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Shelter Sponsor Program It is time to update the rooms at our Shelter with new paint, carpet, and linens. We are now, therefore, offering the opportunity for Friends of the Family Refuge Center to become FRC Shelter Sponsors. For more information about sponsoring a room at our Shelter, please contact the Family Refuge Center at 304-645-6334.

Help Family Refuge Center Continue to Serve Our Community

Renew your friendship or become a friend of the FRC and help us end domestic and sexual violence in our community.

Enclosed is my contribution of: \$25 _____ \$50 _____ \$100 _____ \$250 _____ \$500 _____ Other _____

No donation is too large or too small.

Thank you for your contribution!

A receipt will be sent to you upon our receipt of your donation.

Neighborhood Investment Program (NIP) Donation \$500 _____ Other _____

Name and Address: _____

Please return this form with your donation to:

The Family Refuge Center
P.O. Box 249
Lewisburg, WV 24901

Always think of what you have to do as easy and it will become so.

-Emile Corie

Helping Families, Empowering Victims, Changing Lives



Domestic Violence Awareness Month Vigil

The period between October 2011 and September 2012 saw a tragically high number of domestic violence-related deaths in West Virginia. There were 29 homicides and 9 suicides during that time. The DV homicide number includes 20 adult female victims and 6 adult male victims. There was one young boy, one young girl, and one unborn child killed as well. All of the domestic violence-related suicides were completed by male abusers after they had killed their victims.

FRC chose to honor those who died due to domestic violence with a vigil on October 11, 2012. Those in attendance shared honestly about how domestic violence has touched their lives and the lives of those they love. It is clear that there is so much more work to be done to rid the world of DV.



A Wonderful Women's Night Out at Swift Level Farm



FRC wishes to extend a warm "thank you" to all of the ladies who attended and enjoyed the festivities at our 2012 Women's Night Out event. Well-deserved thanks is also due to our many generous donors, including host Tootie Jones, who offered Swift Level Farm as this year's lovely backdrop.



Attendees enjoyed tasty food from local purveyors and a raucous auction of desirable goods donated by area vendors. Bill Turner, FRC's Executive Director, presented Bart Baker, of the Greenbrier County Sheriff's Department, with a certificate of appreciation for his unflinching dedication to ending domestic violence. Janet Swift, Secretary of the FRC Board, shared the touching story of how she survived an early marriage that was blackened by domestic violence.

Overall, Family Refuge Center raised over \$10,000 this year at Women's Night Out.

FRC Welcomes New Staff



Abby Hicks is our Americorps Member at FRC, where she is the child advocate, co-volunteer coordinator, and office assistant. Abby was born and raised in Unionville, PA and then moved to Lewisburg, WV in 1998. Since then she has lived from Georgia to Pennsylvania, but Greenbrier County has remained home and she has just returned to this area this past July. A recent college graduate, Abby is a Certified Medical Assistant and hopes to get her RN license soon. An avid animal lover, Abby can often be found somewhere with her little dog Soufflé, on the back of a horse, or curled up with her cat reading a book.

I'm Jill Loving, I am new at Family Refuge Center and I immediately felt part of their family. They couldn't have been more welcoming, helpful, and always with a smile and grateful attitude toward everything. I'm a native of White Sulphur Springs and attended WVU, receiving my B.A. and M.A. in Education and Human Resources. I've taught in the Public School Systems in NC, MD, and VA. I have worked in the educational field in outside agencies as well. Swimming is my favorable exercise because of the tangibility and awareness it brings. Reading political books, traveling with my family and watching Independent films are other hobbies I relish. The fall is a favorite time, with scenic colorful mountains and fall festivities. The most important zest or guilty pleasure certainly is College Football: "**BIG 12 WVU College Football!**" My mission in my employment is tutoring young pupils at the Family Refuge Center, Davis Stuart, and the Children's Home Society. It's the perfect combination of a diverse team of the vernal youth.



Lesley J. Toliver
Originally from Monroe Co.
1990 Graduate of South Spencer High School in Rockport, IN
1994 Earned BA in Art Therapy at Brescia University in Owensboro, KY
Earned WV Social Work License
Works for CHS of WV as a Right From The Start Worker
Has worked at CHS for over 11 years
Has Worked at FRC since June 2012
Has 1 child and lives in Asbury, WV

A Message from FRC's Executive Director, Bill Turner

It was a major change in my life, mid-career, to leave a legal career behind and become Executive Director at Family Refuge Center. I am pleased to report my career change has been an excellent choice. Every day, I feel energized by the passion, dedication, and commitment FRC's staff bring to their challenging work. The work of ending domestic violence and sexual assault is stressful, under-paid, and sometimes under-appreciated. However, all of the challenges are worth it when we make a positive difference in a client's life.

