

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

CRISIS LINE TRAINING	2
HUMAN TRAFFICKING	2
ELDER ABUSE AWARENESS	3
UPCOMING EVENTS	3
CLIENT NEEDS	4
DONATIONS	4
QUARTERLY SERVICES	4
PREVENTION BLOG	5
NEW STAFF	5

## ELDER ABUSE FACTS

**\* WOMEN, OLDER ELDERS, AND ELDERS WITH DEMENTIA ARE AT THE HIGHEST RISK FOR ABUSE**

**\* ONLY 1 IN 5 ELDER ABUSE CASES OR FEWER ARE REPORTED**

**NATIONAL CENTER ON ELDER ABUSE**

## 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Rock Against Rape- A Night To Remember

Hope Crisis Center and Risky's Sports Bar and Grill held their 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Rock Against Rape event at Risky's in Beatrice on May 19<sup>th</sup>. This year's event featured the music talents of four local rock bands who generously donated



still able to enjoy the night and help raise awareness. We were very excited to have 15 different prize packages to raffle off in our drawing throughout the night. Some of the packages included tickets to Country Stampede, free stay at the Lied Lodge at Arbor Day Farm in Nebraska City, admission tickets to Schlitterbahn Kansas City Water Park, and many more. We also sold t-shirts with this year's logo and drink koozies with all the proceeds going to Hope Crisis Center. We would like to thank Risky's Sports

their time for the fundraiser. The bands included Twisted Border, Rock 'N Rebels, Mad Uncle Pauly, and Hookt. For a second year in a row, we were faced with inclement weather. We were determined to keep the event outside this year and came prepared with tarps; however, the lightning was relentless. Nonetheless, we weren't going to let a little rain spoil the event so we waited until the bad weather cleared and proceeded as planned. Although attendance was down, all those who came out made the best of it and were

still able to enjoy the night and help raise awareness.

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We would like to thank Risky's Sports



Bar and Grill and their staff, the bands, and the many volunteers who helped make this event possible! We couldn't have done it without you!

## Crisis Line Training

By: Lexi—Program Manager

Hope Crisis Center's Executive Director, Carmen, and Program Manager, Lexi, attended a three-day crisis line training in Lincoln on May 9-11. The Nebraska Domestic Violence Sexual Assault Coalition hosted trainers from the National Domestic Violence Hotline (NDVH) and the National Teen Dating Abuse Helpline (NTDAH).



This training was a pilot training and was condensed from a five day training that they provide to new staff and volunteers for the NDVH and NTDAH. There were many topics covered including mental health issues, sexual violence, disengagement techniques, and advocate self-care. They gained a lot of useful information and are planning to implement many of the techniques in the training provided to new staff at Hope Crisis Center.

## Human Trafficking in the Heartland

By: Cari—Sexual Assault Advocate

Think human trafficking doesn't happen in Nebraska? *Think again.* When most people think of human trafficking, they imagine something that is happening in Third World countries, not right in your back yard.

Human trafficking is modern-day slavery in which people profit from exploiting others through force, fraud, coercion or deception. The U.S. government has identified human trafficking as the fastest growing criminal industry globally.

In 2000 the United States made human trafficking a federal crime with the passage of the Trafficking Victims Protection Act (TVPA). Nebraska also passed a law in 2006 that made human trafficking illegal; although there are many limitations in the law that makes it hard to enforce and prosecute traffickers.

The Nebraska Network Against the Trafficking of Humans (NNATH) hosted a two day training in May. Two advocates from Hope Crisis Center attended the training that was brought to Lincoln to create awareness of the scope and effects of human trafficking in Nebraska for both the sex and labor trades.

NNATH was formed in 2011 to provide training and improve system response to victims of trafficking. Members of the network represent Law Enforcement, Victim Advocates, Education Personnel, and Prosecutors.

The best way we as citizens can help is to be alert, and to report suspicious activity in which women, minors under the age of 18, or men are forced to provide labor, services, or commercial sex against their will. This issue matters because of the injustice it causes to those who become victims of this monstrous crime.



# May is Elder Abuse Awareness Month!

By Mandy—Prevention Coordinator

A disabled woman suffers alone all day, wheeled into the corner to be forgotten. She desperately needs to use the bathroom, but is forced to wait. Habitually denied of basic human dignity, she begins to believe that she is as worthless as her caretaker says. Not far from where she lives, an elderly man struggles to pick himself up off the dirty floors of his dilapidated house. His eyeglasses are broken and he can't find his medicine. The phone has been disconnected. He wonders what he did to upset his daughter so much.

Often greeted with a turned head, if acknowledged at all, the mistreatment of elders in our society is a sad reality. Receiving far less attention than other forms of violence, many people simply do not realize the magnitude of the problem. In truth, no one knows exactly how many elders suffer at the hands of people they trust, but it is estimated that only one in five cases or fewer are reported (National Center on Elder Abuse). This startling statistic indicates that many people, perhaps thousands, endure abuse alone.

