

Resources for Survivors of Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault

Transitional Housing

By: Linda Olson; Executive Director

Bright Horizons would like to invite everyone to an open house and dedication for Kris' House of Grace, our new transitional shelter, on Sunday Nov. 22 from 12:00 to 2:00 at 409 Phillip Ave., Norfolk. This exciting new endeavor is made possible through a working agreement with the First United Methodist Church of Norfolk.

Steve and Karen Warner have coordinated the renovations of Kris' House of Grace and have donated numerous hours painting and cleaning. They have organized other groups from the First United Methodist Church and their friends to assist with the work. "This project definitely would not be coming together without Karen and Steve's dedication" stated Linda Olson, Executive Director. "We are so grateful for their help."

The First United Methodist Church sponsored a "shower" to assist in purchasing bedding, dishes, towels, and other household items. "We have been so inspired by the way the First United Methodist Church members and others have come together to support this project" stated Olson.

Bright Horizons applied for a federal grant to implement and support this project. Unfortunately, this grant application was not selected for funding. "Although we are very disappointed that the grant wasn't funded, we are committed to making this project a success. We see the need in the community for transitional housing services and with the Church's support we feel confident that this project will be a success" stated Ryan Parks, Bright Horizons' Board President. "We hope that the community will come out and support our efforts on November 22nd."

Kris' House of Grace is named for Steve and Karen Warner's daughter Kris, who was murdered due to domestic violence, and also for Grace Gould. Grace's family, Dr. and Mrs. Allen Burkhardt, donated the home to the First United Methodist Church to be used for philanthropic purposes.

Upcoming Events!

- Kris' House of Grace Open House—November 22nd
- Adopt A Family—Throughout the month of December
- Atkinson Big Give—December 1st
- Mark Wynn Training—December 3rd

See our flyers for
more details!

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Volunteer Spotlight

Joanne Morris has been an active volunteer at Bright Horizons since September of 2013. She found her passion in volunteering after attending Bright Horizons' support group meetings with a friend where she learned she could help others. She shares her story with us: "I am originally from Maryland and I was an abused wife for 10 years. I finally got the nerve to leave and get out of the marriage after being left partially deaf in one ear as a result of the beatings." She then moved to Denver, CO and worked at ATT for 30 years until she retired in 2000 and moved to rural Nebraska. Joanne has been married for 40 years, has one son, one step-grand daughter, and one step-great grand daughter. Her hobbies include researching genealogy, being a member of the DAR, and loves taking care of her cats. Joanne helps us with office work, answering phones, organizing the donation room, and much more! She is always there when we need an extra hand and is dedicated to our cause. We can't thank her enough for all her hard work!



Thank you Joanne for all that you do!

*Your life has purpose. Your story is important. Your dreams count.
Your voice matters. You were born to make an impact.*

- Nicky Gumbel

Developing Eagles' Lights On Afterschool

By Katie Williamson; O'Neill Criminal Justice Liaison

Every week I have the opportunity to present to the Developing Eagles Afterschool Program at the O'Neill Elementary School to teach students about different topics. Some of these topics pertain to self-esteem and healthy relationships while others are about bullying and anger management. I enjoy getting to know the students each week but also love it when we have the chance to step out of the classroom. This year on October 22nd, Bright Horizons was invited to help with 'Lights On Afterschool' which coincided with the high school football game. It was rainy night but 35-40 students were still able to enjoy getting Eagle Pride tattoos, decorating their own pumpkin, getting some glow sticks to be worn at the football game, and eat a few cookies while getting to also spend time with their family members.



Education Available

Bright Horizons offers education on bullying, dating violence, healthy relationships, domestic violence, stalking, and sexual assault. We offer education for all ages, including schools, youth groups, and other organizations. If you are interested in having a speaker, please call the Norfolk, O'Neill, or Ainsworth office.

