

Women's Resource Center

Summer 2014 Edition

FOR THE GRAND TRAVERSE AREA

From the Director, with Love

In the early spring, with the astute oversight of our Board of Directors, the Women's Resource Center went through a transition in leadership. We are grateful that during this transition there was no impact on direct client service, and our programs continue to thrive. For this, and so much more, **we thank you.**

For more than three decades, the WRC has been caring for people who have experienced domestic violence and sexual assault. During this time, our region's population has grown, and our area has gained popularity as a destination location. The net result: **there are more people who need our help.**

Last week, a dear friend asked me how we "determine whether or not we have been successful?" My answer is: *one client at a time.* It's the work that our skilled team of Client Advocates does every single day – encouraging victims, providing resources, and **sharing the love.** And at the end of the day, it's why we're here.

Here We Grow,



Juliette Schultz,
Executive Director

We Need Your Help!

It is only through your support that we are able to continue doing the work that we do to support victims and their families. **Thank you for considering sending a donation in the envelope included or donating online at www.womensresourcecenter.org.**



Juliette Schultz

Grand Traverse Domestic Violence Task Force Sets Goals

Recently the Grand Traverse Domestic Violence Task Force updated its mission, added new members, and refined the group's objectives and goals. Headed by Noelle Moeggenberg, Grand Traverse County Chief Assistant Prosecuting Attorney, and Theresa Carey, Women's Resource Center's coordinator of the Men Exploring Non-Violence Solutions program, the group has redefined its mission and created new objectives aimed at county-wide collaboration to prevent and end the cycle of domestic violence. The primary focus is to expand collaboration between law enforcement, legal professionals, judicial partners, social service providers, business and community leaders, and the educational community.

Primary objectives are to establish a coordinated response to:

- Empower, support and protect victims
- Increase perpetrator accountability
- Promote community education, increase awareness, treatment and intervention

"This group is truly a reflection of collaboration for the good of the community...and for families said Noelle Moeggenberg. "Working together, we can continue to tackle this critical issue that erodes the fabric of this community. That's good work."

Our IMPACT!

In 2013 we...

- Cared for over 1,800 people in five counties
- Housed over 200 homeless women and children
- Shared the "Positive Relationships Dating Violence Prevention Program" with 800 local youth
- Supported over 125 teen parents

3G Convenes and Plans to Give Back



Members of the Three Generations Circle of Women Givers (3G) and friends of the WRC recently met to determine how the group could continue supporting the self-reliance and well-being of women and girls in our five-county region.

Founding members Sandy Hardy and Jean Howard, along with Debbie Edson and Julie Weeks, led four one-hour discussions, and

members of the WRC Client Advocate team were on hand to share information about the direct impact that the 3G has had on WRC clients.

One participant remarked, "The Giving Circle enables me to make a difference. It helps me feel like I can combine my resources with other people to make a difference. That's why I'm a member."

In the past 15 years, the group has granted more than \$423,000 to organizations in our community to improve the quality of life and

economic self-sufficiency of women and girls. Funds have been used to provide professional advice, legal services and information to victims of domestic violence, fund scholarships for WRC clients entering Northwestern Michigan College's Bridge program, purchase shoes and educational materials for 45 students participating in the Girls on the Run program in Kalkaska, and for many other good causes.

If you would like to learn more about membership, email Stacy Donaldson at sdonaldson@wrcgt.com.

PROUDLY SERVING THE FIVE-COUNTY REGION SINCE 1975

Our mission is to end domestic and sexual violence and promote an equitable, safe environment for all.

Thrift Store Donates Nearly \$100,000



The WRC Thrift Shop, located at 3030 N. US 31 South, Traverse City, has been described as “The best-kept secret of Traverse City.” In the last 20+ years, the Thrift Shop has grown from a modest operation to a vital source of revenue for the WRC, while at the same time giving back almost \$100,000.

Every month, the Thrift Shop gives an estimated \$8,000 in clothing and household items to members of our community who need them most. On one Wednesday evening, a young woman knocked on the door at the main office saying she needed a suit for a job interview and wondered if we could help. We said “absolutely”

and sent her to the Thrift Shop to select the items she needed – free-of-charge. The Thrift Shop has also provided couches and beds to families who have experienced house fires, and clothes and furnishings to struggling college students.

Led by Store Manager Carol Rose, the team of eight has increased eBay sales and continues to reorganize inventory for easier customer access. The Thrift Shop team includes two drivers (Ben and Jim) who will gladly pick up donations and household goods, including unwanted clothing, beds, furniture, household items, books and gently used shoes. Call 231-946-4180 for more information or to schedule a pick-up of larger items. Donations are accepted Monday – Saturday, from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Location: 3030 N. US 31 South, Traverse City, near Lowe's and Pizza Hut.

Share the Love

Thanks to the employees and customers of **Cuppa Joe** for contributing to 52 punch cards (that's 52 cups of something delish!) that will be given to clients and friends of the Women's Resource Center.

Recently 13 young women from the **Traverse Life Center** planted flowers and cleaned the gardens at two WRC shelter homes. A generous donor provided flowers, tools and supplies for the project. In addition, the girls purchased ingredients and cooked a delicious lasagna dinner for all the residents at Helen's House. A heartfelt thank you to these young women for their willingness to add some beauty to our clients' lives.



Cuppa Joe coffee cards

Save the Date

In honor of Domestic Violence Awareness Month in October, join us:

Saturday, October 11, 9 a.m.

There's beauty at the Grand Traverse Commons in autumn, and there's beauty in supporting others. Lace up your sneakers and join us for our annual Hands Are Not For Hurting 5K run/walk.

The cost is \$25 to participate and includes a long-sleeve shirt, complimentary water, coffee, snacks and entertainment.



Hands Are Not For Hurting!

Saturday, October 18, 6 p.m.

Grab some friends and get ready for an amazing circus-themed evening with Le Cirque Des Reves (The Circus of Dreams), hosted by the Grand Traverse Resort and Spa.

Tickets are \$35 for general admission and \$50 for VIP seating.



Go to www.womensresourcecenter.org to register/buy tickets today!



720 S. Elmwood, Suite 2
Traverse City, MI 49684

PHONE 231-941-1210

WEB www.womensresourcecenter.org

24-HOUR HELPLINE 1-800-554-4972