

# Womenews

Women's Center of Montgomery County



## Executive Director's Report

### Board of Directors Update

As you know from our recent issues of Womenews, there have been a number of changes in our Board of Directors since June. Although she will continue to serve as an active Board member, Joyce Skobinsky ended her five-year tenure as our President in June 2007. Assuming that role is Beth Brinly, who has served on our Board since July 2004. Beth brings a broad range of skills and knowledge to the position, and has already demonstrated her impressive leadership over the past two years performing her duties as committee member, chair and facilitator for a number of Board projects. In formulating her approach to Board leadership, Beth's goal is to utilize the strategic plan as a dynamic and living document that will focus our vision, create positive change and promote the active engagement of Board members, staff, volunteers and the entire Women's Center community. As we begin this process, the Board will be meeting for their annual retreat on September 23<sup>rd</sup> for what we believe will be a stimulating and motivating session!

Already this year, our Board of Directors has taken several actions that will create exciting change and possibilities here at the Center. First, they have approved the signing of a lease for new space in the North Penn region. With the opportunity to expand our presence in this region – and housed with similar non-profit organizations such as Family Services and Children's Aid – this move will help us to grow in a region currently under-developed, providing more opportunities for volunteerism and community participation in our programs. Additionally, the Board has a number of new fund-raising projects planned for this year, including our annual champagne brunch to be held on Sunday, April 13<sup>th</sup>. Details about our honorees and the theme of the event will be presented in full next month.

Finally, new to the Board this year are six members who joined in July: Pattie Drummond, Eve Earley, Nancy Griffin, Beth Rubin and Andi Seidner. Departing Board members Sandy Hyman and Sandy Kravitz, who recently ended their six year terms, have graciously agreed to stay on as members of our Advisory Committee.

With so many changes occurring we thought it would be a good idea to update you on the leadership team who comprise our Board of Directors with the following section: Getting to Know Your Board Members:

*Beth Brinly* – Board President effective July 1, 2007. Currently employed by the Federal Department of Labor; a Board member for the past two years; served on the Fund Development Committee and is a member of the Planning Committee, Coordinator of Operations Committee which combines Finance, Facility and Personnel Committees. Beth is an Elder and on the Board of Directors of her church in Paoli. Joined Board in 2004.

*Lillian Sulliman* – WCMC Vice President. Served on Board 1998 to 2001, Rejoined Board in 2005. Lillian has been a constant in the Women's Center for many years. She has worked as one of the Center's Legal Advocates since 1996 and was awarded both the Linda Collins and Victim Advocate of Montgomery County Commission on Women and Families Awards in 2004. Her work on dedication to domestic issues began in the early 1980's when she lived in California and the Women's Center was fortunate when she moved east that she joined the center as a volunteer in the mid 1990's. Lillian will be a great

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asset as the Center expands its services to Geriatric needs as she has published articles on research she completed on Geriatrics during her graduate studies.

*Renee Brock* – WCMC Treasurer. Joined Board in 2005. Renee joined Worley Parsons as their CFO in 2006-2007. Prior to that, she was Chief Financial Officer and Counsel for Selas Fluid Processing Corporation, Division of Linde AG in Blue Bell, PA. Her responsibilities included oversight of company commercial matters including accounting, customer contracts, purchasing, intellectual property and real estate, in addition to the direct supervision of purchasing, Human Resources and finance/accounting personnel. Renee believes in the goals of the Women's Center with respect to empowering women in many aspects of their lives and would like to utilize my education and experience to help in furthering the accomplishment of those goals.

*Dorothy Enright* – WCMC Secretary. Joined Board in 1998, with a one year leave 2005-2006. Dot returned to the board in 2006 after a one-year hiatus. During her time away from the board she continued to volunteer her support through her committee work and other efforts. In addition she has served as Deputy Director of the Montgomery County Office on Aging and Adult Services, a county agency familiar with, and funder of, services to clients of the Women's Center. She has also served on the American Red Cross's Eastern Montgomery County Board and held a gubernatorial appointment to the Montgomery County Board of Assistance for approximately twelve years.

