

BRIGHT HORIZONS

4th Quarter 2012

Adopt-A-Family

By Audrea Tate, Norfolk Volunteer Coordinator

Christmas is fast approaching, and many of people begin to think about what they are going to give to their friends, family, and the person whom they drew at the office Christmas exchange! But many people embrace the spirit of Christmas and give to those who are not as fortunate as themselves. We here at Bright Horizons have seen this spirit of giving enliven so many families through our Adopt-A-Family Program.

This program is a great way for us and the community to give families a very merry and magical holiday. Families we work with are given the opportunity to apply for this program by making a gift wish list. Then, individuals and businesses in the community can sign up to adopt a family to help make their wishes come true!

If you are interested in adopting a family or being involved with this program, there are several ways to do so. You can call to adopt, and you can choose if you want a small family, large family, or several families. Or you can go to the following locations where a Christmas tree will display individual gifts for you to choose from: Shamrock Nursery in O'Neill and the Village Inn in Norfolk. You could even choose to volunteer your time to help wrap gifts during December to help get them to families in time for Christmas!

To sign up or to learn more about this program, please call either of our locations to speak with an advocate.

Norfolk: 402-379-2026 or O'Neill: 402-336-1774

Video worth \$500

By Jennifer Arens, Norfolk Criminal Justice Liaison

The Norfolk Area Visitors Bureau challenged the Norfolk area residents/business in creating a YouTube video to the song "Call Me Maybe" by Carly Rae Jepsen. The video with the most 'likes' from Oct. 1 through Oct. 31st received a donation of \$500 to give to a local non-profit of their choice. Bright Horizons partnered with the Norfolk Police Department to create their version of this video. This partnership was a very positive opportunity for our agency to network with the Norfolk Police Department. We have received overwhelming positive feedback from the community. Again, we appreciate the Norfolk Police Department administration, officers and support staff for volunteering to assist us with the creation of the video and for some, even coming in on their days off to help us!



In this issue:

Volunteer Spotlight	2
Stalking Awareness Month	3
Outstanding Supporters	3
SFTS Chapters	4
Recap of Events	4
Recap of Events	5
Partner in Prevention	6
Last Quarter's Numbers	6
Recognition of Supporters	7
Upcoming Events	8

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- Pastor Wayne Owens
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- Jayne Prince
- Ryan Parks
- Chief Bill Mizner
- Janet Johnson
- Paula Pflueger, United Way Liaison

Volunteer Spotlight

~ Norfolk

By Audrea Tate, Norfolk Volunteer Coordinator

This quarter's spotlighted volunteer is one of those people who will go above our expectations, and it is clear that she embraces her job as a volunteer. Jerrlie Wieseler has been a crisis line volunteer since August 2010 and has volunteered nearly 2,400 hours! She is very devoted to helping out clients in need as well as helping us staff when we need an extra hand.

Jerrlie is very deserving of this recognition for many reasons. First, she has been committed to her job as a crisis line volunteer for two years and really goes out of her way to help clients in crisis. Many times in our staff meetings, my fellow co-workers will tell me "Jerrlie did a great job on crisis line" or "I am so glad that Jerrlie was able to help that client." This means to me that she is reliable, committed, and caring. Jerrlie has even fielded some pretty tough phone calls this past year.

In addition to her work on the crisis line, Jerrlie often helps cover the office when we have meetings. Just this summer, she covered the office during our staff retreat. Since she has the training and experience working with clients on the crisis line, she was also able to help clients in the office. This makes her such a valuable volunteer to our agency!

Another way that Jerrlie volunteers is by helping at our events. She is very involved in not only participating in the events, but helping to make them successful. We are very grateful for all of the different ways that Jerrlie volunteers with our agency. She has even brought her boyfriend on board, and he has been very helpful as well!

Thank you so much Jerrlie; we appreciate you!

"To keep a lamp burning, we have to keep putting oil in it"

~Mother Teresa

Spotlighted Community Member

By Linda Olson, Executive Director

Roger Wiese has always been a huge supporter of Bright Horizons and the clients that we serve. As the Executive Director of the North Central District Health Department (NCDHD), he assures that domestic violence and sexual assault are a part of all public health planning that they do. He also looks for grants and projects that Bright Horizons and NCDHD can partner on.

