



Apartments

SANCTUARY AND STRENGTH FOR VICTIMS OF DOMESTIC ABUSE SINCE 1990

Phone: 262-633-9446

806 Wisconsin Ave. Racine, WI 53403

Fax: 262-633-9463

Mission Statement

The mission of Bethany Apartments is to provide transitional housing and supportive services to women and children who are victims of domestic abuse.

National Volunteer Week

April 27—May 3

- Thank You -

Thank you to all of our volunteers who generously give
~ time,
~ talents and gifts,
~ financial donations,
~ emotional support.

Your assistance helps our women and families rebuild their lives and makes our program possible and successful. Thank you for your continued support of our mission to provide transitional housing and supportive services to women and children who are victims of domestic abuse.



In January students enrolled at Cardinal Stritch University (Personal and Professional Assessment Class) chose Bethany as the site for a class community service project. The timing of this project was perfect because the hallway walls and the laundry rooms were in need of a fresh coat of paint. The students arrived at 8:30 on a Saturday morning excited and ready to work. Bethany furnished all of the cleaning supplies, gloves, ladder, buckets, paint, brushes, masking tape and coffee. The student volunteers spent four hours of masking, painting, checking and repairing light fixtures, changing light bulbs, and so much more. The students thanked us for the opportunity to service our program and also collected and left a monetary donation. This was indeed a "Win-Win" for the women and children living at Bethany and the students.

National Catholic Schools Week

January 27 - February 2

During the *National Catholic Schools Week* Nancy Dyke and St. Lucy Parish School, grades K-4 to grade 8 collected over 120 pairs of socks and slippers and stuffed animals for Bethany. Students at St. Joseph's School held a carnival and forwarded some of their proceeds to Bethany.

We appreciate all of the students for their hard work and support.

Board Member Highlight

Dee Dee D'Amato
September 2007-Current

Occupation: Membership Manager—Girl Scouts of Wisconsin Southeast.

Family: Married to a wonderful man, Gary D'Amato, 3 children and 4 grandchildren.

Past/Current Committees: Currently participates in the Leadership Racine Planning Committee and Corporate Volunteer Council of Racine, Executive Committee.

Community Services: I generally look after the elderly that live near me and bake them goodies. I also volunteer for events that benefit the community/people in need.

Interest/Hobbies: I love to garden, bake/cook, read and go geocaching.

Favorite Leisure Activity: I love to spend time with my family.

Favorite Quote: Too many great quotes to choose from. I love Helen Keller quotes and Yogi Berra quotes always tickle my funny bone!

Reflection of the Bethany Program: What a meaningful and life changing program for those in need of and receiving the Bethany Program. When I hear testimonials from those benefiting from the program, it makes me realize that this program is helping to change lives in such positive ways. These women are going to go on and succeed in life and give back in the same way Bethany gave to them.

Bethany Board of Directors

Marta Kultgen-Chairperson, Richard Sosa-Vice Chairperson,
Patrick Cafferty-Secretary/Treasurer
Dee Dee D'Amato, Lynda D. Jackson,
Victoria Kiefer, Stephen Kuklin,
Jetha Pinkston-Lawson, Evelyn Lins, O.P.,
Nathalie Morales, Marilynn Pelky, Mary Rath,
Carol Runde, O.P., Kelly L. Stanek

Bethany Staff

Lynda D. Jackson - Executive Director
Carol Wester - Assistant to Director
Liz Gottfredsen - Administrative Assistant
Christine Wolf - Resident Manager
Heidi Makris - Volunteer and Services Coordinator

Former Resident Exit Interviews

How did Bethany meet your needs?

Bethany provided me with a safe environment so I could focus on improving myself and raising my standard of living.

How were support groups helpful for you?

Support group topics such as, *A New Beginning*, *Employment Skills*, *Who Am I Now—Analyzing Myself*, *Overcoming Domestic Violence*, *Balancing Work and Family*, and *Budgeting/Goal Setting* helped to keep me focused and in control of myself and my situation.

What was the most advantageous part of living at Bethany?

Having access to support groups and to community resources as needed: *Y.W.C.A.*, *Family Services of Racine*, *Legal Action of Wisconsin, Inc.*, *Workforce Development Center*, *Women's Resource Center*, and *Racine/Kenosha Community Action*.