*Patricia (Pattie) Drummond* – is currently in the employ of Pa Department of Labor and Industry, serving as Administrator for CareerLink of PA at their Montgomery County site located in Norristown. Pattie sees herself as people-oriented, a visionary and "change agent". A graduate of the University of Pennsylvania with a degree in Government Administration, Pattie's position requires extensive knowledge of the employment and career skills market as a provider of training services to the unemployed within our county. Pattie, the recipient of several awards for her outstanding and innovative community outreach, also serves on the Montgomery County Workforce Investment Board. Pattie resides in Newtown Square. Joined Board July 2007.

*Eve Earley* – currently works in office administration and management. Her educational background includes graduate work at Villanova University in Employee Counseling and Continuing Education at New York Jun Society. Volunteer service includes work with homeless services, Girl Scouts, and Ronald McDonald House. Eve is a Wyncote resident. Joined Board July 2007.

*Aeryn Fenton, Esq.* – former Federal Criminal Defense Attorney; full-time mother. An accredited WCMC DV Counselor/Advocate who has been working direct service within several WCMC office venues. Aeryn has been involved in the volunteer sector for many years having served on the Crime Prevention Board and recently chaired a Fundraising gala for the Pa. Historical Society. Resides with her family in Penn Valley. Joined Board July 2006

*Kathy Gallagher* – Senior Vice President, Retail Financial Services Citizens Bank discovered the unique aspects of the Women's Center while helping determine the Center's worthiness of the first area's Community of Champions. Immediately following the presentations ceremony she requested to join the board and continue her support that she has provided other organizations as an active board member. Ms. Gallagher's is based in Plymouth Meeting and is quite familiar with the needs of the community. Kathy has served for the past few years on the Personnel Committee. Joined Board in 2004.

*Nancy Griffin, Esquire* – retired from the US Attorney's office, Eastern District PA in 2004. Nancy, who has served on several other non-profit Boards, recently completed the 45-hour domestic violence counselor training and is actively volunteering in our Elkins Park office. She is an Elkins Park resident. Joined Board July 2007.

*Jennifer McGraw, Esq.* – Currently a certifying officer with the US Department of Labor. A summa cum laude psychology graduate of Widener University and a graduate of the Beasley School of Law, Temple University, Jennifer has worked in the mental health, legal and workforce development fields. Resides with her husband and daughter in Northeast Philadelphia. Joined Board July 2006.

*Derek McKee* – Currently employed by Lincoln Financial as an Internal Marketing Consultant. A graduate of Brown University, with a major in economics and minor in community health services, he excels in sales within the field of

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financial planning. Derek anticipates enjoining corporate support outreach within the non-profit sector. Joined Board July 2006.

*Grant Miller* – Currently employed as a Manager with a national catering company serving the Kimmel Center and other prominent cultural venues. A recent magna cum laude graduate of Temple, Grant has worked as volunteer in a variety of human service programs; he is an accredited DV Counselor/Advocate, having completed the Women’s Center volunteer training in 2003. Resides in Philadelphia. Joined Board July 2006.

*Kathy Morris* – Currently employed by Lower Merion Township as Community Development Technician; having been on staff for the past ten years, she is a recipient of the Township’s Outstanding Employee award. Formerly involved in various areas of real estate development. A highly motivated volunteer for ElderNet, Bryn Mawr Services for Elders. Resides in the Blue Bell area. Joined Board July 2006

*Raymond (Ray) Rife, LSW* – is employed as a Crisis and Trauma Specialist, working both in the US and abroad with corporate and military. Ray is a certified marriage and family therapist and life coach. He has prior service as Executive Director of a non-profit agency. His non-profit Board service includes several church affiliated positions. Ray resides in Jenkintown. Joined Board July 2007.

*Beth Rubin* – is a teacher and ESL Coordinator with the Philadelphia school system for the past 27 years. Prior to that, she taught English in Israel. She is a member of the Coalition for Peace Action Committee and the Montgomery County Progressives, a graduate of American University, Vermont College of Norwich, and Ben Gurion University of Negev (Israel). Beth has been a volunteer counselor advocate and community educator with the Center since 1998, and is a resident of Elkins Park. Beth is mother to three adult daughters. Joined Board July 2007.

