

FAMILY HAVEN

An advocate for victims and families of domestic violence. Serving Forsyth and North Fulton Counties

June 2014: In This Issue

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Did You Know?

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Did you know?

MYTH: Domestic violence is rare.

FACT: Domestic violence affects 1 out of 4 women at some point during her lifetime. Men can also be victims of domestic violence, but women make up about 97% of domestic violence survivors.

MYTH: Middle-class women do not get battered as frequently or as violently as poor women.

FACT: Domestic violence occurs

Thank you to our community . . .

A message from Millie

It is with great excitement that we are introducing the first *Family Haven Quarterly E-Newsletter*. The purpose of this publication is to keep our community informed about domestic violence issues, highlight survivor's stories, recognize the amazing army of volunteers Family Haven has, as well as share upcoming events.

In this first issue, I would like to take the opportunity to thank the many volunteers and staff that made the *4th Annual Back to Woodstock* a huge success. This annual fundraising event took place on April



Bridget Christian (far right), Family Haven Board Member, and guests, enjoying Back to Woodstock

in all socio-economic groups. In fact, middle-class women often face barriers to get public assistance when they decide to leave because of their family's above poverty line financial status.

You can make a difference



Stephanie Boylan, and the Women's Ministry of Christ the King Lutheran Church in Cumming presented a donation and beautiful handmade notecards and bracelets to the women residing in the Family Haven shelter.

Family Haven serves over 1,000 survivors of domestic violence annually through our 24-hour crisis line, shelter, support groups, and outreach. Our shelter provides domestic violence survivors and their families a safe place to heal and become self-sufficient. We serve over 130 survivors and families in our shelter annually.

We are able to help survivors and their families to thrive because of our many volunteers and contributors. Thank you!

If you are not a volunteer or contributor to Family Haven, consider being one today. Here are some ways you can make a difference:

** Donate clothing and household goods to the Family Haven Thrift Store.*

25, 2014, at the beautiful Reid Barn. We sincerely appreciate all the guests that attended the event in support of Family Haven and purchased several Silent Auction items. Special thanks to Mr. and Mrs. Reid for hosting *Back to Woodstock* at their barn every year, Tam's Backstage for providing the delicious hors d'oeuvres, and the countless Silent Auction sponsors. Lastly, thank you to all of the following event sponsors that helped make this event possible:

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Dennis & Linda Whittle, Bluegrass Material Company, My Forsyth Magazine, Commissioner Pete Amos, Citizens Bank of Forsyth, Community Business Bank, Hoover Precision Products, Inc., Barbara Hendricks, and the Bridget Christian Law Group

I sincerely hope you enjoy the first issue of the *Family Haven Quarterly E-Newsletter*.

All the best,

Millie Irizarry

Executive Director

A Survivor's Story . . .

A fresh start for a mom and her daughters

Recently, Sheila* came to Family Haven with her daughters Claire*, a middle school student, and Jana*, a high school student. Sheila had been in a long-term abusive relationship, and suffered from a debilitating illness that prevented her from working outside of the home. The relationship Sheila had with her daughters was fractured because they did not know how to effectively communicate their feelings of sadness, anger, fear, and isolation. Sheila and her daughters initially had a difficult time adjusting to shelter life. Claire and Jana missed their friends and felt out-of-place at their new middle school and



* *Help out at the Family Haven Thrift Store.*

* *Donate paper products and infant items to the shelter (paper towels, toilet paper, diapers, and wipes)*

* *Contribute \$25 for bedding and towels for one shelter adult or child*

* *Contribute \$45 for groceries to feed a shelter family for a day*

* *Contribute \$65 for toiletries and personal items (sleepwear & undergarments) for a shelter family*

* *Contribute \$150 for a week of childcare or summer camp for a shelter child.*

**Click [HERE](#)
to donate today, or e-mail
Adrienne Hamilton-Butler
with questions**

adahamiltonbutler@familyhavenga.org.

**Thank you. Together, we
can end the cycle of
violence.**

Upcoming . . .

A Celebration of Commitment to Community and Advocacy

Family Haven will host a luncheon in October 2014 to honor domestic violence survivors as well as to celebrate 25 years of its commitment to the community and domestic violence advocacy. More details to follow soon!

high school. Family Haven provided case management services to Sheila and helped her to receive benefits so that she could support herself and her daughters. The family received much-needed counseling to learn how to cope with their emotional trauma, as well as communicate with each other more effectively. After providing three months of shelter services to the family, Family Haven helped to transition them into permanent housing in a community where they are thriving. Claire and Jana, now both in high school, have new friends, and are active in their community. Sheila is grateful for her family's stability.

*Fictional names

A Volunteer's Voice . . .

Mrs. Linda Whittle, Volunteer and Former Board Member



Dennis and Linda Whittle

I am involved with Family Haven because I believe in giving back to my community, and I do take the Golden Rule literally.

I became involved in 2005 when I retired from the school system. I also ended my term as the chairperson of Family Connection, so when I saw a notice that Family Haven was looking for board members I

responded. I feel an additional connection with Family Haven because of my long friendship with Sisters June Racicot and Kathryn Cliatt, the "mothers" of Family Haven as well as The Place, Ga. Highlands, Hands Across Forsyth, United Way, Good Shepard Place, Cedar Hill Enrichment Center, and Sojourner's House (this was a homeless shelter which closed several years ago.)

Linda is a valued Family Haven volunteer. She has helped with Family Haven's *Back to Woodstock* fundraiser since its inception. Community members like Linda make a difference in the lives of domestic violence victims and their families. Thank you Linda for helping to end the cycle of violence.

Help families by shopping at the Family Haven Thrift Store



The Family Haven Thrift Store is a great place to find quality clothing for the family as well as home decor and furnishings for a bargain.

Proceeds from the thrift store support Family Haven operations. Also, victims of domestic violence and their families, served by Family Haven, receive vouchers to purchase clothing and furnishings to help them get back on their feet.

For store location, hours, and how to donate, click [HERE](#).

If you, or someone you know, needs domestic violence crisis counseling or shelter, please contact:

CRISIS HOTLINE
770.887.1121

Family Haven is an advocate for victims and families of domestic violence; providing shelter, programs, and community education to end the cycle of violence.



[*Click here for more info
about Family Haven*](#)

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