



hope for a better life

Esperanza Shelter for Battered Families, Inc.

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Shelter Wish List

Art & school supplies
Baby carriers/bassinets
Baby strollers
Backpacks (kids/adults)
Blankets/sheets
Gift cards (any kind)
Gas cards
Luggage
New pillows
New beauty supplies
Notebooks/journals
Pots/pans
Rail runner passes
Towels

If you wish to donate items other than the above, please call 505.474.5536 to see if we currently need them.

From the desk of Aneesha Webster-Bowers, Outreach & Education Coordinator

"There is no typical client. Clients come from all ethnic, socio-economic and cultural backgrounds. We serve both men and women survivors. They need support, help, guidance, advice and advocacy, which is what our staff at Esperanza Shelter and non-residential provides for each and everyone of them.

While we all have a very intricate role in helping shape the lives of the clients we serve, I enjoy doing the community outreach aspect of it. I love going out into the community and giving presentations and educating people on domestic violence. For me it is truly rewarding and inspiring having the chance to educate and promote awareness amongst our teens the importance of health relationships! That has really been wonderful."

Up to 10 million American children witness domestic violence annually. Studies have shown that men who witnessed domestic violence as children are twice as likely to abuse their own partners or children in adulthood. In addition, up to 40% of juvenile offenders witnessed domestic violence in their homes.

Clearly, domestic abuse results in a cycle of violence in which abusive behavior that is often passed from generation to generation. Here at Esperanza our goal in the Outreach department is to educate as many youths about the cycle of Domestic Violence and where help is available. The belief I hold near and dear is if we can reach our youth and educate them about Domestic Violence we may be able to break the many cycles. Teaching personal accountability creates responsible adults who are less likely to repeat patterns of abuse.

The Outreach program offers free trainings throughout our community. We also are very active in presenting awareness in the local middle and high schools, to healthcare providers, business leaders and community organizations, to DHS employees, parent groups, and to anyone else who maybe interested in joining the conversation on ending domestic and sexual violence. Topics covered include teen dating violence, media influence, types of abuse, healthy relationships, sexual assault, consent, warning signs of abuse, vicarious trauma, oppression, barriers to leaving, and being a support person. If you're interested in scheduling a presentation or training contact our office to schedule a training to educate you, your staff and/or your children.



"domestic violence is everyone's business."

October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month

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History of Domestic Violence Awareness Month...

Domestic Violence Awareness Month evolved from the "Day of Unity" in October 1981 conceived by the National Coalition Against Domestic Violence. The intent was to connect advocates across the nation who were working to end violence against women and their children. The Day of Unity soon became an entire week devoted to a range of activities conducted at the local, state, and national levels.

The activities conducted were as varied and diverse as the program sponsors but had common themes: mourning those who have died because of domestic violence, celebrating those who have survived, and connecting those who work to end violence.

In October 1987, the first Domestic Violence Awareness Month was observed. That same year marks the initiation of the first national domestic violence toll-free

hotline. In 1989 the U.S. Congress passed Public Law 101-112 designating October of that year as National Domestic Violence Awareness Month. Such legislation has passed every year since with NCADV providing key leadership in this effort. Each year, the Day of Unity is celebrated the first Monday of Domestic Violence Awareness Month.

Domestic violence touches the lives of Americans of all ages, leaving a devastating impact on women, men, and children of every background and circumstance. A family's home becomes a place of fear, hopelessness, and desperation when a woman is battered by her partner, a child witnesses the abuse of a loved one, or a senior is victimized by family members

In October of 2009 President Obama officially declared October, National Domestic Violence Awareness Month. Asking all Americans to do their part to end domestic violence in this country by supporting their communities' efforts to assist victims in finding the help and healing they need.

2nd Annual Conference with International NGO Representatives

August 2, 2010 marked the second annual conference held here at Esperanza with members of International NGOs (Non Governmental Organizations). Gathered around the table to discuss topics that plague everyone no matter of race, color, gender, socio-economics or location.