*Andra (Andi) Seidner* – is a legal administrator. Her educational background includes graduate work in Mental Health at Hahnemann University, with focus on the impact of family violence on women. She is the Co-Director of the Arthur and Andra Seidner Foundation, whose areas of interest include DV, Services for the Blind, Open Space Preservation, and Music Therapy for the Disabled. Andi has been a member of the WCMC for 13 years, recently returning to a volunteer role as hotline counselor. She resides in Huntingdon Valley. Joined Board July 2007.

*Naomi Shapiro* – has worked as a teacher and art specialist; now a stay-at-home Mom to a teenager and two younger children, Naomi. Is an active member of the community through her work with Art Goes to School, the Parenting Center and several Jewish organizations. As graduate of Barnard college, Ms. Shapiro uses her talents as an art educator with several community outreach programs. As a community educator, she conducts in home one on one education seminars with families on behalf of the Partnership for Jewish Education. Her hobbies include water coloring and mosaics. Having served on the Board for the past two years she believes strongly in furthering the awareness of women’s issues. Joined Board in 2004

*Joyce Skobinsky* – Past President, WCMC President 2002 to June 2007; Joined Board in 1998, with two year hiatus in 2000. A member of the Women’s Center since 1986, Joyce has served as hot line counselor, both in-office and at-home; legal court/advocate, trainer/facilitator of Center’s DV Counselor trainings; on Board she has served as a delegate-at-large, Vice President and for the past four years as President, using her dedicated leadership skills to lead the Board in a forward direction, benefiting the Center as a whole.

### **Wishing a Very Speedy Recovery to Irene Oslick**

As some of you may already know, our Norristown Legal Advocate Irene Oslick fell and injured her hip in early August. We are happy to report that Irene is making great progress in her recovery and is already home recuperating. We know that Irene is chomping at the bit to return to work and eagerly pursuing her rehabilitation therapy to that end, so we want to let her know that we miss her and that our thoughts and best wishes are with her. Thanks also to all of the staff and volunteers who have stepped up to fill the gap left by Irene’s absence. It is in these situations especially that we recognize what a truly amazing group of people make up our Women’s Center!

**Support the Women's Center at  
Boscov's Friends Helping Friends Event**

**Tuesday, October 16, 2007  
10:00 a.m. to 9:30 p.m.**

Purchase your **\$5.00** admission ticket from the Women's Center of Montgomery County through our Elkins Park office by calling 215-635-7340. Your \$5.00 is tax deductible, and the Women's Center keeps 100% of your donation.

With your admission to the event, you will receive a 25% discount shopping pass for purchases made at Boscov's only on October 16<sup>th</sup>.

The discount shopping pass can be used at any Boscov store in Montgomery County for purchases made on Friends Helping Friends Day (October 16, 2007).

**Your \$5.00 ticket purchase benefits the Women's Center of Montgomery County!  
Tickets are now available at the Elkins Park Office  
Contact us at 215-635-7340**

**Congratulations to Volunteer Judy Blumstein**

If you have ever taken our volunteer training here at the Women's Center, it is most likely that you have met or worked with Judy Blumstein. To those of you new to the Center, Judy is one of those consummate volunteers who is actively engaged in so many aspects of our work. In addition to being a hotline counselor in our Elkins Park office, Judy chairs our Peer Counseling Program, has facilitated support groups, and taught various in-services, including our Active Listening workshops offered annually. She has also served as a primary trainer in our volunteer training program, conducted numerous workshops for police, healthcare workers, district judges, and other members of our community. She has provided legal advocacy and court accompaniment to victims of domestic violence, and also acts as a mentor to new volunteer trainees.

In addition to her many direct service activities, Judy is also a former member of our Board of Directors and currently provides creative support and labor for our Special Events Committee. For those of you who have been to our annual Spring fundraising brunch, many of those beautiful silent auction displays baskets are the result of Judy's hard work and talent.

