know any one."

The project is possible thanks to a federal \$500,000 community development block grant made to Rowan County last month. DOVES Executive Director Donna Overbee asked Rowan County Judge Executive Clyde A. Thomas to apply

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The new shelter was made possible with a \$500,000 federal grant. The two-year-old building will have 10 bedrooms, a playroom as well as offices for staff.

Women's Crisis Center Near Midpoint on \$2 Million Campaign

By Mary O'Doherty
Newsletter Editor

The Women's Crisis Center in Maysville hopes to begin construction on its new shelter later this month with plans to move in before Thanksgiving. The \$2 million project is the result of five years of planning and work by WCC staff.

So far, the program has raised \$925,000 in its \$2 million capital campaign. Major funding sources include a \$500,000 community and development block grant and a \$300,000 two-to-one challenge grant from the Hayswood Foundation. The rest of the pledges have come from board

members, staff, area residents and businesses.

Earning the community's backing was critical to getting the project moving, said Buffalo Trace Director Shari Lang-Stafford. "You have to get the trust of the community and that includes the elected officials. This block grant wouldn't have happened if city officials and the community of Maysville hadn't stepped up for us."

Rep. Mike Denham, and Mason County Judge-Executive James L. (Buddy) Gallenstein also played key roles, Stafford said.

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An architect's rendering (top) shows how the former unemployment office will look when the project is finished in the fall.

INSIDE:

Tickets Still Available for V-Day Show

Safe Harbor Project Moves Forward

Immigration Task Force Report

Seasonal Reflections on the Fight Against Domestic Violence

By Lee Alcott
KDVA President

The seasons emit a sense of change, anticipation, forward thinking, vigilance and apprehension. Those dedicated to ending violence against women experience all of these reactions. I have begun to look at this work in a cyclical way and to recognize the tendrils of our work moving forward with each new season. Whether it is our trust that new laws will be enacted or current laws enforced in order to protect women from violence, we realize it is sometimes related to the season of nature or the season of the mind.

Winter brings with it the anticipation of legislative sessions. Shelters are full, women and children are displaced from their homes, funding is limited and we anticipate the gathering of minds in Frankfort to keep services for women and children as a priority on the state's agenda. We anticipate new legislation that will afford every citizen of the Commonwealth the opportunity to live free from violence. We anticipate funding that will enable shelters to continue to provide emergency services for victims of domestic violence and their children. We anticipate a vocal and active commitment from our legislators that they will continue to deem services to end violence against women and children critical to "restoring hope" in Kentucky, referencing Governor

Fletcher's campaign pledge. We anticipate the primary election and prepare with voter registration drives.

Spring demands a mode of forward thinking as we celebrate nature's own reminder of this. Shelters are still full, and no matter what happens during the legislative session, it will not be the end of what we do. Our vision is planted and rooted across the state and it is a time of new beginning. It is a time to rejuvenate our programs and services with the energy many experience as the



House Speaker Jody Richards spoke at a vigil sponsored by BRASS in Bowling Green last October.

temperatures rise and the earth's colors explode. It is a time of empowerment and planting the seeds of change. It is a time to execute the right to vote. It is a time of hope.

With the approach of summer we are vigilant. Shelters are really full with children home from school. Our programs expand to meet the demand for safety and support services. In summer we have the opportunity to create and employ new interventions for the children we serve. Many programs engage in extra fundraising

activities. Shelters are vigilant of the subtle shifts in local, state and federal funding, and since shelters never go on vacation this vigilance is critical to survival. We are vigilant as we move into our fiscal year budgets and wonder how we will meet the demands ahead of us. It is a time of determination.

Apprehension could perhaps best describe the evolution of autumn in our shelters. And yes, the shelters are still full. Autumn brings with it the stark reality

of the severity of domestic violence and its impact on our communities. We honor those who have died as a result of domestic violence and we salute those who have broken down barriers and survived. We also celebrate those collaborative efforts in each area development district that address systems change and provide the means to move forward. We thank our elected officials and legislators who take the time to know our issues and who speak out for continued efforts to end violence. During a 2003 Candlelight

Vigil, House Speaker Jody Richards told a crowd, "We've done a lot in our state to help victims of domestic violence, both in terms of legislation and in funding for our shelters, but there's still a great deal more work to be done." It is a time of challenges.