Jeanette Baca (Shelter Counselor), Kristin Carmichael, (Shelter Manager), Sherry Taylor (Executive Director) and Aneasha Webster-Bowers (Outreach & Education Coordinator), visting from varies countries Nigeria- Mrs. Christiana Aderonke ABAYOMI-OLUWOLE (President, Global Hope for Women & Children Foundation), Mozambique- Mr. Felizardo Da Costa AROUCA(Director of Operations, Population Services International (PSI), Zimbabwe- Mr. Joy MABENGE (Democracy & Governance Program Manager, Institute for a Democratic Alternative for Zimbabwe (IDAZim), Uzbekistan- Mr. Muzaffar MAMADJANOV (Project Coordinator, Business Women Association Headquarters), Slovak Republic- Ms. Martina MAZENSKA(Executive Director, Milan Simecka Foundation), Latvia - Mrs. Laura MIKELSONE(Head of Transparency International Latvia), South Korea- Mr. Gi Tae PARK (Chairman, Voluntary Agency Network of Korea (VANK), West Bank- Ms. Amani R A ZAQUOT (Grants Specialist, Civic Engagement Project, ARD, Gaza) discussed various topics plaguing every individual present in their community in some shape or form. This diverse group of individuals discussed topics ranging from human rights, domestic violence, refugee resettlement and safe houses on a global scale. Sharing information on how each organization works diligently on educating as well as assisting those in their community effective and efficiently.

See NGOs, back page

Shelter STARS: Features Veronica Esparza , Case Manager

Veronica Esparza has worked at Esperanza Shelter for over two years. Veronica has worked diligently and effectively as an Overnight Advocate for the clients residing at Esperanza Shelter. Veronica is a Shelter Star for several reasons, she is dedicated to the services that are provided for the clients, works tirelessly as well as efficiently and when needed on her days off in English and Spanish.



What is it about this work that is compelling to you?
The work I do is compelling simply because I enjoy helping people, being apart of an entity that makes a difference in the lives of those who truly are in need makes me feel good. Helping women and men in domestic violence situations understand that they do not have to live that way.

What do you think is the most important thing for the community to know about the Shelter?
The Shelter is there to provide an out for individuals looking for a way to escape unhealthy relationships. The Shelter provide counseling and safe planning for danger-

ous situations they may encounter while going through this hardship. Also, the staff at the Shelter have hearts of compassion and willingness to make our community a safe one.

What job would you do if tomorrow there was a world without violence?
I would go back to my old job, running a Shelter for people with substance abuse issues. I love helping people and making a difference in our community.

A day in the life of an Esperanza Counselor

The morning is cool and crisp and the counselor drives into the grounds at Esperanza. She greets the receptionist, checks her mailbox and goes to her office in one of the two trailers across the parking area. As she sips her coffee and sets up to go into the data base to update files, she is called by the receptionist. There is a client in crisis on the way. The counselor hopes to have at least 20 minutes before the client arrives.



Another phone call interrupts... A client needs to see her as soon as possible. She is in crisis. Her former partner has been stalking her and she is terrified. Has she filed a restraining order? Yes, she has, but he is violating the order, he is crazed, he wants to come into the house. She believes he will kill her. Has she called the police? No. She hasn't. She doesn't want the neighbors to know about her problems...

By the time the counselor has completed the call, she realizes the data base is awake—though groggy—so she attempts to open files to update. Good. There they are!

She can now update the files and prepare for the clients who will be coming in later for quarterly reviews... And then, the client in crisis arrives.

It is afternoon. The first client in crisis is now at the Shelter with her four children, and so is the other client who was terrified. There is a warrant for her husband's arrest. The counselor steps outside to breathe before

her next client arrives. She can hear the activity throughout the trailer. Taking this time as an opportunity to gather her thoughts, eat and prepare for the next client she has coming in thinking what a productive day it has been thus far! She gets another call from the receptionist, it is one of her clients from the evening's Battered Intervention Group group. (BIP) He is due for a quarterly review.

Thank you, Margaret, for your years of dedicated service to Esperanza Shelter and our clients! We couldn't do it without you.

day in the life of a counselor cont.

Esperanza participation in Gay Pride

At Esperanza we provide services to everyone regardless of race, gender and/or sexual orientation. During the month of June Esperanza staff not only marched in the Pride Parade we also hosted a table sharing resource information to those who may not have been aware of what their community had to offer. Esperanza also participates in the GLBT task force committee, which is apart of the CCRC. (Coordinated Community Response Council)

Domestic violence in the GLBT community is a serious issue. The rates of domestic violence in same-gender relationships is roughly the same as domestic violence against heterosexual women. As in opposite-gendered couples, the problem is likely under reported. Facing a system which is often oppressive and hostile towards those who identify as anything other than "straight", those involved in same-gender battering frequently report being afraid of revealing their sexual orientation or the nature of their relationship.