In recognition for all that Judy does for the Center, her colleagues here, and the individuals she counsels with such skill and compassionate dedication, we nominate Judy for a special volunteer award – the Phebe Novakovic Award – presented by the Women's Resource Center in Wayne. I am thrilled to report that Judy has been selected as one of the three finalists considered for the award. The judge's final decision will be announced at their annual breakfast meeting to be held on **Thursday, September 20<sup>th</sup> from 8:00 to 9:30 a.m.** at the Gregg Conference Center at the American College in **Bryn Mawr**.

The Women's Center has arranged for eight people to attend the event to support Judy and share in her celebration. If you are interested in attending as our guest, please contact the Elkins Park office at 215-635-7340 to reserve your space.

On behalf of all of here at the Women's Center of Montgomery County, thank you Judy for all that you do and for being the wonderful person who inspires, educates and encourages us on daily basis! Congratulations on this most-deserved community recognition!

## **Norristown Volunteer Update**

### **IN-SERVICES:**

Our in-services will resume on September 18, 2007 from 1-3pm in the Norristown office. Our guest speaker will be Linda Awarski, Director of Montgomery County Court Care, she will discuss their services and the importance of referrals from the Women's Center. Please let me know if you plan to attend!

Our October in-service will be October 16, 2007 from 1-3pm in the Norristown office. Our guest speaker will be Michelle Sepulveda, PFA supervisor from the Court House she will discuss PFA procedures.

### **LEGAL REMEDIES:**

The Legal Remedies Workshops will resume on September 18, 2007 from 5-7pm in the Norristown office. The information sessions are held at our Norristown office at 18 West Airy Street, 4<sup>th</sup> floor. Please call 610-279-7474 to register to attend. Also, please refer a family member or friend to this valuable program!

### **WALK-A-THON COMMITTEE:**

The Walk-a-thon for this year will be October 27, 2007 from 10-12 p.m. at the Montgomery County Community College in Blue Bell, Athletic Department.

To all staff, WCMC volunteers, members and others: Anyone who has an interest to be part of the organizing committee, please call Denise @ 610-279-7474.

### **SAVE THE DATE:**

The Volunteer Appreciation Brunch will take place Sunday, October 14<sup>th</sup>, 2007 from 11-2pm at the William Penn Inn. Hope to see you all there!

### **WELL WISHES:**

The staff/volunteer staff sends well wishes to Irene Oslick, for a quick and healthy recovery! We miss you already!

### **SPECIAL THANKS:**

An extra special thanks to the volunteers who have been pitching in and giving extra volunteer hours while Irene is on leave. Also, thank you to the Elkins Park volunteers who are covering the Norristown hotline when needed. We truly could not do it without you all!

*Jenn B.*

*Norristown Volunteer Coordinator*

## **Support the Women's Center of Montgomery County Through eScrip**

Buy participating products at Genuardi's/Safeway and earn up to 10% for **the Women's Center of Montgomery County**.

Women's Center of Montgomery County eScrip **Group ID – 2298334**

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) and in the upcoming eScrip Magazine!

## **Pottstown's Potpourri**

How and when do we know our presence is impacting our local communities? Of course we have our statistics that can quantify our individual contacts and hours of service provided, but these are only one measure of our efforts. Recently, the Pottstown office has experienced some less quantifiable, but no less significant, evidence of its impact to the community.

One indicator that our services are valued has been demonstrated in the number and sources of the referrals being made to the Women's Center. The Pottstown office has recently received referrals from several individual sources such as an employer sponsored counselor, a police captain, a Soroptimist member, a minister, a nurse, and a lawyer. The referrals from these individuals demonstrate their confidence in the Women's Center and our ability to aid victims of domestic violence. While these referrals are significant and appreciated, there are other referrals that are even more gratifying and these are the ones that come from past and present service recipients.

When you arrive at your office and there are three women waiting for you to open and they are there because they "heard from someone that this place cares and will help women like us, who need it" , you know the Women's Center has helped someone. When you receive a call from a women and she says, "My sister said you helped her and you could help me too," you know the Women's Center has made a difference. These types of referrals are the true evidence of the impact our services have on the individuals in our communities and demonstrate the continuing need for our efforts and our presence.