How did your time at Bethany help you?

I regained my self-esteem and self-worth. I also learned and utilized the importance of goals. Bethany's program was the most positive thing to happen to me in a long time. The staff is outstanding, they worked above and beyond to make sure I had everything I needed. No matter what happened in my past, I've learned through the program that I can succeed in life and that nothing can stop me from achieving success. I am now a stronger, more positive woman and a happier mom, and I thank God everyday for Bethany.

Did Bethany meet the needs of your children?

My teenage girls were treated fairly. They enjoyed activities such as Spa Day and the monthly dinners by the SC Johnson Volunteers. Bethany also covered the cost of their CNA training at Gateway, which was a great surprise to us.

Were Bethany's program expectations realistic?

Security for the staff and residents is very crucial and the program rules/regulations kept everyone safe.

How were support groups helpful for you?

The meetings gave me insight to the roles we play in all aspects of life, how to deal with problem areas and expand positively on the "good" we have inside and share it with others.

What was the least advantageous part of living at Bethany?

Restriction of visitors, because of something someone else did wrong, so all had to suffer the consequence.

How did your time at Bethany help you?

Bethany helped me gain self-esteem and become more assertive. I now feel I can overcome any problem I am presented with in a positive, constructive manner.

What was the most advantageous part of living at Bethany?

Bethany helped me with my credit and self-esteem. Now I am so much stronger and with that I am able to be a better mother to my children. Bethany really helped me mentally, now I can focus on everything that is important to me.

Were the support group meetings helpful?

We had different topics each week, so I was able to use learned budgeting skills to get my credit situation straightened out. Support groups focused a lot on self-esteem and helped me to feel better about myself.

Christmas Festivities at Bethany

It can be very hard living in a shelter or housing program during the "Holiday Season". The women and children living at Bethany Apartments enjoyed the holiday season with delicious food prepared by volunteers, Christmas caroling around the Christmas tree, a special time with Santa Claus, who also brought gifts for every child and mother. The women and children were asked to submit a Christmas wish list which was then filled through the generosity of volunteers:

- ◇ *Chris Blommel, O.P.* — Christmas stockings for the women without children
- ◇ *Cops and Kids Reading Center*—Gift bags of fruit and treats for the children
- ◇ *Horlick High School/HOSA Club*—Collection of hygiene products
- ◇ *Jean Mulooney*— Gifts for families
- ◇ *Junior League of Racine*—"Celebration of Christmas" dinner event with the families at Bethany
- ◇ *Kaboski Family*—Christmas dinner for two families, food and items for pantry
- ◇ *Karen Severson*— VHF Movies for children
- ◇ *Mary Ruth Chorbajian*— Gift cards for families
- ◇ *Metro Milwaukee Auto Auction Employees*— Gifts for families
- ◇ *Racine District Attorney's Office*—Gifts for families
- ◇ *Racine Kenosha Builder's Assoc.*—Christmas party and gifts for families
- ◇ *SC Johnson and Son Employees*—Holiday dinner party and gifts for families
- ◇ *Johnson Bank*—Christmas dinner
- ◇ *Sue Kataum and Friends*— Gifts for families
- ◇ *St. Richard Parish*—Giving tree household items

Individual Donations, A Double Blessing

Bethany relies on grants from the government, corporations, and foundations in order to raise funds needed to run the Bethany facility and supportive services program each year. Many of these grants, particularly the government grants, require that Bethany provide some money of its own as a match, sometimes dollar for dollar. In order to access these government grants, therefore, Bethany must secure additional funds.

This is where you, the individual or group donor comes in. Each unrestricted dollar we receive from an individual or group is not only available to pay for the things we need, but provides the leverage Bethany is required to have to draw down the funds it is entitled to under the governmental granting programs.

The women and children who live at Bethany, the staff and board are grateful for each monetary donation, no matter what the amount may be. Since the beginning of the current fiscal year, November 1, 2007, Bethany has received over 100 monetary gifts from individuals and groups. The gifts have ranged from \$5 to more than \$1,000 and each is a double blessing for Bethany.

