

The
HAVEN

2004
NEWSLETTER



Letter from the Executive Director



In January 1, 2004, I accepted the tremendous challenge of leading The Haven Shelter & Services, Inc., as the Executive Director. For six years, I have seen this organization grow and change in many positive ways, and I am honored to be in a position to help it continue to grow and change as necessary to meet the needs of domestic violence, sexual assault and stalking victims and survivors throughout our community. I am fortunate to be working with a tremendously committed staff and a strong board. As I look down the path ahead, I am very excited about the future of this organization.

In recent years, The Haven has been "in training" for a capital campaign to build a much-needed new shelter. We have moved cautiously and carefully so that we would be "in good shape" for the campaign. Program staff are providing more and more services to clients each year, and we are constantly working to become more effective and to provide the best possible quality of services. Thanks to our partnership with Wicomico Parish, we received funding from Jessie Ball DuPont allowing us to create two new positions: one to help us become more financially independent, and one to provide services to clients at satellite sites throughout our service area. This has allowed us to reach more and more individuals who are in need of our services.

The Haven's building committee has been working behind the scenes with professionals like Rocco Tricarrico and Butch Olphin to create a plan for the new shelter that will be functional, practical, and, most importantly, safe. Thanks to the generosity of Herb and Bill Carden, we have land on which to build the new shelter. The Haven Building Committee - made up of volunteers from the community who are giving of their time and talents

- has worked hard to finalize the plans to best meet the needs of our clients. Proceeds from Just Gardens and generous donations from Irvington Baptist Church, Campbell Memorial Presbyterian Church, Grace Episcopal Church, and many other churches, organizations and individuals have helped us establish a strong financial base on which to build our capital campaign.

To further prepare The Haven for the Capital Campaign, Anne Dickerson, a long-standing supporter of our program, agreed to come out of her retirement as a past board member to serve as the Board Chairperson and guide the efforts of our program during the past year. The Haven benefited greatly from her dedication, guidance and support. We are indebted to Anne for giving of her time to help us grow and become stronger during the past year, and we wish her the best as she retires from The Haven Board at the end of this fiscal year.

Because of the tremendous support of our staff, board and the community, we are now strong and ready to take on the challenge of raising the money to make the new shelter a reality while continuing to provide quality services to clients throughout the Northern Neck and Essex County. As I look forward to the next six to nine months of this "marathon", I am excited about working hand in hand with the community to help this finely honed organization cross the finish line of this endeavor.

I would like to extend a special thanks to the family and friends of the late Kelcy Hoff, a devoted volunteer for The Haven, for the many donations made to our building fund in her memory. In addition to many other things that she did as a volunteer for The Haven, Kelcy served on our building committee. Her loss is greatly felt by all staff and volunteers at The Haven.

Ellen Yackel
Executive Director

Report From The Director Of Programs

Effective February 2, 2004, I moved into the position of Director of Programs for The Haven Shelter & Services, Inc. Prior to this position change, I fulfilled the job responsibilities of the Victims' Advocate for seven-and-a-half years. In my former position I worked closely with victims from our 5-county service area assisting them in maneuvering through the judicial system. In my new position I am being challenged with more of the administrative details required in the day-to-day happenings of The Haven.

Working for The Haven for eight years has provided me with the privilege to meet and interact with victims and members of the legal system, law enforcement, judicial system, volunteers, teachers and other community members. Coming together with such a diverse group of people to address the serious issues of intimate crimes has allowed me the opportunity to expand my horizons, not only professionally, but also, personally. The courage I have witnessed many victims portray when faced with such difficult, personal, and intimate issues continues to inspire me to remain committed to advocating for those who sometimes feel they do not have a voice. Working together with dedicated allied professionals also provides me with hope that maybe someday my position will no longer be a necessity.

The Haven Shelter & Services, Inc., has remained true to it's mission "to provide advocacy and shelter for identified victims of partner abuse and sexual

assault as well as to provide support services to victims and their families...to enhance public awareness of domestic violence and sexual assault issues through community outreach and education". I feel honored to be a voice for those who are unaware that they have one, a tool for those who need assistance in accessing available resources, and a partner with other allied professionals working together to uphold the Haven philosophy "that all persons deserve to be treated with respect...that no one deserves to be abused...that victims of domestic violence and sexual assault have a voice and should be encouraged to speak out against the violence...that we strive to empower victims to make their own choices...that we always maintain our positions as advocates for victims...and that we will not tolerate violence against women".

I anticipate that over the next eight years great strides will be made in educating society to recognize that all people have the right to expect to be treated with respect and dignity. If and when society falls short of these goals, I envision we will all speak out together to voice our support for those who are being abused.

In closing, I feel a deep debt of gratitude to The Haven Shelter & Services, Inc., and to the many women, children and men I have had the joy of working with, for allowing me the opportunity to be a part of something so much bigger than myself and yet which reflects exactly who I am and what I stand for.

