

Haven House Family Shelter November 2014 Holiday Newsletter



Happy Holidays from Haven House Family Shelter

Established in 1985, Haven House will celebrate 30 years of assisting victims of domestic violence in 2015.



Survivor Psalm

I have been victimized.
I was in a fight that was
Not a fair fight.
I did not ask for
the fight,
I lost.
There is no shame in
losing
such fights
I have reached the stage
of
survivor and am no longer
a
slave of victim status.
I look back with
sadness
rather than hate.
I look forward with hope
rather than despair.
I may never forget, but I
need
not constantly remember.
I was a victim
I am a survivor

Haven House Family Shelter Staff and Board Members wish you all a joyful and peaceful Holiday Season!

So many living in an abusive environment will experience heartache, rather than happiness; and violence, rather than peace during the holidays.

A Note from Georgia Grodowitz, Executive Director

We thank you for your generous support. This has been a year of transition and change with many challenges on the administrative and legislative fronts. Cuts in funding and a steady stream of new

Unless the cycle is broken, this pattern of behavior is likely to be repeated or imitated by their children creating new generations of abusers and victims.

Thanks to your generosity and support, Haven House continues to reach out to victims of domestic violence in our

residents have required us to do more with less.

The good news is that our staff, donors, and volunteers have been enthusiastic and loyal in support of DV victims. Most importantly we

community by providing needed services to victims such as a 24 hour crisis line, shelter, counseling, court advocacy, outreach assistance, and referrals. You, our supporters, are changing lives; victims are becoming survivors and hope is being restored.

have been able to provide for the needs of those seeking our help. I continue to be inspired by your giving spirit and the courage of those who choose to become survivors.

Haven House is a United Way Agency



Success Story

From a bulb to a blossom is the best way to describe one year old Nikki's stay at Haven House Family Shelter. This transformation is due greatly to the Childcare program. She was not playing; or crawling. A vibrant and active little girl was trapped inside.

Her sessions of intense crying became limited to just moments after her mother left. Once she realized she was in a safe place, Nikki began to crawl around and explore the playroom. Before long she was walking and talking. The loving care of Haven House's Childcare staff not only propelled Nikki to improve but comforted her mother. Nikki went from a bulb to a blossom right before our eyes.

Santa's On His Way

Peace begins in the home.

Your children are watching you.



24 hr Crisis Line
1-800-898-0860
Or 601-638-0555
Website
www.myhavenhouse.org



Haven House Family Shelter

Santa's Helpers

Christmas can be a difficult time of mixed emotions for our residents and children. Thanks to our volunteers and donations from our loyal Haven House friends, Christmas Day is filled with anticipation and excitement as the children wake up on Christmas to find Santa's elves left gifts under the tree for each one.

Santa's Chief Elf, Dayatra Walker, makes sure everyone has toys and gifts, collected and wrapped in time for Christmas. Please contact Dayatra, **601-638-0555**, to make arrangements for donations or to volunteer to wrap presents. Haven House will only receive new items during the holidays but will resume taking used dona-

tions after Christmas since Santa's helpers are so busy during the holidays. (See needs list below)

Note from Dayatra: Haven House families will celebrate with gifts and traditional foods, just like home. Thank you for helping our families have a warm and memorable Christmas.

Domestic Violence Awareness Month

October was Domestic Violence Awareness Month (DVAM). The Coordinated Community Response Team (CCR) and Haven House Family Shelter worked to bring awareness of the problem of domestic violence to our community. The City and County signed a proclamation declaring October as DVAM. Purple ribbons were worn by supporters and large purple ribbons were displayed outside local businesses. The Old Courthouse Museum displayed beautiful purple lights as did the downtown City Hall Offices.

Angels throughout the year!

Haven House extends our warmest Christmas wishes and thanks to the individual volunteers, organizations, and dedicated groups (too numerous to name here) that have helped Haven House be a safe refuge and a "haven" for our residents throughout the year. You

are true angels to the broken hearted.

Also, thank you to The Haven House Board of Directors and Staff for your hard work and dedication this year.

Some holiday & Winter Needs are:

Umbrellas/ponchos

Baby/toddler supplies

Women & Children's gloves, scarves, jackets

Personal care items

Women & Children's pajamas, robes, and slippers all sizes