*Kristine Wickward*  
*Legal Advocate - Pottstown*

## **Volunteer Outreach**

*By Deanna Linn, Director of Volunteers*

"If you want a thing well done, get a couple of old broads to do it" — Bette Davis

"In commercial law, the person duped was too often a woman. In a section on land tenure, one 1968 textbook explains that "land, like women, was meant to be possessed." — Ruth Bader Ginsberg, 1974

For those who have asked, I have been obtaining the information for the newsletter calendar from the website, [womenshistory.about.com](http://womenshistory.about.com). As you see, there are also quotes as well as "this-day-in-history." It is fun trying to decide which piece of trivia is the most important for that date. You can go onto the website and use the links to find out more about each item. The important part of the calendar is to keep track of the events that are happening with the Women's Center — the community education events and inservices at the different offices. Please check the calendar each month because there can/will be changes.

Please note that there are Active Listening inservices (remember this is a requirement) on Sept 27, 7pm, at the Bryn Mawr office and Oct 4, at the Elkins Park office, both at 1pm and 7pm.

Janine and I have been trying to organize a better system for having volunteers participate in the many community education events where the Women's Center has a table with information on resources. This is one of the most effective ways to get information about our existence out into the community. We absolutely need your help with this. The newsletter and the WCMC website have an up-to-date list of events scheduled. Please contact Janine or myself to sign up.

In this newsletter is a poster about the Walk-a-thon. Again, we have to get the word out to the rest of the world that this event is taking place. Contact me for more copies of the poster for you to distribute out in the community. And we always need you to help with the WCMC posters. Thank you all for all you do, but we all need to do more.

The following article appeared in the August 22, 2007 Edition of the National Organization for Women's online newsletter at <http://www.now.org/news/note/082207.html>

## Misogyny: A Public Health Crisis

*Below the Belt: A Biweekly Column by NOW President Kim Gandy*

August 20, 2007

A 20-year-old woman reported being raped by the bouncer outside a bar in Cincinnati. A disabled woman in Everett, Wash., says she was raped in her home by a man she knew, while her young children slept nearby. In Washington, D.C., police say a woman was forced to withdraw money for the assailant after he raped her. A man was arrested in Cheyenne, Wyo., for raping and murdering a woman. Chicago police say a 25-year-old woman was stabbed and strangled in a "domestic dispute."

And that was just yesterday.

Rarely a day goes by without multiple headlines announcing that a woman or young girl is missing, or has been sexually assaulted, raped or murdered, or some combination thereof. It is no secret that violence against women and girls pervades this country and the world, and yet for some reason, neither the statistics nor the headlines shock society into collective, sustained action. The fact that **one in six women in the U.S. is the victim of sexual assault** raises few eyebrows.

Certain instances of sexual assault, rape and other violent acts against women get a lot of media coverage, but the reports are rarely framed as evidence of a serious public health crisis and a society still struggling with misogyny. More often, incidents make news because of the alleged perpetrator's celebrity status or the salaciousness of the crime, a trend that has fostered a frightening trivialization of violence against women. Rape has become the stuff of gossip — and even humor.

Ask any young woman who has been involved in anti-violence and rape crisis work on a college campus, and you will learn (or perhaps you already know) the undeniable impact of the media's and society's treatment of gender-based violence. At student-organized Take Back the Night marches, when the campus community walks in protest of violence against women, it's expected that the march will be interrupted by streakers. Young feminists at NOW have told stories about male peers who joked about starting "Rape Clubs," and that even wearing a t-shirt saying something like "Rock Against Rape" can prompt snickering from peers.

With attitudes like this so common, I guess it's not surprising to learn that **one in five high school girls had been physically or sexually abused by a dating partner**, according to a 2001 study published in the *Journal of the American Medical Association*. The lead author of the study said the findings suggest that many adolescent boys "have adopted attitudes that men are entitled to control their girlfriends through violence." This control can have both immediate and far-reaching effects. For instance, girls who had been victimized were eight to nine times more likely to have attempted suicide in the previous year.

