

Southside Center for Violence Prevention, Inc.



October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month!

Domestic Violence Awareness Month evolved from the first Day of Unity observed in October, 1981. The intent was to connect battered women's advocates across the nation who were working to end violence against women and their children. The Day of Unity soon became a special week when a range of activities were conducted at the local, state, and national levels. These activities were as varied and diverse as the program sponsors but had common themes: mourning those who have died because of domestic violence, celebrating those who have survived, and connecting those who work to end violence.

In October 1987, the first Domestic Violence Awareness Month was observed. That same year the first national toll-free hotline was begun. In 1989 the first Domestic Violence Awareness Month Commemorative Legislation was passed by the U.S. Congress. Such legislation has passed every year since then. And in

October 1994, the "Remember My Name" project, a national registry to increase public awareness of domestic violence deaths. Since then, the National Coalition Against Domestic Violence has been collecting information on women who have been killed by an intimate partner and produces a poster each October for Domestic Violence Awareness Month, listing the names of those documented in that year. The Day of Unity is celebrated the first Monday in October. All those committed to ending domestic violence hope that events in communities and regions across the fifty states will culminate in a powerful statement celebrating the strength of battered women and their children.

This year, Southside Center for Violence Prevention, Inc. ~ Madeline's House ~ Piedmont Crisis Center will hold a number of events including a radio simulcast of a Domestic Violence Awareness Day. Radio stations WFLO, WVHL, WSVS,

WBBN, and WBBC will participate in this event on October 4th, kicking off Domestic Violence Awareness Month and SCVP's Fall Giving Campaign. Vigils will be held in Farmville, Blackstone and South Hill to remember those who have fallen victim to domestic violence and to celebrate the victories of survivors throughout October. Many information tables and educational presentations are scheduled with community groups. For information about any of these activities or would like to schedule a benefit event or presentation this fall, contact the shelter office at

Attend a Vigil...

- Farmville: Oct. 28th at 5:00pm, Longwood University (Behind Student Union)
- Blackstone: Oct. 6 at 7:00pm, Seay Park
- South Hill: Oct. 7 at 7:00pm, Roses Parking Lot

Fall Giving Campaign: A Letter from SCVP President, Sandie Rowe

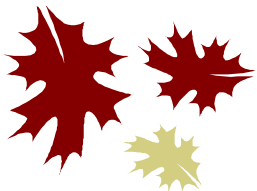
"...it's not simply physical (abuse), it's also emotional, mental and verbal. It's leaving a pregnant girlfriend in the middle of a stormy, rainy night in a Wal-Mart parking lot simply because he was drunk and she wanted to drive for every-one's safety."

Madeline's House was established 13 years ago when Madeline Gearheart Mitchell was in a situation like this one. The difference is Madeline never had a chance to become a survivor. Her abuser found her on Labor Day in September 1998, shot her, then turned the gun on himself. Madeline left behind two beautiful daughters.

Since that time Madeline's House has opened its doors to more than 1,000 domestic and sexual violence victims in critical need of a safe place to stay while they begin a new and safe life for themselves. That's more than 30,000 bed nights provided by the shelter. All services provided to residents at Madeline's House are at no cost to them. As you can imagine, operational costs are high.

Throughout the years, members of the communities we serve have opened their hearts, their wallets and given freely of their time to ensure the safe house remains open, standing ready to rescue those who have experienced domestic and sexual violence. Again, during our Fall Giving Campaign, we turn to you, asking that you help

"...It's sitting on a stool beside a hot stove at 8 months pregnant trying to cook dinner so he'll have one less thing to complain about when he gets home...hoping also that the house is clean enough and the laundry is done to his liking. All of this when the doctor has told her to stay off her feet due to a high risk pregnancy and chance of pre-term labor and birth of her unborn child."



Fall Giving Campaign: A Letter from SCVP President, Sandie Rowe

"And it's the more common (occurrence) of simply being called a b***h everyday when he gets home and gets (what he calls) buzzed when he's really drunk...when he raises his head and spits in her face."

Madeline's House remain that beacon of hope for the abused. Won't you please give what you can to financially support these survivors as they follow their newfound path of hope? We know everyone is doing all they can to survive the difficult economic times of today, but your gift doesn't need to be large...just what you can afford. Together the small gifts make a great gift. Those who are more fortunate...we ask that you consider giving a "stretch" gift, or a monthly pledge. Please complete the enclosed form, and return it to us with your gift. We appreciate *every* gift; the survivors we shelter will, too.

"Thank God, though, there are places like Madeline's House to run to when you've finally had enough...even when your own father tells you to stay with the jerk because you can't afford to leave him, especially with a small child."

May God bless you for your support,

Sandie Rowe, President
Board of Directors



"To victims who get to read this letter...have faith, be strong...find hope in your child's eyes...encourage her laughter... dress yourself in love when you see your reflection in the mirror. Use the help that is out there, like Madeline's House." "You don't have to deal with it; you can get out!"



I would like to be a part of keeping the beacon of hope shining for those who seek safety through services provided by Madeline's House. Please accept my gift of

\$10 \$15 \$20 \$25 \$50 \$100 Other _____

This is an annual gift a monthly pledge a quarterly pledge other _____

Make check payable to SCVP and mail with this form to the address below, or use the secure PayPal option on our website, www.madelineshouse.net.

Please send a pledge reminder to me at the address below.

Name _____ eMail Address _____

Street or P.O. Box Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Please update me about what's happening at Madeline's House by sending me the quarterly newsletter (USPS) or the quarterly eNewsletter. Your personal information will not be used by anyone other than Southside Center for Violence Prevention, Inc. - Madeline's House - Piedmont Crisis Center. Thank you for your generous support...May God bless you in return.

