



# Community Crisis Center, Inc. Crisis Line 847-697-2380

*Serving the Community since 1975*

We provide Safety, Hope, Advocacy, Respite and Education for those impacted by crisis and violence in the Fox Valley Region and Illinois.

## Volunteers & Staff Honored at 41st Anniversary Dinner



Gretchen Vapnar, CCC Executive Director (middle) with John and Brenda Cucci from The Cucci Family Foundation

On November 10, the Community Crisis Center honored both volunteers and staff for their contribution to the Crisis Center. The dinner, held at Elgin Country Club, included presentation of the Seigle Family Humanitarian Award to The Cucci Family Foundation. Heart of the Center Volunteer Awards were presented to Paul Burris, Judy & Luis Cabrera, Tony Dillard, Sylvia Hiple, Willard Dulabaum, Randy Lemcke, and the Elgin Golden K Club. In accepting the award for The Cucci Family Foundation, John Cucci surprised CCC with a Foundation check for \$10,000. Thank you to the Cucci Family Foundation!

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## October Partners in Peace Awards



Rabbi Margaret Frisch Klein, Pat Hudgens-Elgin Township, Lydia Larrabe, Natalia Mercado, Captain Richard Cummings.(not pictured, St.Vincent DePaul Society)

Awarded to those who in their work have supported survivors of Domestic Violence in moving toward a better life, the Partners in Peace awards were presented at the annual Partners in Peace Breakfast held at the Elgin Country Club on October 9. This year's awardees were: Rabbi Margaret Frisch Klein, Rabbi of Congregation Kneseth Israel in Elgin; Elgin Township, received by Township President Pat Hudgens for the Township; Lydia Larrabee, Coordinator, Family Violence Coordinating Council of the 16th and 23rd Circuits; Natalia Mercado, Rolling Meadows Police Department; Captain Richard Cummings, Elgin Fire Department; and (not pictured) the St. Vincent DePaul Society.

# Shining a Light on Domestic Violence

## October Awareness Month Recap

Our theme for Domestic Violence Awareness Month this year was “Shine a Light on Domestic Violence.” We shined a light in many ways:

- ◆ Accepted Proclamations from Hanover Park and Elgin proclaiming October as Domestic Violence Awareness month.



- ◆ At the Partners in Peace Breakfast we honored those who have supported victims of Domestic Violence in their daily work. (see page 1)



Partners in Peace Awardees

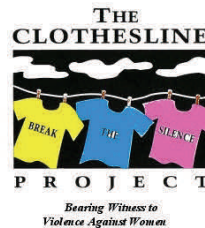
- ◆ Hosted multiple information tables in 6 area libraries and Elgin Community College.



One of our information tables. Did you see us?

- ◆ Hosted several tables by the Judson University cafeteria, and put a month-long awareness display in the Judson Chapel.
- ◆ Made 6 presentations in area schools and social service agencies.
- ◆ Informed 10 YWCA English as a Second Language Classes of their right to a safe home.

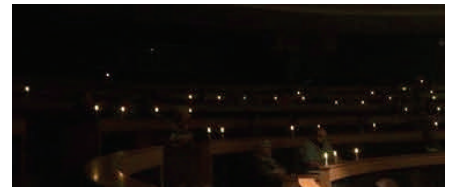
- ◆ Purchased and wore purple shirts for the October 20 Wear a Purple Shirt Day.



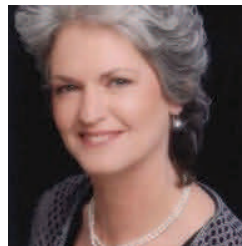
- ◆ Participated with Elgin Community College in the 2 day Clothesline Project .

- ◆ Honored both victims and survivors at a Rally and Candlelight Vigil at Elgin Community College.

Candles shine to honor both victims and survivors



- ◆ Heard Vickie Smith, Executive Director of the Illinois Coalition Against Domestic Violence tell about people who survived domestic violence with the help of Domestic Violence services throughout Illinois.



Vickie Smith, Executive Director Illinois Coalition Against Domestic Violence spoke at the rally.

# Volunteer Coordinator in the Spotlight

We welcome Melissa Owens who recently started at the Crisis Center as our part-time Volunteer Coordinator. Melissa was a former volunteer with the Crisis Center before accepting the position; she was a member of the Annual Benefit Auction Committee. Her focus will be to recruit and match up individuals and groups with volunteer opportunities at the agency. Volunteers are needed for Fundraising/Special Events, Children's Program, Shelter Services, interpreters, hospital advocates, clerical & data entry, and donation management and much more. Visit [www.crisiscenter.org](http://www.crisiscenter.org) for a Volunteer Application or contact Melissa at [mowens@crisiscenter.org](mailto:mowens@crisiscenter.org) or 847-742-4088 x 152



We have a special volunteer need right now for help with coat distribution. Last year we gave out 1,000 coats, and hundreds of hats mittens and scarves.

