Domestic Violence Center of Chester County



In every community, there is work to be done. In every nation, there are wounds to heal. In every heart, there is the power to do it.

Marianne Williamson

Annual Community Report

2012-2013

Our Vision:

The vision of the Domestic Violence Center of Chester County is to eliminate domestic violence in Chester County.

Our Mission:

The mission of the Domestic Violence Center of Chester County is to provide intervention, education, outreach, advocacy and programs to prevent, reduce and remedy domestic violence in Chester County.

Our Philosophy:

We believe that all women and children are entitled to a safe environment free from violence. We recognize that every woman is at risk, and we are committed to working collectively and cooperatively to end violence against women and their children in our community.

We believe that each woman has the ability and right to control her own life. We are committed to empowerment-based support services which affirm a woman's competence to make decisions.

We believe we must take an active role in increasing public awareness that domestic violence is a crime and in advocating systems change, in order to reduce tolerance for domestic violence in our community.

Our Services:

DVCCC provides services to victims of domestic abuse and their dependent children throughout Chester County. We offer services at our main site and at our four satellite sites in Kennett Square, Oxford and Coatesville, and Phoenixville. Our main building, located at a confidential address to assure client safety and privacy, is accessible 24 hours a day to serve victims and residents. Our satellite sites do not offer shelter facilities and their addresses are published. All services are free and confidential. Services include:

24 Hour Hotline ~ Emergency Shelter ~ Transitional Housing ~ Adult Counseling Children's Services ~ Relocation Assistance ~ Legal Counseling & Representation Community Education & Training ~ Volunteer/Intern Program

Non-discrimination Statement:

We are committed to an equal program service and equal employment opportunity program. The Domestic Violence Center of Chester County's program services and employment will be designed to prohibit discrimination on the basis of race, gender, color, creed, age, national origin, sexual identity, sexual orientation, disability, economic, social or marital status or political or religious beliefs.





<u>A Message from Our</u> Board President & CEO



Dear Friends:

Domestic Violence Impacts the Chester County Community...

It will take the average reader about *120 seconds* to read the words on this page; in that time, at least *eight women* will have been beaten by their intimate partner in America...one every 15 seconds. (UN Study on the Status of Women.) Here in Chester County, the statistics remain stark; one out of four women will experience domestic violence at some point in their lives and one out of seven men will fall victim to domestic violence at some point in theirs. It is a crime predominantly perpetrated against women and, sadly, a crime often witnessed by the children who are forced to grow up in these households of fear and often repeat the cycle of violence as adults. In May of 2013 another young mother in our community, Jamica Woods, lost her life to domestic violence.

In this report you will read a statement from one of our survivors. Your support of the Domestic Violence Center of Chester County is critical to impacting this family and so many other afflicted families as we pursue our mission: *To provide intervention, education, outreach, advocacy, and programs to prevent reduce, and remedy domestic violence in Chester County.*

In addition to the free and confidential services we provide to help move victims in Chester County along their journey to independence, we have also continued to be active in the community at large:

- It has been our privilege to be invited into local high schools and classrooms around the county to teach students about dating violence and healthy relationships. Our questionnaire validated that many young students in our community know of someone who has been the victim of dating violence.
- We have appreciated each opportunity to come before corporate representatives and employees to educate about domestic violence in the workplace. Unfortunately, domestic violence finding its way to the workplace is the tragic reality of one of our recent county fatalities.
- Our efforts to positively impact the community have expanded to include our law enforcement officials as we have been at the forefront of introducing the lethality assessment program to police chiefs and officers throughout Chester County. Police officers will tell you that a domestic violence call is the most dangerous call to which they are asked to respond. We are very grateful for all they quietly do in support of the community and our organization and mission.

On behalf of the Domestic Violence Center of Chester County and its employees, volunteers, Board of Directors, and most importantly, the victims of domestic violence in Chester County whom we are privileged to serve, please accept our heartfelt gratitude and thanks.

