

# Womenews

Women's Center of Montgomery County



## Chase Community Charity Program on Facebook:

Vote for the Women's Center on Facebook as a

**Favorite Charity to Help us Win \$20,000**

*See details on Page 2*

## Board President's Notes

Submitted by Aeryn Fenton

I am so pleased that it is my month to have the conversation in the newsletter. I would like to talk with you about the best part of the Women's Center, our volunteers. I credit our volunteers because the majority of the outstanding work the Center accomplishes is the fruit of the efforts and dedication of all of you, our volunteers. Tonight at our Board meeting, a long time volunteer, Joyce Skobinsky, will step down from active board service. In her more than twenty years at the Center, Joyce has always volunteered direct service for the Center and for more than ten years, she served as President of the Board of the Women's Center.

When I first came onto the Board, four years ago, Joyce was the Board President. At that time, I was the new kid and the majority of the board members had been in place for some time. I was told that communication would be through e-mail, which made sense as there is a great deal of communication and paperwork that passes among board members. This was a challenge for me at that time as I had been home for a while with very young children and the computer craze literally got right by me. I summoned up my nerve and called this President, whom I had never met, and told her I did not know how to use a computer and so I would be unable to effectively serve on the board. To which Joyce answered, "Well then, I guess we will communicate with you by telephone!" I relate this story to you because it is Joyce's style of leadership to take people as she finds them and make the task easy and comfortable so that you just want to go wherever she goes. In this case, Joyce was using the skills our direct service volunteers use every day: in order to empower a client, we must determine that client's starting point and move forward from there.

How does this relate to today? It has to do with commitment to the Center, stay with it – you'll see. In January, our Board President, Beth Brinly, had to resign immediately. Joyce, who was happily not engaging in active board duty, was asked to 1) rejoin the board, and 2) run and serve as co-president so that a new President could be trained. In other words, Joyce was asked to step into the breach for the Center and lead the way out. Typically, Joyce agreed and devoted herself, that minute, to learning all that had transpired since she has last been on the Board. As co-president these last few months, Joyce has shown me how to lead through warmth and clarity of vision and direction. At every turn, Joyce acted like she and I were equal leaders. And of course we never were. An old man once told me that people fall into two groups, those who take the credit and those who do the work. Joyce Skobinsky has both feet firmly planted in the latter.

To liberally quote the author, Anna Quindlen - Women live serial lives. And they are okay with that. Joyce is now embarking on her newest installment, with her lifelong partner, best friend and love of her life, Jerry, by her side. Joyce, we will hold you to your promise to keep advising the board. Of course we know no one has to hold you to any commitment you make to the Center. You are the type of woman we are all about.

## Norristown Volunteer Update

### IN-SERVICE:

Our Norristown in-services will resume in the fall. Our first in-service will be our Welcome Back in-service, date to be determined in September. We plan to have an exciting year of in-services, including guest speakers from different organizations in Montgomery County.

### LEGAL REMEDIES:

The June Legal Remedies Workshop will be our last workshop until fall. Workshops will begin again in September, date to be determined.

### A NEW KIND OF SUPPORT GROUP

Time for Healing Spiritual Based Support Group: Healing from domestic violence and other life issues that have left one broken and scarred. Fridays from 6-7:30pm at the Norristown office: 18 West Airy Street, 4th floor. Contact Denise at the Women's Center at 610-279-7474

July sessions are: Friday, July 9th and July 16th.

Have a great summer!

Jenn B.

## **Vote for the Women's Center of Montgomery County and Help Us Win \$20,000 Through Facebook and JP Morgan Chase!**

As the article below announces, JP Morgan Chase is conducting an exciting contest through Facebook that allows members to vote for their favorite charities (with budgets under one million dollars). The 200 non-profits receiving the most votes will each receive \$20,000, so this is a great way to support the Center, particularly with the Governor threatening state funding cuts that will decrease our annual funding by \$75,000 this year. We would like to ask all of our members and friends who share our commitment to our mission to participate in this unique opportunity to bring critical needed funds to our program.

The website for the contest is: <http://apps.facebook.com/chasecommunitygiving>

In order for your vote to count you must:

- 1) Have a valid Facebook account;
- 2) Click "Allow" when you first enter the Chase contest pages, indicating that you are allowing them to access your Facebook information; and
- 3) Click on "like" next to the Chase logo, which verifies your eligibility.

If you have completed all three of these steps, you must then click on vote. You should make sure that the total vote count changes after you click on vote.