In an effort to make these statistics change, at least in our corner of Nebraska, Hope Crisis Center staff used the month of May as an opportunity to improve community awareness by visiting nursing homes and senior centers in our service area. By serving meals, giving presentations, and welcoming anyone in need to our services, we were able to connect many senior citizens to relevant information and resources. Of equal importance, these outreach activities hopefully reminded the elders in our community that we value and appreciate their presence and contributions. We were fortunate to have the opportunity to visit with these extraordinary individuals as we spread the message of hope throughout our communities!

## **Upcoming Events!**

### **Domestic Violence Awareness Month (Tentative Dates)**

**October 3:** Candlelight Vigil in Fairbury

**October 10:** Candlelight Vigil in Crete

**October 13:** "In My Daughter's Name," Beatrice and Stuff the Van event in Fairbury

**October 24:** "In My Daughter's Name," Concordia University, Seward

*Watch for yard signs and travelling silhouettes throughout the month!*

**Information on other events will be posted on our website and Facebook page!**

## CLIENT NEEDS

Combatting violence and supporting survivors is a community effort. Hope Crisis Center cannot do it without you!

Helping courageous women and children to safety is the cornerstone of what we do. In order to provide for their basic needs, we rely extensively on the generosity of donors. If you would like to contribute to our cause, please consider donating items from the list provided. Your support is invaluable and your contributions are truly the heartbeat of our organization!

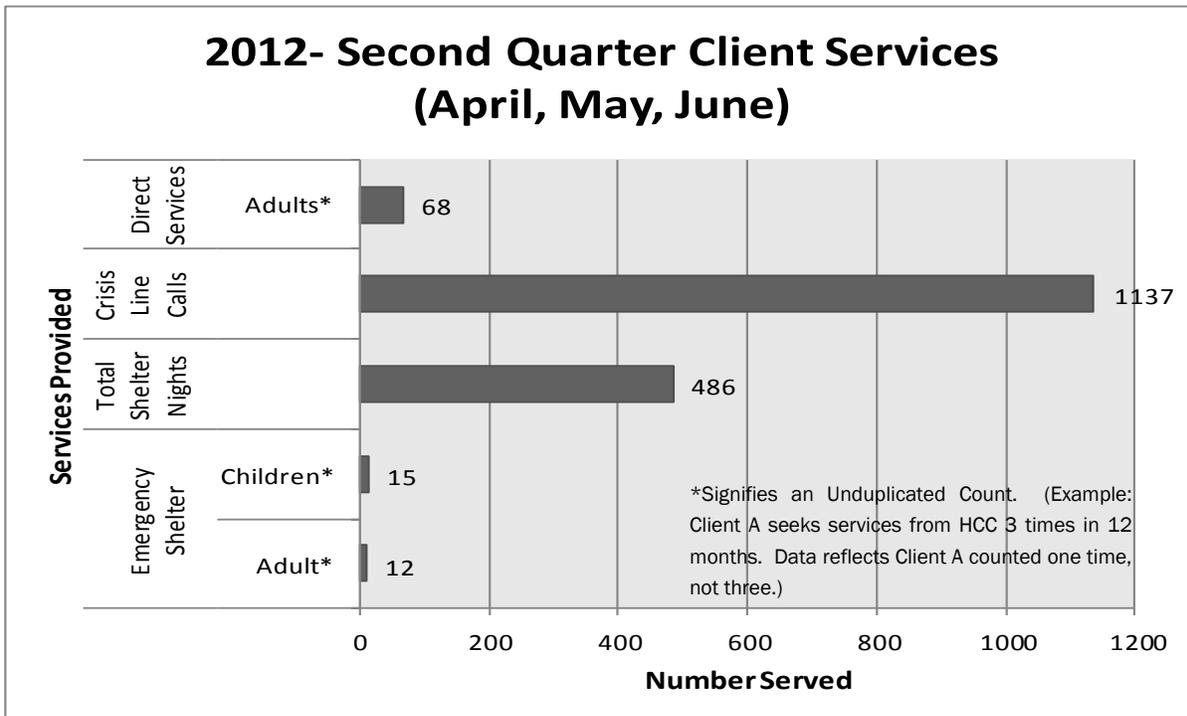
### Hope Crisis Center Wish List:

- ◆ Cleaning supplies
- ◆ Dish soap
- ◆ Tall trash bags
- ◆ Liquid hand soap
- ◆ Plastic silverware
- ◆ Paper plates
- ◆ Napkins
- ◆ Paper towels
- ◆ Large clear totes
- ◆ Wal-Mart Gift Cards

