



SAFE HAVEN

Domestic Abuse & Sexual Assault Support Center

PO Box 665

Shawano, WI 54166

Spring/Summer 2020

April is Sexual Assault Awareness Month

Mission: *To encourage a safe community, free of physical and sexual violence and emotional abuse, through shelter, caring, advocacy and education.*

Vision: *To be a catalyst for change and to break the cycle of violence so individuals or families can become healthy, self sufficient and independent.*

Safe Haven & the Impact of Covid-19

A message from Stacey Cicero, Executive Director

I fully intended this article to be about something completely different, but as I think about the impact Covid-19 has already had on our agency, participants, staff, and volunteers, I am almost at a complete loss. We cannot shut our doors. We cannot stop our services. This is an extremely stressful time and people NEED us. Just look at our statistics on the back page.

As I am writing this, seven families - including nine children are living in our facility. How in the world are we going to expect them to do “social distancing”? Seriously? They share bathrooms, kitchen and living space. Do we really think they will be able to self quarantine with children in a small bedroom? But that is exactly what we are asking them to.

Safe Haven employs 8 full-time and 10 part-time staff. How do we support them and keep them safe and healthy? How do we work remotely or just stay home? That isn't feasible with crisis work. We have to be available to shelter victims, answer crisis calls and offer ongoing basic living needs (food/hygiene/medicines).

How do we continue to support victims of domestic abuse and sexual assault when we have to cancel major fundraisers (the 19th Annual Spare the Violence Bowl-a-thon), cannot accept donations at this time and have asked our treasured volunteers to stay home?

All of this weighs heavily on my heart. I feel for my co-workers, participants, volunteers and community— and worry about how we will all recover from this.

In the midst of all the chaos, I was reminded yesterday of how giving this community is and how much support Safe Haven has. It renewed my faith and, I will admit, made me weepy. While I was meeting with management staff trying to figure out a sanitizing plan for shelter, my message light began to blink. When I listened to the message it was from a regular donor who just wanted to “check in” and make sure we were doing ok. Did we need anything in particular? How about financially? And to please call her. Then our friends at Probation and Parole purchased cleaning supplies and medicines for our participants and dropped them off at shelter. My sister director, Jen Bisterfeldt, from SAM25 came to the rescue with face masks, rubbing alcohol and BLEACH! We truly have a network of people that take care of each other.

Please be kind to yourself and to others. Check on your family, friends and neighbors.

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- Tom Grover
Chairman Of The Board
- Jody Johnson
Vice-Chairman/Secretary
- Kelley Strike
Treasurer
- Michelle Bailey
- Kelly Bueschel
- Lois Flaig
- Leann Gueths
- Chuck Hozza
- Cory Klement
- Yvette Hartman-Wilber

- Stacey Cicero
Executive Director
- Sue Dionne
Shelter Supervisor
- Marla Rhoads-Etten
Program Services Supervisor/Counselor
- Alex Montour
SA Victim Advocate
- Kandi Krueger
Family Services Advocate
- Elise Dudley
Family Services Advocate
- Karli Bunt
Administrative Assistant / Volunteer Coordinator
- Mary Harte
Lead Advocate
- Shelter Advocates*
 - Adina
 - Ashley
 - Audra
 - Cassiti
 - Gail

What is Child Abuse?

Kandi Krueger, Family Services Advocate

April is Child Abuse Awareness Month

Child abuse is seen as any mistreatment of a child that results in harm or injury. Child abuse may include: physical abuse-hurting a child by hitting, biting, shaking or burning; emotional abuse-crushing a child's spirit by using extreme ways of punishing, threats or put-downs; sexual abuse-sexual contact with a child, using a child for sexual films, or prostitution, obscene language; and finally, neglect-not meeting a child's emotional needs (love, physical affections, attention, etc.) Physical needs (food, suitable clothing, supervision, health care, etc.) or educational needs (enrollment in school, requiring attendance, etc.)



