



# HARBOR LIGHTS

Fall 2010

Newsletter of Harbor House Domestic Abuse Programs



## Learn More On Our Website

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

### Outreach to Members of the Deaf Community

Harbor House, in collaboration with Deaf Unity, will host a free training Oct. 6 for local law enforcement, emergency health care providers and sexual assault response teams on strategies for responding to deaf victims of domestic abuse and sexual assault.

### Serving Individuals with Physical Limitations

Harbor House's shelter is fully wheelchair accessible inside thanks to good planning and ongoing building assessments by staff and accessibility experts. An important next step: Creating accessibility to our children's outdoor play area.

### Providing Help to LGBT Survivors

Harbor House's dedication to ending oppression by offering equitable services to all populations extends to the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender communities, who experience domestic abuse at rates equal to their heterosexual peers.

## WOMEN OF COLOR COMMITTEE TO FOCUS ON NEEDS, SERVICES, ISSUES

Harbor House has long been focused on learning all we can about diverse populations of people who need our services and developing strategies for how to provide the best service possible to meet specific needs. One of the most recent steps in this direction is the formation of our Women of Color Advisory Committee.

Co-facilitated by Harbor House Community Education and Outreach Coordinator Kadihja Kelly and Reach Counseling's Lola Smith, the WOC Advisory Committee is on a mission "to empower all women of color by enhancing their leadership capacity through collaboration, networking and education."

The group hopes to accomplish three main objectives: 1) Create safe and compassionate spaces; 2) Eliminate violence affecting communities of color (domestic abuse, sexual assault, racial profiling, human trafficking, police brutality and hate crimes); and 3) Strengthen relationships with allies in the community. The primary goal is to address issues regarding oppression, disparity of services and the lack of active leadership roles among women of color in the Fox Valley.

"When people say, 'We're all one race,' they are attempting to treat everyone equally; however, it is sometimes hurtful and demeaning to

people of color," Kelly said. "These statements make light of the true problem here, which is racism and that people do pay attention to skin color, ethnicity and culture. Most women of color who enter Harbor House not only have experienced abuse within their relationship, but have also faced oppression through services they sought and well-intentioned people. Our committee's hope is to change those negative experiences."

### Focus on Strategic Initiatives

#### Meet the Needs of a Broad, Diverse Population

The Fox Valley region is growing in population, as well as in the number of cultural groups who comprise the total community. This growing mix of cultural groups means that Harbor House must create programs and communications that make the services offered through the organization available to a diverse group of cultures. In addition, the needs of these groups must be understood from a cultural and personal perspective.

Learn more: [www.harborhouseonline.org](http://www.harborhouseonline.org)

Harbor House's Mission

To lead a community-wide partnership in the awareness and prevention of domestic violence and abuse, and to offer safety and support to diverse families in crisis.



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## RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



Harbor House is supported by United Way

### HARBOR HOUSE HAPPENINGS: DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH

The following is a list of upcoming activities now through November. October is especially busy because it is Domestic Violence Awareness Month. **For full details, go to [www.harborhouseonline.org](http://www.harborhouseonline.org)**, our Facebook page (Harbor House) or e-mail [mariat@harborhousedap.org](mailto:mariat@harborhousedap.org). We look forward to seeing you at these inspirational events!

**Friday, Sept. 17: 2<sup>nd</sup> annual Women's Hope Art Auction** from 6 to 9 p.m. at Avenue Art & Co. Auction to feature pieces centered around the theme "The Power of Purple." Enjoy music and refreshments.

**Tuesday evenings Sept. 14 - Oct. 12: Women Obtaining Work Job Skills Training Classes** with Judie Lain of Employability made possible by a grant from the Allstate Foundation.

**Saturday, Sept. 25: Octoberfest** booths in collaboration with Buffalo Wild Wings, Bestway and West Business Services.

**Month of October: 4<sup>th</sup> annual Cut It Out Campaign** encouraging local salons to partake in training and/or fundraising. Participating salons confirmed as of press time include: Grassroots, Fantastic Sam's (all Fox Valley locations) and Gill-Tech Academy of Hair Design.

**Wednesday, Oct. 6: 20<sup>th</sup> annual Take Back the Night** rally begins at 5:30 p.m. in UW-Oshkosh Kolf Sports Center basement gym. See [www.uwosh.edu/home/tbtn](http://www.uwosh.edu/home/tbtn) for participating partners and details.

**Thursday, Oct. 14: Safe Sanctuary Interfaith Training Workshop** from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. on detection, interruption and response to domestic abuse within faith communities.

**Thursday, Oct. 14: Generations of Hope Donor Circle** invitation-only event at The Trout Museum of Art, catered by Zuppa's, jazz by Tomboulian Music and sponsored by West Business Services.

**Friday, Oct. 15: Domestic Violence Intervention Team 15-Year Celebration** for members of the team to mark the anniversary of the group changing its name and shifting focus.

**Friday and Saturday, Oct. 22 - 23: 3<sup>rd</sup> annual Scrap Family Violence** craft retreat and fundraiser at Little Chute Civic Center.

**Nov. 2 - 4: Step Up educational performances** hosted by Harbor House at the following middle schools: Brillion, Greenville, Einstein, Roosevelt, Seymour, Little Chute, New London and Chilton. Made possible by Women's Fund for the Fox Valley Region; Myra M. & Robert L. Vandehey Foundation; Robert & Patricia Endries Family Foundation; Chilton Area Community Foundation; Brillion City Community Drive and Waupaca Area Community Foundation.

**October - December: Adopt-a-Family** for the holidays by contacting Christy at 955-9113 or [cmdonaldson@harborhousedap.org](mailto:cmdonaldson@harborhousedap.org).



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