



Women's Advocates

Breaking the cycle of domestic violence.

Newsletter // Issue: March-April 2017

Sexual Assault Awareness Month

Did you know that up to 45% of women in an abusive relationship are also sexually assaulted by their abuser?^[1] Women's Advocates is engaging the community this April to talk about the role of sexual violence in various forms of relationships, including those that involve abuse. Students, community members, and professionals are learning about recognizing when someone needs help, and they are also finding out about prevention and supportive resources for those who have experienced sexual and domestic violence.

Women's Advocates will be presenting at the Sexual Assault Fundamentals Education (SAFE) Conference, and our staff will be engaging schools, teen groups, community organization groups, and homeless shelters in presentations about sexual violence and consent. Girl groups at LEAP (Limited English Achievement Program) High School in Saint Paul will be working with Women's Advocates to create multilingual videos addressing sexual violence and other forms of violence.

Want to get involved this April? Join in activism on the International Day Against Victim Blaming on April 3, spread the word about college sexual assault for "It's On Us" during the week of April 2-8, or find a screening of "The Hunting Ground," a documentary film about the incidence of sexual assault on college campuses, near you at a college or university. Denim Day, a day to wear jeans with a purpose, support survivors, and educate yourself and others about sexual assault, is on April 26. Educate your friends and family about consent this month too!

If you or anyone you know is interested in learning more about resources available related to sexual assault awareness, please visit <http://www.nsvrc.org/saam/campaign-planning>. If you or anyone you know are seeking resources for immediate safety related to domestic violence, please call our 24/7 crisis line at 651-227-8284.

[1] (2000). *Extent, nature, and consequences of intimate partner violence: Findings from the national violence against women survey.*


"Witness the Journey" - Spring Open House on April 18

On Tuesday, April 18th, from 5:00 to 7:00pm, Women's Advocates is opening its doors to supporters and community members interested in touring our shelter. Staff and board members will be present to discuss our history, programs, impact, and to share engagement opportunities with individuals interested in our mission.

This is a free event, and light refreshments will be available. Women's Advocates' staff and leadership will provide tours, and speak at 6:00pm about future goals for the organization.

To help ensure confidentiality of residents, an offsite activity has been scheduled for the women and children residing at Women's Advocates during the time of this event.

To attend, you must register by contacting Tom Brinker at tbrinker@wadvocates.org or 651-726-5212.



WITNESS THE JOURNEY
A TOUR OF WOMEN'S ADVOCATES

April 18, 2017
5pm - 7pm
588 Grand Avenue
Saint Paul, MN 55102

REGISTER TO ATTEND THIS FREE EVENT
EMAIL [TBRINKER@WADVOCATES.ORG](mailto:tbrinker@wadvocates.org)
OR CALL 651-726-5212

Learn about domestic violence in our community and how you can make a difference. This open-house style event will feature light refreshments and tours of our historic buildings. At 6pm, there will be a 15-minute program.

Women's Advocates was founded in 1974 as the nation's first shelter for women and children escaping domestic abuse. Learn more at www.wadvocates.org.

In This Issue

[April is Sexual Assault Awareness Month](#)
[New Volunteer Opportunities](#)
[We need YOUR help! April 4 - 14](#)
[Special Visitor!](#)
[Spring Open House](#)
[Women's History Month](#)
[Volunteer Spotlight](#)

We need YOUR help! April 4 -14



We are excited to announce we've been nominated for the Opus Foundation's Third Annual Gerry Rauenhorst #BuildingCommunity Award! This grant honors The Opus Group founder Gerry Rauenhorst's legacy by awarding one nonprofit with \$64,000.

Starting Tuesday, April 4th at 9:00am CDT and running through April 14th, please show your support for our life-changing mission by voting and spreading the word (and the [Voting Link](#)) via email and social media!

Special Visitor: Clifford!

Surprise! On an early March



morning, we had a visit from an iconic children's character – Clifford the Big Red Dog!

Volunteer Spotlight - University of Central Oklahoma Students



The students pictured dedicated their 2017 Spring Break to an "Alternative Break" service trip, travelling all the way from Oklahoma to Minnesota, where they volunteered throughout the week at several different agencies and organizations, including a full work day at Women's Advocates.

During their visit, they provided child care activities, deep cleaned our kitchen, dining, and living rooms, and prepped and served dinner. Thanks to their time, "Minnesota Nice" received some "Southern Hospitality" and our facility is freshly cleaned as we head into spring! Thanks UCO students for your time!

International Women's Day / Women's History Month

This March, several initiatives in MN and across the country took place to celebrate Women's History Month and International Women's Day. Staff at Women's Advocates attended some of these events and encouraged our community members to take action and find ways to support women in our community, most specifically Women's Advocates and our residents.

[Click here](#) to find out more ways to make your voice heard, educate others, and make a positive difference in the lives of domestic violence survivors.

New Volunteer Opportunities

Volunteers bring smiles, creativity, and community engagement opportunities to those who are staying at our shelter. Women's Advocates needs small group meal serving (evening and weekend) and deep-clean housekeeping (weekday) volunteers this spring and summer! We also are in search of individual volunteers who could help us with our outreach efforts by attending information tables on an on-call basis. These tabling events typically take place M-F during business or early evening hours.

If you would like to sign up for these opportunities, head to www.wadvocates.org/volunteer and complete the individual or group volunteer application. For questions, please email Tom at tbrinker@wadvocates.org.

Quick Links

[Our Website](#)

[Donate Now](#)

[Volunteer](#)

[Wish List](#)

Crisis Line: [651-227-8284](tel:651-227-8284)