With such sobering findings at hand, you might think we'd hear about large-scale policy or publicly-funded education initiatives to address gender-based violence. You'd think that maybe, six years later, the federal government would have stopped funding abstinence-only programs to the tune of \$1.5 billion over the last 10 years — programs that have been widely shown to promote archaic gender stereotypes and hostile gender relations. Take a look at this excerpt from a student workbook used in an abstinence-only curriculum in Ohio, a state which in 2005 ranked fourth in the nation in tax dollars expended for abstinence-only education:

"Deep down, you know that your friend's plunging necklines and short skirts are getting the guys to talk about her. Is that what you want? To see girls drive guys hormones when a guy is trying to see her as a friend. A guy who wants to respect

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girls is distracted by sexy clothes and remembers her for one thing. Is it fair that guys are turned on by their senses and women by their hearts?"

(The full report on programs in Ohio linked at the [SIECUS web site](#).)

Unbelievable, right? And yet, at the end of June, the U.S. Senate voted unanimously to extend the Title V abstinence-only-until-marriage program. On the up side, subcommittees of the Senate Appropriations Committee did approve an additional \$39 million in funding for domestic violence-related services, including \$2 million in services to address teen dating violence, sexual assault and stalking. But \$2 million in services pales in comparison to the \$176 million allocated this year for abstinence-only "education" that actively fosters sexist attitudes, which then contribute to violence against women, which then necessitate those responsive services. Where is the sense—or morality—in that? Where is the real "values" discussion?

So while the government is running in circles, wouldn't it be nice if the media were attempting in a serious, credible way to shed a light on violence against women and girls in a way that wasn't obscured by a market-driven and celebrity-obsessed lens?

When CNN feels compelled to run a headline like "Spector rant: 'All women should be shot in the head,'" concerning music producer Phil Spector's alleged murder of actor Lana Clarkson, couldn't the news provider include some information about just how many women are murdered annually by someone they know?

When we hear about violence against women, as in June's stories about the murder of pregnant Jessie Davis by her boyfriend and the murders of Nancy Benoit and her son by professional wrestler Chris Benoit, don't we deserve better than a "she asked for it" response? Said FOX pundit Bill O'Reilly of these murders: "In both of these terrible situations, the men involved were troubled and chaotic. And the women involved had to know that. Now I'm not blaming the victims here, but I am saying that every one of us has to make smart decisions especially when children are involved." Of course, he's not blaming the victims, but he goes on to say, "The women should be alive today, but those ladies made big mistakes."

There's so much more that could be covered in these two cases, and yet the take-away message is that these are isolated, unusual events. That's simply not so. For example, Jessie Davis' boyfriend was a police officer, a fact most media outlets mentioned. But did any news report mention that domestic violence is experienced by at least 40% of police families — a rate two to four times higher than in the average family?

The same is true in the military, where there is an increased incidence of domestic violence, as well as increased likelihood of sexual assault. A 2003 University of Iowa study found that "79 percent of participants reported experiences of sexual harassment during their military service; 30 percent of the women reported an attempted or completed rape."

Yet, there is no mainstream media coverage of the young enlisted woman who is being court martialed after she reported a gang rape, apparently because she refused to testify against one of the men after being forced to spend two days *alone* being questioned by the defendant's military lawyer. Why was he allowed to question her alone, much less for two days? Why wasn't her sexual assault advocate allowed to be with her, when she requested it? Why hasn't the media reported on this story?

Finally, would it hurt to have at least one national news outlet cover the story of the three female college soccer players in California who helped a 17-year-old girl to a hospital, saying that they had seen her being gang raped at a party? Two of the young women, April Grolle and Lauren Chief Elk, went public with their experience after the county district attorney decided not to press charges against the accused men, which included members of the De Anza Community College baseball team. The girls lost friends and have been harassed for speaking out, but they told local news media, "We knew what we were doing was right."

No, it wouldn't hurt at all for a few more people to hear that message.