NCDHD and Bright Horizons co-sponsor the Bullying Recognition Anti Violence Organization (BRAVO) team. This group of high school students from O'Neill Public and St. Mary's schools present to other schools across the state on dating violence, sexual assault, and bullying prevention.

Roger began working with survivors as a crisis line volunteer at the SAFE Center in Kearney in 1991-1992. He helped to start the Clothesline Project while he was a volunteer there. Roger served on Bright Horizons Board of Directors from December 2004 through March 2011.

Roger is very active in the O'Neill community. Roger and his wife, Regina, have eight children.

Education Available

Bright Horizons offers education on bullying, dating violence, healthy relationships, domestic violence, stalking, sexual assault, and the Stewards of Children training. We offer education for all ages, including schools, youth groups, and other organizations. If you are interested in having a speaker, please call (402)379-2026 or (402)336-1774.

January will be the 9th Annual Stalking Awareness Month

By Christy Abner, Norfolk Program Director

January will be the 9th Annual National Stalking Awareness Month dedicated to educating the public about this serious crime. Stalking is a crime of terror with a beginning, but seemingly no end. A little over 1 million women and 370,000 men are stalked annually in the United States. About 75% of victims have some previous personal relationship with the stalker. Stalking occurs when harassing behavior is repeated, is threatening, is purposefully directed at a specific person, and would cause a reasonable person to fear bodily injury or death for themselves or a family member.

About 75% of stalking victims have some previous personal relationship with the stalker.

A common denominator in stalking is the fear that it causes. That fear is often justified. Almost 46% of victims experience one or more violent incidents by the stalker. If you believe that you are being stalked, talking to an advocate at Bright Horizons can help. Other suggestions are to report it to your local law enforcement, be alert and aware of your surroundings, vary your routes of travel, park in well-lit areas and develop a safety plan.

For more information or help, please call an advocate at 1-877-379-3798.

Outstanding Supporters

By Jennifer Arens, Norfolk Criminal Justice Liaison & Amanda Wallace, O'Neill Volunteer/Outreach Coord.

We at Bright Horizons are very conscious of our many supporters. In honor of our many supporters, we have decided to recognize two outstanding partners for their continued support, cooperation and invaluable contributions to our agency. For this quarter, our staff has nominated Mark Albin, attorney with the Albin Law Office in Norfolk, and Deanna Hageman in O'Neill. Mark has helped our agency and clients in numerous ways throughout the last quarter.

For over three years Deanna has donated a Viaro cell phone to Bright Horizons O'Neill. We have been able to give this phone to crisis line volunteers who do not want to use their personal cell phones. In times of emergency we have been able to offer it to clients. The unrestricted use of this phone has greatly improved Bright Horizons ability to serve victims of domestic violence and sexual assault.

Mark and Deanna will each receive a Certificate of Appreciation for them to display.

Stand for the Silent Chapters

By Amanda Wallace, O'Neill Volunteer/Outreach Coordinator

As of October 3rd, 2012, Bright Horizons' sponsored youth groups, BRAVO and BPG, have become Stand for the Silent chapters. In addition to their preventive efforts to end bullying and teen dating violence, they will also be spreading the powerful message of Stand for the Silent. Both groups have signed the pledge cards and have committed to spreading Kirk and Laura Smalley's heartfelt message about tolerance for others.

Kirk Smalley's presentation to O'Neill High School really inspired our youth to join his fight. I urge

you to check out their website at www.standforthesilent.org. BRAVO has worked hard to incorporate this into their school presentations by photographing students in an "I Am Somebody" photo project. By sharing the photographs on Facebook, they are hoping to promote Stand for the Silent as well as urge more people to 'like' their own page, BRAVO O'Neill, on Facebook. If you would like more information about any of these topics please contact Amanda at 402-336-1774 or email bho.amanda@telebeep.com.



Norfolk Candlelight Vigil

By Sonya, Bilingual Advocate

On October 2, 2012 at 7pm Bright Horizons celebrated their candlelight vigil in memory of the mothers, sisters and daughters who have lost their lives at the hands of their abuser. We reached out to those who are still suffering in silence and to those who have survived domestic violence at the hands of that person who promised them love, respect and dignity. A huge THANK YOU to all the people that made this candlelight vigil possible: St. John's Lutheran Church hosted the event, Sacred Heart Alter Society donated fresh baked cookies, Trisha Schulz published an article for the Norfolk Daily News and Josh Wragge took pictures for the Norfolk Daily News.