Colleen K. Jordan
Director of Programs

Just Gardens: A Northern Neck Masterpiece



lowers and gardens have been the muse of the most famous artisans throughout history. That in mind, it is no wonder we had such an excellent turn out for the Just

Gardens tour this year. The six gardens on the tour are themselves amazing portraits of local people painting their homes with color from a Master's palette.

Ticket sales soared to almost 800 and raised nearly \$10,000 for The Haven Shelter & Services, Inc. to build a much-needed new emergency shelter for Essex, Lancaster, Northumberland, Westmoreland, and Richmond counties.

The Haven would like to extend a warm thank you to all of the garden owners: Kathy & Mike Morchower, Judy & Bill Penniman, CJ & Jamie Carter, Abe & Chris Jordan, Blanchette & Jim Jones, and Jill & Brian Latell. Without the generous participation and hard work of the garden owners, and those of previous years, we would not be so close to making the new shelter a reality.

The Haven would also like to extend a special thanks to our sponsors: The Bank of Lancaster, Chesapeake Bank, and B. H. Baird Insurance Agency. Thank you to The Dandelion, Greenpoint Nursery, Kemper Nursery, River Birch Gifts, Wilton Cottage & Garden, and Blanchette & Jim Jones for the donation of door prizes and ticket distribution. And a huge thank you to the Master Gardeners and Committee Members who have planted and watered this event and brought it into the sunshine.

Just Gardens is and has been a special event for The Haven Shelter & Services, Inc. The Haven's mission to prevent and eliminate all types of domestic violence, sexual assault, and stalking is a daunting task. But just as with gardens and masterpieces, we work the soil, plant the seed, give it light, and marvel in the beauty it creates. We thank all those who continue to help us lend support to victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, and stalking to go and grow their own new gardens and create their own masterpieces in life.

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Community Coordinating Council Making Great Strides



The Haven and the other organizations comprising the Community Coordinating Council (CCC) are proud to announce all of the CCC prevention programs are up and running! In fact, the CCC needs your help. If you or anyone you know enjoys facilitating trainings, the CCC programs offer you a variety of opportunities to get involved.

The Child Assault Prevention (CAP) Program works with children in Grades K-5. This very interactive workshop is conducted in the classroom and is lots of fun for the children as they learn to be "safe...strong...free."

The Men Can Stop Violence Against Women (MCSVAW) Program is aimed at male audiences from middle school, high school, and adult settings. The very interactive program raises men's awareness of how males can come to believe in the

inequality of women, objectify women, and abuse women. The interactive discussion is non-blaming and creates a safe place for men to discuss this vital issue.

"Break the cycle - The Effects of Domestic Violence on Children" (BTC) is an interactive, two-hour program for adults and caregivers who are experiencing verbal or physical abuse in their relationships and who have children in the home. The program raises awareness that children are always a victim, in some way, when there is an abusive adult relationship in the home.

We need male and female facilitators for all of these programs. There is excellent training available so do not let a lack of direct subject area experience keep you from getting more information on how you can play a key role in the prevention of violence in our wonderful community. Please call Gene Bigham, 333-1099, ext. 17, for more information on any of these exciting programs.

Dedicated in Memory of

KELCY HOFF

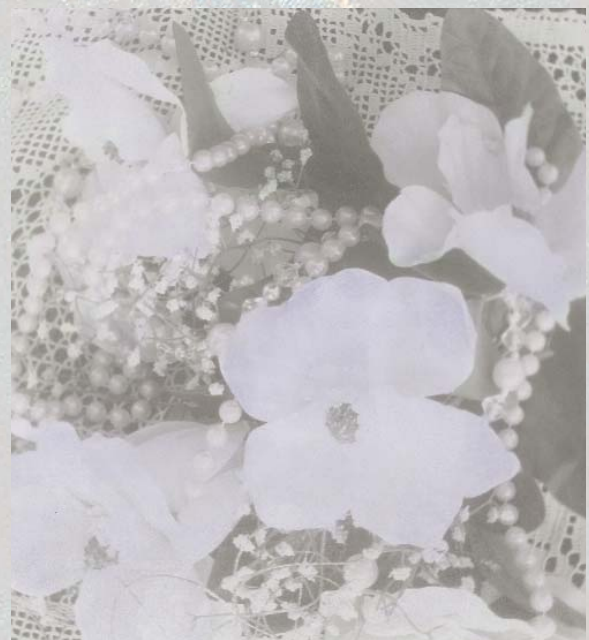
1942 - 2004

Haven Volunteer

"Strong hope is a much greater stimulant to life than any single realized joy could be"

Nietzsche

Kelcy understood this quote as she offered the gift of hope to inspire other volunteers, staff, friends, and victims of Domestic Violence, Sexual Assault, and Stalking. Though she is no longer with us, a sense of her presence will remain with us forever.



