



Thoughts from the Executive Director



By Terri Hamrick Kessel

As the holidays approach, many of us reflect on the numerous gifts and blessings of the past twelve months and look toward the end of the calendar year. For those accessing our services, the past months may have been some of the

hardest of their lives, and through the support of the community we are able to provide assistance to those impacted by battering, stalking, and sexual abuse. We provide essential services to those most vulnerable, and have for the last 25 years.

This is a tough time to be a nonprofit, and to ensure the sustainability of our services we depend heavily upon the kindness, generosity, and philanthropy of the community. Federal and state funding the third (nonprofit) sector is retracting, with decreased allocations and at best, level funding (which is actually a cut with the rising cost of doing business), and we at Survivors, Inc. adapt by doing more with less and less, and seeking support outside of government funding sources.

Holidays at the Shelter

The winter holidays can be a joyous time of year filled with warmth, giving, and family traditions. Everywhere you turn there are decorations, holiday events, and songs in the air. For the individuals that utilize our shelter services, the holidays can bring painful memories and feelings of emptiness. In the past, the support of generous donors allowed those utilizing our services to have a pleasant holiday experience.

That being said, the final days 2007 tax year provides an opportunity for those who wish to assist; ensuring the legacy of supportive services and sanctuary for women and children fleeing abuse continues. Those IRA owners that are age 70 ½+ can transfer up to \$100,000.00 tax free to an eligible nonprofit such as Survivors, Inc. 2007 is the final year for this opportunity, and eligible IRA participants (those who have SIMPLE or SEP are not able to participate) do not have to itemize to give a gift of this nature. To qualify, the money has to contribute directly to the organization by the IRA trustee. One thing to note

is since the funds are not taxed, there is no deduction available for the money transferred to 501c3 organizations like Survivors, Inc.

There are many other opportunities to help Survivors, Inc. maintain competent and responsive services to the greater Adams County community. Together, we can make a

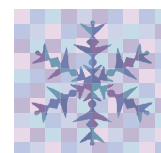
difference in the struggle against

intimate violence and battering, once person at a time. *If you would like further information about ways to support Survivors, Inc., please contact Terri Hamrick Kessel at 717-334-0589 ext. 22 or at Terri@survivorsservices.org.*

*"...the past months
may have been
some of the hardest
of their lives..."*

Help us to provide a beautiful holiday season to our shelter residents and their children by donating various gifts, wrapping paper, gift cards, and decorations.

If you are interested in making holiday donations to the shelter, assisting with gift wrapping, or providing food for the holiday party please contact the administrative office at 717-334-0589.



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A proud member
of the Pennsylvania
Coalition Against Domestic
Violence
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What's New at Survivors, Inc.



We love to thank publicly those who donate to us so generously during the quarter. Your kindness empowers us to serve those impacted by sexual assault and domestic violence. If you have been omitted, have a mailing error such as typos, incorrect information, multiple mailings, etc. please notify Terri Hamrick Kessel at 717-334-0589 extension 22 or terri@survivorservices.org.

Survivors, Inc. is a 501c3 nonprofit organization- donations to which are tax deductible to the fullest extent permitted by law. The official registration and financial information of Survivors, Inc. may be obtained from the Pennsylvania Department of State by calling toll free within Pennsylvania, 1-800-732-0999. Registration does not imply endorsement.

Survivors, Inc.

Internet Safety Tips

In the age of technology, we are privileged to have modern conveniences that are a part of our daily lives. However, it is important to realize that the internet can be an unsafe place if misused.

Cyberstalking is a real issue and can affect anyone. Cyberstalking can include but is not limited to:

incessantly leaving emails or text messages, following the victim from chat room to chat room, researching personal information, posting information on the internet or blog about the victim, ordering products in the victim's name, or threatening the victim.

Here are some tips for how to protect yourself online:

- Put everything behind a password. Try using one that has both letters and numbers.
- Protect that password.
- Make sure you know who someone is before putting them on your friends list.
- What you post online stays online forever....Think before posting!
- Don't answer messages from people you don't know.

"Cyberstalking is a real issue and can affect anyone."

- Never post personal information like addresses or phone numbers.
- Get your friends' permission before posting information about them.
- Even if you are careful, your friends might not be. Check out what your friends are posting about you.
- That cute 16 year old boy may not be cute, 16 or even a boy. You NEVER know.
- Unless you are prepared to attach your MySpace page to your job, college, internship, or scholarship application, don't post it publicly! Many employers, schools and organizations are checking out candidates before hiring.