Bright Horizons' staff were honored to have Ms. Kay Scheinost as a speaker. Kay lost her daughter Kim Cox to domestic violence at the hands of her daughter's boyfriend. During the candlelight vigil, Linda Olson introduced the Norfolk staff to 65 guests, there was a moment of silence for those victims that are no longer with us but not yet forgotten, refreshments were served after the moment of silence, and the silent witnesses were displayed. Kay also sold bracelets with the proceedings going to Bright Horizons.



The U.S. Department of Justice estimates there are about 50,000-60,000 domestic violence victims annually in the state of Nebraska. Nationally, about 75 percent of the deaths related to domestic abuse occur when victims are separated from or have left the abuser. Between 19 and 30 percent of victims seeking care in emergency rooms are battered women. Twenty five percent of women who attempt to commit suicide are domestic violence victims. Fifty percent of battered women say they stay with their abuser because they do not feel they can support themselves and their children. Domestic violence is real; let us work together to end domestic violence.

9th Annual "Protect our Children" Conference

By Jamie Drahota, Advocate/Bookkeeper

In September, three staff members, Jennifer Arens, Jamie Drahota, and Lacy Kimes, received a scholarship to attend the 9th Annual "Protect our Children" Conference through the LBI 184. The conference was held in Omaha, at the DoubleTree Convention Center.

This conference was focused to help educate Law Enforcement, Legal Representatives, Victim Advocates, and Treatment Therapist. The three days of the conference were filled with national speakers that provided training, encouragement and inspiration for the investigation and prosecution of crimes against children and the treatment of child victims.

Two of the guest speakers were Dave Pelzer and Elizabeth Smart. Dave Pelzer is an author of seven inspiration books. His writing represents what he has been through. Dave's case was identified as one of the most gruesome and extreme cases of child abuse in California's history. Elizabeth Smart talked about her abduction in June of 2002 and her safe return in March of 2003. She also talked about the projects she has been involved in to help survivors like herself.

I am thankful that I had the opportunity to attend this training and to bring information back to our agency!

O'Neill Candlelight Vigil

By Sammy, O'Neill Criminal Justice Liaison

Domestic violence is the leading cause of injury to women; more than car accidents, muggings, and rapes combined. With these shocking statistics in mind, it is important that we stand together to speak out against these heinous crimes.

On Wednesday October 3rd Bright Horizons of O'Neill Nebraska held a candlelight vigil in memory of victims of domestic violence who lost their lives at the hands of their abuser. The vigil was also a celebration of those who have survived domestic violence and an intended empowering experience for those living in an abusive situation.

The vigil would not have been possible without our volunteers! Stephanie Clifton & Alison Mullins were kind enough to sing a couple of songs at the event. They did an excellent job and several individuals who had attended the vigil that evening voiced their praises to Bright Horizons' staff.

Elizabeth Wallace and Riley Warrack, students from O'Neill Public High School and members of B.R.A.V.O. (Bullying Recognition & Anti-violence Organization), spoke to the audience about statistics regarding domestic violence and explained a few projects supported by Bright Horizons. The two young ladies are a great example to their peers in the way they treat others and their compassion for stepping up and speaking out against dating violence and bullying. Bright Horizons is a proud sponsor of B.R.A.V.O!

Jolene Lichty spoke at our candlelight vigil on healthy relationships. Her positive message was a great reminder of what a healthy relationship looks like compared to an unhealthy one. It was great of her to point out these differences so clearly, as these distinctions are often easy for many people to misinterpret. We truly appreciate Jolene's support in spreading Bright Horizons' message.

Most importantly Bright Horizons would like to thank a past client of ours for finding the courage to share her story with the public that evening. Bright Horizons' staff truly respect this woman for climbing as many mountains as she has to become the woman she is today.

We had a great turnout considering the chilly evening and blistering winds. Warm apple cider was very soothing and refreshing after toughing out the less than perfect weather! All in all, our candlelight vigil was a success thanks to the tremendous support of a handful of individuals.



Oh Baby!

