

PeaceLines

Inside this issue:

Executive Director's Report 2

Holiday Celebrations 3

Kasey Baker Featured by MNCASA 3

2012 Upcoming Gala 3

Safe Avenues Programs 4

5th Annual "Make a Difference" Fundraiser

This Year's "Make a Difference" fundraiser, held on November 18th, was another successful event bringing in more than \$7,000 for the Renville County Outreach Program!

The theme this year was "Restoring Hope in the Hearts of Many." Anna Gronewold was the featured speaker. She shared her story of grief at the loss of her daughter, Ashley, and her husband, Chet. Both were murdered by Ashley's ex-boyfriend in January of 2011. Anna speaks to encourage hope, healing, and community responses that support families and hold abusers accountable.

The live auction was entertaining and successful with Auctioneer Kristine Fladeboe Duinick at the mike selling to the highest

bidders. Her performance was both high quality and fun!

Chuck Blum, as the "Make a Difference" event emcee, also entertained as he directed the quests and highlighted each of the fun activities of the night.

Our sincere thanks to Anna, Kristine and Chuck as well as the guests, sponsors, donors, and committee members for their participation and generous support of the Renville County Outreach Program. Your consolidated efforts and gifts will indeed, "Restore Hope in the Hearts of Many."

You are a gift to us that forever, "Makes a Difference!"

Happy Holidays,
Janine, Cathi and the entire
Safe Avenues Team



Kristine from Fladeboe Auctioneers



Quilt by Marge Barber presented by Janine & her sister, Kristie!

See page 2, for a list of the 2011 "Make A Difference" Sponsors!



Safe Avenues chosen as grant recipient



In 2010, Safe Avenues provided emergency safe shelter to **59** women and **79** children. We also served **674** women, **365** children, and **18** men through our advocacy programs.

In October, Safe Avenues was chosen to receive \$20,000 as part of a \$3 million nationwide giveaway from the Mary Kay Foundation to combat domestic violence. Thanks to our local Mary Kay Advisors, Selena Klein, Elsa Olson, Fern Gerdes, and Kay Scholten.

Safe Avenues is one of 150 domestic violence organizations participating in the program. The grant will be used to provide advocacy, support, safe shelter, and assistance with safety planning to victims struggling with violence. Since the Mary Kay Foundation's inception, it has awarded \$28 million to shelters and programs providing safety and addressing violence prevention.



Thank you to Volunteer Coordinator, Stephanie (middle), and local Mary Kay Advisors who pampered Safe Avenues volunteers at their appreciation event! You helped make the grant possible!

Safe Avenues Annual Budget:
\$1,085,017 Unsecured amount
for FY2012: \$ 93,760



Executive Director's Report

The following sponsors ensured a successful "Make A Difference" fundraiser for Safe Avenues Renville County Outreach

- Dennis & Linda Ulrich
- Keith L. Scott Agency
- Max's Grill
- Our Savior's Lutheran Church
- Bird Island Community Fund
- Renville county HRA/EDA
- Home Town Bank
- Don & Ann Orth
- Saunders Mertens Schmitz, PA
- Thurston, Inc.
- F&M Bank of Minnesota
- K-100 Big Country
- Dirk's Furniture
- RC Hospitals & Clinics
- George Paur Agency, Inc.
- Olivia Kiwanis Club

It isn't enough just to want something. You've got to ask yourself, 'What am I going to do to get the things that I want.'

Your challenge is to bridge the gap which exists between where you are right now and the goals that you want to reach. All you need is the plan, the road map, and the courage to press on to your destination.

Knowing where you're going is all you need to get there. You can't get lost on a straight road.

Author Unknown

The Safe Avenues team has been planning during the past six months in order to find a straight road in a time of uncertainty. No matter the current storms on our roads, defining the ultimate goals and deciding the path we will take is critical to keeping our minds and hearts committed to the mission and vision of the agency. To aid the planning, board members stream-lined board meeting agendas and reports in order to spend more time visioning. Safe Avenues staff engaged in a half day retreat to select the most critical issues to carry along the path in order to effectively serve those who are being abused. Board members and program

directors considered the outcomes of the staff retreat while reviewing and revising an existing strategic plan. Work continues; to develop the map, secure the courage (and the resources), and press on to our destination.

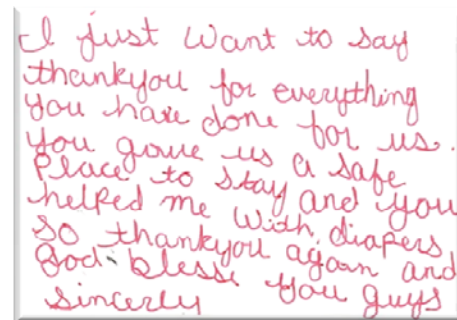
I am grateful for the support that continues to flow onto our path in the form of in-kind supplies and services, volunteer assistance, and monetary contributions. Please consider using the donation form below to send a much needed gift during the holidays and as 2011 comes to a close. Your gift is an investment in survivors' road to hope and healing and to a community committed to the safety of all!

Connie Schmoll, Executive Director

Got Carpet?!