Diaper Drive 2015

By Jamie Drahota; Fiscal Manager

Bright Horizons, again, had another successful diaper drive. During the whole month of September we collected diapers. There were six churches that participated and help gather diapers and wipes. Places that participated were St. John's Lutheran Church, Our Savior Lutheran, Trinity Episcopal Church, and Christ the Servant all in Norfolk. St. Peter's Catholic Church in Stanton and Park Congregational in Elgin. We would like to thank everybody who made such generous donations of diapers and wipes to our agency during our 2015 Diaper Drive. Because of your kindness, Bright Horizons was able to collect 7,225 diapers and 25 packs of wipes for our victims and their families! Our staff truly appreciates all of the continued support, as this makes it possible for us to continue to serve victims of domestic violence and sexual assault.



Clothesline Project

By Jamie Drahota; Fiscal Manager

October is domestic violence awareness month. Throughout our service area community businesses showed support by hanging up our clothesline project. The clothesline project is t-shirts, made by our support group members, which let survivors and/or family members tell their story in a unique way, using words and or artwork to decorate their shirt. There are many purposes for the clothesline. It serves as a healing tool for anyone who makes a shirt, an educational tool for those who view it and it also allows for those who are still suffering letting them know that they are not alone. Bright Horizons wants to say "thank you" to the businesses that hung our project up: Pierce County Courthouse, Northeast Community College, Norfolk Public Library, Stanton Public Library, Faith Regional Health Services, Madison Public Library, Heckert Health Center, and the Norfolk Jr. and Sr. High.



Silent Witnesses

By Mayra Mendoza; Immigration Specialist

Silent Witnesses were displayed during the month of October at First United Methodist Church in Norfolk, St. Peters Catholic Church in Stanton, and at Tyson Fresh Meats in Madison. These red silhouettes represent a victim that has lost their life to domestic violence. Each figure bears a gold shield on their chest that tells their story. We would like to thank all the places that participated in displaying the silent witnesses to bring awareness to this issue. We would also like to give a special thanks to Tyson Fresh Meats who displayed these through out the factory and went above and beyond to have their stories translated in both Spanish and Burmese for their factory workers. Doing outreach at Tyson Fresh Meats in Madison is a great way to reach those who need information. Our hope is that we reach victims whom otherwise are not aware of our services and those who want to be involved with Bright Horizons to become volunteers or make donations. It's also a great way to bring awareness of this issue to other cultures. I set up a booth on the first Friday of every month in the cafeteria area. I'm there for a few hours usually from 11:45 in the morning through 2:30 in the afternoon. I take information on a specific topic each time, varying from mental health and domestic violence, ways to recognize healthy and unhealthy relationships, etc. I also distribute Bright Horizons brochures and outreach material such as pens, notepads, etc. Next time your around stop by and see me!



Dueling Pianos 2015

By Christy Lee; Norfolk Program Director

More people than ever attended Dueling Pianos this year, and what a difference that will make in the lives of domestic violence and sexual assault survivors! A woman is beaten every 9 seconds in the United States, 1,270,000 are sexually assaulted each year. Every person that donated an item for the silent auction, donated their time or made a monetary donation literally changed lives. For all of you that bought a table, a ticket or a silent auction item you have given hope where there was none.

In 2014, throughout our 10 counties, Bright Horizons provided services to over a thousand women, men and children. We ensured that survivors of domestic violence and sexual assault have access to our services 24 hours a day, every day of the year. Our staff and volunteers answered 2,508 crisis calls.

Without the support of individuals, families and business in our communities we would be unable to even begin to meet these needs. Bright Horizons began in a women's home here in Norfolk in 1978, and has grown to cover 10 counties. We currently have 3 office locations as well as 2 shelter locations. The effort to eliminate domestic violence and sexual assault has continually and will always be our mission.

Thank you is not nearly enough for the support that was shown at Dueling Pianos or for the ongoing support each and every day, but please know without you we could not do what we do.



THANK YOU!

#PurpleThursday

By Katie Williamson; O'Neill Criminal Justice Liaison

October was Domestic Violence Awareness Month. This year, Bright Horizons invited you all to help paint the United States purple by stopping into one of our offices on Thursday, October 22nd to get a purple ribbon or to wear purple for the day. This was your opportunity to get involved and take a stand against domestic violence and Bright Horizons couldn't be happier with the success of the event. We enjoyed getting to go out in the community and seeing the purple as well as getting to see individuals come into our offices. We wanted to say THANK YOU for the continued support! If you haven't already, please check out our Facebook page to see the supportive community members this year.



