



# The Advocate

SUMMER 2011

www.safeplaceolympia.org

## 24-Hour Crisis Line

360 754 6300

TTY 360 943 6703

help@safeplaceolympia.org

## SafePlace turns 30!

This October, SafePlace will celebrate our 30th anniversary in style with a Grand Gala and Auction. Join us on Friday, October 7th at Indian Summer Golf and Country Club from 6 – 10 pm, for an evening full of fun and fascinating auction items.

Are you interested in attending the event, donating an auction item or hosting a table? Contact Thomasina at (360) 786-8754 x112 or email [thomasinac@safeplaceolympia.org](mailto:thomasinac@safeplaceolympia.org).

We thank the following sponsors for their generous support of the event:



### Gold Sponsors

Heritage Bank *and* Providence St. Peter Hospital

## In this issue

We're celebrating some exciting milestones and are honored by community recognition!

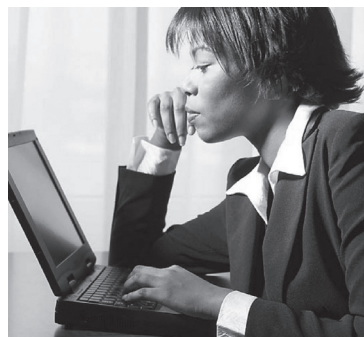
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## Our E-newsletter Turns 2



Our monthly e-newsletter just celebrated its second birthday! We're proud to say that the e-newsletter has doubled its subscribers since March 2009. Packed full of current news about SafePlace, the e-newsletter keeps readers on top of what's happening within the agency and in our community. Recent issues have featured stories and photos about SafePlace receiving Nonprofit

**E-news turns 2, continued page 5**

## Client Services

Amory Grace  
Amy Jace  
April Jen  
Autumn Lucila  
Carolina Maritza  
Davy Natalia  
Gabby Zoe

## Coordinators Administrative

Britt Randy Carr  
Casi Derek Cockle  
Jennie Melissa Koepp  
Michelle Josie Solseng

## Facilities

Donna  
Kendra

## Board of Directors

Jason Cain  
*President*

Katie VandenBerg  
*Vice President*

Lucy Clifthorne  
*Secretary*

Myra Downing

Rebecca Deuel

Anne Goranson

Nancy Koptur

Richard Platner

Sandy St. Dennis

Evette Temple

Danielle Westbrook

## Directors

Mary Pontarolo  
*Executive Director*

Connie Sue Brown  
*Program Director*

Thomasina Cooper  
*Development Director*

Cheri Literal  
*Human Resources Director*

Rosalie Saecker  
*Fiscal Director*

From our Executive Director, Mary Pontarolo

## Awards and Recognitions

After 30 years of 24 hour service on behalf of sexual and domestic violence survivors in our community, SafePlace is proud to have recently received the Non-Profit of the Year from Economic Development Council, The Best Non-Profit from the Weekly Volcano Newspaper and our Youth Coordinator the Individual of the Year Award from the Thurston Community Action Network for her work in preventing child abuse.

It really feels great to have SafePlace receive these recognitions. These awards validate our thirty years of work behind the scenes but moreover, they are notable because they help survivors know that there is a place to go where they will be treated with dignity and their needs will be honored.

Awards are a funny thing. They fill you with pride about the past work done but they also encourage you to keep it up. That is a lesson that many a parent has found when using positive reinforcement. It changes behavior much more quickly than negative actions.

We like your acknowledgement of our work; knowing it makes a difference to you our community and the survivors we serve is very motivating.

We hope you will continue to tell us about our service and what you think we can do to continue to earn your praise. Feel free to contact us at [www.safeplaceolympia.org](http://www.safeplaceolympia.org)

We look forward to hearing from you!

Warmly,



*SafePlace Executive Director  
Mary Pontarolo with Hailey*



### *En Su Voz (In Her Voice)*

“Gracias por apoyar este grupo ojola y continue ed de mucha ayuda para la familia. Yo personalmente estoy aprendido a comunicarme más con mis hijos.”

Translated: “Thank you for supporting this Support Group, I hope it will continue, it is a big help for my family.

*I am personally learning to communicate more with my children.”*

## Thank you to our generous and supportive community!

We thank the following organizations who hosted benefit events between February 1, 2011 and May 15, 2011

Washington State Attorney General's Office  
Evergreen State College Women's Resource Center - Vagina Monologues  
Donna Sifuentes - Scentsy Event  
Chanteuse Singing Valentine  
Applebee's  
Laureate Gamma Psi  
Rainier Park Liquor and Beverages  
Nathaniel Jones for Olympia City Council  
Storman's, Inc.

