



July 2014

The Dawn Connection

Our Mission: To break the cycle of domestic and sexual violence, by providing supportive services and leadership that promotes social change.

We changed lives in May & June!

105 people were provided safe shelter!

39 of these were children!

We ended the month at 100% of capacity!

106 people were served through Dawn Center Outreach Services!

129 calls were answered by our local crisis hotline!

109 people received support with navigating the legal system!

EVENTS CALENDAR

Sept 13th - Join us at Tom Varn Park in Brooksville for the Dash for Dawn Center 5k! This year's theme is Take Back the Night! Event features a glow in the dark night run which symbolizes freedom from domestic and sexual violence and benefits Dawn Center of Hernando County. Individual and Family registrations available online now. Visit active.com and search "Dash for Dawn Center" for more information and to register. See you there!!



Dear Friends,

The temperatures are climbing and kids are out of school...all signs point to summer. Time for family vacations, trips to the beach, and relaxation poolside. Unfortunately, violence never takes a summer vacation. For survivors of domestic violence the summer can be a period of even further isolation without the normal routine that brings interactions with colleagues, friends, and school acquaintances. Each year thousands of vacationers flock to our local vacation destinations not knowing they could be at risk of sexual assault. In the U.S. someone is sexually assaulted every 2 minutes and 2/3 of all sexual assaults are perpetrated by someone the victim knows. Dawn Center isn't taking a summer vacation either! At the end of June, our emergency shelter was full to 100% of capacity and with the kids home from school the pantry supplies are quickly getting low. Throughout June in our Outreach programs we have been taking on 6-10 new clients every week while we continue to serve our ongoing clients. While we are honored to be there for survivors of domestic and sexual violence who are in need of our services, the needs throughout the summer threaten to overwhelm our resources.

Never underestimate the difference YOU can make in the lives of others. Step forward, reach out and help. This week reach to someone that might need a lift.

— Pablo
VERYBESTQUOTES.COM

We ask the community please take this opportunity to get involved!

Get involved now in one of the following ways:

- Host a Non-perishable Food Drive in your neighborhood, workplace, or church group (call 352-684-7191 for details)
- Become a Dawn Center volunteer- Applications available at www.DawnCenter.org
- Register now for the upcoming *Dash for Dawn Center* 5k or 1mile support walk. What a great way to help us raise awareness for survivors of domestic and sexual violence while raising needed funds to provide needed

THE NIGHT

Call (352) 684-7191 for more information on any Dawn Center event



Voices of Survivors

What this *real* participant in Dawn Center programs had to say...

"Love the staff. Very nice ladies. Knowledgeable and compassionate."

"This is a nice place-helped me get back on track."



Know someone who needs help finding safety or healing due to intimate partner violence or sexual assault? We are here 24 hours a day!

Dawn Center Hotline:
(352)686-8430

www.dawncenter.org



services! Registration is open now at active.com (type Dash for Dawn Center in the search bar to locate our event)

It takes a whole community to end domestic and sexual violence. Dawn Center is so thankful for our community partners who work along side us in ways big and small...come join the movement!

This former shelter resident wanted to make sure we knew how Dawn Center impacted her life! What a beautiful way to impact our lives in return!

May 8, 2014



To the Wonderful People at Dawn Center:

I just wanted to thank all of you for being there for me. I was very confused about my life until I received all the information from you about men who beat their wives. I received help from an attorney in Inverness to help me file my divorce. Without all of you, I never would have gotten it. I lived in hell for 30 years and did not even know it. So, thank you from the bottom of my heart for being there for me.

God bless you all,
Lorna



Names changed to protect the identity of the survivor

Summer Safety

Summer is here and it's more important than ever to keep our children safe. As they spend more time at home during the summer months they also are spending more time with friends and using technology. We have come up with a few tips to aid parents in keeping up with their children.

Volunteer opportunities available!

If you would like to volunteer please access our [volunteer application](#) on our website or contact our Volunteer Coordinator at mhoppes@dawncenter.org or (352) 684-7191.

1. Talk to your kids- talk to them about who they are hanging out with, where they are going, and who the responsible adult will be. Don't be afraid to ask questions!
2. Ask your children to check in while they are out to help you ensure their safety and their sobriety. With the summer months upon us it can be tempting for kids to give in to peer pressure and experiment with drugs and alcohol.
3. Stay in Touch with IT - Remember to keep an eye out on your child's internet and social media use. If you can keep the computer in a part of the house that you frequent often it may help you to more easily keep an eye on the people your children talks to online, know what the conversation entails, and be familiar with the websites they are frequenting. Check up on the website they are talking about and frequenting. Ask to see their social media accounts to ensure they are not posting too much personal information on these accounts that could leave them vulnerable to predators. Also ensure that the content they are posting is appropriate for children of their age group.
4. Remind your children that once something is posted on the internet it can never truly be erased. Talk to them about what they post and talk to them about how to deal with cyber-bullies, or unwanted/inappropriate contact from others.

So, how can you support your children in making the right decisions?

Talk to them openly about your concerns and remind them that your concerns are meant to keep them safe. Encourage your child to come to you if they or someone in their friend group is making decisions that could put them at risk. Let them know you will not punish them for coming to you with questions or concerns.

For more tips about keeping your children safe during summer and all year long please check out the following links:

13 Tips for Monitoring Kids' Social Media

<http://www.parenting.com/gallery/social-media-monitoring-kids>

Keep Your Child Safe Online- Computer Programs to help monitor children's online activities

<http://www.pcmag.com/article2/0,2817,2346997,00.asp>

7 Tips For Talking With Your Child

<http://www.stutteringhelp.org/7-tips-talking-your-child>

If you or your child is experiencing stalking, domestic and/or dating violence click the links below for tips on technology safety tips.

<http://nnedv.org/projects/safetynet.html>

<http://www.thatnotcool.com/>



If you or your child would like more information on dating relationship visit the following link below:

<http://www.loveisrespect.org/>

Thank you to our May & June 2014 supporters!

Carolyn Allard	Behind the Stones Ministries	Brooksville Christian Church
Brooksville Loyal Order of Moose Lodge	Xena Brown	Campbell & Co P.A.
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Charity Fund of Timber Pines		Cheryl's Trinity Time for Wine
Chili's Grill & Bar	City of Brooksville	Cody's Original Roadhouse
Community Baptist Church	Crystal Dodge	Custom Discount Blinds
Cypress Moose Legion 202	John & Leonette Ehlenbeck	First United Methodist Church
Five Guys Burgers & Fries	Flammer Ford	Food Parade
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GTC Beacon Theaters	Guido's Pizza Cafe	Janine Hammett
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Hernando County School District	Hernando County Sheriff's Office	Sharon Hershey
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Mariner United Methodist Church	Mariner United Methodist Women	Kenneth & Margo McConnell

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Wacky Women of Weeki Wachee	Linda Wade	Walgreens Spring Hill Dr and Mariner Blvd
Walmart Distribution Center	Walmart Store 697	Benita Weaver
Winn Dixie		

24 Hour Hotline: (352) 686-8430
 Outreach Program: (352) 592-1288
 Legal Program: (352) 540-6222
 Administration: (352) 684-7191
 Mail: P.O. Box 6179, Spring Hill, FL 34611
 Email: info@dawncenter.org
 Web: www.dawncenter.org

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Dawn-Center-of-Hernando-County-FL/350378071725358>

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