

# Fall/Winter 2008



We've all watched the news reports and seen the newspaper articles warning us about the failing economy. Chances are many of us have already felt the effects. It's no secret that money related stress can affect family dynamics and relationships. In some families, financial problems go beyond stress and turn into violence. Those who deal with domestic violence daily say that as the economy gets worse, so does the abuse.



It is clear that money problems alone do not cause someone to be abusive and is no excuse for abusive behavior. However, tension created by financial insecurities can cause more attacks and exacerbate an already abusive situation. Power and control issues are the root of abuse. As abusers feel a lack of control over situations, their need to gain control often increases by any means possible.

News reports across the country not only discuss the failing economy but describe an increase in domestic violence victims seeking services as well. Domestic and sexual violence agencies throughout Wisconsin and across the nation are reporting record numbers of victims looking for help. At the same time, those agencies are battling budget cuts resulting from the bad economy, leading to cuts in staff and programming.

The story is no different at Advocates. The shelter has been full with all beds occupied. Multiple families are in rooms together. Some mothers have been sharing beds with their small children and in some cases we have had to put families in hotels until a bed is available. Families are staying

longer as it becomes more difficult for many women to find employment or even to get to a job interview because they have no money for gas.

Sadly, with grant funds and private donations also tied to our deteriorating economy, financial support is not keeping up with the increase in the demand for services. These facts paint a somber picture but there also are stories of hope and change. In the last 3 months, Advocates has assisted 11 families with their transition to safer environments where they are now living free from abuse.

We can never thank our supporters enough for their undying dedication and commitment to ending domestic and sexual violence. You have provided money, clothing, personal care items, food, and your precious time and energy. Without your assistance, we could not have offered necessary services to those 11 families or any of the thousands of others who have sought help at Advocates. Your continued support, especially in these tough economic times, is vital in helping the next 11 families that walk through our door looking for safety and the possibility of a better life.

**See inside for info on upcoming concerts.**

**Jim Bohn**



**Willy Porter**



**Jim Bohn  
and friends  
Holiday Concert**

**Benefiting Advocates' Holiday Gift Shop where clients' children pick out gifts for their mothers.**

Suggested donations include slippers, pajamas, jewelry, gift cards, socks, wallets, purses, scarves, hats gloves, etc.

**Sunday, December 14th, 2008  
6:30 PM**

at **Alliance Bible Church**  
13939 Cedarburg Road  
Mequon



*We are excited to announce that once again WILLY PORTER will be performing a benefit concert for Advocates of Ozaukee. Any of you who have attended the concerts over the last two years know they have been outstanding, as well as sold out.*

*So don't wait to get tickets to the concert on:  
Friday, January 9, 2009 at 8 pm  
Cedarburg Cultural Center  
\$25 for pre sale - \$35 at the door if any remain*

*Tickets go on sale December 1, 2008 on Advocates' website ([www.advocates-oz.org](http://www.advocates-oz.org)) or Harris Banks in Cedarburg and Mequon.*

*Remember Willy always sells out – so we suggest getting your tickets early so you won't be disappointed. Come and enjoy the concert, beverages, and a silent auction, all benefiting families in Ozaukee County.*

**Please call us!**  
**Support lines: 262.284.6902**  
**877.375.4034**  
**TTY/TDD 262.284.8028**

**From Barb's Desk** As we near the end of 2008, we find that we need your help more than ever. Once again a record number of people have come to Advocates for help. As many of you have read in our past newsletters and in our appeal letter, the shelter has been very full this year. All of the families currently in the shelter are from Ozaukee County, and they come from each and every community within the county.

Consider these facts:

- Domestic violence is the single major cause of injury to American women, exceeding muggings, gang violence, murders, and accidents.
- Slightly more than one-half of female victims of intimate violence live in households with children under age 12.

For Advocates, that means a shelter filled with women and children in crisis and in need of safety, counseling, food, transportation, legal assistance, and advocacy.

This year has definitely taxed our resources and for the first time in many years, we are facing a deficit at year end. I know we have asked many times, many of you have responded, and we are very grateful for your support. If you are able, please consider an additional gift of \$10 or \$20. If each person who received this newsletter were to make a gift it would supply the funding needed to run the agency for well over a month. That would be the best holiday gift imaginable for the families who are desperate for safety.