Shelter and domestic violence programs would like nothing better than to put FOR SALE signs up. Yet as we move through the seasons and count the number of victims and children we serve, the number of protective orders issued, and the number of domestic violence related homicides that occur in Kentucky, we realize it will be a long time before that is possible. To quote retired Nashville Metro Police Department Sgt. Mark Wynn, "Shelters are the only living legacy to victims of domestic violence in our country."

Hold a Voter Registration Before May 18 Primary

Many of our shelters registered hundreds of voters last fall before the governor's election. The May 18 primary is another reason to get out the vote. KDVA programs that would like assistance organizing voter drives should call KDVA.

In addition to the Presidential Primary, there are dozens of other important races on the ballot: Contests for the U.S. Senate and House of Representatives as well as for seats in the Kentucky General Assembly.

KDVA Performance Part of 2004

V-DAY Worldwide Campaign

By Christy Burch-Epperson
V-Day Organizer

Only about 100 tickets are left for KDVA's March 6 production of The Vagina Monologues at the Lexington Center's Heritage Hall. The performance is part of the 2004 V-Day Worldwide Campaign.

Tickets cost \$25 at the door but can be purchased for \$20 by calling KDVA at 502-695-2444. They'll also be available at Joseph-Beth Booksellers in Lexington on Feb. 14.

The performance is at 7 p.m. following a reception at 6 p.m. with a cash bar and refreshments. Proceeds will serve victims of domestic violence through Kentucky's 16 domestic violence programs.

KDVA received the rights for a benefit production of Eve Ensler's award-winning play last fall. The 34-member cast includes staff members from the YWCA Spouse Abuse in Lexington, Sanctuary in Hopkinsville, the Center for Women and Families in Louisville, Safe Harbor in Ashland, SpringHaven in Elizabethtown, Bethany House in Somerset and Women's Crisis Center in Northern Kentucky.

The V-Day Organization is a global movement that promotes creative events to increase awareness and raise money for anti-violence organizations. In 2003, V-Day happened in 900 venues around the world and raised more than \$4 million US dollars. In 2004, KDVA will

be one of more than 1,000 events across the world.

This year's campaign is recognizing the missing and murdered women of Juarez,



Mexico. V-Day and Amnesty International representatives are marching in Juárez on February 14 to recognize the more than 300 women who have disappeared or been murdered in or near the city near the U.S. border since 1993.

The day will include a discussion on gender violence by Mexican feminist, Marcela Lagarde; an ecumenical service to remember and honor the women at the Benito Juárez Monument and a special benefit performance of "The Vagina Monologues," performed by Lilia Aragon, Marinitia Escobedo, Laura Flores, Monica Alicia Juarez, Ensler, Jane Fonda, Sally Field, Christine Lahti, and Shiva Rose.

KDVA showed Señorita Extraviada, Missing Young Woman, a documentary about the 200 kidnapped, raped and murdered young women of Juárez, on Jan. 27 at the Kentucky Theater as part of V-Day's Worldwide Campaign.



Left to right: Drew Baldock, Safe Harbor's board treasurer, Judy Patton, Rep. Rocky Adkins, Paul Patton, Ann Perkins, Safe Harbor's executive director and Bruce Davis, Safe Harbor's board president.

Safe Harbor Housing Project Advances

Safe Harbor's transitional housing project took a giant step forward last fall when Gov. Paul Patton agreed to lease a former TB hospital to the Ashland domestic violence program for transitional housing.

The building will have about 34 apartments. The project is being developed by AU Associates of Lexington with National City Bank and Kentucky Housing Corp. Construction is scheduled for the summer

of 2004 with a tentative opening date of summer 2005.

The \$3.4 million project will be supported with a \$532,000 grant from HUD's Supportive Housing Program.

Many thanks to Carol Jordan and state Rep. Rocky Adkins for arranging the meeting with then-Gov. Patton. His support gave the project a much-needed green light. The state will lease the building to Safe Harbor for \$1 a year.

KASAP Elects New President

Phyllis Konerman, associate director of the Women's Crisis Center in Northern Kentucky, has been elected president of the Kentucky Association of Sexual Assault Programs. She has a two-year term. Konerman takes her new position after serving as KASAP's treasurer and chairing its sexual assault awareness committee. She has worked at the Women's Crisis Center since 1981.

