



SPRING 2016

ISSUE 23

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

<i>Why I Joined Voices</i> ~By Pam Gould	2
<i>Spotlight on Community Partners</i>	2
<i>Our Wish List</i>	2
<i>Safe Shelter</i> ~One Family's Story	3
<i>The 2016 Winter Ball</i>	3
<i>Going Green</i>	3

UPCOMING EVENTS

★★★

- \* **Clothesline Project T-Shirt Making Day** Ply-mouth Commons  
**April 5th 9-1**
- \* **The Clothesline Project** Plymouth State University Lawn of the HUB  
**April 7th, All day**
- \* **Spring Fashion Show** Dressers Unlimited  
**April 8th 5:30pm**
- \* **Dancing With The Community Stars** at The Flying Monkey **April 10th**
- \* **NH State Wide Clothesline Project** State House, Concord  
**April 11th, All day**
- \* **Denim Day**  
**April 27th**

## April is Sexual Assault Awareness Month

Sexual violence is a serious health issue that impacts us all. **Sexual Assault Awareness Month** is a time to raise understanding about the prevalence of assaults and provide ways in which we can each take part in ending this type of violence.

Statistically, **1 out of every 6** American women and **1 out of every 33** American men have been the victim of an attempted or completed rape in their lifetime.

In 2015 Voices Against Violence worked with **139** men, women and children who were impacted by sexual assault.

*Join us in our upcoming events and take part in our efforts to end Sexual Assault!*

**The Clothesline Project** is a display of shirts made by survivors and community members looking to break the silence. The purpose is to provide a format for us

to speak out against sexual violence and to bear witness to the courage it takes to survive and heal.

*If you would like to participate there will be a T-Shirt making event on the Plymouth Common, Tuesday April 5th from 9-1*

For more information on **Denim Day**, please go to <http://denimdayinfo.org/about/>



## Dancing With The Community Stars



We are excited to announce that The 5th Annual Dancing with the Community Stars is being held at a new location this year! **The Flying Monkey** is hosting this event on **April 10th at 2pm**. Tickets are \$15 and can be purchased at the Flying Monkey box office or online at [flyingmonkeynh.com](http://flyingmonkeynh.com)

This amazing fundraiser has grown to become an incredible and fun event for all that

serves to help us in our efforts to put a stop to sexual violence.

Local dancers work with area professionals and community members to develop these great performances! After enjoying an afternoon of friendly competition, audience members will get a chance to vote for their favorite dancers. All funds raised will go directly to Voices Against Violence.

PLEASE JOIN US!

**Our Judges:**

Fran Page, Kelley Legacy, and Terri Dautcher

**Our Talented Dancers:**

Paulo Franco & Michele Von Gunten

Craig Russel & Noelle Ferris

Matt Thorton & Suzanne Banister

Katharina Kelsey & Jeff Brode

Ashley Kilstein & Chris Dunstan

Bridget Gagne & Ladd Raine

Jennifer Hughes & Kara Barker

***Wish List***

- Toilet Paper
- Laundry Detergent
- 30 Gallon Trash Bags
- Cooking Pots and Skillets all sizes– non Teflon
- Metal Baking Sheets—non Teflon
- AAA, AA, and D Batteries
- Gas Cards
- Gift Certificates to Hannaford’s and Walmart

***Why I Joined Voices ~ by Pam Gould***

I was playing golf one day with my friend, Rosemary D’Arcy, the Voices Board of Directors President, who was determined to see that Voices would be financially secure to do the work that needed to be done. Shortly after that, I ran into another board member, Betsy Cheney, who stressed the importance of their mission and the need for resources to continue their work.

To be perfectly honest, I was aware of Voices Against Violence and chose it as a local nonprofit to benefit from fundraising events, such as the “Bike N’Barbecue.” However, I always thought of Voices as a small organization that helped a few families, mostly by sheltering them in a safe home. I knew where their office was, but I had no clue about the number people they served, or the scope of their services from advocacy, crisis call management, and hospital response to education and outreach.

Voices has a dedicated and competent staff, most of whom have worked there for many years. They love what they do. Advocates perform an important function in the eighteen towns we serve. In 2015 we accompanied clients **340** times to places such as the courts, the hospital or the police department. We had **1,509** conversations involving safety planning, provided support for **69** protective orders and sheltered **25** individuals. We have increased our education in schools and have strengthened collaboration with Plymouth State University. To continue these efforts we need more staffing for the 24 hour crisis line and administrative assistance.

I saw an opportunity to help by getting our “voices” heard through community awareness and raising much needed funds. I knew I could more affectively accomplish these goals by being on the Board of Directors; thus, I joined. I want to help take the financial pressure off of our staff so they can do their important jobs with less stress. I will do my part by creating an easier path to helping as many people as we can. There is no more important nonprofit agency in our area!

