

Director's Message



FAMILY VIOLENCE PREVENTION CENTER

Violence Free Messenger

Dear Friends,

Please accept a hearty thank you from the board, staff and families we serve for prioritizing support of the services provided by FVPC. Just this past Thursday in Life Skills the families in the shelter were sharing how appreciative they are to have the opportunity to be safe, both physically and emotionally. One mother reflected on the large amount of support there has to be to provide this help. This **"THANK YOU"** belongs to each of you!

Legislative Update-

Senate Bill 177, effective March 23, 2015. The legislation explicitly allows judges to include pets when issuing the following protection order types: civil stalking, sexually oriented offense and domestic violence. Judges may order an alleged offender "not remove, damage, hide, harm or dispose of any companion animal owned or possessed by the person to be protected" or authorize the victim to remove the animal from the offender.

Call to Action- Please consider providing support for these two specific initiatives.

Shielding Victim Addresses

Legislation has been reintroduced by Senator Sandra Williams that would enable domestic violence victims who are protected under court orders to have their government related mail sent directly to the Secretary of State's Office. That office would then forward the mail to participants, whose addresses would not be included in public records. This marks the fourth consecutive general assembly where this legislation will be introduced. In 2010, a comparable bill was supported by then-Secretary of State Jennifer Brunner and passed the Ohio House on a unanimous vote before stalling in the Senate. None of the subsequent bills moved out of either of the chambers. Contact your local representatives and senator to share your interest in action.

More than three dozen other states have similar address confidentiality programs in place that are administered by secretaries of state, attorneys general or nonprofit agencies

Strangulation as a Felony

Strangulation is used to enforce power, control, and terror in the victim's life. There are specific strangulation laws in 30 states and Ohio needs to join this group. The 2008 Journal of Emergency Medicine analyzed 300 murders in 11 U.S. cities and showed that 43% of women who had been murdered in domestic assaults and 45% of attempted murder victims had been strangled in the previous year by their male partners. Visit www.change.org and "Support Monica's Law" to learn more and sign the petition.



Debbie Matheson
Executive Director

Calling all Kroger Shoppers: Let's Increase Our Registered Households

Register your KROGER Plus card online at www.krogercommunityrewards.com (click on sign in/register or create an online account).

Follow the directions online to select FVPC; our number is 81623.

Swipe your registered Kroger Plus card when you shop at Kroger. THAT'S IT! From then on, each purchase you make with your Kroger card generates support for the work of FVPC.



In 2014, FVPC earned \$438.52 - THANK YOU!

Upon last report, we had 11 households registered.

We know we can increase this fundraising potential with your help.

*All participants must re-enroll each year to continue earning rewards.
Please check and see if FVPC is your designated charity.

FVPC News

Recap: February was Teen Dating Violence Awareness Month

We hosted **Walk a Mile in Her Shoes®** at the Five Seasons Family Sports Club on February 28. This was an interactive experience for teenagers/young men, prompting them to learn more about dating violence and the many effects on victims. It was also an opportunity for teenage boys to realize what it may feel like to be a young woman who is being abused. It was commonly overheard that it was painful to walk in those heels and blisters were expected! Thank you to the young men who put themselves in a woman's shoes despite the pain and challenges.

Participation increased from last year and we made it a light-hearted experience while at the same time adding important information for teenagers to know. Everyone took a teen dating pledge and took this home with them for all future dating relationships.

Thank you to Five Seasons for being very gracious and accommodating hosts!

Although school was out or delayed often during this dedicated month, our Prevention Coordinator, Cherie Dixon stepped out into the bitter cold, snow and slush in order to spread the word of dating violence prevention and healthy relationships in the junior high and high schools all across Greene County. Cherie Dixon has been coordinating and conducting our prevention program for an impressive twelve years. She has a certain approach that the students remember and often share comments. "She was fun and informative." "Thank you for coming out and teaching us that it's completely wrong to abuse your partner in any way."



A few of the men getting sized for their heel-walking experience.

Community Investors

We are grateful to everyone who gives to FVPC and are pleased to acknowledge their contributions here. Please accept our apology if your name is missing, misspelled, or listed in the incorrect location. Please call 937-376-8526 ext. 107 to correct any errors. This list reflects donations received from January 1 - March 21, 2015.

Gold Dove

Bellbrook United Methodist Church
John Garrett
Jerry Sutton and Sandy McHugh

Silver Dove

A.J. Early Charitable Trust
GC Brd Of Developmental Disabilities
United Way Of Greater Dayton

White Dove

Mary Help Of Christians Church
Marilyn McCauley
Jerry and Gerry Petrak
Lee Schatzley and Carol Graff
Wright Patt Officers' Spouses' Club

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GE United Way Campaign
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Kirkmont Presbyterian Church
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Dick and Catherine Le Sourd
Beverly Longman
Mary Miller
Brian Potts and Beth Rubin
Terry and Thais Reiff
Roger and Macy Reynolds
Bambi Saxe
Reynolds and Reynolds Assc Foundation
Ron Thornburg
Waibel Energy Systems
Women of The Moose, Beaver Creek
Xenia Rotary Club

Donor

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Beaver Valley Chapter 570-OES
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Joan Chappelle
Bruce T. Clough and Alice J. Owen-Clough
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Nimfa and Jack Simpson
Ronda Smith
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Judith Williams
Augustina Wingate

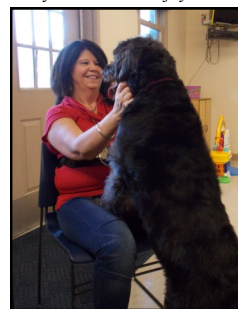
Giving to FVPC

"On Behalf of FVPC", Donations of gently used items remain important to us, but due to minimum storage area, we partner with Goodwill in Xenia and Beaver Creek who accept your donations. Simply mention it's on our behalf and they will issue a receipt with our sticker on it. Please send us this receipt. Certificates are then issued to FVPC based on these donations & clients use these to purchase items they need. If you have questions about this program, please call in and speak with Harmony Byrd.