Additionally, even those who attempt to report violence in their alternative relationship run into obstacles. Police officers, prosecutors, judges and others to whom a GLBT victim may turn to for help may have difficulty in providing the same level of service as to a heterosexual victim. Not only might personal attitudes towards the GLBT community come into play, but these providers may have inadequate levels of experience and training to work with GLBT victims and flimsy or nonexistent laws to enforce on behalf of the victim.

Although much advancement has been made in the provision of services, the enforcement of the law, and the equality of protections available to those in GLBT relationships over the last decade, it is important for you to be aware of your rights and options as they relate to your attempt to escape an abusive relationship.

Want to feel better while making a difference!

Supporting Esperanza guarantees that feel good feeling! We need your help! Whether your donation is a gift of time, talent or money we appreciate your generosity! Pharmaca Integrative on Cordova has packed beautiful gift bags that you can purchase at the store for donation and delivery to our Shelter Residents as holiday gifts! Contact Peggy @ 505-660-7409 or make donations online: www.esperanzashelter.org

Colorado College lends a hand

As we all continue to feel the pressures of the economic climate and wonder how we will continue to survive in these hard times without having to sacrifice the quality of services we provide to our clients, many find it to be a true gift to have access to a wide range of volunteer sources.

This August a group of amazing college students from neighboring state of Colorado chose for the second year to spend their time here participating in the College Community Assistance Program. When asked why they chose Esperanza one of the students said, "I really want to work in the human services field, so to be able to come here and help in any aspect at all makes me feel like I'm just that much closer to doing what I really want to do in my career."



This group of students stayed in Santa Fe, NM and spent several days assisting the staff at the Shelter to organize as well as maintain the grounds in and around the Shelter. Thanks to the extremely dedicated staff members in assisting the college volunteers in the many tasks.

Few can deny the huge value of community awareness to college students and the tremendous benefit their service provides the surrounding areas. It fosters solid relationships and camaraderie between unacquainted students, develops a strong sense of community and global concern among them, and indulges a variety of interests in the participants by offering an array of possible activities. My hope is that this experience will promote a desire to volunteer and serve throughout their lives.

Amazing Community Support

Esperanza Shelter continues to be astounded at the outpouring of donations from our Santa Fe community year round!

While many become extremely nostalgic during the holiday season and the desire to give to those in need become a thing to do. There are many right here in our community who carries this concept in their heart year round. Curve, the owner as well as the many wonderful individuals who are members of this awesome establishment are truly an example of what humanitarianism is all about. We here at Esperanza salute you and appreciate all that you do!!

Also a very warm felt thank you to Youth Works for helping with the installation of the new carpet at the Administration building!!! We appreciate you!!

A very special thanks to Coronado Carpets & Buddy Roybal for the beautiful carpet and paint for a wonderful facelift at the Administration office! Esperanza depends heavily on support from volunteers and local business partners in the community!! We would also like to thank the following individuals and organizations for your generosity:

american spirit tobacco auto angel blue thong society borders bookstore calvin fields community thrift store dunkin donuts food depot nm works prog. sf children's museum sfcc e.s.l. classes sf co. income support sf fire dept. sf reporter sf newcomer's club sf new mexican talbots star bucks sunflower market thornburg invstmt. vitamin cottage whole foods youth works

Thank you all for giving our residents some extra holiday cheer and much-needed items and gifts!

Editor's note: We have made our best effort to list all of our holiday donors in this article. If your name or organization was somehow excluded, we sincerely apologize and send our deepest thanks for your support.



Picture of Board Member Elaine Cravens and the amazing members of curves



Above: Esperanza's New Volunteer Coordinator: Anais Wekert. Left: Esperanza staff: Peggy Luplow, Aneesha Webster-Bowers, Marcos Zubia and Board Member Patricia Tuohy at the Plaza fundraising

Introducing Esperanza's New Volunteer Coordinator

While we were very sad to see Suzy leave we are extremely excited to welcome aboard a new team member to Esperanza's staff. Though not a born native, Anais has been in Santa Fe, NM for many years and has come to consider it as her home.

Anais Weckert was born in Canada and spent much of her youth traveling throughout the United States and Mexico. Anais' family relocated to Santa Fe, NM when she was in the 8th grade. After graduating from Santa Fe High School in 1995, Anais traveled throughout Europe and spent a year living abroad in Zurich, Switzerland. Anais graduated from the University of New Mexico with a Bachelor's in Business in 2001, and then relocated to Boston, MA where she began working in development at Suffolk University. Anais returned to New Mexico in 2004 to pursue her real estate career. In addition to practicing real estate Anais has worked on such projects as the Railyard Park and Plaza Grand Opening. Anais possesses a positive "can do" attitude coupled with over

10 years of business experience managing people and projects. In her free time Anais enjoys exercising, being in nature and spending time with her 5 year old son, Christian.

As the new Volunteer Coordinator for Esperanza Shelter for Battered Families, Inc., Anais brings a fresh perspective to business as usual. Anais' focus is streamlining communication and increasing educational effectiveness. Anais plans to implement monthly volunteer meetings to insure that our volunteers are being placed in positions that feed their passion to give to our organization. Additionally, Anais is in the process of earning her teaching certification at the Santa Fe Community College and believes that education is the fundamental basis for success within any organization.

Anais is also in the process of creating a Facebook business and community page to help increase awareness within our community and also make important connections with other like minded organizations throughout our state.



Esperanza Shelter for
Battered Families, Inc.

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www.esperanzaShelter.org

October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month!

Please visit www.esperanzaShelter.org for more information.

“domestic violence is everyone’s business.”

NGO conference Continued from Page 2

The meeting was hosted by the Santa Fe Council on International Relations (CIR), a non-profit organization that promotes “understanding of international issues and cultural affairs” as well as “grassroots diplomacy,”

Leaving for their next scheduled stop NGO members expressed appreciation of the wealth of information, and how much they truly appreciated Esperanza’s hospitality! We appreciate the CIR for yet another amazing conference!

Student Comments about Outreach:

“I never really thought words could be considering abusive.”

“I will keep that [Teen Dating Abuse] wallet card with me just in case I or someone else needs it.”

“Your presentation opened my eyes to seeing that more teens get abused than we think!”

“I never knew how common or devastating Teen Dating Abuse was.”

Day in the Life of a Counselor Continued from Page 3

He appears cheerful and relaxed. He is one of her many success stories, as his attendance and participation are flawless and he invariably contributes valuable insight to the discussion.

“I didn’t know any better,” he says. “My father beat us all every day, he often arrived drunk and we ran all over the house so he wouldn’t hit us. He fell down a lot because he was drunk, so we could escape. But my mother couldn’t. She walked with a limp she got from one of his continuous abuse. I believed that was the only way to rule a house.”

By evening the groups of offenders have filled the parking lot again, and the counselor faces 10 men who appear cheerful, looking forward to the discussion. The counselor brings up the topic of accountability. Some of the men look down.

And so goes another day in the life of an Esperanza Counselor!

Dear Friends,

“I’ll Be Home For Christmas” whether sung by old Bing himself, Frank Sinatra, or Perry Como – it doesn’t matter, it evokes the same feelings in all of us. Home for Christmas – ah . . . yes. If you’ve ever spent the holidays in a dorm room, a motel, or in a foreign country miles from home, then you know that empty feeling.

Being home for Christmas is not possible for everyone. We’re all reminded frequently during the holiday season of our service men and women whose faces we see on TV, smiling and sending their wishes back home to loved ones. But you know whose faces we don’t see on television? We don’t see the faces of families who have experienced violence and abuse in their own homes. We don’t see these faces on TV.

Domestic violence – one family member hurting another family member, whether emotionally, physically or sexually - is not pretty, it’s not smiling and all tied up with red ribbons.

At Esperanza we’re providing hope and empowerment, safety and shelter. We’re providing food, clothing, counseling and guidance as families work to reshape their lives . . . and a gift under the tree. We need your help.

This Christmas countless families will spend their days in a shelter. Children have a difficult time trying to understand why they can’t be home for Christmas. The staff and supporters of Esperanza are envisioning a world where every child and every family can be safe in their own home – everyday. Join with us as we envision a world where safety from domestic violence is a basic human right. We need your help.

More now than ever we need your donation. There’s no better time to share and care for others than during this holiday season. We’re counting on your generosity as we struggle to overcome huge funding cuts in order to continue the programs and initiatives that have resulted in increased awareness in our schools and our communities, awareness and education to someday eradicate abuse in the home.

I’ll be home for Christmas...but for many it will only be in their dreams.

Thank you for your continued support and generosity. Please find a donation envelope enclosed and make your contribution to **Esperanza** today. *Esperanza* is Spanish for hope.

Wishing you and yours, Esperanza,

Peggy Luplow, Development Fundraiser
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