"I look forward to working with these

tremendously talented women," Konerman said.

Konerman succeeds Margaret Banks, program director of Mountain Comprehensive Care Center in Prestonsburg.

KASAP is an association of the state's 13 rape crisis centers. Three KASAP programs are joint domestic violence/sexual assault centers: the Women's Crisis Center, the Center for Families and Children in Louisville and Sanctuary in Hopkinsville.

More Women and Children Helped by YWCA Project

The YWCA's Peace Tree Drive raised about \$26,000 in in-kind donations during the holiday season. The drive netted new winter coats and shoes for children as well as pajamas, towels and other essentials.

"We got plenty of things we never have enough of, like thermometers, pillows and towels," said Childrens Coordinator Marcie Lainhart, who estimated that about 200 children and 80 women were helped this holiday season.

The project involved 18 Kroger stores in five central Kentucky counties.

The Peace Tree Drive has grown dramatically in the last four years. When the drive began four years ago, one Kroger store featured a Christmas tree with information about families in need. This time around, 18 Christmas trees offered shoppers suggestions for ways to help. "Ornaments" gave the public ideas about how to contribute by suggesting such contributions as shampoo and diapers. The drive also supports clients with the YWCA's satellite offices in Richmond and Danville.



YWCA employees Tina Lair, Marcie Lainhart, Shawn Taulbee, Cami Warning and Lisa Diener stand in front of a Peace Tree at a Lexington

From KDVA's Clearinghouse...

New videos:

Domestic Violence: Faces of Fear

By: PBS Video

Dangerous Games: Power and Control in Teen Dating Relationships

By: Intermedia

Still Killing Us Softly

By: Cambridge Documentary Films

Battered Mothers' Testimony Project: A Human Rights Tribunal on Domestic Violence and Child Custody in the Massachusetts Family Courts

By: Wellesley Centers for Women

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The new shelter, built around a former state unemployment office purchased from the state, will have room for 26 women and children. (The current facility houses 18).

The finished building, with 8,800 square feet, will include five bedrooms, seven bathrooms, a playroom and a classroom, with computer equipment for teens and women working on GEDs. Funding for the classroom

came from a \$25,000 grant from the Inland Foundation.

Lang-Stafford said the current shelter will be used for outreach offices and two transitional apartments for domestic violence victims.

The shelter has been in its current location for 17 years, but it has had a Maysville presence for 20 years — since it opened an outreach office in 1984.

Last year the Maysville's program served 103 women and 101 children.

DOVES

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for the grant in October 2002.

The four-story shelter will have 10 bedrooms, a playroom, a crisis office and a counseling office as well as office space for staff. The project got rolling after Overbee approached officials at Gateway Area Development District about funding for a new shelter and a staffer suggested she ask Rowan County to apply for a CDBG grant.

Rowan County will take ownership after Gov. Ernie Fletcher releases the grant money. Overbee said she's ready to move this spring. The county will lease the building to DOVES for a dollar a year.

The building, which currently serves as a boarding house for students at Morehead State

University, cost \$575,000. It has 5,200 square feet.

Overbee borrowed money from Morehead National Bank to make up the difference. She is pursuing other funding sources as well.

The building requires few modifications to make it work as a domestic violence shelter. DOVES must install a security system and a chairlift between the first and second floors. Overbee plans to have some showers removed from the building's 11 full bathrooms.

The six-acre property also has a foundation for a structure that was never built. Overbee said she hopes to use that foundation to build housing for domestic violence victims soon. "I'm thinking maybe a four-plex, depending on whether we find the funding," she said.

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Two new faces: Meet Joanne Pyc and Kimberly Hosea

Joanne Pyc joined KDVA in November as its staff attorney. She provides legal counsel to domestic violence victims. Most of whom need help with divorces and custody cases but she is also able to provide help with other legal matters.

Joanne is from Wisconsin where she earned undergraduate and masters degrees from the University of Wisconsin. She was inventory manager at The Longaberger Company when she decided to attend Capital University Law School in central Ohio. After law school, she moved to Kentucky and worked for two years as a legal aid attorney for Appalred in Barbourville.