**To donate any of these items, please call 536-3423**

***Spotlight on Our Community Partners!***

**Bevan Enterprises: Partner**

Owned by Sally Bevan, Bevan Enterprises is a longtime supporter of Voices. She started on the Board as the Treasurer and was Treasurer for 3 of her 4 years on the Board. It was during this time that we came up with the idea for Antiques = Assistance. One of the facets of Bevan Enterprises is buying and selling antiques and collectibles. This was the perfect opportunity to help on another level, bringing in money and items that were donated by people through Antiques=Assistance. Bevan Enterprises continues helping us as more people learn of this program and donate antiques they no longer want or need to turn these items into cash to support the Voices Against Violence mission. **THANK YOU SALLY!**

**KTM Auto: Visionary Partner**

KTM Auto was formed in 2002 by Kevin Maass as a premier local auto repair facility. One of the main principles we have always adhered to was to be a positive asset to the community, whether through fair and honest service, providing a good place to work for our employees, or supporting local like-minded businesses. When Voices Against Violence first approached us for support, it was an easy decision to say yes. As time went by and our relationship has grown, we see more and more all the great things they continually do for our community. We are proud to play even a small role in that. **THANK YOU TO KEVIN AND ALL OF YOUR STAFF!**

## Safe Shelter ~ One Family's Story

A family, whose abuser was with the Government, came to stay at our shelter. The woman had been sexually and physically assaulted on many occasions, more frequently within the weeks leading up to her call to our crisis line. She had been with him for a number of years, but finally had the strength to take her children and leave, staying temporarily with relatives before calling our crisis line. After an assessment with staff, the family was accepted into

our confidential shelter.

Within the first few weeks of arriving, this survivor had made great strides on her path to independence. She worked with case management to enroll in the address confidentiality program and to secure benefits, while signing her children up in school. She accessed medical assistance resources for facial reconstructive surgery, because her abuser had shattered numerous bones in her face. We also

referred her to local dental resources as her abuser had broken her teeth as well. During this time, we provided necessary transportation to the grocery store, medical and agency appointments.

After a great deal of safety planning with our shelter manager, our resident decided to change her identity and advocates assisted her throughout the process. She also received counseling and made many contacts with agencies on a state, federal and local level that helped her family in gaining more access

to safety and security.

The children succeeded in the local school and, with help from the community, we were able to provide holiday items to promote a positive family experience. With assistance from Voices, and the shelter manager's advocacy, she was able to gain long-term permanent housing where her family continues to thrive in a violence free life outside of our shelter.

## THE 2016 WINTER BALL



Voices annual Ball was a huge success this year. **The Tides They Are a Changin'** was the theme of the event. Along with the cast of "The Love Boat", mermaids, pirates, sailors and survivors from the Titanic were all represented. Once again our dedicated staff, volunteers and Board members worked tirelessly to make this a wonderful evening. The night was filled with dancing to the music of *Uncle Steve's*

*Band*, checking out the wonderful auction items and having our first ever live auction which offered great items that were scooped up in a fun bidding war! Sally Bevin was this year's recipient of the **Beverly Seavey Award** for her unselfish generosity over many years of serving on the Board of Directors and continuing to support Voices.

The Common Man, Uncle Steve's Band, all our

generous local sponsors and community partners and the wonderful people who attended made this year's Ball a perfect evening while raising an unprecedented amount to support Voices and its clients.

Thanks to everyone who played a role!



## Help Voices Go Green!

In an effort to reduce our expenditures, while also being conscious of our impact on the environment, Voices is offering an electronic version of our newsletter. As we receive e-mail addresses, and an increased interest in using technology to our benefit, we will begin the shift. Our ultimate goal would be to have a large following of our on-line newsletter, with paper copies only going to those who do not use e-mail as a major source of communication.

If you are interested in receiving this publication through online correspondence, please contact us directly at [voicesagainstviolence@gmail.com](mailto:voicesagainstviolence@gmail.com).

~PLEASE HELP US~



Save Resources!

Save Time!

Save Money!



# Voices Against Violence

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**1 (603) 536-5999**  
**24 Hour Hotline:**  
**1 (603) 536-1659**  
**1 (877) 221-6176 (toll free)**

[www.voicesagainstviolence.net](http://www.voicesagainstviolence.net)  
[www.facebook.com/voicesagainstviolence](http://www.facebook.com/voicesagainstviolence)



Reaching Out  
Speaking Out

Since 1981 Voices Against Violence has been reaching out to and supporting victims and survivors of domestic violence, sexual violence, and stalking. Our advocates provide understanding, information, and support to victims, survivors, and non-offending family and friends. Our services include a 24-hour Crisis Line, Court Advocacy, Police and Hospital Accompaniment, Systems Advocacy, Emergency Shelter, Support Groups, and Education and Outreach. Domestic and sexual violence can take many forms including physical abuse, mental abuse, sexual assault, verbal threatening, and name calling. It can affect anyone at any time: friends, coworkers, relatives, children, teens, men, and women. By acknowledging the existence of domestic and sexual violence and stalking in our communities, we can raise awareness of the problem and enable both victims and witnesses to take action and break the cycle of violence.

Free and Confidential

24 hours a day, 7 days a week

Voices Against Violence  
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