



RAPE RECOVERY CENTER

WINTER 2004 NEWSLETTER

RAPE RECOVERY CENTER HAS A NEW EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Heather Stringfellow is a busy woman these days. Not that she wasn't when she was a top-notch detective with Salt Lake Police Department, but these days are a bit different than those during her previous stint of 11 years chasing down the bad guys...and gals. In her first 60 days on the job, new Executive Director Heather Stringfellow has packed in a year's worth of work getting the Rape Recovery Center running like a well-oiled machine.

The daunting task of taking over as a top administrator in a fledgling organization would overwhelm just about anyone. That is, anyone but Heather. Remember, this is the same woman who worked with the Utah Legislature to ensure that DNA samples would be collected from all criminals and processed to find and prosecute rapists, even if they are already in jail. This statute enabled law enforcement to recently identify the Parkway Rapist...some 12 years after the last assault. This same perseverance and determination has allowed Heather to steadfastly build key relationships with law enforcement, establish a partnership with the University of Utah Medical School, create a strategic plan for the Center, write an annual report, develop a long-range fund development plan, craft a proposal for potential supporters, manage several state and federal grants, all while attending to the myriad daily tasks an executive director juggles. Did I say 60 days!?

The Rape Recovery Center is indeed in good hands. What we now need are more hands. Sadly, the number of victims needing services seems to continue to rise in our community and state. The Center provides the only non-fee service in the state to victims of sexual assault and their loved ones, and it does so with an extremely small staff. The inevitable reality to the work we do at the Center is that it costs money. That's where each of us can do our part. In order to continue this unique and essential work, we need your hands. We need your hands to reach into your wallet, find the checkbook, grab the bills off the dresser, and send in a contribution. Send it in and I guarantee it will go directly to lending a caring and healing hand to those clients, our neighbors, trying to piece together a life torn apart by sexual violence. ~

Margaret Rose, Board of Trustees Chair

RRC IS A FULL AGENCY PARTNER OF UNITED WAY OF SALT LAKE

Last year, the United Way of Salt Lake's board of directors approved the Rape Recovery Center as a full Agency Partner. The Rape Recovery Center is thrilled to a part of the United Way of Salt Lake family and in the company of other reputable agencies who are fulfilling the needs of the community through their programs and services.

In August of 2002, United Way lifted its moratorium and allowed agencies to express interest in becoming a United Way Partner Agency. There were 110 requests from the non-profit community to become a part of United Way. They received applications from 27 agencies requesting funding for 53 programs. Of those, United Way invited 5 agencies to come in for a second interview and admitted 3 agencies into the funding process. Those 3 agencies ultimately became United Way Partner Agencies.

United Way of Salt Lake was specifically looking for agencies that could best meet the identified unmet needs within the four focus areas outlined in "A Study of Human Needs in Salt Lake, Summit & Tooele Counties". The four focus areas are helping kids succeed, providing the basics, supporting health and wellness, and stopping abuse and addiction. This recent study marked the first step in the process of identifying the issues in our community that people care about most and feel are the most critical.

Their focus was to award funding to programs that met critical needs, show proof of outcomes that measure community impact, have efficient and effective program operations, have sound management of the program budget and overall financial stability and accountability.

United Way's agency review team in the area of stopping abuse and addiction diligently researched and found that the Rape Recovery Center's Hospital Response Team program met a critical, unmet need in our community.

We, at the Rape Recovery Center, look forward to a fulfilling and collaborative relationship with United Way and its partner agencies. ~

DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

As we begin our 30th year of service to the community I am thrilled to be the new Executive Director at the Rape Recovery Center. As many of you know, I started my career in law enforcement while volunteering at the Rape Recovery Center twelve years ago. After working in the criminal justice system and leading the change process from within, I have “come home” to the Rape Recovery Center. Along with my dedicated staff and volunteers, I am prepared to lead the Center into a new era as we refocus our collective energy on our core mission: to advocate for victims of sexual assault, provide crisis intervention services and to educate the community about the cause, impact, and prevention of sexual assault.

I believe that collaboration is the key to our success in advocating for victims of sexual assault. Thus, I hope to capitalize on my ties within the criminal justice and victims' rights communities to build and strengthen efforts to better utilize scarce resources.

As you can see from our newsletter, we are embracing a new image at the Rape Recovery Center. Our new logo reflects our commitment to supporting and nurturing victims as they make the transition to survivor of sexual assault.

Thank you for your support and I look forward to working together in the years to come!

Heather Stringfellow, MPA
Executive Director

MAKING COLLABORATION WORK

Over the past 20 years, the field of victim services has grown from a small grassroots effort to an emerging profession. The advancement of the rights of victims, once achieved through adversarial struggles and lawsuits, is now accomplished through multidisciplinary efforts and collaborations among former adversaries throughout the country. Today there is greater understanding of victims' issues due to legislation enacted to support victims' rights, increased funding for victim services, and hard work by many victim advocates. Out of these efforts, understanding has grown and collaboration on behalf of victims is unprecedented.