Sincerely,

Karen Elrod, President, Board of Directors

Haven Elrod

Dolly Wideman-Scott, MS, CEO

LIlly Wideman-Sctt

Our Accomplishments

In fiscal year 2012-2013, DVCCC provided services and public education to more than 3,200 individuals. In total, we provided direct services to 2,943 new and continuing adults victims of domestic violence along with 240 of their dependent children and 41 significant others. Direct services include our 24 hour hotline, adult counseling, children's services, emergency shelter, transitional housing, legal representation and advocacy. More specifically:

- ♦ 57 participants and their dependent children were provided with emergency shelter for 1,819 nights.
- ♦ 30 families were provided with transitional housing through our three programs.
- ♦ 783 participants were provided with legal options counseling and community resource referral and court accompaniment to PFA or District Court.
- ♦ 237 participants received representation in protection from abuse orders; 55 participants were assisted with custody or other legal matters.
- ♦ DVCCC Counselor/Advocates provided 10,356 hours of individual and group adult counseling.
- ♦ 2,150 hotline calls were answered.
- ♦ 240 new and continuing children were provided with 1,005 hours of counseling services, homework help and recreational activities.
- 110 community education programs were provided to groups reaching 11,044 persons.
- 37 new volunteers completed the state required 45 hour training to provide domestic violence services. In total, volunteers provided 4,851 hours of children, legal, housing and counseling services.



In December, 2013, DVCCC was recertified with the Pennsylvania Association of Nonprofit Organization (PANO) Seal of Excellence for its successful compliance with the Standards for Excellence program. This certification is bestowed only to the most well-managed and responsibly governed nonprofit organizations that have demonstrated compliance with 55 specific Standards for Excellence based on honesty, integrity, fairness, respect, trust, responsibility, and accountability.

<u>Pictured at left: DVCCC CEO Dolly Wideman-Scott is</u> presented with the new PANO certification.



Our History and Services

History:

Founded in 1976, DVCCC is the oldest agency in Chester County providing services exclusively for victims of domestic violence and their children and is the sole agency under contract from the Pennsylvania Department of Public Welfare to do so. DVCCC began as the YWCA Women's Resource Center (WRC), to serve as an information and referral service for Chester County women. Once this service became known, it started receiving a flood of calls from women in situations of violence. The directors of WRC, finding no organization in the area to which the victims could be referred, reorganized the agency as the Domestic Violence Center of Chester County, focusing on domestic violence intervention and prevention. Over the past 37 years we have provided services to over 35,000 victims and their children, with over 3,200 assisted in the fiscal year ended 6/30/13. All services are confidential and each one, including legal advice and representation, is offered free of charge. Services are provided at confidential sites and at satellite offices in Kennett Square, Coatesville, Oxford, and Phoenixville, PA.

Programs:

- Adult Counseling: Designed to strengthen families affected by the trauma of domestic violence. Services are provided via 24 hour hotline, individual and group counseling with a focus on safety planning, importance of healthy relationships, goal setting, financial management, referrals and job training.
- ♦ <u>Housing:</u> Designed to meet basic needs. DVCCC has four housing programs: (1) 30 day Emergency Shelter: (2) 12/18 month Bridge Transitional Housing (3) 18 month Independent Living Scattered Sites, (4) 24 month Independent Living. These programs can house up to 100 victims and their dependent children at any given time.
- ♦ <u>Legal Services</u>: Designed to strengthen families. Services include legal options counseling, advice and representation in Protection from Abuse cases, custody, support, bankruptcy, immigration and other civil matters.
- <u>Children's Services:</u> Designed to support children of victims of domestic violence. Individual and group counseling is provided, as well as homework help, recreational activities and liaison services to schools where the children are enrolled.
- ♦ <u>Public Education and Training:</u> Designed to promote social responsibility by developing a coordinated community response to domestic violence. We participate in events and deliver presentations and trainings to groups such as schools, businesses, law enforcement, hospitals, social service agencies and community organizations.
- ♦ Rapid Response Program: Designed to reduce time lapses between police intervention and/or emergency room treatment with the provision of domestic violence services and to promote a coordinated community response to end domestic violence.
- ◆ <u>Lethality Assessment Program (LAP):</u> Designed to decrease lethality risk in highly dangerous domestic violence cases by having police connect victims at high risk of homicide with the life saving services of DVCCC.