If participating next year in #PurpleThursday is something that interests you or your business, please contact us today and we will get your business name written down for 2016.

Nebraska State Patrol Crimes of Power and Control Training

By Amanda Veit; Norfolk Criminal Justice Liaison & Emily Putters Norfolk Volunteer Coordinator

Emily Putters, Amanda Veit, and Brandy Starman (Volunteer) attended The Nebraska State Patrol's Crimes of Power and Control Training in Lincoln September 22nd and 23rd. The two day training was filled with many inspiring/informational speakers. The first day, Dr. Sujata Warriar discussed, "What has culture got to do with it? Engaging Cultural Differences." This was a very interactive presentation, really making everyone think about how culture may affect their everyday lives and their careers. That afternoon we broke out into sessions listening to Lt. Jeromy McCoy with the Nebraska State Patrol talk about the Michelle Randall Case Study involving Human Trafficking in Nebraska. We went through the case step by step and discussed the actions that were taken and also what flaws they made and what they will do differently in future cases. Shereen Reda with the Sexual Violence Justice Institute presented on Collaborating Effectively for Systems Change. She emphasized how important having an active team is and to continue working on our services between the meetings. Sgt. Bob Moore, retired from the Norman Police Department presented My Body... My Life... a youth program he developed for young men and women that teaches respect, awareness, and self-defense techniques. The second day, Scott Santoro with the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center and Department of Homeland Security presented on Identifying and Investigating Human Trafficking. Through interactive videos this presentation helped us identify signs of human trafficking and how to respond. In the afternoon we broke into sessions again, listening to Inv. Matt Franken with the Lincoln Police Department and Dr. Danelle DeBoer with Doane College present on Implementing Protocols for Sexual Assault Anonymous Reporting. They talked about how the Lincoln Police Department started the anonymous reporting for sexual assault victims and how it works. Next was Sheri King and April Scriven presenting on Determining Firearms Prohibitions of Nebraska Protection Orders. They discussed the protection orders, specific situations, and how each county needs to enter every protection order in the NCJIS Protection Order Portal. Lastly, Chief Deputy Jeff Bliemeister with the Lancaster County Sheriff's Office and Sgt. Luke Wilke with the Lincoln Police Department presented on the Todd Baker Case Study which followed the series of murders he committed, the horrifying crime trail he left behind, and how the LPD brought him to justice. Over all this training was very intense and informative. The information we learned here will definitely be useful and further our experience as we continue to serve victims of domestic violence and sexual assault.



No More Nebraska - Prevention Corner

By Amanda Wallace; O'Neill Program Director

As domestic violence and sexual assault centers across the United States and beyond move from providing awareness in their communities to inspiring citizens to say "No More!" Bright Horizons is embracing this mission wholeheartedly. It's time that we as citizens of this wonderful state no longer sit by and watch as perpetrators are allowed to abuse. Here are some tips on how the average citizen can say "No More!"

Connect: Talk to relatives, friends, or co-workers you know or suspect may be in an unhealthy relationship or experiencing abuse. Look for opportunities to reach out and be informed about your local program. Bright Horizons serves 10 counties and has 3 offices. Our staff would love to take the time to explain our services.

Justice: Support policies that increase accountability for individuals engaging in abusive behavior. Take the time to reach out to your local officials if you believe that an offender has not be properly held accountable.

Respect: Practice healthy relationships and attitudes with your family and community. Be a role model to anyone looking in. By treating everyone with respect you will begin to change attitudes of all around you.

Responsibility: Take action when you witness abuse. Call law enforcement; take a stand; say "No More", not in my community. Never again take the position of it's none of my business.

Ainsworth Office Update

By Kristy Beard; Ainsworth Program Director

It has been a year since Bright Horizons expanded into Brown, Rock and Keya Paha Counties and opened an office in Ainsworth. As I have settled in to my new role, there has definitely been an increase in the need for services in the area. We are continually outreaching to the Brown, Keya Paha, and Rock area so that individuals are aware of the services offered. You will most likely find me at any local health fair, BKR Wise Choices Meetings, PRT Meetings, or around town hanging flyers. I also am available to speak about our services at schools, church groups and other community organizations. If you or someone you know belongs to an organization and is looking for a speaker please contact me!