We thank the following donors for their commemorative gifts between February 1, 2011 and May 15, 2011

### Memorials

Kay Boyd by Jon Halvorson  
Judy Bricker by Bob & Linda Tjossem, Jim Bricker and Family  
John Manter by Sally Sawtell  
Marilyn Neary by Diz Hanbey  
Bonnie Loveless Peacock by Darlene & Lars Anderson  
Margaret Epting by South Sound Sailing Society  
Mary Jane Van Buren by Cheri Literal  
Eunice and Raymond Wiener by Julie Jacoby

### Honorariums

Josie Wright's 1st birthday by Lorraine James  
Valerie Hendrickson's birthday by Diane Rae  
Terri Pressly by JCPenney Company Fund  
Addie Spencer's birthday by Jack & Sharyn Merrigan

## Double Your Donation!

SafePlace is currently raising funds towards a \$5,000 matching grant from The Lucky Seven Foundation. Manson and Frances Backus founded The Lucky Seven Foundation to support the betterment of life in the Puget Sound Basin. Their commitment to improving our community and to survivors of sexual and domestic violence is greatly appreciated by everyone at SafePlace, and most importantly, by those we serve.



The funds from The Lucky Seven Foundation will go towards supporting SafePlace's vital crisis services. So far SafePlace donors have contributed \$3711 towards this matching grant opportunity. Thank you! If you haven't donated yet, you still have the chance to be a part of doubling your gift to SafePlace!

The goal of The Lucky Seven Foundation matching grant is to expand our current donor list and to challenge our current donors to double their donations. Is this you? Your gift will be matched, dollar for dollar, if:

- This is your first gift to SafePlace
- You have not donated since 2008
- You are giving twice what you gave last year

If this doesn't describe you, please share this opportunity with others. The matching grant is a great way to encourage new supporters of SafePlace.

### *En Su Voz (In Her Voice)*

“Estoy agradecida, de que eston cobriendo este gasto nos ayuda mucho, porque tenemos muchos traumas que no sabemos que hacer con nuestros hijos.

He encontrado personas que me ayudaron por melio de este taller. ¡Mil gracias!”

Translated: “I am thankful because you are covering this expense that helps us a lot, because we have so many traumas and we do not know what to do with our children.

*I have found persons and they helping me through this workshop (Support Group). A thousand thanks!”*

## Yes! I want to create Freedom From Violence.

Enclosed is my tax-deductible donation of:  \$500  \$250  \$100  \$50  \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Donation in  Honor  Memory of \_\_\_\_\_

Please send an Acknowledgement to \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

My check is enclosed. I prefer to donate by  Debit Card  Visa  MC

Card Number \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date \_\_\_\_\_ Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Do not publish my name in any SafePlace publications *Please remember SafePlace in your will.*

### *En Su Voz (In Her Voice)*

“Mil gracias por otrastaller de ayuda para padres. He aprendido mucho cómo entender y ayudar a mis hijos, por medio de otras experiencias, hemos intercanbrado ideas, y hemos comprendido que en ocasiones nosotros influimos mucho en las decisiones buenas o malas que neustros hijos toman.

Mil gracias una vez más, y espero que estos talleres continuen, papra ayudar a otras mujeres, padres e hijos. ¡Gracias!”

*Translated: “A thousand thanks for this workshop (Support Group) that helps parents. I have learned many ways of how to understand and help my children; through other experiences and ideas we have exchanged, we understand that on occasions we are a good and/or bad influence in the decisions that our children make.*

*A thousand thanks once again, and I hope that these meetings will continue to help other women, parents and children. Thank you!”*

## A Wish List to Sink Your Teeth Into

Have you ever wondered just how much of the basics we go through at SafePlace? Imagine with a 28-bed shelter, and a Community Services office, we fly through the items it takes to run a one-family household. Here are some examples of what we need right now, and just how far they go.

### **Wish List Item** **How Long Does that Last?**

Case of toilet paper (36 rolls) .....	1 week
Case of paper towels (12 rolls).....	1 week
12 packages baby wipes.....	1 week
Disposable diapers (96 count).....	4-10 days
12 pack Kleenex .....	2 weeks
2-3 boxes garbage bags (90 count) ...	1 month
2 packs sponges (24 count) .....	1 month
2 Costco tubs of laundry detergent...	1 month

Especially needed right now are vinyl zippered mattress covers for 4 full-sized beds and 26 twin beds.