We are especially in need of men's coats and gloves.

(See page 4 for more urgent agency needs.)

## Baird & Warner donates \$10,000 to Community Crisis Center

Baird & Warner real estate brokers across the city and suburbs nominated favorite charities, organizations they know and trust. Groups that make a real difference in the lives of people. In September many people voted for their favorite of these charities on the Baird & Warner website, and **Community Crisis Center was the recipient of one of ten \$10,000 grants!** We thank Baird & Warner for their gift, and also all those who took the time to vote for us. To see who the other winners were go to <http://vote.bairdwarner.com/>



### Elgin Toy Giveaway information:

Almost 30 agencies are working together to provide toys for children again this Holiday season. Collection will begin November 26. Suggested toys are new and in the \$20-30 range. They can be put, unwrapped, under the tree in the Grand Victoria Pavilion, brought to the Crisis Center,. For more information go to [www.elgintoygiveaway.org](http://www.elgintoygiveaway.org).



**Impact 100 Chicago Suburban Chapter** awarded a \$100,000 grant in June to the Crisis Center. The grant will replace and upgrade our 20 year old telephone system; purchase a new commercial refrigerator for the shelter kitchen; renovate one of the shelter bedrooms to accommodate a family with a male teen; paint the 7 shelter bedrooms, hallways and stairwells; and install privacy tint on the shelter bedrooms and hallway windows. The phone system will be completed by the end of the year and the remainder of the projects will be done by summer of 2017. **Impact 100 Chicago's** mission is to award membership funded transformational grants to local non-profit organizations while empowering women to improve lives through philanthropy. The Crisis Center is indebted to **Impact 100 Chicago Suburban Chapter** for this generous, amazing award.

## Needs list:

We are in great need of non-perishable food for our Emergency Food Pantry, and coats for our coat giveaway. Please consider having a food and/or coat drive.

### Appreciated food items

#### include:

Canned fruit  
Canned meat meals  
Cereal/oatmeal  
Jelly  
Macaroni & cheese  
Peanut butter  
Pinto beans, dry 1# bags  
Pork & beans  
Powdered milk  
Saltine crackers  
Soup/ Ramen noodles

Spaghetti noodles 1# bags  
Spaghetti/marinara sauce  
Spaghettio type canned items  
Tuna  
White rice 1# bag/box  
Can Openers

*Remember our homeless clients need small servings with easy open lids.*



### Coats:

The coat giveaway is open every Wednesday and Saturday from 9 a.m.-12 noon. Volunteers are ready to assist people in getting the best coat to suit their needs.

### Volunteer Needs:

Lobby/Food Pantry—sorting and stocking  
Hospital Advocacy—training class required  
Donations—sorting and storage  
Dinner Donations for Shelter

## Calendar

### Ongoing:

#### Drop-In Domestic Violence Support Groups

Thurs 7:00-9:00 pm English

\*Wed. 6:00-8:00 pm Spanish

\*Fri. 9:00-10:30 am

(Expressive Art)

English

\*Childcare Provided

December 15 — Toy Giveaway

January 9-13 —Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Training

February: Teen Dating Violence Awareness Month

March 11 — Annual Auction Gala

April— Sexual Assault Awareness Month

## Community Crisis Center Programs and Services

**Hot line:** Available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, the hotline provides information and referral, support, counseling, suicide intervention, and general information to all who call.

**Domestic Violence Program:** providing information and resources to individuals and families that include emergency shelter; counseling; legal, medical, and welfare advocacy. Emergency response to area hospitals by trained volunteers.

**Sexual Assault Program:** providing information and resources to victims and their family members/significant others that include counseling; legal and medical advocacy; and emergency response to area hospitals by trained volunteers.

**Children's Services:** Services provided to children of adult clients include emergency shelter; school and social service agency advocacy; and counseling.

**Economic Crisis Program:** providing information and resources to individuals and families who lack sufficient shelter, food and support. Services include shelter; counseling; financial assistance; emergency food; outreach to the homeless; and transitional living program

**Speakers Bureau and Community Education:** presentations are available on a variety of topics suitable for schools, business, churches, clubs, groups and organizations

**CRISIS LINE:**

**847-697-2380**

