



*Kathy Miller is one of Between Friends' dedicated volunteers. She works with our Court Advocates to help domestic violence survivors secure Orders of Protection and stay safe from their abusers.*

# A WOMAN'S WRITE

NEWSLETTER FOR BETWEEN FRIENDS

Summer 2010: Volume 12 Issue 2



## Building a Community Without Domestic Violence

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## A Big "Thank You" to Kathy Miller

Between Friends would like to honor Kathy Miller, one of the dedicated volunteers with our Court Advocacy Program. Kathy is a licensed clinical professional counselor and has worked for many years with both victims and perpetrators of domestic and sexual abuse.

Kathy is in the process of developing her own clinical practice and decided to start volunteering with Between Friends. Here is what Kathy says about her experience: "Having the opportunity to volunteer as a Court Advocate is an incredibly educational and fulfilling activity. In addition to increasing my knowledge about the rights of and remedies available to those experiencing domestic violence, I also have the privilege of working directly with the individuals seeking protection. Each interaction with a survivor renews my passion and informs my efforts to help families live peaceful, non-violent lives."

Kathy has been an immense resource for the Court Advocacy Program. She spends two days a week helping survivors petition for Orders of Protection. She helps them fill out paperwork, provides information and referrals, and offers emotional support as women go through the court system. She is dedicated, compassionate, and always professional. She is a joy to work with as

she has so much insight and always has a positive outlook.

Between Friends is grateful that Kathy has become a true team member. She helped the advocates compile a list of resources for clients. She also played a large role in planning a community education event for law enforcement, court personnel, and social service providers to raise awareness about the services Between Friends offers to domestic violence victims. Presently she serves on one of Between Friends' strategic planning committees to provide input on how we can enhance and expand our programs.

We truly appreciate the hard work and dedication that Kathy has shown to Between Friends and to ending violence against women and children. We look forward to working with Kathy for a long time to come! Volunteers like Kathy are an important part of Between Friends' work to save women and children's lives. From working directly with survivors, helping with events, to becoming a board member, Between Friends has many opportunities for you to get involved. If you are interested in learning more about volunteering with Between Friends, please call us at (773) 274-5232 x 15 or visit our website- [www.betweenfriendschicago.org](http://www.betweenfriendschicago.org).



*At Between Friends' Bubble Ball, guests bid on silent auction items as they enjoyed the stunning views of the Chicago skyline and Millennium Park from the stage! Read more about this year's Bubble Ball on page 3.*



*Friends of Between Friends got pampered at our Young Professionals Group 2nd Annual Mani-Pedi Party at Digits Nail Salon. To learn more about YPG's next event, see page 2.*

## The Executive Director's Corner

Dear Friends,

In October we started work on an agency-wide strategic planning process. It's a little like peeling the layers of an onion but from the inside out. We began by examining our core; the agency's mission and vision - our *raison d'être*. Along the way we reexamined what we do, what services we provide and we asked ourselves, "Are those in line with who we are"? And still pushing through those layers, no good strategic plan would forget to guide us through the best way to increase donor dollars, build our board and create critical messages to educate the community about domestic violence.

We started large - from planning to impact the world to being the very best domestic violence agency in our corner of the world. We took a critical look at ourselves and when the onion lay peeled, we came back to one very important but simple truth - we save lives.

Whether it is Ellen who received an Order of Protection with our Court Advocate just in time to stop her husband from carrying out his threats against her and the children, or Jean who received help from our Counselor to protect herself and her unborn child from her abuser after a severe beating which put her in the hospital, or the high school students at Josephinum who throughout our programming denied the existence of teen dating violence in their lives until the last session, when one by one, they sought out our Prevention & Education Specialists for the resources to leave their abusive relationship - we save lives.

All of our services converge on that one compelling outcome for our women and children.

Saving lives is at the core of who we are and what we do, making your support critical. The strategic planning process not only reaffirmed our work but the value of such work - priceless!

Kathleen A. Doherty  
Executive Director

## Drag Queen Bingo

"Mark" Monday, August 30, 2010 on your calendar to join our Young Professionals Group for HamBINGO at Hamburger Mary's in Andersonville (5400 North Clark, Chicago) from 8:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.! For \$5.00 per bingo card, you can join the fun and win prizes while supporting Between Friends! HamBINGO is hosted by one of Hamburger Mary's resident drag queens and promises to be not a typical bingo night. Food is available off the Hamburger Mary's regular menu, and drink specials of \$5.00 Sauza Margarita pints and \$5.00 Frozen Sauza Margarita mugs will be offered - the perfect way to enjoy a summer night!

## Domestic Violence Awareness Month

October begins Domestic Violence Awareness Month and marks two of Between Friends most memorable annual events. Near the end of September, Between Friends hosts a ribbon tying event outside Fourth Presbyterian Church on Michigan Avenue. Light Up the Lakefront immediately follows on October 1st, with staff, volunteers and passersby lighting thousands of candles along Oak Street Beach in memory of those who lost their lives at the hands of their abusers. We invite you to join us. If you are interested in volunteering at these events, please contact Yesenia at 773-274-5232 ext. 20.

More details can be found later this summer on our website:  
[www.betweenfriendschicago.org](http://www.betweenfriendschicago.org)



*A beautiful display of purple ribbons tied to the trees outside Fourth Presbyterian Church on Michigan Avenue commemorates Domestic Violence Awareness Month. We are thankful to Between Friends staff and volunteers who tie these ribbons each year.*

**Between Friends** is a nonprofit agency dedicated to breaking the cycle of domestic violence and abuse by providing education, support, counseling, and advocacy services. **Between Friends** works with individuals, families, and communities to create awareness about domestic violence and abuse and to reduce its prevalence and impact.

**2009-2010 Board of Directors:** Frank Kern, *President*; Terry Rose Saunders, *Treasurer*; Diane Jakubik, *Secretary*; Bonnie Chan; Christopher Corona; Tanya Cummings; Andrea France; Kelly Hinton; Melissa Ressler; and Margaret Waugh.

**Staff:** Brittany Blackmon, *Office Administrator*; Leslie Cook, *Court Advocacy Coordinator*; Kathleen Doherty, *Executive Director*; Amanda Espitia, *Director of Development*; April Fehrenbacher, *Court Advocate*; Brittany Futterman, *Grant Writer*; Jennifer Lara, *Children's Counselor*; Yesenia Maldonado, *Director of Programs*; Caryn Moore, *Children's Counselor*; Colleen Norton, *Prevention & Education Manager*; Yolanda Owens, *Senior Prevention & Education Specialist*; Paul Robinson, *Prevention & Education Specialist*; Nancy Toncy, *Clinical Supervisor*; Maria Venegas, *Court Advocate*; Carrie Villa, *Associate Director*; and Christy Weber, *Counselor*.

**Interns:** Anna Abreo-Keegan, Torey Calvert, Jen Coate, Madeha Farrar, Celina Maggi, Terry McKenzie, and Lindsey Moynihan.

**Newsletter:** Brittany Futterman, *Editor*. Production courtesy of Celina Maggi.  
Printing courtesy of **Allstate Print and Communication Center**.

# 2010 Bubble Ball Raises Over \$90,000

Between Friends and over 200 guests enjoyed the annual Bubble Ball at the Pritzker Pavilion at Millennium Park in downtown Chicago on March 20<sup>th</sup>. The silent auction proved once again, to be the belle of the ball with over 150 items bid on throughout the night. Guests bid on items such as Southwest Airline tickets, a Bahamas getaway for two and tickets for the Chicago Cubs.

This year's Bubble Ball successfully raised over \$90,000 for Between Friends. These funds are especially important as we continue to provide programs and services to women and children affected by domestic violence.

Marion Brooks of NBC5 served as emcee for the evening while Friends of the Year awards were presented to Azell Madden, Social Worker at Sherman Elementary School and Megan Twohey, Reporter for the Chicago Tribune for their dedication to Between Friends' initiatives and their commitment to increasing public awareness of the severity of domestic violence.

Azell Madden, accepted his award and shared this about his experiences with our REACH Program, "I'm happy to say that the well-trained staff of Between Friends came into uncharted waters [at Sherman Elementary] and gained the confidence, attention, and curiosity of its audience.... The response [from the students] is always

the same. Is Ms. Owens (Senior Prevention & Education Specialist) coming today? When is she coming back?"

Between Friends would like to extend thanks to the 2010 Event Committee (pictured) for their many hours of dedication to making this event successful. We would also like to thank our sponsors: Allstate, Million Dollar Round Table Foundation, Pierce and Associates, St. Francis Hospital, Marc & Beth McCormack, Grosvenor Capital Management, Sara Lee, Saunders & Doyle, Harrison Wallace Financial Group, Bank Financial, Ariel Investments, and the Pierce Family Charitable Foundation.

Planning for Bubble Ball 2011 is already underway. If you would like to join the Event Committee, please call Amanda at 774-274-5232 ext. 16.



