

the network against sexual and domestic abuse

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From the Executive Director

Fall is upon us and The Network is busy preparing for the fall and winter seasons. Over the past few months, we have welcomed three new staff to our team and an

no act of kindness
no matter how small
is ever wasted...
(aesop)

AmeriCorps VISTA member. We have been able to attend trainings to enhance our skills and ability to continue providing comprehensive services to people who find themselves in need of The Network.

The Network finished the 32-hour fall Volunteer Training on September 27. We have also developed a full schedule of events to raise awareness around domestic violence in our community.

As we look forward to Domestic Violence Awareness Month, we are excited to announce the upcoming events we will host in the community to promote awareness of domestic violence. Too many people in our community live lives filled with violence. People who experience partner violence in our community do not ask to be abused, they are being violated.

Too often, domestic violence is thought of as a women's issue. The Network does not view domestic violence as a "women's issue", but a community issue. We welcome men to join and support our mission because everyone knows someone who has been or is a victim of domestic violence. In order to stop this violence, we must bond together as a community and show our no-tolerance policy toward all types of violence. All too often men want to be part of the movement to end violence, but do not know how to become involved. A few ways to help stop the violence are to:

1. Volunteer! The Network is always looking for additional support with programs. If you would like to assist The Network, please call 586-7689 for more information.
2. Speak Up! Violence happens at alarming rates daily. It happens in the media, at work, at home, and more. What can you do about it? If you see violence occurring, call the police. If you know someone is hurting another person, tell them what they are doing is wrong and let the victim know about The Network—give them our phone number (586-4111). If you hear a violent or sexist joke, explain how offensive it truly is because people who experience violence firsthand do not find humor in their experiences.
3. Donate old cell phones! Cell phones are used as emergency phones for our clients and if they don't work anymore we recycle them and receive money that goes towards our programming!
4. Support The Network financially! Even the smallest donation can make a significant difference in our ability to provide assistance to abuse victims.
5. Attend Domestic Violence Awareness Month events!



VISTA Volunteer by Natasha Collins

The Americorp VISTA program was started in 1993 by women and families here at home. This year, my former president Bill Clinton VISTA project will culminate in the creation of a sustainable, peer-based, (led by members of the community), speaker's bureau. This volunteer-based speaker's bureau will present information about healthy relationships and non-violent solutions to groups in the community.

After having left Montana for five years, I joined VISTA with the hope of helping the situation of



Upcoming Events:

Domestic Violence Awareness Month!

October 1: "Paint the Town Purple" Check out downtown businesses joining the movement by painting their store fronts purple!

October 15: "Searching for Angela Shelton" Join us at 6:00 p.m. at the Public Library for a documentary showing. Discussion will follow.

October 22: Panel Discussion at MSU Student Union Building, 12p.m.

October 23: Did you miss the first showing of "Searching for Angela Shelton"? See it @ 12pm on the MSU campus at the Procrastinator!

November 1: A Taste of The Network! The Network and the Wine Gallery are partnering to close Domestic Violence Awareness Month. Join us at the Beall Park Arts Center at 7p.m. to celebrate and

We need our Volunteers

By Heather McKain

The human body needs food and water to function properly. A non-profit needs a strong purpose, vision, and human resources to function properly. The Network has a strong purpose; to assist victims of domestic violence .

Volunteers are crucial to The Network.

Sometimes it is not easy to hear from victims and understand another person's experience of violence, but we know it is rewarding to see a volunteer help someone find a life with peace and non-violence. We are thankful to have a group of dedicated volunteers who have become part of our team.

By giving just two evenings a month a volunteer at The Network significantly impacts peoples lives.

To get involved and volunteer please call Heather at 586-7689.

Thank you to all our volunteers! Your hard work is greatly appreciated.



A simple referral or having a person to talk to can change a person's life.

Shelter needs by Heather McKain

National Domestic Violence Hotline:

1-800-799-SAFE
Or
1-800-799-7233

Abuse is the use of control and power that one person exercises over another.

Battering is the act of physical harm or causing fear, to stop another from doing what they wish or forcing them to behave in unwanted ways.

Battering includes, but is not limited to, the use of physical and sexual violence or threats and intimidation with or without emotional and or economic deprivation or abuse.

If you or someone you know is in need of help or our services please contact the **The Network at 586-4111 or The National Domestic Violence Hotline.**

One of my goals when working with clients of The Network is to make a stay in our shelter as comfortable as possible. Many times clients are under unbelievable amounts of stress. Decisions that need to be made are difficult and crucial for basic safety. A simple way to help our clients is to create a stable and calm environment for them to relax and heal from abuse.

This is where the generosity of our community is relied upon. Donations are needed and appreciated. A simple donation of comforters or gas cards go much further than one would think.

Even a small monetary donation to The Network can change someone's life by creating a stable environment for a client to make some of the toughest decisions a person may ever have to make.

Shelter Wish List:

- Pillows
- Gas Cards
- Grocery Cards
- Cleaning Supplies
- Toilet Paper
- Ladder
- Dresser
- Old cell phones
- Paper Towels

Due to the small size of our shelter, we are unable to store large quantities of items and occasionally unable to accept certain donations. Please call 586-7689 for additional information.