Helping families, empowering victims, and changing lives is what we do here at Family Refuge Center. To do this, our hard-working employees provide a wide range of services, including legal advocacy, safety planning, individual and group therapy, tutoring and children's activities, public education, emergency shelter and housing referrals, to name a few. The services FRC provides are needed desperately by our clients, who often have nowhere else to turn. In the last fiscal year, FRC served 1146 clients in Greenbrier, Monroe, and Pocahontas Counties.

We could not provide these vital services without the generous support of foundations, churches, businesses, and private and public donors. We are blessed to live and work in a vibrant, caring community in the Greenbrier Valley. To all of our donors, I offer heartfelt thanks on behalf of FRC. With your continued support, we can make a positive difference in thousands of lives in the years ahead.



Personal Safety Order – SB 191



The Personal Safety Order provides for a new protective order process for victims of sexual violence or stalking who do not qualify for domestic violence protective orders, but are in need of protection. WVCADV supported the WV Foundation for Rape Information and Services (FRIS) in leading efforts to educate for the need for this bill. FRIS State Coordinator, Nancy Hoffman, remarks on the significance of the new law, "We are pleased – and relieved – that all sexual assault and stalking victims

in the state finally have access to protective orders. The passage of this legislation was a truly collaborative effort. We want to recognize and thank all of those who worked tirelessly to make the personal safety order a reality. The fact that it was supported by legislators, magistrates and law enforcement in addition to those of us in the advocacy field demonstrates a recognition of how dangerous these crimes are – and in that way expresses support for victims in West Virginia. The personal safety order fills a huge void in the protection of victims of stalking and sexual assault who are not in any type of domestic relationship with their offenders." (WVCADV Newsletter, Summer 2012)



"Miss Representation uncovers a glaring reality we live with every day but fail to see. Written and directed by Jennifer Siebel Newsom, the film exposes how mainstream

"media contribute to the under-representation of women in positions of power and influence in America. The film challenges the media's limited and often disparaging portrayals of women and girls, which make it difficult for women to achieve leadership positions and for the average woman to feel powerful herself. In a society where media is the most persuasive force shaping cultural norms, the collective message that our young women and men overwhelmingly receive is that a woman's value and power lie in her youth, beauty, and sexuality, and not in her capacity as a leader." (www.missrepresentation.com) Family Refuge Center's late September screening of *Miss Representation* drew a local crowd and helped to spread awareness about how girls and women are inappropriately portrayed in the media. It is our hope that this screening led to many discussions, both public and private, about women, leadership, and popular culture. If you missed the FRC screening of *Miss Representation*, it is now widely available for rental--it is worth watching!

CYAC, CASA, and FRC Collaborate to Eradicate Child Sexual Abuse



Susan Vlajk (CYAC therapist) and Quincy Gray McMichael Lewis (FRC Educator) became licensed *Stewards of Children* program facilitators on October 4th, 2012. This was the first step in a collaborative movement involving both organizations, as well as CASA. "*Stewards of Children* is the only nationally available program scientifically proven to increase knowledge, improve attitudes and change child-protective behaviors... *Stewards of Children* is for any responsible adult who cares about the protection of children." (d2l.org) For more information about the *Stewards of Children* program, please visit www.d2l.org. If you wish to schedule a *Stewards of Children* training at your business, school, or community group, please call Quincy at 304.645.6334.

FRC activities are supported in part by the Department of Health and Human Resources (DHHR), Division of Justice and Community Services (DJCS), Governor's Office of Economic Opportunity (GOEO), Foundation for Rape Information Services (FRIS), West Virginia Coalition Against Domestic Violence (WVCADV), West Virginia Supreme Court of Appeals (WVSCA), Emergency Food Shelter Program (EFSP), United Way of The Greenbrier Valley, West Virginia School of Osteopathic Medicine (WVSOM), Daywood Foundation, Hollowell Foundation, Pyles & Turner Foundation, Celia Trust, Pocahontas County Commission, Greenbrier County Commission

...and over 200 individual donors! THANK YOU ALL.