Our Visitation Center is in need of carpet for the facility, and we are turning to you for help. We are looking for a piece of carpet at least 13.5 x 11 ft to place in a beige and brown room.

Please contact Harmony Visitation Center at 320-214-0799 if you can help.



Anonymous Survivor

Safe Avenues Donation Form	GIFT INFORMATION
<p>DONOR INFORMATION</p> <p>Name _____</p> <p>Organization _____</p> <p>Address _____</p> <p>City _____ State _____ Zip _____</p> <p>MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: Safe Avenues</p> <p>Safe Avenues is a non-profit organization, registered with the state of Minnesota. Your gift may be tax deductible.</p> <p>MAIL DONATION TO: Safe Avenues, PO Box 568 Willmar, MN 56201</p>	<p>Amount: \$ _____</p> <p>____ Contributor's names are published on our website. Check this box if you want your gift to be anonymous.</p> <p>____ Please use my monetary gift as needed by Safe Avenues.</p> <p>____ I am making this gift: _____ in memory of _____ in honor of: Name _____ Relationship _____</p> <p><i>To request that we send notice of your gift, please provide name and address:</i> _____ _____</p> <p>City _____ State _____ Zip _____</p>

Please help bridge the gap in our current funding shortage by making a contribution today!



The holidays are just around the corner!

“My office is shrinking!” exclaims Anita, our Youth Advocate Coordinator. I peer into her office as another box of donated gifts is put on the pile to be sorted.

Each year Safe Avenues along with the First Covenant Church of Willmar offers a holiday celebration for the women and children served during the year.

The community has been tremendously supportive this year in helping us acquire the donations needed to make the event possible.

Over 100 women and children attend the event hosted by Safe Avenues staff and volunteers as well as members of the Church.

A big thank you to those who

contributed gifts for this year’s holiday celebration. And a special thanks to the local businesses who served as gift drop off locations:

- Dunn Bros Coffee
- YMCA
- Nelson Chiropractic & Rehabilitation Center
- Wells Fargo Bank



Kasey Baker featured by MNCASA

The Minnesota Coalition Against Sexual Assault is a program dedicated to assisting local programs in treatment and prevention of sexual assault. MNCASA provides ongoing training and education to member programs throughout the state.

In each issue of MNCASA Voice there is a section devoted to a “spotlight member.” This month’s issues features our Sexual Assault (SA) Program Coordinator, Kasey Baker. After 4 years of volunteering at the Safe Avenues “Hope for

Tomorrow” Gala, Kasey Baker committed herself to a full-time position heading the SA Program. Kasey graduated with a B.A. in Public Relations from Saint Mary’s University of Minnesota.

Kasey’s efforts have been focused on creating awareness, relationship building, and training and development. Due to her remarkable effort, she anxiously awaits the expansion of sexual assault advocacy to another location. This will allow increased security and confidentiality as well

as easier access.

“What I’ve come to realize in the past six months is that this work is rewarding but difficult,” states Baker. “Our work is never over. But each day is a new day... I am honored and proud to represent an advocacy movement that focuses on supporting and empowering victims of domestic violence and sexual assault. I know that together, we have, we can, and we will continue to make huge strides in helping victims become survivors.”



“...this work is rewarding but difficult. Our work is never over. But each day is a new day.” - Kasey

6th Annual “Hope for Tomorrow” Gala



Although the gala is still months away, the committee has already started planning! Raising over \$50,000 last year, Safe Avenues biggest fundraising event is set to take place on Friday, April 13, 2012.

Similar to previous years, the Gala will include a live and silent auction with items such as

artwork by Audrey Falk, a pontoon excursion, and a day of shopping to be supported by local retailers.

The night will include a raffle with various prizes, and a wine wall with proceeds going to PAWS, the Safe Avenues program to keep pets safe.

Executive Chef, Marty

Marquardt and his staff will be offering a choice of three fabulous entrée options. This year’s choices include turkey cordon blue, prime rib of pork, and vegetable lasagna.

If you would like to join this committee or contribute to the event call Safe Avenues at (320) 235-0962.



For healing, for justice, for peace, for all!

Box 568
Willmar, MN 56201

Phone: 320-235-0962
Fax: 320-235-3990

Mission: To inspire social change while restoring safety, value and dignity to all in the cycle of interpersonal violence including children at risk of abuse and survivors of domestic abuse or sexual assault.



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We're on the Web!

www.willmarshelter.com

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Paola Morrell
Christie Kurth
Linda Nelson
Marti Nieland
Robert Bonawitz
Gladie Hagen
Julie Kveene

Safe Avenues Programs	Phone
Shelter House - Safe Temporary Shelter	320-235-0962 800-792-4210
Project Impact Youth Program	320-235-0962
Renville County Outreach	320-523-1015
Swift County Outreach	320-842-3206
Chippewa/Lac Qui Parle Outreach	320-269-6520
Kandiyohi County Sexual Assault Victim Advocacy Program	320-235-0962 800-792-4210
Harmony Visitation Center	320-214-0799
Criminal Justice Intervention Project	320-222-4030
Safe Avenues Administrative Office	320-235-0475

Funding Partners