"Being a program participant not only saved my life but changed my motivation. Not only do I have peace of mind but I have an extended family that I can call on in time of need or just to say hi. Prior to utilizing the services offered by Domestic Violence of Chester County, I felt lost and hopeless with not much family support. Not too many people believed my story or were too afraid to help fearing something would happen to them. When I reached out to Domestic Violence of Chester County I felt like the person on the other end of the phone was hugging me so tight that it didn't leave any room for fear, and to this day I feel the same way no matter who I talk to. I had been living in a bubble unable to think independently because of all that my children and I witnessed and lost. I needed guidance...anxiety, stress, denial, children sleeping in my room, curtains closed, lights out – as if no one was home, the loud pounding of my heart beating rapidly at my chest, jumping at every thump the children made...mentally trapped. That one phone call made all the difference." Victim/Survivor from Oxford, PA.



"...it felt like the person on the other end of the phone was hugging me so tight that it didn't leave any room for fear..."

Community Support



An Evening of Remembrance and Recognition

On October 9th, 2012 DVCCC held its first annual Remembrance and Recognition program to remember those who have lost their lives to domestic violence and to recognize those who have survived. Special

recognition was given to District Attorney Thomas P. Hogan and Deputy District Attorney Michelle Friei for taking a stand against domestic violence. Recognition was also given to the Oxford and Coatesville Police Departments and to Coatesville Sergeant Rodger M. Ollis for participating in the pilot Lethality Assessment Program to better assist victims. Friends and family of victims who had lost their lives spoke for their loved ones, and DVCCC volunteer Linda Slavin shared her inspirational story of survival. Music was provided by members of the Lincoln University Choir and the Chester County Emerald Pipers.



<u>Pictured above</u>: Chester County Deputy District Attorney Michelle Frei, District Attorney Thomas P. Hogan, and DVCCC Counselor/Advocate Amanda Winkey at the Remembrance and Recognition ceremony. Amanda recited an original poem for the occasion.

Witnessing domestic and dating violence can have a huge impact on children, both physically and psychologically. They may grow up believing that domestic violence is normal and mimic the behaviors they witnessed in their parents' relationship. The DVCCC Children's Program provides individual and group counseling along with recreational activities for dependent children of our participants, all designed to help them address their trauma and break the cycle of abuse.

The Chester County community has been very generous in their support of the children in our program. <u>Pictured at right:</u> Maggie Corl from Ruggeri Cadillac presents children's coats collected by their dealership to Director of Development Terry Moody. <u>At bottom left and right:</u> Don Francis from Pathmark and his son set up a Valentine's Day cake decorating party for the children.







Community Support



DVCCC held its first annual "Pars for Purple Golf Outing in October of 2012 at the Applecross Country Club in Downingtown, PA. Golfers enjoyed a beautiful day of golf that included lunch, dinner, on-course games and some friendly competition. Proceeds benefited victims of domestic violence and their dependent children.





During the 2012/2013 fiscal year, DVCCC was fortunate to be the recipient of several community fundraising events. As an example, **Joan and John Caufield**, owners of **Mas Mexicali Cantina** in West Chester, hosted the *Freedom Fashion Show* at their restaurant. Along with beautiful models and fashions, the event featured entertainment, raffles and a delicious lunch. *Pictured at left:* John and Joan present a check from the proceeds of the show to CEO Dolly Wideman-Scott and Director of Development Terry Moody.

2012/2013 was a big year for renovations at DVCCC. Grants and other donations allowed us to renovate the Emergency Shelter kitchen and bathrooms, along with performing other much needed repairs. Individual volunteers and groups from churches and businesses like **Weston Women**, **ING**, **Prudential and Vanguard** contributed their time and talent with painting and remodeling. *Pictured at right:* Project Volunteer Coordinator and DVCCC Board member **Lisa Trucksess** with a group from **Vanguard** paint our office.