## **PCADV Baffled by Phillies' Acquisition of Player Charged with Assaulting His Wife**

*PCADV Press Statement Regarding Philadelphia Phillies' Acquisition of Julio Mateo*

The Pennsylvania Coalition Against Domestic Violence (PCADV) is baffled and greatly disappointed by the Philadelphia Phillies' recent acquisition of Julio Mateo from the Seattle Mariners. Mateo, who is facing a hearing on September 4<sup>th</sup> on charges of assaulting his wife, was suspended by the Mariners, sent to Triple-A team Tacoma and picked up in late July by the Phillies.

Based upon the incident last year in which Phillies' pitcher Brett Myers allegedly assaulted his wife in Boston and the Phillies subsequent collaboration with PCADV, PCADV believed that the Phillies were taking positive steps to address domestic violence within their organization. Since that time, the Phillies:

- attended and supported the Summit on Domestic Violence in the Workplace in December 2006;
- required both major and minor league players to attend a training on gender violence provided by Mentors in Violence Prevention during 2007 spring training;
- planned administrative and front office staff training for the fall of 2007;
- committed to adopt a domestic violence policy for their administrative and front office staff.

However, according to PCADV Executive Director Susan Kelly-Dreiss, "the acquisition of a player charged with assault on his wife does not fit with an organization which claims to take domestic violence seriously."

If Major League Baseball teams don't follow a standard for player conduct, it becomes incumbent upon Major League Baseball Commissioner Bud Selig to pursue a league-wide policy that would provide clear direction to management and implement real consequences for players who perpetrate violence against women.

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*Statement by Susan Kelly-Dreiss, PCADV Executive Director*

## **STATE BUDGET INCREASE FOR DOMESTIC VIOLENCE SERVICES FALLS SHORT OF EXPECTATIONS**

In the weeks leading up to adoption of the Commonwealth's FY 07-08 budget – signed into law by Governor Rendell on July 18 – the Pennsylvania Coalition Against Domestic Violence (PCADV) and our network of programs made a valiant effort to hold on to the modest \$1.2 million increase and 3% COLA that had been proposed in the Domestic Violence Services line item of the pending budget.

Despite best efforts, the final budget retained the COLA, but reduced the \$1.2 million to only \$400,000. Pennsylvania's 61 community-based domestic violence programs are in desperate need of funding. The loss of \$600,000 in FY 02-03, the lack of regular COLAs, the steady increase in the cost of providing services 24 hours each and every day, and the loss of another \$425,000 in federal funding in 2007/08 all combine to create additional stress and strain on operating budgets already stretched to the breaking point.

PCADV remains committed to continued collaboration with the Rendell Administration, the Department of Public Welfare and the General Assembly in pursuit of other resources and revenue sources to support the overwhelming financial needs of programs providing services to close to 100,000 victims and their children in crisis each year.

**WOMEN'S CENTER OF MONTGOMERY COUNTY  
PRESENTS OUR THIRD ANNUAL  
"UNMASK THE ABUSE"  
WALK-A-THON**

**SAVE THE DATE: Saturday, October 27, 2007  
10:00 AM TO 12:00 NOON**

**5K (3.1 MILES) WALK-A-THON  
AT MONTGOMERY COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE  
BLUE BELL CAMPUS**

**Join us as we work to raise awareness and promote community collaboration in our work to end domestic violence!**

**For more information on how you can help,  
Please contact Denise in the Norristown Office at  
610-279-7474**

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### **Fundraising With a Conscience**

#### **Donating Your Used Cellphones**

For several years now, the Women's Center of Montgomery has partnered with Shelter Alliance, a Miramar, Florida firm that specializes in the logistics and underwriting of fundraising programs through the collection and responsible recycling of used cellular phones. Shelter Alliance currently works with over 2000 social service organizations in 50 states and has contributed over \$4,000,000 to participating organizations.

Once discarded cell phones are collected by the Center, they are mailed to Shelter Alliance. They evaluate each phone and decide its worth. They will pay up to \$40 for newer telephones. These proceeds are paid back to our program to support services to victims of domestic violence.