Development and Fundraising



This has been an extremely busy year for the Development Committee and The Haven's fundraising endeavors. Beginning with October (National Domestic Violence Awareness Month), The Haven staff and volunteers did a marvelous job of communicating to the public the necessity of bearing witness to the horrors of Domestic Violence. Through education and outreach the community was able to come together to remember victims and discuss ideas for the future and the necessity of social change. The Haven sponsored two candlelight vigils and various other events around our service area including: Lancaster, Westmoreland, Richmond, Essex, and Northumberland counties.

It was colder this winter than it has been in quite a few years, but the Development Committee was hot with ideas. In February we hosted quite a gala event at The Essex Inn to kick-off our first ever Mardi gras. The turn out was excellent, the mood was festive, and we raised around \$5000 to aid victims in the battle against Domestic Violence, Sexual Assault, and Stalking.

With the spring flowers came the Just Gardens tour. It was again, a huge success raising nearly \$10,000 toward our new building fund.

Also in May, The Haven kicked-off of a new campaign to give yet another option for Churches to help in our cause, called the Sponsor-A-Family Program. The idea is to help one family at a time. Traditionally it has been the Church that has stepped up to advocate for the family, and this is another avenue in which to do just that.

In August The Haven plans to host "The First Annual Haven Golf Classic: Swing Against Violence". We are looking forward to working closely with the community to make this a fun and memorable day. So, if you have found yourself wondering who will play and where the hot golf tournaments will be this year, come and join The Haven at Quinton Oaks Golf Course on August 14, 2004.

All of the events hosted by The Haven could not be carried out without the selflessness of our volunteers and committee members. Our volunteers donate their time and money and most importantly, their passion in the fight against Domestic Violence, Sexual Assault, and Stalking. Without community commitment these issues will continue. Thank you to all who participated in the planning, execution, and participation in all of this past year's events.

It is our hope that if you haven't yet had a chance to enjoy participating in one of The Haven events, that you will come and join us in the up coming year.

Wish List

The local community has in the past and present helped to meet the needs of shelter residents by making in-kind donations. As always these gifts are still in need. The following is a list of items that we most frequently have in short supply.

- Disposable Diapers (Especially larger sizes)
- Laundry Detergent
- Kitchen trash bags
- Bleach
- Dish Detergent

Paper Towels

Pre-Paid Long Distance Phone Cards

Food items are also needed, however those needs change with our residents. If you would like to make a food donation please call our offices to get an updated list of things that are currently needed.

All in-kind donations are accepted at our Administrative Offices in the Warsaw Professional Building on Main Street in Warsaw. Please call first to verify that someone will be available to accept donations at (804) 333-1099.

The Haven Satellite Sites



Rural areas like The Northern Neck and Essex County present many barriers for those who need The Haven's Services. We are constantly seeking ways to break down those barriers for victims of domestic violence, sexual assault and stalking. In order to help our clients overcome the tremendous challenge of accessing our services with limited transportation, The Haven has opened sites throughout the five-county service area, bringing our services closer to home for victims.

The satellite sites work to empower women to gain control of their lives by learning to:

- Understand and recognize abusive behaviors.
- Understand the cycle of abuse.
- Recognize how abuse affects the lives of women and children.
- Develop insight and free expression of feeling.
- Understand abuse is about power and control.
- Not minimize the reality of abuse.
- Acknowledge that they are not the cause of a partner's abuse.

The sites are a kind of mini-Haven providing support, encouragement, compassion, information and education in order for the healing process to begin. At the sites we help clients develop the tools to successfully deal with pain, anger, fear, shame and guilt. A woman coming to terms with these issues and beginning her new life with a new sense of identity and self writes the following poem:

My body won't respond the way it used to do.

It's blocked by rage inside my head.

*It was put there by you.
Nameless but not faceless,
I'll not forget your eyes.
You bound me and you hurt me.*

*Took joy inside my cries.
You stole from me something within my
Inner core.*

I'm starting on a journey that to which restore.

I will not let you keep me inside a private hell

*I have a key for to free the door
From this dark cell.*

*I loathe you and I hate you,
But I have to let you go.*

There's too much joy inside this world

That I have yet to know.

*I banish you my shadow,
I want to see the sun*

*So get behind me rage and hate
My new life has begun.*

W. C. 5/7/04

The support group co-facilitator Martha Berger (Volunteer) and I find the satellite sites to be a challenging task. However, the most rewarding part of my job is to see victims take authority and control of their own lives. When they do, they escape the power and control once exerted over them. When abuse victims recognize they are not responsible for their partner's behaviors, healing can begin.

Each county site is made available weekly for victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, and stalking. As with all Haven services, satellite site services are confidential and free of charge.

Darlene H. Hayes
Victim Services Coordinator