Domestic Violence Awareness Month

By Heather McKain



Domestic Violence Awareness Month (DVAM) started in October, 1981 from the Day of Unity sponsored by the National

Coalition Against Domestic Violence. The purpose was to connect

client advocates across the nation who were working toward ending domestic violence. The original celebrations were various but had one common theme: mourning the death of victims, celebrating survivors, and reaching out to

to people in need.

In 1981 DVAM was only a week-long event, but in 1987 the first organized celebration of Domestic Violence Awareness Month was observed. In that same year the first toll-free national hotline was also established.

To celebrate DVAM, The Network is planning various events. Starting with a movie screening of "Searching for Angela Shelton." This movie describes the realities of domestic violence and sexual

assault from a victim's experience.

Local businesses are showing their support of DVAM in "Paint the Town Purple." Participating storefronts will be decorated in purple, (the DVAM color), to help raise awareness of domestic violence. To close DVAM we are hosting the first "Taste of The Network," a wine tasting co-sponsored by The Wine Gallery at the Emerson Cultural Center on November 1st. If you are interested in our DVAM activities see below for a full schedule or contact The Network at 586-7689.

The Network Staff:

Executive Director-
Emily M. Tofte

Shelter Coordinator-
Stacey Lyons

Client Advocate-
Heather McKain

Legal Advocate-
Krystal Redmond-Sherrill

Weekend/Night Staff-
Colleen Crane

VISTA Member-
Natasha Collins

Support Group Facilitator-
Hettie Jans-Wortelboer

Volunteer Spotlight

Ashley Durnell

Thank you to Ashley Durnell, our volunteer spotlight for our fall newsletter.

Ashley is from Conrad, MT and is a senior at MSU. In the spring she will be finishing her college career at MSU, with a BS in Sociology. After graduation she is planning to obtain her Master's Degree in Social Work at either the University of Denver or CA State University in Long Beach.

Ashley started volunteering at the shelter to gain more personal experience in the social services. Also, she said she "just wanted to be able to help others."

Along with being a full-time stu-

dent, she works at the Pour House and at Wittich Law Firm as a legal assistant.

Ashley has always been a reliable volunteer and The Network is thankful for her commitment! The work she has done with us has changed and helped many client's lives. We will miss her when life takes her to other places. However, we all know that she will do great things in the area of social services!

Thank you Ashley, you are an amazing addition to our team!



DVAM Schedule of Events:

•October 15, 7:00-9:00 Bozeman Public Library
"Searching For Angela Shelton" Movie Screening and discussion

•October 16, Annual Meeting

•Throughout October come support local businesses on Main Street as they participate in DVAM with "Paint the Town Purple"

• October 23, "Searching for Angela Shelton" showing at MSU sponsored by the VOICE Center

• November 1, "A Taste of The Network" Fundraiser Wine Tasting at the Beall Park Art Center \$40 Please RSVP to 586-7689

Volunteer Training

New faces are showing up at The Network! Our Fall volunteer training was a success and we recruited eight new volunteers.

The training for volunteers is not an easy one. Each volunteer has to complete our 25 hour training and go through two shadow shifts on our crisis line.

The topics and discussions that are brought up in volunteer training can be hard to hear and talk about. However, all of the volunteers had great questions and comments to bring to the table. It is nice to hear new ideas and be able to look at things with a fresh perspective.

Training was over the course of four days and consisted of learning how to work with victims of domestic violence and how to answer the crisis line.

Volunteers at The Network are able to do a variety of things. Mostly they answer the crisis line but also can do office work, yard work or assist our Legal Advocate, or join the fundraising team

If you or anyone you know is interested in volunteering for The Network in any way please contact Heather at 586-7689. Another train-

ing will be scheduled for after the new year. Volunteers are always appreciated and welcome.

If you are interested in volunteering please fill out an application on our webpage at www.thenetworkmt.org and send it to heatherm@thenetworkmt.org.

Congratulations to the newest volunteers for completing our 20 hour training: Angela Kociolek, Minde Erickson, Emma Hinselbecker, Sara Copeland, Ashley Lyons and Jennifer Jones



Thank you to the Wine Tasting Sponsors:

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|------------------------|--------------------------|
| The Wine Gallery | The Community Food Co-Op |
| Looie's Downunder | Desert Rose Catering |
| John Bozeman's Bistro | The Homepage Café |
| Weebee's Café | The Bay |
| The Bountiful Table | Nova Café |
| Second Street Catering | Duo Dolce Duet |
| Venus Catering | Avant Floral |

Thank you to Paint the Town Purple Participants:

Red Willow	Beat Nick	Barrel Mountaineering	Stylon
The Artshoppe	Indulgence	Sugar	Western Drug
Alara	Ruby Slipper	Gerty	The Meridian
Posh	Elizabeth & Co.	The Sugar Shack	Go Girl Sports
The Root	Catherine Lane Interiors	Montana Gift Company	Suelto
Country Bookshelf	Leaf n Bean	Sage	After 5 and Weddings
The Odyssey	Cactus Records	Alana Rugs	Schnees
Miller Jewelery	Perspectives	HeyDay	Powder Horn
Erotique	Insty Prints	First Security Bank	Bridger Kitchens

“Whether one believes in a religion or not, and whether one believes in rebirth or not, there isn't anyone who doesn't believe in kindness and compassion.”
-The Dalai Lama