Chase Community Giving Kicks Off Summer 2010 Program

200 charities to share more than \$5 million in charitable donations in online giving campaign

NEW YORK, June 9, 2010 - Chase announced today it has kicked off its Chase Community Giving Summer 2010 program on the Facebook® platform. The program will award more than \$5 million to be shared among

200 charities with grants ranging from \$20,000 to \$250,000. Participants can begin voting for their favorite charities June 15.

The first Chase Community Giving program, held earlier this year, was the most popular corporate philanthropy crowdsourcing campaign of its type. More than 2 million users on the Facebook platform became fans of the program and helped decide which, of more than 500,000 charities, should receive a share of \$5 million. More than 100 winners from 31 states were selected. Chase Community Giving is back again - and improved. The number of charities eligible to receive awards has doubled and several new tools have been introduced.

"As a company, we're highly committed to serving our local communities, and Chase Community Giving has proven to be an innovative approach to philanthropic giving at the local level. We've now seen that when corporations listen to the communities they serve, they can learn a great deal and, in turn, help worthy causes achieve goals that would have never been possible," Jamie Dimon, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, said.

Chase Community Giving provides an opportunity for small and local organizations to build awareness of their causes on a national level. And it allows individuals to help direct where the Chase donations should go through the power of the Facebook platform.

"This initiative is a new paradigm for corporate giving because it removes logistical barriers for small non-profits, provides a national platform for small and newly established charities to be heard, and allows individuals to have a voice in our philanthropic giving," Kimberly Davis, President of the JPMorgan Chase Foundation, said.

Based on feedback from participants, the program has been updated and improved. Charities will be able to edit their charity profiles and add meaningful media to help tell their stories in the form of videos and photos. Badges have been introduced, which users earn to indicate their commitment to their community; in addition a Gift Vote feature has been added, which lets users earn the right to give additional votes to a friend. The Leaderboard is a returning feature, which has been improved, and will be used throughout the program. It will reflect the charities' standings based on total votes received and will be updated at least once daily.

The site for the Summer 2010 Program is live now and can be found at <http://apps.facebook.com/chasecommunitygiving>. Charities can start personalizing their pages and voting begins June 15 and ends at 11:59 PM EDT on July 12. Winners will be determined on or around July 13.

To underscore the smaller and local focus of the program, 501©(3) public non-profits with operating expenses of \$1 million or less will be eligible. The top vote-receiving charities meeting the eligibility and other requirements of the program rules will receive the top grants. The eligible charity with the most votes receives \$250,000; the top 4 runners-up receive \$100,000 each; and the remaining eligible charities in the top 200 will each receive \$20,000. There will be one round of voting. Winning charities chosen by voters in the last program are not eligible for the Summer 2010 program. Like the previous round, the \$5 million to be granted in Chase Community Giving is in addition to the bank's regular philanthropic giving. JPMorgan Chase donates more than \$100 million annually to charitable giving. For more information and program requirements, visit <http://apps.facebook.com/chasecommunitygiving>.



**Support the Women's Center of Montgomery County  
at the  
Bloomingdale's Annual Multi-Charity Event:  
A Two-Day Shopping Benefit**

**Wednesday, October 20<sup>th</sup> and Thursday, October 21<sup>st</sup>, 2010  
10:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m.**

Purchase your \$10.00 discount ticket from the Women's Center of Montgomery County through our Elkins Park office by calling 215-635-7340. Your \$10.00 is tax deductible, and the Women's Center keeps 100% of your donation. In addition, if you visit either the Willow Grove or King of Prussia Bloomingdale's on October 20th or October 21st and present your ticket, bearing our stamp, the Center will receive an additional \$5.00 per ticket!

With your admission to the event, you can enjoy a 15% to 20% discount on all of your Bloomingdale's purchases on both days. The tickets are good at either the King of Prussia or Willow Grove Bloomingdale's stores.

Come and enjoy the storewide discounts, fabulous enter-to-win prizes, live entertainment, cooking demonstrations, food and beverage samplings, trunk shows, informal modeling, vendor representatives, celebrity personal appearances, music, psychics, and, for the kids, balloon artists, caricaturists, costumed characters and much more.

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**Congratulations to Pottstown Volunteer Coordinator Niki Stansbury:  
In Service to the DAR**

In May, Pottstown staff member Nichole (Niki) Stansbury was sworn in as "First Regent" of the Daughters of the American Revolution/Manatawny Chapter. Her three-year term will officially begin in September 2010.