Each year these donations benefit our program with several hundred dollars in added revenue. So spread the word and keep the phones coming. Phones can be delivered or mailed to any of our offices or the thrift shop.

For more information on Shelter Alliance check their website at [www.shelteralliance.net](http://www.shelteralliance.net).

#### **Empty Ink Cartridges Wanted!**

If you're looking for an easy way to support the Women's Center, bring us your empty Inkjet Cartridges, empty Laser Cartridges, laptops with power cords, and PDA's (Palm Pilots). We will be reimbursed for the items we collect by Cartridges for Kids, who will then recycle them in an ecologically friendly manner.

Please spread the word around and help us raise much needed funds.

To end domestic violence, we must change our behavior.  
To change our behavior, we must change our attitudes.  
To change our attitudes, we need education.  
To educate our communities, WE NEED YOU!

### **Pre-School Program – My Hands Are Not For Hurting**

September 19, 2007 – Carmel Nursery School 10:00-11:00 AM

September 20, 2007 – Carmel Nursery School 10:00-10:30 AM

November 5, 2007 – St. Andrew’s Nursery School- 9:15-10:35 AM and 12:30-1:20 PM

November 6, 2007 – St. Andrew’s Nursery School – 9:15-10:05 AM and 12:30-1:20 PM

### **HEALTHY RELATIONSHIP WORKSHOPS And SPEAKING EVENTS**

Sept. 15, 2007 – United Way Speakers Bureau – Susquehanna Bank – Pottstown – 7:45AM

Sept. 27, 2007 – St. Thomas of Villanova – 7:00-8:00PM

Oct. 10, 2007 – St Catherine’s in Wayne – 7:00-8:00PM

Oct, 19, 2007 - 11th Annual Drug Free, Violence Free Youth Conference  
Berean Conference Center in Sanatoga, PA.

Oct. 29, 2007 – Workshop for “Youth Police Force” – Lower Merion PD Time TBA

### **TABLE EVENTS**

September 8, 2007 – Upper Merion Community Fair – 10:00-2:00

September 29, 2007 – 2007 Lower Gwynedd Township Countrie Picnic

Oct. 6, 2007 – Montco. Blue Bell – Community Day – 11:00AM-3:00PM

October 13, 2007 – Community Harvest Festival ’07 – Whipain Township Community Health Fair 11:00-5:00

October 13, 2007 – Schuylkill River Festival – Pottstown – 9:00AM-6:00PM

November 13, 2007 – Temple University – Ambler – Wellness Day 11:00-2:00

### **UPCOMING SPECIAL EVENTS:**

September 30, 2007 - The Woman’s Forum will be conducting an event at Montgomery County community College to benefit the Women’s Center.

October 14, 2007 - The annual Volunteer Appreciation Brunch at the William Penn Inn, from 11:00 to 2:00.

October 27, 2007 - The 3rd Annual Walkathon will be held at Montgomery County Community College, Blue Bell Campus.

April 13, 2008 - Annual fundraiser at the Meadowlands Country Club.

Contact Janine Kelly  
The Women’s Center of Montgomery County  
Community Education Coordinator  
610-525-1428  
616-525-1429 (fax)  
jkelly1@dca.net  
www.wcmontco.org

**Support the Women's Center at the  
Bloomingdale's 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Multi-Charity Event:  
The Shopping Benefit**

**Thursday, October 25, 2006  
10:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m.**

Purchase your \$10.00 admission 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 shop at Bloomingdale's on October 25<sup>th</sup> 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 your Bloomingdale's purchases on October 25<sup>th</sup>. The tickets are good for admission at King of Prussia and Willow Grove.

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.

**Your \$10.00 ticket purchase benefits the Women's Center of Montgomery County!**

**Women's Center  
of Montgomery  
County**

Elkins Park Office

215-635-7344

Thrift Shop: 215-885-0620

FAX: 215-635-7347

Norristown Office

610-279-1548

FAX: 610-279-7740

Pottstown Office

610-970-7363

FAX: 610-970-0705

Lansdale Office

215-853-8060

FAX: 215-853-8065

Bryn Mawr Office

610-525-1427

FAX: 610-525-1429

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

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