So what does this all mean for us... this means we as parents or caregivers need to stand up for the children. We need to be their voice if we see something happening. We need to give them our attention, put down our electronics to talk with them and listen to them. We need

to be there for them. We need to advocate for them in their daily needs. Play a game with them, watch and encourage them to play games. Support them every way you can in a healthy environment. Show them what a

FAAR Club & Teen Summit-Teen Council-Teen Growth

Two students from the Shawano Community High School had the privilege of attending the Teen Summit in WI Dells the last weekend in February. A total of 700 students from around the state attended the Summit this year. We had some awesome



keynote speakers discussing Social Justice and Political Action. One workshop they attended really stood out for them; Healthy relationships... what do you really know about the person you are dating? In this workshop they analyzed a date. Good application to real life teen issues.



FAAR Club Fund Raiser At the Shawano Community High School. April 2, 3, and 4th.

Cookies, water, and flowers will be sold before the show and during intermission at the theater production, Anne of Green Gables. Proceeds will support students attending Teen Summit 2021.

The FAAR Club works for greater awareness of teen dating violence, awareness of human trafficking, dangers of texting/sexting, and other important initiatives that work to raise awareness, stop violence, and increase

RESOURCES:

Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault

Web Sites:

Safe Haven, Shawano
www.shawanoshelter.org

End Domestic Abuse WI
www.enddomesticabusewi.org

Wisconsin Coalition Against Sexual Assault
www.wcasa.org

COMMUNITY PRESENTATIONS

Would you like to have Safe Haven present to your club, business or organization? Topics include: general shelter information, training relating to domestic violence, sexual assault, harassment, dating violence, human trafficking or related topics.

WOMEN WORKING IT OUT SUPPORT GROUP

For women who are experiencing abuse and need continued support, advocacy, information, and safety planning while working on their relationship.

Tuesday Mornings
9:30-10:30 am

Childcare Is Available

Pre-Registration Required

NEW HOPE ~ SUPPORT GROUP

Thursday Evenings

At this time, the Thursday evening group is closed to new admissions due to being at capacity. If you have attended

CHILDREN'S SUPPORT GROUP

For more information call
715-526-3421

Children's group is offered in conjunction with our adult support groups on Tuesday and Thursday.

Please call our 24-hour crisis line at (715) 526-3421 or (888) 303-3421 for more information about our groups or to speak with an advocate.

**Check out our website at www.shawanoshelter.org
"Like" us on Facebook (Safe Haven of Shawano County)
Text only line: 715-584-1258**

In March we held our second **Vinyasa Against Violence** event at Stubborn Brothers Brewery. The event was SOLD OUT! We are so grateful for everyone that helped bring this event together. Deb Lonick,

MC Whitehorse, The Stock Market, Stubborn Brothers Brewery and all of our volunteers and sponsors that made this an amazing night. We have been invited

back to Stubborn Brothers another event this fall.



Follow our Facebook page for



for

If you are interested in Volunteering or helping with any of our events please call Karli at 715-526-3421 or visit our webpage at

VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT



We would like to introduce **Caitlin Drews** as our **Volunteer Spotlight!** Caitlin has been with Safe Haven since 2014. She was in the FAAR (fighting against abusive relationships) club in high school and has been with us since then. Caitlin, we are so thankful for you and for all that you do for us! Without volunteers like Caitlin we would not be able to continue our mission at

HOW YOU CAN SUP-

Safe Haven has teamed up with Amazon for a great fundraising opportunity! Please be sure to shop and type in Domestic Abuse Support Center of Shawano County as your charity. A percentage of your purchase cost will be



You shop. Amazon gives.

smile.amazon.com



THRIVENT
FINANCIAL

Be Wise With Money™
Wolf River Associates

Don't forget to use your Thrivent Choice Dollars or Action Teams to provide assistance to victims of domestic violence and

Does your company have a donation matching program? Can you or your business provide an in-kind service or donate a product we use on a regular basis?

Donate to our Endowment Fund through planned giving; including

THANK YOU TO OUR GENEROUS DONORS

September 2019 — February 2020



Many community members donate their time, talent, goods and services to Safe Haven. We thank all who generously contribute to our program to make it successful. The following have donated \$500 or more to Safe Haven during this time period.