The public's awareness of crime victimization has developed largely due to accounts given by victims and survivors and the hard work and advocacy of the service providers working with them. As the victim services movement has grown, alliances and collaborations among service providers have increased. Out of the interrelationships among certain victimizations—such as

sexual assault, domestic violence, and partner, child, and elder abuse—have grown new agendas for collaboration in advocacy, programming, legislation, and education.

Alliances have developed among criminal justice advocates, community-based agencies, educators, institutions, and other allied professionals. *Continued on page 4.*

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CLINICAL CORNER

The Rape Recovery Center was pleased to have Jennifer Mackenzie, Ph.D., LCSW, Chief Program Officer at the YWCA of Salt Lake City present an in-service to staff and volunteers in September. The topic of her presentation was: Boundaries, Self Disclosure and Self Care. Dr. Mackenzie's presentation was most informative and provided yet another tool that the RRC team can utilize when serving those victimized by sexual violence.

Maintaining professional boundaries helps to provide clarity and safety for both the advocate and the client, ultimately creating a healthy environment for healing. In addition, healthy boundaries assist the advocate in examining their own self-disclosure with clients. Finally, Dr. Mackenzie discussed the importance of good self care practices and how doing this supports the advocate in this difficult work. Self care practices also reduce the risk of burnout, resulting in enhanced delivery of clinical services. ~

CALENDAR OF EVENTS:

September 28-October 16- RRC Volunteer Training

October 17-23- YWCA Week Without Violence

October 20th-Fundraiser at Liberty Heights Fresh!

November 8th- In-service training for RRC staff & volunteers
Presenter: SL District Attorney's Office

December 13th- RRC volunteer and staff Holiday Party

January 4-22, 2005- RRC Volunteer Training

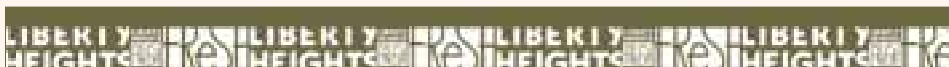
February 7th- In-service training for RRC staff & volunteers
Presenter TBA

March 2005- University of Utah Women's Month

VINE

Victim Information & Notification Everyday is now available in Salt Lake County. VINE is an automated service that provides crime victims continuous access to up-to-date information about offenders over the telephone. This service provides custody and

court information on offenders in county jails and Department of Correction facilities (prison). VINE provides information and notification to victims, law enforcement, and the public. For more information call the Rape Recovery Center. ~



Liberty Heights *fresh*

Steven Rosenberg, the proprietor of Liberty Heights Fresh, has generously offered to donate 3% of sales from the store on **Wednesday, October 20th** to the Rape Recovery Center. What easier way to support the Rape Recovery Center, than to treat yourself to a beautiful bouquet, fresh bread & produce and imported goodies from Liberty Heights Fresh?!

Liberty Heights Fresh is located on the north west corner of 1300 South and 1100 East. As Steven would say, "Hey, Eat!"

The Rape Recovery Center would like to thank Skogen Group for their pro bono work and enthusiasm while creating our new logo & look!

"THE PROBABILITY THAT WE MAY FAIL IN THE STRUGGLE OUGHT NOT TO DETER US FROM THE SUPPORT OF A CAUSE WE BELIEVE TO BE JUST."

—Abraham Lincoln

MAKING COLLABORATION WORK

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Within the criminal justice system, collaboration has taken hold as well. The public expects the agencies of the criminal justice system to uphold the law and provide protection from crime. When research documented that the public had lost confidence in “the system,” parts of the criminal justice system were prompted to find new ways to address problems. Asking whether our reactive, adversarial approach to justice and law enforcement continues to make sense as our only, or even our primary, response to crime, criminal justice offices and professionals reached out to the criminal justice system and beyond to work collaboratively with various agencies to address the safety and well-being of our communities. ~

This is an excerpt from Making Collaboration Work: The Experience of Denver Victim Service 2000 , written by Marti Kovener, Erin Stark, and Bill Woodward.

This project funded by the CDC Rape Prevention Education Grant #VF1/CCV819939-04

RAPE RECOVERY CENTER SERVICES

Rape Recovery Center is a non-profit agency that provides no-cost confidential crisis intervention counseling, advocacy, and referral information to victims of sexual assault, and to their families and friends. The crisis hotline is operated by trained and certified volunteer counselors 24-hours a day. All services are available to all primary and secondary survivors, including recent and former victims of child sexual assault. The Center also provides free presentations to civic, educational, business and professional groups. Presentations can be tailored to the interest and educational level of the audience. ~

Salt Lake Rape Crisis Center is dba the Rape Recovery Center

24-hour crisis line: 467-RAPE (7273)

Utah toll-free, 24-hour crisis line and

information line: 1-888-421-1100

RAINN (Rape, Abuse and Incest National

Network): 1-800-656-HOPE (4673)



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