



Women's Advocates

Breaking the cycle of domestic violence.

Spring Fun at the Shelter

On an evening in April, Women's Advocates staff and volunteers hosted a shelter-wide Spring party for residents. At this event, there were themed crafts, egg-dyeing, and an egg hunt along with cupcakes and juice. Three therapy rabbits, Sari, Razi, and Bear made a special appearance for the families staying with us. Thank you to our staff and volunteers for putting on a wonderful night of fun!



2019 Minnesota Multi Housing Association "Working Together" Conference

In mid-April, 135 property managers and landlords learned about recognizing the signs of domestic violence, how to share safety resources, and the interconnectedness of domestic violence and homelessness. Women's Advocates team members Roxy Walker and Brenisen Wheeler presented at the 2019 Minnesota Multi Housing Association "Working Together" Conference. Focusing on the long-lasting aftermath of healing from financial abuse, legal complications, housing precarity, and the role that power and control have, Roxy and Brenisen built empathy for those healing from domestic violence. As Roxy shared with the property managers, "We need you, so let's work together!"

This was an afternoon filled with important questions, myth debunking, sensitive stories, and compassion. We were so grateful for this opportunity to build a bridge across the community that could result in domestic violence victims/survivors finding safe, stable housing in the future.

Join Us April 30: Shop for a Cause at Scarborough Fair

On Tuesday, April 30th, 10% of sales all day (hours 11:00 am-7:30 pm) at Scarborough Fair, 2238 Carter Ave South in St. Paul, will benefit Women's Advocates. Located in the St. Anthony Park neighborhood of Saint Paul, MN, Scarborough Fair offers artful clothing, eccentric accessories, and specialty hats.

Later that evening, Scarborough Fair will host a shopping event from 4:00 pm to 7:30 pm, where food and wine will be served. Extra staff will be on hand to help shoppers, and

Women's Advocates' team members will be available with safety resources.



Store Hours • 11am-7:30pm
Event Hours • 4-7:30pm

The event will feature food, wine, safety resources, and remarks from Women's Advocates at 6pm.

SHOP FOR A CAUSE

Tuesday, April 30

Scarborough Fair
2238 Carter Ave. South, St. Paul

10% of sales all day will benefit Women's Advocates in St. Paul, the first domestic violence shelter in the nation.



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Did You Know?

Child Victims and Police Response

"Reconceptualizing the Child Victim in the Police Response to Domestic Violence" was published this month in the *Journal of Family Violence*. This study discusses how constructions of the child victim of domestic violence (DV) have changed over the last number of years from once passive bystander to active agent and victim in their own right. Although police as first responders are more aware of the risk to children living with DV, there continues to be a disparity among officers in recognizing and responding to the child as the victim. Children continue to be unseen by police and are not engaged with in a way that recognizes their victim status at a DV incident. Policing models that focus purely on the criminal justice aspect render the child's experience invisible. This article utilizes a storytelling approach to capture children's views as well as interviews with police. This study was conducted in Ireland but gleans some interesting information on the experiences of children in domestic violence situations. Click [here](#) to access the article.

Link Between Economic Hardship and Help-Seeking

"Longitudinal Fluctuations of National Help-Seeking Reports for Domestic Violence Before, During, and After the Financial Crisis in Cyprus" was published this month in the *Journal of Interpersonal Violence*. This study provides evidence of increased need for domestic violence related crisis

RSVP to the Facebook event [here](#).

Join Us May 10: Grounds for Good at Himalayan Java St. Paul

Please consider grabbing your coffee, breakfast, lunch, or afternoon pick-me-up at Himalayan Java, 949 Grand Ave in St. Paul, on Friday, May 10. [Himalayan Java St. Paul](#) will be donating 50% of all food and beverage sales 7am – 5pm to Women's Advocates. Himalayan Java brews fair-trade organic arabica coffee from the Himalayas and serves pastries, salads, soups, and sandwiches – all with a whole latte love.

FRIDAY, MAY 10

—● All day ●—
@ Himalayan Java
50% OF ALL PROCEEDS GO TO

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RSVP to the Facebook event [here](#).

May 2019 | Brake Bread supporting Women's Advocates | Subscribe for a Cause

Throughout the month of May 2019, Brake Bread in St. Paul will donate \$10 from each new bread delivery subscription to Women's Advocates.

Brake Bread is a community supported bakery using bread and bikes to build community. They specialize in naturally leavened bread made with organic grains. Each week, bikers pedal out of their W. 7th shop to deliver fresh bread, coffee, cookies, pastries, jam and honey to their subscribers.

New subscribers can go to <https://brakebread.com/subscribe> to get started and benefit a local organization working to support survivors in our community. You can follow Brake Bread on [Instagram](#) and [Facebook](#).

Subscribe for a Cause supporting Women's Advocates



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For every new bread delivery subscription in May, Brake Bread will donate \$10 to Women's Advocates in St. Paul, the first domestic violence shelter in the nation.



May 2019 • brakebread.com/subscribe • 1174 7th St. W., St. Paul

How to Help Year-Round

We seek community support to fulfill shelter and resident needs, including:

Facebook Fundraiser: You can easily raise awareness and encourage your network to support our cause with just a few clicks. No fees are deducted for donations made on Facebook. Start at [our page here](#) and click "Create Fundraiser."

Gift Cards: Gift cards to Target, Walmart, gas stations, coffee shops, and local restaurants are useful to help Women's Advocates fill immediate needs for our residents and aftercare participants year-round.

AmazonSmile: Your online shopping can create REAL impact for Women's Advocates. All you have to do is start your online shopping [HERE](#), designate Women's Advocates as your charity of choice, and the AmazonSmile Foundation will donate 0.5% of the purchase price of eligible products to us. Please bookmark the link in your browser.

Any questions about volunteering, fundraising, or donating gift cards can be sent to development@wadvocates.org.

resources in small nations. Click [here](#) to access the article.

Preventing Domestic Violence Firearm Homicides

At the end of March, a woman whose protection order had expired the prior year was shot and killed by her ex-husband inside a Delaware County, Pennsylvania Wawa when she appeared to exchange the parties' child. Access to weapons in domestic violence situations has deadly consequences. According to the Pennsylvania Coalition Against Domestic Violence, 2017 saw the highest number of domestic violence-related firearm deaths in a decade, with 78 victims being shot and killed. Firearms increase the likelihood of death in domestic violence situations with women being five times more likely to be killed if the abuser owns a firearm. Act 79, which stands to impact thousands of domestic violence victims across the state, represents what many advocates hope will be a significant step forward in preventing domestic violence firearm homicides. Learn more about Act 79 [here](#).

Pet-Friendly Domestic Violence Shelters

There has been a recent movement for pet-friendly DV shelters to keep victims and their pets together as they escape abuse. Harbor House of Central Florida is a pet-friendly domestic violence shelter for victims to seek refuge with their beloved pets by their side. Harbor House established its Paws for Peace Kennel seven years ago in an effort to allow victims to bring their pets with them as they flee abuse. Michelle Sperzel, CEO of Harbor House, says there are noticeable differences in the temperament of both the humans and animals who find safety in the shelter. Harbor House has employed a kennel coordinator to make sure each animal is comfortable, happy and healthy in its own space. It also partners with local vets to treat any illnesses or injuries the pets come in with or develop. Harbor House held a Paws for Peace walk in April to raise awareness about the impact of DV on pets and their owners in Orlando. Read more about it [here](#).

Quick Links

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