Please clip and mail this form with your gift to SCVP, P.O. Box 487, Blackstone, VA 23824. Using your own stamp and envelope helps save limited SCVP resources. Thank you.

Madeline's House Gets Out of the Thrift Store Business: Shelter Remains Open

It's a sign of the times...sad, but true. As many of you know, the Farmville thrift store closed in the spring of 2010. And now, unfortunately, the South Hill thrift store will also be closing. The closing date will be before the end of October. The store will stop taking donations and liquidation sales will begin immediately. Even with reorganizing efforts to operate stores under a separate 501 (c) 3, the stores became more costly to operate than their return in economic benefit and support to Madeline's House. The last day for accepting donations at the South Hill store will be September.

Over the years, there has also been much confusion about the distinction between the domestic / sexual violence shelter known as Madeline's House and the thrift stores. Madeline's House has never been located in Farmville or South Hill. However

these areas are part of the 12 counties the shelter serves. Unfortunately, many store patrons and community supporters have viewed the stores and the shelter as one and the same. **This is incorrect.** We want our friends and supporters to understand it is only the thrift store that is closing...not the shelter. **The**



safe house (shelter) still and will continue to operate, providing critical services to persons who have suffered through situations of domestic and/or sexual violence.

Board members and staff want to thank our friends and supporters for all they have, and will continue, to do to ensure the shelter remains a beacon of hope for those who have been subjected to physical and/or emotional abuse. Without receiving financial support from the stores, though, Madeline's House will need your support more than ever. Individual, business and group contributions are welcome and can be sent to SCVP – Madeline's House, P.O. Box 487, Blackstone, VA 23824. If your church or group would like to organize a fundraiser to benefit Madeline's House, contact Emily Marshall at 434.292.1077.

A Sign of the Times: SCVP Switches to eNewsletters

It's so hard to let go of tradition and the past, but with the economic changes in our country all of us must look for ways to economize...to do more with less. So beginning January 2012, Southside Center for Violence Prevention, Inc. will be changing over to eNewsletters as the primary method of distributing newsletters. We know that some of our supporters may not have access to a computer on a regular basis, and that many churches copy our newsletter to distribute to their membership. In these cases, a limited number of newsletters will continue to be printed and available.

And don't forget, there are other ways you can follow "happenings" at Madeline's House. You can visit our website at www.madelineshouse.net or follow us on our Facebook and LinkedIn pages.

You will continue to get special mailings from time to time, so be sure we have both your mailing address and your email address, using the form on the right, or call the office (434.292.1077) to give us your current contact information.

Please return this form to:
PO Box 487
Blackstone, VA 23002
Or Call:
1.434.292.1077
Or Email:
info@madelineshouse.net

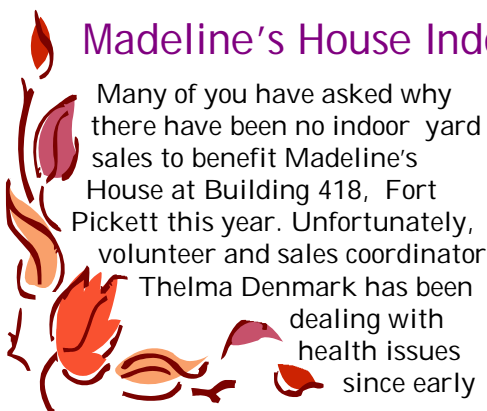
Please send me an eNewsletter to:

Name

Email

Mailing Address

Madeline's House Indoor Yard Sale to Return...



Many of you have asked why there have been no indoor yard sales to benefit Madeline's House at Building 418, Fort Pickett this year. Unfortunately, volunteer and sales coordinator Thelma Denmark has been dealing with health issues since early

spring. But there is good news! Thelma is much better and hopes soon to reopen the indoor yard sale in the near future.. Watch for more news about the reopening. Thelma will begin posting signs around Blackstone, and you will hear radio announcements as soon as a date is set. Thank you for patiently waiting for Thelma's return. We love you, Thelma!



Southside Center for Violence Prevention, Inc.
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Website: www.madelineshouse.net

Non-Profit
U.S. Postage
Paid
Permit # 40

Deliver to:

Or Current Occupant



Classified Ads

Needed: 2 gently used vehicles, vans preferred but will take cars to transport residents to appointments.

Baby diapers, all sizes; and basic baby supplies

Plastic food containers with lids

Furniture for when clients relocate

Sponsors for clients (housing deposits, furnishing costs, and so on)

Volunteers!

Madeline's House Receives Verizon Foundation Grant!

Thanks to Kandy Hayes, Domestic Violence Program Director, Southside Center for Violence Prevention, Inc. ~ Madeline's House was recently awarded a \$5,000.00 grant by the Verizon Foundation to develop a self-study empowerment curriculum for residents. It has been the mission of SCVP to not only provide safe haven to women and children fleeing violent situations, but to also empower them to become survivors by enhancing basic life skills like parenting, personal financial management, healthy lifestyles, etc. Thank you, Verizon Foundation! In addition, SCVP also received \$14,000.00 in additional grant funds from the Department of Criminal Justice Services and the Department of Social Services!

Fill our pantry!

Remember the nursery rhyme About Mother Hubbard's Cupboard? and the Old Woman Who Lived in A Shoe? Well, there have been lots of children at the shelter, and our pantry shelves are almost bare.

Help us fill the shelves for the cold weather ahead. We need vegetables, pasta, sauces, box dinners, tuna, soups, macaroni and cheese, after-school snacks, fruit drinks.

Please make sure the foods don't Have expired dates. Thank you.

Check us out at madelineshouse.net,
Facebook, and LinkedIn!