In accepting this honor, Niki's new duties will include identifying speakers for monthly meetings, arranging special events such as any luncheons and field trips, and stepping in for our Regent should she be unable to fulfill her duties. It is very exciting opportunity for Niki, and she is really looking forward to all the new experiences, challenges and new relationships that this new role will bring.

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**It's Membership Renewal Time**

Commitment—What does it really mean to be committed to making a better life for our families and ourselves? What does it mean to be committed to our beliefs and values? What does it mean to be committed to the betterment of the neighborhoods we live in? What does it mean to be committed to social change?

In the past, by becoming a member of the Women's Center of Montgomery County, you not only thought about what that commitment means, but you acted on it as well. I am sure you will agree, domestic violence is not a pleasant topic to think about, but there are millions of women each year who live with this reality and need our assistance. The Women's Center provides services to more than 3,500 victims of domestic violence annually.

In recent weeks, you should have received your annual membership renewal form for the period July 1, 2010 through June 30, 2011. We hope that you will take the time to recommit to our mission by renewing your membership now! If you have already renewed, please let me again thank you for your generous support!

# DOMESTIC VIOLENCE IN PENNSYLVANIA: A TIME TO ACT



## WHO WE ARE:

We are a coalition of 61 community-based programs providing free and confidential services to nearly 100,000 domestic violence victims and their children each year. The Legislature and local communities have been active partners in building this statewide network that offers a life-line to safety for victims in all 67 counties.

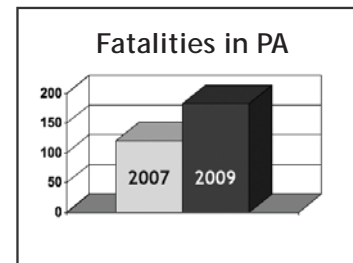


## WHY WE NEED YOUR HELP:

A bad economy is especially hard on domestic violence victims. Abusers may be home more if they lose their job. Victims who lose their job may be financially unable to leave.

Between FY 2003/04 and FY 2008/09, demand for shelter has increased nearly 28 percent, and unmet requests for services have increased nearly 14 percent.

Over the last three years, domestic violence-related fatalities have spiked 51%, from 121 in 2007 to 183 in 2009.

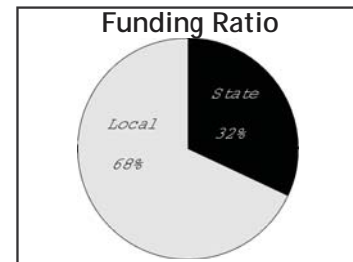


## FUNDING HASN'T KEPT PACE WITH DEMAND AND COSTS:

Last year, two shelters temporarily closed, and more than 100 domestic violence program workers were laid off statewide, even as programs received 3,000 more requests for shelter than the year before. Some programs have been forced to resort to waiting lists for services.

Despite the critical need, domestic violence funding remains flat in the proposed FY 2010/11 budget.

The Commonwealth funds just 32% of what it costs our programs to provide intervention and prevention services in all 67 counties. Programs must raise the rest.



## HOW YOU CAN HELP NOW:

You have the power to help those of your constituents who contend daily with life-threatening domestic violence. Please support the legislation detailed on the following page.

## LEGISLATION TO RAISE REVENUE FOR DOMESTIC VIOLENCE SERVICES

### Marriage & Divorce Fees to Support Funding For Victims

#### House Bill 1588:

##### Co-sponsors:

WAGNER, KILLION, BEYER, BOYLE, BRENNAN, BRIGGS, BROWN, CALTAGIRONE, CONKLIN, DONATUCCI, FRANKEL, FREEMAN, GIBBONS, GINGRICH, HARHART, JOSEPHS, KIRKLAND, LONGIETTI, MAHONEY, MANN, MENSCH, MIRABITO, MUNDY, M. O'BRIEN, PAYTON, PICKETT, QUINN, READSHAW, ROSS, SAYLOR, SIPTROTH, VULAKOVICH, WALKO, MCCALL, DEPASQUALE, VEREB, SHAPIRO, CRUZ, YOUNGBLOOD, WHITE, DIGIROLAMO, FLECK and GALLOWAY

#### Senate Bill 920:

##### Co-sponsors:

WASHINGTON, ALLOWAY, ERICKSON, FONTANA, HUGHES, KITCHEN, MCILHINNEY, MELLOW, MUSTO, O'PAKE, RAFFERTY, LEACH, STACK, STOUT, TARTAGLIONE, YAW, FARNESE, D. WHITE, BROWNE, LOGAN, WILLIAMS, and FERLO