Volunteering is another wonderful way to give to FVPC. We have many opportunities for you depending on your available time, skills and interests. Currently, we have the following needs:

1) administrative support 2) kitchen support 3) moving & 4) childcare. Hope to see you soon!

Volunteer Debbie & her therapy dog, Beauty come to share joy with us.



Chaplain's Report



For the past five months, I have been serving as the volunteer Chaplain for FVPC. Building on 30 years as a pastor and 10 years as a small group leader for a weekly support group, I'm attempting to function in part as FVPC's CMO (Chief Morale Officer). Each week I send out a "Thought for the Week" to our hard-working, talented staff in an attempt to thank them and encourage them as they continue this often challenging work. I encourage any readers to consider passing on words of thanks and encouragement to them as well when the opportunity arises.

Believing that our safe house residents could benefit from a group that involves male leadership, I have also started a group called, "Moving On". Those who come to these Tuesday evening gatherings are given an opportunity to talk about something relevant to this critical transition moment in their lives. So far the participation has been enthusiastic and the conversations lively.

It is also my intention to reach out into our community, especially to the churches of Greene and Montgomery counties to try to build bridges of education and support between the community at large and the people living and working at our center. For several months, I have gathered and developed resources to distribute to interested clergy and am in the process of trying to meet with them one on one. Included in my "bag of tricks" is a workshop for men which I recently led at Bellbrook UMC and hope to repeat in other congregations. Men need to learn how we contribute to the society that has tolerated domestic violence staying under the radar for far too long.

It is my hope to build an FVPC Community Spiritual Support Network. If you would like to know more about this, or if you would like me to be in touch with your pastor, please contact me at the center. The more we learn about what we can do to help stop domestic violence and minister to those involved in it, the more pain and suffering we can relieve or stop from happening.

Mark Your Calendars: What's Happening this Spring at FVPC Superhero Child Abuse Prevention and Education (C.A.P.E.) 5K Run/Walk

Join us on Saturday, **April 25 at 9 am** (8 am registration) for our annual 5K Run/Walk. In collaboration with Children Services, Greene County Board of Developmental Disabilities and The Xenia Chrome Divas, we will host this family-friendly activity to support child abuse prevention. The event begins and ends at Beavercreek High School. Participants are encouraged to dress as their favorite superhero & compete in the **Best Costume Contest**. Preregister before April 16 and the cost is \$20 for the walk and a t-shirt; \$15 for team of 5 or more and \$25 to register after April 16 and the day of the event. **Register at www.speedy-feet.com.**



SPRING IS IN THE AIR
AND SO IS AN UNCOMMON AFFAIR

On Friday, **May 1 at 6:30**, join our Board of Trustees at Country Club of the North for our annual fundraiser. It promises to be a memorable evening of dinner and entertainment

to benefit the services of FVPC. We are excited to announce the emcees for the evening, local TV personality, Jim Bucher and Kim Faris from B94.5. The evening kicks off with raffles, live and silent auctions including sunny beach vacations, special events, jewelry, a hot air balloon ride and many uncommon pieces of artwork and attractions.

For ticket and event information, please contact Harmony Byrd at 376-8526 or visit www.violencefreefutures.org

A giant thank you goes out to a dedicated volunteer who often goes above and beyond...John Garrett! He purchased a new commercial washer/dryer for the safe house residents. You have made life easier for so many!



380 Bellbrook Avenue
Xenia, OH 45385

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Our Wish List

Items received from our "wish list" help stretch
our shelter dollars.

Currently, items most needed are:

Bottles of Water
"401" All-Purpose Cleaner
Disinfectant Spray
Bleach (1 gal. size)
White Distilled Vinegar (1 gal. size)
Clear food-serving & latex gloves
Paper Towels/Toilet Paper
Facial Tissues
Batteries- 9V & C
Bed Pillows (new)
White Twin Sheets (new)

Hair Shampoo/Conditioner
African American Hair Care
Products
Ibuprofen/Pain Relievers
Plastic Drinking Cups
Coffee Mugs
Dish Cloths
Sugar
Coffee/Tea/Creamer
Laptops (gently used)
Bikes/Helmets

Donations are accepted M-F from 10am-4pm by appointment by
calling 937-376-8526. Larger donations such as furniture and
appliances are needed on occasion (call to inquire).



P.O. Box 933
Xenia, Ohio 45385
937-372-0821

www.deanslandscaping.net



Follow us:

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Did you get a new cell phone?
Bring in your old cell phones/smart phones as an easy,
no-cost way to support FVPC.

FAMILY VIOLENCE PREVENTION CENTER IS A MEMBER OF:

