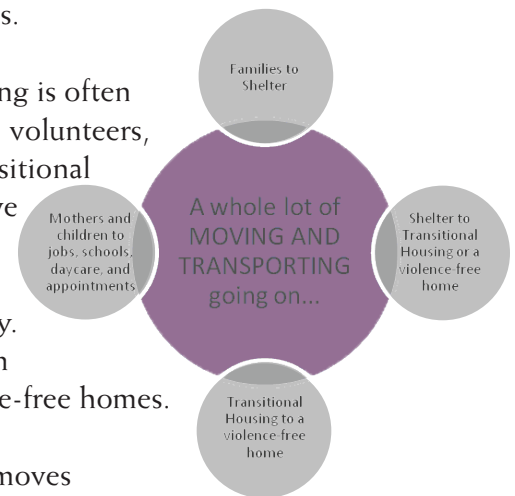


The Women's Resource Center is Moving People Forward

Moving forward toward violence-free living—for individuals, families, and the community as a whole—has always been at the heart of The Women's Resource Center of the New River Valley. This is the ultimate goal of all that we do, whether it is providing shelter to victims of domestic violence, providing counseling and legal advocacy to victims of sexual assault, or educating our youth about healthy relationships.

More than just a catchy tag line, for victims of domestic violence the moving is often quite literal—a very real function of our program that keeps staff members, volunteers, and people we serve very busy. In our bustling emergency shelter and transitional housing programs, we move people and their things constantly. We move shelter residents into the transitional housing apartments if necessary after their shelter stay. We move donated furniture and household items into the transitional apartments from a central storage barn in Pulaski County. And best of all, we move families and their newly acquired belongings from the emergency shelter or transitional apartments to safe and secure violence-free homes.



For victims of sexual assault, movement is a personal endeavor. Our staff moves alongside people we serve as they process and recover from their trauma, a journey which may include emergency hospital-based services, individual and/or group counseling, short or long-term support and legal advocacy. Each person determines their own destination, their own path, and their own itinerary. The Women's Resource Center provides the equipment and the fuel, as needed.

Moving the mindset of a community is a long-term undertaking, but one that the Women's Resource Center tackles every day. Our staff work collaboratively and strategically to educate vulnerable segments of the community and those who carry the responsibility to respond to abuse and violence. Through projects that serve to educate our youth about respectful boundaries, raise awareness of risk reduction strategies, or impact public policy to ensure the rights of the abused, we "move" hearts and minds forward.

It is in that spirit that we dedicate our work this fall to MOVING—the act of getting from here to there. It sounds simple enough. Let's go...



The Bank of America Charitable Foundation recently recognized the importance of the moving and transporting function of our organization, by donating funds to purchase a passenger/cargo van. The new van will provide reliable transportation for clients and their possessions, and for managing donated goods and furniture. We extend heart-felt appreciation to the Bank of America Charitable Foundation, for helping us move our neighbors forward toward violence-free living.

Weathering the Recession at the Women's Resource Center



Successfully *Moving People Forward* requires a variety of resources, including professional expertise, in-kind donations, volunteer power and of course money. Most non-profit organizations are struggling this year and The Women's Resource Center of the New River Valley is no exception. In comparing this fiscal year to last, we have witnessed a 14 percent decline in individual contributions, a 12 percent decline in foundation support, and a 13 percent decline in local government funding. These grim statistics are consistent with national giving trends.

Major impacts of the reduced contributions, foundation and local government revenue include:

- Loss of one staff position at the Emergency Shelter facility;
- No staff raises for the past three years;
- Reduced budget for motels when the emergency shelter is full;
- Postponed maintenance work on the emergency shelter facility and transitional housing apartments.

Fortunately, up to this point we have been able to maintain a steady level of service in each of our program areas, thanks to a dedicated staff, prudent financial planning and forward-minded leadership. Still, contributions are needed now more than at any point in our organization's history. Please consider supporting our work with your tax-deductible gift. Thank you for your sustained interest in the work of the Women's Resource Center throughout these difficult economic times.

