

October is
Domestic Violence
Awareness Month



Presenting:

BE A VOICE ARTS
Michelle Johnson Major,
Artist and
Domestic Violence
Advocate

NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION
US POSTAGE PAID
PERMIT #79
STATESVILLE, NC 28677

Tuesday, October 26, 2010
Little Joe's Chapel and Enrichment Center
on the campus of
Barium Springs Home for Children
7-8:30pm

*Michelle Johnson Major is a mother, a teacher, an
artist, and a survivor of domestic violence. Hers is
a story of hope an courage. Join her and travel her
artistic journey from victim to survivor.*

Sponsored by My Sister's House
A program of Fifth Street Ministries
For more information, call 704-872-4045



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My Sister's House
A program of Fifth Street Ministries
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PLACE LABEL HERE



DOMESTIC VIOLENCE IN THE PRESENT



According to a recent survey conducted by Liz Claiborne, Inc. and the Family Violence Prevention Fund, nearly 1 in 3 teenagers who have been in a relationship report actual sexual abuse, physical abuse or threats of physical abuse.

That's a scary statistic.

The impact of this trauma can, and most likely will affect them for the rest of their life. Violence or the threat of violence changes who you are, it changes your outlook, changes how you respond to situations. Trust becomes a serious issue. Many times fear is a motivating factor. Gone is the ability to make confident decisions.

There are lessons to be learned. By all of us. Most likely, we will encounter someone who is or has been in an abusive relationship. How will we handle it? Shy away and act like it isn't real? It is. Very real and extremely traumatizing. Minimize it? Can't be done. Not in her eyes. She lives the reality every single day, with every door that closes and every step she hears on the stairs.

In North Carolina this year through the first of October, there have been 54 murders related to domestic violence and 23 related to family violence. (Domestic violence is between intimate partners; family violence is within the family.) Too many needless deaths.

In this age of advanced technology, the possibilities of revealing information being readily available is inconceivable. With our tweeting, blogging, and social networking, there are many ways a perpetrator can learn of and follow your whereabouts. From the pictures or phone numbers posted on Facebook to the GPS on the new Droid, the bad guys can come up with ways to find out information that can potentially be used to bring harm to his victim.

Many Smartphones encode the location where pictures are taken. Geotagging is the storage of location based data, in the form of latitude and longitude inside images. Most digital cameras do not automatically add geolocation metadata to pictures, however there is one major exception: Smartphones. There are ways to disable this feature. For more information, do a search online for "disabling geotagging for (your particular Smartphone.) Go to the Stalking Resource Center at the National Center for Victims of Crime (www.ncvc.org.)

Domestic violence victims are one of the most vulnerable groups, and advanced technology provides a way to maintain rigid control and instill fear in a victim, even when she has left the relationship. In this digital age, victims can be easily tracked. What a deadly possibility.



My Sister's House

A place for victims of domestic violence,

family abuse or sexual assault

From the church on Fifth Street to the building constructed in 2002, lives have literally been saved because of the work that has gone on inside.

My Sister's House welcomes the abused, the broken, the hurting. An atmosphere conducive to healing and empowerment is abundant, and the possibilities are many.

A 24-hour crisis line is answered by trained staff, working as listener, encourager, and referral source. Shelter is available for 90 days, with a some transitional beds available after the 90 day period when the victim needs a more extended time for healing and to reach goals that make it more likely for her to become self sufficient. Individual and group counseling as well as court advocacy is available to victims, even if they are not residents of My Sister's House.

For almost 21 years, My Sister's House has provided services to victims of Iredell County. We also network with shelters across the United States to help ensure the safety of women and children who are being pursued by the batterer.

Education is always the best preventive method. Join with us as we work to bring awareness to this horrendous crime, for we all will benefit.

If you would like a speaker for your church, civic group, middle or high school class, please call us at 704-872-4045. Help us spread the word...paint the town purple, as we work to bring an end to domestic violence in our community.

When violence, threats, or being controlled have been the norm, My Sister's House unfolds new options, giving hope and new life to women and children.

NEEDS LIST

Alarm clocks

Vinyl, zippered mattress covers (twin and full)

Brooms

Mops

Shampoo/conditioner

Razors

Feminine products

Large clear storage bins with lids for toiletries, clothes and food

Canned foods (soups, vegetables)

Fresh food items (vegetables, milk, eggs, bread, etc.)

Children's Tylenol, cold medicine, etc.

Diapers (sizes 4-6)

Wipes

Towels/washcloths

Ibuprofen and Tylenol for adults and children



Domestic violence is a pattern of abusive behaviors which include physical, sexual, and psychological attacks. Economic coercion can also be used to gain, maintain or regain power and control in the relationship. Batterers are masters at manipulation, and use a range of tactics to frighten, terrorize, hurt, humiliate; blame, often injure and sometimes kill a current or former intimate partner.

There are warning signs, such as extreme jealousy, controlling nature, hurting animals, or may simply seem "too good to be true." When violence begins, it typically escalates over the years. Children are hurt, even if they are not the direct recipient of the abuse. They grow up thinking violence, however subdued, is normal.

Statistically, there is evidence that you likely know someone in an abusive relationship. Encourage them to develop a safety plan. Give them our crisis line number (704-872-3403.) Help us spread the word. We need your help!



1. Give this enrollment card to the cashier with your BONUSCARD one time during the program term.
2. One percent of your purchases will be donated to your designated group through May 31.
3. Call 800-788-4438 if you have any questions.

DIAKONOS, INC



The next time you shop at BI-LO, scan this coupon with your bonus card. It will link your card to our account and My Sister's House will receive 1% of your purchase until May 31, 2011. At that time, we will print a new coupon for you to use as we work together to address the needs of victims of domestic violence and sexual assault. Thanks!

Please accept my tax-deductible donation in the amount of \$ _____

Name _____

Address _____

If you'd like your gift to be given as a memorial or in honor of an individual or a group, please provide us with the information below.

Circle one *In honor of* *In memory of*

Name _____

Special message _____

Name and address of person acknowledgement is to be sent _____

Name/Address _____

FIFTH STREET
MINISTRIES,
INCLUDING MY
SISTER'S HOUSE,
IS SUPPORTED IN
PART BY UNITED
WAY, NORTH
CAROLINA
COUNCIL FOR
WOMEN,
GOVERNOR'S
CRIME
COMMISSION,
EMERGENCY
SHELTER GRANT
PROGRAM,
CHURCHES, CIVIC
GROUPS,
INDIVIDUALS...ALL
WHO BELIEVE IN
THE WORK of
DIAKONOS.

My Sister's House Staff

Patti West
Executive Director
pwest@ffhstreetministries.com

Nicole Winterhalter,
Staff Psychologist

Patti Wiley,
Victim Advocate

Stacy Root, Shelter Manager
Emily Menster, Case Manager
Gwen summers, Weekend staff
Teresa Brown, Tyleshia Graham.
Cheryl Rawson - Night Security