



Community Crisis Center, Inc.

Serving the Community since 1975

We provide Safety, Hope, Advocacy, Respite and Education for those impacted by crisis and violence in the Fox Valley Region and Illinois.

Holiday Spirit Visible in Elgin Community



© Simon L | Dreamstime Stock Photos

The holiday spirit is already in evidence at Community Crisis Center. Space has been cleared out and organized for the many donations of needed food we anticipate during the holidays.

The early cold snap has created an early need for lightly used coats. We are especially in need of coats for men. They can be dropped off at our door, or call for further instructions.

With thanks to the donors, approximately 300 “turkeys and fixin’s” will be distributed so people can enjoy a Thanksgiving meal with their families.

And, we are hard at work with our community partners to get everything ready for the Toy

Giveaway scheduled for December 18.

Unwrapped toys may be dropped off at the Grand Victoria Pavilion, Elgin Township office, or placed in the Toys for Tots Donation Boxes. You are also welcome to make a financial donation. Checks can be written to Community Crisis Center with a notation that the money is for the Toy Giveaway. One hundred per cent of the money donated goes to purchase toys. For more information [click here.](#)

**Save the Date:
Annual Auction
March 14, 2015**

Inside this issue:

Domestic Violence Awareness Month	2
Partners in Peace	2
Reflejos Award	3
Holiday Needs	3
Ongoing Needs	4
Coming Events	4
Board Members	4

Are you an on-line shopper? Here's how your shopping can help us!



Is Amazon your go-to place for holiday shopping? If so consider signing up

with Amazon Smile...Go to Smile.Amazon.com and sign up with Community Crisis Center as your designee. Anytime you order through Amazon after that you will be prompted to order through Amazon Smile and we will receive

a small fraction of the amount you spend. If lots of folks sign up, contributions will keep rolling in.

If you shop at more than one on-line store, consider iGive.com There you sign up again listing Community Crisis Center as your charity. You will need to indicate which stores you shop with, and leave the iGive Icon on your desk-

top and every time you shop a portion will automatically be sent to us.

ONE IMPORTANT NOTE:

These are ways to supplement your giving at no extra costs to you, but the amounts we receive do not replace monetary donations, and those are still needed and appreciated.

For Crisis Center Holiday Needs, see page 3.



© Garageartstudio | Dreamstime Stock Photos

October Domestic Violence Awareness Month Recap



Teri Jendusa Nicolai speaks to a packed house at the rally October 23.

Highlighting Domestic Violence Awareness Month, Community Crisis Center hosted Teri Jendusa Nicolai to speak at our October Rally. Teri recounted her experiences at the hands of the man who almost killed her, and brought a message of survival and hope to the crowd of 225 people. Also during October, we organized Domestic Violence information tables at five area libraries, and over six hundred persons heard the story of domestic violence during a series of 22 presentations given to community residents including ECC Students, YWCA English as a Second Language students and area middle and high school students.

In a sea of purple, CCC staff and Board Members remind rally attendees that Domestic Violence is Everybody's Business!



Front: Row D. Murillo, R. Peterson, N. Palmer, E. Zarco, K. Overman, B. Fregoso, D. Choi, Back Row: M. Chambers, C. Johnson, M. Manning-Rosenfeld, K. Schellin-Rog, T. Stauffer, J. Cornelius, S. Buckels, M. Hyatt, A. Whitmer, L. Conrad

Partners in Peace Breakfast

On October 10, Community Crisis Center honored these people with Partners in Peace awards for the work they do on a daily basis to prevent Domestic Violence.

Brian McGuire, Hanover Township Supervisor

Denise Bezick Hume, Prairie State Legal Services

Chief John Fahy, Elgin Fire Department

William Templin, DLA Architects, Ltd.

Jennifer Gullang and **Stacey Maurer**, Kane County Probation Officers

Katie Storey, Director of Student Services, Elgin Community College

The Lifetime Service Award was presented to **Vickie Smith** of the Illinois Coalition Against Domestic Violence for her many years in active service toward making homes safe for all.