Joanne lives in Lawrenceburg with her three dogs and a cat. She has a 25-year-old son who lives with his wife in Denver, Colo. Joanne loves her job but when she's not working she likes to exercise, play with her dogs, read, work on her genealogy, and watch the Green Bay Packers. Go Pack! Joanne takes the place of Linda Robinson who left to take another job.

Kimberly Hosea, also a lawyer, joined KDVA in January. As an attorney for the Legal Assistance for Victims Project, Kimberly is developing a database of attorneys who are willing to provide legal assistance, usually on a pro bono basis, for victims of sexual assault and domestic violence.

Kimberly helps shelter and rape crisis center clients, particularly those who do not qualify for or cannot be served by Legal Aid attorneys, find legal representation in their own communities on matters ranging from divorce, custody, child support, and protective order hearings and other legal matters. She also provides direct representation to victims in appellate proceedings.



Kimberly was a high school English and French teacher before she received her law degree at the University of Kentucky in 1993. She was a concert piano major in college and still plays "anything and everything" on the piano in Lexington where she lives with her husband and 16-year-old daughter. In her free time, Kim likes bicycling, Pilates and attending her daughter's dance competitions.

Immigrant-Refugee Task Force Celebrates Achievements as 3rd Anniversary Nears

By Isela Arras

In May the Kentucky Battered Immigrant and Refugee Women Task Force will celebrate its third anniversary. This partial list represents important milestones for battered immigrant and refugee women in Kentucky. We know we have much work to do, but this is a good time to celebrate our accomplishments.

Thank you task force members for your dedication and hard work.

2002:

- Eighty-six people participated in workshops created by the task force focusing on the unique needs of immigrant survivors of violence.

2003:

- 210 people participated in task force workshops — a **125 %** increase in participation *in ONE year*.
- A SECOND training module focusing on public benefits for immigrant survivors of domestic violence was created and implemented with great success.
- One member agency, the YWCA in Lexington, adopted a written language accessibility policy and procedure.
- Twenty-four people participated in a two-day intensive cultural competency train-the-trainer workshop.

- A two-day Lideres Latinas mini-conference organized by the task force led to the creation of TWO new women's groups: one in Lexington, the other in Shelbyville, both of which are meeting regularly.
- Five workshops on Fundamental Concepts in Serving Immigrant Survivors of Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault, the original training module, were organized. One workshop was an entirely Spanish version, and 25 people participated.
- Interpretation Equipment was purchased to begin to help make language accessibility a reality.
- Three workshops on public benefits were organized and Spanish interpretation was offered at one. This was a first.
- The U.S. Army requested the Fundamental Concepts in Serving Immigrant Survivors of Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault workshop. About 25 people participated.
- Two workshops on the Ending Sexual Assault and Domestic Violence conference were offered in Spanish. The conference also offered four workshops dealing with Battered Immigrant issues. This is the most Battered Immigrant Women related workshops ever offered at this conference.

Member Programs

Safe Harbor
in Ashland
Ann Perkins
(606) 329-9304

Barren River Area Safe Space
in Bowling Green
Lee Alcott
(270) 781-9334

SpringHaven
in Elizabethtown
Lisa Holmes
(270) 765-4057

The Center for Women and Families
in Louisville
Darlene Thomas
(502) 581-7200

LKLP Safe House
in Hazard
Lois Valentine
(606) 439-3961

Sanctuary
in Hopkinsville
Helen Kinton
(270) 885-4572

The Caring Place
in Lebanon
Lin Patterson
(270) 692-9300

D.O.V.E.S.
in Morehead
Donna Overbee
(606) 784-6880

Family Life Abuse Center
in Mount Vernon
Peggy Hancock
(606) 256-9511

Women's Crisis Center, Northern Kentucky
in Covington
Mary Jo Davis
(859) 491-3335

Owensboro Area Shelter and Information Services
in Owensboro
Becky Hagan
(270) 685-0260

Bethany House Abuse Shelter
in Somerset
Charlotte Tribble
(606) 679-1553

Big Sandy Family Abuse Center
in Prestonsburg
Judy Webb
(606) 285-9079

Women's Crisis Center, Buffalo Trace
in Maysville
Phyllis Konerman
(606) 564-6708

Women Aware
in Paducah
Kathy Jones
(270) 443-6001

YWCA Spouse Abuse Center
in Lexington
Melissa Kemp
(859) 233-9927

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