On May 3, 2013, DVCCC held it annual fundraiser "A Night at the Derby" at the beautiful Phoenixville Foundry in Phoenixville, PA. featuring guest speaker **Tracy Davidson** from NBC 10 News, <u>pictured at right</u>. The evening proved to be an outstanding success due to support from attendees like **Jon Swigle of Dansko**, **LLC** and DVCCC volunteer **Courtney Jackson** <u>pictured at left</u>.



Thank You to our generous donors & supporters!

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Scott, Joey Sechlen, Timothy Serio, Louise Shannon, Gail Shehan, Amy

Shupp, Jeff & Debbie

Slavin, Linda Slawinsky, Lisa Sletron, Erin Smith, Betty Solinsky, Lucy Stitz, Donna

The Beattie Family The Bilski Family The Edelson Family

The Gables of Chadds Ford

The Gorman Family The Hicks Family The Mountain Family The Smart Family

Thirty One

Thompson, Kelly VanWie, Bill and Gail

Vogel, Susan Wable, Linda Wagenmann, Jeff Walsh, Mary

Walters, Greg & Sarah

Warrick Family

Watmuff, Sue Welsh, Melinda White, Colleen Wilcox, Ashley Zepka, Missy Zink, Laurie Zito, Carrie

In Honor of & In Memory of

In Honor of Judith Braun Staff, Board Members and Residents of Kendal At Lexington

In Memory of Shari Enger Louis & Alisa Martel

In Memory of Maryanne Fuller Anita Okraszewski

On Behalf of the Board of Directors, Volunteers, Victims We serve

Thank You

<u>Our Staff</u>

Administration

Dolly Wideman-Scott, MS, CEO Terry Moody, Director of Development & Communication Karen Stahl, CPA, CTFA, Chief Financial Analyst Vicki Szostkiewicz, Financial Analyst Rebecca Ruiz, Administrative Assistant

Counseling Services

Sandra Lewis, MHS, Director of Counseling

Michelle Auch, Relief Counselor/Advocate
Donia Bradley, Relief Counselor/Advocate
Kathleen Carter, Relief Counselor/Advocate
Maureen Deitz, Counselor/Advocate-Oxford
Sarah Falkson, Relief Counselor/Advocate
Michelle Harris-Alexander, Relief Counselor/Advocate
Naomi McCaffrey, Crisis Counselor/Community Outreach AdvocatePhoenixville
Laura Sechler, Children's Counselor/Advocate
Rachel Smitheman-McLaughlin, Relief Counselor/Advocate
Jenny Steinen, Relief Counselor/Advocate

Legal Services

Angela Halse, Esq., Director of Legal Services Cindy Carpenter, Legal Advocate/Counselor Zeneida Cartagena, Legal Advocate/Counselor Fredda Maddox, Esq., Civil Legal Attorney Clara Vasquez-Lopez, Legal Advocate

Amanda Winkey, Counselor/Advocate-Coatesville

Housing Services

Charlotte Davis, Phase III Family Counselor
Jeanne Fisk, Transitional Housing Family Counselor
Belinda Smith, Residential Advocate/Facility Maintenance
Advocate

Pictured at right:

DVCCC Chief Financial Analyst and former Board of Directors President **Karen Stahl** receives the Governor's Victim Service Pathfinder Award from **Lynn Shiner**, Deputy Director of the Office of Victims' Services for the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency. Karen was recognized for her many years of volunteer service to the agency prior to joining the staff.

Board of Directors

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Karen Elrod

Vice-President

Judith Braun, RN, Ph.D

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Cheryl L. Smith

Secretary

Jane M. Shields

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Michelle Reed
James P. Shinehouse
Lisa Trucksess
May Van
Vicki Weatherby
Harold Yeldell