Partners in Peace Awardees, Left to Right Stacey Maurer, Brian McGuire, William Templin, Vickie Smith, Denise Bezick Hume, Chief John Fahy, Katie Storey, Jennifer Gullang

Crisis Center Awarded Reflecting Excellence Award by Reflejos Bilingual Newspaper



Community Crisis Center was honored to receive a Reflecting Excellence Award on Thursday evening, November 18. These annual awards are sponsored by Reflejos Bilingual Journal and were presented at Elgin Community College.

Reflejos' Reflecting Excellence Awards are given in recognition of businesses and nonprofits who contribute to the Latino Community through their services,

products and community activism in Cook, Lake, Kane, McHenry, DuPage, DeKalb, Will and Kendall counties. Awardees are nominated by Reflejos' readers.

Bethzaira Fregoso and



Devora Murillo, staff members, accepted the award on our behalf.

Chicago Bears' center Roberto Garza was the guest speaker. He spoke about his background of poverty and the role education can play in changing one's life.

For more information on the Reflejos' Awards [click here](#).

Crisis Center Holiday Needs



For Christmas, the Crisis Center hosts two gift giving occasions. First there will be a party

for former residents and families on December 11, then on December 25, each resident will receive a "basket full of gifts". We appreciate donations for these occasions (items and /or money). New items such as pajamas, slippers, watches and toiletries for women

are always needed.

Also each mom will be invited to "shop" for her children, and wrap a gift to be given from her. We need new toys for children of all ages and will need wrapping paper, ribbons, and tape for this event

[Click here for more information on holiday needs.](#)



Grants . .

It is only through the generosity of others that we are able to do the work we do. This month we offer a special "Thank You" to the following organizations and foundations for supporting the work of CCC:

- Kane County Bar Foundation,
- Harvey & Ethel Daeumer Foundation
- GE Capital Commercial Distribution Finance.

Your generous contributions help us make a difference to those in need.

Thank You!

Share the baked goods.

When you do holiday baking, consider making an extra batch for Community Crisis Center.

For many of our walk-in clients, what you donate will be the only homebaked goods they get during the holiday season.

Calendar

Ongoing:

Drop-In Domestic Violence Support Groups

Tues. 6:30-8:00 pm.—English
*Fri. 9:00-10:30 am—
Expressive Art—English
*Sat. 9:00-10:30 am —English
*Childcare Provided

Sexual Assault Drop-In Group

Monday 6:00-7:30 p.m.—
Spanish

Parenting with Love and Logic 2015:

Session 1 (01/06/15-02/10/15)
Session 2 (2/17/15-03/24/15)

Domestic Violence/Sexual Assault Advocacy Training:

January 12-16 — 8 am—5 pm &
January 19 & 21 — 8 am—4 pm

Current Needs

- *Diapers—we are still in need of size large (4-6).*
- Non Perishable food for emergency pantry shelves. (Remember, we cannot accept food which is past its expiration date).
- Toiletries
- Household supplies (Dishwasher pods/pacs especially appreciated)
- Laundry Supplies (HE detergent only — pods/pacs especially appreciated)
- Paper goods
- Snack size treats for children in shelter
- Home baked goods are always appreciated. We give them to walk in clients.

Community Crisis Center Board of Directors

Chathia Johnson, **President**
Mary E. Hyatt, **Vice-President**
Betty Rauschenberger, **Secretary**
Keith Brill, **Treasurer**
Cathy Olson, **Previous President**
Mariana Barriga
Jean Bowen
Bob Jackson
Mario Karayannis
Jodi Martin
Daniel O'Shea
Lisa West

Agency Executive Director:

Gretchen Vapnar



At George Van De Voorde Place

Non-Profit Organization
U.S. Postage
PAID
Elgin, Illinois 60120
Permit No. 125

Hotline: 847-697-2380

Fax: 847-742-4182

Web Page: www.crisiscenter.org

[Click here
to return to
newsletter](#)

Elgin Holiday

TOY GIVEAWAY

December 18, 2014
Hemmens Cultural Center

Share your joy this holiday season by remembering children of less fortunate families.

