

CENTERPOINT

The Women's Center's mission is to provide safety, shelter and support to women and their families and to facilitate their development.

WINTER 2011



THE
Women's
CENTER

Community Education Program Awareness & Prevention Begins in Grade School

Television, movies and popular culture are pervasive with violence and sexual content. Emotional, verbal, and sexual abuse seems to be encouraged via technology including cell phones and the Internet. We hear of bullying in grade schools and high schools, and date rape. Children seem to be getting the wrong message.



Susan Kessler-Scholl (standing), Community Education Specialist

The Women's Center is aware of the need to provide educational services. Our Community Education Specialist works closely with area schools and community organizations, presenting educational programs concerning the reduction of violent behavior. During the summer months when schools are closed, these services are offered at churches and hospitals. "Cut It Out", a national program of the Salons Against Domestic Abuse Fund, is used when teaching at hair styling institutes (in their line of work, they may see red flags for possible abuse).

Our Community Education Specialist provides age appropriate education and prevention programs about domestic and sexual violence, such as dealing with bullies and safe dating. By defining and teaching acceptable behaviors and giving suggestions on actions to take if an incident occurs to students, we help create awareness of the effects of sexual assault,

mitigate victim-blaming behaviors, and help break the secrecy that often keeps a child or youth from confiding to an adult. Our approach is to educate young people at all levels beginning in grade school and continuing through high school and into college. By assuming a crisis intervention and prevention role, The Women's Center's Community Education Specialist is many times a victim's first contact with The Women's Center.

"The Women's Center Had an Immense Impact on Me" – A Client Story

"I was involved in an abusive relationship my senior year of high school. I went through a very traumatic experience. With The Women's Center's help I was able to realize what I went through wasn't my fault. I have moved to New York and have pursued my dream career. I have grown up a lot and have found the confidence in myself that was stripped away so many years ago.

"I have spoken at a conference for principals/teachers/government officials telling my story because of The Women's Center. I am working with an organization called Day One-NY. They have a program called 'Youth Voices Network.' I connect with other survivors and do what I can to educate others by telling my story.

"I know that I probably would not be here if it weren't for support from my family, the police, my best friend, my uncle and The Women's Center. The Women's Center had an immense impact on me being able to break free from my relationship. I believe The Women's Center helped me become the person I am today. It has allowed me to be able to tell my story and spread awareness."

Fashion Show was a Red Carpet Evening, Sponsored by Galleria West Shopping Center

The Women's Center's Fashion Show, "Red Carpet Evening", was held at the Sheraton Hotel in Brookfield on November 19. Our Emcee was Susan Kim from TODAY'S TMJ4. In addition to women's glamour wear from Picardy Shoe Parlour, Zita and m.e. Lou, men's clothing from Suiters were also featured. The winner from our Lucky Lipstick contest took home the \$1,995 Raymond Weil Parsifal Wristwatch, donated by Treiber & Straub. Guests posed on the red carpet in front of the special logo backdrop for their Red Carpet Photo opportunity, and early holiday shopping was offered in the Silent Auction. Chicken Wellington was served for dinner, with a layered Torte dessert from Le Cakery.

The Women's Center raised nearly \$30,000! We wish to extend a special "Thank You" to all of our Sponsors and our *Presenting Sponsor, Galleria West Shopping Center* in Brookfield.



Models at the 2010 Fashion Show



Susan Kim from Today's TMJ4, with her husband, Patrick Koenig



Board President Linda Graebner-Smith (second from left) and friends at the 2010 Fashion Show



Guests attending the 2010 Fashion Show



Red Carpet Photo Keepsake



Models at the 2010 Fashion Show

Anniversary Luncheon April 8

The Women's Center will be celebrating its 34th Anniversary at the Italian Community Center in Milwaukee on April 8. Our keynote speaker will be Ann Jones, journalist and author. Her most recent book, "War Is Not Over When It's Over" follows her work in post-conflict countries with the International Rescue Committee, where she encouraged women, through photography, to document their lives and speak up for change. She also wrote a series of books about women and violence, and dispatched articles and photographs from her travels around the world.

The Anniversary Luncheon will include a silent auction and raffle. In March the invitations will be mailed, and you will be able to register online at www.twcwaukesha.org.



Photographer and author Ann Jones; Her latest book, "War Is Not Over When It's Over"

photo by Irene Young



Thank You to All Who Donated This Holiday Season!