Gloria & Robert Beyer, Bleser Family Foundation, City of Shawano, Cellcom Employee Volunteers, Crawford Family Foundation, Culhane Family Foundation, Custom & Classics Car Club, Kathleen Egan, Golfside Pub, Gresham Lions Club, Bob & Maribeth Klopke, Our Lady of Lourdes, Salisbury Family, Salty Investments, Shawano County, Shawano Optimist Club, Dianna & Rodney Sleeter, Trinity New Hope Circle, Wisconsin Deer Hunters, United Way of Shawano County, Wal-Mart Foundation, Zion Lutheran Church Shawano, Zion Lutheran Church Women



A Band-Aid Won't Fix It

By Elise Dudley, BSW Family Services Advocate



Much has been written about the effects of domestic violence on women and children. The consequences for children vary according to their age, but are all negative. According to the U.S. Department of Health & Human Services on their Women's Health website <https://www.womenshealth.gov/relationships-and-safety/domestic-violence/effects-domestic-violence-children>, preschool children may revert to behaviors they had previously outgrown such as bed-wetting, thumb-sucking, increased crying, and whining. They may also have difficulty falling or staying asleep, stutter or hide, and struggle with severe separation anxiety. School-aged children feel guilty about the abuse and may blame themselves for it. Their self-esteem is damaged and they may have fewer friends, not participate in school activities nor get good grades, and get in trouble more often. They may also have excessive headaches and stomachaches. Male teens especially may act out, engage in risky behaviors, have trouble making friends, bully, and have legal problems. Girls tend to withdraw and experience depression.



Males who see their mothers abused are 10 times more likely to abuse their female partner. Females who grow up in homes where her father abuses her mother is 6 times more likely to be sexually abused than one who grows up in a non-abusive home. All these children are at greater risk for health problems as an adult including mental health conditions, diabetes, obesity and heart disease.

Poor self-esteem, a known catalyst for unhealthy choices, is an absolute risk.

Samantha Gluck writes on the website <https://www.healthyplace.com/abuse/domestic-violence/effects-of-domestic-violence-domestic-abuse-on-women-and-children>, "children who grow up in violent households may exhibit a host of adverse behaviors and emotions, including: become violent themselves in response to threats (in school or at home), attempt suicide, use drugs and abuse alcohol, develop eating disorders, abuse themselves (i.e. cutting), anxiety and depression, poor social skills, and enter into an abusive relationship later on."

Women caught in the web of domestic abuse struggle with psychosomatic illnesses, eating disorders, insomnia, gastrointestinal disturbances, generalized chronic pain and usually a variety of mental health issues including post-traumatic stress disorder. Lost time from work due to injuries often cause them to lose their jobs making it even more difficult to leave abusive relationships. The emotional damages such as low self-worth, diminished self-perceptions, unworthiness of love, and shame are often much worse than the physical abuse.

Donations...

Do you find yourself looking for a home for your **gently used furniture**, extra lamps or that used but still good microwave? If you do, please keep Safe Haven in mind. When our clients move into a new place, we try and help them with as much as we can to eliminate that financial burden. It gives them a sense of pride to be able to move in to a new place and everything in it is theirs!! That is what makes this service so very special. We have a very generous community and without **you** this service could not be offered. We do ask that you drop your items off Monday – Friday between 8:00 am and 4:30 pm. If this time is not convenient, please call to schedule a time. **Gift Cards and Gas Cards** are also great items to donate. These allow us to purchase our staple items as needed and the gas cards allow clients to get to work and appointments.

If you or your organization is interested in doing a drive for Safe Haven, please call and we will give you a list of needed items. We also accept donations of **clothing, food, hygiene products, laundry and cleaning supplies**. Any items you use in your home, we use at Safe Haven. We just ask that the items be gently used and that the furnishings are the same without rips, tears or stains. If you have items to donate, or questions about donations, give me a call at 715-526-3421.

April is Sexual Assault Awareness Month



We all have a right to safety in our daily lives — to have our boundaries respected and make choices about what happens to our bodies — at home, school, the workplace, and in public places. That sense of wellbeing and safety can be taken away by knowing that sexual assault, harassment, and abuse are common and not always taken seriously.