Since the expansion into the new counties, I have created a Coordinated Community Response Team (CRT) made up of members in the surrounding areas that help a victim from the time they walk through our doors until the last day they need services. A support group is also in the planning stages. If you know of someone that would be interested in either the support group or joining the local CRT, please contact myself, Kristy, at 402-382-5676.

The Ainsworth office is also looking for volunteers to help in the office and with the crisis line. If you or someone you know wants to make a difference please let me know! Some duties while volunteering for Bright Horizons may include taking in donations, helping with booths at health fairs, and assisting in office coverage. This year has been a very successful year for our new office in Ainsworth and I am thankful for the openness the community has shown Bright Horizons.

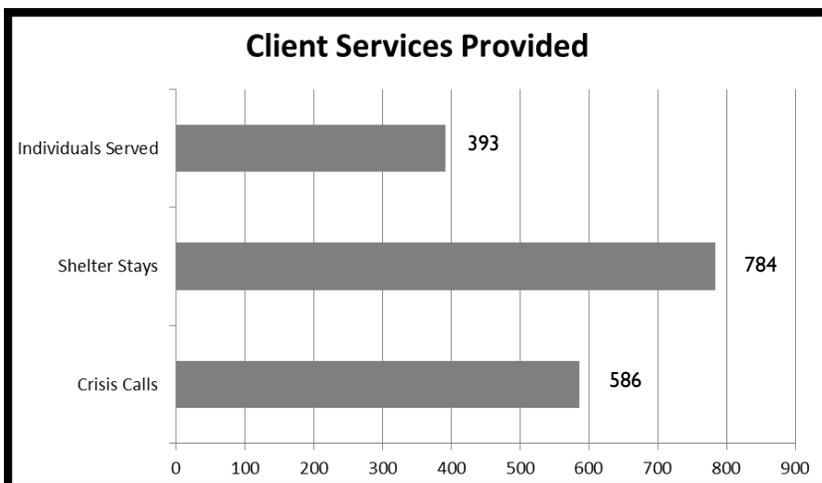
FBLA Gives Back

By Katie Williamson; O'Neill Criminal Justice Liaison

On average, Bright Horizons has helped 363 children over a two year time period. Of those 363 children, 94 of them spent time in our local shelters. West Boyd's FBLA Program recently decided to help these children through organizing a toy drive with all items being donated to Bright Horizons.



Bright Horizons is sincerely grateful and would like to extend a BIG **thank you** to the FBLA Program for their generosity and thoughtfulness in helping the children we serve.



NOTE:
These numbers are unduplicated. This means if we worked with a victim 6 times in one month, we only count him/her ONE time for that month.