The generosity of individual donors continues to support Bethany's program and sometimes these donations come in unique and creative ways:

- ◇ a neighborhood party in which guests are invited to make a donation to support Bethany
- ◇ to honor a relative or friend for a birthday or anniversary
- ◇ a memorial remembrance for a deceased relative or friend
- ◇ a group holding a rummage sale
- ◇ a silent auction at a tail gate party

Corporate and Organizational Gifts

Bethany Apartments would like to thank the following churches, foundations, corporations and civic organizations whom we received gifts from between November 1, 2007 through April 30, 2008:

Alpha Delta Kappa	Girl Scouts, Jefferson Lighthouse	Racine Youthful Offender Art Project Participants
American Family Insurance Agents	Girl Scouts, St. Rita's	Richard and Ellen Leuenberger Family Charitable Fund
Benstead-MacVicar Fund	Hamilton Family Fund	Sacred Heart Catholic Church
Bethania Lutheran Church	Holt Family Foundation	Shalbrack Family Fund
Big Sisters of Racine	Inner Wheel	Siena Center
Cardinal Stritch University Students	In-Sink-Erator	St. Joseph School
Catholic Family Insurance	Johnson Bank, North Side Branch	St. Lucy's Parish School
Catholic Junior League	Johnson Bank Employees	St. Luke's Hospital Trustees
CNH Racine Campus Connection	Jones Builders	St. Mary's by the Lake Catholic Community
Delta Kappa Gamma	Ladies of Columbus	St. Patrick's Catholic Church
Ellsworth Correctional Facility	Merchants Delivery	St. Paul's Catholic Church
Fohr's Catering through St. Vincent De Paul Society	Park High School Students	Total Woman Fitness
Girl Scouts, Fine Arts School	Racine Eagles Club Auxiliary	Wisconsin Energy Corporation
Girls Scouts, Gifford	Racine Theater Guild	Youth Volunteers of Volunteer Center of Racine

Charity Cars

Five women at Bethany were gifted with vehicles from a charitable organization, Charity Cars. The mission of Charity Cars is to provide a free vehicle and vehicle support to assist disadvantaged families in their transition from dependency to self-sufficiency. Each woman also received a gas card, and products to keep her vehicle clean. The criteria to receive a vehicle is that the woman is a victim of domestic abuse, licensed to drive and obtain auto insurance. Each wrote "her" story on how receiving the vehicle would impact her life. Here are a few lines from the applications.

- ◇ I have three girls, which requires a lot of driving; trying to find rides for medical appointments is very hard. It would be a blessing from God to receive this car.
- ◇ I am a disabled single mother of three. My medical conditions make everyday activities a challenge. My children attend three different schools and are picked up at three different bus stops. My oldest son also has a chronic illness that requires many doctor visits.
- ◇ Having a vehicle would mean not having to waste so many food stamps at a local corner grocery store, while trying to arrange for rides to Aldi's or stores that have the best deals.
- ◇ I am a single, employed at Wheaton Franciscan Healthcare—All Saints, attending Gateway Technical College and have been commuting by bus. Having a vehicle means I no longer will have to transfer, leave an hour early and stand out at the bus stop alone late at night.

Please visit us at www.racinedominicans.org; click on sponsored ministries

Bethany Apartments
806 Wisconsin Avenue
Racine, WI 53403

✂

Yes! I would like to support Bethany Apartments Mission:
To provide families with sanctuary and strength from domestic violence.


Enclosed is my: \$ 10.00 20.00 30.00 40.00 50.00 100.00 Other _____

Donation
 Donation in Memory of _____
 Donation in Honor of _____

Name _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Send Contribution to: Bethany Apartments, 806 Wisconsin Ave., Racine, WI 53403

You have my permission to publish my name with future donors and supporters Yes _____ No _____

 All contributions are tax deductible.

Volunteer Opportunities
Handy person for light household repairs
and maintenance.  

Volunteer positions are flexible to fit your
schedule.
For more information, contact
Heidi Makris, Volunteer Coordinator
at
262-633-9446  

BETHANY WISH LIST

- Grocery Gift Cards
- Gasoline Gift Cards
- Lamps with shades
- Shower Curtains with rings
- Laundry Baskets