For more information about our wish list, go to our website at [www.safeplaceolympia.org](http://www.safeplaceolympia.org) or call Derek at 360-786-8754 x100.

# An Hour on the Help Line

By Josie Solseng

Did you know our 24/7 Help Line is one of our most accessible and well-used resources at SafePlace? Staffed by trained advocates and volunteers, we received 4,448 calls in 2010, an average of 12 calls per day. People who call the Help Line may be wondering whether they're in an abusive relationship, how to handle a parenting plan with an abusive partner, what they can do to plan for their family's safety, or how to access legal services. Calling our Help Line is often the first step in breaking free from the cycle of domestic violence or healing from the trauma of sexual assault. "Not only is the Help Line an entry point for people into our shelter, it's also a resource for many people in our community and elsewhere," notes

Amory, a Help Line Advocate. "We do a lot of research for people seeking assistance about a wide variety of issues."

I recently spent an hour with Amory as she answered Help Line calls. According to Amory, "The most common reasons people call have to do with things like making a financial plan, relocating, legal stuff, and 'is this abuse?' type questions. People who have other resources don't necessarily call, so it's important that we're here for those who need us."

The first call was from someone who said they worked for CPS (Child Protective Services) and wanted information on someone who may have been staying at

the shelter. Amory gently refused to identify whether the individual was receiving SafePlace services, in line with our confidentiality policy. As the caller pushed, Amory explained that we are bound by the same confidentiality statutes as doctors and lawyers. Amory stated, "I think because people don't have to tell us their names, the Help Line is a more accessible and safe place to call."

The next caller was very upset. Typing details as she listened, Amory paused every few minutes to clarify what she'd heard and check whether the caller felt understood. At one point, she asked the caller to take a deep breath because "you seem anxious." Several times during this lengthy

call, the Help Line rang and Amory let the upset caller know she'd be right back. As she switched back and forth between calls, her voice remained calm and compassionate. She was still on this call, focused and empathic, when I left.

For nearly 30 years, SafePlace's Help Line has been an invaluable round-the-clock community resource. Anyone can call, anytime and talk with someone like Amory who will skillfully listen, problem solve, and suggest resources. You might want to keep the number close by in case someone you know needs to call: 360-754-6300 (TTY: 360-943-6703).

*"I hear you. I'd like to go over what you've said to make sure I understand. Would that be okay with you?"*  
Amory B., advocate,  
on a recent Help Line call

## E-news turns 2, continued from front page .....

of the Year awards from the Economic Development Council and The Weekly Volcano. We've written about the plans for our new Community Services Building and special donations such as the beautiful quilts donated by Gull Harbor Lutheran Church's quilt guild. Subscribers also learn about special opportunities, such as free tickets to a Harlequin play full dress rehearsal. Because some events happen with short notice, you'll find yourself better connected to SafePlace if you read our e-newsletter. The e-newsletter is sent out on the 3rd Thursday of every month.

To subscribe, send an email to [enewsletter@safeplaceolympia.org](mailto:enewsletter@safeplaceolympia.org) and we'll make sure you receive next month's issue.



While you're on the internet, check out our page on Facebook! Updated at least twice monthly, the FB page brings you late-breaking news and things that just can't wait until the third Thursday of the month. Find us on Facebook at SafePlaceOlympia.



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24 Hour Crisis Line

360 754 6300

TTY 360 943 6703

[help@safeplypia.org](mailto:help@safeplypia.org)

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

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## SAVE the DATE for the 2nd Annual *SafePlace Garage Sale!*



Join us on Saturday, July 16 for the 2nd annual SafePlace Garage Sale! This fun event, hosted by the Board of Directors, will take place at the SafePlace parking lot at the intersection of Adams and Legion in downtown Olympia. Doors open at 9 a.m. and we promise you will find treasures galore. Items will include household goods, furniture, CDs, books, dishes, home décor and much more.

The best part about the sale? All proceeds go to benefit SafePlace programs for survivors of domestic and sexual violence!

*For more information about the sale, contact Thomasina at 360-786-8754 x112 or via email: [thomasinac@safeplypia.org](mailto:thomasinac@safeplypia.org)*

### Our Mission

We strive to put an end to sexual and domestic violence and advocate for personal and societal change through crisis intervention and education.

### We Envision

A community free of physical, sexual and psychological violence and oppression.