#### Status:

Both bills are pending action in their respective Appropriations Committees

#### Both bills would:

- Add a modest \$25 fee to the existing marriage license surcharge
- Add a \$25 fee for divorce filings
- Direct DPW to use the revenue for services to domestic violence victims

#### Why PCADV supports these bills:

- The need for additional resources is more urgent than ever in these times of economic uncertainty
- State funding for services has failed to keep pace with the rise in demand and operating costs. Once again, funding remains flat in the proposed FY 2010-11 budget
- Since 1990, a \$10 surcharge on all marriage licenses issued in the commonwealth has been dedicated to funding statewide domestic violence services; this amount has never been increased. This surcharge raises more than \$700,000 annually
- These nominal surcharges at the user level will raise nearly \$3 million each year as a dedicated, reliable source of funding for domestic violence services
- These surcharges are an established funding mechanism in many other states

Potential Additional Revenue	
Marriage Licenses Filed <sup>1</sup>	73,300 x \$25 = \$1,832,500
Divorce Cases Filed <sup>2</sup>	41,975 x \$25 = \$1,049,375
Total Revenue Generated for Services	\$2,881,875 per year

#### What you can do to help:

- Urge Committee Chairs to move these bi-partisan bills out of committee
- Urge Caucus Leadership to bring the bill to Floor vote
- Vote for the bill

<sup>1</sup> Total marriage licenses issues in 2005 based on fees collected via Act 222.

<sup>2</sup> Total divorce cases filed statewide in 2005 based on Family Court State Tables.

The Women's Center at the Keswick Theater!  
Join Us at the Sunday, October 31st for the 3:00 Matinee Performance of  
CAPITOL STEPS

All-new 2010 Pre-Election Show –  
America's favorite musical political satirists & N.P.R. stars take their up-to-the-instant pot-  
shots at everyone & everything!

The Women's Center is selling tickets to the Sunday, October 31<sup>st</sup> matinee, 3:00 p.m. production of "CAPI-  
TAL STEPS" at the Keswick Theater in Glenside. Ticket prices are \$40.00 per person, which includes all  
shipping and ticket handling charges.

Join us for this all-new pre-election show by THE CAPITOL STEPS. These ultra-popular musical political  
satirists will have you rolling in laughter at their up-to-the-instant lampoons of Democrats, Republicans,  
and everyone in-between and on the far fringes! Please note that this is the full-length version of their  
show, and NOT an abbreviated format.

"The Capital Steps"  
At the Keswick Theater in Glenside  
Sunday, October 31st  
3:00 p.m. performance  
\$40.00 per person

To reserve your tickets, please send in your payment with the information below:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Telephone #: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Tickets: \_\_\_\_\_ Amount Enclosed: \_\_\_\_\_

If you prefer to charge this donation to your Visa, Mastercard, Discover or American Express  
please provide the: Card Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Mail to: WCMC; 8080 Old York Road, Ste. 200; Elkins Park, PA 19027

**Thrift Shop Volunteers Needed**

The Women's Center of Montgomery County Thrift Shop, located at 703 West Avenue in Jenkintown, is open  
six days a week from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. We have a need for volunteers to staff the shop, particularly on  
Saturdays. Whatever your talent we have a position to suit. We need sorters, merchandisers, decorators, and  
cash register clerks.

For more information, contact Maria at the Elkins Park office at 215-635-7340.



# 10% Contribution on Hundreds of Items!

You Shop...

Buy participating products at Genuardi's and earn 10% for the Women's Center of Montgomery County. Our group number is 2298334.

Schools Gain...

Womens Center of Montgomery County  
eScrip Group ID – 2298334

Kids Win!

eScrip families and non-eScrip families can participate.

**Program Dates:** August 11th through September 14th

Please confirm that the Women's Center is your designated charity! You can sign up at your local store, at [www.escrip.com](http://www.escrip.com) (after July 1st), and in the upcoming eScrip Magazine!

## Women's Center of Montgomery County

### Elkins Park Office

215-635-7344

FAX: 215-635-7347

Thrift Shop: 215-885-0620

### Norristown Office

610-279-1548

FAX: 610-279-7740

### Pottstown Office

610-970-7363

FAX: 610-970-0705

### Bryn Mawr Office

610-525-1427

FAX: 610-525-1429

### Colmar Office

215-996-0721

FAX: 215-996-0725

[www.wcmontco.org](http://www.wcmontco.org)

1-800-773-2424

## DATED MATERIAL

Women's Center of Montgomery County  
8080 Old York Road, Suite 200  
Elkins Park, PA 19027

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