Thank you again for the amazing support Advocates of Ozaukee receives from you and the entire community.



Barb Fischer  
Executive Director

# United Way Day of Caring



This year's United Way Day of Caring was held on September 17th. Volunteers from Rockwell Automation gave BIG once again with their time and many talents. Rockwell volunteers worked hard all day on landscaping, reorganizing our donation area, painting porches, replacing trim around our garages, power washing the house, household repairs, replacing a screen door, and installing carpet squares in our Children's Center.

Rockwell Automation has supported Advocates during the United Way Days of Caring for

many years and they continue to support Advocates in many other ways as well.

It is always a pleasure to work alongside such a wonderful group of people. We are truly grateful and once again say **THANKS!!!!**



*Working to end domestic and sexual violence*

## CELL PHONE COLLECTION

Shelter Alliance, a recycler of cell phones, is currently running a special program in which all the agencies that collect 300 or more phones will be entered into a drawing. Five agencies will receive a \$1,000 bonus.

Advocates receives money for each phone collected, no matter how old or what shape it is in. If you or someone you know have cell phones you are no longer using, please send them our way!

**Call 262-284-3577 for more information.**



## JOIN A SUPPORT GROUP

*Groups are open to all women and their children experiencing domestic and/or sexual violence.*

### Domestic Violence

**Tuesdays**  
6:30—8:00 p.m.

*Children's Domestic Violence Support Group meets at the same time. It is open to children of all ages.*

### Sexual Violence

**Second and Fourth  
Thursdays**  
6:30—8:00 p.m.

*Children's Life Skills Group meets at the same time. It is open to children of all ages.*

### Teen Girls Sexual Assault

### and Secondary Survivors

**Call for more  
information.**

**262.284.6902 or  
1.877.375.4034**



P. O. Box 80166  
Saukville, WI 53080

Return Service Requested

Office: 262.284.3577  
Fax: 262.284.4403  
E-mail: info@advocates-oz.org  
Support Lines:  
262.284.6902  
877.375.4034  
TTY/TDD 262.284.8828  
www.advocates-oz.org

NON PROFIT ORG  
US POSTAGE  
PAID  
MILWAUKEE, WI  
PERMIT NO 698877

*Thank you for using the enclosed envelope to make a donation.*



**2008 Board of Directors**

- Kathleen Bentley, President**  
Director, North American Customer Care  
Rockwell Automation
- Roberta Campbell, Vice President**  
Assistant Vice President, Harris Bank NA
- Dave Fischer, Treasurer**  
CFO, Kapco, Inc.
- Jorjan Loos, Secretary**  
Product Marketing Manager, Metavante Corp
- Rebecca Arndt**  
VP Retail Banking, WaterStone Bank
- Kate Bechen**  
Attorney, Michael Best & Friedrich, LLP
- James Bohn**  
Change & Communications Team,  
Johnson Controls
- Lupe Duenas**  
Business Consultant
- Patty Eubanks**  
Realtor, Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage
- Frank Poja**  
VP/CFO, Bemis Manufacturing Co.
- Donna Steffens**  
Retired Education Administrator
- Michael Townsend, Sr.**  
VP - MATC Mequon Campus
- Jill Zoromski**  
Sr. Vice-President, Pinstripe, Inc.

**Welcome**

Dave Fischer was recently elected to Advocates' Board of Directors. He is the CFO at Kapco, Inc. in Grafton. He was brought in to replace our retiring Treasurer, Frank Poja, who graciously served us for many years.



Dave started off his term with an amazing donation of a van for use at the shelter to transport clients.

Thanks, Dave, for taking on the responsibility of Treasurer and for the fantastic donation!

Many thanks again this year to those who help to keep our property looking great. Barb Schaezner and her crew of Master Gardeners continue working on the flowers, bushes, and new plantings and Dick Scholten and Bob Reiter keep the lawn looking great.



This is a lot of work and we want them to know that it doesn't go unnoticed. We will give them a couple months off but look forward to seeing them again in spring!