Last Quarter Supporters of Bright Horizons

Amber Astronic	Richard Hering	-Gina Clyde	-Sharon Nelson
Angela Largen	Scott & Lori Kunz	-Glenn & Kim Waddle	-Stephanie Brundieck
Allen Mitchell	Shirley Pickering	-Gobs & Gobbs of Fun	-Steve & Karen Warner
Carol Nordby	Sherrri Prim	-Good Life Counseling	-Town & Country Insurance
Coni David-Molvig	Sheryl Graff	-Heckert Nursing Consulting	-Times Square Event Center
Deanna Mattensen	Wilma Tasler	-Integrated Life Choices	-Tyson Fresh Meats
Deb Freese	Dueling Pianos Fundraiser	-Jay & Amanda Kauth	-Village Floral Shop
Dennis & Roxanne Ryan	-Abbey Christian Store	-Jayne Prince	-Wetzel & Truex Jewelers Inc.
Donna McCain	-Abbie Widhalm	-Jenny Bender	-Willow's Assisted Living
Dotty Hrbek	-Amanda Millander-Mace	-Kookaburra's Kloset	-176 Keys Dueling Pianos
Ellen Hanse	-Applebee's	-Kuper Farms	Bethany Church
Grace Coleman	-Austen Hagood	-Laura Peitz	Chambers Community Center
Heidi Stevens	-Behavioral Health Unit	-Legal Aid of Nebraska	Delta Kappa Gamma
Hellen Olson	-Big Top Party Shop	-Linda Olson	Grace Lutheran Ladies Aid—Neligh
Jana Sobotka	-Boomerangs	-Liberty Centre	Lutheran Piece Makers
JaVae Ermels	-Brooke Olson	-Mary Gibson	NESWO of ELCA - Hartington
Jim Miller	-Bright Horizons' Staff	-Mary Kincanon	Norfolk VA Clinic
John Krallmann	-Cato	-MK's Just Baked Cup Cakery	OACCW Alumnae
Joni Moore	-Christy Lee	-Napolis	Shopko Foundation
Jonna Kohle	-Creatively Fired	-Nebraska Life Magazine	St. Mary's Alter Society
Judy Stahlecker	-Covidien	-Norfolk 7 Theatre	Stocks R US Club
Kathy Becker	-Daycos	-Poppy's Pumpkin Patch	Trinity Episcopal Church-Norfolk
Katie Williamson	-Dennis Grimm	-Ponca Tribe of Nebraska	
Karen Larsen	-Digital Dreams Photography	Domestic Violence Program	
Karen Sloane	-Dinkel Implement	- State of Nebraska Probation	
Lindy Woita	-Donna Froelich	-Putters Jewelry	
Marilyn Palmer	-Downtown Coffee Company	-Randy Rodenburg	
Mary Ehrenfried	-Elkhorn Valley Bank & Trust	-Retreat Salon & Spa	
Nancy Vesely	-Franc's Salon & Spa	-Renewed Hope Church	
Patti Hering	-Gallagher	-Rick's Auto Repair	

Thank You

Bright Horizons Shelter Wish List

Paper Good Supplies
 Cleaning Supplies
 Air Fresheners
 Disinfectant Wipes/Spray
 Dish/Laundry Soap
 Fabric Softener
 Trash Bags— All sizes
 Light Bulbs 40-60 Watt
 Hand Soap
 Food Items
 Bottled Water
 Zip-Lock Bags/Tupperware

**THERE IS NO EXERCISE
 BETTER FOR THE HEART
 THAN REACHING
 DOWN AND
 LIFTING
 PEOPLE UP.**
WWW.VERYBESTQUOTES.COM
 — John Holmes

Bedding (Twin & Full)
 Storage Totes
 Ice Melt
 Coffee, Filters, & Creamer
 Gift Cards (Grocery, Gas, etc.)
 Baby Care Items
 Disposable Diapers
 Baby Wipes
 Baby Formula
 Hygiene Products
 Over The Counter Medications
 First Aid Supplies

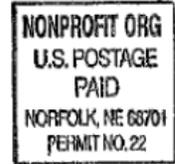
Bright Horizons
Resources for Survivors of Domestic
Violence and Sexual Assault

Norfolk Office
305 N. 4th
Norfolk, NE 68702
(402) 379-2026

O'Neill Office
318 E. Douglas St.
O'Neill, NE 68763
(402) 336-1774

Ainsworth Office
938 East Zero St
PO Box 313
Ainsworth, NE 69210
(402) 382-5676

Crisis Line
1-877-379-3798



www.brighthorizonsne.org

If you no longer want to be on Bright Horizons' newsletter mailing list, please contact Emily at 402-379-2026 or at emily@brighthorizonsne.org

**Ask Us About Becoming a
Volunteer!**

Bright Horizons Services

- 24 Hour Crisis Line
 - Community Education
 - Individual Advocacy
 - Criminal Justice & Legal Advocacy
 - Emergency Shelter
 - Support Group
-

24 Hour Crisis Line 1-877-379-3798

**Providing services to Antelope, Boyd, Holt, Knox, Madison, Pierce,
Stanton, Brown, Rock, and Keya Paha counties.**

Upcoming Events:

[See our flyers for
more details!](#)

- Kris's House of Grace Open House - November 22nd**
- Adopt A Family - Throughout the month of December**
- Atkinson's Big Give - December 1st**
- Mark Wynn Training - December 3rd**

Don't forget to sign up to get the newsletter electronically by emailing emily@brighthorizonsne.org!

Also find us online and on Facebook!