If you are being stalked it is important to document the experiences. Keep a notebook and pen nearby to keep a record of the stalking behavior. Report the individual to the webmaster (if you are on a public chat site). Block the individual's email or screen name. Save all emails, text messages, or communications from the perpetrator. Tell the police and share with them your stalking log and collected evidence. Call Survivors, Inc. to get support, information, and legal advocacy.

We want to be at your event!

One of our top priorities at Survivors, Inc. is to reach out and build relationships with the community. Many of our outreach efforts come in the form of community education events. We would be honored to speak at your group's next meeting or event about topics related to domestic violence, sexual assault, our organization, or how to help make Adams County the best place to live for all residents.

In the recent past we have spoken to church groups, women's groups, high school students, college students, middle school students, health fairs, community organizations, health care workers, and businesses. We are prepared for formal, informal, high technology, and basic presentations alike.

Please call our Administrative Office at 717-334-0589 to schedule with us today!

Wish List

- Holiday tree with decorations
- Wrapping paper
- TV/DVD player
- Paper products- toilet paper, paper towels
- Stackable kids chairs
- Toaster oven
- Dining room table and chairs
- Mattress covers (single bed)
- Pillows and pillow cases
- Table lamps/floor lamps
- End tables
- Recliner
- Pull out couches (double bed capacity)
- Gift cards to Kennies, Wal-Mart, Giant, phone cards, gas cards, and restaurant cards.

Upcoming Events and Plans

Here are some of the things that will be occurring in the near future:

~ January is Stalking Awareness Month.
~ Survivors, Inc. supports the Gettysburg College Women's Center in their presenting of the Vagina Monologues on February 14th and 15th.

~ We will be exhibiting at the Women's Health Fair on March 8th at the Gettysburg Hospital.
~ April is Sexual Assault Awareness Month. Survivors, Inc. and the Gettysburg College Women's Center will be hosting Take Back the Night on Thursday April 17th at 6PM at the Campus Union Building. There will be Mock Trials held at the local colleges to represent the legal side of a sexual assault case. The Luminaries in the Square Sexual Assault Awareness Event will take place on a Saturday evening in April. Details to follow.

JARS Training volunteer, Angel, at the Domestic Violence Awareness Month Luminary Event in Lincoln Square



Jim Holler's Retirement

Survivors, Inc. would like to wish a happy retirement to board vice president and champion for victims of domestic violence and sexual assault, Jim Holler. Chief Holler dedicated his life to justice and service completing his impressive career with the Liberty Township Police Department. He is an asset to the community and will truly be missed. Survivors, Inc. would like to thank Jim for his dedication, compassion, and years of service.

Spring JARS Volunteer Training Class

The Spring volunteer training class is set to begin on February 2nd, 2008 on the Gettysburg College campus. The course will run from 8:30AM to 4:30PM for eight consecutive weeks and will certify the participants as counselor advocates. To be a volunteer with

Survivors, Inc. you must complete the required 64 hour sexual assault/domestic violence counselor advocate training as per 23 PaCSA 6116 (stating that a domestic violence counselor/advocate may accompany a party to any legal proceeding or hearing) and 42 PaCSA 5945.1 (granting confidential communications with sexual assault counselors). To register for this free course, please call the Administrative Office at 717-334-0589.

"The Spring volunteer training class is set to begin on 2/2/08."



**JUSTICE, AUTONOMY,
RESTORATION AND SAFETY**

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We are on the
web!

www.survivorsservices.org



Donations are welcomed by Visa/MasterCard or check made payable to Survivors, Inc.: _____\$25 _____\$50 _____Other

Name (as it appears on card)

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The official registration and financial information of Survivors, Inc. may be obtained from the Pennsylvania Department of State by calling toll free (800)732-0999. Registration does not imply endorsement. Our registration number is 3789. Let us know what you think about the new face on our newsletter! E-mail your feedback to survivors@survivorsservices.org.

HELP UPDATE OUR MAILING LIST: If you no longer wish to receive our newsletter, or if this newsletter is coming to your residence but not to an addressee currently living there, please let us know by calling our administrative office at 334-0589. Thank you for your help!