The good news is that we can stop sexual abuse before it happens by addressing the bigger picture in which it occurs

The Bigger Picture

Too often, our society sends the message that sexual assault, harassment, and abuse are caused by an individual person's choices and failings — that of the victim or the perpetrator. We should never blame victims for what happened to them — sexual assault and abuse are actions that one person chooses to inflict on another. We need to hold individuals who commit abuse accountable, but we can't stop there when it comes to ending sexual assault altogether. Focusing solely on individual perpetrators and instances of sexual assault, harassment, and abuse is often easier than facing the reality that this type of violence is widespread and common, and the driving forces behind it are hard to see. Everyone's beliefs, values, and behaviors are continually shaped by the world around them — by unwritten rules on how to behave, laws, policies, and pop culture. For instance, weak policies or lack of accountability for those who have committed sexual assault can lead to an increased risk for perpetration. This means our efforts to stop sexual assault before it happens must go beyond changing individuals. We must improve expectations for how we interact with one another, strengthen policies to support survivors, and promote safety throughout communities.

Personal Safety vs. the Bigger Picture

Sometimes when people hear about preventing sexual assault, harassment, and abuse, they think about ways they can keep themselves safe. Prevention means much more than protecting ourselves, not to mention many factors that impact our safety are beyond our individual control. Stopping these types of violence before they happen requires us to work together to support healthy, safe, and respectful behaviors and environments.

What You Can Do?

Improve skills around asking for consent and respecting the answer, challenge jokes that demean others, and maintain and model healthy relationships. Encourage children to respect others' boundaries and bodies, challenge unfair gender stereotypes, and treat others with respect. Improve policies and practices within faith communities, community

Important Dates:

Tuesday, April 7th, 2020: DAY OF ACTION

-Wear teal, the color of sexual assault awareness and prevention.

April 19th-25th, 2020: INTERNATIONAL ANTI-STREET HARRASSMENT WEEK

April 24th, 2020: DAY OF SILENCE

-A student-led national event where folks take a vow of silence to highlight the silencing and erasure of LGBTQ persons at schools.

April 29th, 2020: DENIM DAY

Safe Haven
P.O. Box 665
Shawano, WI 54166

Upcoming Events!

Bowl-a-thon
cancelled

Ladies Golf Outing
July 29
Golden Sands

Thursdayz at Franklin Park
Thursday nights June-August

Ball of the Badges
January 30, 2021
North Star Casino



Would you like to receive this newsletter via email?



**Please email your contact information to:
Help@shawanoshelter.org
or visit our website and view the newsletter.**

Shelter Stats 2019

- Shelter provided safe housing: **86 women, 2 men, 98 children**, average length of stay was 24 days, 4,411 bed nights (17% increase from 2018)
- 1,009 individuals (869 female, 138 male, 2 transgender) made **2,902 crisis calls**, 59 emails and 124 texts to Safe Haven
- Completed 24 restraining orders
- Completed 1,552 safety plans with 363 victims and their children
- Provided support group to 71 women, 56 children
- Provided services to **529 victims (368 women{1 transwoman}, 46 men, and 115 children)**
- Law enforcement completed 161 intimate partner lethality assessments during a domestic violence call. **58% of the calls screened in as high danger/potential homicide risk**, 56 or 60% of the high risk screens came in for services
- **Law enforcement averaged 13 intimate partner domestic violence calls per month**
- Presented to 68 classrooms grades K-12, educating 1,362 children
- Gave 8 community presentations to 136 people
- Provided 46 community awareness activities
- Provided 1 professional trainings to 43 people
- 119 Volunteers logged 1,042 hours of service
- **232 Domestic violence and 38 Sexual assault cases referred to the District Attorney**



Safe Haven Wish List

URGENT NEEDS: Paper Towels, Clorox Wipes, Juice, Hand Sanitizer

- Gift Cards (Grocery Stores, Wal-Mart) & Gas Cards
- (he) Laundry Detergent
- Canned fruit, Applesauce
- Breakfast Cereal, Granola Bars, Peanut Butter, Cooking Spray
- Paper Plates, Durable Plastic Forks
- Diapers size 4, 5 and 6
- Non-perishable food items, Canned Soup, Canned Pasta
- Regular Coffee, Creamer, Fruit Juice, Sugar
- Bleach cleaner, toilet bowl cleaner, glass cleaner
- Liquid Dish Soap, dishwasher soap, pine-sol