*Guests enjoy the music of the DJ, Company "Toast and Jam".*



*2010 Event Committee Members from left to right: (Jennifer Mielnicki, Christy Roberts, Karen Hennelly (Co-Chair), Amanda Espitia (Director of Development), Alison Ferrari, Alison Clarke, Ashley Krause, Emily Kobak, Pat Jurgaitis, Michele Stauff (Co-Chair), Brittany Futterman, Jim Thaxton, and Jen Coate.*

## Economic Empowerment

A growing number of women that Between Friends serves are survivors of financial abuse, face mounting debt, and are struggling to meet their basic needs. In response, Between Friends is expanding our financial literacy programming for survivors of domestic violence. We hired a new Counselor to help expand the focus of our economic empowerment services, and in February Between Friends partnered with The Alliance for Women Domestic Violence Task Force to provide a presentation on bankruptcy protection.

The panelists included: Bankruptcy Court Judge A. Benjamin Goldgar and attorneys Karen R. Goodman, Keisha Hooks, and David Yen. They gave an overview of bankruptcy options and the court process and consequences involved, examined the intersection between divorce and bankruptcy, and offered resources. Judge Goldgar explained that Congress created bankruptcy as a "fresh start" for individuals. Debtors and creditors are brought together for creditors to be paid if there is money available and for debtors to be relieved of the remainder of their debt. Ms. Hooks and Ms. Goodman explained which debts can be dismissed in bankruptcy, such as credit card and medical bills, and which cannot be, including those obtained by theft or fraud. Mr. Yen emphasized that an individual should speak to an experienced bankruptcy attorney in order to evaluate if bankruptcy is the right choice in their particular situation.

This training provided Between Friends with written materials and resources for the survivors we serve who are struggling with financial abuse. One of our Counselors, Christy Weber explained, "I found the bankruptcy training to be extremely useful. The information was broken down in a way that was interesting and easy to understand. Having this knowledge base will allow me to provide useful information to our clients who are seeking bankruptcy resources."

# Donations from December 2009 to May 2010

## SUPPORT FROM INDIVIDUALS

We would like to thank Bill and Orli Staley for joining our Circle of Friends at the Leadership Level and Kathy Doherty for joining at the Friend Level. We also want to thank Don Lord, Christy Roberts, and Earl Rusnak for renewing their membership at the Friend Level. The Circle of Friends is our major donor society for individuals who give \$1,000 a year beyond special events.

### \$10,000 and above

Carl Greer

### \$5,000 to \$9,999

George & Terry Rose Saunders

### \$2,500 to \$4,999

Beth McCormack · Bill & Orli Staley

### \$1,000 to \$2,499

Anonymous · Frank & Camille Doherty · Kathy Doherty · Alison Ferrari · Andrea France · Nancy Freeman · Diane Jakubik · Don Lord · Kelly Tetterton

### \$500 to \$999

Lisa Bauman · Kristina Beck · Bruce & Judi Behrens · Nancy Bonner · Matthew Brown · Bonnie Chan · Christopher Corona · Thomas & Janet Doyle · Kevin Duel · Robert & Nancy Duffy · Barbara & Terry Ferrari · Jazaer Fouad Farrar · Lionel & Mary Go · Kjersti Anne Heer · Kelly Hinton · Jim Thaxton & Pat Jurgaitis · Joan Hall · Melinda Kramer & Bob Ernst · Lucy Lisiecki · Patricia Locke · Gerald & Mary Mielnicki · Jack & Karen Page · Denis Pierce · Russel Reid · Christy Roberts · Earl Rusnak · Sharon Sachse · Melinda & Kevin Shanklin · Jeffrey True · Carrie Villa & Rosibel Cruz · Margaret Waugh & Jeffrey Wat

### \$250 to \$499

Sonia Antolec · Florence Berland · Brent Carstensen & Ann Brinkman · Charles Charleston · Alison Clarke · Robert & Joan Clarke · Tanya Cummings · State Representative Barbara Flynn Currie · Erin Daoust · Dennis & Sheila Doherty · April

& Christopher Fehrenbacher · Lisa Felski · Pamela Flaherty · Renee Fortuna · Leslie Haley · Elizabeth & John Hennelly · Phyllis Higgins · Lauren & Bob Hoffman · Sheila & Robert Hulseman · Frank Kern · Polly Kosyla · David & Pamela Krause · Julie Kuebler · Sara Latham · Nancy Leutner · Barry & Margaret Lyerly · Lindsey Markus · Luke Massery · Mary Ann Merikoski · Ross Miller · Caroline Moellering · Bridget Noonan · Vanessa O'Brien · James Phillips · Daniel Pikarski · Barbara Posner · John Psarras · Charles & Catherine Coyne Reiter · Lisa Stauff · Michele Stauff · State Senator Heather Steans · Juanita Temple · Marion Wanless · Karl Wenzel · Julie & Chris Wisbrock

