

Green Hills Women's Shelter

A monthly newsletter brought to you by the GHWS
February 2011



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Preventing Teen Dating Violence

In 2008, the US Senate unanimously approved S. Res. 710 declaring the first week of February as "National Teen Dating Violence Awareness and Prevention Week," and on January 25, 2010, the Senate expanded the observance by declaring the entire month of February as **Teen Dating Violence Awareness & Prevention Month**. Initiatives to stop dating violence among teenagers have been supported by many public officials.

On the Teen Dating Violence Prevention Project's website, Vice President of the United States Joe Biden is quoted as saying, "*Our responsibility - as parents, teachers, mentors, and community leaders - is to guide our young people towards respectful relationships free from harassment and abuse; teach them that it's ok to walk away from a bad situation; and encourage them to speak out when they see a friend in trouble.*"

A study conducted by the U.S. Department of Justice revealed that girls ages 16 - 24 are more vulnerable to intimate partner violence than any other age group – at a rate almost triple the national average; and that approximately 1 in 5 female high school students report being physically and/or sexually abused by a dating partner.

Persons experiencing an abusive dating relationship as a teen are more likely to smoke, abuse drugs, have eating disorders, or attempt suicide. Unfortunately, they are also more than twice as likely as someone who has not ever experienced dating violence to test positive for an STD.

Green Hills Women's Shelter is here to help the victims of violence such as this get their lives back together with a 24 hour hotline, safe shelter, crisis intervention, case management, legal advocacy, relocation services, housing/utility assistance, job location assistance and training, if necessary, transportation, personal advocacy and referrals. **During the month of February, we ask for your help to raise awareness about teen dating violence - working together, we can put an end to the violence!**

What Can YOU Do?

In honor of Teen Dating Violence Awareness and Prevention Month, there are many things you can do to help educate others about dating abuse and violence.

- Write to your officials asking them to join other leaders across the nation in publically declaring February as Dating Violence Awareness & Prevention Month.
- Wear a purple ribbon to show your support.
- Put up posters, signs, or hand out information cards in your community.
- Urge your local high school to establish a Dating Violence Policy if there isn't one already in place.
- Talk about it with your peers or your teens!

Shelter Tax Credits Available

The Missouri Domestic Violence Shelter Tax Credit allows a donor to give a donation of \$100 or more to the Green Hills Women's Shelter, and in return, the donor will get half (50%) of the donation back in the form of a Missouri State tax credit.

The tax credit is a deduction directly off what you owe in taxes to the State of Missouri during a taxable year. You may still take a regular charitable deduction in calculating your Federal income tax.

Any donation to the Shelter of \$100 is eligible. If you are interested in claiming a tax credit, please contact Tammy Taylor for more information. Once interest has been expressed in

claiming a credit, GHWS will send a Domestic Violence Shelter Tax Credit Application form to the donor.

The donor must fill in the taxable year, Social Security Number(s), or Federal Identification Number, and sign and return the form to Green Hills Women's Shelter. Upon receipt of the completed form, our Shelter will submit the information to the Missouri Department of Public Safety for processing. The Department will process the application and send a Tax Credit to the donor for use in filing their tax returns.

Deadline for using these tax credits towards your 2011 taxes is June 30th, 2011.



Yes! I would like to help the Green Hills Women's Shelters! Please accept my donation & use it to further your mission.

\$50 \$25
 \$10 \$1

Please apply my gift toward the following:

- Trenton Shelter
- Chillicothe Shelter
- Cameron Shelter
- ALICE Software
- Most Needed Area

Please send donations to:

Green Hills
Women's Shelter
1506 Oklahoma Ave
Trenton, MO 64683

Thank You!

What Is Abuse?

Abuse is the mistreatment of one person by another. Abuse is hitting, kicking, yelling, or unwanted touching. Abuse can be physical, sexual, verbal, and or psychological. Abuse is a crime punishable by law.

Who is an abuser?

Abusers are from every walk of life, racial and economic backgrounds, educational level, and age.

Are you being abused?

Am I afraid of this person? Do I feel belittled or degraded by this person? Is it important I do everything possible to keep this person happy? Do I feel worthless because of what this person does or says? Does this person hit me, or touch me, or do anything to me I don't like? If the answer is YES to one of these questions, you may be an abused person.

What can you do about abuse?

You do not have to stay in an abusive relationship. Statistics show in

situations where there is no intervention, abuse gets gradually worse. Your safety and the safety of your children is the most important need you have. You can leave. Even though you may be feeling at your weakest, you need to take control of the situation and do what is best for you and your children's welfare and safety.

Why do women stay?