Advisory Board

Shari Lyn Pirone, Esq. Linda J Tordone, RN



DOMESTIC VIOLENCE CENTER OF CHESTER COUNTY

STATEMENTS OF FINANCIAL POSITION

JUNE 30, 2013 AND 2012

	2013	2012		
μ	SSETS			
CURRENT ASSETS				
Cash	\$ 315,586	\$ 302,390		
Accounts receivable				
Government grants	113,983	142,764		
Contributions	20,000	60,191		
Other	3,928	5,541		
Prepaid expenses	9,590	11,304		
Total current assets	463,087	522,190		
OTHER ASSETS				
Property and equipment, net	1,737,006	1,726,163		
Due from affiliate	573,351	568,352		
Beneficial interest in assets held by	5.5,55			
community foundation	45,284	41,703		
Total other assets	2,355,641	2,336,218		
Total assets	\$ 2,818,728	\$ 2,858,408		
LIABILITI	ES AND NET ASSETS			
CURRENT LIABILITIES				
Current portion of notes payable	\$ 13,893	\$ 13,052		
Accounts payable and accrued expenses	76,996	88,873		
Total current liabilities	90,889	101,925		
OTHER LIABILITIES				
Notes payable	397,596	411,485		
Total liabilities	488,485	513,410		
NET ASSETS				
Unrestricted	2,175,886	2,157,622		
Temporarily restricted	109,073	145,673		
Permanently restricted	45,284	41,703		
Total net assets	2,330,243	2,344,998		
Total liabilities and net assets	\$ 2,818,728	\$ 2,858,408		

"The Domestic Violence Center of Chester County is a tax-exempt 501(c) 3 nonprofit organization supported by those who believe in our mission"

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE CENTER OF CHESTER COUNTY

STATEMENTS OF ACTIVITIES

YEARS ENDED JUNE 30, 2013 AND 2012

	Totals			
	2013	%	2012	%
REVENUE AND SUPPORT				
Contributions	\$ 493,220	33%	\$ 621,455	39%
Government grants	908,888	61%	871,334	55%
Special events	59,715	4%	57,859	3%
Client service income	12,591	1%	27,973	2%
Investment income	4,152	-	4,227	-
Rental income	13,566	1%	11,705	1%
Change in beneficial interest in assets				
held by community foundation	3,581	-	(736)	-
Net assets released from				
restrictions				
Total revenue and support	1,495,713	100%	1,593,817	100%
EXPENSES				
Program services	224 524	220/	240.226	240/
Adult counseling	334,524	22%	340,236	21%
Early care/childrens' services	88,933	6%	158,242	10%
Independent living	84,779	6%	130,529	8%
Emergency and bridge housing	266,001	18%	229,624	14%
Phase IV housing	77,014	5%	149,657	9% 24%
Legal services	351,634	23%	373,643	24%
Support services				
Management and general	201,395	13%	110,079	7%
Development	106,188		106,654	
Total expenses	1,510,468	100%	1,598,664	100%
CHANGE IN NET ASSETS	(14,755)		(4,847)	
NET ASSETS				
Beginning of year	2,344,998	_	2,349,845	
End of year	\$ 2,330,243	_	\$ 2,344,998	_

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Freedom through Empowerment

PO Box 832 West Chester, PA 19381-0832 Administration: 610-431-3546

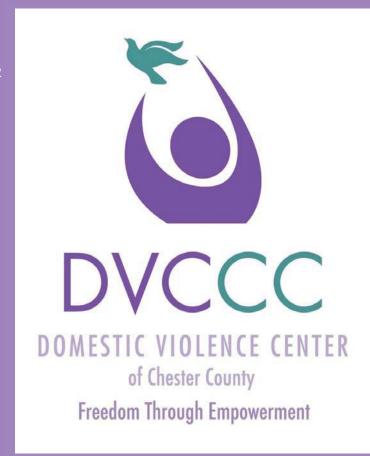
www.dvccc.com

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Email: domesticviolencecenter @dvccc.com

24 Hour Hotline Numbers 888-711-6270 (Toll Free) 610-431-1430 (Local) 610-431-7262 (TTY)



Satellite Offices

Coatesville
1001 E Lincoln Highway
Coatesville, PA 19320
610-384-2774

Kennett Square
La Comunidad Hispana
731 W Cypress Street
Kennett Square, PA 19348
610-444-7550
Ext 233/243

Oxford 35 N 3rd Street Oxford, PA 19363 610-932-8557 Ext 211



United Way of Chester County