*Thank you for your time, support and donations!
Our shelves and hearts were over-flowing
with community generosity.*

*Thank you for
your support!*

*Ace Precision Machining
Angelo's Cafe Vino
Beer Capitol Distributing -
Lake Country
Bostik Inc.
Milwaukee Brewers
Carroll University
Century Fence Company
Clean Air and Water Systems, LLC
Elmbrook Rotary Club
Galleria West Shopping Center
Generac
Goff's Collision Repair Center
Good Harvest Market
Herzing University
Hunter & Sommers
Kelvin Schroeder Jewelers
Kwik Trip
M&I Bank
Marine Bank
Merle Norman Cosmetics
Milwaukee Alarm Company
PJK Finishing Company
Power Test Inc.
Quad Graphics
Roundy's Supermarkets
Shorewest Realtors
Studio Gear
The Legend at Brandybrook
TheoPro Compliance &
Consulting, Inc.
Tom's Heating Service
Waukesha County Police Chiefs
Association
Waukesha State Bank
WE Energies Corporation
Weldall Manufacturing
West Bend Mutual
Winter, Kloman, Moter & Repp, S.C.
Wisconsin Vein Center & MediSpa
Women's Divorce & Legal Clinic
Zorn Compressor & Equipment Inc.*

*These businesses contributed large gifts
from September through December 2010*

Holiday Fun for the Children

Santa and Mrs. Claus were the main attraction at The Women's Center *Client Holiday Party* held at Carroll University. After dinner, which was catered by Carroll, the children made ornaments and decorated picture-frame-holders for their photo that was taken with Santa. A special *Thank You* to Carroll University, for donating the use of their ballroom, and to all the volunteers who helped make this event a memorable one for the children.

The client *Gift Boutique* at The Women's Center offered gifts for mom. Each child was able to choose a special holiday present for mom – a fashionable purse or basket filled with gifts, all generous donations from various individuals and businesses. The children helped wrap the presents – a special surprise to take home for mom!



**THE
Women's
CENTER**

505 North East Avenue
Waukesha, WI 53186

Bus. 262-547-4600
Crisis 262-542-3828
www.twcwaukesha.org

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
P A I D
Waukesha, WI
Permit No. 416

**CALENDAR OF
SPECIAL EVENTS**

**April 8, 2011
Anniversary
Luncheon**

Italian Community
Center in Milwaukee.
Guest Speaker Ann Jones,
silent auction and raffle.

**April 2011
Sexual Assault
Awareness Month**

**July 23, 2011
Summer Evening
at the Club**

**November 2011
Fashion Show**

For more information
about our events,
visit our website at
www.twcwaukesha.org

"The ultimate measure of a person is not where they stand in moments of comfort and convenience, but where they stand at times of challenge and controversy."

-Martin Luther King, Jr

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President

Kristine Havlik

President Elect

Jeanine Kes Bode

Secretary

Sandy Wysocki

Treasurer

Mara Roberts

Past President

Linda Graebner-Smith

Directors

Ann Dee Allen

Marsha Block

Robert DiDonato

Allan Froehlich

Bill Humphreys

Erin Jacyna

Pat Kandziora

Ellen Langill

Dr. Ann Merkow

Laurie O'Loughlin

Lynn Revoy

Dr. Shaila Singh

Louise Ladd Whitson

Sharon Wood

Student Members

Gabe Merkow

Teah Welsch-Rainek

Volunteer Spotlight: Louise Ladd Whitson

Louise Ladd Whitson has served on the Board of Directors for The Women's Center for 3 years. She is a member of our Special Events Committee, and this year is also Chair of our Anniversary Luncheon. "I'm enjoying every minute of it!" she said recently.

After 26 years working at Morgan Stanley she moved to Wells Fargo Advisors, LLC in 2005 and is now Senior Vice President - Investments, CFP (Certified Financial Planner) and CIMA (Certified Investment Management Analyst). She's a member of the Waukesha County Estate Planning Council, Professional Dimensions and the Investment Management Consultants Association.

Ladd Whitson has been on the *Barron's* Winner's Circle for the Top Women Advisors in the USA for 2008, 2009 and 2010. She was also named by *Milwaukee Magazine* as one of the top Financial Advisors in the area for

the last 2 years. In addition, the Consumer's Research Council of America named her one of "America's Top Financial Planners" for the last 2 years.

During a trip with her mother to Norway, visiting relatives, she met her

future husband, Bob. Her mother pointed to the then-stranger during their tour of Scandinavia, and told her daughter, "There's a nice gentleman. Go talk to him." She obeyed her mother, and Bob and Louise have been married for 10 years! They like to travel to places like the Amazon, India, Thailand, Africa, Russia, Croatia and Tibet, and have 2 Bernese Mountain Dogs, Max and Nicky.



Louise Ladd Whitson

Remember The Women's Center in your Will

To learn more about volunteer opportunities, visit www.twcwaukesha.org

Centerpoint is published by The Women's Center, Inc., a private, non-profit charitable organization. The mission of The Women's Center is to provide safety and support to women and their families and to facilitate their development. Comments regarding Centerpoint should be directed to Cheryl at 262-522-3805. As a United Way agency, The Women's Center encourages you to support the United Way of Waukesha County.