## DONATIONS

We at Hope Crisis Center would like to sincerely thank everyone who donated during the months of April, May, and June! Thank you for making a difference in the lives of battered women and children. Your generosity is greatly appreciated! *We apologize if your name has been inadvertently omitted from our list!*

- Presbyterian Church- Steele City, NE
- Alpha Delta Kappa- Fairbury, NE
- Shaylene Smith- Crete, NE
- Trevor Steinmeyer- Fairbury, NE
- Gregg Defrain- Fairbury, NE
- Mass Mutual-The Matching Gift Center, Stuart, FL
- Christ Lutheran Church- Pickrell, NE
- Exeter Woman’s Club- Exeter, NE
- Diana Armstrong- Fairbury, NE
- Darcy Brown- Fairbury, NE
- Warren Campbell- Eagle, CO
- Sharon Vandegrift- Fairbury, NE
- E Street Thrift Store- Fairbury, NE
- Alexandria Presbyterian Church- Alexandria, NE
- American Lutheran Church, Women of ELCA- Fairbury, NE
- Marcy’s Hallmark- Fairbury, NE
- Jan Meredith- Hubbell, NE
- Carolea Roelfs- Fairbury, NE
- Risky’s Inc- Beatrice, NE
- American Lutheran Church, Mission Endorsement Fund, Fairbury, NE
- Citizens That Care-Beatrice



## Official Launch of “No Silence No Violence” Blog

By Mandy—Prevention Coordinator

Social media is everywhere. Whether you love it or hate it, we’re definitely stuck with it. I recently decided to harness the power of social media and start a blog. In case you need a little technology 101, a blog is essentially a platform for intellectual sharing on the internet. It provides a space for activists, artists, and everyone else to document, share, and promote whatever moves them.

Blogging is a powerful force and, in my opinion, serves as one of the most effective ways to reach and mobilize the younger generations. The title of my blog, No Silence No Violence, reflects the goal I have in mind. By connecting readers to information, integrating relevant media, and sharing my own experiences, I hope to engage readers and promote discussion. In order for any of our aspirations for grand social change to come to fruition, we must first break the silence. I believe many people sense the need for action, but lack a fundamental understanding of what’s going on and what they can do. Once we break down this barrier and empower one another to speak out against violence in our society, we can begin to create a better future. This blog is a small effort, but if a handful of people are inspired to create their own non-violence blogs, stand up for a kid who is being bullied, or donate their time to a local shelter, who knows? That’s the magic of viral activism.

Please check it out at <http://nosilencenoviolence2.tumblr.com/>

### Introducing...

**Mandy is our new Prevention Coordinator.** She is a proud Doane College alumna, graduating Magna Cum Laude with majors in Sociology and Psychology, as well as a minor in Art. Mandy is a passionate proponent of human rights and is very excited about spreading awareness in our communities! Her favorite activities include learning new things, going new places, and engaging in miscellaneous creative pursuits.

**Jennifer is our new Victim Advocate serving York and Seward Counties.** She is located in the Seward County Courthouse and works closely with the Seward County Attorney and her staff. Jennifer grew up in Kearney and attended college at St. Olaf College in Northfield, MN, majoring in Family Studies and Management Studies. She is extremely excited to be employed by an agency that aims to empower women and their families. In her free time, she enjoys running with her husband and playing with their two pugs!

**Mindy is our new Victim Advocate for Jefferson, Thayer, and Fillmore counties.** She has spent the last six years working with children in foster care and their parents teaching parenting skills and community resources throughout all of southeast Nebraska. She is excited to begin her position as a victim advocate continuing to help people in their time of need. When she’s not working, her time is spent with her 11 month old daughter who keeps her very busy.

Find us on the web @  
[www.hopecrisiscenter.org](http://www.hopecrisiscenter.org)

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If you would like to receive this publication as an e-version only, please e-mail Mandy at [prevention@hopecrisiscenter.org](mailto:prevention@hopecrisiscenter.org) with your request.



**Please recycle - Share this Newsletter with others!**

**Toll-Free Confidential Crisis Line**

**1.877.388.HOPE (4673)**

[www.hopecrisiscenter.org](http://www.hopecrisiscenter.org)



Find us on Facebook



Hope Crisis Center is a non-profit organization committed to empowering victims of domestic violence and sexual assault as well as our communities through advocacy, education, and confidential emergency services.

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\*If you would be interested in serving on Hope Crisis Center's Board of Directors, please contact Carmen at our Administrative Office 402.729.2570

**Staff:**

**Carmen** - Executive Director

**Lexi** - Program Manager

**Cari** - Sexual Assault Advocate

**Elvira** - Bi-lingual Victim Advocate, Saline County

**Mandy**- Prevention Coordinator

**Darcy** - Victim Advocate, Gage County

**Mindy**- Victim Advocate, Fillmore, Thayer, and Jefferson Counties

**Jennifer** - Victim Advocate/Victim Assistance, York & Seward Counties