By Jamie Drahota, Advocate/Bookkeeper

During the month of September, several community members helped make our annual diaper drive a great success! We, at Bright Horizons, would like to say "Thank you" to all of those people for the wonderful support of our agency's Diaper Drive! We raised a total of 3,177 diapers! The donations are greatly appreciated, and will help many children who have been affected by domestic violence and sexual assault. We could not help others in need without the support and generosity of our community.



Shop Online and Give this Holiday Season!

If you shop online at stores like Barnes & Noble, Amazon, JCPenny or The Home Depot, just to name a few, please register with iGive.com! It's simple to register; just choose Bright Horizons Norfolk NE as the cause. Choose the participating store you want to shop and they will donate a portion of your purchase to Bright Horizons at their cost!

www.iGive.com



Partner in Prevention

By Audrea Tate, Norfolk Volunteer Coordinator

Bright Horizons became a *Darkness to Light Partner in Prevention* in September, meaning we have taken the time and commitment to train our staff on how to prevent, recognize, and react responsibly to child sexual abuse. All employees, as well as many volunteers especially those who have direct client contact, have participated in the *Stewards of Children* training. We also conduct criminal background checks on all staff and volunteers who work directly with clients and their children. In addition, Bright Horizons has policies in place to minimize or eliminate unnecessary one adult/one child situations. By doing this, we have met all of the commitment requirements to become a Partner in Prevention.

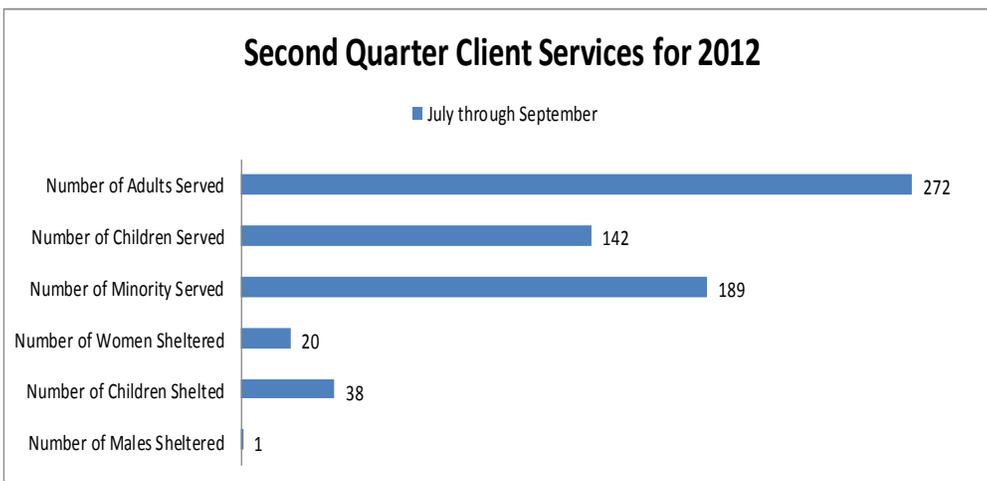


Darkness to Light is an organization whose mission is to empower people to prevent child sexual abuse. This organization developed the previously mentioned *Stewards of Children* training. This training is offered nationwide and has been proven to increase knowledge, improve attitudes, and change child protective behaviors. Because we at Bright Horizons are dedicated to the elimination of violence, we feel strongly about not only educating ourselves on the issue of child sexual abuse, but we strive to educate our community as well. Therefore, we have trained one of our staff members to facilitate this training. And that facilitator is me.

The *Stewards of Children* training is for anyone who cares about protecting children such as parents, grandparents, caregivers, teachers, or adults who work with a youth serving organization. It will teach people how to prevent, recognize, and react responsibly to child sexual abuse. *Stewards of Children* can be provided for an entire organization or to a group of community members. I have trained our staff and volunteers, an entire school's staff, counselors, daycare providers, clergy, parents, grandparents, etc.

If you feel like *Stewards of Children* could benefit your organization or group of friends, contact me at 402-379-2026 to learn more about bringing the training to your community. You can also go to the following website (or to the resource page of our website) to learn more about *Darkness to Light* and *Stewards of Children*.

Darkness to Light: www.d2l.org



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.