Some women have grown up with abuse, and feel it is normal. Others are financially or emotionally dependant on their abuser, or fear they will not be able to find a home of their own or support themselves. Many women worry about their children, or blame themselves for the abuse, feel pressured from outside sources (family, friends, etc) to keep the marriage together. The hope that the abuser will change also keeps many women in these relationships.

**If you are in an abusive situation
call us toll-free at 800-942-0649**

~ Chillicothe Shelter News ~

Help Us Bring Alice to the GHWS



The Green Hills Women's Shelter needs your support. The Shelters are actively seeking donations in order to purchase a new client management software called Alice.

Alice is designed specifically for use by domestic violence shelters. The program offers a complete client database and reporting solution for domestic violence and sexual assault agencies. Alice would greatly simplify the task of collecting and reporting data on client demographics and activities that many funders require.

Other agencies have reported how the addition of Alice to their toolbox has helped make the operation of their shelters smoother and has helped them free up valuable time for client interaction that was previ-

ously spent doing paperwork.

GHWS is hoping to raise enough funds to purchase the software, licenses for each of the three shelters, and three new computer systems for each shelter to run the program on. Our goal is \$4,000.

If you would like to help the Green Hills Women's Shelters reach this goal by donating to the Alice Fund, please send your check, cash, or money order to:

Green Hills CAA
c/o Tammy Taylor
1506 Oklahoma Ave
Trenton, MO 64683

Be sure to note in the memo line that the donation should be used towards the purchase of the Alice software. All donations, in any amount are greatly appreciated! Thank you!

Volunteers Needed

Volunteers are a very important part of the Green Hills Women's Shelter. We truly appreciate the dedication and enthusiasm of our volunteers!

Each Shelter currently has a wide variety of opportunities available for volunteers. If you are interested in lending your time to the shelter, an interest survey and application form are available online at:

www.greenhillswomensshelter.org

There are certain required steps you must undertake in order to be eligible to work as a shelter volunteer

however, so please contact any of our three shelter locations if you would like more information before filling out your application.

Completed volunteer applications may be snail mailed to:

Green Hills CAA
c/o Tammy Taylor
1506 Oklahoma Ave
Trenton, MO 64683

or emailed to taylorl@ghcaa.org

We thank you in advance for your interest in volunteering at the shelter!

Shelter Needs List

Health/Hygiene

- Brushes
- Deodorant
- Hair Spray
- Shampoo/Conditioner
- Hair Ties
- Q-Tips
- Body Wash
- Liquid Hand Soap
- Rubbing Alcohol
- Peroxide
- Antibacterial Ointment
- Motrin/Tylenol
- Tampons/Maxi Pads

Household Items

- Disinfectant Spray
- Germ-X
- Mops/Brooms
- Sponges
- Dryer Sheets
- Pine Sol/Lysol
- Cleaning Wipes
- Dish Soap
- 13 Gallon Trash Bags
- 30 Gallon Trash Bags
- SOS Pads

Infant Needs

- Diapers, sizes 3, 4, & 5
- Wipes
- Children's Motrin/Tylenol
- Children's Cough & Cold
- Children's Benadryl
- Thermometers
- Diaper Rash Ointment
- Baby Shampoo
- Baby Lotion
- Baby Powder

Thank you to all the generous donors who help us continue to help others!

Non-Profit Organization

U.S. Postage
PAID
Trenton, MO 64683
Permit No. 227

Green Hills
Women's Shelter
1506 Oklahoma Ave.
Trenton, MO 64683



Green Hills Women's Shelter
1506 Oklahoma Ave.
Trenton, MO 64683

24/7 Toll Free Hotline:
800-942-0649

Trenton Shelter: 660-359-3297
Trenton FAX: 660-359-3297

Chillicothe Shelter: 660-707-0042
Chillicothe FAX: 660-707-1693

Cameron Shelter: 816-632-4900
Cameron FAX: 816-632-4901

www.greenhillswomensshelter.org

Tammy Taylor
Program Director
359-3907, ext 2021
taylorl@ghcaa.org

Shelter Staff

Trenton

Sylvia Gomez
Victim Service Advocate

Tonya Willcuts
Weeknight Coordinator

Chillicothe

Stacy Pope
Victim Service Advocate

Cristy Gouge
Case Manager/Volunteer
Coordinator

Fran Peters
Weeknight Coordinator

Tawnya Jones
HPRP Housing Assistance

Cameron

Sherri Kelsall
Shelter Support Advocate

Milan

Bobbie Lair
Victim Service Advocate

Our Shelter

Green Hills Women's Shelter is a not-for-profit organization dedicated to providing services for victims of domestic violence & sexual assault. This program provides services to residents of the Missouri counties of Caldwell, Clinton, DeKalb, Linn, Carroll, Livingston, Chariton, Mercer, Daviess, Putnam, Grundy, Sullivan, and Harrison.