### \$100 to \$249

John Anderson · Anonymous · Stella Banak · Elizabeth Bankoff · Leslie & Bill Barker · Mike & Diane Beemer · Anita Bishop · Erin Brody · Tina & Edward Cadavid · Meg & Dick Cagney · Linda Cheeseman · Arthur Coate · Jen Coate · Penelope Coate · Angi Courtney · Thomas Dammrich · Janet & Champ Davis · Joel DeGrazia · Lindsay Derr · Jane Dewey · Angela Dorner · Natalie Dudek · Carol Espitia · Simone Esubi · Cathy Flaherty · Helena Flickinger · Darcy & William Foley · Mary Terese Frederickson · April Garrett · Margaret Goldberg · Bruce & Mary Goodman · Sheri Greenblatt · Amy Harris · Howard & Joyce Hayward · Matthew Hellige · Eyvonna Hemphill · Karen Hennelly · Craig Herkal · Karma Israelson · Linda Jackson · Geri Joy · Esta Kallen · Sophia Kim · Emily Kobak · Bart & Carol Kocha · Geraldine Lampert · Dawn Lawrence · Steven Lippai · Kenneth Lorch · Michael & Lynn Lullo · David & Linda Mackenzie · John Major · Margaret McCamant · Pam McNamara · Patrick McNamara · Jennifer Mielnicki · Kathy Miller · Lydia Miller · Jeanette Mines · Gloria Morningstar · Sally Munley · Susanne Nelson · Barbara Niehus · Mary & Robert Norton · Joseph O'Connor Jr · Nancy O'Malley · Drew Page · Laurie Pascarella Barry · Kathleen Pick · Brian

Porfilio · Cindi Rachowicz · Melissa Ressler · Eleanor Revelle · Angelique Robinson · Besse & Peter Roche · Victoria Romero · Merav Ruthman · Paul & Kathleen Savard · Kristin Schaner · Ken & Dale Scheiwe · Diana Schonfeld · Elizabeth Seager · Karen Seck · Joslyn Shelton · Laura Sloan · Terrill Stumpf · Commissioner Larry Suffredin · Bob Swanson · John Tansey · Megan Thurber · Martha Trueheart · Kimberly Turner · Peter Tyor · Chris Watson · Christine Wawronowicz · Janice Wegesin · Charles & Sharon Weingarten · Nahoko Yarbrough · Catherine Young · Liz Zweifler ·

## FOUNDATION AND CORPORATION SUPPORT

### \$10,000 and above

Alphawood Foundation · Chicago Community Trust · Irving Harris Foundation · Kluth Family Foundation · Little Angel Foundation · Oprah's Angel Network · Pierce Family Charitable Foundation · Polk Bros. Foundation · Ravenswood Health Care Foundation · William G. McGowan Charitable Fund

### \$5,000 to \$9,999

Field Foundation of Illinois · Million Dollar Round Table Foundation · Patrick and Anna M. Cudahy Fund · Pierce and Associates · The Seabury Foundation

### \$2,500 to \$4,999

Jacob Best Foundation · The Michael and Diane Hora Charitable Foundation · Reach Out, NFP · S&C Foundation · Sara Lee Corporation · St. Francis Hospital · Winnetka-Northfield Rotary Club

### \$1,000 to \$2,499

Ariel Investments · Bank Financial · George the salon · Grosvenor Capital Management, L.P. · Harrison Wallace Financial Group · John and Editha Kapoor Charitable Foundation · Target · Woman's Club of Evanston · Woman's Club of Wilmette

## Between Friends REACHes Teens

Through Between Friends' Relationship Education: A Choice for Hope (REACH) Program, students think critically about their own dating relationships and explore the roots of violence in relationships. The following letter to our Prevention and Education Specialists is from a high school student after having completed our 7 week Stopping Teen Abusive Relationships (STARS) curriculum.

Dear Yolanda and Paul,

Thank you for further teaching me about domestic violence and expanding my knowledge on relationship violence. It really helped me because now I can help my family members and friends when they're going through a situation having to do with domestic violence. I had fun in your program because of all the skits we did! They were creative and self-expressive. I love how Yolanda gave us and taught us more positive ways to deal with situations in a relationship. Yolanda told us her story, which meant a lot to me because she was being 100% [honest] with us. I loved how Paul would put situations in another perspective so we would understand the topic better. Thank you both for all of your positive encouragement, support and advice.