Not listed in this chart are the following:

- 1) Crisis Line Calls = 631
- 2) Shelter nights provided = 1,687

Supporters of Bright Horizons: Aug-Oct

Robert and Judy Eggerling	Deb Serny	Shirley Garwood	St. Paul's Lutheran Church- Winside
Mark Sears	Kevin Starkel	Joel Ellermeier	St. John's Lutheran Church-Pilger Hope Church
Virgil and Betty Froehlich	Janet Christensen	Emily Gallagher	NCEA
Barb Deitloff	Lindsey Heddle	Elwin and Sharon Babl	St. Mary's—Leigh
Kathy Gerber	Mary Ritz	Lois Langin	St. Boniface Alter Society-Elgin
Oralee Volwiler	Donna Vice	Kay Breiner	St. Peter's Altar Society-Norfolk
Sue Montgomery	Norman Small	Chris Batenhorst	St. Mary's Altar Society
Dusty Werner	Karla Beller	Julie Fetherston	Holiday Inn Express
Marcella Schiltmeyer	Danita	Mary Waslager	Jayne Tschirr and the Lutheran Piecemakers
Carol Dietrich	Becky	Erik Olson	Lazy KL
Eunice Galyen	Marty Borer	Donna Weaver	Women of the ELCA
Phyllis Altstadt	Eleanor	Vi Heiser	Rosebud Quilt Guild
Jim and Anne Larsen	Nancy Holm	Connie Gildersleeve	Super 8 Hotel
Kara Hull	Brent Worden	Tammy Coons	Nebraska Public Power District
Gretchen Hupp	Randy B.	Margot Sorensen	
Deb Freese	Kathy Mack	Pastor and Arlene Kothe	
Lori Jackson	Carol Olson	Dr. Jilyn Kratochzil	
Lynn Hans	Pam Tikalsky	Kristy Goetsch	
Dian Drews	Nicole Scott	Patricia Moeller	
Nancy Wilkinson	Billy Swanda	Rose Marshall	
Vi Leapley	Deb Dye	Stephen O'Neill	
Beth Larson	Lois Fox	Patricia Madsen	
Mindy Kluthe	Patricia Druke	Sheryl Hansen	
Doria Jacob	Linda Peer	Kathy's Book Exchange	
Kelly Unseld	Viola Heiser	Lady of Mt. Carmel	
Joyce Melcher	Myron and Andrea Mitties	Sigma Theta Tau Gamma Pi	

*Thank
you*



Bright Horizons Shelter Wish List



Paper Supplies	Baby Wipes & Formula	Hand Soap
Baby Lotion/Shampoo/Body Wash	Totes for storage	2 full-size bedframes
Mops	Journals for writing	2 4/5 drawer dressers
Trash Bags of all sizes	Flashlights	Paint supplies
Light bulbs ~ 40 & 60 watt	Baby Pack-N-Play	Disinfectant spray
Disposable Diapers	Pillows	Clorox wipes
Hair Brushes and Combs	Label Maker	Mr. Clean Magic Erasers
Dish & Laundry Soap, Fabric Softener	48" White Blinds for Office (set of 2)	Floor cleaner
Ice Melt	30" White Blinds for Kitchen (set of 2)	Pledge/wood polish
Zip-Loc Bags ~ all sizes	Curtain Rods for Bedrooms	Groceries for Shelter: <i>Margarine, Cooking Oil,</i> <i>Cooking Spray, and Pancake Syrup</i>
Tupperware to Store Leftover Food	Handheld Vacuum Cleaner for Steps	

Bright Horizons
Resources for Survivors of Domestic
Violence and Sexual Assault

Norfolk Office
305 N. 4th
P.O.Box 1904
Norfolk, NE 68702
(402) 379-2026

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



Crisis Line
1-877-379-3798
www.brighthorizonsne.org

If you no longer want to be on Bright Horizons' newsletter mailing list, please contact Audrea at 402-379-2026 or at audrea@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

**Call 402-379-3798 or 402-336-1774 or 24 Hour Crisis Line 1-877-379-3798
Providing services to Antelope, Boyd, Holt, Knox, Madison, Pierce, and
Stanton counties.**

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Boyd/Antelope/Holt Co. CRT—Wednesday, January 16th at Holt County Court House at Noon
Madison Co. CRT—Time and date TBA
Pierce/Knox Co. CRT—Time and date TBA

**Don't forget to sign up to get the newsletter electronically by emailing audrea@brighthorizonsne.org!
Also find us on Facebook and online @ www.brighthorizonsne.org**