ABOUT OUR EVENT

Last year, with your help, we collected new toys and monies allowing us to distribute approximately 6000 toys to 2800 children from over 1000 needy families. We anticipate an increase in numbers this year. Donations and volunteers are invaluable to the Elgin Holiday Toy Giveaway.

DONATE TOYS

Collect new, unwrapped toys (\$10-\$30) for children of all ages!

Deliver these to:

Grand Victoria Casino Pavilion
(Place under holiday tree between
November 28th-December 16th)

Elgin Township Office
729 S. McLean Blvd.

or any

**Elgin Area Marine Corps
Toys for Toys Donation Boxes**

SPONSOR OUR EVENT

\$250 donation to purchase toys
or donation of 25 new toys
(equivalent of \$250)

DONATE \$\$\$

Cash and checks payable to:

Community Crisis Center
(designate Toy Giveaway)

P.O. Box 1390
Elgin, IL 60121-1390

To learn more about our event, including toy suggestions and volunteer opportunities, visit www.elgintoygiveaway.org or contact the Community Crisis Center via phone (847-742-4088 X 304) or email toygiveaway@crisiscenter.org.



Community Crisis Center
2014` Holiday Gift Request List

Women's Gifts

Holiday Basket: for Christmas each woman in shelter receives a new laundry basket filled with useful and pampering items. We will accept donations of complete baskets or the items to assemble the baskets. Please do not wrap any gifts.

[Click here
to return to
newsletter](#)

Large rectangular laundry baskets
Pajamas
Slippers
Hat & Scarf Set
Journals and pens
Towel Set
Alarm clock radios
Wristwatches
Fleece Blanket or Afghan
Lotion & Shower Gel set
Calendars/day planners – purse size
\$20 Gift Cards: Wal-Mart or Target

Children's gifts

Multi-cultural dolls
Barbie dolls
Doll clothes
Tool sets
Toddler/pre-school toys
Play Dishes
Cars/trucks/garage
Legos
Board games- all ages
Craft/Art supplies
Books – picture books, I-can-read books, chapter books

Teen Gifts

Watches
Radios
Diaries and pens
Basketballs/footballs/soccer balls
Lotion/shower gel, etc

Clothing gifts

Uniforms for elementary age children: navy/khaki pants, skirts, jumpers – 6 –16
Navy, red, white shirts with collars, turtlenecks or sweaters – 6 – 18
Sweat suits – all children's and adult sizes

Gifts for the Center

*Holiday ribbon/bows/tape
Batteries: AA, C, D, 9-volt
Pajamas/nightgowns/underwear: children & adult, all sizes
Umbrellas, Steam irons/hair dryers/curling irons
Dvds: G, PG, PG-13, for children & adults
Cookies (homemade or store bought) for our lobby guests

Program Needs: Educational materials for AIP (Abuse Intervention Program): Book: Violent No More: Helping Men End Domestic Violence; Book: Alternatives to Domestic Violence: a Homework Manual for Battering Intervention Groups, Third Edition by K. Fall and S. Howard; Posters: Power and Control Wheel, Equality Wheel both in English

Gifts we do not use during the Christmas holidays will be used throughout the year for shelter clients (women and children) who have birthdays or other special days in their lives while they are in shelter. The Crisis Center also provides school uniforms and supplies for all our children in shelter throughout the year.

If your group is looking for a special project, please think about providing a special dinner and/or party for any of the holidays throughout the year. Evenings that include a special meal; bingo for women (with prizes like bath and body care items); games in the playroom for the children; art projects, cookie decorating, etc. are all fun activities that our women and children can do together with a volunteer group. Call Lea C. or Deena for more information about special projects.

DEADLINE TO DROP OFF GIFTS: Wednesday, December 17, 2014