In Peace,

Pat Brown
Executive Director



Women's Resource Center Facilities Wish List

Emergency Shelter Facility

The current Women's Resource Center Emergency Shelter was built in 1990. We took ownership, built an addition, and began sheltering adult and child victims of domestic violence in the spring of 1991. Since then, 5,120 people have escaped their domestic violence situations and entered the safety of our shelter. These 5,120 adults, teens, tweens, toddlers, and babies have spent 109,410 nights in the facility. Consequently, the building itself is in need of some major rehabilitation:

- Kitchen: New cabinets, countertops, appliances and flooring
- Living Room: New durable couches and loveseats
- Windows: All windows on the ground floor need to be replaced

Transitional Housing Facility

The current apartment complex that serves as our Transitional Housing facility opened in 2001. Over the past nine years, 329 adults and their children have called these apartments home for a total of 59,009 nights of shelter. This heavy traffic takes a toll. We currently need:

- Clothes Washer (coin-operated)
- Carpet and vinyl replacement in two apartments

If you have an interest in learning more about these needs, please call Pat Brown, Executive Director, at 639-9592.

Violence in Virginia Homes: Revelations from a Recent Report Comissioned by the Family and Children's Trust Fund of Virginia

This past June, the Family and Children's Trust Fund of Virginia released a much-anticipated report entitled, "Violence at Home: The FACT Report." This 42-page report and its 92-page date-rich Appendix present a unified portrait of the extent and impact of family violence across the life cycles of individuals, ranging from the very young to the elderly. Research on family violence is often conducted within categories such as child abuse, intimate and domestic partner abuse, sexual abuse, and elder abuse, leading to a sense that these forms of violence are unrelated, even though they frequently exist within the same family, across generations. Understanding the interrelated and intergenerational nature of violence in families may help to prevent future harm by "breaking the circuitry" so that violent behavior does not resurface in generation after generation.

The FACT Report confirmed that the Southside and Southwest regions of Virginia, which consistently have some of the highest levels of poverty, unemployment, and alcohol/drug-related arrests, also generally have some of the highest reported levels of family violence. The full report may be accessed at www.fact.state.va.us.

FACTS

30% to 60% of perpetrators of intimate partner violence also abuse children in the household.

(Edelson. 1999. "The Overlap Between Child Maltreatment and Woman Battering." Violence Against Women. 5:134-154.)

Boys who witness domestic violence are twice as likely to abuse their own partners and children when they become adults.

(Strauss, Gelles, and Smith. 1990. Physical Violence in American Families: Risk Factors and Adaptations to Violence in 8,145 Families. Transaction Publishers.)

1 in 3 homicides in Virginia resulted from domestic violence, 1 in 4 domestic violence homicides were committed in the presence of children.

(Virginia Office of the Attorney General. 2009. Domestic and Sexual Violence in Virginia. Page 1.)

Nearly 2/3 of reported victims of violent sexual offenses, both male and female, are under age 18. One quarter of all sex offenses occur in the family.

(Virginia Office of the Attorney General. 2009. Domestic and Sexual Violence in Virginia. Page 3-4.)

It is estimated that for every one case of elder abuse, neglect, exploitation, or self-neglect reported to authorities, about five more go unreported.

(National Center on Elder Abuse, The American Public Human Services Association. 1998. The National Elder Abuse Incidence Study. At http://www.aoa.gov/AoARoot/AoA_Programs/Elder_Rights/Elder_Abuse/docs/ABuseReport_Full.pdf)



October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month

Since 1995, October has been observed across the nation as Domestic Violence Awareness Month. The Women's Resource Center hopes that October brings family togetherness, painted in broad strokes with the comforting autumn sights, sounds, smells and tastes that many of us associate with love—pumpkin pie, burning leaves, cozy hearths, marching bands, hand knit sweaters, hot cider, board games...

This month, let us remember those who are unable to associate October memories with the feelings of comfort and safety. If you or someone you know is in need of shelter, support, or counseling, please call the Women's Resource Center Hotline at 540-639-1123.



women's resource center
of the New River Valley

P.O. Box 477 | Radford, VA 24143

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



The Women's Resource Center of the New River Valley, Inc. is proud to be an affiliated charity of the United Way of Montgomery, Radford and Floyd, the Pulaski County United Way, and the United Fund of Giles County. Please support your local United Way agency, as they support The Women's Resource Center.

Benefit on the New

A Silent Auction and Wine Tasting to Benefit

The Women's Resource Center of the New River Valley

Home of Edna and Brett Malone, Pearisburg, Virginia

On the New River, near the Inn at Riverbend.

Saturday, October 30, 2010 3:00 – 6:00 PM

\$30 per person Heavy Hors d'oeuvres and Wine

Mark your calendar now for a spectacular autumn afternoon overlooking the New River. Auction items to include hand-crafted quilts, Tuckwiller art, getaways, jewelry and more. Event tickets available by calling the Women's Resource Center at 540-639-9592.