April 2022

Gretchen S. Vapnar Community CRISIS CENTER

always hope

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

HOTLINE 847-697-2380

SOCIAL JUSTICE CAN ELIMINATE SEXUAL VIOLENCE

April is Sexual Assault Awareness Month. We take pause and think about the countless survivors of sexual violence. For millennia, sexual violence has been used as a weapon of oppression. Conquered peoples have been systematically oppressed with sexual violence holding a primary role. Sexual violence is based on historic racism and sexism that persists into today. Statistics show that women of color suffer disproportionate rates of sexual violence as compared to white women. That is why we believe that social justice, and the elimination of oppression and privilege can and will eliminate sexual violence.

Annually, rape costs the U.S. more than any other crime

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Join Elgin Community Bikes for a Moonlight Ride at 9 pm on April 16. Community Crisis Center will be providing teal spoke lights for participants to promote Sexual Assault Awareness. This family-friendly ride is a regular event for the bike club. You must sign a waiver for this ride. For more information, click here: https://elgincommunitybikes.org/home

Nighttime rides are fun!

Partners in Peace

Each year in October, the Crisis Center Awards the Partners in Peace Award to those who in their work give special help to Domestic Violence survivors. Awardees this year (above l to r) are: Andres Acosta, local hotel mgr; Meg Krase, Soc. Worker for C'ville Police Dept.; Michael Isaacson, Kane Co Health Dept.; Lisandro Ramirez, ROPE Officer, Elgin Police Dept. Not pictured: Tricia Rossi, Soc. Worker, Hanover Police Dept.

The Elgin Fire Department delivered over 300 coats collected for our coat give-away

During 'No Shave November' ECC Police Department officers pay for the privilege of growing beards. This year their "hairy" efforts resulted in a $700 gift to the Crisis Center.

Fall/Winter Happenings

COVID has not kept us away from doing things this fall and winter . Beginning in October we:

- Spent 2-3 days promoting domestic violence awareness in 6 different libraries
- Held a virtual vigil honoring survivors and victims of domestic violence
- Provided 87 holiday meals for families
- Assisted families to keep warm this winter by giving out about 2,200 winter wear items including coats, hats, gloves, scarves, and boots.
- Partnered with Salvation Army to assist over 800 families to have at least 3 gifts for each child on Christmas morning.
- Treated shelter residents to a Christmas Eve Brunch from Baker Hill Pancake House.
- Wrapped and gave holiday gifts to each shelter resident.

NONE of this would have happened without the generous donations from our amazing community partners!

THANK YOU ALL SO VERY MUCH!

Donated toys are ready to be packed for families who signed up for the toy give-away. Volunteers packed up over 800 individual bags of toys to share with area families.

Hospital Advocacy

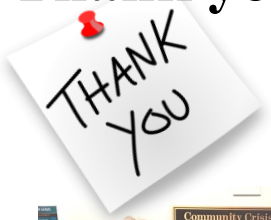
Are you passionate about helping survivors of domestic violence and sexual assault? Would you like to be part of a team dedicated toward ending interpersonal violence?

We are in the process of revitalizing our Hospital Advocacy Program which was temporarily shut down because of COVID restrictions.

The Community Crisis Center is pleased to offer our 2022 60-hour Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Training! Upon completion of training, volunteers will receive state-recognized certificates in Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault and will be eligible to begin service as a hospital advocate.

Our first class is in April, others will be announced at a later date. For more information, contact: Uzma Hussaini at Uhussaini@crisiscenter.org or Susan Johnson at sjohnson@crisiscenter.org

Thank you to our wonderful community supporters



The pictures you see here is just a portion of all the wonderful groups that support us both with cash and donations. We say it often, but we can never say it enough — we could not do what we do without you!

Elgin Township

Women Connecting Women

Carpentersville Morning Rotary

Elgin United Civic Association

BAC Restoration

Jack and Jill of America, Inc.

Baird & Warner

Elgin Meijer

Grand Victoria Casino

Calendar

April is Sexual Assault Awareness and Child Abuse Awareness Month.

40-Hour Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Training

8am -5pm May 23-26

CCC Board Member to be Honored at YWCA 2022 Leader Luncheon

Mariana Barriga, a Crisis Center Board member since 1991, has a sincere interest in the services that the Crisis Center provides. Her willingness to share the Crisis Center story in the community and her compassionate and genuine approach to the needs of staff, other volunteers, and to our organization as a whole makes her a valued asset.

Greatest Needs

Our greatest need at this time is large diapers; Sizes 6 and 7 only.

Additional needs are:

Nonperishable food such as:

- **Cereal**
- **Oatmeal**
- **Canned vegetables**
- **Dry pinto beans (1 pound bags)**
- **White rice (1 pound bags)**
- **Canned tomato sauce (8 or 15 oz. cans)**
- **Saltine crackers**
- **Ready to eat soup with pop top lids**
- **Complete pancake mix and syrup.**

Community Crisis Center Board of Directors March 2022

A special welcome to new board members Patricia Piper Golden and Bhumika Sachdev

KEITH BRILL
President

SHERRY TOTZKE
Vice President

RACHEL HERNANDEZ
Secretary

MARIANA BARRIGA

ED HUNTER

CHATHIA JOHNSON

RHONDA ROBINSON FARRAR

PATRICIA PIPER GOLDEN

BHUMIKA SACHDEV

The Board of Directors is responsible for program review, and policy-setting, and long-term planning of the organization. They also hire and evaluate the performance of the Executive Director. Meetings are held the 4th Monday of the month except for July and December.

There are still several openings for board members. If you are interested or have someone to suggest, please contact Chathia Johnson at: Chathia.Johnson@gmail.com

United Way