- Aliya

We are grateful to Aliya for sharing her own experience and what she has learned from the REACH Program.

## Join Our Online Community

**In-Between**, our new e-communication will keep you informed about the activities taking place at Between Friends, invite you to special events, and give you ways to assist us by taking action. If you have not received an issue of In-Between yet and would like to join our on-line community, send an email with your first name, last name, and preferred email address to: [bfutterman@betweenfriendschicago.org](mailto:bfutterman@betweenfriendschicago.org).

## 25th Anniversary

Between Friends' 25th Anniversary is coming up next year. Stay tuned for details about how you can help us celebrate!

## Wish List

- 60 plain wooden picture frames (3"x5") for decorating
- Supplies to decorate 60 picture frames: a pack of glitter pens, a package of gems, and 5 bottles of Elmer's Glue
- 10 packs of new Crayola markers
- 120 journals
- Flip Ultra Camcorder
- Laptop with video editing software
- Stencils
- A subscription to Teen Voice magazine
- Gift certificates (grocery stores, department stores, movie rental stores, toy stores, restaurants, gas stations, and movie theaters)
- CTA and Metra passes: monthly, weekly, or daily
- Dry and canned food items
- Reusable grocery bags
- Diapers
- Toys (Etch-a-Sketch, building games, trucks and cars, Mad Libs, Legos, toy musical instruments, action figures, and a train set)
- Dolls, doll clothes, and people puppets
- 15 small and medium storage containers
- 10 pocket calendars
- Repave our parking lot
- Printing services
- New fax machine
- Digital camera
- 12 pint glasses
- 12 stackable chairs

To make a donation or for more information, please call our Director of Development at 773-274-5232 x 16.

## Celebrate the End of Summer at Orso's

Reach Out is an organization committed to supporting healthy families by raising money for domestic violence nonprofits in Chicago. For the past two years, Reach Out has supported Between Friends through its fundraising efforts! Join Between Friends and Reach Out for a night under the stars at Orso's Restaurant Patio.

## Orso's Restaurant

1401 N. Wells, Chicago  
Thursday, August 19th  
7 to 11 p.m.



Sponsored by Reach Out  
•\$40 ticket includes wine & award winning pizza  
•Raffle and silent auction  
Purchase tickets at  
[www.reachoutchicago.org](http://www.reachoutchicago.org)

## Challenge Grants Invest in Building a Community Without Domestic Violence

### Success!

Your generosity over the past six months has helped us earn a \$20,000 challenge grant from one of our individual donors! We are grateful that so many of you have stepped up and given generously. Your support has allowed us to enhance our Relationship Education: A Choice for Hope (REACH) Teen Healthy Relationships Program and prevent at-risk youth from repeating the cycle of family violence. We are expanding REACH's Peer Leadership Program to empower more youth to take the lead in educating their classmates and their community about healthy teen relationships.

### New Challenge!

We are grateful that another donor has stepped up and offered us a new \$15,000 matching grant! We're hoping you can dig a little deeper to help save the lives of women and children experiencing domestic violence in these uncertain times. Your increased investment will help us put our agency-wide strategic plan to work. We will benchmark other models for teen dating violence prevention programs across the country to enhance our REACH curriculum and secure funding to expand our programming. We will also increase the scope of our comprehensive services for survivors of domestic violence

to meet the growing need for services and save the lives of more women and children.

This challenge opportunity will be in effect until March of 2011. In order to help us secure this matching grant, we need you to give a donation that exceeds the amount you donated to us last fiscal year. If you need help figuring out how much you gave us last year, please call Amanda at 773-274-5232, ext. 16.

## Join Between Friends Running Teams

Are you running the Chicago Half Marathon or Bank of America Chicago Marathon this year? Join Between Friends' Marathon or Half-Marathon Team for fun runs, bar nights, running tips, prizes, and more! Contact Amanda Espitia at 773-274-5232 ext. 16 or [aespitia@betweenfriendschicago.org](mailto:aespitia@betweenfriendschicago.org) for more details.

Between Friends  
ENDING DOMESTIC VIOLENCE IS A MARATHON



## Workplace Giving

Community Shares of Illinois (CSI) represents over 70 social services organizations, including Between Friends, and provides financial support through contributions from workplace giving programs. Designate Between Friends through your payroll deduction, and the gift you give will go to support our critical services. If this is not a choice for giving at your workplace, please contact Linda Moses, Executive Director at 312-379-0190 x 113 or [lmoses@cs-il.org](mailto:lmoses@cs-il.org), and she will work with your company to make this happen.

